



Newsletter

June 23, 2013

Newsletter not looking pretty? View it in your browser

Dear Robyn,

Please enjoy this last issue of the newsletter of the 2012-2013 school year. We will resume publication in the new school year.

To view a larger version of any image in Grades News and Early Childhood News, please click the article's title to open it in a web browser. Then click on the image to view it full size!

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All-School News

From the Executive Director

Closing the 2012-13 school year



This past week, our faculty joined colleagues from our sister Waldorf Schools in the area for three days of study and review of this past year. Christof Wiechert, who for 10 years served as the head of the Pedagogical Section of the School of Spiritual Science at the Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland, inspired us all with a thorough overview of the scope and task of Waldorf Education. You can get a taste of Christof's style in the following article: <http://www.waldorftoday.com/2011/01/rethinking-the-threelfold-division-of-the-main-lesson-christof-weichert/>

In the afternoons, we discussed our past year's events and accomplishments, and began to make adjustments for next year, filled with a renewed enthusiasm for the challenges and joys ahead.

Enrollment 2013-14 – At this moment, we are preparing to welcome 110 students in our grade school, and 48 children in our Preschool and Kindergarten classes, for a total of 158 students. We are very pleased indeed to have surpassed our enrollment goal, and while several families are still in the process of making their final school choice for next year, we continue to receive

applications. This heartening result is the fruit of our shared community effort towards clarity, excellence, and integrity, and bodes well for our future.

Fundraising 2012-13 – We close this school year having almost reached our initial goal of \$105,000, with \$99,243 raised thus far. Remember that donations received before July 31st of this year will be added to this total!

What are our teachers up to this summer?

In the next few days, our faculty will be taking up their summer work: finishing reports, lazuring the Eurythmy room, making sense of our storage, and preparing for their summer training ranging from the [AWSNA conference](#) in Austin TX, to preparatory courses with [Eugene Schwarz](#) and [Sunbridge College](#) in NY, to local courses with [Sound Circle Center](#) in Seattle, culminating with a week-long [Teaching Sensible Science course](#) on our campus, in August.

Towards our Future

On the heels of this year's progress, it is time to begin looking beyond next year and take the next few steps towards the long-term future of the school. Our facilities is foremost on our mind, with our need to increase classroom size and space availability. Early in September, faculty and staff will once more engage in conversations about site development and facilities improvements, and dream our school's next 15 years. While we remain conservative in our budget projections and financial management, we are also considering the best ways to work with our increased enrollment and slightly improved financial situation, and step into our planning for future years with optimism and expansion in mind.

Next year, with our accreditation process in full swing, we will be well poised to consider our future with creativity and enthusiasm. Thanks to the generous spirit of all – parents, faculty, staff members – we look to next year with excitement and positivity!

Salad Day Success



Salad Days!

Oh salad days, Oh salad days
Such freshness, such delight
Lettuce by the mouthfuls, a gluttonous sight!

You know what makes us smile
It's kale and crab salad by the pile
Not a pound we'd gain for goodness sake
But then you baked lemon cheese cake!
Dear parents, how kind, how sweet
You made us feel so neat!

The faculty was gifted by another wonderful salad day for their faculty snack this past Thursday, June 6. And if the poem above doesn't give you a picture of how grateful they all were, then let it be said again, Thank you Dear Parents!!



Salads of all sorts, fresh-baked bread, cakes, brownies, and lemonade were provided by: **Laurieann Aladin, Cameron Altaras, Rebecca Andrew, Maggie Bailey, Dashka Blyzniukova, Corey Colwell-Lipson, Sophie Dolezel, Sandra Duncan, Svetlana Eremina, Jenny Frank-Doggett, Ginger Galando, Mary Haller, Joanne Hasbrook, Kimberly Johnston, Leslie Morison, Asun Muir, Tanya Orlando, Beth Parker, Beverly Pressey, Rachel Rodriguez, Anna Shatrova, Kris Solem, Sanae Stanley, Sara Suter, Christa Tinker, Juie Tredway, Cait Walsh, Cris & Michael Wegman, and Rose Zhu.**

Gratefully,
The Faculty

Garden Appreciations

We would like to thank Jenn Miller and Beth Parker for recently tending to our parking lot islands and gardens! If you are interested in being a garden steward, please let Seraphina know. Volunteers are warmly welcomed after morning drop-off, before afternoon pick-up, on weekends, or even during the summer. Thank you in advance!

