

## Calendar

**Sat Jan 21** Waldorf Education Series

**Fri Jan 27** No Classes – Faculty In-Service

**Fri Jan 27** Game Night – food and games – 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Fri Feb 3** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Evening – 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade classroom

**Sat Feb 4** Moving into the Grades

**Sat Feb 4** Puppet and Play Morning

**Wed Feb 8** WOW! Day – 8:20 a.m. – 9:10 a.m. – meet in the school gym

**Sat Feb 11** All-School Work Day – **Note New Date!** – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Sat Feb 18** Kindergarten Morning – 9:00 a.m.

**Mon Feb 20 – Fri Feb 24** Parent/Teacher conferences and winter break – No Classes

## **What's Cooking!**

### **Thursday, January 12, Hot Lunch CHANGE!**

Due to issues procuring potatoes of the correct size, this Thursday's hot lunch will be **changed from baked potatoes to mashed potatoes with gravy**. This lunch will be gluten free but not dairy free.

If your child was signed up for baked potatoes but does not want the mashed potatoes, please send them a cold lunch and call the office to receive a credit.

- Julie Turino, Cook

### **It's Cold Outside!**

The weather is downright cold so, please, be sure to help your children dress warmly for outdoor play during the school day. When temperatures are below zero, we will have indoor supervised play, but we will have the children out in the sunshine and enjoying the fresh air as often as possible.

Each child needs a hat, mittens, scarves, snow pants, waterproof boots, and maybe even extra layers are *de rigueur*! An extra change of socks and pants is also useful to have on hand in your child's cubbies.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

### **Raffle Ticket Reminder**

There are still some raffle tickets in the office. Don't forget to pick them up!

- The Raffle Committee

### **SAVE THE DATE**

January 27<sup>th</sup> Faculty In-Service  
**NO SCHOOL**

## Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

Jan 13—Odd Grades Assembly

Jan 20—Martin Luther King Jr./Farewell to Korean Visitors

Jan 27—Faculty In-Service – **No School**

Feb 3 —Open Assembly

## EVENTS

### Game Night – January 27th

Join us for food and games Friday, January 27. The food is from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and will be a 6<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser. Games for all ages begin at 6:00 p.m.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

### Next Enrichment Day – January 27th!

Registration forms are available across from the office door in the hallway. Rates are \$35 for a whole day (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) or \$20 for a half-day (either 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. OR 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.). Multiple-child discounts available. Please contact Jordan at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) with questions or to register.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

### CHANGE OF DATE - Save the Date for the February 11 All-School Workday

Please plan to join us for some satisfying work, great food, and social time during our upcoming All-School Workday on Saturday, February 11. We have a few important tasks to tackle and are hoping for about 20 volunteers to get everything done. A couple of hours of your time within the **10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** window would go a long way toward this goal. As usual, we will be providing homemade lunch and coordinating the effort.

- PRWS Facilities Committee

### Next PRWS Ski Day – February 23

Thanks to everyone who came out to ski/snowboard with PRWS in January – we had a great time! In fact, we are planning another Ski Day on February 23rd over the winter break, so mark your calendars. Paperwork is available in the office and **due (along with your payment) on February 17th.**

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

## ENROLLMENT

### Re-Enrollment Week for School Year 2017-2018

#### **February 6 – 10, 2017**

Please look for program changes, additions, re-enrollment forms, tuition information and adjustment applications beginning February 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Registration fee of \$165** per family is due with your re-enrollment form by **February 10<sup>th</sup>**. Registration fee **AFTER** February 10<sup>th</sup> will be \$500.

Tuition Adjustment applications will be due **February 17<sup>th</sup>**. A letter and timeline is being mailed out this week with further information.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,  
Administrative Chair

### Winter Session of Parent-Child has Begun

Parent-Child (ages 1-4) meets weekly (M, W, Th or F) from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - \$120 for the 8-week session. Contact Jordan Brudos at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) to register.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

### Welcome Finn Family

Please welcome the Finn Family to the school! Sonja and John moved to Viroqua over the summer from Sparta. Their daughter, Hermine, has joined the Violet Kindergarten. Their contact information is:

**John & Sonja Finn**  
1-608-633-8229

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

### Visiting Students from Korea

We are fortunate to have 8 students from South Korea visiting PRWS this year. They arrived on January 1st and will stay until January 23rd. Their pictures are posted in the hallway outside the music room. A big “thank you” to all the families who have generously

opened their homes to host a student during their stay!

- **John & Chelsea Porter** – Ji Won (Grade 8)
- **Gino & Dodie Whitaker** – Eo Jin (Grade 7)
- **Andy & Justina Manspeaker** – Kyeong Oon (Grade 6)
- **Jerrod & Katie Getz** – Ji Hun (Grade 5)
- **Matt Shortridge & Kathy O'Rourke** – Ye Won (Grade 5)
- **Gregg & Elizabeth Roberts** – Ye Jun (Grade 4)
- **Gino & Dodie Whitaker** – Yeonu (Grade 4)
- **Mark & Jordan Brudos** – Anne (Grade 2)  
- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

## ADMIN

### Snow Play

We're happy to have snow for the students to play in. These are our snow-play guidelines.

