



Waldorf Academy Voice

Celebrating 23 years
of education at Waldorf
Academy



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Voice Newsletter Oct.15/10



Facilitator's Greeting:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the new Voice format. Our Marketing Manager, Jennifer Deathe is moving us along on many fronts regarding how we communicate. Together with Sara Anderson and the support of the Enrollment Committee we are developing more effective means to get our message out and bring new students in.

The Administration and Faculty Managers are engaged in the writing of management plans. These plans are part of the Facilitated Shared Decision Making Model and will provide us with our own guidance and priorities as we look to where we wish to be in two years.

During the next month the school will be actively searching for a new permanent Business Operations Manager. The posting for this position is available on www.waldorfacademy.org. Read more p.3

Calendar

- Oct. 19** Min WeiWei parent evening 6:30 pm
- Oct. 20** Knitting with Mr.Singh 7-9 pm
- Oct. 21** Lecture #2 7pm
Speaker: Diana Hughes
- Oct. 25** Gr.I Parent Evening 7-9 pm
- Oct. 29** Gr.I-5 Halloween Parade 11 am. MS- Dance
- Nov. 1** No School
- Nov. 5** No School
- Nov. 9** Community Council Meeting 7- 9 pm
- Nov.10** School Tour 9:15 am
Grade 1-3 Lantern Walk 7 pm tbc
- Nov. 11** Childcare Centre Lantern Walk
- Nov. 12** ECE Lantern Walk 5 pm
- Nov. 17** Family Festival 4 pm
Grades 1-8. All Welcome
- Nov. 18, 19** Parent/teacher interviews. School closed.
Care available during interview and a Camp is available.

RENAMING CEREMONY SEPTEMBER 22ND



Founding Parents:
Rita Martin and
Rainer

Michelle Huppeler and Anne-Jane Grieve



Wendy Brown and Katherine Fulford



A very special thanks to Erinn Higgins and Katherine Gordon for the beautiful feast and presentation. Stacey, Peg, Ryan, Dean, Diana, and former GV - David Uhlitzsch- thank you for your support and creative talents. Diana Renelli for the lovely photos.
Thanks to London Waldorf School, TWS, Mulberry School and Susan Howard for your warm wishes and support. And Thanks to our guests speakers Rita Martin and Wendy Brown.
Waldorf Academy "Right Downtown"

COMMUNITY HANDWORK: KNIT A CUP HOLDER WITH MR. KARANVIR SINGH

Good for Mugs, take out cups- Ezra's Coffee Shop has the bio-degradable kind

Yarn in this was organic

5mm needles required



A great item to make and sell at our Winter Fair in the Main Craft

Beginner and advanced knitters welcome

Sign up sheet in Front Foyer. October 20th 7-9 pm at 254 Spadina Rd. Thanks to Su Laine Varkey and Lisa Blundell

A Nourishing Waldorf Academy Evening

Some days we are fortunate enough to be nourished in both body and soul. Last Thursday, September 30, after leaving our weekly meeting tense, tired and late, we were astonished at the scene in the Grade Seven classroom: tablecloths, candles and a vast array of exquisite food.

Although we couldn't linger as we might have wished, we savoured soups, salads, samosas, and sweets (although some of us didn't even make it to the dessert table). Beautiful individually wrapped ginger cookies were a perfect way to end the meal.

Full of the warmth of good food shared in an unexpected setting, some of us cleared the room while others joined a large group for eurythmy led by Stacey Greger.

The final part of the evening was Einat Bar Yosef's lecture on the three and fourfold human being. Most of us have listened to our share of *Introduction to Waldorf* lectures. Rarely, however, have I heard one expressed with such passion, humour, clarity and inspiration. Einat guided us from the palace to the woods and back again, gently peeling back layer upon layer of pedagogy, without ever losing connection with the whole. The images and analogies were familiar and traditional, but Einat's conviction and profound understanding made us all

soar with the "genius of the curriculum". The first fire has been ignited, and a passion for the art of learning is blazing in the community. The standard for future lectures is high indeed!



Many thanks from all the faculty and staff of Waldorf Academy to Einat for her lecture, and to Nada Alaica, Erinn Higgins, Leigh Lamacraft and all the Community Council members whose thoughtfulness and talent produced the meal we enjoyed.

Sheila Anderson-Massé
on behalf of all the faculty and staff of Waldorf Academy

Message From Facilitator

continued from page 1.

As an interim measure an experienced C.A. will be hired to maintain the integrity of our business operations. A Voice Flash will announce our interim business manager when final selection has been made.

For the permanent position our search begins in our own community and the greater Waldorf community. Please share the posting with anyone you feel would be suitable.

In the meantime we wish a fond farewell to John Peltier and hope he has a fruitful and rewarding experience at Central Neighbourhood House.

We Are One
Peter Griffin
Facilitator



GV Corner

Our German Volunteers are working hard as ever to make our school go!

They have a few needs, requests and wishes that they hope could become reality.

