Coming up...

- MICHAELMAS/AUTUMN FESTIVAL
  Friday 23rd March

- COUNCIL AGM
  Saturday 31st March
  Shared Lunch
  In Karri Kindy

- TERM 1 ENDS
  Thursday 5th April

- TERM 2 STARTS
  Thursday 26th April

Welcome Back!

We are thrilled to welcome back Sabine Blankner as our new office administrator. She brings with her a wealth of experience and expertise which has ensured a smooth transition in the office.

Also a huge thank you to Clare, Kardi and Maggie who held the fort so ably until a replacement for Kardi was appointed.

Verse 24 from Steiner's Calendar of the soul:

Unceasingly itself creating
soul life becomes aware of self
the cosmic spirit, striving on
renews itself by self-cognition
and from the darkness of the soul
creates the fruit of self-engendered will.

Autumn Festival

On Tuesday, 20th March we will celebrate the Autumn Equinox. At this time day and night are of approximately the same length - in perfect balance - so we give thought to balance in our lives. The early signs are autumn are now evident. The nightfall descends earlier and in the morning a cool mist hangs over the valleys. Autumn has, since early times, been the time to fortify and strengthen in readiness for the coming outer challenges of winter - the long darkness, the cold and the wet.

The human soul too, may experience this struggle with darkness. The challenge to overcome confusion, anxiety, fear is expressed in many traditions through mythology and rituals. Often, these darker forces are symbolised by the dragon, and there are higher beings revered for their ability to fight the dragon and protect humanity's right to goodness and light. At this time we also give thanks for nature's bounty, harvesting the fruits of summer with gratitude.

Council News

Your school council has had an extremely busy start to the year and a huge thanks must go to all councillors and teachers who make the time to attend meetings, interview new staff and work on policies and procedures that help the school to run smoothly.

The council has recently ratified a new Grievance Policy which has been 6 months in the making. We look forward to implementing it next term after workshopping it with all GHSS staff and council.

Watch this space...

BLESSINGS

We wish Denise Bullen all the best as she embarks on a well earned stint of long service leave.

Denise will be on leave from the 26th March until the end of term two.

Mary Lou Small will be replacing Denise in Karri Kindy.

Enjoy and Indulge!
Love all of us at Golden Hill
From Karri Kindergarten....

Summer goodbye, summer goodbye
You may no longer stay, Autumn is on it's way
Summer goodbye, summer goodbye"

The Autumn Equinox falls this week, on Tuesday 20th and heralds some changes in our kindergarten. We've already noticed the leaves on one of our climbing trees are turning golden, and it's been chilly in the mornings these past few days, warming up to lovely still golden days. After the Autumn festival, I will be travelling to Switzerland to attend the World Steiner Kindergarten Teacher's Conference at the Goetheanum (World Centre for Anthroposophy), and afterwards taking long service leave to travel around Europe and the UK. Many thanks to the College of teachers and Council for enabling me to have this opportunity, and to Mary-Lou Small who will be teaching karri kindergarten whilst I am away. I will be back in time for the Mid-Winter Festival in June and look forward to sharing a story or two.

Warm wishes
Denise

P&F NEWS

Big thanks go out to all those who partook in last weekend's busy bee. Just a reminder to all parents that each family enrolled at the school is required to complete 20 hours of school volunteer work per year. This is known as our Parent Participation Scheme. Attached is the PPS form so that parents can keep their own log of the hours they have completed. Class reps will then keep a record for the parents in their class. Don't forget to include things like attending P&F meetings, busy bees, driving children on excursions— they all count towards your hours!!!

EASTER MARKET

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The last market in January went off very well and the children all enjoyed the puppet shows and stories put on by visiting Steiner teacher Brigitte Cantem.

This Easter—Saturday 7th April our school stall is on again and helpers are needed. We need 9 people to help with setting up at 8am on Saturday morning and packing up at the end of the day around 4pm.

We also need helpers to man the stall throughout the day. About 1.5—2hrs each depending on the number of volunteers.

Get into the Easter mood and help our school grow by generously donating your time.

Contact the office on 98 481 811 or Mary Lou—98 482989/ 0424 225 045

Class 1 News

The children have been listening to the stories about Yubuk and the princess who are on their way home to the Rock Kingdom. At the moment, they are sitting with a Wise Woman who shares stories with them as well as telling them riddles to open the secret passage through the mountains.

The first riddle was:
‘As straight as a spear I stand,
To reach for the sky with both my hands.
My shape reveals how many “I am”.

This was the introduction to our Math Main lesson, which will take us through to the end of Term. We clap, we stamp, we sing and we walk while practicing the numbers that are learnt, one each day.

The children have also been really creative, creating beautiful puppet plays and presenting them to the class. It is a joy to observe how they build on their confidence every day.

We are looking forward to the Autumn Festival on Friday, hope to see you all there.

Yvonne
Class 2/3 News

We ended our Morning Lesson on Time with sundials. It is wondrous to watch their shadows lengthen and shrink over the course of the day. Several students claimed they would make another one at home. Then a trip to the bush to hear of the courage, conviction and tenderness of St Patrick. We even made boxty this week, a traditional Irish dish with a sexist poem to go with it.

Boxty on the Griddle
Boxty in the Pan
If you can't make boxty
You'll never get your man!

Class 4/5

This was the last week of our Mathematics main lesson, although we will of course be continuing our times tables practise in morning circle and working on maths skills during practise lessons (between recess and lunch). Our new main lesson is titled 'Man and Animal' and is basically a science unit which includes (basic) studies of human anatomy and the animal kingdom. The children have requested a 'bring in your pet day' which I am planning for sometime in the last week of term. More information on this soon! We may even squeeze in a visit to the Alpaca farm...

