

Calendar

Thu Nov 3 School Photo Retake Day – 8:00 a.m. - see inside for details

Wed Nov 9 WOW! Day – 8:20 a.m. – see inside for details

Fri Nov 11 Martinmas Lantern Walk

Sat Nov 12 All-School Work Day – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thu Nov 17 Fall Middle School Music Sharing – 6:30 p.m. – in the school gym

Sat Nov 19 Waldorf Education Series – The Developing Child and the Waldorf Curriculum – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Sat Nov 19 Puppet and Play Morning – details to come

Tue Nov 22 8th Grade Eurythmy Performance

Wed-Fri Nov 23-25 Thanksgiving Break – No School

Wed Nov 30 6th Grade Parent Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – in the 6th Grade classroom

Wed Nov 30 2nd Grade Parent Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – in the 2nd Grade classroom

Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

Nov 4—Odd Grades/Community Singing

Nov 11— Martinmas Festival –
Open Assembly

Nov 18 — No Assembly

What's Cooking!

Photo Retake Day Information

If your child was absent on the original school photo day or you feel that your child did not look his or her best in the photo, **the photo retake day will be on Thursday, November 3rd**. There is no additional cost for the retake photo if your child was absent on the original photo day; however, if you are asking for a reshoot because you didn't like your child's expression or hair, then there will be a \$10 charge for the retake. **Please contact Drew Shonka by November 1st at 637-2393 or gshonka@hotmail.com to schedule your photo retake.** Photos from the Photo Retake Day will be available before Thanksgiving.

-Drew Shonka Photography

WOW! Day

Join us for the next Wow! Day on Wednesday, October 12th, from 8:20 a.m. - 9:10 a.m., beginning in the PRWS gym. This is an opportunity for parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors (adults only please) to get a glimpse into the classroom and experience the magic of Waldorf education. This month we will be visiting in the 2nd and 7th grade classrooms. Please contact Jordan at 637-7828 or enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org with any questions.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

Fall Middle School Music Sharing

Thursday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.

This year, our Fall Middle School Music Sharing will feature our 6th through 8th grade students. The program will take place in the school gym starting at 6:30 p.m.

- Monika Sutherland, Music Teacher

Martinmas Song Practice

After the Friday, November 11, assembly, we will learn and practice the songs that will be sung on this year's Lantern Walk. Please join us!

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

1% Day at the Viroqua Food Co-op

Wednesday, November 9th, is the PRWS 1% day at the Viroqua Food Co-op. 1% of the gross sales that day will be donated to PRWS. Shop at the store you love to benefit the school you love!

- Cynthia Olmstead, Development

Martinmas Plans

On **Friday, November 11, at 4:30 p.m.**, the Kindergartens - Grade 4 will celebrate the festival of Martinmas with our traditional Lantern Walk. The walk will begin at school with Kindergarten - Grade 4 children gathering in their classrooms and lighting their lanterns. Alumni and older children who will not be walking with their parents or younger siblings are welcome to gather with Ms. Marianne Fieber-Dhara in an assigned upper grades classroom with their lanterns from home. There will be a walk through the neighborhood that will conclude at The Flower Basket where there will be song and celebration. We will end at The Flower Basket entrance. In the event of inclement weather, we will begin the same, sing in the gym, and walk the hallways for a shortened but loving walk in the school.

- Cinna Derocher,
Festival Co-Coordinator

Save the Date for the November 12

All-School Workday

Please plan to join us for some satisfying work, great food, and social time during our upcoming All-School Workday on November 12. We have a few important indoor and outdoor tasks to tackle before the onset of winter and are hoping for about 35-40 volunteers to get everything in tip-top shape. A couple of hours of your time within the 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. window would go a long way toward this goal. If you are new to the school and are looking for a tangible way to pitch in while meeting other families, this is a great opportunity! As usual, we will be providing homemade lunch and coordinating the effort.

- PRWS Facilities Committee

HOLIDAY FAIRE

Calling all Musicians!

Instrumentalists, singers, and songwriters - we are looking to show off your talents at the Holiday Faire this year. We will have a number of intimate performance spaces set up in the school on both Friday and Saturday.

