Over the past few months there has been a lot of work going on in College and Council that is only now surfacing. It has required a huge leap of confidence in the school and its future prospects.

This week the school has finally sent to the Minister for Education two applications. The most important application is to retain our Cl.7 class for the foreseeable future. I doubt if there is a Steiner school in the world that would willingly give up its Cl.7 as the last stage of the middle period of education. The ultimate intention of this year is to present to the students examples of people completely caught up in the excitement of achieving, exploring and discovering. It is a taster of what it is to be a “new Renaissance person” that some parts of society value so highly. Then, with high school, there is the opportunity to specialise and become as good as possible in whatever the student focuses on. In our opinion the Cl.7 impulse is a support that the students can use as they pass through the “puberty tunnel” – a source of inspiration. This experience is not addressed in this way in conventional education and, with our schools’ gentler start with literacy and numeracy; it is an opportunity for our students to flourish as opposed to be only seen as “catching up”.

The second application is to allow us to retain next year’s Cl.7 students within a primary school setting. This has been vigorously endorsed by the parents of those children concerned and the school is actively preparing for a positive response to this application. It must be said that neither application sits easily with the Education Department’s proposed changes for 2015 and we don’t know how the Minister will respond.

We believe we made as strong an argument as possible using Dr Sebastian Suggate’s research mentioned in an earlier Golden Quill article, the fact that our parents have a “seven year contract” with
this school and that many families come to Denmark for this specific education path. We understand that it is likely the Minister will tell us his decision by mid-November. It was our duty to try to persuade the Minister that we are genuinely seeking the best opportunity possible for our students to grow into adults who are able to make a positive contribution to the world. Now we must wait and see whether the Minister will think positively about this very small difference in the bigger Western Australian educational picture. Anyone who wishes to have more information is welcome to contact me or Julie Marsh.

Robert Gillman

Tracey Puckeridge
CEO Steiner Education Australia
24th September 2014

Free Events

1.30pm - 2.45pm Question and Answer Forum
Bring your questions about Steiner education and discuss leading thoughts on developmental stages of childhood.

7.00pm Talk: Steiner Education’s Development
Steiner education and the challenges facing Steiner schools today.

Calendar of the Soul—Week 50

To the universe there speaks the evolving human ego---
forgetting itself---
aware of its original state:

“As I liberate myself from the chains of my own subjectivity,
I fathom my true being in you.”
Spring Festival Is Here
Friday
19th September

Don’t forget that we need **LOTS** of flowers and greenery for making garlands. Jasmine, peppy branches and brightly coloured flowers all make great garlands. Please bring everything you’ve got on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th September.

Bring

A plate of food to share

And

Fresh flowers for garlands
News from Peppermint Cottage

Both Tuesday and Thursday Playgroup and Wednesday Baby Group have been very quiet for a while now. Did you know that GHSS families with playgroup age children receive a substantial discount off the Playgroup fees? Please ask the office for details – and please spread the word about Playgroup – it really is a wonderful two hours to spend with your toddler.

Playgroup – age 18 months to 4 years, Parent and Baby group – pregnant to 18 months old.

We hope to see you there!

Yours warmly,

Jade, Clare and Theda

News from Karri Kindergarten

*When the daffodils dance in the sun and the rain,*

*Then we know that the springtime is coming again*

*Tra la la la la, tra la la la la la*

*Then we know that the springtime is coming again...*

The Spring Equinox is only days away and we will be joining with the rest of the school to celebrate on Friday. More details to come in a separate note.

Last week I was fortunate to be able to visit Nøkken Steiner School for a few days.

Whilst there I attended the teacher’s weekly painting lesson, the morning verse, and sat in on each of the kindergartens, as well as listening to two of the talks given by visiting speaker, Helle Heckmann from Copenhagen, the founder of Nøkken, a kindergarten catering for children from one-seven years of age. The first talk was titled “Five Golden Rules”, in which Helle shared what she believes are the five most important aspects in caring for little children, having worked with them for over thirty years.

Her Golden Rules are:

1. **Sleep:** Children under seven years need between eleven and thirteen hours of sleep a night. Nighttime is when they are learning and growing, consolidating all that has happened during the day. A good day is reliant on a good night’s sleep. Parents also require more sleep as they are in a constant state of alertness when their children are little and this is very tiring.

2. **Movement:** There is a lack of adequate movement in our modern world because the car has taken us over and people drive everywhere instead of walking. This links into sleep, as walking makes us tired and children with sleep problems often have not moved enough during the day. At Nøkken, the children walk with their caregivers every morning, for fifty minutes to a place where they play. They then spend twenty minutes walking back to the centre again.

