

February 17, 2014

Dear Reader,

We hope you enjoy reading all about what's happening at Three Cedars! We publish the newsletter generally every two weeks, when school is in session.

ALL SCHOOL NEWS

[Early Childhood](#) [Fundraising](#) [Volunteer](#) [Bios](#) [Community](#)

Community Forum

Tuesday February 25 • 6:30 pm • Trillium Hall

Where are we at money-wise? Do we have any plans to build classrooms? Where is the bequest funding going? What is our vision for the future?

Join the Board of Trustees and the Director for our Community Forum on the 25th to find out about where we are and where we are going!

Sharing Assembly Photos Available

Parents are invited to view photos from the January 31st Sharing Assembly on the school's password protected SmugMug photo sharing site. Please see the SmugMug section in the Parent Portal for login information. Contact the front office if you need any assistance.



Mochi Appreciations

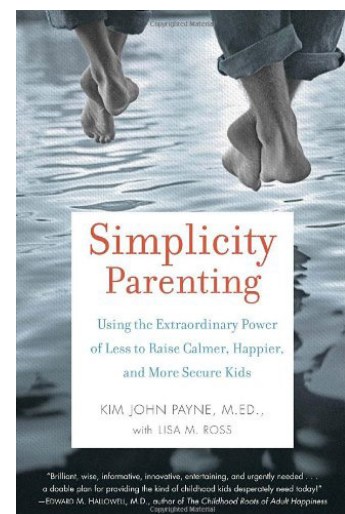
We would like to extend a special thank you to **Emiko Urata, Sanae Stanley, and Scott Stanley** for their help with the Mochi Tsuki festival on January 17. They went the extra mile and the event would not have been the same with them!

Simplicity Parenting Information Session – NEW TIME!

Friday, February 28 • 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Buttercup Preschool Room

We are excited to offer a Simplicity Parenting Information Session during a new morning time! We hope that this new morning session will be a more convenient time for parents who find it difficult to attend events in the evening. Three Cedars faculty and staff highly recommend that at least one parent from each family complete the seven-week Simplicity Parenting course, and that both parents read the [book](#). If you are new to Three Cedars or have not yet completed the course, we ask that you consider joining our upcoming spring group! The weekly classes will begin on Friday, March 7 at 10:30 a.m. in the Buttercup Preschool



room. For more information, please see our [registration form](#) and [information flyer](#), or speak with Seraphina.

Happy Simplifying!

2014 Spring Concert

Saturday, March 29 • Trillium Hall

Only 100 tickets: \$50 each; covers the concert, a complimentary glass of wine, and a dessert. Watch for more details in the next newsletter!

Annual May Faire & Garage Sale

Saturday, May 3, 2014

Three Cedars Waldorf School's Annual May Faire & Garage Sale is one of the largest and most anticipated events of the school year. Although the big event is still months away, the organizers of this all-school fundraiser will be posting updates and reminders in the newsletter to keep you up to date. Please consider how you would like to help:

- Save the date and plan to attend!
- Volunteer to donate items, help organize, bake, create, and/or staff the event.
- For Garage Sale donations, we ask that you please separate ALL clothing by type: men's, women's, boy's, and girl's clothes in separate bags or boxes. Donations will be accepted during the week before and after Spring Break.

Please contact Martin Wilder by [email](#) or (425) 822-4009 for questions related to the Garage Sale or to volunteer for this portion of the event.

The May Faire team may be reached via [email](#) and also meets weekly during the Thursday Morning Crafts & Tea event from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. in the Buttercup Preschool room. Online sign-ups for volunteer positions will be available soon!

Another TCWS Eighth Grader Selected for WA State Senate Page Program

We are pleased to announce that a second grade eight student, Sophie Altaras, has been selected as a page for the Washington State Senate. She will serve for one week at the Capitol in Olympia.

Pages assist Senate members and staff with their important legislative work. For six of the eight hours they are on the job each day, they carry messages, run errands, and deliver materials, among other duties. During the remaining two hours, they are in Page School where they learn about the Legislature and the political process. Students complete several assignments, which we have carefully designed to meet a number of state standards (EARLs and GLEs) in language arts and social studies. These include research, writing, reading, and public speaking skills, in addition to some math skills.

Booster Seat Reminder

Parents are reminded to please label your child's booster seat clearly with either your child's name or family name. This will lessen confusion over which seats are being left by families and which are loaner seats.

When borrowing a booster seat, please be sure it is marked as a "TCWS Loaner" before using it.

Idling Cars Can Turn Schools into Air Pollution Hot Spots

By Kerry Tomlinson, KATU Problem Solvers

You could be hurting your kids just by picking them up after school. How? By not turning off your car while you're waiting.

Research shows idling can turn schools into air pollution hot spots, as parents gather in large numbers outside with engines running. You can't see the toxic exhaust, but children have to wait in it and walk through it to get home.

[Click here to continue reading](#) this article and to view the accompanying video.

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

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Woods Day Firewood

Every Friday on "Woods Day" the oldest students in both kindergarten classes come together to spend the day outdoors and form the social group that will carry them into the first

grade. This day is a highlight of the week for many children and is highly anticipated by the younger children who are not yet old enough to join.

Our most recent Woods Day, the last one before the Mid-Winter Break, was a high point for many reasons. For several weeks now we have been working hard to chop logs from our back woods into firewood. In late January we knew that we had enough wood for a real fire and Mr. Jack agreed that he could join us for a fire the following week. How delightful it was to follow the smell of smoke to the fire pit after getting dressed for a very cold and dry Woods Day. The children carried benches to sit on and we brought along hot tea to drink. A few parents even stayed to enjoy the warmth of the fire with us.



