

## Calendar

**Wed Nov 30** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade classroom

**Fri Dec 2** Noon Dismissal – Setup for Holiday Faire

**Fri Dec 2** Holiday Faire – Adult Evening- 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – see inside for details

**Fri Dec 2** Holiday Faire After Party – 9:30 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. – Driftless Books – see inside for details

**Sat Dec 3** Holiday Faire – 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – **FREE**

**Mon & Tue Dec 5 & 6** Advent Spiral – Old Main Building – 321 E. Decker – see inside for schedule

**Tue Dec 13** St. Lucia – in the school hallways beginning at 8:30 a.m.

**Thu Dec 15** Shepherd's Play – 6:00 p.m. – in the school gym

**Fri Dec 16** Festival of Lights – 10:30 a.m. in the school gym

**Fri Dec 16** Noon Dismissal

**Mon Dec 19** Alumni Reunion

**Mon Dec 19 – Mon Jan 2** Holiday Break – No Classes

**Tue Jan 3** Classes Resume

## Friday Assembly

Dec 2 — No Assembly – Noon Dismissal

Dec 9 — Even Grades – **8:20 AM**

Dec 16 – Festival of Light – **10:30 AM**

## What's Cooking!

### Holiday Faire Preparations!

Don't forget! **There is an early dismissal Friday.** Grades 1 through 6 have the option to go to the ice arena (see additional info about that later in this newsletter). First through 5th graders not ice skating may be excused to go home. **ANY 6TH GRADER WHO CHOOSES NOT TO GO TO THE ARENA AND ALL OF THE 7TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO STAY AT SCHOOL UNTIL 2:45 PM TO HELP WITH PREPARATIONS.** There will be no buses on Friday afternoon.

- Holiday Faire Co-Captains

### Holiday Faire After Party!

The **Noble Surfers** will be playing at the After Party from **9:30 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.** at Driftless Books and Music at 518 Walnut St.

Boogie the night away to a mix of high energy dance tunes and surf classics, bop to rare rockabilly, polka til you drop. Featuring some holiday tunes to get you in the spirit Noble fashion!

WiscoPop will be serving up "Pop-tails" along with a selection of other beverages.

Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Don't forget, YIHS will babysit until 11:30 p.m. (see details inside), so you can have a great night out!

- Holiday Faire Co-Captains

### December Enrichment Days

It may seem early to plan for the December break; however, we are offering three Enrichment Days for children ages 5 and up – December 19, 20, and 21. Join us for winter activities such as ice skating, singing, and crafts. You can sign your children up for a full day, morning only, or afternoon only. Cost is \$35 for a full day and \$20 for a half day. Registration forms are located outside the office.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

### Advent Wreaths for Sale

The Flower Basket is open to sell holiday greens and has some nice plain wreaths that could be used to make an Advent wreath for your table. Check them out on Tuesdays, by appointment, and most mornings between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. starting next week.

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

# HOLIDAY FAIRE

## Spread the Word About the Faire!

The Holiday Faire is just a few days away. We're excited! Let's make this the best Faire ever. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and anyone else that might be interested. Let's celebrate our school! Are you on Facebook? If so, go to the Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School page and like and share the event. Send people to our school's website for all the details. Thank you for spreading the word!

## Friday Night at the Faire

Something **Magical** happens, and, under the guidance of Ryan Evans, our school is transformed into an **Enchanted Place** with the glimmer of beeswax candles, the scent of pine, and the warmth of live music. This year, we highlight the **Tree Lighting Ceremony** with spoken word by Julee Agar, music featuring our faculty musicians and simple, beautiful songs of the season, sung with all of our voices and led by Monika Sutherland and Dodie Whitaker. It is a chance for us to welcome the season together in **Peace and Harmony**. The halls will be filled with **Music Created by Parents and Friends**. We will miss the rich sounds of the Ridgetones this year, but be sure to see them, December 10th, a week later at the Temple Theatre for their Holiday Show.

