

Four Tellings

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The weekly bulletin for family and friends of Four Winds Waldorf School

February 16, 2011

Calendar of Events

Wednesday February 16

Early Childhood Combined Parent Mtg.....7 pm

Thursday February 17

Scrip Orders Due.....10 am

Board Meeting.....7 pm

Food Forms for March/April due.....3 pm

Mon-Fri February 21-25

Mid-Winter Break, No School

Wednesday March 2

Parent Tea.....8:15 am

Thursday March 3

Scrip Orders Due.....10 am

Parent Council.....7 pm

Saturday March 5

Story and Craft.....2 pm

Tuesday March 8

“Enjoying Your Child’s Adolescence”...7 pm

Lecture by Carol Triggiano

Thursday March 10

Scrip Orders Due.....10 am

Parent-Teacher Conferences....3:15-7:30 pm

Sign-up for your conference in the front office now.

Friday March 11

No School:

Parent-Teacher Conferences....9:30am-4pm

Sign-up for your conference in the front office now.

Saturday March 12

Community Potluck.....12 noon

Community Conversation.....1-2 pm



Welcome New Students!

Please join us in welcoming **Justin Park** to 3rd grade. His parents **Channy and Lisa Park**, and sister **Julie** (age 4) have just moved here from Korea. Julie will join Rainbow Garden in the near future.

Hannah McHugh just joined 4th grade! Her mom **Kristie McHugh** is our beloved Extended Care provider. Welcome!

Volunteer Needed

Tuesday, February 22nd from 7-8:30 p.m. to hand out FW Camp brochures at the Geneva HS Camp Resource Fair. If you can help, contact Renae Anastasia ASAP, 714-348-6821.

The color of springtime is in the flowers,
the color of winter is in the imagination.
~Terri Guillemets

Third Grade News

Mrs. Gantner’s third grade class has been very busy this winter with all of the work that comes with the curriculum. Mrs. Gantner calls third grade, “The year of living and working on the earth.” And indeed, it is. You may have noticed us digging tunnels in the snow and wondered why we aren’t in class. Well, guess what? Digging and building forts is part of our shelters block and all that snow sure came in handy. The last few weeks found us enthusiastically measuring the snow, hallways, doorways and items in our room. This is part of our measurement block, which also entails working with liquids and solids. Last Friday and this Monday, Mr. Keeney gave his gift of enlivened teaching by exploring the concept of weight with the class. Come to our room to see examples of our studies.



As part of our wish to do good deeds in the world, the third grade spent an afternoon at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora. The class took the work very seriously as we measured, packaged and boxed food to be sent around the world to children in need. Along those same lines, you will soon be noticing signs about our “Pennies for Peace” campaign. Beginning in March we will be collecting pennies as a fund-raiser to support the work of Greg Mortenson who wrote the book, *Three Cups of Tea*, based on his experience of building schools in Pakistan. The campaign will include educational and artistic components, as well. So start gathering your pennies!

-Liz Gantner, Third Grade Teacher



Four Winds Community Ski Trip

Sponsored by Parent Council

Do you need a family activity during Mid-Winter Break? Join us on **Friday, February 25th** at Wilmot Mountain from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. Special \$32 fee includes lift ticket, skies and lesson (snowboard rental is \$10 more.) Sign up in the front foyer. We need at least 15 people to get this group rate! We will leave school at 8 a.m. and return at 6:30 p.m. Call Bruce Cooper for more information, 847-873-5043.

Sled-A-Thon

Get ready for our winter school-wide fundraiser, the Sled-A-Thon! Start collecting pledges now for your child to sled down our hill on Friday, March 4th at school. The more pledges, the more sledding! We are very excited for the fun and fundraising potential this event will generate despite the fact that the snow is melting as we speak. If the weather does not cooperate with sledding, we will transform this event to a jump-rope-a-thon and the “per run” pledge will become a “per minute” pledge. We realize that the event date is less than 3 weeks away and we have a week of break in there, but it should be enough time to contact family, friends and neighbors for pledges. Pledge forms are in your mail packets this week. Questions? Email Sean Blair, svblair_chicago@yahoo.com.



