News from the School Coordinator

This week there are several major announcements to be made. These are not in any order of importance: Sandra had a lovely send-off last week as she begins her maternity leave and Silvia Lehmann has had a busy introduction to the office as her replacement. We will keep you posted about news of the arrival when it happens. The new maintenance person, Richard Dunn, has taken a couple of weeks off to get married on Great Barrier Island in New Zealand. We wish Richard and Zoe and their son Felix many more years of happiness together.

It is with some sadness that we announce that Ingrid Weeks will not be with us next year. During the year that she has been with us, she has worked her hardest to gain a deep understanding of the class and to teach lessons that met the students’ needs. She has proven to be a teacher with skills well beyond her years of experience. We will miss her drive, her clarity and not least, her stunning artwork.

The school has awarded Bernie Malatzky the contract to build the new classroom block needed for next year. As noted elsewhere, we had lots of help moving the basketball court paving as this is where the new classrooms will be built. Bernie is very confident the classrooms will be ready for the end of January. Parents are very welcome to market the school on our behalf. We now have the capacity to accept a dozen or two more students, particularly into the new Classes 1 and 2.

We have also been interviewing people to fill the teaching roles needed for next year. The school received 17 applications for the two expected vacancies, many of whom had good levels of experience teaching in Steiner schools. Then, with Ingrid leaving the school at the end of the year, we ended up with three actual vacancies. The school is very pleased to announce the appointment of Matilda Hegarty, Karen Doyle and Alex Nock as the three new teachers for next year.

PTO
Please note that it has not yet been decided who will teach each of the classes and College will be making that decision as soon as possible.

Matilda Hegarty is another product of Taruna College, graduating with Chrysalis and Ingrid. She was raised in France and has a close connection with Central and South America. Karen Doyle has extensive teaching experience in Australia and over the last three years has been successfully applying the methods taught in her Steiner teacher training in her classes. Alex Nock has begun Steiner teacher training after teaching in a Montessori School.

The new teachers will have an opportunity later in the year to introduce themselves more extensively and from this I’m sure you will agree with us that the school has gained three people who will be an absolute asset to the school.

Finally, we welcome Eliza’s class back from camp. By all reports they had a fantastic time.

Robert Gillman

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Sun Hats

Parents: please remind your children that sunhats are compulsory for outdoor play in terms 4 and 1.

If your child has no hat at school, they will need to play on the verandah.

Many thanks with your help with this.

The teachers

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Sensation speaks!

“I feel the essence of my being!” swirling through torrents of light in the sun-brightened world.

How sensation yearns to bestow upon thinking the gift of warmth that leads to clarity—and fuses into unity the human being and the world.

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We wish you all the best with the birth of your baby girl, Sandra!
News from Playgroup

Springtime is always a happy and energetic time in Playgroup.

Some new families have joined and Jade has embraced her new role as playgroup leader with joy. We also welcome Clare back from her family holiday.

We have been planting seeds and flying paper birds.

The Parent and Baby group has begun a communal crochet project making a rag rug for the room. The knitted horses are coming along as well. Thanks to Richard our new groundsman for the path, and to Chris Robins for the nice (and beautifully safe) cubby structure—we can’t wait for the little house to appear on the platform.

Warmly, Theda, Clare, and Jade

Doll Making Workshop

Don’t forget our Waldorf doll making workshop, this Sat. November 9, 9am to 12 pm in Class 5 Room. $10 reduced price. Please bring a child’s clean sock to use for the inner head. If you have registered for this, please pay at the office this week.

News from Silver Birch Kindergarten

See the wings of a butterfly
Flitting quietly by
Leaving rainbow splashes
Right across the sky

These are some of the words to a new game we play in Silver Birch and is fondly enjoyed by the children.

This term we will be celebrating a number of birthdays and sharing delicious cake as our morning snack. I have noticed that with each birthday celebration there is a subtle change in the group. We are growing older. Next year the four year olds turning five in 2014 will move through into Karri Kindy. This allows the younger children the opportunity to be the older and more experienced ones in the room.

I have been interviewing a growing number of families who wish to have their child in Silver Birch Kindy in 2014. Our class is growing quickly with both three and four year olds. At this moment our numbers will commence strongly next year. If you know interested families kindly advise them to complete an Expression of Interest form soon.

Kind Regards,
Christine and Sophia

Congratulations!

Our new groundsman, Richard Dunn is getting married this weekend, Nov. 8th, in New Zealand. Richard, Zoe, and Felix, we wish you much happiness for your married future together!

From Sandra

What beautiful messages in my card and gorgeous presents. Thank you and thank you too to P&F. Last Thursday was a very special afternoon.

Hugs,

Sandra

No Bus

Due to the Albany Show there will be no bus service this Friday the 8th of November. Please make alternative arrangements for transport of your child.

No Dogs

Reminder: please don’t bring dogs to school.