Flower Theme for Our Early Childhood Classes!

Some of us have found our kindergarten names a touch confusing – Morning Star and Morning Glory are quite close in name to each other!

With the addition of our Preschool next year, and from a wish to extend our flower theme, our Kindergarten teachers have chosen to transform our Morning Star kindergarten class into Apple Blossom kindergarten.

In 2013-14, we will thus welcome our youngest students to the Buttercup Preschool, Morning Glory Kindergarten, and Apple Blossom kindergarten!

Tuesday Park Play Dates



Three Cedars families are invited to Play Dates at Idylwood Park in Redmond each summer. They take place every Tuesday in July and August, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Frequently, families with younger children



come a little earlier to make it home for nap time. Families with older students often come later and stay a little bit later.

Idylwood has a beach along Lake Sammamish and the children enjoy playing and swimming in the water. Parents, bring beach blankets, beach umbrellas, snacks, sunscreen, books, and crafts!

Annual Back to School Potluck, Work Party, & Clothes Swap

Save the Date!

Our Annual Back to School Potluck, Work Party, & Clothes Swap will take place on **Saturday, August 17th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Bring the whole family for this TCWS tradition! We will work to ready the school for opening, share a delicious meal, shop for school clothes and watch our children play. Please RSVP to sorzel@threecedarswaldorf.org or 425.401.9874 and let us know how many in your family to expect. Wear appropriate work clothing and bring your favorite potluck dish to share - the school will supply pizza, water, and tools.

To participate in the clothes swap, simply drop off children's clothing items – clean and in good repair - to the school during the week preceding the event. Join us on Saturday, August 17 to “shop” for school clothes for your children! We ask that all items donated are within the dress code and are appropriate for school. Please, no car seats, toys, furniture, or adult clothing. Questions about the swap may be directed to Morning Star parent Carla Boon at (425) 765-6540 or carla@flow-flourish.com.

Grades News

Student Newsletter



TCWS' first volunteer student newsletter, called "The Belltower," was published on Friday, June 7, 2013. It featured a cover article about Mr. Preston's departing 8th grade class and news items about May Faire, the Ultimate Frisbee teams, and the 5th grade trip to Olympia. Grace Haller, Hana Stanley, Rachel David and Aidan Heuston contributed original writing, and there were fun items by Alex Wilder, Lily Lindberg, and Victoria Elsbree. The cartoon production teams of Ben Reilly/Avishai Goldschmidt/Connor Kelly and Julia Hasbrook/Liberty Evans-Agnew and drawings by Larson Guderian and Kaia Goldsworth made for great illustrations. The cover drawings and lettering were by Isabella Heath,

Elswyth Bennit, and Kira Campana.

The editorial team selected by their peers consisted of Hana, Kellan Mythen and Alex from grade 7, Danny Hellstern from grade 6, and Connor, Liberty and Kira from grade 5. The decision about whether to publish future newsletters will be made in the fall, and will be based on feedback from readers and enthusiasm from students in grades 6-8.

Woodworking



In handwork class, students create objects by building up using soft materials--wool, fabric, etc., building up their will at the same time, as projects often take a whole school year to complete.

In middle school, we add woodworking, where the students must create by exercising their will, in a forceful manner, taking away the hard material and leaving behind the desired form.

This year we continued to expand the richness of our woodworking program. 7th graders worked on hand-carved bowls. 8th graders designed and created wooden toys with moving parts. All turned out very nice.