Next Wednesday is International Harmony Day and class 4/5/6/7 are hopefully off for a visit to Woodbury Boston primary school in Torbay. Is anyone willing to drive us? I can take 4 children in my car but we need another 4-5 cars to ferry everyone out there. Parents are of course welcome to spend the morning with us at Woodbury Boston - it should be a fairly pleasant day and we probably won't be out there for more than a couple of hours. Please let me know if you are willing to do this.

Big thanks go out to Josie for volunteering to make our class set of elastics (Thank you also to Emma who got in just a little bit too late!)

Class 6/7

It seems Autumn has taken a holiday and summer has returned yet again with its final rays of delicious, warm sunshine - enjoy it while it lasts!!!

Our Middle Ages main lesson has come to an end though it continues on in the form of ongoing projects and woodwork design with the shields and swords taking shape in all their uniqueness and colour. We are now exploring Pythagoras and algebra which encompasses the discovery of patterns, symbols, signs, secrets and harmony of numbers.

‘Number is the within of all things’

---Attributed to Pythagoras (c.580-500 B.C.) Greek philosopher and mathematician

‘The harmony of the world is made manifest in Form and Number, and the heart and soul and all the poetry of Natural Philosophy are embodied in the concept of mathematical beauty.’ ---- Sir D'Arcy Wentworth Thompson (1860-1948, Scottish zoologist, classical scholar)

Our class will be celebrating 'Harmony Day' at Woodbury Boston Primary School on Wednesday 21st March thanks to Reggi. Harmony Week is held every year from 15th to 21st March. This week coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination held annually on 21st March. The day will involve playing games, doing crafts from around the world, listening to stories and singing songs in which our class will contribute.

Have a lovely week and see you all at the autumn festival.

Ben Mackenzie
Golden Hill Steiner School is a wondrous environment created and nurtured by magnificent staff, families, parents and friends who offer their time resources and expertise.

To all who have helped in countless ways, whether large or small

Thank You
You are appreciated.

Golden Hill Steiner School's Council has embarked on the journey of 2012 and you are warmly invited to climb aboard at the

Golden Hill Steiner School
Annual General Meeting
Saturday 31st March 2012

10am in the Karri Kindergarten
Followed by a shared lunch.
Childcare Provided

The annual general meeting is an opportunity for our school community to come together and find out about the year gone and the exciting direction the school is taking in the year yet to be.

We are entering an extremely exciting period where we are transitioning from a “Pioneer Management Style” to one with a more formal structure in place. The AGM is an opportunity to look at how you may be able to assist the school in this historic endeavour as well as look at other ways you may be able to assist our school in the time ahead.

At our AGM, the school council (which is the governing body of GHSS) will present their reports and reflections. We shall also be asking for nominations of interested parties to join the school council. Nominations for council are open to all school members who have been part of the school for six months or more, while membership of committees is open to all. You can nominate someone (with their consent!) and you can also nominate yourself. Our current councillors are also eligible for re-nomination. We aim for continuity of Governance, so we encourage people to see election to council as a commitment beyond 12 months.

This is a significant occasion in the life of our school.
We look forward to seeing you there!

Gavin Lacey
Council Chair—Golden Hill Steiner School
8:50: Children arrive at school. Parent volunteers to set up trestle tables for lunch.

10:00 'Dragon' (Class 4/5) collects children and teachers from classrooms. Gather around P&F harvest display at lower playground area (near toadstools)

Invocation (Led by Class 6/7)

Micheaelmas/Autumn songs (parents/teachers/children)

String story (Eliza)

Individual class songs/performances

Class 4/5

Class 2/3

Class 1

Children are then divided into multi-age groups and complete the following activities on a rotation basis:

Trust-falls

Rope bridge

Blindfold walk

Kite-making/ popcorn munching!

Apple bobbing

12.30: Blessing and shared lunch at circular brick area

Please let your child's teacher know whether you will be taking your child home after lunch.

Class 6/7: Please bring fresh fruit/ salads for the shared lunch

All other parents: Please bring a plate of food with apple, pumpkin or corn as a main ingredient.
News from JUDE

Hello, i am hosting a fiddly, guitary, vocaly house concert at my family home on sun 25th mar from 2.00pm. andrew clermont [totally gourdgeous, dya singh, blu guru], craig sinclair, rod vervest, lara norman [pepperjacks], me and friends. adults $15 children $8. byo chair. please spread the word and let me know if you would like to come. see attached poster

x jude

Violin news

Hello, here are 3 opportunities to celebrate playing and listening to the violin and connection in community.

• A house concert at Jude's place on Sun Mar 25 with Andrew Clermont, Craig Sinclair, Jude Iddison and friends. Details to follow.

• A concert at Steiner school on Tues 27th Mar with Steiner violinists, recorders and Andrew Clermont. Concert begins at??? Cost is $3 per student, payable to class teachers. Parents and friends welcome.

• A performance on Sat Apr 7th at 12.00 at Denmark's Easter Markets by The Denmark Fiddlers. All Steiner violin students are welcome to join. Please be at the main stage at 11.30 already warmed up so I can tune your violins.

Enjoy practising!!!!!

In case some of you do not know Andrew Clermont, he is a world renowned violinist and multi instrumentalist who travels the world playing with many groups including Totally Gourdgeous, Dya Singh and Blue Guru. He is inspiring to watch and listen to.