Come hungry! There will be a variety of **Nourishing Soups, Stews, Breads, and Desserts** to enjoy for dinner. And, as always, many of our **Favorite Area Artists** will be vending, and we will have an extensive collection of items to peruse with the return of our traditional **Silent Auction**

The night progresses to the **Driftless Dance Party** with the **Noble Surfers** over at **Driftless Books and Music**. Let YIHS kids do the **Babysitting**, and go celebrate with a **Wisconsin Cocktail, Wine, or Beer** and put on your dancing shoes!

## Sign-Up Sheets Still Have a Few Spaces!

Please look for the sign-up sheets outside the school office (or at the Landmark Center for the kindergartens) for your class' assignment to help with the Holiday Faire. Let's fill those slots up! See the table below if you need to review your class' assignment.

Task	Parent Volunteers	Student Volunteers	Coordinator	HF Captain
Children's Crafts	Kindergartens	7	Marianne Miro	ML
Crystal Boat	Kindergartens		Robin Kottke & Shelly Brenne-man	ML
Children's Castle	8	8	Jordan Brudos & Kathryn Ashley-Wright	ML
Bake Sale (set up, staffing)	1 and 2		Julia Ugo	ML
Lunch Clean-up	6	6	Pita Daniels	AL
Faire Clean-up	4		Marc LeMaire	AL
Lunch Serving	6	6	Angie Bernstein	AL
School Store Staffing	5		Cathy Brummer	ML
Decorating School/ Set-Up	7	7, 8	Corina Bergan & Joe Lenarz	ML
Coffee Cafe	1 and 2		Angela Rennilson	AL
Friday Night Food	3		Justina Manspeaker & Julie Turino	ML
Ice Skating		6 grade arena	Jon Dehlin	JZ



**Get Those Cookies Out of Your House and Bring Them to the Bake Sale!**

Our Bake Sale needs your delicious contributions for the Holiday Faire! Let some last minute inspiration sweep over you. Make some Christmas treats that you love to make but don't actually want in your house because your children will sneakily eat all of them. If you are interested in making banana muffins, bread, or cake, we have frozen bananas available for you. They are in the school faculty freezer. Please help yourself or ask Nan in the office if you need help finding them. Please plan to bring your **labeled** baked goods and desserts to the **Parent-Child Classroom** on **Thursday after 3:00 p.m. or Friday before 2:00 p.m.** Be sure to put your name on your trays/containers. For questions or recipes, call Julia Ugo at 606-9125 or email [juliahundt@gmail.com](mailto:juliahundt@gmail.com).

**Musicians Needed for the Holiday Faire**

Greetings Musician friends! The Holiday Fair is coming this Friday and Saturday, and we are seeking musicians who would love to come and conjure the Holiday Spirit for the children and for the season! This is not so much about performance as it is to set a tone, to wrap the gift that is the Holiday Fair in a beautiful musical garland. For more details please contact Peter Hutter at 483-2045, or [bridgepin@gmail.com](mailto:bridgepin@gmail.com).

**Holiday Faire Friday Night Babysitting**

Youth Initiative High School is hosting its annual childcare event for the Holiday Faire! We will have crafts, games, and engaging babysitters for your child's entertainment. Children of all ages are welcome on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at any time between 6:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. We will be holding this event in the top floor of the Landmark Center. We are asking \$5 an hour per child and \$15 for 5 children and up. We will offer snacks throughout the night, but not a full meal, so please have your child fed before your arrival.

If you have any further questions, contact Sarah at [sarahcorbin2@gmail.com](mailto:sarahcorbin2@gmail.com). RSVPs are encouraged but not necessary. This is a wonderful fundraiser for the students of YIHS, and we're all looking forward to seeing you there!

**Silent Auction Holiday Faire 2016**

The time is now to donate items and help create a spectacular Silent Auction at the Holiday Faire! Creative offerings such as consumables (think a basket of homegrown pantry items or bulk storage veggies!) and experiences (think lessons in crafts or music or a weekend in your family's up-north cabin) are great! Fine art, jewelry, and gift certificates for local businesses are wonderful too. Items must be valued at \$25 or more.