- Sleds and snowboards should be labeled with the owner's name and stored outside.
- Sleds may be borrowed **only** with the owner's permission.
- When sledding, walk up the sides of the hill and sled down the middle.
- Children shouldn't jump on someone's sled after it has started down the hill.
- Snow throwing isn't allowed, but snow building is encouraged.

We will continue to guide the play with safety and fun in mind.

- Health and Safety Committee

### Winter is Here!

Your Facilities team is ready and will be calling upon you to do your part. You will be shoveling by assigned class weeks again this season.

### Remaining Schedule

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

### Ice Skating this Year

Each winter, the students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades have an opportunity to ice skate at the Park Bowl during their movement class, weather and ice permitting. First and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades will only go once per week. To make this possible, we will need parent support on those days to help tie skates. For 1<sup>st</sup> graders, we will need parents to meet us at the Park Bowl rink at 12:45 p.m. on Mondays. For 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, we will need parents to meet us at 12:45 p.m. on Wednesdays. **Please sign up with Nan in the office if you are able to help tie skates.**

We hope the weather favors a nice stretch of ice skating this January and February. **Lerie hopes all students will have skates within the first two weeks of school in January, if possible.** There will need to be a minimum of ¼ of the student body per class with skates to make ice skating possible.

Skates will not be available for rent from the Park Bowl. However, the school does have some skates that can be borrowed. **You may stop by the office to try on and sign up to borrow the skates during the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 weeks of January.** You can also find used skates at Play it Again Sports in La Crosse, and they also can sharpen them. You can also get skates sharpened at the Viroqua Arena. Anyone with skates to sell, please notify the Lunchbox Express, and we will put an ad for you in the Community News.

It is important for all students to have good laces, blade guards, and sharpened skate blades. This makes the skates safer to skate on than those with dull blades. We recommend hockey skates for structural support and for keeping the children's feet warm. Skate

guards or tote bags are essential for safety while sharp skates are being carried.

- Lerie Alstad van Ells,  
Movement Teacher

## **Skate Borrowing from PRWS**

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School has a small assortment of skates in various sizes that are available for loan. You may stop by the office for the rest of this week to try them on. The skates are available free of charge for the entire skating season. Please return them to the office when you are done with them. Thank you!

- Lerie Alstad van Ells, Movement Teacher

## **Parent Library Volunteer Needed**

We are looking for someone to keep an eye on the Parent Library (in the hallway outside the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom. This doesn't take very much time. It involves putting cards in book donated to the library and entering new books into the inventory, as well as occasional followup on missing books.

If you are interested, please talk to Nan in the office.

- Nan Marshall, Office Manager

## **OTHER**

## **Thank You!**

A great big Thank You to all of the following people who helped with the clothing swap in November:

Angie Bernstein  
Shelly Brenneman  
Emma Hood  
Janna Kottke  
Nicole Pennick  
Susanna Ruder  
Diane Splinter

Thanks, too, to all who brought clothing and came to take advantage of the great clothing

offerings. We look forward to having another swap in the Spring!

- Dodie Whitaker and Robin Kottke

## **Working at The Flower Basket**

Now that winter has really settled in, could we entice you to come over to help out in the Greenhouses – especially on Tuesdays? There are several projects that need attention this month:

- Finishing geranium cuttings
- Cleaning up colored geraniums
- Going through the succulent bench... sorting and repotting
- Going through the foliage bench... sorting and repotting and cleaning
- Fixing up hoses... shortening them closer to the right length
- Sorting pots
- Mixing soil

If you can't make Tuesdays, please call Arwyn at 608-632-7217 to see if another time can be arranged.

- Mary Christenson, Development

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Office space to share** in the Landmark Center – call for details - Mary at 608-606-529

**Soul Soothing Wisdom Circle with Bill Humphrey,**  
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., February 4,  
LaFarge, WI. Reconnect with the natural rhythms of nature, breath, and sacred drum. Clear your mind to connect with heart and spirit. New to sacred circle? This retreat is perfect for you. Are you an experienced practitioner longing for ceremony? You belong here. Cost: \$70. 50% deposit requested. Contact Bill to reserve your spot at (608) 606-9004 or [bill@essentialskills.org](mailto:bill@essentialskills.org) [www.shamansbreath.com](http://www.shamansbreath.com).

**Driftless Gymnastics...A Tumbling Good Time** – 6-week Saturday Session to begin Jan 7, 2017. 10-week Monday and Thursday Classes to begin week of January 16, 2017. Driftless Gymnastics provides a fun and safe, non-competitive environment for young people to learn the sport of gymnastics. Classes offer professional instruction with experienced and dedicated coaching. Students work on strength, flexibility, coordination, and self-confidence. Co-ed classes for children ages 2 and up! To register contact Alycann Taylor at 632-3527 or [Alycann@yahoo.com](mailto:Alycann@yahoo.com).

