

## News From the Family Centres

### Taking Time To Notice...Jacky Molyneux

I barely notice them anymore, those tired stepping stones outside my front window. One day, I came home to an array of babies and toddlers gleefully playing on the alligator stones. I curiously watched as the children navigated the pretend alligators as if they were real. Screams of terror and alligator catching ensued.

I started up a conversation with the group's care provider who proceeded to tell me that everyday, she takes her children on a walk and everyday they stop by my yard for some alligator play. I began to intently watch the children. They seemed to have a rhythm to their movements, as though they had played this game many times

before. In this moment, I realized that I was witnessing the culture of childhood, the acting out of fantasy in the play of these toddlers. Oh what joy, wonder and curiosity!

I am forever thankful that I came upon this scene that day as it had been my intention to retire the alligators to the recycling bin. How sad might that have been? I now look at my stepping stones with new eyes, the eyes of a child at play.



**The Culture of Childhood**

### Positive Discipline



This fall marks our second offering of Positive Discipline, a series of workshops

for parents, based upon the work of Canadian psychologist Joan Durrant. Positive Discipline is a parenting approach based upon an understanding of child development. This series of workshops offers parents a safe learning environment; a place where parents can talk and learn alongside other parents. It truly does take a village to raise a child and us parents.

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**Family Centre info**

**We're on Twitter!  
@FamilyCentres**

## **Advancing Community Schools What is it?**

**Advancing Community Schools is a  
Seven Oaks initiative that  
focuses upon early childhood  
development.**

**Advancing Community Schools  
cares about early learning in  
the first five years.**

**Much of this work transpires  
daily in our 14 Child & Family  
Centres.**

Welcome to the world  
Of Early Learning!  
Do you know who the  
Community Coordinator at  
your school is?  
Do you have questions  
regarding the speech &  
language development of a  
Child under five?

**Community Coordinators & Family Centres**  
These are the people who tirelessly plan programming at  
our 14 Child & Family Centres.

**Arthur E. Wright...Donna Giesbrecht & Dave Mathers  
Belmont School...Marielle Meades  
Collicutt School...Marianne Van Aert  
Ecole Constable E. Finney...Donna Giesbrecht  
Ecole James Nisbet School...Marielle Meades  
Ecole Riverbend School...Colleen Zahedi  
Elwick Community School...Dave Mathers  
Margaret Park School...Debbie Talling  
O.V. Jewitt School...Chris Turnbull  
R.F. Morrison School...Veronica Thiffeault  
Victory School...Veroncia Thiffeault  
West St. Paul School...Cheryl Rajfur**

**Teacher Team Leader...Jacky Molyneux**