Please contact Jess at 608.632.0162 or [PRWSholidayfaire@gmail.com](mailto:PRWSholidayfaire@gmail.com)

Thank you!

**The Jump Ropes Are Back!**

The 6th grade will be delighting Faire goers with handmade jump ropes again this year. We need your yarn! Go ahead and put those half used skeins that you've got lying around to good use. Drop them off at the school office. We're happy to take anything you've got. The acrylic fibers are said to make the best ropes.

**Holiday Faire Ice Skating**

As in the past, the Viroqua Community Arena has been reserved and is open for Pleasant Ridge children on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, during the Holiday Faire setup. If your child wishes to skate, please make sure he/she brings a sack lunch to eat at school before walking or being driven to the arena. The cost for this activity is \$5. **Please pay in the office ASAP.** Skates are available for rent at the arena at the cost of \$2 per child. Pay for skate rental at the rink. All children must have a signed permission form to participate in skating. A form is attached to the back of this Lunchbox Express. They are also available in the office.



We will need parent drivers who are able to help transport children to the arena. Please see the signup sheet outside of the office.

We would also appreciate assistance gathering children from each class from their rooms and moving them in an organized manner to the front of the school. If you can help with your child's class, find Jon Dehlin in the hall outside the office at 11:50 p.m.

- Jon Dehlin, Skating Coordinator

### **Waldorf Resale Shoppe**

We're excited to try something new at this year's Holiday Faire - expand the school store by adding a resale component for gently used wooden and natural toys. This is a great opportunity to help raise funds for PRWS by donating items your children no longer use and also shop for beautiful, quality toys for less than retail prices. Donations of wood and natural toys in good, resale condition may be dropped off at the school office through December 1st. Thanks so much for your help! Questions? Contact Robin Kottke at 608-638-2609 or [ringleka@hotmail.com](mailto:ringleka@hotmail.com).

- Robin Kottke, Coordinator

## **UPCOMING**

### **Advent Spiral – Monday and Tuesday, December 5 & 6**

Advent Sunday (November 27) is the first of the four Sundays preceding Christmas. Advent, then, is a period of time, not a single day or moment. It is a time of quiet preparation, of readying oneself to go without fear into the darkest time of year. Here, at Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School, each class will take turns walking through a spiral, lighting a candle, and placing the candle somewhere on the spiral. Parents are invited to attend their child's walk. They should arrive and be seated quietly before the walk begins. Times for each class will be posted in the office before the event and should be sent out by the teachers in advance as well.

### **Schedule:**

#### **Monday, December 5**

1<sup>st</sup> – 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

7<sup>th</sup> – 10:10 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> – 10:50 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

6<sup>th</sup> – 12:50 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

4<sup>th</sup> – 1:50 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, December 6**

Kindergartens – 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> – 10:50 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

5<sup>th</sup> – 12:50 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

8<sup>th</sup> – 1:50 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

- Advent Spiral Committee

### **What is the Tradition of the Advent Spiral About?**

The days are growing shorter, the mornings are darker when we get up, and in the absence of the sun, it is time to turn inward and create a little light of our own. Pleasant Ridge holds an Advent Garden spiral walk for all the students and for the community at large. We have a wonderfully diverse school community, so our celebration of the Advent Season means different things to different folks. The intention for this event is to invite a reverent experience in a world where reverence can be difficult to find. The Advent Garden is a world-wide Waldorf school tradition, but for anyone who has ever participated in or completed a meditative labyrinth walk, it can be a similar experience. It sets the mood for a holiday season filled with more stillness, reverence, contemplation and beauty amidst the prevailing hustle and bustle of shopping, parties, and general business that surround us in November and December.