Dolls & Gnomes



Many 7th grade students experience major changes in their bodies. Now is the time that anatomy is brought, as the children start asking questions. In Handwork, to complement both their anatomy lessons and the examination of body proportions found in Renaissance art, the students each make a doll. Because the doll is built up, meticulously, from a core that includes “bones” and a heart, the project takes all year to complete. At the end of the year, when all the dolls are lined up next to each other, it is often easy to see who made each doll.

In the 2nd grade, the students are slowly emerging from the imaginative world. In Handwork, they spend the year working on a gnome doll. This, too, takes all year to complete and, like the 7th grade doll, one can see the personality of each child in the gnome created.



Poetry by Grade 7

Death

I'm waking up to ash and dust,
My cold-dead heart covered in rust.
A blackened landscape surrounds me;
I lean against a black-charred tree.
I dare not take a single breath.
The smoke-filled air brings certain death.
A midnight crow falls from the sky.
It lies dead... its wings shall never fly.
A black-hooded figure approaches me,
And suddenly I feel the need to flee.
But a ghost-like fog envelops me,
And I sink deep into eternity.

The Temple of Friendship

There's a playground that we used to run on,
With the sidewalk wrapped around it,
Perfect for just us and our bikes.
When I'm with you, time doesn't matter a bit.

The sandbox where we found a fifty-dollar bill,
And made castles that were fit for kings,
The giant slide we climbed to the top of –
When I jumped, I felt like I had wings.

That playground that we used to run on,
I heard a while back, is gonna be torn down.
I'll watch silently as they start the destruction
Of the temple of our friendship in my hometown.

Early Childhood News

The Role of Purposeful Work in the Kindergarten



All of a child's years in the Three Cedars Kindergarten provide ample



opportunities to do purposeful work for the sake of the class. From chopping vegetable and kneading bread dough to folding napkins and setting the table, all students have plenty of work to do in addition to their very important work of play. Much of this work is optional for 3 and 4 year olds but once a child reaches 5 ½ or 6 they find that their jobs are mandatory. Never fear, most of these jobs are things they have been waiting to do for 1, 2 or even 3 years before they gain the privilege themselves. What is perhaps unique about our program is that almost every job is done for the benefit of the whole class rather than the individual child. When we make lanterns for the Lantern Walk we work collectively on each one, likewise the braiding of May Crowns. This instills in the students a sense of community and selflessness much needed in our culture today.

The oldest children in the kindergartens were very busy in the last weeks of school. In addition to their usual morning activity and special jobs, they took on tasks that served as rites of passage for them. These included a Woods Day project of building a fence for the kindergarten play yard and a very special job they got to do for their own benefit – making a walking stick.



Last year the third grade built a lovely garden bed in the kindergarten play yard for their building block. We loved planting flowers there this year but found that we could not see them well due to the thick woods immediately behind the garden. Thus the fence project was born. Prior to beginning the project I started telling a story to the Woods Day class about a girl and boy who, because they were so very goodhearted, were given the honor of serving as a Lord and a Lady for the King and Queen. Lord Peter and Lady Marianne were very busy in each story doing work on behalf of the kingdom. They shined the knights armor, hosted feasts at the castle, cared for their neighbor's children and made meals for those in need. Each task was done out of a golden heart and always with the finest manners. The children really took the story to heart and when it came time to do a good deed for our own community they were eager to take up the task. Mr. Jack gave us some fence boards to use and each Woods Day during the last two months of school we spent time marking, cutting and drilling the pieces. When that task was finished the children fed twine through the holes and we attached them to the existing fence. Our garden is much more visible now and the children were very invested in weeding it and making room for new plants to go in.



