please note these dates:

Wednesday 25 July
Council meeting
3pm to 5pm

Thursday 2 August
Re-registration visit

Friday 3 August
Restorative Circles Intro evening

Saturday 4 to Sunday 5 August
Restorative Circles workshop

School report
Please note that the 2011 School compliance report is available as a hard copy at the office or online on the school's website.

Verse 40 from Steiner’s Calendar of the soul

In this the shrouding gloom of winter, the soul feels ardently impelled
To manifest its innate strength, to guide itself to realms of darkness,
Anticipating thus through warmth of heart the sense-world's revelation.

About the verse

The verse of the week from Rudolph Steiner’s Calendar of the Soul is something that College of Teachers and other people interested in Steiner work read each week.

Here at Golden Hill Steiner School the staff who wish to meet every morning at 8.30 for singing or eurythmy, for our verse and to read the Calendar or the Soul for the week. I have been working with this for 18 years and while at first it felt very foreign and difficult to penetrate, I have found that throughout the years it has worked in me in subtle ways and deeply nourishes my soul. We invite you to take a look and see if you too can feel the connection with his words and what is happening in the world at this time of season.

The following is the preface to the second addition; it may give you more insight into what the purpose of the work is. I am also happy to speak more in depth with anyone who is interested. Ta Rebecca

Preface to the Second Edition (1918)

The course of the year has its own life. With this life the human soul can unfold a feeling-unison. If the soul opens itself to the influences that speak so variously to it week by week, it will find the right perception of itself. Thereby the soul will feel forces growing within that will strengthen it. It will observe that such inward forces want to be awakened — awakened by the soul’s ability to partake in the meaningful course of the world as it comes to life in the rhythms of time. Thereby the soul becomes fully aware of the delicate, yet vital threads that exist between itself and the world into which it has been born.

In this calendar a verse is inscribed for each week. This will enable the soul to participate actively in the progressing life of the year as it unfolds from week to week. Each verse should resound in the soul as it unites with the life of the year. A healthy feeling of “at one-ness” with the course of Nature, and from this a vigorous “finding of oneself” is here intended, in the belief that, for the soul, a feeling-unison with the world’s course as unfolded in these verses is something for which the soul longs when it rightly understands itself.

— Rudolf Steiner
Karri Kindergarten News

"Here we go round the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush
Here we go round the mulberry bush on a cold and frosty morning"

Our first day back was cold, frosty and wet, and the children looked up in wonder at our big climbing tree, which has at last shed all it's leaves. Meanwhile, other deciduous trees in our yard are already wearing their spring green, the crab-apple has sprouted one pink blossom and the wattles have greeted our return with their myriad "tiny golden suns"! The children enjoyed playing in the gushing gutter water and running river, and we had some soggy clothes to change. There's more rain to come, no doubt, so please remember to send along a change of clothes, including socks, to be kept in your child's calico bag at all times.

We welcomed some of our friends from Silver Birch, who will now be with us in Karri kindergarten.....Aquila, Shakra, Finn Charlie and Iris...with Fin Banjo joining us when he returns from holidays. Could the parents of those children please let me know their preferred attendance days as soon as possible? We're so happy to have them in Karri Kindergarten!