On Friday, we are looking for adult soloists or small groups to perform for 30-45 minute sets. On Saturday, we will also invite student soloists and groups.

You will help create the ambience and bring joy and beauty to this special event with your own personal touch. It will be a chance to perform, without too much pressure. Perform by yourself or get together with a friend or two and find that perfect harmony!

If you're interested in performing and/or have any questions/suggestions, call Margret at 637-7880.

Holiday Faire Coordinators!

Please check your mailbox for this year's info letter and area updates.

Crafting for the Faire!

There will be a couple of after school craft gatherings for the **upper grades kids**. The first of which will be **Thursday, November 10th**, right after school in the handwork room. This will be a chance for the older kids to help create some Faire Magic for the little ones. Supplies and snacks provided.

The Crafting Continues

Join us on the following dates, as we craft homemade items for the Children's Castle:

- November 7th (Monday) from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia
- November 14th (Monday) from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia
- November 18th (Friday) from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at Nan Marshall's home – E7904 Maple Dale Rd. in Viroqua

- November 21st (Monday) from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia
- November 26th (Saturday) from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at Margret Lenarz's home – 510 S. Rusk in Viroqua
- November 28th (Monday) from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Ewetopia
 - Holiday Faire Co-Captains

Winter is Coming!

Hi! My name is Winter. Remember me? I am coming to visit Wisconsin again soon. I know I often overstay my welcome, but I just love it here so much it is hard to leave. Anyway, I need to ask you a favor. I need for you to help get the snow off the sidewalks at your child's school so everyone can travel safely out in my glorious winter chill. Your Facilities team is gearing up and will be calling upon you to do your part. You will be going by assigned class weeks again this season, starting with:

Grade 8 - November 6-13 (Sunday Morning overlap). Grade 7 will follow November 13-20. Remember, we are all in this together. I will bring the snow and cold and winter fun and you get out there and show those soft people in warmer climes how resilient you are.

Warm regards,

Winter

P.S. - Do a really good job and I may reward you by not sticking around through March and into April.

Full Schedule

Grade 8: November 6-13
 Grade 7: November 13-20
 Grade 6: November 20-27
 Grade 5: November 27-December 4
 Grade 4: December 4-11
 Grade 3: December 11-18
 FACILITIES: December 18-January 1
 Grade 2: January 1-8
 Grade 1: January 8-15
 Kindergartens: January 15-22
 Grade 8: January 22-29
 Grade 7: January 29-February 5
 Grade 6: February 5-12
 Grade 5: February 12-19
 Grade 4: February 19-26

Grade 3: February 26-March 5
 Grade 2: March 5-12
 Grade 1: March 12-19
 Kindergartens: March 19-26

Volunteer Opportunities – Reading and Math Support

Rosanne Morici, our dedicated and beloved Title I Reading and Math support colleague, is completing her assessments on our students' reading and math needs. Her time has been limited by the Viroqua school system, and she will be unable to meet all the students' needs. We are therefore looking to identify a few individuals who will assist Rosanne's work in supporting the children. If you have an hour or two and would be willing to meet with a single or small group to work on reading and math, Rosanne is willing to direct your efforts. Please call Marianne at 608-637-7828 if you are interested in hearing more about this opportunity to support our students.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

Hosting Opportunity – January 2017

In January 2017, Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School will be hosting six students from South Korea. A couple of them are return visitors from last year, and several are new. Once again, we are turning to our generous and hospitable community to find hosts to welcome them during their stay. There is information on the flier at the back of this Lunchbox Express as well as posted information on the bulletin board across from the office.

