Golden Quill

Issue 277

Dates to remember...

Wednesday 9 May
Council meeting
3pm to 5pm

Friday 11 May
Meeting for Parents & Friends
Committee at 3pm in Karri Kindergarten.
All Welcome

Friday 18 May
AGM at 3.15 at the school.

Friday 18 May
Walk to School Day

Monday 21 May
Class 6/7 Parent teacher meeting
3.00pm

Verse 31 from Steiner’s Calendar of the soul:

The light from spirit depths
Strives to ray outwards, sun-imbued;
Transformed to forceful will of life
It shines into the senses’ dullness
To bring to birth the powers
Whereby creative forces, soul-impelled,
Shall ripen into human deeds.

AGM and Council News

Please consider joining the Council and becoming a Council member at the AGM on Friday 18 May. Expertise in the areas of accounting, bookkeeping, administration and law is always valuable as well as a willingness to be involved in the running of your children’s school. If you have any questions about what is involved to be a Council member, please don’t hesitate to ask Rebecca or register your interest at the office: 9848 1811

A warm welcome to new families this term:

Mirani Astawa in class 6 and mother Kim Hammill
Ben (Prep) and Matthew (K4) Kay and parents Vanessa and Winston Kaye
Jason Parkes in Kindy 4 and parents Jamie-Lee Farrell and David Parkes

Administration matters....

One of the things that the teachers and office staff have to monitor is student attendance. It is quite important that you inform the teacher verbally or in writing that your child is sick, or unable to attend class. You can also leave a message at the office by calling 9848 1811. Children are required to attend school on the days when the school they are enrolled at is open for instruction. If you are picking your child up from school early, please remember to complete a sign-out form at the office before you leave. And please inform the office of any change of your address and/or telephone number. The $25 late payment fee will be charged as per fee payment contract 2012 and term 2 invoices.

Our new Website

The school website looks so fabulous we think it is worth thanking Lydia and Conrad twice! They put in over 30 hours over and above what they had been contracted to do. Thankyou- your hard work is very much appreciated.

Good bye Shady

Alas, it is time for our beautiful Shady to leave the Golden Hill Steiner School and continue on with her travels.

Shady has given so much of her time, love and energy to the school and the children and will be missed by all.

Shady’s last day is Wednesday 16th May, a farewell gathering is planned for 2.30 here at the school.

All are welcome to join ,The Teachers
Japanese with Mark Jones

Our new Japanese program has kicked off with much enthusiasm. The children have been enjoying their lessons and having buckets of fun with Mark. We all feel very lucky to have him with us!

Yvonne

Karri Kindergarten News

“lots of leaves upon the ground
make a lovely scrunching sound,
lots of fruit upon the trees, let’s pick
and apple for morning tea,
walk to school, walk to school Autumn days are growing cool”

We have been enjoying singing about Autumn in our circle in Karri kindy and with the change in the weather out come the welly boots and rain coats for lovely sloshing in the puddles.

This week Dior is turning 5 and we will be having a little ceremony and celebration for her. Happy Birthday Dior.

Welcome to our new boy, Ben Kaye who with his brother Matthew in Silver Birch kindergarten have joined us from Perth. Mondays are a special day with some of the younger ones coming in for the morning and joining in on our program.

Its lovely to have them.

Denise is having a wonderful time in Europe and is in Germany at present visiting some Steiner kindergartens. We are looking forward to hearing all about her adventures when she returns.

Parents please remember to send in a warmer blanket this term for afternoon rest time and also remember hats and a change of clothes in the bag for wet days.

Thank you for your assistance
Mary Lou and Clare

Class 2/3 News

Francis of Assisi

The kinsmen of Francis were not like another’s

The birds were his sisters, the beasts were his brothers

These were his names for the great and the small

Was not God father of him and of all?

Night and the morning, water and wind

The stars and the daisy, these were his kind

God was the father of him and all others

The flowers were his sisters, the trees were his brothers

Brother, good morrow, he said to the sun

Sister, good even, to moon, the sweet nun

God is our father, we know of no other

Death is my sister, and life is my brother

We have been leaning into the beautiful life of Francis of Assisi. What a gentle, humble and most joyful being! I feel inspired. This week we are onto the desert saints.

Neal has us sowing oats in our winter garden. Farmers we are.

We learned our 9’s times tables on our fingers and explored the mystery of 11’s.

Rebecca
Class 4/5 News

Thank you to all those parents who attended our class meeting last Friday. This week we welcomed Robena, a fourth year BEd student from Murdoch university. Robena is completing a two week teaching practicum in Class 4/5 and already has several exciting lessons planned for the children next week. Next week is also the third week of our Norse Myths main lesson. The Norse Myths form a significant part of the Class four curriculum and most of the children have been enjoying their high drama and humour with relish.

