

Calendar

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 Light – 10:45 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

Mon Jan 2 PRWS Ski Day at Mt. La Crosse – see information inside

Tue Jan 3 Classes Resume

January Hot Lunch Form

The hot lunch form for January is attached.

Due to the short time before our holiday break, we are asking that you **turn in your forms as soon as possible** so that there is time to process them before the start of the break. Then we'll be ready for the start of school on January 3rd.

Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

Dec 9 — Even Grades – **8:20 AM**
with Spacial Dynamics Demo
Dec 16 – Festival of Light – **10:45 AM**

What's Cooking!

Raffle Tickets Available on Thursday

For those of you who are selling raffle tickets this year, your packet will be available in the office on **Thursday morning, December 8th**. Included in the envelope will be a letter explaining important facts about the raffle itself, tips on how to sell, and a place to record your sales. There will also be a couple of flyers that describe the prizes. If you want more flyers, please take them from the stack in the office. Thank you for participating in this very significant fundraiser, and wishing you the very best in your efforts.

- The Raffle Committee

Curious About Spacial Dynamics?

This Friday, December 9th, there will be a Spacial Dynamics demonstration during the assembly presented by AnnaJo Doerr. Please join us in the gym for the presentation. The assembly will begin at 8:20 a.m., as usual, with offerings from even grades classes.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara, Administrative Chair

St. Lucia Celebration

On Tuesday, December 13th, Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School will celebrate St. Lucia Day. Lucia is the saint of vision, particularly inner vision. Her celebration comes at the time of winter solstice, honoring the change from increasing darkness to increasing daylight. Lucia represents hope and light in the time of darkness, and she brings warmth and sustenance in times of need. On the morning of Lucia Day, the 8th grade students, dressed all in white, will visit each classroom, bringing song and light. Their procession is led by *Lucia*, who wears a crown of light. If you would like to see what the St. Lucia procession is like, you can find us in the hallways on Tuesday morning between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

- Catherine Young and Julee Caspers Agar,
Lucia Coordinators

January Aftercare Form is Now Available!

December is a short month! Be sure to sign up for your January aftercare now. The January form is located at the end of this Lunchbox Express.

- Aftercare Program

December Enrichment Days

Now is the time to plan for the December break. 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 may 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

School Store News

Thank you to everyone who shopped the School Store during the Holiday Faire! What a wonderful weekend of beautiful, happy children's faces browsing the tables of toys and surprises.

The School Store is still bursting at the seams with lovely things to fill stockings or decorate your trees. We will **be open this Friday before and after the Assembly, as well as the entire morning of December 16th while our community celebrates the Festival of Light.**

Ewetopia and The Flower Basket will also have lovely assortments of School Store items for your shopping pleasure from now straight through the holidays. Come and check out our "play house" merchandise: play food, brooms, dust pans, wooden dishes, and vintage aprons.

Paper Scissors Stone is now open for walk-in business during the holiday.

For all who ordered products from Uriel Pharmacy, your orders will be in the office ready for payment and pick up by this Friday! See you in the hallway!

- Cathy Brummer, School Store

Orange Peppermint Blossoms for Sale

The 7th grade fundraiser will continue with its sale of Orange Peppermint Blossom treats this Friday, December 9, after school in the lobby. Treats are \$3 each.

- 7th Grade Class

Quality Jump Ropes!

The 6th grade will be taking orders for hand-made jump ropes from now until the morning of Thursday the 15th. Pick up your jump rope after the Festival of Light on Friday the 16th. Unique and fun Christmas gifts!

We will choose beautiful colors for you, but you may indicate the length desired. Prices are:

Small: \$5 (good for most 1st and 2nd graders)

Medium: \$6

Large: \$7 (average sized adult)

X-large: \$10 (12' ropes for 2 turners & 1 jumper)

Please leave your order and payment with Nan in the designated envelope in the office, and pick up your labeled rope in the office after the Festival of Light on the 16th.

- 6th Grade Class

Celebrate with Music!

Celebrate the holiday with wonderful music. The Ridgetones Concert this Saturday night, December 10, features a musical selection from many cultures and genres. In addition, many PRWS parents, faculty, and staff are involved as singers or musicians. This is a wonderful event for families. Music is something we can participate in and celebrate for our whole lives!

- Monika Sutherland, Music Teacher

PRWS Ski Day at Mt. La Crosse

There will be a ski day for PRWS at Mt. La Crosse on January 2nd from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in taking part in this day, please pick up a form in the office.

