



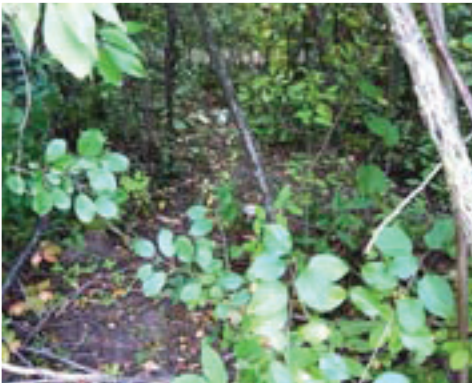
Four Tellings

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



September 21, 2011

Office (630) 836-9400
www.fourwindswaldorf.org
30W160 Calumet Avenue W
Warrenville, IL 60555



Inside

From the Desk of Marianne
Calendar of Events

2

Leadership Council Update
Buildings & Grounds Update

3

Scrip Update
General Announcements
Outreach Efforts

4

Focus on Eighth Grade Part 2

5

General Announcements (cont.)

6

General Announcements (cont.)

7

Welcome Back Night was a Huge Success

Many, many thanks to all of the hard work that our teachers, administrators, and parent leaders put into last week's Welcome Back to School night. The school was positively glowing with beautiful artwork by our students, thoughtfully organized classrooms by our teachers, and the warm hearts and voices of our community coming together.

For those of you who might have missed it, Carlene Mogavero opened the evening with introductions; Rich Hill discussed the Board's work this year including a financial update by our Treasurer, Renae Anastasia; Corrie Goldberg presented this year's SCRIP program; Jocelyne Roy talked about upcoming outreach events; Marianne Fieber previewed some new procedures and policies; Eduardo Nigro introduced Parent Council's upcoming events; and Parvaneh Smith talked about her work this year on social inclusion in the upper grades. The faculty then presented their grades and specialty subjects.

Many will agree, the highlight of the evening was the opening of the classrooms where parents had the opportunity to walk through the school and visit with the teachers and each other. It was an exciting way to start the year. Thank you so much to everyone who made it possible!

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

The weather has been bit nippy these days but the warmth in our hearts seems to ray out and is seen and felt in the mood and liveliness of the children as they move about their days. Hats and mittens have also been seen donned. We've already had classes head out on field trips designed to enhance classroom experiences for our students.

This is the season of inspections in order to ensure safe operations of our school and equipment; we've had an elevator inspection, the fire inspection and will be having our first fire drill on October 3rd in conjunction with the Fire Safety Talk delivered by a few of Warrenville's finest. The students through grade 5 will gather in the Community Room to learn some tips about fire safety, see the gear needed to fight fires and may also get a tour of the fire truck. It is always a fun time for the students and they learn some valuable safety tips that they can share at home.

October 7th will be our First Aid Training for Faculty and Staff conducted by Darci McCarthy a parent in 3rd and 8th grade. Darci has trained many individuals in CPR and First Aid and provided this service to Four Winds School 2 years ago. She will also train the Early Childhood staff and members of our Front Office Team in CPR that afternoon. The Grades teachers will have their CPR training at a later date. We are grateful to have a member in our community who is able to train us in this vital aspect of our work in service to the children.

Last year we developed a series of community conversations as a way to come together and focus our conversations on particular topics. These were opportunities to share ideas and explore the many elements that make Four Winds Waldorf School a special place to be and how we might create a community culture that goes beyond sustainable and in fact stimulates regeneration for everyone involved. A few statements coming out of that work bear repeating as we head into a new school year include the following:

- Waldorf education supports the heart of each child, feeds their souls, and instills honor and integrity into their beings.
- Waldorf education is a holistic education for children and offers fulfillment for adults (parents, faculty, staff etc.) as well.
- Love is a foundational principle.
- Fostering a sense of US - we're all in this together
 - ALL children not only MY child;
 - ALL classes not only MY child's class
 - ALL Waldorf school's not only FOUR WINDS WALDORF

Just like every human being, our school is in a constant state of becoming. We all play an important part in building it into what we want it to be. We are all life-long learners and participation in the building of our community will knit us together with strength to face any challenges that may present themselves.