Warm wishes and blessings to all

Denise

The World Kindergarten Teachers Conference ...Part Two

Four keynote speakers addressed the conference for morning lectures, all based on the theme; "The Journey of the "I" Into Life-A Final Destination or a Path Toward Freedom?". On Monday, Michaela Glockler, leader of the medical section of the Goetheanum and author of many books, including "A Guide to Child Health" presented a lecture in German, entitled "From Unbornness to I-Consciousness-the three great steps of incarnation" in which she looked at the question of how does an awareness of the self arise. The three steps are ;1 Taking hold of the physical body 2 Looking towards our destiny and 3 The karmic surroundings- that the child feels accepted. The following day, Dr Edmond Schoorel from the Netherlands, also a paediatrician and author of the book "The First Seven Years: Physiology of Childhood" spoke on "The I, the ego and the body, staircases up and down" in which he addressed the roles of nature and culture in the development of the child. His final statement, "To love is to act in accordance with the situation", was a reminder of the flexibility and creativity teachers and parents need to develop in order to assist the child's incarnation process. Renate Long-Breipohl, who is from Germany originally but has lived and worked in Australia for 25 years, and is a highly respected kindergarten teacher and director of early childhood training courses was the Wednesday keynote speaker. Her talk was entitled "Working with accelerated and delayed development in early childhood education". Renate gave many examples and practical suggestions and showed some photographs which brought the lecture to life and encouraged teachers to learn to walk side by side with the child, knowing that our relationship with them depends on what qualities we can develop in ourselves.

The final keynote lecture was given by Claus Peter Roh, co-head of the Pedagogical section at the Goetheanum (together with Florian Osswald whom some of you met when he visited our school last year). The address was entitled 'Twelve Doorways to the World-the I and the body in sensory experience" This lecture was also in German, so I was hearing the translated version, in which Claus talked about the child's experience of the self via the 12 senses.

In addition to the keynote lectures I attended two workshops which ran over the four days, "Accompanying the Six Year Old Transition" with Ruth Ker explored this time of metamorphosis, which is a critical threshold in the life of a child, yet is less understood than the 9th year change. Over the four days we were given a wealth of background information as well as many practical ideas on how to work with six year olds and I came home with a copy of the book Ruth edited, called "You're Not the Boss of Me - Understanding the Six-Seven Year Old Transformation". The second workshop, led by Louise de Forest was on "Working With Boys" which I again came away from with valuable information and suggestions.

Class 1 News

Welcome back to Term 3.

I hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing holiday break. Winter has truly set in: I have been enjoying the wet and cold days. Most importantly, I have been enjoying observing the black swans which have been in the area for some weeks now.

More news from the classroom in the next newsletter...

Yvonne
I will be sharing what I learned at the conference about the six year old transformation and working with boys at the next kindergarten parent/teacher meeting. All interested parents are very welcome to attend (date to be advised).

In between lectures, workshops, Eurythmy performances, looking at beautiful crafts, books and displays from different countries, meals (yes, we did somehow have time to eat!) etc, there were also various round table discussions, research presentations and sharing. I attended a discussion about Forest Kindergartens which was presented by educators working with this concept in varying ways. There was also time for networking and I was able to link up with some teachers and visit a couple of kindergartens in Germany and Scotland. I'll share a little of that experience next newsletter.

Warm wishes
Denise

Class 4/5

Hope you all had a lovely relaxing Winter holiday- I know I did :) We will be kicking off term three with a Maths main lesson on fractions and decimals. This can be quite a challenging area of learning which requires a fair amount of focus and perseverance on behalf of the children so I am hoping to lighten the mood a bit by providing lots of hands-on experiences. We will begin by role-playing Thor 'fracturing' a big block of ice, and move onto slicing up fruit, breads and cakes, pizzas, whatever we can!

I will be doing a bit of cooking with the children during this main lesson but it would be fantastic if parents could send in a ‘food item’ such as an omelette, loaf of bread, cake, soft biscuits, - anything that can be cut up or shared out into fractions! Ideally the class would have one food item to share per day (this main lesson will run for 3 school weeks) so if each family could contribute one plate/item it would work out beautifully- I will put up a roster on the class notice board so that we don’t end up with 10 cakes on one day!

This looks to be a fairly action-packed term as we have our class camp and class play scheduled towards the end of it, as well as the Spring Festival and Open Day, and hopefully the commencement of our class ukulele program- more info on the next stage of our fundraising next week.