3. **Nutrition:** Helle said it’s important for children for children to have opportunities to participate in food preparation. This can begin with visiting a Farmers’ market to buy food, or harvesting it from the garden. In the evening, it’s more important to spend time cooking together than for parents to play with their children. The children are less likely to be picky eaters if they’ve been involved in the preparation, and mealtimes are a bonding time for families, as well as a time for children to learn manners. Never force a child to eat, but make the food available, put it on their plate, even if they express a dislike for it. We live in a snack culture; there is too much snacking which doesn’t give children the
News from Karri Kindergarten...

chance to feel hunger. Snacks should be food such as broccoli, carrot, cauliflower which require some effort to chew. If children have moved enough during the day, they will get hungry.

4 Rhythm: Rhythm in the daily life of the home helps children to feel safe and secure, and they appreciate that they can recognise what will happen. They need to be part of the care taking of the home.

5 Love: No-one can love a parent more than their child does. The parent is the role model and the child will imitate everything. Your child is not your friend, but they can choose you as a friend when they reach adulthood. Parents cannot put the responsibility of making choices onto the child, as this creates pressure. Saying “No” is more full of love than saying “Yes” all the time. If you are able to say “No” and stand strong, the child will trust you.

On Tuesday evening I attended Helle’s talk for teachers, entitled “The Urban Child”, and viewed a little of a DVD illustrating a day at Nøkken. She shared much wisdom which I look forward to sharing with my Early Childhood Colleagues soon.

Thank you to everyone who made it possible for me to visit Yallingup, it was a fruitful experience in many ways.

Happy Springtime!

Denise

News from Class 2

Hooray! We have done our play! We enjoyed how much it rhymed and we had a good time!...Well done children, you should be very proud of yourselves! Here are some snaps from our performance!

Thank you to our beautiful audience, your presence created an intimate performance which felt very special. Thanks so very much to all the parents and siblings who helped us get ready for the play and wished us well.

Warm regards, Sonja
News from Class 1

Hello everyone,

Class One has been immersed in indigenous culture for the last few weeks. We are helping Neal with the school’s bush tucker garden we had a good time on our excursion to Spirit of Play. Thanks to Regi Peppin for our bush tucker adventure.

The children are listening to stories of the Dreamtime, the ancestors, the creation of the world and traditional ways of life as well as the natural environment, family and tribal structures. Each week the children have learnt to retell an indigenous story. So far we have told The Rainbow Serpent and Tiddalick. I’m sure they would love the chance to tell them to you.

In writing we are learning to identify sounds at the beginning of words and to create new words by changing the consonant at the beginning. For example, with ‘at’ you can create, bat, cat, hat, fat, splat, etc. and with ‘ong’, you can create song, long, thong, wrong etc.

By the end of the term we will have finished our very first book which we can read by ourselves.

Cheers,
Karen

Cl. 1’s Bushtucker visit to Spirit of Play
Kia Ora GHSS friends and families,

Class Three have been busy practicing the maypole for the Spring Festival which is this coming Friday (wow, that has come quickly). The children are using a few different skills during the weaving and un-weaving process, not the least of these is patience (it is much harder than it looks).

The focus during our Measurement Main Lesson the past week has been on grams (g) and kilograms (kg). The children found out that there are 1000g in a kg and then explored the weight of different objects in the class. They later split into groups and gathered objects that they estimated would add to 1kg. There was much excitement when we used the electric scales to measure the objects precisely and one group was very close with 1085g. This coming week, the last week of our Measurement Main Lesson, we will be focusing on ‘capacity’ using millilitres (ml) and litres (l).

I am very impressed with the beanies the class is crocheting. Many of them found it difficult to begin with and have now pushed through their resistance. In return they have seen beautiful results. What a testament to the strength of their Will!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Festival.

Warm wishes, Chrystal
**News from Class 4/5**

Very close to the end of term!

We have finished our Maths Main Lesson and the adventures of Clare and Travis. We are now studying Ancient Persia!

The mythology of the Ancient Persians was based very strongly on division and duality. Ahura Mazda is the Lord of Creation and all things light. Ahriman is the Lord of Darkness and threatens to destroy the world. Earth and its inhabitants stand in the centre of a cosmic battle between light and dark.

The prophet, Zarathustra, has brought a message to the human race. By glorifying Ahura Mazda and all things good and righteous, Earth will rejoin the heavenly realm! Needless to say, the stakes are high.

As always, in addition to developing their language skills, this main lesson is accompanied with verse, paintings, songs and drama.

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather everyone.

Alex

---

**Interm Swimming 2014**

Please see enrolment form at the back of the newsletter.

Swimming week is coming up. I believe we are booked to attend the Albany Aquatic Centre for the week starting 10th November. We do not expect kindergarten students to attend.

The students will leave from school at 9:00am and return just before 2:50pm and have a double lesson each day. The permission slip below needs to be completed by the end of the first week next term but this term is good too.

If you need to discuss anything about the week, please ask your child’s class teacher or me.