This Week's Calendar

September 21, 2011 (Wednesday)

Early Childhood Picture Day

1:30 - 3PM Leadership Council

3 - 4PM Executive Steering Committee

7PM 2nd Grade Parent Meeting

7PM 8th Grade Parent Meeting

September 22, 2011 (Thursday)

First Day of Parent-Child

SCRIP Orders Due

Grades 4-7 Picture Day

10:30 - 11:30AM Social Inclusion Coordinating Group (SICG)

3:15 - 5:30PM Faculty Meeting

7PM New Parent Dinner

September 23, 2011 (Friday)

Grade 8 Picture Day

3 - 4PM Student Service

Committee Meeting

September 27, 2011 (Tuesday)

7 - 9PM Rainbow Garden / Oak Tree Kindergarten Parent Meeting

September 28, 2011 (Wednesday)

1:30 - 3PM Leadership Council

3 - 4PM Executive Steering Committee

September 29, 2011 (Thursday)

SCRIP Orders Due

Cold Weather Clothing Exchange
8:30AM Michaelmas Celebration, In School

10:30 - 11:30AM Social Inclusion Coordinating Group (SICG)

3:15 - 5:30PM Faculty Meeting



Buildings and Grounds Update

Building and Grounds desperately needs volunteers for mowing the lawn on a regular basis, even if someone can just do once or a partial job it would be a help. Send names and availability to djheater@hotmail.com. It's so time consuming that other building maintenance work isn't getting done.

Thanks to Mike Prah, Peter and Riley O'Callaghan, Eduardo Nigro and sons, and Marianne Fieber for spending a beautiful Saturday morning moving mulch around the play areas. Mulching these areas on a yearly basis protects the children from being injured. It's an important job, we hope you can join in the work next year!

The Groman Café Is Back!

The 7th and 8th grade will alternate Thursdays in this popular fundraiser for their class trips. Come a little early to enjoy a cup of Groman Joe and a delicious treat.

September Leadership Council Update

Leadership Council carries a deep commitment to working with the ideals of Anthroposophy and taking a leadership role in the overall administration of the school. It consists of faculty and administration, and meets on a weekly basis.

Leadership Council is responsible for pedagogical concerns, personnel issues, and in association with the Board of Trustees, for guiding the long-range development of the school. It strives to make decisions in a timely manner, be proactive in anticipating needs, and ensuring healthy communication and collaboration between Faculty, Board and Parents.

Here is this year's Leadership Council:

Carlene Mogavero as Faculty Chair
Marianne Fieber as Administrator
Mari Cooper and John Keeney as Faculty

The following items were discussion points in Leadership Council's September meetings:

- Schedule meeting with parent and board member Jocelyn Roy. Jocelyn will be sharing with the faculty what she learned this summer at an Appreciative Inquiry Training. This is a new way of approaching how to strengthen our organization by exploring what is working.
- Organize and review fire inspection and fire safety talk
- Revisit last years' Earth Care Festival and reflect on a new name or a new direction
- Review classroom budgets
- Review responses to the suggestion for a school uniform
- Schedule CPR and First Aid training for all employees of school
- Proposal to create a wish list for staff and faculty
- Proposal for Eurythmy block
- Look at how best to manage outdoor toys and tools
- Review Community Care Flow chart
- Review of parent handbook
- Review of first strategic planning meeting

— Mari Cooper, *Leadership Council*



Scrip Is Off to an Encouraging Start!

The numbers are in. Since the start of the school year twenty-two families, faculty, and friends of Four of Four Winds Waldorf School have purchased Scrip cards through weekly order opportunities, inventory sales at the office, and Scrip Now! purchases which allow you to receive select Scrip cards via email within an hour of purchase for fast and convenient shopping. These sales in total have already generated over \$300 for our beautiful school.

If you weren't among the Scrip shoppers, you're missing out on a fantastic, easy, and ongoing opportunity to help Four Winds at no cost to you. Orders for Scrip cards are placed every Thursday morning at 10AM, but you can place your order online at any time. As long as your payment is turned in to the office by 10am Thursday it will go out with that week's order, and your cards will be available for pickup in the office the following Thursday. Go to shopwithscrip.com and register with enrollment code L99B27DD227L2 to place your order from over 600 vendors—the paper form handed out at Welcome Back Night was a mere drop in the bucket! A limited (but growing) selection of cards are also available for purchase from the office at any time.