A reminder that soup days are on Tuesdays and payment for soup can be made to Sabine at the office. Sarah (craft teacher) has taken leave for the term so I will be taking the children for craft on my own this term. Neal will also be away for the first four weeks of term so Gardening lessons will be put on hold until he returns (although we might go out and have a bit of a potter and do some weeding)

Please note that Class 4/5 will be having violin lessons on Thursdays now instead of Tuesdays.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday!

Cheers

School Re-registration Visit

Will be on Thursday 2nd August and we are endeavouring to present the school in its best light. We would very much appreciate if someone could:

- Bake a cake for the re-registration meeting
- Wash the windows in the staffroom

Please see Sabine if you are willing to help.

Thank you

Parking

We ask that all parents and visitors to Golden Hill please observe the following when driving into and parking in our grounds when delivering and collecting children to and from school ;

1) Drive slowly and carefully
2) Staff and Kindergarten Parents only may park in the parking area opposite the office. Please reverse in, and try to park as close as possible to the next car to maximise available space. Parents are asked to collect their children from the grassed area in front of the office, to prevent children running into the carpark unaccompanied.
3) Primary School parents may park in the parking area located in front of the hall.
4) Please observe all "No Parking" signs.
5) Please do not park anywhere around the bus turning circle. There have been incidents of children running across the road way to their parent’s cars which is unsafe.

Thankyou for helping to keep our precious children safe by following these rules.

The Teachers
**Class 6/7 News**

A warm welcome back to all and trust everyone had relaxing and rejuvenating break!

We are beginning the term with a physics main lesson and shall be exploring sound, light and heat.

Our study of physics from a Goethean perspective attends to the phenomena out of the contemplative tradition. Here we are teaching a delicate empiricism so that we see the phenomena and are not diverted by a mental picture. We set up experiments to systematically work with the observation until ultimately we come to the primal phenomenon, which may be only partially observed by the eye. “A thing may look complete and self contained when outwardly regarded, but we must not therefore take it to be a finished reality.” Rudolf Steiner

The Bells by Edgar Allan Poe

I
Hear the sledges with the bells-
Silver bells!
What a world of merriment their melody foretells!
How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,
In the icy air of night!
While the stars that oversprinkle
All the heavens, seem to twinkle
With a crystalline delight;
Keeping time, time, time,
In a sort of Runic rhyme,
To the tintinnabulation that so musically wells
From the bells, bells, bells, Bells, bells, bells-
From the jingling and the tinkling of the bells.

II
Hear the mellow wedding bells,
Golden bells!
What a world of happiness their harmony foretells!
Through the balmy air of night
How they ring out their delight!
From the molten-golden notes,
And an in tune,
What a liquid ditty floats
To the turtle-dove that listens, while she gloats
On the moon!
Oh, from out the sounding cells,
What a gush of euphony voluminously wells!
How it swells!
How it dwells
On the Future! how it tells
Of the rapture that impels
To the swinging and the ringing
Of the bells, bells, bells,
Of the bells, bells, bells, bells,
Bells, bells, bells-
To the rhyming and the chiming of the bells!

We have a busy term ahead which includes our class camp at the Medieval Festival in Balingup and our class play.

Wishing you a wonderful term!
Ben Mackenzie
**Playgroup News**

Rain is falling down...

Welcome back for term 3! We are running the Tuesday and Thursday sessions this term – 9.15am to 11.15am. Please join us for some cosy and splishy sploshy wintery fun! Mums, Dads, Grandparents with children 9 months to 4 years are all very welcome.

If you would like to come on Mondays, or know someone who would, please let Sabine know in the office – we are collecting a list of potential families to re-start the Monday group in term 4.

With warm wishes,
Silvia, Clare and Theda

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**Craft Group News**

We are re-starting our fortnightly craft group mornings on Friday the 3rd of August 9.15am (after school drop off) to 12pm. We are working on a felt fish game – please pop in if you’re intrigued!

With warm wishes
Silvia

9848 3738 or 0435 006 228

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**Au-Pair seeks a family**

Coline from France writes to us that she wants to look after children as an Au-Pair.

