

News From The Family Centres Advancing Community Schools

March 1, 2013

Seven Oaks School
Division

Everywhere a Sign!

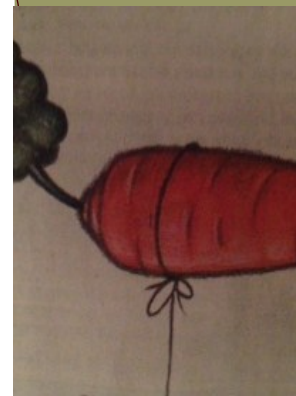
Jacky Molyneux

This was her first winter in Canada. As she sat on the bus with her little girl, she noticed the flashing red sign that said, “Free Pre-school Programs.”

This beacon led her to one of our 14 Family Centres which is where we met, one blustery afternoon. She walked, baby stroller in tow. As I hope we will be reading her book one day, I will be short on details and long on the impact of my encounter with this newcomer. She found herself alone, in a new country, life not having gone the way one would have planned. Let me say that the details brought a tear to my eye. While the little girl played, mom told me stories of hope, stories of Winnipeggers befriending her with kindness. She oozed gratitude. She was thankful to the Community Coordinator for connecting her with our Seven Oaks Immigrant and Settlement Services; she was thankful for the free parent/child programs where she could meet other families and connect to her school community. The next time I saw them, the little girl was travelling person to person, touching their faces. Mom said, “She is learning about real and not real...she is touching everything to see if it is real.” As I left the Family Centre, I took note of the flashing red sign, hoping that more families will see it and join us as we play and learn together. I always leave the Family Centres richer than when I entered, rich with the experience of being fully present in the presence of children and their families. I think I will put that on a sign.



He Had A Theory!



I came upon a little boy throwing a plastic carrot onto the floor. At first I wanted to tell him not

to throw food. Instead, I carefully observed as he intently threw the carrot down, picked it up, took a few steps, and threw the carrot down again, repeating this sequence a few times. I wish I could have peeked inside his brain, for I know for sure that he was learning something...he had a theory. Play is hard work!

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Follow us on
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Great Web Page for
newcomers!

Immigrant
Settlement
Services

www.7oaks.org

Did you know there are 14
Child & Family Centres in
Seven Oaks ?

Have you met the
Community
Coordinator in your
child's school?

What wisdom can you find that
is greater than kindness?

-Jean Jacques Rousseau

Seven Oaks Neighborhood Resource Network

The Seven Oaks Neighborhood Resources Network aims to link community members and agencies to enhance the lives of residents of the Seven Oaks Community. The Network collaborates to increase access to services and resources that best meets the community's evolving needs.

The Neighborhood Resource Network meets four times a year to discuss current and future programs, collaborate and partner to improve programming in the Seven Oaks Community, and to facilitate networking opportunities

between community members, agencies and programs.

If you'd like to hear what's going on in the Seven Oaks community feel free to attend our upcoming meetings!

Next meeting: May 27 from 4:00-5:30 Unit 3 1050 Leila.

Evan Zarecki

(Evan Zarecki is the Community Facilitator for the Seven Oaks Neighborhood Resource Network)