GV NEEDS or REQUESTS:

- new or seem like new Mattresses (long overdue)
- cutting board
- shower curtain
- bread maker
- bike pump
- fold out clothing rack (for drying)
- tickets to sporting events, concerts, shows
- food is always welcome for growing boys!

The boys appreciate all the gifts and smiles that they have all received and they are

enjoying their stay at Waldorf Academy.

Please feel free to contact me at rmccombe@waldorfacademy.org or (416) 841-0103 if you have items for the German Volunteers!

Thank you,
Ryan McCombe



Read more about our German volunteers on the school BLOG www.waldorfacademy.org/voice

LANTERN WALKS , THE WINTER FAIR & SCHOOL STORE

MARTINMAS LANTERN WALK: Each November we have a Lantern Walk to celebrate Martinmas, a festival of inner light in the outer darkness of the approaching winter. In the spirit of St. Martin the school community will be participating in a food drive for the Daily Bread Food Bank. Place food items in Foyer on Nov. 10, 11 and 12. This symbolic act brings home the deeper truth, in the words of Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism (563-483 B.C.): “There isn’t enough darkness in all the world to snuff out the light of one little candle.”

WALDORF ACADEMY WINTER FAIR: The annual Waldorf Academy Winter Fair is an event that opens the creative richness of Waldorf Academy to the public and the greater Waldorf community. It is also our largest fundraiser for the school. On December 4th the school is transformed into a Winter Village—abounding in crafts, food, winter decoration, activities, performances, and genuine community enthusiasm. Please contact your class rep for ways you can give and participate.

SCHOOL STORE:

Great News! The School store will have regular hours. Parent Volunteer Katherine Gordon will operate the store during the hours of :

Drop Off: M-T-F: 8:15 to 9:30 am

Mid-day Pick Up: W-Th: 12-1:30 pm

Pick-Up: M-W-Th-F: 3- 4 pm

Come in and say hello. Katherine has put two children through Waldorf and has a third in MinWeiWei. She is a great resource for Waldorf in the home.

GRADE 6 AT THE DOKI RESERVE



Doki Reserve

During the second week of school, Grades 6, 7, and 8 visited the Dokis Reserve on the French River. The Grade 6 class was already familiar with the reserve and our guide, the friendly and knowledgeable Norman Dokis. Grade 6 students offer some reflections on their experience

Expectations:

I think it will look like a town surrounded by trees and a lake with their flag on the front. They will have a gym and a hospital, and a school that teaches how to use herbs. **Sebastian S.**

A pow wow; no big buildings; lots of plants and bugs. **Alicia**

I think there are a bunch of houses with a community centre and a hospital. The houses should be old and new, and I think they will have a school and maybe a park. They should have a place to buy food, and I think there will be a mix of native and English. They should have a place to learn native dances and a place to rent canoes. **Zoe**

First Impressions

This place is not at all what I expected. They live in houses just like mine. **Zoe**

It was what I thought it would be like. There is so much forest here. We met Norman on the first day and it started pouring rain. It was fun. Today we went to the forest. I saw a mushroom that looked like it was spray-painted. Norman showed us how to do a duck call, a caribou call and a moose call. THERE ARE MUSHROOMS EVERYWHERE! As we learned last year, plants are so useful. Plants are useful for medicine, shelter, food, and breathing. Plants are magic.

Vera

Norman's Stories

Norman told us a story that took place many years ago. It was a time where the warriors of the Dokis band were far away fighting in battle, so all the women were left to take care of the land. One day intruders came into town knowing the warriors were gone. When the women saw these intruders coming they started to panic, for they had no weapons and they did not know how to fight, but after a long while of arguing and worrying, they decided that they would have to fight. Unfortunately they lost that battle but somehow they were able to contact the warriors and had them come in canoes covered in furs. Now when the intruders saw the furs they were very excited, for they thought that there were only a few people in the boats and they thought that they could take the furs. They had already taken over the land, so they were very happy. But when they went to get the furs, the warriors popped out of the canoes and won their land back.

Naomi

It was my seventh birthday, and I got a hat with a little siren on it. I loved it very much, so I thought I should go out for a walk with it. I headed out on my journey, but I encountered my first obstacle a little while in. It was a frozen pond. Thinking it was safe, I ventured on....SPLASH! I fell in. Surprised, I swam back to the surface. Cold, wet and miserable, I trudged on looking for some way of communication. Then I saw it -- a telephone booth. I saw a figure standing beside it. Moving closer I saw that the figure was my Dad. Relieved, I sank into my father's arms. **Solomon**

I've Learned...

There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothes.
Cleo(quoting)

An important camping thing I learned is not to be picky with food. Sebastian S

You should not waste food. Juling

Wintergreen berries are edible, and so are juniper berries. Anabelle

I should not eat certain mushrooms like destroying angels. Russell

Mushrooms that are brightly coloured are poisonous. Sebastian V.

