please note these dates

Wednesday 14 November  Council meeting at 3.15pm
Tuesday 20 November
- Silver Birch Kindergarten Parent meeting
- Market after school
Saturday 24 November
Busy Bee 9am to 12noon

Bursar on annual Leave

Maggie Wake our wonderful Bursar (finance person) is on a well deserved annual leave until 27 November. Any urgent questions please talk to Sabine in the Office

A Heartfelt Thankyou

Sunday, 4th November was an occasion for sadness, laughter and memories shared with open hearts, tears and hugs, flowers and candles, a celebration of the life of Rebecca made possible by a small group of people coming together to plan the day, and a large number of people who attended. Gratitude to Silvia Lehmann who co-ordinated the memorial, and worked very hard to plan and bring all the elements together, to Lydia and Conrad Kenyon who put together the invitations and booklet, to Annette Carmichael, who choreographed and danced a very moving piece to Regi’s soulful recorder, to the Qi Gong group, led by Jim Underwood, who grounded everyone, to Reverend Karen Urquart, who led the service, to Jude Iddison, and her amazing violin students who performed so beautifully, and Ben McKenzie who accompanied on guitar, to Mary-Lou and Christine for their recitation of Rudolf Steiner’s verses, Jim Underwood for delivering the eulogy, to Corrisande for making a large number of candles available at short notice, and the parents and friends who provided morning tea, and sent along photographs for the display and flowers too.

Thanks also to Belinda Chappell and Zdenka Underwood, and Sabine Blankner for all their hard work too.

Silvia created two lovely books for memories of Rebecca, and each of them still has lots of blank pages. We invite those who haven’t already done so, to add to these books, either by coming into the office, or sending in pieces which can be glued in. Suggestions include; poetry, reflections, artwork, photographs etc.

There are plans to create a memorial garden for Rebecca in the place where the flower mandala was created, and this will be part of the overall landscaping plan for the hall. Rebecca loved gardens and moments of stillness and contemplation so this will be an apt way to honour her memory.

Best wishes and gratitude,
Denise

The Calendar of the Soul by Rudolf Steiner

Fifth Week

Within the light that out of spirit depths
Weaves germinating power into space
And manifests the gods’ creative work:
Within its shine, the soul’s true being
Is widened into worldwide life
And resurrected
From narrow selfhood’s inner power.
News from Karri Kindergarten

On Spring days, a favourite activity for many of the children is to climb as high as high can be into the crab-apple tree, among the fragrant pink blossoms and bitter little fruits. Buckets of crab-apples are collected, shared, hoarded and nibbled. It’s a special tree that greets visitors as they enter through the gate, and was planted in 1997 by Chris Robins to commemorate the kindergarten's opening. Children love to pick and eat little edible goodies from the garden, and as well as the crab-apples lately they've been picking broad beans and "honesuckles" (red salvia). We have some more fruits and vegetables coming on in our garden, including raspberries, strawberries, tomatoes, and lovely fragrant herbs for teas. A passionfruit has been planted and we have plans to create an archway for it to climb. If anyone has a piece of "builders mesh" that may be suitable for this, please let us know. Thanks so much to Lorelle, who has been tending the garden and has also recently completed some sewing for us.

We are beginning to think of transition to Class 1 for our "Prep" children, and they will have their first visit to "big school" on Friday 23rd November. I will give more details about this soon in a separate note.

Warm wishes

Denise

News from Silver Birch Kindergarten

2013 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST are now being accepted for K4 Kindergarten for children who were born in 2009. Please see Sabine at the office for forms.

This programme will be offered if there is interest shown in our community.

We have been also fortunate to have several parents coming to help during our cooking and knitting classes. Thank you so much for your support.

Yvonne

Class 2/3 news

Class 2/3 have been busy learning their lines, songs and dances for the upcoming play Esther Star of Persia as well as writing the story and creating some beautiful drawings in their Main Lesson books. The children have been touched by the story of Esther from the book of Esther in the old testament. Esther was truly a remarkable woman especially as she lived around 400 BC. She was definitely ahead of her time and a wonderful role model for the children. The next 3 weeks will be an intensive time where play practice will take up a large part of our day. The costumes are coming along well but we still need a few more so if anyone out there is a dab hand at sewing could you please contact me. The garments required are very simple and straight forward.

We need some props also if anyone has large Eastern looking cushions, or Persian Carpets we would like to borrow them for the play please. We need some缝 also if anyone has large Eastern looking cushions, or Persian Carpets we would like to borrow them for the play please. We have been lucky to have a special helper in the class on Mondays. Her name is Michela and she is a teacher from Italy. Michela is interested in Steiner education and observes the lessons. She has also shared some fun Italian games with the children, so if you hear your child say: ‘uno, due, tre, stella!’ you know where it comes from.

Mary Lou and Christine
**Class 4/5 News**

The Class 5s and I have just returned from the Greek Olympics at Perth Waldorf School, and what a day it was.