The other notable project they completed, which has a long history in our kindergarten program, was making walking sticks. Finally the children got to make something just for themselves that they were able to take home at the end of the year! The project began with each child choosing a sapling from a "walking stick tree" (more commonly known as a filbert). Once they had done the hard work of cutting it down with the saw all by themselves, they peeled off all the bark. Some sticks had bark that peeled off easily by hand while others required the assistance of a carving knife. The sticks then rested for a day or two before they were dry enough for sanding. The children were eager to begin this part of the project. They soon found that it was difficult work and a long process! The first phase took weeks as every dent and

scratch had to be removed before moving on to a finer paper. Our sandpaper is color coded and this helped make their progress visible to the students. During the first sanding phase with blue sandpaper we very often heard the question, “Am I ready for red yet?!” They were disappointed with the answer over and over before we finally gave them the good news, “Yes, you are ready for red.” This news was usually shared throughout the play yard by the child and the other students shared in the joy of their friend’s success. On the final week of school all of the children had completed blue, red and gold and had finally been given the much desired black sandpaper. Once their sticks were “as smooth as silk” they got to oil them to a fine shine. On the last day of school they took great pride in using their sticks on our hike and happily showed them off to all of the neighbors that we met on our way.

It is our hope (and belief) that the children who have been through our kindergarten program leave with a strong will for work and a feeling that they are capable of accomplishing tasks on their own. This will surely help them navigate through grade school and beyond. In fact, we can already see the potential for these students to become strong, capable adults who will serve their communities well. Lords and Ladies indeed!

Laura Mason, Morning Glory and Woods Day Teacher

Community Announcements

AWSNA Inform - June 2013

Read about: [AWSNA Summer Conference and New AWSNA Leadership.](#)

Local Opportunities

Summer Simplicity Parent-Tot Playgroups in Bellevue



Space is available in our Summer SIMPLICITY PARENT-TOT Group beginning the week of June 17th

Weekly gatherings with Mama Jackie and Mama Briana for parents with children ages birth to 4 years old

10 a.m. to 12 noon each week

SimplicityLearningCenter.com

425.614.0145

12453 Bel-Red Road, Suite 210, Bellevue, WA 98005

Camps

Sahale Summer Camp, July 7-13, 2013



With a focus on practicing skills of friendship: inclusion, collaboration and fun, this overnight camp is specifically designed to meet the needs of youth aged 9-12. Explore 65 acres on the Tahuya River where camp life includes games, drama, archery, art, music, nature exploration, group work together time. Campers benefit from a multigenerational staff and community which demonstrate how to build nurturing relationships and self esteem. Our staff includes Waldorf trained educators and student counselors, elders as mentors, family life educators and professional musicians and artists who all volunteer to create a week of living in a magical village camp setting. For more information contact Irene Perler, Waldorf subject teacher, parent and camp director, at irene_perler@hotmail.com , and visit www.goodenough.org for online registration. Brochures will be available at the front desk.

Camp Sprouting Spirits

Camp Sprouting Spirits is a Waldorf inspired summer camp where children learn about self-regulation through co-operative games, building fairy houses, cooking, arts, crafts, music, yoga and more! All activities are outdoors to maximize freedom, nature, and exploration. We take daily walks to Woodland Park/Rose Garden where our "inspiring artists" teach a yoga, drama, or music class. We also make most of our snacks (pizza, smoothies, salad...etc). Our days are filled with singing, storytelling, and imaginative play!

We are located in the Phinney Ridge Neighborhood of Seattle. For 2013, we have 3 week-long half-day sessions for around 15 children. Kids around 3-8 years old are welcome to register (I accept some 2 year olds if they are younger siblings). Camp runs Monday-Friday from 9:00am-1:00pm. We hold at least a 1:5 ratio, so your children have the attention they deserve.

For more information, including registration, please visit our [website](#).

Camp Roots at St. Edward State Park

Join Camp Roots at St. Edward State Park for a week of hiking, games and upcycled creativity. For boys and girls ages 8-12. Cam will be held August 12-16th from 10-4. Please see the [Camp Roots website](#) for more information, including registration.

Eastside Catholic Summer Courses & Camps

Join experienced Eastside Catholic faculty this summer for educational, fun, enriching, safe and affordable courses and camps.

At Eastside Catholic we believe in educating and inspiring students all year. Our summer programs will build upon curriculum from the school year or encourage exploration and thinking in a completely new subject or activity.

