

Waldorf News

Three Cedars Waldorf School

September 23, 2011

Dear Three Cedars Parents, Guardians, Friends, and Relatives,
Please enjoy this issue of the Waldorf News.

ALL-SCHOOL NEWS

Michaelmas

This year's Michaelmas event will take place on **Friday September 30th**, during regular school hours, and will be hosted by faculty for the students only for most of the day. All **Kindergarten parents are invited to arrive at 11:30 a.m. for the Kindergarten Michaelmas Festival and stay to 1:00 p.m.** (Kindergarten After Care is available for those children who need to stay in the afternoon.) **Elementary grades parents are invited to arrive at 12:15 p.m. to visit the Blacksmith as he forges iron through the blasting fire into tools and stay for the Michaelmas Pageant which begins at 12:45 p.m. and to stay until it ends at 1:15 p.m.** Elementary students will return to their classes to experience events they have planned for the rest of the day and dismissal is at 3:15 p.m. with the Grades After Care being available until 5:30 p.m. To preserve the special Michaelmas mood created by the faculty for the students and the cohesion of the classes, we ask that parents not engage with their children until the end of the school day, at our regular dismissal time.

Dismissal Procedures

We ask that parents please let their child's teacher, as well as the Front Office, know if their child is walking to Wilburton Park or carpooling with a family not on their usual "pick-up" list. Even if parents have given permission for 'any TCWS parent' to pick up their child, teachers still appreciate knowing who the child is supposed to go home with.

Calling all Buildings and Grounds Volunteers!

Please join us for a Buildings and Grounds Work Party on Saturday, October 8th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Child Care will not be provided, but children are welcome to attend and work alongside their parents. We will be focusing on cleaning up the grounds for fall, weeding parking lot beds, and tending to plants. Please wear work clothes and bring gardening gloves if you have them, and RSVP to the school office at 425.401.9874 or sorzel@threecedars.org.

TCWS 2011-2012 School Year Annual Auction

Big Announcement! We are moving our Annual Auction to the beginning of the new year. We are tentatively looking at January 28, 2012 as our new Auction date and we are also hoping to secure a new venue by our next newsletter so STAY TUNED!!

With the securing of a new date for our school's Annual Auction this year, comes looking for a new venue that suits our school's needs and budget. The Auction Coordinator is diligently looking for a new beautiful venue to host this very important event. The Auction Team is also looking for dedicated parents, family and community who would love to join our Auction endeavors in planning our school's biggest fundraiser. With our community's devotion and support, this event can take place, happen and be our best one yet! If you're interested in becoming part of the Auction Team and volunteer your time to making this important event happen, please email our coordinator Tabatha Jeantette at benefitevening@threecedars.org. She is also available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for supporting our wonderful school!

Parking Lot Island Garden Beds Beautification

Thank you to Petra Hines and Kimberly Johnston for tending to our parking lot island garden beds on Friday morning! Your contribution to keeping our grounds beautiful is very much appreciated.

Who Shall I Speak With?

Our school community is committed to furthering open and respectful communication. We invite you to promptly bring your questions, observations, suggestions, or concerns to our attention so that we can continue to enhance your school experience. For questions or concerns about:

- your child's school experience, we kindly ask that you first approach your class teacher or subject teacher. Alternatively, you are welcome to contact Monica Lander, Dean of Education or Geraldine Kline, Executive Director.
- our programs and pedagogical orientation, please contact our Dean of Education, Monica Lander.
- our facilities and administrative procedures, please call Seraphina Orzel, Office Manager.
- our personnel - faculty and administrative staff- please call Geraldine Kline.
- our Executive Director, you are welcome to contact the Board of Trustees.

faculty and staff members - first letter of first name, followed by last name@threecedars.org

Monica Lander - mlander@threecedars.org

Seraphina Orzel - sorzel@threecedars.org

Geraldine Kline - gkline@threecedars.org

Board of Trustees - board@threecedars.org

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

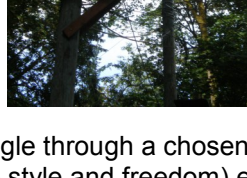
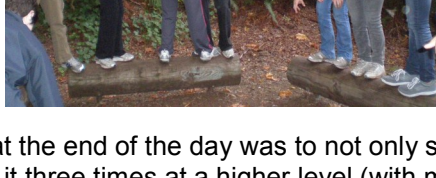
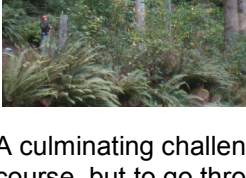
Grade 7 Ropes Course Challenge



There comes a time in the young person's development, from the 6th grade onwards, when inner and outer strength begins to establish itself, not all at once, but nevertheless steadily, insistently and eventually consistently. The Waldorf curriculum supports this process inwardly, bringing the stoicism of the Roman civilization and the ideals of medieval knighthood through the course of the 6th grade year. In the 7th grade, an independent spirit of adventure – emotional, intellectual, and physical is exemplified in the deeds of the great explorers, artists, and thinkers of the Renaissance period.

Among other important elements of the curriculum, physical skills, competition in sports, tests of physical courage, and powers of persistence, complement and supplement classroom experience. The Olympiad, coming at the end of 5th grade leads gracefully and joyfully out of childhood into early teen life of the upper three grades. The Medieval Games at the end of the 6th grade, add a large component of team work involving strength, skill, and practical problem solving. In the 7th grade, when the historical age of individuality sets in, one correlative can be found in personal, physical challenge. For this reason, in the 7th grade, it is of great value for students to venture outside their comfort zone and be willing to test their personal skill, courage, and practical initiative.