One hallmark of the Steiner curriculum is the precise nature of the subject matter for each year of children's growth and Steiner recommended Norse myths specifically for Class Four. The children are touched deeply by the battle between light and darkness, extremes of cold and heat which threaten Asgard, the preserve of the good and the beautiful. Over all hangs the question: will it survive? Will Ragnarok, the Last Battle, cause the eventual destruction of the home of the gods? Despite Odin's wisdom, Thor's strength, Loki's inventive schemes, Tyr's bravery, and all the ruses and alliances which protect Asgard, uncertainty underlies each drama. Uncertainty colours the child's experience of life at this age, when cold realities of everyday existence impose themselves more strongly than the colourful world of imagination which hitherto reigned supreme.

Asgard is inhabited by many different characters who manage, uncannily, to find their counterparts in every Class Four, for example:

Thor: loud, strong, respected, well-meaning, sometimes tactless to his own embarrassment;

Freya: a beautiful, wilful but beloved goddess, who falls prey to greed for a necklace and behaves shamefully in order to acquire it;

Odin: the wise and noble leader, who nevertheless enjoys a teasing riddle, and makes use of cunning ruses; and Loki: the entertainer, the mischief-maker, the witty teaser, the artful schemer. The children have been gleefully drawing comparisons and last week the class had a very interesting discussion on which character they felt most similar to.

Please remember to ensure your child has a jumper/jacket with him/her at school as the classroom can be quite chilly in the mornings. The children will soon be starting on their crocheted and felted slippers so hopefully they will have something to warm their feet on our cold wooden floors before too long!

Eliza

News from Playgroup

Hop Hop Hop,
Pferdchen lauf Gallop.
Ueber Stock und ueber Steine,
Aber brich dir nicht die Beine,
Hop hop hop hop hop,
Pferdchen lauf Gallop.

We have been singing this song both in English and its original version in German during our song circles at playgroup. On Thursdays we have also been singing a lovely Japanese song about a dragonfly. The children really respond to the different sounds of other languages in this playful way. We are enjoying the autumn season with our beautiful deciduous tree over at Peppermint cottage in its full crimson glory! We are making bread and apple crumble, and planting bulbs in our pots in the garden. All our groups currently have space for more children, so if you have or know anyone with a child between 9 months and 4 years old, please come and try it or spread the word. There are 3 groups, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings 9.15 to 11.15am.

Thanks,
Silvia, Theda, and Clare
The beauty of autumn is upon us, with the leaves tuning rusty red, orange and golden brown.

We have been busy with our ‘Wish, Wonder and Surprise’ main lesson.

Wish is a soul mood that comes from within and needs to be articulated. In illuminating wish, it is important to provide a moment in which ideals may be articulated, to set the mood of reverence - wishes for someone else - wishes for the earth etc. wonder is a guiding principle through which the cognitive faculty is ripened. Fundamental to wonder and imagination is trained observation and the development of a vocabulary that can encapsulate that observation with exactly the right word. Here we aim for descriptive writing that shows an active inner eye and an ear for composition - the structure and variety of sentences, the uses of phrases and clauses, of adjectives and adverbs of verb mood and so on.

Surprise comes from without and its gamut is broad - from the sublime to the ridiculous, from the miraculous to the heart stopping. The element of surprise lifts us out of ourselves and gives us an opportunity to change our minds, to find a gift in the unexpected.

Here are some examples of the children’s work titled, ‘My Wish for the World.’

I wish the world was fair,
And didn’t mind to share.
I wish the world was smart,
And worked from their heart.
I wish the world was kind,
And wasn’t entirely blind.
I wish the world would do,
Whatever had to be ONE,
And I wish the world would make it,
Entirely into fun! Evie McMullan

“What I want for the world is for people to stop animal cruelty and give all animals love and attention. To stop cutting down trees because animals live in the and I wish people would stop polluting the ocean and littering in general.” Willa Ryan

My wish is that everybody will wake up and make the world a better place - to be as ONE.

Jayden Samut

I wish for the air and water to be free of rubbish and pollution and that people will take an understanding path toward caring for the earth.

I wish for the world to be free of racism because we are all people living on earth together and we all have the same colour blood.

I wish the for the world to be free of live exporting and to care more for native animals.

Mirani Astawa

In conjunction with this wish, the children are creating a collage as a home project assignment and I look forward to putting them around the room and being inspired by their vision.

Have a good week, Ben Mackenzie
Are you interested in being part of a craft group?

A few people have expressed interest in re-instating a fortnightly craft group at the school. We might try a format where we all make the same small craft project together in the group, and share our skills by taking turns to ‘facilitate’ a particular project. This way we can come along and learn craft skills from each other. The idea is to start with simple Steiner inspired toys and decorations. So if you’ve always wanted to make something, but don’t know how or never seem to have the time... this group might be for you!

Let’s meet this Friday morning (11th of May) at Peppermint cottage after school drop-off (9.15am) for an informal cuppa and a chat about how the group might work – little kids are welcome and bring along any small project ideas you would love to craft!