Don’t forget our Waldorf doll making workshop, this Sat. November 9, 9am to 12 pm in Class 5 Room. $10 reduced price. Please bring a child’s clean sock to use for the inner head. If you have registered for this, please pay at the office this week.
Hello everyone,

What a beautiful warm week it has been! The playground has felt much bigger without Class 5/6/7’s presence. We were all very excited (not sure if that’s the right word for me) to be visited by a Dugite on Monday. We watched as the ranger searched for it, to no avail. The children have been searching for it ever since, and there have been numerous ‘sightings’.

This week we started our Math Main Lesson - The Four Processes Through Problem Solving. The focus for week one was on ‘Tornado Times’. I am bringing the class a deeper understanding of the four mathematical processes (multiplication, divide, minus, plus) through a story of a Prince who must go through a series of challenges...

PTO

Our sunflower seeds have grown in the trays, safe from slugs, rabbits and chooks, and this week we will transfer them to the garden, with a little wish that they survive and thrive, and surrounded by the guards we have made. We look forward to some big, beautiful sunflowers maybe in time for the end of term?

Our little ones need some nurturing and protection, too, to ensure they can grow to their full potential. By protecting young children from hearing intellectual ideas and concepts, we allow their physical bodies to develop and imaginations to flourish, providing fertile soil for their future education. We will have a conversation about this and about how to answer all the “why” questions they love to ask us, at our last parent/teacher meeting for the year, to be held this coming Wednesday, 6th of November, at 3pm in Karri Kindergarten. Mary Lou Small has very kindly agreed to provide childcare. Please bring along a snack for your child. The meeting will conclude by 4.30pm. All Playgroup, Silver Birch and Karri Kindergarten parents are warmly invited to come along. Hope to see you there.

The K6 children are beginning their preparation to transition into Class 1 with visits to the big school playground each morning tea, from now until the end of the year. Warm wishes, Denise

News from Class 1/2

Hello everyone,

What a beautiful warm week it has been! The playground has felt much bigger without Class 5/6/7’s presence. We were all very excited (not sure if that’s the right word for me) to be visited by a Dugite on Monday. We watched as the ranger searched for it, to no avail. The children have been searching for it ever since, and there have been numerous ‘sightings’.

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PTO

From the office

As part of enrolment, we now have to fill in a government form about educational qualifications and occupations of parents. This is statistical info required for the school to receive government funding per student in 2014.

If your family hasn’t filled in the form, I will send one home with your eldest child, and would appreciate if you could return the form to me as soon as possible.

Many thanks
Silvia
News from Class 1/2 Cont.

In presenting new material, the use of the imagination is vital, as it helps the children of different abilities to understand, whatever their abilities are. The imagination is the gateway to awaken their interest, and to introduce new material in a pictorial way, rather than a mechanical or abstract way. It will help them to reconnect with these stories, and therefore remember which function was carried out by the particular character that was introduced.

(The Waldorf Approach to Mathematics teaching in Grades 1 & 2, Peter Van Alphen)

The first part of our new poem:

Tornado Times tears round and round,  
and likes to make rows on the ground.  
He figures if you plant 3 by 3, 
nine is the number you will see.  
Warm wishes, Chrystal

News from Class 3/4

As some of you already know, over the holidays I made the decision to leave my teaching position here and move away from Denmark next year. I have no doubt that my class will attract another teacher who loves and adores them as much as I do. I will miss them dearly but I have other directions to follow. With my heart that brought me here, I see it take me on again.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for every smile, every conversation and every connection shared. I hope that there are many more... and on that note I invite you all to our upcoming play with this little introduction:

When the last ice age came to an end the great glaciers that capped Northern Europe melted, uncovering a barren and rugged land. On the heels of the withdrawing ice came reindeer, wolves, bears and foxes. They were pursued by hunters. These men were forever struggling against the Frost Giants, but they found shelter in the valleys and roamed throughout the north for thousands of years.

Then from the east, burst a tribe of fierce horsemen. They stormed westward, settling new lands as they went. Led by a hulking one-eyed chieftain, they went on until they were stopped by the crashing waves of the North Sea. They could go no further, so they settled and made the land theirs.

The Frost Giants sent bitter storms howling down from the mountains. Wild beasts, trolls and evil spirits lurked in the pathless forests, and cruel mermaids wrecked their ships. But the settlers were tough, and they were protected by their own gods, the Aesir, who had come with them from the faraway lands.

In the school hall on the evening of Thursday the 21st of November a travelling skald (storyteller) will treat you to an account of some of the stories of the Aesir gods... Perhaps you will be able to decide if there is one that is the greatest of all.

Look forward to seeing you then,  
Arohanui, Ingrid
**Violin Performances**

The Denmark Fiddlers (which include all the Steiner fiddlers) have been invited to play at two community events:

1. **The Denmark Markets**—on Saturday the **14th of December** 2013 from 1pm to 1.30pm

2. **The Denmark Christmas Parade** on Thursday the **19th of December** 2013 from about 5.30pm (time to be confirmed)

I hope you can all play. Please be there 30 minutes before the performance with your violins and a big smile.