The students we are expecting are:

Ji-won – Grade 8 (girl)
 Eo-jin – Grade 7 (girl)
 Kyeong-un – Grade 5 (boy)
 Ji-Hun "Cupa" – Grade 5 (boy)
 Seo-Ye Jun "Albert" – Grade 4 (boy)
 Seo Ye Won – Grade 4 (girl)

Please call Marianne at 608-606-3505 if you are interested in hearing more about how to become a host.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

Open Position

Afternoon Kindergarten Assistant

Applications are being accepted immediately for the afternoon mixed-aged kindergarten assistant for the remainder of the school year - beginning as soon as possible. The afternoon assistant will support the work of the kindergarten morning assistant and lead teacher. Qualities we are seeking include an ability to work artistically and creatively, ongoing self-development, and good working relations. Individuals who cultivate flexibility and open-mindedness and are self-motivated and ethical will be strongly considered. This is a part-time position to include 4 hours per day, 5 days per week (11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.). For specific details regarding this position and duties, please refer to the Early Childhood Afternoon Assistant Job Description found on our website.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

After-school Agreements

We ask that children not play on the front steps of the school once they have been picked-up by their parent or guardian. It can cause challenges to safe flow of traffic in and out of the building. We also ask that students be encouraged to play in the Greenspace, if necessary, while waiting to leave the school grounds rather than on the half-wall in front of the east lobby windows beyond the chain-link fence. Thank you.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

Parent Feedback - Reminder

Many parents may have received a feedback form for class teachers and subject teachers during conferences last week. Comments and suggestions from parents are part of our annual evaluation processes for faculty as well as staff. **We would like to have these forms before the Thanksgiving break.** Please turn in completed forms to Marianne Fieber-Dhara's office mailbox. Our faculty evaluation process includes the completion of a self-evaluation, classroom

observation by another faculty member and colleague and parent feedback shared through a face-to-face conversation. This full evaluation process is completed every other year. During the alternate year, the evaluation consists of colleague and parent feedback delivered through a face-to-face conversation with a member of the Personnel Committee. We value parent participation in this process. Attached at the end of this Lunchbox Express, please find copies of the parent feedback forms. They are also available in the office. Thank you.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School

Coffee Fundraiser

We are partnering with Kickapoo Coffee on an ongoing fundraiser! All proceeds from your purchase of Kickapoo Coffee's seasonal Harvest Blend will directly benefit the school. Beginning this week we will have 12 oz. bags of coffee for sale in the office for \$12. We are planning to stock about 10 bags at a time, so if you want to ensure your needs are met, there are order forms in the office, and we can have your order filled in a few days. Orders will be placed on Mondays and Wednesdays before noon.

This local delicacy is a wonderful house gift for the holidays. We thank our Kickapoo Coffee parents for this opportunity: Denise & TJ Semanchin and Emma & Caleb Nicholes. Questions? Ask mary@pleasantridgewaldorf.org.

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

Garlic for Sale!

Beautiful, organic garlic, grown by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf students, is for sale in the school office. Nice, large cloves are perfect for planting or eating. It is \$12/1 lb. bag. Please write a check or bring exact change. All proceeds benefit the Garden Education program at the school.

- Erica Pfeiffer, Garden Program

COMMUNITY NEWS

Recently the school heard about **Avalon Initiative** that aims to promote renewal of education. They collect stories through their website and work with specific themes. Until November 30, they are focusing on stories related to the following theme:
"Transformations in children's lives that can only happen when there is a heart connection between teachers and students."

Log on to <http://heartsspeak.net> to learn more. "Hearts Speak" is a project of the **Avalon Initiative**, which is co-sponsored by the **Research Institute for Waldorf Education** and the **Hawthorne Valley Center for Social Research**. Learn more about the Avalon Initiative at edrenewal.org.

Friday, November 4, 2016

Join us in expanding the boundaries of consciousness.

6:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

At The ARK

Come and vibrate at a different frequency with music from Rahbi Crawford and Peter Phippen, and listen to Gayle Nielsen, hypnotherapist, and Ryan Evan, evolutionary astrologist, discuss consciousness and its evolution.