In addition, my father, Grandpa Tom, who the children have been hearing stories about all year, was able to join us. The children were thrilled to meet him! He brought along a very old popcorn popper just right for making popcorn over an open fire. After I told a story about my grandmother growing up on a popcorn farm we tried out the old popper. All of the children had a turn shaking it over the flames and it worked wonderfully. It was so fun to listen to the popping sound and open the lid to find it overflowing with popcorn! The children's tummies were quite happy before we left for our walk that morning.

I marvel at how bringing activities like these can be so satisfying for the children. How easy it is to turn on a gas fireplace, but a fire made with wood from our own trees that we split with our own hands is so much warmer. And popcorn tastes extra delicious when it is popped over that same fire, in an antique popper, after hearing a story about a popcorn farm of old. It is an absolute joy to work with children who receive these simple activities with such absolute delight!

Miss Laura, Woods Day Teacher

More photos are available to view on TCWS's password protected SmugMug site. Please see the SmugMug section in the Parent Portal for login information. Contact the front office if you need any assistance.

FUNDRAISING

All School Early Childhood Volunteer Bios Community

Spring Haircuts for Kids

Sunday, February 23

9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Gem Salon, Kirkland

It is almost spring and the children are growing like weeds – the perfect time for haircuts! Please join William and Petra Hines for this annual fundraiser for TCWS. William and Petra will be offering haircuts for kids at Gem Salon in Kirkland. To schedule your appointment, please call Gem Salon at (425) 822-2990 or make your appointment [online](#). 100% of profits will be donated to TCWS.

Please click [here](#) for the flyer.



VOLUNTEERING

[All School](#) [Early Childhood](#) [Fundraising](#) [Bios](#) [At Large](#)

IT Support

We are seeking additional volunteers to join our IT Team. The following are some of the areas where your time is needed:

- Administer small domain of PCs with Windows server; troubleshoot hardware and network issues
- Office 365 administration for email and SharePoint (SharePoint experience a plus, other aspects can be learned)
- Familiarity with MS Office desktop applications
- Domain administration for email, website, and Office 365

Our current IT volunteer is available to answer questions and speak with you in more detail. Please contact [Robyn](#) in the Front Office and she will happily connect you with him to discuss where you may be able to help!

BIOGRAPHIES

[All School](#) [Early Childhood](#) [Fundraising](#) [Volunteer](#) [Community](#)

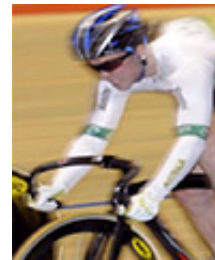
Britt Urquiza, Teacher, Class of 2014

Britt Urquiza grew up running and playing with her brother, sister, and a menagerie of farm animals on her family's apple orchard in Chelan, WA. She studied Spanish, Latin American Studies, and vocal performance at the University of Washington, where she earned a B.A. in Sociology. After completing teacher training at Sound Circle Teacher Training in Seattle, Ms. Urquiza began teaching Spanish at Seattle Waldorf School in 2004. She became a class teacher two years later, teaching grades four through eight, and graduating her eighth grade class in 2011. She lives in South Seattle with her husband, their two daughters, one dog, and four chickens.



Cristine Smith, Games and Movement Teacher

A native of Seattle, Cristine Smith also spent parts of her childhood in Media, PA, Redmond, WA, and Salem, OR. She studied Biology and Nutrition at University of Oregon and Oregon State University before completing a BS in Education with a major in General Biology from the University of Arizona. A cyclist who is especially keen on mountain biking, Mrs. Smith holds a world record in master's level track racing. She also enjoys mountain climbing, trail running, reading, and observing nature. Mrs. Smith studied for two years with the Sound Circle Teacher Training program and has completed two summers of high school training at the Center for Anthroposophy in Wilton, NH. She holds a certificate in Spatial Dynamics (spatially oriented movement exercises, activities, and games) from the Spatial Dynamics Institute, NY. She joined Three Cedars in 2004.



COMMUNITY

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Local Opportunities

Seussical The Musical High School Presentation

Forest Ridge School 4800 139th, Bellevue

March 14 and 15, 7:00 PM

Great for all ages, small auditorium, not a bad seat in the house. Buy tickets at the door or ask Kai Pressey (seventh grade student).

Foundation Year Training

Open House

Saturday, March 15, 2014

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Seattle Waldorf School



Interested in becoming a Waldorf teacher? Interested in more deeply knowing yourself and the world through Creative Arts and Anthroposophy? Please join the faculty, board, students and alumni of Sound Circle Center for an overview of the Foundation Year. The Foundation Year serves as the first year of the Waldorf Teacher Training Program, it can also be taken as a stand-alone program for self-development and personal growth. For more information about our Open House, please visit our website.

Foundation Year

September, 2014 – May 2015

Fridays 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm and Saturdays 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Seattle Waldorf School

Foundation Studies in Anthroposophy and the Arts provides the prerequisite background for those planning to enter a Waldorf teacher education program and eventually become teachers in Waldorf schools. It is also an opportunity for those interested in discovering Rudolf Steiner's Science of the Spirit and how this path of inquiry of knowledge can guide their work in the world.

Through seminars, ongoing group work, artistic activities, and weekend workshops, the Foundation Studies courses address at many levels the broad themes of human development and personal growth.

We are now accepting applications for the September 2014 Foundation Year. Please visit our website for more information or to apply.

Classifieds

Rain Jacket Available

A rain jacket (in mint condition!) is in need of a new home! It's a boy's size small (7-8) and features blue camo colors, with jersey grey knit on the inside. Please stop by the front office to see if this jacket might be a good fit for your child.

Submission deadline for our next newsletter is Monday, February 17, 2014.

