Programs for Children With Learning Differences Are Available From Area Schools and Organizations

Kids play with other kids. Adults get together for all kinds of reasons — socially and at work — every day. Communication and interaction with others is such a natural part of life that no one gives it a thought.

For some individuals, both children and adults, such normal interaction is a struggle. On many levels, it is a daunting challenge for those with certain learning differences and disabilities, including autism, Asperger’s Syndrome, ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder), dyslexia, and social anxiety.

For these people, “social thinking” must be learned and practiced. Fortunately, in the Princeton area, a number of schools and organizations offer programs to help children and adults learn ways to function in and be comfortable in social situations.

Social Village, which will open in September, is an offshoot of the Princeton Speech-Language & Learning Center, located on Wall Street in Princeton. “Social Village is a unique and exciting environment, a place for kids to meet and engage in clubs and activities,” explains owner and director Terri Rossman.

Therapeutic Side Effects

“Social Thinking® and executive function skills are reinforced while members are having fun. Social Village is an offshoot of the Princeton Speech-Language & Learning Center, where social thinking groups are offered. Social Village is not therapy, but rather more like a social club that happens to have therapeutic side effects.”

Social Village offers programs for children to young adults, from ages eight to 23, with specific programs for different age groups, adds Ms. Rossman such as Teen/tween activity night and Saturday Teen Night.

“There will be some clubs for younger kids ages eight to 12, and other clubs/activities offered for ‘tweens or teens. Social Village welcomes those with ADHD, non-verbal learning disabilities, Asperger’s, or high-functioning autism, as well as those who just struggle with social anxiety and just can’t find their niche.”

Social Village is a year-round program, with a few specific summer programs, such as a teen and young

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**The Lewis School of Princeton**

Celebrating 40 Years

Educating, nurturing and developing successful young men and women for 40 years, The Lewis School of Princeton is a world renowned coeducational day school focused on providing exceptional multisensory educational opportunities to students in grades Pre-K through high school and post graduate levels.

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** lifetime Friendships Memories Skills**

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**THE 2014 Open House/Registration Dates:**

**Wednesday, August 20th 5:00-8:00 pm**

**Thursday, August 28th 5:00-8:00 pm**

**SAMPLE CLASSES AT OUR OPEN HOUSES**

**PREDANCE CLASS**

Ages 3-6 @ 5:15-5:45 PM

LYRICAL CLASS

Ages 6-12 @ 6:00-6:30 PM

**HIP HOP CLASS**

Ages 6-12 @ 6:45-7:15 PM

BOYS HIP HOP CLASS

Ages 6 & UP @ 7:15-7:45 PM

---

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**The Dance Corner**

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**Classes Offered**

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- Modern
- Ballet
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- Boys Hip Hop
- Pointe
- Hip Hop
- PreDance
- Jazz
- Storytime
- Kindersteps
- Tap
- Lyrical
- Tiny Tots
- Mommy & Me

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**It’s about more than the steps**

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Our boys are on the road to success.

Learning Differences

Continued from Preceding Page

adult social/executive func-
tion group. Next year, there
will be a summer camp pro-
gram.

Speech-language patholo-
gists, teachers, special edu-
cators, and college/grade-
school students will be in
charge of the programs,
reports Ms. Rossman. Poke-
man club, Minecraft club,
Lego club, Fantasy book
club, Recess Bootcamp, and
Games Cubed are among the
most popular programs.

Having a place where they
can get out of the house and
learn social skills is a safe
haven for many children. Un-
derstanding how to play and
interact with a group (large
or small), play games, try a
new activity without pres-
sure, have a trained social
coach guide their interac-
tions and offer suggestions,
and feel a sense of belonging
in the Social Village commu-
nity are all enormous advan-
tages for children who have
never felt at home in social
situations. Now they have an
opportunity to be comfort-
able and to learn skills which
will benefit them throughout
their lives.