<http://www.thearkviroqua.org>

info@viroquantum.org

608.637.6767 (Quality of Life Chiropractic office)

\$15 donation at the door

LUNCHBOX EXPRESS COMMUNITY NEWS POLICY

The Lunchbox Express Community News section is provided as a service to the school community. Printing of an ad does not imply endorsement by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

How to Place an Ad:

1. Limit your ad to 70 words. We do not edit. We will not print ads over 70 words. If you must have a long ad, make a note & give it to the office staff to place on the bulletin board.
2. Ads will be printed only once.
3. Put your ad in the folder in the LBE's mailbox in the Office marked "Lunchbox Community News" OR e-mail ad to info@pleasantridgewaldorf.org with "Community News" in the subject line.
4. Deadline is Tuesdays at 8:30am. There may be occasions, due to unforeseen circumstances or space restrictions, that the Community section will not be printed. Thank you.

January 2017 HOSTING OPPORTUNITY

Would you like to host a student from South Korea?

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School is looking for host families for our South Korean visitors in January 2017. There will be six students joining our school beginning **January 1st through January 23rd** 2017.

The students are coming with their teacher Sumi during their winter holiday. The intention is to create a cultural experience. These students come from a very large metropolitan area in South Korea and they will be keen to explore our slower and more rural way of living.

What do hosts need to provide?

Room and Board: A place to sleep needn't be a private room. Meals as you would your own child. Their hot lunches at school Monday – Thursday will be paid for and therefore will only need a packed lunch on Fridays.

Transportation: To and from school specifically as well as to other activities that may be planned. Drivers are required submit copies of a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.

Window to your world: The students will be well-served by participating in the life of your household; going to the grocery store, the bank or any other errands that may be necessary during their visit. They have little opportunity to be in nature, observe a star-filled sky or play in snow. Any activities that you can think of to give them a taste of life in Viroqua will be wonderful.

What else?

December 10th there will be an orientation for host families to review details in anticipation of our guests' arrival.

Arrival and pick-up: The group arrives at 7:00 pm on January 1st at the Amtrak station in LaCrosse.

Departure: The group departs at 10:00 am on January 23rd (Monday) from the Amtrack station in LaCrosse.

First Friday Assembly: there will be an introductory assembly on January 6th. Host families are invited to attend and be announced and introduced to our community.

Students will have special English classes during the school day to help strengthen their language skills.

A **hosting fee** will be offered to families opening their homes to these students. Additionally, Sumi will be cooking a home cooked Korean meal for each family.

If you would like to welcome a visitor, please speak with your class teacher or Marianne Fieber-Dhara.

Teacher's Name _____ Grade _____

The feedback you give here is part of the annual evaluation process for teachers. The completed form will go to a Personnel Committee member for collating. All information is confidential, and the themes will be presented to the teacher during his/her evaluation conversation. Teacher evaluations include a classroom observation visit, review of students' work, a self-evaluation, feedback from parents and feedback from colleagues.

Thank you for your participation.

1. Do you think your child is having a positive experience at school? Please elaborate if you wish.

2. Good communication is one aspect of a healthy relationship between parent(s) and teacher. Do you have a good relationship with your child's teacher? Please elaborate if you wish.

3. What strengths have you observed and what do you appreciate about your child's teacher?

4. Do you have any ideas and suggestions for this teacher?

5. Do you have any ideas or suggestions for class parent evenings?

6. Any other questions, concerns, comments?

Signature

Date

Use back side of this form if needed. Reminder: Unsigned forms may not be considered. Thank you for your cooperation. Please return forms to the box in the office by **November 18, 2016**.

Parent Feedback for Subject Teachers

Teacher's Name _____ Subject _____

The feedback you give here is part of the evaluation process for teachers. The completed form will go to a Personnel Committee member for collating. These forms are to be signed. All information is confidential and the themes will be presented to the teacher at his/her evaluation conversation. Teacher evaluations include a classroom observation visit, review of students' work, a self-evaluation, feedback from parents and feedback from colleagues.

Thank you for your participation.

1. Do you think your child is having a positive experience in this class? Please elaborate if you wish.

2. Good communication is one aspect of a healthy relationship between parent(s) and teachers. Do you have a good relationship with this teacher? Please elaborate if you wish.

3. What do you appreciate about your child's experience in this specialty class?

4. What strengths have you observed in this teacher?

5. Do you have any ideas and suggestions for this teacher?

6. Any other questions, concerns, comments?

Signature

Date