Last Friday, 16th September, the 7th grade took up this challenge at a high ropes course at Bellevue Community College. This all day course began with practical problem solving and team-building work at ground level. Then, following safety instruction and practice, the students and their teacher went 40' aloft to go through a variety of challenge courses, working alone, sometimes helping each other and always safety-spotting for each others' transfers from one course to another.



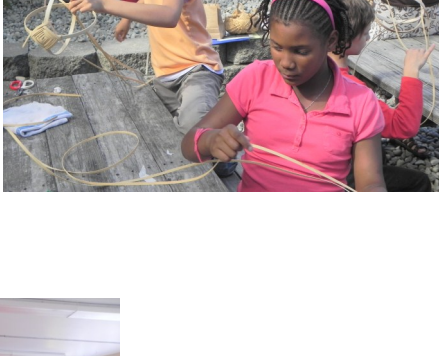
A culminating challenge at the end of the day was to not only struggle through a chosen course, but to go through it three times at a higher level (with more style and freedom) each time!

As well as a feeling of personal accomplishment, the challenge course brought us fresh perspectives of each others' qualities and an experience of teamwork and mutual support in a new and exciting venue!

Michael Preston - 7th grade teacher

LOWER GRADES NEWS

Grade 4 Basket Weaving



EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

Felting in Morning Glory



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

This section provided as a free service to the TCWS community.

Upcoming Community Events

Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate Frisbee has resumed under the leadership of Coach David Hasbrook, a TCWS parent. Please note that practices will be held on **Thursdays this year, from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** at Wilburton Park. All experience levels are welcome!

Most Fridays after school at Three Cedars since January, 2010, a group of dedicated students have arrived at Wilburton Park to play ultimate for an hour-and-a-half. Ultimate is a team game played officially with 7 players on a side on a 40 yards wide field that is 70 yards from goal line to goal line with 25 yard endzones. The field and the players per side can be reduced. The object of the game is to advance a plastic disc or Frisbee into the opponent's endzone by catching the disc after a pass by a teammate. Throwers cannot run but must establish a pivot foot after a catch. An incomplete or intercepted pass results in a turnover and immediate return play with the new offensive team attacking the new defensive team's endzone. Catching is not allowed aside from incidental minor contact. What sets ultimate apart is that there are no referees and players must assume the responsibility of learning the rules, making calls on the field, and following the established peaceful dispute resolution set forth in the rules. The obligation to play with honor, fairness, full information about the rules, love of the game, and respect for all players is set forth in the cardinal rule of ultimate known as "spirit of the game."

While this may sound daunting, ultimate is not very complicated once a player spends some time on the field with friends in a game. More experienced players share their knowledge of the rules and game and share it with newer players. Sometimes play is stopped to calmly explain a rule or describe more detailed aspects of the game as dictated by the circumstance on the field. It is in these moments that our children have the opportunity to share information, resolve misunderstanding, and move forward without the need for adult arbitrators or the incentive to gain an advantage by cheating outside the referee's perception. It's not perfect, but the potential for growth and sportsmanship is there.

From March to May, 2011, Three Cedars Waldorf School competed in the Seattle Elementary School Spring League (grades 3-5). Known as the Geckos, the team won all 7 regular season games, another playoff game, and then fell 9-6 in the championship game to a team from Wallingford to finish second out of 22 league teams. The Geckos were half boys and half girls and included players from 5 different grades. Seattle's league is the only elementary school league in the U.S. and has been going for 5 years. The Geckos also attended the Spring Reign tournament in Burlington, WA in April and finished third, losing only to eventual champion, Wallingford, 10-9. The Geckos hope to be back for spring league 2012 and Coach David Hasbrook intends to form a middle school team (Grades 6-8) for spring league play also.

-David Hasbrook

Upcoming Events

Issaquah PCC Food Bank Packaging Work Party

Monday, November 14, 2011, 7 p.m.

Interested families are welcome to join Mrs. Orzel at the [Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank](#) to help package bulk foods purchased with PCC Food Bank Program donations from PCC shoppers. For more information, contact PCC Community Relations at 206-547-1222 or e-mail: Learn more about the [PCC Food Bank Program](#). Issaquah Food Bank is located at 179 First Ave S.E., Issaquah.

Classifieds

Simplicity Parent-Tot Classes Now Forming for Autumn 2011!

When: October-December, 2011 (choose from Tue, Wed, Thu or Sat mornings, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

Where: Simplicity Learning Center in the Lake Hills Neighborhood of Bellevue

Who: Mama Jackie and Mama Briana

Cost: sliding scale, \$340-\$420 per quarter, per family

An "oasis" for parents with small children! Each group (6 families maximum per morning) will explore the basics of Simplicity Parenting™ over ten weekly classes. Simplicity Parent-Tot offers a time and place to step back from the busy pace of daily life and share time with your child, make friends, and enjoy the wonder and unhurried rhythm of a morning that balances time indoors and outdoors, rain or shine. Wholefood, organic snack teatime; outdoor play; songs and verses; and handwork/crafting for parents. Visit www.simplicitylearningcenter.com or call 425.614.0145 for more information.

TCWS Alum Offers Violin Lessons - New Fall Openings!

Hi, I am Maria Crum (Class of 2009) and I aspire to be a music education major in college. In the Fall of 2010, I started giving private violin lessons to some TCWS 5th grade violin students with guidance from my mentor, Judy Beatie. I have two openings for new students beginning this October. Students come to my house in Bellevue, (Lake Hills area) for weekly

The Waldorf News is published every two weeks during the school year. Please email submissions to newsletter@threecedars.org. The deadline for the next newsletter is Friday, September 30.

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