Halloween, All Saints & All Souls Days: Remembering those who have died

In many traditions, the next 3 days draw our attention away from the living to the world of the dead.

While the fun and ghostliness of Halloween and trick or treating capture the imagination, the days of the 31st October (All Hallows e’en); the Celtic festival of Samhain; and All Saints & All Souls Days on 1st and 2nd November, are some of the traditions celebrating the connections between the worlds of the living and the spirit. These are times to remember and honour the dead, often by lighting candles. Whom do we think of? Ancestors or dear family members; or others we have loved or revered; or those like saints or good people whose lives were given in the service of others or the world. All have affected our own lives in small or large ways and we can pause to remember them with gratitude.

All life includes death, and even though here at this time of year we see about us an explosion of growth and colour in spring, a little time may be well spent over these next few days remembering with love family members and friends who have passed away, but who remain with us, in our hearts at least.

Barbara Fisher
Principal

Kwoorabup Markets

Each and every Friday hosts the Kwoorabup markets in our School hall.

On these market days please assist Golden Hill Steiner School by not parking in the bus bays and importantly please be reminded that children need to be in the care of their parents.

In Term Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for GHSS students are to be held at Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre, Monday 23rd November through to Friday the 27th. Students travel to and from Albany on Paul Taylor’s bus. The costing for in-term swimming lessons are made up of pool entrance and the cost of bus hire. The lessons are provided free of charge by the Education Department to school children. In-Term swimming is a part of our physical education program, no class main lessons are held during this week. Students not attending swimming will be assigned service.

Attending are our Class One to Consolidation Class Six students.
Finding the beauty of lines and patterns that are symmetrical and balanced has been a wonderful way to begin the term for Class One. Children have discovered, moved and drawn the forms that have been embedded in each day's story, and the resulting process and published work has filled the classroom with joy and colour. 'Form drawing' is an integral strand in the Steiner mathematics curriculum—a very beautiful one. The benefits have extended beyond the maths into assisting students to extend their boundaries to try new progressively more challenging experiences, and be willing to make mistakes in the process. As a result, the centred and calm, focused mood in the classroom has been a delight to witness as we created the beautiful forms below. We used chalk or sand or practise paper to start, always using a yellow crayon and shading out our 'working lines' once we have made adjustments, and trying to keep our crayon on the page for as long as possible. Form drawing is also considered to have therapeutic benefits for all, so try picking up a crayon and experiencing it for yourself.

Warm regards,

Elise Everett
Class 2 has been taking full advantage of spring and having our morning circle down in the forest. As part of our World Legends main lesson we create a different story in the forest everyday based on Native American Legends. Each day the little Indians do their chores of fetching water and stalking animals while testing their courage by rolling down a hill, climbing trees and other challenging tasks.

We are also experiencing the vastness of the world by sending letters to Benjamin in Germany. Benjamin enjoys jokes and the class has excelled at finding new jokes every week. On Fridays the children walk to the post office to post their letters.

Cheers,
Karen
Term Four has arrived! We started off this term with our second performance of our play, Joseph the Dreamer. Our Term 4 performance had the children cast in completely different roles from what they played in the first performance. It was an incredible achievement for the children to learn so much. Not only was the play originally written for 25 different characters, and performed by only 10 students, but they all had to learn two sets of roles. Amazing. Thank you to everyone who came and watched our plays, it was beautiful.

At the end of last term we all enjoyed a lovely day at Golden Hill’s Spring Festival. The sun shone for us and the day provided us all with much laughter and fun. Class Three (along with the help of some Class Four friends) had the honour and delight of dancing the Maypole dance.

The arrival of Spring has been very welcome. Class Three have really been enjoying getting down into the forest at the back of the school, and playing in the creek. Yesterday we walked through the creek exploring around each bend. Climbing over logs, under logs, balancing across logs, and laughing when we stepped into unexpectedly deep pot holes! It was such a delight to watch the children engage with their environment. We are truly lucky to have such a beautiful natural space on our school grounds. Every single time I go down there I am blown away.

The past couple of weeks we have been doing another Hebrew Main Lesson. I find the Hebrew stories to be really rich and engaging. So far this term, the entire class has really stepped up their enthusiasm for their school work. The writing, spelling and drawing skills of the entire class are really beginning to blossom, and so is their confidence. I love Spring!

Tom
Hello friends and family,

Class Four ended Term Three with a horse riding camp at Camp Kennedy in Torbay. We were absolutely blessed by the weather and the beautiful environment. The children learned horse riding skills and also how to care for horses, they were even lucky enough to ride along the beach. We filled our days with other wonderful activities such as natural material dying, nature drawing, basketball, fishing, swimming, exploring, playing spotlight and of course a talent show. Oh, and I forgot to mention, the dreaded camp chores!! 😊

A big huge thank you to Justin (our woodwork teacher), Jessie, Andy, Jade, Zoe, and Oma (Zoe’s Mum).

Class Four begun term four by researching and writing their own animal projects. Amazingly, each child managed to choose a different animal (apart from 2 sharks), so we now have lots of new reading material about different animals from around the world. This week we began studying Freehand Geometry and have enjoyed learning about the different attributes of the circle and varying triangles. The freehand forms the children have created so far are beautiful!

Warm wishes,
Chrystal
Class 5/6 have been avid geologists over the past three weeks, looking closely at the rock cycle and landform formations. The class have studied tectonic plates and mimicked the processes of earthquakes and tsunamis. We have even acted (and interpretive danced!) in forms of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks! This week, the students have created volcanos out of clay, paper mache and various recycled materials, which we erupted in spectacular fashion outside the classroom!

With graduation looming, the class sixes spent the first week of the term making lanterns and preparing for their graduation camp at the Balingup Spring Picnic. What a glorious time we had dancing the maypole and competing in the picnic games. The class six students performed their songs and verses beautifully, lighting the incredible bonfire to cheers from the crowd. What a wonderful experience, the whole weekend was filled with laughter and enjoyment. Huge thanks to Zoe and Claire for coming along with us, we are very grateful for all of your help.

Not left out of the action, the class five students travelled up to Perth in the second week of term to participate in the Greek Olympics. This amazing event is put on every year by Perth Waldorf School and class five students from every Steiner school are invited to compete. It was incredible to watch the students embody the spirit of the Olympics and Ancient Greece with their athletic achievements. We ran, jumped, threw and wrestled. We even raced chariots! The entire day was marked by the students’ enthusiasm and positive support for each other. Special thanks to all the parents who volunteered their time.

Starting up again this week, the boys from classes 5, 6 and 6C have spent Wednesday afternoons with Trevor. The boys played an exciting new game, invented by Trevor, and the shouts of excitement could be heard round the school! All the girls met in class 5/6 to create jewellery and sun catchers made from recycled materials. What an enjoyable, crafternoon! The pieces the girls have made so far are creative and inspiring. I am looking forward to seeing other masterpieces the class will create throughout the term.

Alex and Emily
A Perth Waldorf School family has expressed an interest / offer of a house swap. Denmark / Bicton over the summer holiday. Further information from the office.

Lyre Bag Workshop

Peppermint Cottage
Wednesday 24th Nov
9am - 12.30pm
Cost: $50

Make a beautiful bag for your child's lyre using 3mm thick handmade felt and decorate it with a picture of your choice.

All materials, and picture ideas are supplied as well as morning tea. Enjoy a creative morning together experimenting with colours and natural fibres as well as learn wool painting techniques.

To book call Kylie 0411845104 or email kylie@naturesnest.com.au

More workshops in November:
* Rainbow table puppet family
* Wool pixi mobile
* Children's collage playsilk
* Nuno silk scarf