Jude—0409 110 645 or 9845 1370, Jude.iddison@gmail.com

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**News from Class 5/6/7**

Phew- we made it back from camp alive! What a full-on week it was. We left school on Monday morning at 8.30ish before the rest of the hoards arrived and made our way to Dwellingup - a whole bus load and two cars worth of giggling, excited students! After a quick play at the Kojonup park, misfortune took us when the bus blew a tyre! We all had to pile out and wait on the side of the road amidst the heat and flies while Rob, our trusty bus driver, did his best to change the tyre. Some students decided to kill time by collecting litter (weren't they good!). Eventually however, we did arrive at our destination and after a quick briefing and 'bed-baggsing' the camp activities kicked off with raft building and a go on the confidence course. The year 7 girls were horrified to learn that putting your arms on your hips or folding them meant a series of push ups were enforced. That afternoon, they came back to the dorm wailing, “Eliza, this isn't school camp, it's boot camp!"

However, the next day's Flying Fox activity was a highlight for all. Over the course of the 5 days, we also tried our hands at bike riding, abseiling, bushwalking, rock-wall climbing, night walking, archery and cooperative team games. We were all a bit taken aback with the stifling heat and were lucky enough to cool off in the dam once or twice. A real highlight of the camp was making friends with the year 6/7 indigenous students from Wangkatjunkga, a remote community school south of Fitzroy Crossing. The Class 5 GHSS and Wangkatjunkga girls were all fast friends by the end of the camp and spent many an evening at the picnic tables chatting quietly, while the Wangkatjunkga boys blew us all away with their amazing trampolining skills. They even tried to give Jack and a few others some tips and lessons, but unfortunately our rather less impressive attempts were met with much friendly laughter rather than awe!

An impromptu Halloween party was held on the last night of camp and what a memorable night it was. Our accomplished musicians Logan and Emil provided musical entertainment while everyone sang along, and Toby had us all in fits of laughter with his balloon-head dancing. Luka sang his hilarious rendition of AC/DC's 'You Shook me all Night Long' - apparently the Wangkatjunkga kids were totally inspired and determined to go home and learn some AC/DC. Oops- I think we've created a monster...All in all, it was a fantastic camp and I was so proud of the children giving everything a go, conquering their inhibitions and challenges, and most of all, helping each other through. Thank you so much to chaperones Annette and Julie - they did an amazing job of being quietly 'on patrol' and helping out with so many behind-the-scenes jobs. Look out for the photos in the next newsletter! Cheers, Eliza
Family Participation Scheme

Dear Parents: we are still collating the FPS forms at the office. If you haven’t done so already, could you please bring yours into the office ASAP. I know that quite a few of you have done many FPS hours that have not yet been logged in the database. Maggie will be sending out invoices very soon!

FPS Coordinator:

This position is still unfilled. There is an allowance available for setting up this position. Please contact me in the office, or on 9848 1811, if you would like this job! Many thanks, Silvia

A Word from Neal

A big thank you to the Denmark Seed Savers, who have donated some seeds to the school garden.

Much appreciated,

Neal, the Garden Teacher

Invitation to price school landscaping

Closing date: 4pm Friday November 22nd 2013

Prices are invited for landscaping work around the Golden Hill Steiner School Hall. Landscaping plans and instructions are available from the school office.

Phone (08) 9848 1811 or email office@goldenhill.wa.edu.au.

222 Scotsdale Rd, Denmark, WA, 6333

School Photos

Will be taken on Tues. 19th of November by Michael Hemmings Photography.

Please place your orders by Fri. 15th of November in the office.
Advertisements

Disclaimer: the articles, advertisements and community notices in this newsletter are provided as a service to the school community. The carrying of an article, advertisement or community notice does not imply endorsement by Golden Hill Steiner School.

Craft Group
There is a craft group, meeting casually every Wednesday afternoon during Term time. 12.30pm to 2.30pm Peppermint Cottage. Kathy Martin will be able to answer all your crafty questions! Contact the office for more details: 9848 1811

Southern Edge Arts Presents:
Two Gentlemen of Verona
Fri 15th Nov 12pm & 7.30pm
Albany Town Hall
Tickets: 9841 6002

Housesitter for Jan.
We are looking for someone to rent our house in Jan for 5th-27th. Apricot and plum trees will be abundant with fruit. Please let me now if you know anyone who may be interested. Jude 0409 110 645

PS I have a friend who is looking to rent a small house/ granny flat in Torbay or Albany. Know anyone?

slow flow yoga
At the Steiner School Hall
Wednesday mornings
9:15 - 10:45
Contact Carol on 98483741 or 0407239768 or carol@style3@gmail.com

2013 Albany Spring Garden Festival

Saturday November 16
Noongar Language: Shelters and Stories. Join Larry Blight building a shelter and sharing Dreaming stories of the south coast. 10am-12noon. $25 or $65 family (2A/2C). Contact Green Skills 9848 3310 to register.

Get Clicking! Introductory computer training for over 60’s. Group 1: 10am-12pm. Group 2: 12.30pm–2.30pm. Start of a 4 week course: 16/11, 23/11, 30/11, 07/12. FREE @ Denmark CRC! Registration is essential, phone 9848 2842.

Tuesday November 26
Environmental talks @ Denmark Environment Centre 7-9pm FREE