

Ignite a Life-Long Love of Learning

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Open House

August 22nd—6:30

Come and ask questions about Waldorf! For families considering registration, and current families too!

Guest speaker Alex Murrell will also present on science curriculum.

Grade school—First day back

Sept. 4th

Grades 1-10 return to school.

Kindergarten and preschool first day

Tuesday September

10th (Sept. 11th for

Monday/Wed. preschool class).

Pro D day

Monday Sept. 9th

School closed to allow for faculty training with Kim John Payne and Social Inclusion Program which began last year.

Reflections on the year, and a look into the future —Mr. Morgan

Dear Parents,

Looking Back

With the rapid growth of our school in the last year we, as teachers and staff, have been thrilled to welcome and work with students and families new to the Whistler Waldorf School. We are pleased that there is a demand for Waldorf education within our community and we have worked hard to widen our arms and at the same time retain the warm, nurturing atmosphere that the school has always had. As we move into the future and embrace the changes, opportunities and challenges that a developing and growing Waldorf school encounter, we

will continue to strive to create a strong centre for Waldorf education and to make it, as the original Waldorf school was, available to all who seek it, whilst ensuring we are able to meet the needs of all the students in our care.

This school year was filled with memorable events and as we cast our eyes back over this year, we reflect on the many experiences our

and St. John's; the many field trips both near and far such as the hiking of the Juan de Fuca trail, the Stawamus Chief, Brandywine Falls, Cheakamus Lake, snowshoeing in the Joffre Range, Horne Lake, Nairn Falls, biking the valley trail, learning to sail, and many farm and small-holding trips.

Three of these field trips also acted as sponsored fundraising events which resulted in \$1800 being raised for Variety Children's Charity and over \$3700 for

our new classrooms. We also had a bevy of bake sales, our annual Wine Gala and our first ever school car wash! (cont..)



Lost Lake fun day

students and school community enjoyed. We had the festivals of Michaelmas, Martinmas, the Advent Spiral, Christmas Fair, May Fair

Facebook and website...check us out! If you have not had the opportunity to check it out yet, please take a look at our new website and "like" us on facebook! www.whistlerwaldorf.com

Reminder: Next year's school calendar is now posted online...

Other notable firsts for our school included our Grade 6/7 basketball team, chess club, sewing club and weekly lunchtime band. We had a visit from renowned social inclusion / discipline expert Kim Payne and will be looking forward to welcoming him back next year (see below). The Grade 6 – 9 students welcomed Darren and Beth Laur to our school to talk about internet safety issues and recently the Grade 4 – 9 enjoyed a visit from a professional musician, Andrew Kim, who gave an enlightening demonstration of, among others things, a violin he had made from a tennis racquet!

Weaving throughout this eventful school year, like a golden thread, are the many main lesson topics and subject classes that the children are guided through by our passionate and committed faculty. Whether it is form drawing and learning the flute in Grade 1 or thermodynamics and Macbeth in Grade 8/9 the students have learned about a variety of subjects which are brought at key stages of their development based on close observations of the growing child.

This year, as well as continuing to work together closely as a faculty, we have also created a “pedagogical carrying group” which is tasked with holding the overview of the pedagogical provision and HR matters. We continue to work collegially and openly as a faculty and actively practice both a sharing of our observations of the students in our care and observations of ourselves as teachers in order to educate children with the utmost awareness and focus.

Looking Forward

On a brisk but sunny day in May we held our weekly faculty meeting in the woods. Driving out to our proposed new school site at Wedge-Woods we spent time together as a faculty picturing our wishes and hopes for what our new location could offer and we came away excited at the prospect of having our school in such spectacular, natural surroundings. The next step of our visioning process was to look at the current site plan using our pedagogical eyes, identifying areas which would increase the potential for enhancing the educational experience for the students.

Next school year will see the official start of our high school. We spent much time this year considering what is best for the students and we have decided that our Grade 8 class will move into a high school format with the Grade 9/10s. Practically speaking this means that they will have a greater variety of block and subject teachers and will be assigned a guardian who will support and guide them through the year. The Grade 9/10s will move on with their current guardian (see below for staffing update) and the Grade 10s will begin preparations for their provincial exams as well as going further into the Waldorf high school curriculum. It is very exciting that we are able to move towards seeing the Waldorf curriculum through to Grade 12.

Faculty for next year will be as follows:

Pre-school / Kindergarten – Ms. Moore, Ms. Graham, Ms. Orsa, Ms. Karina (with assistants) *Allocation of teachers with groups will be decided upon when enrolment numbers are confirmed.*

Grade 1 – We welcome Ms. Nancy Rose

Nancy has over 20 years of teaching experience as an arts, crafts and art therapy teacher and has recently graduated from the Waldorf teacher training programme at the Rudolf Steiner Centre in Toronto. Nancy visited the school before Spring Break and we feel she will make an excellent member of the faculty team.