Scrip Tip of the Week: Ditch that checkbook! Did you know that you can register for Presto Pay (similar to Paypal) to have your Scrip orders debited directly from your checking account? No more missing an order because you forgot to drop the check at the office; last-minute ordering from your home or office to make the Thursday 10am deadline; instant purchases through Scrip Now! without needing to wait for orders to arrive; reload your Scrip cards from many vendors within 24 hours, saving time and plastic. Registering with Presto Pay does not obligate you to pay for any or all of your orders with the Presto Pay, but gives you that "just in case" option. Presto Pay costs only 39 cents each time that you use it, no matter how many cards you order. To enroll in Presto Pay click the "PrestoPay" link on the left of your [shopwithscrip](http://shopwithscrip.com) account homepage. Don't worry, it's easy!

Have any questions? Contact Corrie Goldberg at corrie23@sbcglobal.net.

Board Meeting Date Changes

Due to conflicts in Board Member schedules we will be meeting during the third week of the month on alternating Mondays and Thursdays. Therefore the next few Board meetings will be:

Monday, October 17
Thursday, November 17
Monday, December 19

As always, Board meetings are open to any member of the community. If you have an agenda item please submit it in advance.



Outreach Events

Cantigny Green Fair
Saturday, September 24, 2011
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton
www.cantigny.org

Cantigny and SCARCE will host the third annual Green Fair to celebrate what's working in our community—for people, businesses and the environment. The event will include eco-vendors, activities for kids, local farmer's market, cooking demos, live music, eco-fashion show, and a showing of "Green Fire."

Whole Foods Market Day
Sunday, October 9, 2011
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
75th Street, Naperville

Newsletter Submissions

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

Classified 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.

General announcements continue on page **6**



Focus on a Grade Eighth Grade

Led by Bruce Cooper

Focus on a Grade is a year-long series. Each grade represented at Four Winds Waldorf School will be featured in the Four Tellings for an entire month. We will be looking at different aspects of that grade from what's going on in the classroom to student work and activities.

This week, *Focus on a Grade* takes a closer look at Bruce Cooper, the eighth grade teacher. Mr. Cooper has over eight years teaching experience at Waldorf schools in Colorado, Minnesota and Illinois. A student of anthroposophy for almost 20 years, Mr. Cooper first studied Waldorf education in Boulder, Colorado with Rene Querido.

Last week, his students were asked to come up with interview questions for their teacher. We selected a few for him to answer.

If you could have a different job, what would it be?

"I'd be a ski instructor. I'd like to teach in Colorado, but I'd settle for Wisconsin [...] I took the class skiing last year."

What else besides teaching would you like to accomplish in your lifetime?

"Send all five of my kids to college. I'd like to visit Greece, see the ancient ruins there. I would like to get eight hours of sleep on a school night for once. I'd like to go swimming in an icy fjord in Norway."

What was the worst trouble you got into in school?

"I got put into detention in fifth grade for doing a dog pile on the playground...so we had two weeks of detention."

What's the biggest country you've been too?

"I went to France in 2001."

What did you major in college?

"I majored in Fine Arts."

Why do you like Irish stuff?

"I like Irish stuff because I'm married to a Irish-American woman, and I have Irish in-laws, and I like Irish music."



Save the Date

On October 13th at 7:00^{PM} Richard Dancey will be presenting a lecture, "Strengthening the Spiritual Life of Our Children." More details regarding the lecture will be coming next week.

Chess Wizards Cancelled

Chess Wizards, scheduled to begin on Monday, September 19th, has been cancelled due to a lack of enrollment.

Parent-Child Begins

Parent-Child Programs begin Tuesday September 20th and Thursday September 22nd. Enrollment is looking good for our Parent-Child classes this autumn and we are delighted that Naomi Studebaker is back with us to carry this introductory and extremely rich program.

The Tuesday class is our Parent-Child Nature Class. The 2-4 year old children and their caregivers will spend their time, almost exclusively outdoors on our grounds. The Thursday class will be held in Sunrise Garden. If you are interested or know someone interested who has a young child at home, please provide them with our brochure and invite them to consider our program.