Social Interaction

Social Village will have
an open house on Septem-
ber 21.

Area schools also offer
programs for students with
learning differences and so-
cial interaction challenges.
The Lewis School in
Princeton (pre-K to post-
graduate) addresses the
needs of students with dys-
exia, as well as those with
Central Auditory Processing
Data Disorder (CAPD) and
ADHD. The Lewis School has
created a proven model
in the U.S. where a diagnos-
tic and research clinic are
integral parts of the same
educational entity.

In addition to the aca-
demic regimen, a variety of
other programs are available
at The Lewis School. Sports
programs include soccer,
swimming, and diving, as
well as a special middle
school Walk/Run program in
partnership with the
Princeton University men’s
lacrosse team. Students can
run or walk one mile to the
Community Park Woods.

The school places impor-
tance on the link between
physical fitness and academ-
ic performance, noting that
studies suggest that aerobic
conditioning enhances brain
functioning, builds problem-
solving skills, and improves
overall academic perfor-
mance.

Continued on Next Page

Individual excellence...

Our challenging college-preparatory curriculum gives every student
the opportunity to achieve success in college and in life. We are
committed to helping our students develop academic curiosity, effective
communication skills, ethical decision making, a global perspective, and the
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We are an extraordinary, diverse, and empowering community.

Come talk with us.

Find it @ THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL

Save the Date!

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 19

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Grades 6–12

coed, day and boarding
The Lewis School is also planning to expand its play area beyond the existing swing set, balance beam, and monkey bars. A fund-raising program is underway to provide a safe and appropriate place for more recreational activity.

School-Wide

In addition to sports, The Lewis School offers a variety of clubs, including chess. This club had an opportunity to meet a U.S. Grand Master chess champion who performed a memory demonstration for the chess team. It targeted task attention, recall-focus skills, and active working memory strategies.

The Lewis School’s Girl’s Club organized a school-wide canned food drive to benefit the Mercer Street Friend’s Food Bank last Thanksgiving. The club’s mission is to perform service projects to benefit local community organizations while simultaneously fostering friendships.

This summer, the school offered SAIL (Summer Adventures In Learning), a full-day program for students in the lower school. A hands-on, active learning experience, it promoted multi-sensory learning in a relaxed camp environment. It is a collaborative effort of the physical fitness, art, and speech and language services departments, as well as support staff and teachers.

The purpose of SAIL is to integrate physical exercise, theme-based educational activities, and functional communication skills by engaging in multi-sensory, multi-modality learning experiences in a variety of settings and social contexts. Campers participated in many hands-on arts and crafts, science demonstrations, and cooking experiences.

Lewis School graduates have attended many of the finest colleges and universities, and have gone on to successful careers in a full range of professions.

The Laurel School of Princeton is part of The Newgrange School of Princeton Inc., an organization devoted to educational services for children with learning differences. The Laurel School is dedicated to helping students in grades one through eight.
LJNCTI ON
33 Princeton-Hightstown Rd
Ellsworth’s Center
(Near Train Station)
799-8554
Tues-Fri 10am-6pm;
Sat 8:30am-3:30pm

Learning Differences
Continued from Previous Page
Through eight who face the
learning challenges brought
on by dyslexia.

Small Group Instruction
The school emphasizes
small group instruction with
special subjects to encour-
age the students’ unique
gifts and talents. In addition
to a regular curriculum, de-
sign thinking, technology,
art, music, and physical
education all play impor-
tant parts in the students’
education and interaction.

State of the art assistance
and creative technology are
important features, and
ancillary services, such as
speech and language, and
occupational therapy, are
available.

Many students with dys-
lexia are gifted artistically,
and the Laurel School is
committed to allowing them
to explore their talents to
the fullest. In the visual arts
program, students learn
about various materials and
media, investigating the
connection between these
different cultures and
subject areas. They learn
about artists and art his-
tory, and are encouraged
to create their own artistic
works.