As I like children I was wondering if I could offer my services to a family that has children. I could work "au pair" from December 2012/January 2013 to July/August 2013. The dates are flexible, I can adapt myself to the family's wishes.

I am fluent in English but I could also talk to the children in French and/or give them French lessons if the family wishes me to.
I would be pleased to take care of children, to discover your culture and to deepen my English.
Would you kindly advertise my request in your school.
Any suggestion will be appreciated.
Looking forward to hearing from you.
Sincerely Yours,
Coline Brou-Daveau
Please let me know if you are interested and I can give you Coline’s contact details.

Sabine

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**Sunshadow Slippers**

The slippers have arrived, just in time to keep cold feet warm on chilly winter days! If you have ordered a pair, please pay and collect slippers from Sabine in the office. Many thanks to Kanae for kindly collecting and organising the orders.
Position Vacant - Parents and Friends Convener

After all the fantastic work Rene and Carolyn have done over the past year, the position of P&F convener is now vacant and we desperately need someone to step in and take the reins! The voluntary role of P&F convener is largely one of setting P&F meeting dates and identifying agenda items for discussion, as well as coordinating and delegating parent involvement at various school events and festivals.

What is the Parents and Friends Association?

The parents and Friends Association is the vehicle by which the parent body contributes its time, energy and support to the teachers and students of Golden Hill. All families at our school are automatically P&F members.

Some of the roles a school P&F may play include:

- Instigating and organising social or fundraising events and assist in the planning and preparation for whole school events such as festivals and open days.
- Providing opportunities for parents and friends to become familiar with the philosophical basis upon which the school was founded, via educational evenings and workshops.
- Supporting school families in need, whether through hardship, loss, illness or other factors.

Being involved in a P&F group provides a lot of potential for fun. For example, some of the activities other Steiner P&F groups have successfully organised include:

- A fundraising ‘Twilight market’
- Autumn ‘trading table (in which parents formed a craft group and sold their wares at the end of the term to raise money for kindergarten)
- School calendar (printed off professionally and copies sold locally)
- School recipe book
- Community concert (performances by parents/ community members)
- Small Friday afternoon markets
- Coffee/ playdate mornings

Provided that the event is in harmony with the school’s Steiner ethos, the sky (and your creativity) is the limit!

Why do we need a P&F Association?

Being part of a P&F group strengthens our community’s bonds and builds a sense of belonging, which lies at the heart of our school’s culture.

We are aware that many GHSS parents lead extremely busy lives and greatly appreciate the way so many parents give so generously of their time and energy, despite numerous commitments. However, without an active P&F, it is very difficult to maintain a vibrant, strong school community in which parents and teachers can work together to benefit the children.

How can I get involved?

Nominate for the role of P&F convener! Feel free to speak to a teacher for more information.
Golden Hill Steiner School presents

RESTORATIVE CIRCLES WORKSHOP

John Cunningham and Cat Gilliam (USA) have been working with Restorative Circles and Non Violent Communication for a combined total of 22 years.

The Restorative Circle is a community process for supporting those in conflict and was first used in 1990s in Rio de Janeiro by Domenic Barter as a tool for helping communities resolve conflict and move forward together. Restorative Circles are facilitated in 3 stages designed to identify the key factors in the conflict, reach agreements on next steps, and evaluate the results. As circles form they invite shared power, mutual understanding, self responsibility and effective action.

Dates: 3rd-5th August    Times: Fri 7-9pm $15    Sat & Sun 9-5pm $200
Golden Hill Steiner School 222 Scotsdale Road Denmark

For Bookings: call Mary Lou Small 98482989 or 0424225045
or marylou.22@southernphone.com.au or visit www.goldenhill-quest.eventbrite.com

For more information on restorative circles visit www.restorativecircles.org or www.BeholdBelovedBecoming.blogspot.com