Prices are:

Lift Only: \$13

Lift & Ski Rental: \$18

Lift & Snowboard Rental: \$28

A **beginner's lesson** (for ages 10+) is included **FREE** of charge. Beginner lessons for younger children are:

6-9 years: \$10

5 and under: \$18

Forms and payment (checks written to PRWS) are **due by December 16th**. Please see Jordan or Nan in the office if you have any questions.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

Winter Session of Parent-Infant and Parent-Child

The winter session of Parent-Infant and Parent-Child classes begins the **week of January 9th**.

Parent-Infant (0-12 months) meets on Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. - \$100

Parent-Child (ages 1-4) meets weekly (M, W, Th, or F) from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - \$120

For more details see:

<http://pleasantridgewaldorf.org/programs/parent-child/>. **Come try your first class for FREE!**

Contact Jordan Brudos at 637-7828 or enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org to register for a session.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment & Outreach Coordinator

Thank You for a Fabulous Faire!

We want to thank all of you parents, community members, and upper grades kids who made this year's Faire so sweet and successful. What an incredible gift to our children and the community. As always, every family contributed in some way, whether it was with musical talents, cooking and baking finesse, organizational skills, magic-making, or dishwashing; it all was important, and it couldn't have happened without you. **THANK YOU.** A nod in particular to the coordinators, many of whom brought their knowledge and insights from past experience and others who jumped in for the first time this year with admirable enthusiasm and joy as they brought in new perspectives. As always, please share your thoughts and ideas with us - what worked, what didn't. We're already thinking about next year!

Sincerely,

Margret Lenarz, Angie Lemar, and Janice Zimmermann

- Holiday Faire Co-Captains

Thank You to our Holiday Faire Sponsors, Donors, and Coordinators!

A big thank you goes out to Organic Valley, St. Brigid's Meadows, Kickapoo Coffee, Ridgeland Harvest, Driftless Organics, Dan Arnold & Susan Johnson, Corina & Lars Bergan, Ryan Evans

and Shining Hills Farms, Star Valley Farms- all donors to the meals, Silent Auction, and Childrens' Raffle - the musicians who provided live music, and the donors to the After Party. Thanks also to our Holiday Faire Co-Captains! While we all pull together to work our shifts, bake, craft, cook, clean, and a million other things, we do it under the guidance of three dedicated Holiday Faire Co-Captains. Let's give a big round of applause and thanks to Margret Lenarz, Angie Lemar, and Janice Zimmermann.

While we all want to know if the Faire made its financial goals, we won't know until all the receipts for expenses are in – by next week. That said, it seems like we are definitely in the ball park. Thank you all!

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

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

Want Extra Help Staying Warm in the Winter?

The Flower Basket greenhouses would love to share their energy!

Every Tuesday, we will be holding work parties inside the greenhouses, with light, humidity, and oxygen included!

Projects vary with helpers' abilities.

Any time you'd like to join us between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., we will thank you!

- Arwyn Wildingway, Manager

Give the Gift of Coffee this Year and Support PRWS

Don't forget to pick up a fresh bag of Kickapoo Coffee to give as a gift this holiday season! We have 12 oz. bags of whole beans available for \$12 in the front office.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

Seeking Board Games and Art Supplies

The Aftercare and Enrichment Day Programs are seeking donations of board games that would be appropriate for ages 5-10 year olds. Art supplies are also needed. Please drop off of any games or art supplies in the office. Thanks!

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

Thank You to Barb & Marv McNeal!

We now have a brand new snowblower through a generous donation by the Barbara and Marvin McNeal Foundation. Jon Dehlin was able to purchase this brand new Ariens 28-inch snowblower with a headlight for those dark, early morning snowy days. What a wonderful gift for our Facilities crew and snow shoveling volunteers! Thank you to Barb and Marv for their generous and thoughtful gift for our school.



- Cynthia Olmstead, Development Office

Winter is Coming!

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.

Remaining Schedule

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

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

Library Volunteers

With the onset of the Christmas season, many of us feel thankful for people who give service to our families. Yet most parents are not aware of the faithful volunteers who are reading to their children regularly through the school year. So, in case you would like to send a thank-you note to some of our friends, here are the regular volunteers paired with the classes they are working with. Many of these sweet people even buy special books to read to the children. They are:

First Grade – Diane Banner

Second Grade – Carol Nordgren

Third Grade – Nancy Kosiak

Fourth Grade – Carol Moon

Fifth Grade – Cate Gitter

In addition, Ken Tucker has been cataloging new books and Kathleen Kroska and Mandy Palen have been processing them for circulation and repairing damaged books. Pleasant Ridge is very lucky to have these wonderful people working with and for our students. I just thought the parents might want to know about all of them! If you want to leave a note for anyone, just put it in the library mailbox in the office.