The sap bubbles on the balsam fir tree heal cuts. Anabelle

A plant called old man's beard can be used as medicine. Hamish

If you don't have a first aid kit, you have the forest. April

OPEN HOUSE OCT 14TH



Magical Pumpkin Garden

Thanks to the wonderful support of our parent volunteers who cleaned up the foyer, set up the tables, greeted, guided and conversed with visitors in our beautiful school. We had 17 families visit the school.

Thanks, Jen D and Sara A

COMMUNICATION

1. This Voice is a PDF and if we continue this format it will come out the 15th of every month.

2. E-Newsletter: This is the true goal of our communication. It will be shorter but allow for the reader to link to our more robust community website. It would replace the PDF. One Sponsor would be available

3. In the Garden- ECE Newsletter: This will come out Nov. 1 and is edited by Julia Wyncol. This will become an e-newsletter with links to Community Website.

4. Friday Update: This would come out every Friday on our community website at 3 pm listing the upcoming events and class trips for the next week.

5. The Community Website: This is currently linked on our school website as the School Blog. This would become an area to expand

on the e-newsletter articles, a business directory, classifieds and a chance for the community to share links, research, Waldorf in the Home, and archives for the newsletters. It will offer advertising in jpeg form on the right column.

6. The School Website would be for attracting potential families and upcoming events.

7. Social Media: We are currently set up for Twitter and Facebook. These are great tools for research links, fundraising, alumni and promoting events.

8. Voice Flash: This would continue if it was urgent or a sudden change in dates etc.

Tell us what you think!

We are the Enrollment Committee: Daniel O'Connor, Jennifer Deathe, Sara Anderson, Jennifer Johannesen, Su Laine Varkey, Katherine Fulford, and Chris Newton.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Donate Kids' Shoes for Haiti

A Toronto dentist is flying to Haiti next week to donate her time again to a dental clinic she has started. She is also taking along as many children's shoes and sandals as she can. Why? She knows that families in Haiti need shoes and sandals badly.

When: Tuesday, October 19th

Where: In the lobby, in the box marked "Shoes for Haiti"

What: Children's shoes and sandals (for children ages 4 to 12) new or lightly used

Laura Edlund (Grade 7 parent)
416-463-8373

laura@lauraedlund.ca

Main Lesson

Grade 1: English- Capital Letters/Form Drawing

Grade 2: Math

**Grade 3: Math: Place Value
Min WeiWei: Wrapping up on Botany, moving into arithmetic**

Grade 6: Earth Sciences

Grade 7: Wrapping up on Explorers, travelers from the 13th Century to the early 16th Century. Algebra coming up.

Grade 8: Revolution!

**Waldorf Academy
Social Responsibility**

Oct 19th

Shoes for Haiti



Nov 10, 11 & 12
Food Donations
for Daily Bread
Food Bank

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY



Bozena Ciepieliwski is climbing the stairs of the CN tower Saturday October 23rd. Join her, cheer, and support United Way.



Tom, Adrian and Kevin are running the Toronto Half Marathon this Saturday! Go Boys! Go!



Grade three Sukkah

"Like a leaf or a feather in the windy autumn weather we twirl around and twirl around, and slowly float down to the ground..."

Greetings from the Child-care Centre

We have been very busy enjoying the lovely fall season. The children have been playing in the leaves soaking in all the pretty colours of fall. We have begun learning our songs for next month's lantern walk which is a beautiful Waldorf fall tradition. Many thanks to the parents who attended our parent evening last month, parents were able to get a taste of what their child's day is like at childcare. The evening ended with an amazing lecture by Einat Bar Yosef which looked into why Waldorf responds to children's needs and supports their growth the way it does. Many thanks to Einat for the great treat!



Waldorf 101: Lecture # 2

"The right thing at the right time."

Child Development and the Waldorf curriculum.

Speaker: Diana Hughes

Thursday, October 21st

7pm to 8:30 pm

Waldorf curriculum is based on a deep understanding of child development. Our guest speaker, Diana Hughes, will explore the stages of development and give examples of how the curriculum responds to the child's changing consciousness over the years.

Diana was a founding parent of Toronto Waldorf School in 1968, and in 1984 started the first Waldorf teacher education institute in Canada.

The lecture is free and open to the public. A suggested donation of \$10 is welcome.

Child care is available for \$5 a child but you must register by October the 18th with the Front Desk info@waldorfacademy.org

BOOKS

*Rhythms of Learning. Selected Lectures by Rudolf Steiner. What Waldorf Education Offers Children, Parents and Teachers.

*In a Nutshell. Dialogues with Parents at Acorn Hill A Waldorf Kindergarten by Nancy Foster 2005

*Simplicity Parenting by Kim John Payne.

AVAILABLE AT OUR SCHOOL STORE

CONFERENCE

NOV. 5-6, 2010

Rudolf Steiner Centre

www.rsct.ca

Convergence: how science supports the wisdom of Waldorf Education. Dedicated to the memory and work of Allison Hudgins, mother, friend, colleague, lawyer, educator and parent at our school.

