

# Four Tellings

*A weekly bulletin for family and friends of Four Winds Waldorf School*



December 21, 2011

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## Sled-a-thon January Fundraiser

As you look outside it is hard to visualize a snow covered landscape but do not worry, it is coming! How do I know? Well, let's just say we are long overdue for a big snow storm...and between now and January 20th the odds are in our favor!

This week, all grades students\* will be receiving their Sled-a-thon information packet, including their fund-raising sheets, prior to the start of winter break. This will give everyone a chance over the holidays to begin collecting pledges for the big event.

Once everyone returns from break, we will begin planning the logistics in greater detail but the goal is to have the event from 12:15PM to 2:45PM on Friday, January 20th. Parent volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks so if you are interested please contact me at [m\\_sean\\_blair@yahoo.com](mailto:m_sean_blair@yahoo.com). Look for more information next week!

\* A special note from Early Childhood: Early childhood children, though free to sled during our outdoor time, are not participating in the sled-a-thon. Early Childhood families are encouraged to adopt a grades student (sibling or friend of the family) to support with pledge contributions.

—Sean Blair

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## Four Winds Mission Statement

Four Winds Waldorf School is committed to awakening the intellect, imagination and determination of every child, leading to a life-long love of learning. Within a protective and nurturing environment, teachers and parents work together to build a community where each student's confidence, sense of responsibility and self-reliance unfolds.



## From the Desk of Marianne Fieber

'Tis the season of giving and receiving and these deeds are evident all around us. Last week colorfully wrapped gifts were coming in as part of the Giving Tree program. Parvaneh Shidnia-Smith has been spearheading this program for the past several years which allows the generosity of our community to manifest and shine out beyond our walls. It is such a pleasure and comfort to see the physical manifestations of our efforts, whatever they may be, isn't it? We want to see our work "pay-off" we want to see "results" to know that something was worth contributing to, worth doing, worth caring about. I often think about the sacred nature of trust in this way; trust in something that isn't always immediate. This trust lives in the hearts of those parents who make amazing sacrifices to provide their children with a Waldorf Education. I have recently read an article written by Siegfried E. Finser from RSF Social Finance which puts this so elegantly. I've attached the link if you'd like to read it – a perfect pre-holiday read. [The Infinite Value of Giving | RSF Social Finance](#).

I wish each of you a really wonderful break filled with light, love and laughter!

## Annual Fund 2011

Four Winds Waldorf School is continuing to work toward our goals for this year's Annual Fund. We continue to move closer and closer to them but we have a way to go. You may remember that our dollar goal was \$40,000 and participation 100%.

As of Monday we have reached \$ 25,327 with 74% among the Faculty, 90% among the Board of Trustees and 46% among the parent body.

Any contribution made by December 31st will be eligible for a tax deduction since we are a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization.

It would be worth checking to see if your company has a gift matching program to give your donation an extra charge. Supporting documentation as to our 501(c)3 status can be requested through Marianne Fieber. She will be happy to assist you.

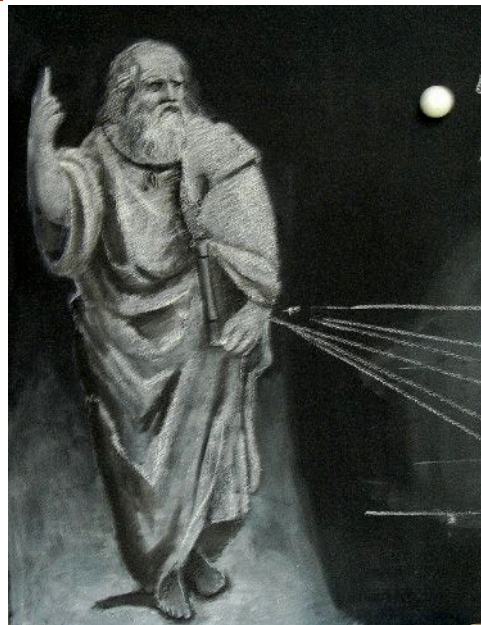
## Parent Feedback Survey 2011-2012

Last year surveys were sent to our current parents to gain input and suggestions that was then offered to their teachers. We are once again requesting a few moments of your time to consider a few questions. The questions are reformatted with an eye toward Appreciative Inquiry and the surveys are no longer anonymous. It is important that we develop openness, trust and confidence in relating between home and school. You may submit completed surveys via email or in paper form by Friday, January 6th. Please send them to the attention of Marianne Fieber. Thank you.