- Chris Leinberger Volunteer Coordinator

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.

Parent Education Opportunity: Spacial Dynamics

Class. Wednesday mornings after drop-off from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. in the Old Main Building at 321 E. Decker St. AnnaJo Doerr is a Movement Teacher and Therapist certified in Spacial Dynamics. She has been a dancer, physical theatre artist, performer, and a teacher, among a few other roles in life. She lives locally, is an alumni of PRWS, and is the mother of two children. This ongoing course in Spacial Dynamics on Wednesday mornings at the Old Main Building will be custom-crafted for those who attend. We will explore movement principles that can enhance our everyday living, do meditative quiet movements, play with posture and possible enhancements, practice Bothmer gymnastics, engage in Movement games, and possibly discuss pedagogy and child development on occasion. Suggested donation of \$10 per class. Please plan to attend a minimum of 3 classes.

Upcoming classes are on December 14, December 21, December 28, and January 4.

Holiday Shopping? Come visit Christopher's Homeschool Resources in our new storefront at 207 S Main Street. We've expanded our offerings to include calendars, holiday cards, seasonal/nature table cards, gift books for children, beeswax crayons, tree blocks, and more! Our new expanded line can be seen in our webstore www.christopherushomeschool.com (under Seasonal and Gifts), and all items are available for purchase in our delightful retail space. Shop local! We're open Monday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., with hours extended until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

Paper Scissors Stone has opened its doors once again for the Holiday Season - Shop Locally!

December hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at our Court Street location in Viroqua

Paper Scissors Stone

637-7686

www.waldorfsupplies.com

U8 Winter Futsal - There will be a 6-week winter futsal program for children ages 6-8 so they can stay active, practice skills, and have fun. Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m., January 7 - February 11 at the GYM in the Cornerstone Christian Academy. If your child is interested, please contact Eva Schulte for more information: eva.marie.schulte@gmail.com or 608-446-1596.

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 Hot Lunch

One Form Per Child / Please Check the box / Add Totals → And Down ↓

Name:	2	3	4	5 (G.F.)
Grade:	No School	French Toast	Soup & Bread	Baked Potatoes
★ Happy Year! ★ ★ New Year! ★	9	10	11	12
	Pasta Alfredo	Tostadas (G.F.)	Stew & Cornbread	Baked Potatoes (G.F.)
1 - 2 -	16	17 (G.F.)	18	19
Pizza	Pizza 1 - 2 -	Beans, Greens & Grain	Soup & Bread	Mac -n- Cheese
31	23	24 (G.F.)	25	26
Burritos	Pasta Marinara	Beans & Rice w/ Nachos	Chili -n- Cinn. Rolls	Shepherds Pie (G.F.)
Monthly Plan Due By: Dec. 9th please				
All Meals are \$3.50 Each.				
Subtotal				Credits -
Total				

Thank You!



January

Registrations Due:

12-Dec

Aftercare Registration

Monday - Friday 2:45-5:30 pm

Parent Name: _____ Emergency Phone: _____

Address: _____ Home phone: _____

Child Name: _____ Age: _____

OPTION A

Instructions: Choose one of the following to register for every school day with a consistent pick up time.

Totals below reflect the 5% discount for regular monthly registrations.

<input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 - 3:30 (\$114) <input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 - 4:00 (\$171) <input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 - 4:30 (\$228)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 - 5:00 (\$285) <input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 - 5:30 (\$342)
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A la Carte Price Code:

2:45 to 3:30 - \$6
 2:45 to 4:00 - \$9
 2:45 to 4:30 - \$12
 2:45 to 5:00 - \$15
 2:45 to 5:30 - \$18

OR

Check the pick-up time for the dates you require aftercare.

Using the cost key, complete weekly and monthly totals below and submit payment.