A special summer enrich-
ment program Planet Pro-
tectors was held this past
July for grades one through
eight. Students studied the
planet and explored ways to
protect it for future genera-
tions.

Through hands-on, inqui-
ry-based science lessons,
the young Planet Protec-
tors explored the resources
of earth, climate change,
weather management, and
recycling, while increas-
ing their reading and writ-
ing skills. They engaged in
small group reading, writ-
ing, and math instruction.

This special summer pro-
gram was an opportunity
for the students to interact,
while working together in
creative and constructive
activities.

—Jean Stratton

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OPEN HOUSE
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ST. PAUL SCHOOL OF PRINCETON

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, October 19, 2014
11:00am to 2:00pm

SCHOOL TOURS
October 14th
November 11th

609.921.7587 • www.spsprinceton.org
Keeping the Kids Healthy in the Summer Helps Them Head Back to School in Good Shape

Those special summer days are winding down, and September is just around the corner. While kids are generally healthier in the summer, there are still a number of maladies that can catch up with them.

Of course, prevention is always best, but if children do come down with something, treating it quickly, thoroughly, and appropriately will often lessen the time span when the victim has to be down and out.

It is always desirable to get the child in good shape to head back to school. He or she will want to be at their best when they get ready. Reconnect with friends and classmates and meet new teachers. If they have had a healthy summer, they will be in better condition for that first day of school.

Some of the most common afflictions kids face in the summer are colds and respiratory infections, stomach flu (gastroenteritis), strep throat, pink eye (conjunctivitis), and ear infections.

Other Problems

Allergies, insect bites, rash, even sunstroke, and injuries from lawn mowers (when rocks or sticks may fly up from the lawn and hit small children watching their dad cut the grass) are other problems that may crop up. Also, even if a child is washing his or her hands often (highly desirable!), being around pools and public places can subject them to germs that may be hard to avoid.

Dr. Glenn Palsky, M.D., an owner/partner at Delaware Valley Pediatric Associates in Lawrenceville, sees a variety of ailments affecting kids at his practice in the summer.

“Fortunately, summer is a relatively healthy time of year for kids. They are outside more, congregating inside less, and the common respiratory viruses are less prevalent. However, some things are more risky now. Enteroviruses, such as Coxsackie, which causes hand, foot, mouth disease, is quite common in late summer and early fall. It is seen especially in toddlers and preschoolers, mainly because it is transmitted in oral secretions, which small children easily share.

“Although there is no treatment besides fluids and fever reducers, it fortunately resolves itself in about a week. Symptoms are high fever, runny nose, and difficulty swallowing. Sometimes, there are similar tiny red blisters on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, and sometimes, there is mild diarrhea.

“Other maladies during the summer include swimmer’s ear or otitis externa,” continues Dr. Palsky. “This occurs in children who love to swim and, like fish, stay underwater for long periods. It only comes up to breathe briefly. As a result, their ear canals lose the usual protective coating and allow normal bacteria in the canal to infiltrate the tissue, causing redness, pain, and swelling. The pain from this is often extreme. One tip-off for this is the positive ear tug reflex. Pain becomes worse when the outer ear is gently tugged.

Treatment requires antibiotic and cortisone drops, and a break from swimming.”

Summertime Staples

Those pesky mosquitoes, bees, wasps, ticks, etc., etc.1 Summertime staples unfortunately, and best to avoid whenever possible. This is not always the case, however, as Dr. Palsky points out. “Insect bites are always
“Having my voice emerge in studio art class, that’s My Hun.”
— Amelia Cura ’17

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RSVP at www.hunschool.org

Over-eating at all those fall gatherings can lead to more swelling and itch. Of course, old standby’s like calamine lotion and unique sheeting can help with the itch too.

Continued from Page 23.
Keeping Kids Healthy

Continued from Preceding Page

sible. In addition, drink -
ning lots of water is always a
good idea, especially in the
summer, when the heat and
excessive activity can cause
dehydration.