## Whole Childhood: The Prime Sustainability Issue of Our Time

Parents and community members may enjoy this article from a past issue of Vision Magazine. Even though it was written in 2008, it seems quite appropriate and worth a read.

[Vision Magazine Freedom of Choice Our Green Energy Alternatives](#)



## This Week's Calendar

December 21, 2011 (Wednesday)

1:00PM The Shepherd's Play

2:00PM Dismissal

December 22, 2011 (Thursday)

*No School—Beginning of Holiday Break*

January 4, 2012 (Wednesday)

*School Resumes*

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

January 28, 2012 (Saturday)

10:00AM–12PM Town Hall Meeting

12:00PM–1:15PM Potluck

1:30PM–3:00PM Community Conversation

## After School Program

We have attempted to offer an after school program to our families in the past, but have struggled with consistent enrollment that could cover the cost of staffing. It is time to put the request out to our families again to find out who may be interested in an after-school program from 3:00–6:00PM Monday through Friday.



## Classifieds & Newsletter Submissions

Please submit classifieds and newsletter content by Friday afternoon before school ends to be published the following Wednesday.

Classifieds should to be submitted to the front office. Ads cost \$5 for a 50 word ad that will run for two weeks. All classifieds are subject to editing.

Newsletter content can be emailed to Kassia Shaw at [kassia.shaw@me.com](mailto:kassia.shaw@me.com).

## Pictures This Week

Many thanks this week to Carlene Mogavero for submitting pictures of chalkboard drawings in our grades classes, and Anna Morris for her pictures of Rainbow Garden!



## Thank you for Using SCRIP: 2011 in Review

A big thank you to all of the families who have used Scrip for their purchasing needs this year. To review, The Board requested that every family strive to use Scrip this school year at an average of at least \$250 average per month, with an all school goal of raising \$5000 via Scrip throughout the 2011-2012 school year. Thus far we are right on track to meet the \$5000 goal, having raised just over \$2100 in Scrip purchases to date. Eighteen families, faculty, or friends of Four Winds have achieved the goal of at least \$250 in Scrip purchases per month average set forth by The Board. This number is consistent with the numbers at our quarterly review, suggesting that there is a core group of individuals who have made Scrip part of their purchasing habits, and many members of our community who could give Scrip a big push if they resolve to integrate Scrip into their buying habits in the new year. Please reflect on ways that you can start to use Scrip for your grocery, gas, clothing, home improvement, and other purchases in the year ahead. It is a tremendous gift to our amazing school.

If you placed an order last Thursday, please remember to pick up your order from the office Wednesday morning before breaking for the holidays. If you forgot to order but need Scrip cards for stocking stuffers, gratitude gifts, gas, groceries, etc. over the break, stop by the office as well to make purchases from our inventory holdings which include most area gas stations, grocery, and home improvement stores, as well as Chipotle, Jamba Juice, iTunes, Starbucks, and more.

**Scrip Tip of the Week:** Our next school order will be placed on Thursday January 5th after we return from break. If you need ScripNow! cards or to Reload your Scrip cards before then, you can order online anytime using PrestoPay! Please see last week's Four Tellings to reference Scrip holiday hours which will impact reload times. ScripNow! is available in minutes any time. If you need help establishing a PrestoPay account, please contact Corrie Goldberg at [corrie23@sbcglobal.net](mailto:corrie23@sbcglobal.net) Have a safe and happy holiday and good health in the new year!

## Classifieds

☺ Experienced professional roofer looking for off season odd jobs. Gutter cleaning, snow removal, last minute leaf removal, heavy lifting, garage clean up, repairs, interior painting etc. Very reasonable pricing on all. Contact Jonathan Goodwin (630) 809-8174.

☺ After-School Childcare needed. A potential new family interested in our school needs childcare for her two children from 3:00-6:00PM Monday-Friday during school weeks. We are looking to see if there is an adult interested in providing this childcare at the school. They are willing to pay \$15 per hour for two boys in grades 4 and 2. Please contact the front office if you are interested.