Here is a little bit of history regarding the origins of the Advent Garden. It came about in 1926, when Dr. Karl Schubert, a remedial teacher from the Stuttgart Waldorf School, became familiar with the spiral movement as a curative form for the rhythmic and sensory system. Later, he was inspired by a Bavarian custom of creating a moss garden with fir twigs that was then lit up by candles mounted in apples. Dr. Schubert created a big spiral out of moss and fir branches onto which each person walked to



light their own apple candle from the center and then placed it along the path, until the whole spiral garden was illuminated. The movement included going into and going out of the spiral. As each person walks in darkness into the center of the spiral, they find the eternal light that is always present to enlighten every human being.

- Advent Spiral Committee

**School Store News**

A group order will be placed to Uriel Pharmacy early next week to be delivered by Friday, December 10. If you are interested in any products, please visit their website:

[www.urielpharmacy.com](http://www.urielpharmacy.com). There are also a few paper catalogs in the School Store cabinet. Email me with any questions or orders - Cathy Brummer at [driftlessmom@live.com](mailto:driftlessmom@live.com). I will also be available to chat in the School Store during Holiday Faire! See you there!

- Cathy Brummer, School Store

**Raffle Update – Great Prizes!**

This year we have the best prize yet! Instead of our usual trip for 2, we are offering a trip for **five** to Belize. Packets will be available in the office soon.

- The Raffle Committee

**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

**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 shoveling 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

- Jon Dehlin, Facilities Committee

## **Thanks for Twinkling in Viroqua with Us!**

Thanks to everyone who braved the cold last Friday evening and walked with Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School in the Twinklefest Parade. It was great to come together and share our light and songs with the community. We look forward to participating again next year!

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Admissions Coordinator

## **Don't Forget the Coffee**

Don't forget to pick up a fresh bag of Kickapoo Coffee in the office and support PRWS! We have 12oz. whole beans of the Harvest Blend available for \$12. This would also make a great gift for the holidays!

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

## **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

## **Ridgetones Holiday Concert**

**Saturday, December 10, 7:30 p.m.**

THE TEMPLE THEATER

Adults: \$15, Children: \$5

Enjoy the delightful harmonies and holiday cheer of Viroqua's own Ridgetones in the beauty and comfort of the Temple Theater. The now 40-member choir offers a mesmerizing mixture of musical genres, featuring ensembles, soloists, and an accomplished orchestra. A marvelous holiday outing for the whole family!

**Tickets are available at Nelson's AgriCenter.**

## **Social Artistry: Building the Vessel of Relationship**

Great Lakes Waldorf Institute is pleased to announce its Spring Retreat and Course--Social Artistry: Building the Vessel of Relationship. Waldorf education has a social mission, arising as it did in response to the tragedy of the first World War. How can we best fulfill this mission in our Waldorf schools?

Social Artistry will begin with an in-person retreat at Mount Mary University, in Milwaukee, WI, Friday afternoon through Sunday midday, January 20-22, 2017.

**Marianne Fieber-Dhara** Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School Administrative Chair will be the lead instructor, and there will be guest instructors contributing from their areas of expertise. **The Social Artistry retreat as a stand-alone experience or with the subsequent online portion of the course is recommended for adults working in leadership roles within their Waldorf schools. For more information, please visit the GLWI website here: <http://greatlakeswaldorf.org/events-5/social-artistry/> or **contact:** Lori Barian, Director of Administration, [lori.barian@greatlakeswaldorf.org](mailto:lori.barian@greatlakeswaldorf.org) or 414-616-1832.**

## **Advent Calendar and Holiday Cards!**

Christopherus Homeschool Resources has a new retail space in downtown Viroqua and we're expanding our line to include seasonal products and gifts. We currently have a lovely selection of traditional German Advent calendars from Wynstones Press, as well as boxed sets of holiday cards, seasonal cards sets for nature tables, and striking art prints from David Newbatt. Many new items will be added in weeks to come!

## **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@pleasantrydwaldorf.org](mailto:info@pleasantrydwaldorf.org) with "Community News" in the subject line.
4. Deadline is Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. There may be occasions, due to unforeseen circumstances or space restrictions, that the Community section will not be printed. Thank you.