As kids get ready for the
opening of school, Dr. Pal-
sky offers an excellent re-


We helped her find her voice.
She is using it in science and music.

Isabella is a classic Stuart girl. She thrives at Stuart because she is encouraged
to discover her passion, pursue her interests, and blaze her path to making a
difference in the world.

She excels in science with AP and honors classes in Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy,
Physiology and Physics. Isabella also loves music, theater and choir. She plays
the flute and piano, and even sang at both Carnegie Hall and at Jets Stadium
(despite being a huge New England Patriots fan). Wow!!!

Isabella Kopits is a member of Stuart’s Class of 2016 and one of 450 Stuart girls.
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Youth Women's Charity of Princeton's Annual Fall Sale

Register now!
YWCA Princeton’s fall semester begins Sept 4.

- After School Programs (Princeton & Lawrence)
- Nursery School (Licensed Educational School for ages 2½–6)
- American Red Cross Aquatics (Princeton & Plainsboro)
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Oct 10 Lord & Taylor “In the PINK” Fashion Show Benefit
for the Breast Cancer Resource Center
Nov 22-23 Crafters’ Marketplace Weekend

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STUART COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

Girls K-12, Coed Preschool/TK in Princeton

27 • TOWN TOPICS, PRINCETON, N.J., WEDNESDAY, AuguST 20, 2014

TOWN TOPICS, PRINCETON, N.J., WEDNESDAY, AuguST 20, 2014

27 • TOWN TOPICS, PRINCETON, N.J., WEDNESDAY, AuguST 20, 2014
Don’t worry about finding a boyfriend or girlfriend immediately. Connections and romantic interests will present themselves naturally. Take lots of pictures! Document your high school experience beginning with your freshman year. Eventually, those pictures will be worth a thousand words.

Freshman year is no time to stress about college. It is, however, a time to focus on getting good grades. Remember that your final GPA is cumulative (encompassing your freshman through junior years). When you do start to research college programs, try to keep your primary focus on your current studies and preparatory activities. It’s easy to get distracted.

—Allison Levine

FREE CLASSES AT PDT

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, September 6th • 9 AM – 12PM

See why PDT offers the area’s finest dance education.

Meet PDT’s world-class staff and take FREE classes in Primary Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Hip-Hop.

Compassionate training within a culture of high expectations

Princeton Dance and Theater Studio is proud to include the AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE ® National Training Curriculum, a breakthrough educational program that combines high quality artistic training with the focus of dance health and child development. The ABT® National Training Curriculum consists of a comprehensive set of age-appropriate, anatomically-based guidelines to provide the highest quality ballet training to dance students of all ages and skill levels.

Forrestal Village • 116 Rockingham Row • Princeton, NJ 08540 • 609-514-1600

Please visit www.princetondance.com for Open House schedule.
American Repertory Ballet Announces Fall Events

American Repertory Ballet will begin its 2014-15 season with events and performances in Princeton and Lawrenceville. The company will kick-off its monthly On Pointe series with its annual “Meet the Company” event on Friday, September 12 at 5:15 p.m. in the company’s Princeton studios. The following week, on Friday, September 19 and Saturday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m., ARB will return to Rider University’s Bart Luudeke Center in Lawrenceville to present its first production of the 2014-15 Season — Fall Kick-Off Performance.

Through guest speakers, lecture demonstrations, performance previews, and panel discussions, American Repertory Ballet’s On Pointe series gives the public an inside look at the world of dance. All On Pointe events are free and open to the public and are held at Princeton Ballet School, located at 301 North Harrison Street (above McCaffrey’s supermarket in the Princeton Shopping Center), “Meet the Company” on September 12 will give community members a chance to meet ARB’s 14 professional dancers, who have come to the company from around the world, and Artistic Director Douglas Martin. Martin will speak about the company’s upcoming 2014-15 season, and the dancers will perform excerpts of select repertoires.