OPTION B	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	<u>Weekly Total</u>
		3	4	5	6	
	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	
	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	
	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	
	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	
	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	
9	10	11	12	13		
	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	
	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	
	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	
	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	
	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	
16	17	18	19	20		
	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	
	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	
	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	
	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	
	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	
23	24	25	26			
	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	
	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	
	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	
	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	
	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	
30	31					
	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	3:30	
	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	
	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	4:30	
	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	
	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	5:30	
						Month total

Inform

AWSNA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2016

DEAR WALDORF COMMUNITY

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Leadership Council and AWSNA staff, we wish to express our profound gratefulness to you as Parents, Teachers, Administrators, and Community Members. We warmly thank you for your support, generosity, and commitment to Waldorf Education!

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season,

*Stephanie, Melanie,
& Beverly*



ESSENTIALS IN EDUCATION BLOG

[Make Them Scientists – Redirecting the Science Instruction Paradigm](#)

The ability to observe a phenomenon with fresh eyes is a key first step in divergent or “out-of-box” thinking, which is, in turn, essential for innovation.

Please visit our new education blog, called “[Essentials in Education](#).” In it we explore topics that matter to educators, researchers, policy experts, and thought

leaders - from a Waldorf Education perspective.

We welcome comments and feedback. We also welcome guest posts. Please contact Beverly Amico at bamico@awsna.org for details.



GLOBAL WALDORF EDUCATION

In late October, Beverly had the distinct privilege to represent AWSNA at a transnational meeting of the Steiner-Waldorf Schools Fellowship UK & Ireland, Sammenslutningen af frie Rudolf Steiner skoler i Danmark (Denmark); Steinerskoleforbundet (Norway); Steinerkasvatuksen liitto (Finland), and Crossfields Institute (UK). Waldorf leaders from these organizations are promoting dialogue around complex global issues and long-range thinking necessary to advance ideas, opportunities, and strategies about our global, educational future. One of the initiatives is the development of a program called ACTS – Acknowledging Creative Thinking. ACTS has far-reaching international possibilities and potential legislative impact around the globe.

The primary work of the transnational group over the past year has been the development of a student appraisal system. This system of appraisal aims to move away from the ‘exam at end of course’ mindset toward the assessment of creative thinking skills.

As Waldorf Education approaches its 100 year anniversary, this project aims to increase the relevance of our schools by creating a worldwide statement of success.

100 YEARS OF WALDORF EDUCATION

The **Waldorf100 Work Group** continues to reach out to schools, institutes, supporters, and affiliated organizations to solicit thoughts and ideas for Waldorf100 activities to take place throughout the 2019-2020 school year. This work group represents one of numerous organizations from across the globe, all guided by the International Forum and we’d love to hear your input! If you have thoughts, ideas, inspirations, volunteer energy, or creative know-how please contact Beverly Amico, at bamico@awsna.org.

WALDORF IN THE NEWS

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 from the **Brooklyn Waldorf School**, **Rudolf Steiner School**, and the **Green Meadow Waldorf School** took part in a first-of-its kind Waldorf Choral Festival at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, one of the world's largest cathedrals. Students, their teachers, and a few



parent chaperones had the opportunity to tour the Cathedral, learning about its history, rich architecture as well as stained glass windows and sculpture. They also

climbed 124 feet through spiral staircases to the cathedral's top roof where they were treated to sweeping views of Manhattan.

On September 15, 2016 President Obama designated the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, approximately 150 miles offshore of Cape Cod, as the first national monument in the Atlantic. The sixth grade students from the **Waldorf School of Cape Cod** sent postcards with their watercolor paintings of ocean life to President Obama in support of this marine monument, and [he replied to the students in a letter](#) commending the students for their interest in these environmental concerns. "The sixth graders began their year with a study of geology and were interested to learn about all the changes that have occurred to our continent over the last four billion years," according to sixth grade teacher Claire Anacreon Small. The class

focused their studies on the geological history of New England and Cape Cod. "This land of glacial moraines with runaway erratic boulders, eskers, and kettle ponds, which our Waldorf School of Cape Cod calls home, was created about 10,000 years ago, not so long ago," she says. "Perhaps this great treasure of life and earth's history will continue to thrive even until the next glacier slides this way again."



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Thank you to **Mercurius USA** and to **TADS** and to **BigSIS**



for supporting AWSNA as members of our partners' circle.

Please join us on social media:



COMMUNITY WEB RESOURCES

WALDORFEDUCATION.ORG

FORMS

Templates you can use to create your own forms can be found on the "Affiliated School Resources" page of our website.

STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for our newsletter on our website and like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Pinterest.

You can also support us on our website.
Thank you for your commitment to Waldorf Education!

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