We were warmly welcomed by Marion (mother of Jacob, a fellow class fiver from Perth Waldorf School), who cooked up a feast for us on Thursday night. We were up bright and early the next morning and followed Marion to the school. We had our own little personal tour of the school and even got to have a sneak peek into some of the rooms. After the commencement of the Olympics, the children were divided into teams (or rather, city-states), with Logan and Emil on Athens and the girls representing Corinth.

First up was the marathon and the children were delighted to find that the circuit was much shorter than that for which they had been training. They really gave it their all and placed quite well (after some were certain they were surely 'going to come last').

Both Rosey and Logan made it to the wrestling finals and showed real courage, especially when they were up against children who were quite a bit bigger than them. Logan gave us a true show of strength as team chariot-puller (three times round!). Emil showed us what it meant to persevere when he had a nasty fall in the wrestling but picked himself up and continued on for the rest of the day. This quality also came through in Carina, who was exhausted by lunchtime, but managed to keep going in order to run her best in the final relay.

And last but not least, Sara's amazing athletic talents really came to the fore, with her taking out first prize for her jaw-dropping long jump (murmurs of "Does that girl do 'Little Athletics'? Well she should..." were heard from several adult onlookers). She also placed fourth in the marathon, third (or was it second?) in the sprints and received the olive branch wreath for her athletic grace. However, what really impressed me was her determination to give everything a go. The boy's team also won the relay at the end of the day. All the children received a medal at the closing ceremony and it was also great to witness them all clapping and cheering on their teammates from other schools. Well done GHSS Class Fives- you've done us proud yet again!

This week we will be moving onto our new main lesson on Ancient Persia, which follows on from earlier studies of Ancient India and precedes the study of Ancient Egypt. And just as one camp ends, another begins - we are off to Nowanup on Monday to spend some time with Eugene Eades. Eugene was once a champion boxer and is now an indigenous elder who runs the camp out at Nowanup. See you all back at school on Thursday!

Eliza

---

**Class 5 2012 Greek Olympics**

On Thursday 2nd November, the Class Fives went up to Perth for the Greek Olympics. We all stayed up pretty late the night before the Olympics so we were really tired on the day. When we got there we had a tour around the school.

Then this dressed-up man (Zeus) lit a fire and there were hay bales under it. One of the hay bales got set on fire.

The girls were in Corinth and the boys were in Athens. In the marathon, Logan came seventh, Emil came eighth, Rosey came tenth, Carina came seventh and I came fourth. In the wrestling, Logan and Rosey got into the finals. In the long jump, Logan came fifth and I won. In the discus, Rosey almost hit a lady!

By Sara Page
Class 6/7 News

We’ve concluded our geometry main lesson with the children producing some stunning geometric constructions and with an increased awareness of how maths/geometry is a language for describing the world.

We now move on to Human Health and Hygiene. The aim of course is to bring ‘life’ into what can otherwise be a very ‘dead’ subject and to awaken in the children a sense of awe and reverence for the Miracle of Life. We shall begin by seeing our relationship to the animal world, the plant world, to the world of minerals - the Earth. We shall further explore the following: threefold nature of the human being, different systems of the body e.g. respiratory, digestive, nervous, circulatory systems etc. nutrition, addictions and much more if time allows. The children will research a particular aspect as a homework project assignment and also interview their parents about their birth.

THE MIRACLE OF LIFE

‘God created man in his image,
In the image of God he created him;
Male and female he created them.’
From: ‘GENESIS.’ Verse 27.

“What a piece of work is a human being!
How noble in reason!
How infinite in faculty, in form and moving!
How express and admirable in action!
How like an angel in apprehension!
How like a God!
From: ‘HAMLET’ by William Shakespeare

With some of the children leaving primary school at the end of the year, we have decided to commemorate the special primary years by each child creating a ‘year book’; something to look back on to remember friends, teacher and highlights of their school life. A lot to do in a short time as the weeks go flying by!

Wishing you a wonderful week!

Ben Mackenzie
**News from Peppermint Cottage Playgroup:**

Around the time of Halloween the playgroups have enjoyed making little jack o’lanterns out of grapefruit and baking pumpkin scones. Here is the pumpkin scone recipe:

250g cooked pumpkin (boil in water until soft but still holding shape, then dry off in a hot oven – 200C)

2 cups self-raising flour

salt

20g butter

1 egg, lightly beaten

milk

Preheat the oven to 200C. Puree pumpkin with a fork. Sift flour with salt and rub in butter and pumpkin puree. Add egg and up to 3Tbsp of milk to make a soft dough. Turn out onto a floured baking tray lined with baking paper. Pat roughly into a round 3cm thick. Using the back of a knife score into wedges or squares. Brush with a little milk and bake for 15-20 minutes until golden. Split and butter to serve.

We are now moving towards warmer weather and beach stories! Welcome to the new families. There is still more room for you to join on either day – why don’t you pop in, or tell your friends with young children? We are seeking expressions of interest to begin a mothers and babies group in term 1 next year, possibly on a Wednesday morning – please tell Sabine if you would be interested in this.