ARB’s Fall Kick-Off Performance features ballets choreographed by former Joffrey Ballet dancers. The performance, presented by Bart Luudeke Center, “Meet the Company” on September 12 will give community members a chance to meet ARB’s 14 professional dancers, who have come to the company from around the world, and Artistic Director Douglas Martin. Martin will speak about the company’s upcoming 2014-15 season, and the dancers will perform excerpts of select repertoires.

The Trustees of Princeton Montessori School are pleased to announce the appointment of Michelle Morrison as the new Head of School and CEO of the Princeton Center for Teacher Education (PCTE) effective August 11, 2014.

Town Topics est. 1945
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We are a school situated just steps from downtown Princeton at Trinity Church. Through creative daily curriculum and extensive special programs, Nassau Nursery School provides a uniquely inspiring learning environment for 2.5 - 5 year old children.

---

We’ve had a wonderful 3 years at NNS with our twin daughters. They formed close friendships, played nonstop with others, listened, were respectful, and, most importantly that school learning can be exciting and fun!”

— Maggie D., Parent

STUDENT ART CONTEST!

Entries can be in any two dimensional format and should represent a “Winnie the Pooh” theme. The winning entry will appear in the Holiday Issue of Princeton Magazine and the artist will receive a cash prize! Deadline for all entries: Wednesday, October 1st.

ALL ARTISTS ARE: West Windsor resident Mollie Rubinstein and Matthew Lichtenstein, whose essays convinced the Men’s Club and Sisterhood of Beth El that they should award them scholarship money to further their college educations. Shown here with Rabbi Eric Winsa, the two graduated from high school last June. Mollie, who was headed for Penn State, wrote about her involvement with children with special needs. Matthew, soon to be a freshman at George Washington University, wrote about how his Jewish education influenced his interest in higher education.

Each class is staffed with a special education teacher, a speech/language pathologist and a teaching assistant. Tuition paid by child’s home school district, if approved.

www.nassannursery.org or call 609-466-4499 today.

Hurry! Just a few spots left for the 2014-2015 school year.

---

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS: On July 30, 35 Mercer County middle schoolers and their families met at Rider University in Lawrenceville to conclude a summer entrepreneurship program known as Minding Our Business (MOB), which is geared to lower income middle school students. Now in its 18th year, the program provides entrepreneurship training, motivation, and mentoring as well as reading and math assistance. All of the students developed an entrepreneurial venture and business plan, and the top nine were invited to make a presentation at the gathering. Prizes were awarded to: Beyonce Layne, Brian Vasquez, Rashel Gonzalez, Chyna Higgs, Maria Vasquez, and Nazra Chatman, ranged from $20 to $150. Their businesses included “Sparkles & Sparks,” “Bling,” “Cloth More,” “Crazy TV,” “Shine,” and “Just Girly Girls.”

There were 4 successful performances and one Full Company Performance. The event features a wide range of performances by the company’s 14 professional dancers, including student workshops and special guest appearances. The performances are open to the public and will be held at the Rock Brook School Auditorium, 109 Orchard Road, Skillman, NJ 08558.

Rock Brook School
109 Orchard Road, Skillman, NJ 08558
A NJ Department of Education Approved School. Designed for Children 5-21 years with Communication Impairment & Multiple Disabilities.

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Rock Brook School is excited about the future of Montessori Education as two of the finalists in a recent Montessori design contest at Rider University. They are excited to open a new location in Princeton this fall.

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For 3.5 years with Communication Impairment & Multiple Disabilities.

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Through creative daily curriculum and extensive special programs, Nassau Nursery School provides a uniquely inspiring learning environment for 2.5 - 5 year old children.

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"We’ve had a wonderful 3 years at NNS with our twin daughters. They formed close friendships, played nonstop with others, listened, were respectful, and, most importantly that school learning can be exciting and fun!"

— Maggie D., Parent

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