Grade 2 – We welcome Ms. Dorota Ignaszewska

Ms. Ignaszewska is an experienced Waldorf teacher who graduated from the West Coast Institute for Studies in Anthroposophy in 1998. She worked at our school as the kindergarten teacher when the school was in its infancy some years ago. She has also taught for 5 years as a Class Teacher (Grades 3 – 7) and specialist music teacher at the Sunrise Waldorf School on Vancouver Island.

Grade 3 – Ms. Berringer

Grade 4 – Ms. Karklin

Grade 5/6 – M. Richer

Grade 7 – Ms. Reynolds

Grade 8 Guardian – Ms. Franklin

Grade 9/10 Guardian – Ms. Cook

Physical Education – We welcome Mr. Andrew Eccles

Mr. Eccles has worked at various schools in the community as well as for the municipality and will be joining our school to develop and carry a high school sports and movement program as well as teach games throughout the school.

French – Mme. Pare

Music and violin – Ms. Fawcett

Special needs / support teachers – Ms. Hahn, Ms. Willis, Ms. Brown

Principal and high school block teacher – Mr. Morgan

High School Faculty – Ms. Franklin, Ms. Cook, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Eccles

As well as continuing to send teachers to off-site Waldorf training programs we will also be starting in-house Waldorf training seminars which will follow the same format as the West Coast Institute and Seattle teacher training courses. This will consist of two blocks of two week intensives over summer 2013 and 2014 with a monthly foundation studies course (administered by the Sophia Institute for Studies in Anthroposophy) which will run through the school year. As well

as this, all new teachers and teachers without formal Waldorf training will receive regular mentoring from senior staff members.

As part of the summer seminars we will be welcoming a science teacher from the UK with over 20 years of Waldorf teaching experience, Alex Murrell. As well as lecturing on Waldorf philosophy in general and offering science seminars for the teachers, he will also be offering an evening lecture to parents on **Thursday 22nd August** about science in the Waldorf curriculum. More details on this will follow closer to the time.

Also, as I mentioned above, Kim Payne will be returning to our school in September to continue to develop a social inclusion strategy which will focus on strengthening the social health of our

school and the relationships between our students.

We look forward to the adventures ahead and give thanks to faculty, staff and parents for all your support in making this school what it is: a vibrant, enthusiastic and caring school community.

With warmest wishes for a rejuvenating and restful summer break,

Aegir Morgan

Annual Giving Campaign
final numbers...

84% participation

\$61,214

Have a wonderful summer everyone!

From your administration team...

Vicky Bunbury, Administrator

Diane Riley, Admin Assistant

Laura Street, Director of Communications

Peggy Vogler, Director of Development



Thank you to our hard working Parent Council!

Lee-Anne Van Dongen	Peggy Vogler
Amanda Sandahl	Ghlee MacLeod
Sheila Sherkat	Joanne Graham
Megan Fullerton	Yvonne D'Arcy
Julie Edwards	Leslie Glaysher

Thank you to our hard working Board of Directors!

Fiona Cull	Aegir Morgan
Laura Street	Vicky Bunbury
Paula Jeffers	Feza Sanigok
Shankar Raina	Lee-Anne Van Dongen
Harvey Lim	Molli Reynolds
Laurie Grant	Carol Tait
Michelle Kirkegaard	Peggy Vogler

A picture speaks a thousand words...



Grade 4/5 sponsored bike tour raises \$2700!



Grade 7,8,9 High School launch celebration



Grade 7 camping—with fireside ghost tales!



Grade 1 / 2 trip to Brandywine



Grade 1/2 trip to Brandywine



Whistler Waldorf School
Box 1501—7324 Kirkpatrick Way
Whistler, BC, V0N 1B0

Phone: 604 932-1885
Fax: 604 932-1876
E-mail: info@whistlerwaldorf.com

www.whistlerwaldorf.com

Our Mission:

Our mission is to educate each child with reverence and respect; to nurture wonder, confidence and initiative, so they may participate in the world guided by a sense of truth and responsibility.



School Community Classifieds

This space is set aside for the school community to share their talents, needs and wants. Submissions should be sent to communication@whistlerwaldorf.com by the last Monday of the month.

Donate your Nesters Points! Remember you can donate your Nesters points to the school...just ask for the Waldorf School chip at the till. Last year we raised several hundred dollars through these generous donors.



Grade 7 play:
Sherwood... Robin Hood faces his foes