FROM THE DESK OF *Marianne Fieber*

Last week Thursday I went to a luncheon hosted by the West DuPage County Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of the gathering was for Warrenville Mayor David Brummel to deliver his State of the City report. It was my first meeting like this and I was delighted to see some familiar faces. There were representatives from the Warrenville Arts Council there and George Safford from the Village Chronicle as well as a couple new friends from Action Screen Printing (they did our Four Winds wear). It just so happened that the mayor joined our group for lunch prior to giving his speech. It was quite an honor. During his talk, I took a couple notes because I was hearing in his words some important thoughts for our consideration. He began by stating that "the new norm" is doing more with less and that nothing is easy. He also stressed the importance of recognizing and honoring the small but hard-earned victories. He laid out a clear strategy that he has applied in managing the administrative and financial affairs of Warrenville and I want to share it with our Four Winds Waldorf Community because I think we can also explore these ideas and how they may be manifest right here in our own school.

- Hire good people.
- Plan ahead by building a reserve & balancing your budget.
- Don't spend what you don't have. Stick to services you can afford to do at the highest **sustainable** level of quality.

Pretty sound advice isn't it.

On another note; Carlene Mogavero (Faculty Chair) and I went to Chicago Waldorf School on Saturday to attend the final performance of the 12th grade Eurythmy program. It was terrific! We ran into some friends there (Joan Fergus and Family) as well as a number of colleagues from the Chicago Waldorf School. I also ran into a number of personal colleagues and friends from my years as the High School Coordinator at the school before coming to Four Winds. I knew some of the 12th grade students as well – they were still in elementary school when I left and the transformation was stunning. Some members of this group of twelfth graders had benefitted from having eurythmy even in their Early Childhood years. You could see it in the way they moved their hands; sculpting the space around them, in the way they seemed to float smoothly across the stage and in the way they worked harmoniously as a group. Carlene and I were both so grateful to have taken in this program and we both came away with a strong desire to find some way to bring this very particular Waldorf element to our students once again.

On my way to pick up Carlene for our trip into the city, I used a scrip card to fill-up my car with gas. I also stopped for lunch at Panera and had some soup. I used a scrip card there as well! It is so easy and both those cards are in stock!

Food for Thought

A reminder about snacks and meals at school. Snack and lunchtime are times for the children to nurture their bodies and come together in community. Parents of children in the grade school and in the extended care afternoon program are asked to pack nutritious food and a water bottle for their children. **Please do not send junk food, especially high sugar foods, Lunchables, candy, caffeine-containing drinks, or gum to school.** We request that parents refrain from sending juice to school because of the concentrated amount of sugar.



Keep in mind that we do have children enrolled at Four Winds with life threatening allergies to nuts. At this time, the 2nd grade, Rainbow Garden, and Extended Care are completely nut free, and Sunrise Garden (Parent-Child) is peanut-free. If your child is in any of these classrooms/programs, we ask that you pack only nut-free items for your child. Thank you!

Enjoying Your Child's Adolescent Years

Tuesday, March 8, 7 p.m., in the Community Room

Presented by Carol Triggiano, Master Teacher, CWS

Adolescence is a time of tremendous growth, challenging emotions, social learning and dawning potential. Come and explore ways to not only handle the stormy teenage years, but also to actually enjoy them. With Steiner's view of the developing human being and the wisdom of a Waldorf curriculum, YES, it can be possible. Come and hear how we can frame adolescence in an holistic picture of child development. Bring lots of questions.



Parent Tea Update

Our next Parent Tea is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2nd from 8:15-9:15 a.m. in the Sunrise Garden Room. Joining us will be Naomi Studebaker to speak about how the body midlines affect learning. All are welcome to attend. Young children welcome as well.

-Kelly Kasper and Parvaneh Smith

Lace up and Get Rollin'!

Parent council is hosting a Four Winds roller skating event at Funway Skate Center in Batavia. Join us on Sunday March 20th from 12:30 until 4pm for Funway's Sunday Matinee Skate featuring family style fun at it's best, oldies to top 40, Hokey Pokey, races, couples, trios and yes- The Chicken Dance! Admission-\$5, skate rental- \$2.50 for retro quads \$3 for inline skates. Hope to see you there!