[Registration](#) is now open!

Summer Music Day Camp

Music Day Camp - Full Day

Girls going into 2nd through 5th grades

The Seattle Girls' Choir hosts week long day camps for girls who love singing to build choral skills in a non-auditioned choir, exploring sound with various instruments and finding new reasons to love making music while meeting new friends!

Click [here](#) to receive email information about camp. Or click on [registration](#) to print forms and sign-up today.

Musical Mornings Camp - Half Day

Girls and Boys age 4 to incoming 1st grade

Girls and boys will learn songs, play singing games, explore classroom instruments, and participate in musical story-telling activities.

Click [here](#) to receive email information about camp. Or click on [registration](#) to print forms and sign-up today.

Visit the Seattle Girls' Choir [website](#) for more information.

Sound Circle Offerings

Student Openings in our Second Year Teacher Training

Program at Sound Circle Center



Beginning September 2013

Sound Circle Center in Seattle, WA still has openings in its 2nd year Waldorf Teacher Training class, beginning September 2013. We welcome students seeking to complete the training they initiated earlier or elsewhere. Sound Circle's teacher training is a part-time weekend program during the school year, plus two weeks of summer intensives. For more information, see <http://www.soundcircle.org/content/teacher-training>.

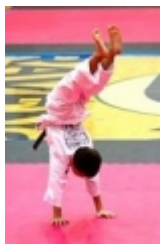
Direct your inquiries ASAP to Sound Circle at information@soundcircle.org or 206-925-9199.

Classifieds

In-Home Massage

Miss Elle, aka Elysia Buss, is offering in-home massage at a discounted rate for the Waldorf Community. Her usual rate is \$80/hour but she is offering one hour massages for \$70. She also has a sliding scale for those experiencing economic difficulty. She is in network with most major insurance companies and has been in practice for over 11 years. Please give her a call or text at 206-295-4137 if you would like to schedule an appointment. Gift certificates are also available.

Martial Arts being taught in Bellevue!



We are currently enrolling for Summer Quarter. We have been in Bellevue for over 20 years teaching 8 styles including aikido, tai-chi, tae kwon do, karate, and kung fu. Practicing Martial Arts is a balanced and holistic way to build self-confidence, mental discipline, physical strength, emotional stability and self-defense skills. Please call 425-698-2700 with inquiries; as a member of the Waldorf community you will receive 25% off one month of training for your child(ren).

Nanny for Hire

Nanny for hire! Loving, attentive & responsible. Focused on nurturing the child's true nature and own awareness of love as it supports the child's growth. Consciously connects in supportive

ways. Resume available. Contact Kristen @ 509.951.0209

Granny AuPairs

We connect families and Grannies worldwide. We are located in Hamburg / Germany and were founded in 2010. Our philosophy emphasizes on a cultural exchange. Our Grannies experience a foreign country off the beaten tourist track. They live with the family and are integrated into the daily life of a foreign culture. Language barriers, different customs and mentalities must be mastered.

AND: Our Grannies have a lot of advantages over young au pairs: **They have life experience, they are adults and very reliable.** Therefore more and more families are opting for a Granny Aupair as the ideal childcare. Our Grannies play, paint, bake or sing with the children. They provide love and comfort and are there for the children when their parents are too busy.

E.g. Patricia, a mother in Vancouver just said: "The opportunity to have a Granny Aupair has taught us so many things, as we open our home and hearts to that person and there's so much to learn from the experience."

Currently we have approx. 100 women in our data base - mainly German Grannies, but also from Austria or Switzerland.

Please see our [flyer](#) for more information.

Lazure Services

Mommy, mommy I love my new room!

www.LazureFinishing.com Painting Waldorf Inspired bedrooms for the young.

Contact Hunter Kerr-Wilson at livingspaces@gmail.com or 206.387.1973

The newsletter is published every two weeks during the school year.

Please email submissions to newsletter@threecedars.org.

*We only intend to send you helpful information and respect your decision to **modify your subscription.***

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