Peppermint Cottage Playgroup, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30 to 11.30am

With thanks, Silvia, Clare, and Theda

**Craft Group News**

The craft group will be taking a break this term, as everyone is too busy, gearing up for the end of the year. We will resume the group in term 1 next year, times and dates to be advised.

I will, however, be organizing a doll making workshop with Eliza Allen – please keep your eyes peeled for more information, we will endeavor to hold the workshop so that you can finish a doll in time for Christmas.

Cheers, Silvia  9848 3738, or 0435 006 228

**Carpark observations**

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 roadway to their parent's cars which are unsafe.

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

The Teachers
Market Day! Market Day! Market Day!

Our first market for the term will be held next TUESDAY 20th of November. Please spread the word, and come and support us!

I have received varying feedback from market stallholders and the school community about our Friday time slot last term, so we are trying the Tuesday version as an experiment in term 4!

As we’ve had a slow start with our markets, I’m considering holding them weekly to the end of term – depending on enough regular interest from stallholders and classes that wish to fundraise.

Please contact me if you would like a stall, or have friends/family that would like one - $5 each – looking for fresh produce, craft, art, food...

There will of course be a tea/coffee and cake stall as part of the market for school fundraising. The last market during the Spring Festival raised a whopping $500 for the kindy flour grinder – well done and thank you to all volunteers and bakers of goodies!

Remember - All help with the markets contributes to your FPS hours – and many hands make light work, please let your class rep know if you wish to assist!

Cheers, Silvia

9848 3738 or 0435 006 228

Next market – Tuesday 20th of November, 2.45 to 4.30pm – see you there!

Parent & Friends News

Clothes swap Tuesday 27th November as part of the regular market day. The next P&F meeting is on Monday 3 December at 3.15 at Mrs Jones Café.

MSG

No, I am not going to lecture you on monosodium glutamate! Instead the abbreviation stands for Mother Support Group, an initiative that has been conceived to aid community networking. The intention is to form a group that requires minimal maintenance, so it fits into everyone’s busy lifestyle, and yet offers mothers the opportunity to be of help as well as receive assistance when needed (as in the case of illness, the birth of a new child, mental break-downs (!) etc.). If you are interested in becoming a part of this initiative, please contact 98452575 for further details.

Warm regards, Jess

mother of Kiama and Sumai Heller-Bhatt.

Honey

Cheap, beautiful honey for $6/kilo. Call Jock Ross on 0428 481 032.

Avocado seconds from Mariners Rest Avocados as a fund raiser at the Office

Delicious Avocados now available for a small donation regularly until harvest finishes at the end of February with proceeds going towards Class 5/6/7 initiatives.

There is a jar for donations in the Office.

Spring clean out Garage Sale at 10 Beveridge Road on Saturday 17 November

There will be a Garage Sale at Theresa and Kevin’s house next Saturday 17 November from 8am to 12noon (strictly). Many books for sale!!!
Steiner education works! - German study confirms our suspicions....

New research shows that Steiner students learn with more enthusiasm and interest, feel more supported, and know their strengths better than students in mainstream school.

The study was funded by Software AG Foundation and the Forschungsstelle des Bundes Der Freien Waldorfschulen and carried out by three experts: Sylvia Liebenwein, scientific coworker and Heiner Barz, professor, both at the University of Düsseldorf and Dirk Randoll, professor at the Alanus-Hochschule and it examines the educational experiences of Steiner students age 15-18 in Germany. 80% of Steiner students find their learning fun (compared to 67%). 85% find the environment supportive (compared to 60%). The relationship with teachers is judged significantly better at 65% compared to 31%.

Andreas Schleicher, education expert and international co-ordinator of the Programme for International Student Assessment (Pisa) wrote an informative foreword to the survey. He praised the emphasis on personal responsibility and self-motivation, preparing children for the life that awaits them after graduation. "There is a high degree of congruence between the requirements of the modern world and what is taught to Steiner students," said Andreas Schleicher. "Remembering facts has less and less importance", the education expert said, the important thing was "to have creative and solution-oriented knowledge that you can apply to new areas".

A wide range of experts, students and teachers agree that the optimal learning environment is one with a high degree of initiative, a lot of creative freedom and a high level of student support. The PISA study showed that providing students with motivating performance feedback and the opportunity to learn together and from each other, as in Steiner Schools, are the elements for a successful modern education.

With thanks to the Steiner Waldorf Schools Fellowship Blog!

The Challenge of Steiner
Movie Night

7.00pm Friday 23 November at Conference room, Lotteries House, 211-217 North Road Albany
Filmed during 2011—the 150th anniversary year of Rudolf Steiner's birth—this two part documentary by veteran BBC filmmaker Jonathan Stedall tells the story of Steiner’s remarkable life (1861 –1925), as well as exploring the influence of his ideas and insights on a whole range of contemporary activities-education, agriculture, medicine, social and financial issues and the arts.
Entry by donation to cover costs. Call Catlyne on 0411 811 253