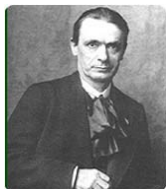
Barn Dance

Come out to Fermilab for an afternoon of dancing to live fiddle music with caller Meg Dedolph. The dance is at 2 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Kuhn Barn on the Fermilab property (bring a picture ID to show at the Fermilab gates), and includes simple circle and contra dances in a fun, social atmosphere.

Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Admission is \$5.

For more information, call (630) 897-3655 or visit

www.chicagobarndance.com.



Rudolf Steiner: The Man, The Age, The Path

Whether they know it or not, Waldorf teachers and parents are continually interacting with Rudolf Steiner's ideas and discoveries. But until now, there has been little opportunity for those new to Steiner's philosophy to encounter it in a non-intimidating, self-paced manner. With this in mind, **Eugene Schwartz**, master Waldorf teacher and teacher educator, has created a unique multi-media online course to introduce (or re-introduce) Rudolf Steiner to a 21st century audience. During this year, commemorating the 150th anniversary of Steiner's birth, **the course will explore Steiner's biography, the times in which he lived, and, above all, the significance of his path of inner development for the individual, for humanity, and for the future of the Earth.** *There will be a special segment for Waldorf parents and for teachers new to Steiner's philosophy.* This presentation will be online from March 1- April 1. Participants can watch and listen as often as they wish during the month. The course fee is \$35.00 per person. [Click here for more information.](#)

Re-Thinking Childhood: Parenting and Educating Children in a Time of Global Transformation

March 4-6, 2011, Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, WI

Our world has been changing rapidly. How can we best prepare children for an unknown future?

Sharifa Oppenheimer, author of *Heaven on Earth: A Handbook for Parents of Young Children*, and **Joan Almon**, Executive Director of the Alliance for Childhood, will share practical information and motivational wisdom to help us in our lives and work with children of all ages. One session is entitled, **"Growing Up Fully Human in a Dehumanizing World"** by **Joan Almon** will explore the strong sense of children to become part of the world and in participating with us in its healing and transformation. Info: 262-642-9672 or <http://waldorfraining.com/marchconf120610.htm>. Attending this event from FW are **Carlene Mogavero, Maryla Sikora, Barbara DuRocher and Karen Hays.**

Alumni News

Congratulations to **Eric Maurer** (class of 2008) who has been cast as the lead in the St. Francis High School (Wheaton) musical production, *All Shook Up*. Eric plays Chaz, (who is channeling Elvis), and sings many Elvis songs. Performances are March 21-25. Stay tuned for more info on tickets.

Trees and Natural Lands in a Changing Climate

Presented by **The Conservation Foundation**

Dr. Gerard Donnelly, President & CEO, Morton Arboretum
Thursday, February 17th, 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Arrowhead Golf Club, on Butterfield Road in Wheaton.

As the numerous discussions continue on climate change and its impact on our environment, what we do know is that **our natural landscape will likely be different in the future.** Dr. Donnelly's presentation will focus on climate change and its implications for trees, woodlands, and natural lands management. **\$40/person for Members of The Conservation Foundation and \$55/person for Non-Members (includes a one-year complimentary membership).** [Click here](#) to download the brochure with complete agenda and registration form. [Email Carrie Thompson](#) or call 630-428-4500, Ext. 10 for info/registration.

Weekly Regular Meetings

Grades Faculty - Tuesday 1:15 pm

Early Childhood Faculty - Tuesday 1:20 pm

Student Services Committee - Tuesday 2 pm

Leadership Council - Wednesday 1:15 pm

Executive Steering Comm.-Weds 3 pm

SICG- Thursdays at 11:15

Special Subject Faculty- Thursday 12:45 pm

Full Faculty - Thursday 3:20 pm

Classifieds

Place classified ads here! \$5 for 50-word ad to run 2 weeks. All ads subject to editing.

Four Winds Wear Gently Used Items available for free in the front office: one denim/khaki boys baseball style hat; one navy hooded sweatshirt size youth medium; one navy hooded sweatshirt size youth large. Stop by the school office and pick them up! First come, first served.

Needed: Someone to do light mending/sewing for clothing repair. Would like to drop things off to you at school. Will negotiate fee. Please call Aurora Giattino, 843-683-8750.

Gently Used Hiking Boots, women's size 8, best offer. View in school front office. Offered by Naomi Studebaker.