Robert Gillman

---

**News from Class 6/7**

Hi everyone,

Class 6/7 have recommenced their Physics main lesson and are also busy preparing for the spring festival-making team placards, reciting poetry and trying out the tug-of-war rope! Yesterday we were treated to an amazing performance at the High School by a string quartet from WASO. A favourite was 'Djabiru Dreaming' by Peter Sculthorpe. Who would’ve thought violins could create such sounds as tapping sticks, didgeridoo, seagulls and rain? The children were well and truly inspired just in time for their afternoon violin concert at the Hall with Jude. It is always great to see them perform and think back to the early days of violin, marvelling at how far they have come along. All those hours of practice are certainly paying off!

Please remember to send your child with a plate of food to share for the spring festival this Friday, as well as some fresh flowers to make our garlands in the morning. Thanks to all who sent in eggs for our Spring Chickens cooking project tomorrow afternoon!

Eliza
Hi to all

Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre Swim School will run a swim lesson program for pre-school aged children during the October 2014 school holidays.

This swim program will run in-line with the Education Department Vacswim program.

Any queries; please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Kind Regards

Nola Osborne

Swim School Manager

Fundraising from class banking and Kwoo-rabup Market

Council have agreed that any funds raised through the afternoon tea stall at the Friday market will be allocated directly to the individual class running the stall. There has been some confusion around this in the past. Please be assured this is now clear and we hope this will encourage your participation in baking or serving for the benefit of your child’s class.

Julie Marsh (on behalf of school council).

Vacation Swimming Lessons for children aged 3 – 5 years

Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre is offering swimming lessons for pre-school aged children during the October school holidays 2014. Lessons will be held over a two week period:

Program 1 (4 days)
Tuesday 30/09/2014 – Friday 03/10/2014

Program 2 (5 days)
Monday 06/10/2014 – Friday 10/10/2014

Enrolments are now open
Please contact Swim School on 98442274 or email nolao@albany.wa.gov.au

Lost Property - off to Op shop soon :)
Do You Belong To Any ? Please have a look
Outside the office
All Hours !
Cl.1 Bush Tucker Visit to Spirit of Play ...
The school has been visited by a representative from Anglicare and she has left a lot of information about this offer which is in the school office.

Would $500 assist you with school costs?

Saver Plus can match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for education expenses including:

- stationery and text books
- school uniforms, excursions and camps
- laptops and note books
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire

To be eligible, participants must:

- have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- have a child at school or starting next year
- have some regular form of income from work (you or your partner) such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 18 DEC 2014

For more information contact:
08 9845 6617
saverplusalba-

DENMARK CRICKET CLUB INC.
JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS
The Club is a registered Kidsport Club
Saturday 13th September 2014 – McLean Park 9am – 12 noon
Saturday 20th September 2014 – Denmark IGA 9am – 12noon
Saturday 20th September 2014 – Denmark Rec Centre Function Room 2pm – 4pm
For more information please call Damian Schwarzbach on 0431 837 290
MILO – YEAR 2 & UNDER
UNDER 10’S – YEAR 3 & 4
UNDER 12’S – YEAR 5 & 6
UNDER 14’S – YEAR 7 & 8

Parents’ Singing Group
THIS Term on Tuesdays 9am-10am
This is a lovely, heart-warming way to start the week. We are a fun and supportive group. No experience necessary, just bring your voice.
Kwoorabup Market News

The next Kwoorabup Market will be Friday 17th October. Come and grab your Spring produce and warm up with a cup of chai tea. See you at the markets.

Simone Coleman

Slow Flow Yoga
At the Steiner School Hall
Thursday mornings
9:15 - 10:45
Contact Carol on 98483741 or 0487239768 or capestyle3@gmail.com

Holistic Birth
Hypnobirthing Australia™
Holistic Birth offers a 12 hr comprehensive childbirth education program led by a Registered Midwife, designed to embrace the power of positive birth. Create a calm gentle environment for your baby’s arrival regardless of your birth method. Whether your baby’s birth is vaginal or caesarean Hypnobirth can be applied.
Hypnobirth releases the fear associated with childbirth and previous traumatic births. Maximise your body’s natural ability to prevent and block the release of pain causing stress hormones but

TOWARDS BRAVE NEW WORKS #21
(08) 9848 3623 / Office hours: Tues & Thurs 10-4
www.denmarkarts.com.au

Please see the website for the many ways you can be involved!

Extra Lesson
New course starting due to popular demand!
PERTH 29 SEP.—3 OCT. 2014
The training is at a post graduate level.
For more information please visit:

MEDICINE MAN
Dr Philip Bailey
GP, Homeopathy, Counselling
Opens 30 September
Enquiries 0425 209 569

Dusenberg
Land, Garden & Environment Services
Dip. Conservation & Land Management
Cert. III Horticulture
Cert. IV Training & Assessment
Cert. IV Training & Assessment
Phone Carl: 0422 512 717 or E-mail: dousy@hotmail.com