

**SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:**

- Mosaic opened a new EAL class with child care at Knox Church
- Mosaic is running 7 family programs in various locations around the city—see page 4 for details
- 13 Skaters came out for the first day of Learn to Skate!
- The Scotia Bank donated 20 pairs of brand new skates to the skating program
- Thank you to our many generous donors!
- Thank you Volunteers!
- Mosaic Minder is a quarterly publication of Mosaic—Newcomer Family Resource Network

Contact Val Cavers for more information:

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Mosaic Minder

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January 2012—March 2012

Newcomer's Learn to Skate!



Photo: Winnipeg Free Press

Instructor Jane demonstrating a perfect fall!

Following the success of last year's skating program, Mosaic is offering a second-annual FREE learn to skate program for adult newcomers in Winnipeg.

Special thanks to The Forks North Portage Partnership, Central Park Stewardship Committee, Scotia Bank, Central Neighbourhood Development Corp., Knox United Church, and Ugly Duckling Productions for funding and supporting this program.

The learn to skate program runs on Fridays 1:00—3:00 from January 27 until the end of March (weather permitting). Mosaic provides skates and equipment, and I will be the instructor. This year we have two helper instructors courtesy of the City of Winnipeg. The skating is held on the Central Park rink, and we use Knox Church to tie on our skates.

5 of our skaters joined a large group of newcomers from the Central Park community and participated in Hockey Day in Canada on February 11! It was a lot of fun despite the -30° wind chill.

Please pass this information to newcomers in your area. It's a fun and stress-free way to learn to skate!

Jane

Watch the video!

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/Skating-helps-newcomers--integrate-into-community--138476404.html>

"When I was a child, I dreamed of skating on ice" - participant from Sierra Leone 2010

Thursday, February 23—ALT Branch Conference for EAL Teachers + Professional Development Workshops for Child Care Workers in funded EAL programs

March 26—March 30 Spring Break, no classes



Mosaic's

summer Wiggle Giggle & Munch program was chosen for the cover of the Winnipeg

Foundation's Annual Report! We were thrilled to have this opportunity to say thank you to the

Winnipeg Foundation at a

press event at the Free Press News Café on January 12!



New faces at Mosaic, and familiar faces in new places!

This new year we have some new staff in various program locations, and some long time staff taking on new roles. Hai Yan Xie returned to Immanuel from her visit to China. At FGMB we have Kit Lin Chin, who has taken over from Grace as the Lead Child Care Worker, and added Maryam Chamaa, and Jian Ping Wang to the team. At St. Matthews Church we sadly said good-bye to Marilou Pagunuran who left for a new opportunity and said hello to Angelique Nantabara. January also marked the beginning of Jean Tinling's leave from teaching and we were very lucky to have Nan Anderson and Souada Bauer take her place in a job share. Over at Bethel, we said farewell to Darcy Rheubottom, who is taking on a new focus in her life and hello to Friha Ghafuri. Viktoria Bokova is teaching at our new Knox location and teaming up with child care staff, Melinda, Kit Lin and Stella. Lots of changes, same great staff!

Monday Morning Book Buddies at FGMB

Jane Huck and Barbara Coombs

The students at the Fort Garry Mennonite Brethren Church site enjoy each other's company by reading together on Monday mornings. Level pre-2 teacher Jane initiated the Book Buddy program in the fall, and it's become a very popular activity.



The two classes at FGMB pair up together for 20 minutes on Mondays. Students choose books from our small library and help each other tackle reading. Our library has grown to include a range of topical books

(reflecting the monthly theme) and special ABE/EAL literature. Every student is actively reading in English, speaking in English, learning the parts of a book, improving their vocabulary, phonics and fluency. It's great fun!



Playback Theatre Laura De la Rosa

MOSAIC Family Programs are growing and getting closer to the community's needs.

This time the focus is on providing newcomer families with the appropriate time, place and tools for healing, acceptance, expression, recognition, and understanding of who they are, where they're coming from, and what their stories are.

In Jan 2012, Jean and I took this amazing and life changing training called "Playback Theatre", in which the main idea

was to act or represent individual's life stories. Coming from a complete formal and rigid world, this workshop was very mind opening and personally rewarding to me.

Not only was the setting perfect but also the group of community builders I had the pleasure of working with during this time was so respectful and as eager to learn as I was. The environment felt so comfortable and safe for me that I was able to open up and share who I am and my personal story.

That is exactly what I vision our goal would be for our participants when we run our playback theatre program for Mosaic. Hopefully this dream will come true and our newcomer families will then get the support and the resources to find the strength they need to move on and feel ready to embrace a new beginning in their new "home".

I cannot thank Mosaic enough for this unforgettable experience. My goal is to use the skills I acquired to keep empowering and making a difference for our new Canadian families.

Best wishes for a friendly and peaceful future. *Laura*



Grace Loewen and friends at her going away party

Mosaic staff and students raised over \$500 cash and much more in donations of clothing and household items for a student who lost everything in an apartment fire. Thank you!



mosaic
Newcomer Family Resource Network

Mosaic is teaming up with Green Bean to sell Fair Trade Organic Coffee!

**green
bean**
coffee imports

If you would like to order some for you or your office, please call Val at 774-7311.

Mosaic Family Programs – All Mosaic family programs are specially designed to meet the needs of newcomer participants. We offer language and cultural support, and quality child care. All of our programs are Free.

Winter – Spring 2012



Handle with Care – Families Staying Healthy

Helping parents and caregivers promote the mental health of young children from birth to 6 years

Wednesdays 1:15-3:15
Victor Mager School
81 Beliveau Road
St. Vital



Nobody's Perfect - Parents Sharing & Learning

*Rhymes and songs in English and your language
and a time to talk about being a parent in Canada*



Mondays 1:15-3:15
Bairdmore School
700 Bairdmore Boulevard
Fort Richmond

Tuesdays 1:15-3:15
Bethel Church
465 Stafford Street
River Heights

Thursdays 1:15-3:15
Sister MacNamara School
460 Sargent Avenue
Downtown



Wiggle, Giggle & Munch – Fun & Physical

*Spend time with your child playing games and having fun
A physical activity & nutrition program for preschoolers and their parents*

Thursdays 1:15-3:15
John M King School
525 Agnes Street
Downtown

Mondays 1:15-3:15
Victoria Albert School
110 Ellen Street
Downtown



FLAG/ IRCOM
Families Learning & growing together

Tuesdays 4:30-6:30
IRCOM Community Room
95 Ellen Street
Downtown

For information or to register contact Jean Tinling 774-7311

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