**The Snowflake Nordic Ski Program** is sponsored by Vernon Trails for kids ages 5 and older. 8 week program - January 9, 2017, Mondays: 3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the VFW in Viroqua. Students will learn the sport of Nordic skiing both classic and skate. Registration for the class is \$40. \$60 to lease equipment. To register for the program contact Pete at Bluedog Cycles 608-637-6993

**Anda Union brings stunning music from the high grasslands of Inner Mongolia to the Temple Theatre.** You'll hear horsehead fiddles, throat singing and long-song singers. This is another wonderful Arts Midwest World Fest group. February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Tickets and info at [historictempletheatre.com](http://historictempletheatre.com). Tickets also at Viroqua Food Co-op and Parrish Music & Gifts. \$15 adult, \$5 students. Think Global – Hear it Local. Ken Carlson, 637-6838. Anda website with video: [www.andaunion.com](http://www.andaunion.com).

## 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](mailto: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.



# Inform

AWSNA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2017

### DEAR WALDORF COMMUNITY

2016 was a wonderfully fulfilling and busy year for AWSNA. The highlight, perhaps, was consensus approval of AWSNA's principles for Waldorf schools and institutes in June. These principles not only strengthen the foundation and identity of Waldorf Education, but propel us into the future with clarity and inspiration. If you have not reviewed the principles, you may do so on [WaldorfEducation.org](http://WaldorfEducation.org). Thank you to our regional delegate circles, under the guidance of the Leadership Council, for accomplishing this important work.

We also celebrated 25 year of *Renewal: A Journal for Waldorf Education* and launched an e-journal version in December. Additionally, we made great strides in increasing the digital presence of Waldorf Education with a new website, an increased social media presence, and a popular blog series titled *Essentials in Education*.

Close to 1000 teachers, staff members, and board members registered for this year's administrative professional development webinars and 2000+ parents participated in our extensive marketing survey, the basis of which will be used to refresh Waldorf branding and messaging strategies in recognition of 100 years of Waldorf Education.

Thank you for making our favorite moments from this year possible and for being a part of our incredible community.

Stephanie, Melanie,  
& Beverly



## AWSNA SUMMER CONFERENCE

The theme for AWSNA's 2017 Summer Conference is ***"You And I Are We...Now What? Exploring Collaboration and Leadership in Waldorf Schools."***

Keynote speakers are **Elan Leibner**, Chair of the Pedagogical Section Council, **Jessica Heffernan Ziegler**, Executive Director of Sunbridge Institute, **Valerie Colis**, Trustee at the Chicago Waldorf School, and **Kay Hoffman**, Pedagogical Director at the Santa Fe Waldorf School. The conference will be hosted by **Cedarwood Waldorf School**, in Portland, OR from **June 26 - 29, 2017**.

More information will soon be available on [WaldorfEducation.org](http://WaldorfEducation.org). We look forward to seeing you there.



## ESSENTIALS IN EDUCATION BLOG

### Teach Children to Seek Significance over Success:



"The plain fact is that the planet does not need more successful people. But it does desperately need more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers, and lovers of every kind. It needs people ... of moral

courage willing to join the fight to make the world habitable and humane"

Please visit our new education blog, called "[Essentials in Education](http://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](mailto:bamico@awsna.org) for details.

## TEACHING THE WHOLE CHILD

"Teachers are the main source of strength in Waldorf schools. With a heavy focus on the importance of hands-on experience for their students, rather than standardized testing, Waldorf teachers help their students to explore curricula through diverse activities, with plenty of room to customize lesson plans. The fluidity of this approach provides extensive engagement that leads to lifelong connections with the material taught, the teachers involved and the bigger questions at the heart of each subject." Read more on [Waldorf Education](http://WaldorfEducation.org).

## WHAT AND WHY IS FORM DRAWING?



"In some respects, Form Drawing is the most important subject that the children will study in first grade, for it provides a good foundation for the letter recognition that is so central to reading, as well as numerical and spatial relationships that are so essential in arithmetic. The drawings themselves could not be any

simpler. All year we work with only two elements of drawing - straight lines and curves."

## THE MONTH AHEAD ...

Here are some highlights of our January calendar of events: **Kim John Payne** will give a talk on "*The Soul of Discipline*" at the **Brooklyn Waldorf School**. ... **WISC** presents **Kathryn Rycroft** for a talk about Camphill. **WISC** also offers a day-long workshop with **Abraham Entin**, recent interviewee on The Metta Center for Non-violence's bi-monthly radio program. **Sound Circle Center** in Seattle, WA offers "Healthy Children, Teachers, and Community." **Sunbridge Institute** offers a "Waldorf Weekend" – an experiential workshop on the foundations and fundamentals of Waldorf Education. ... Please visit our [Events Calendar](#) for more details.

## 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](http://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!

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

### BEVERLY AMICO

Executive Director, Advancement  
[BAMICO@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:BAMICO@AWSNA.ORG)  
612-870-8310 x106

### STEPHANIE RYNAS

Executive Director, Finance & Operations  
[SRYNAS@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:SRYNAS@AWSNA.ORG)  
612-870-8310 x104

### MELANIE REISER

Executive Director, Membership  
[MREISER@AWSNA.ORG](mailto:MREISER@AWSNA.ORG)  
612-870-8310 x105