We will not be offering Parent-Infant or Parent-Toddler classes this fall due to low enrollment.

Class Photo Reminder

All students will be participating in a class photo....even if an order wasn't placed.....so please remember to wear appropriate attire on your class photo day.

ARTWORKS 2011

On November 13th, our 7th-8th Grade Orchestra will be playing at Hubble Middle School as part of an annual event hosted by the Warrenville Arts Council. We are looking forward to sharing our fabulous music program, under the direction of Honna Austin, with a wider audience! Don't miss it.

Parent Performance

Come support Four Winds parent, David Gustafson, as he performs in Acorn Community Theatre's production of "As You Like It," by William Shakespeare. Performances are on Saturday and Sunday September 24th and 25th at 4^{PM} between the library and the Warrenville city hall.



Four Winds Wish List

Every week the *Four Tellings* will be publishing a list of things that parents, teachers, and our administrator have noticed that the school needs. This list may include material items or volunteer needs. Please take a moment to consider if you have any of these items available, or know of someone who does.

- The front office is in need of 4 chairs for the round table.
- Buildings and Grounds is looking for people able to help with mowing, please contact David Heater for more information.
- Buildings and Grounds is looking for a mirror for the upstairs girls bathroom.
- Bruce Cooper is looking for wood carving tools, a workbench, and soapstone blocks.
- Corrie Goldberg is in need of a Tuesday morning SCRIP card sorter. Please contact her, or Marianne Fieber.
- Oak Tree Kindergarten is looking for big wooden trucks. Contact Carlene Mogavero.
- Grades teachers are looking for a volleyball net and ball set.



Our Very Own *Ten Pennie Annie* is Performing!

Come out for music, coffee and conversation on Saturday, September 24th from 7-9PM at Four Beans Coffee House in Batavia. *Ten Pennie Annie*, a band comprised of FWWS teachers and parents, will be performing folk and Irish music for your enjoyment. No cover. Come and enjoy a family night out of music, delicious drinks, tasty treats and the company of others!

Ironman World Championship

Our Board President, Rich Hill, has qualified to compete in the Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii on October 8th. Help us send him off with flare and well wishes after school on September 30th.

More details are to follow next week, but if anyone has any old running shoes they can donate for a send-off, please contact Kassia Shaw at kassia.shaw@me.com.

Parent Participation Reminder

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

~ Henry Ford, 1863-1947

Across all levels of our program, from early childhood to eighth grade, we strive through imitation and inspiration to develop in our students a sense for working together, for the good of the other, or for the good of the whole class. As adults, we model this spirit of brother/sisterhood by lending a hand in one way or another for the success of our school. Many parents have already stepped up to find the right place for their involvement and we are paving the way for a strong school year. If you have not had a chance to complete the Parent Involvement Form (see attached) it is not too late! We are looking for folks who have interest and/or experience in *development* to work on fundraising plans. There is room on our *Marketing Committee* and *Buildings and Grounds Committee*. Very soon, Parent Council will be looking for volunteers for Harvest Fest. Your participation helps to ensure the success of our school.

Wisconsin LifeWays Training Begins October 9th!

The LifeWays Child Care and Human Development Training is a comprehensive training to give you the understanding and skills you need to transform your living and working with young children. It will help deepen your parenting, enliven your care giving, and inspire your work with parents and children. Are you yearning for a simpler, saner, and more holistic approach to life with young children? The LifeWays training is for you!

Inspired by the works of Rudolf Steiner and contemporary child development experts, the curriculum is designed to engage you as a whole person, not just intellectually. It's a very hands-on approach. Along with the study of child development, there is an emphasis on the student's personal development.

The conference dates are Sunday, October 9-16, 2011. For additional information on location, tuition and fees, please visit www.LifeWaysNorthAmerica.org, or contact Mary O'Connell at lifewayschildcare@gmail.com.

Cold Weather Clothing Exchange

Coming soon....Four Winds School annual Cold Weather Clothing Exchange! On Thursday, September 29th, tables will be set in the hallway. Feel free to exchange hats, mittens, coats, snow pants, etc. and take what you need...