If you’d love to participate but can’t make this Friday, please give me a call or catch me at school,

Thanks, Silvia
(9848 37 38 or 0435 006 228)

A Performance Opportunity

Dear Fiddlers, the Denmark Fiddlers, which includes all the Steiner School violinists has been invited to play for the opening of the Mundabiddi bike trail on May 20th.

Where- Springdale Beach Estate
When- May 20th. From 2.00pm to 2.30, please be there at 1.30pm.

Please bring your violins, lots of enthusiasm and wear bright clothes and a smile!!

Any questions contact Jude on 98451370

Festival of Voice

Parents are reminded that the GHSS primary school aged children will be singing at the Festival of Voice on Friday 1st June. Children are to wear orange and blue please. A copy of the songs to be performed has been attached with this newsletter.

Violin news

The second Just Fiddling workshops to learn more tunes and prepare for the 2012 Eisteddfod will be held on Sat 12 May at Spencer Park Primary School hall (Hardie Rd, Spencer Park)

Fiddlers of all ages and abilities are welcome!! The workshops will occur as follows:

• Just Fiddling 3:  2.00-3.30pm (for beginners/newcomers)
• Just Fiddling 2:  3.00-4.30pm (for intermediate fiddlers)
• Just Fiddling 1:  4.00-5.30pm (for experienced Just-Fiddlers)

The 3 Just Fiddling groups have been entered into the Eisteddfod. Each group will play a different tune as per the following:

JF1:  Grissman’s
JF2:  New Cajun Lullaby & Gran Texas
JF3:  Heel and Toe [1st tune only “Brown Jug polka”]

These tunes need to be learned by memory as there will be no music on stage.

Workshop fee:  $70 [$35/day]. This includes all workshops [including afternoon tea], and all sessions for the Eisteddfod, including the winners’ concert on Sat 26 May. Concessions are available for multiple siblings and we’re happy to barter. It is desirable that students attend at least one of the workshops to partake in the Eisteddfod.
**Video footage on U-Tube**

Some video footage was taken of the violin/recorder concert with Andrew Clermont held at the Steiner School on 27th Apr featuring classes 4/5 and 6/7.

I am suggesting turning it into a short movie to put on U-Tube to raise awareness of the Steiner School violin programme.

I have found it interesting and helpful to look at U-tube clips of violin concerts from other Steiner Schools around the world.

The video was taken on my phone and there are no close up shots of any children. I am not planning on adding any children’s names.

If anyone has any objections to this or would like to see the video before it is put on U Tube please contact Jude on 98451370 or Golden Hill Steiner School.

Many thanks

Jude Iddison

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**Ballet Classes @ RSL Hall**

Every Thursday starting 10th May
3:30-4:15pm 4-9yrs, 4:30-5:30 10yrs & Up
Cost: $10 a class
Contact Nari for more info: 0403 443 730

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**Take Home a Big Brother or Big Sister**

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2012 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au), email [scceaust@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaust@scce.com.au) or call us toll free on **1800 500 501**, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

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**Rudolf Steiner College presents two Saturdays in Term Two**

**From Creativity to Meditation**

An exploration into the interface of creativity and meditative enquiry based on Rudolf Steiner’s work with Horst and Jennifer Kornberger

**When:** Saturday 19th May and Saturday 2 June, 9am - 4pm

**Where:** Perth Waldorf School, Gwilliam Drive, Bibra Lake

**Enquiries:** Horst & Jennifer Kornberger
93311880, [jennifer.kornberger@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.kornberger@gmail.com)

**Cost:** $140 per day
Workshops at Spirit of Play Community School

There are 3 very interesting workshops with Nikki Buchanan, Educational Consultant happening over the next weeks at Spirit of Play.

- Saturday 12th May Educating in Nature 2pm to 4.00pm
- Saturday 26th May, Nurturing our Boys 2pm to 4.30pm
- Saturday 9th June, Motivational Maths 2pm to 4.30pm

Please contact Spirit of Play to register and for more information: spiritofplay@westnet.com.au

Phone:

National Walk Safely to School Day

is Friday 18th May. This event encourages children to lead a healthier, more active lifestyle, reduces traffic congestion and emissions around schools, creates regular walking habits at an early age and reinforces safe pedestrian behaviour.

All children who wish to participate need to be dropped off at the park opposite IGA express (previously known as Eziway) at 8.15am. Teachers

Wooden Bits and Bobs

Class 2/3’s building project later this year will be a cubby in the Playgroup. We are looking for any recycled building materials you may be able to donate. We will wait for the design until we see what we get and what our budget then allows for, but are especially on the lookout for jarrah boards, cedar siding, and any interesting twisted bits to turn into railings or ladders or? Little windows or doors, stumps for chairs or table also interest us. We want to make it very inviting around the size of the little cubby in Karri Kindy (not the one in the tree). Or maybe if we get ambitious two that connect with a bridge J. We are in the hunting and gathering stage of our project. Please contact Rebecca if you have anything you’re not certain we would use or if it’s a sure thing just bring it round. Thanks heaps.