

Calendar

Wed Nov 8 Kindergarten Parent Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

Fri Nov 10 Martinmas Lantern Walk – 4:30 p.m. – see details to right

Sat Nov 11 All-School Work Day – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – see below for details

Sat Nov 11 Clothing Swap – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – in the school gym – see details inside

Tue Nov 14 Parents' Night Out at the Driftless Café – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Bring Scrip! – see details inside

Thu Nov 16 Fall Musical Offerings – 6:30 p.m. – in the school gym – see inside for details

Fri Nov 17 Antarctica Presentation following assembly – see inside for details

Sat Nov 18 Homeopathy Discussion – 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Old Main Building at 321 E Decker – see inside for details

Wed-Fri Nov 22-24 Thanksgiving Break – **No School**

Fri Nov 24 Twinklefest Parade – Downtown Viroqua – come walk with school families – details to come

Fri Dec 1 **Noon Dismissal** for Holiday Faire prep

Fri Dec 1 Holiday Faire – Adults-Only Evening

Fri Dec 2 Holiday Faire – FREE entry for the whole family

Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

Nov 10—Open Assembly and
Martinmas Song Practice

Nov 17—Music and Presentation

Nov 24—Thanksgiving Break – No School

What's Cooking!

Martinmas Walk –

Friday, November 10th, at 4:30 p.m.

At 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 10th, families and children in Kindergarten through 4th grade will gather in the Main Shelter at Sidie Hollow Park. Please keep the children off of the playground equipment before and after the walk to protect the reverence for the occasion.

Children will have their lanterns lit by their parents or teacher and will stay with their class. Parents who have children in multiple grades can choose which class the whole family walks with or may set up care from a fellow class parent for the unaccompanied student. Older siblings are invited to walk as well but are asked to remain with their parent/s.

At 4:45 p.m., the 2nd grade will call us to the lake with song. We will listen to them and then process on our walk. Once our lanterns are lighted, we will walk to our respective stopping places adjacent to the middle of the lake. The 2nd and 4th grades will walk across the ridge on the left-hand side. 1st and 3rd grades will walk on the opposite side of the lake followed by the kindergartens. Then we'll each take turns singing to each other across the lake. Please save conversation for when we have returned from our walk. After we each sing 5 times, we will turn and walk back to the shelter, the former end of the line now taking over as leader. We hope you will find this time peaceful and reverent - carrying forth your light into the darkness that winter brings. Please reach out to any new class families regarding what to expect during this festival.

- Martinmas Planners

All-School Workday This Saturday (November 11)

Please plan to join us for some satisfying work, social time, and lunch during our upcoming All-School Workday on **Saturday, November 11**. 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. This is a great opportunity for a tangible way to pitch in while visiting with other families.

- Facilities Committee

EVENTS

Martinmas

On November 10th Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School will be celebrating the feast of St. Martin, or Martinmas, with a lantern walk. November 11th is the actual feast day commemorating St. Martin's death, which has also been designated as Veteran's Day. Martin (c. 317-397) was a Roman soldier before he was named Bishop of Tours. As a young soldier, he passed under an archway in the French city of Amiens and discovered a poor beggar huddled there. The man was nearly naked, shivering with cold, and had received no alms to assist him. On seeing him, the young Martin took his own cape from his shoulders, tore the garment in half, and covered the poor man to warm him.

Traditionally, this festival also celebrates the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. It is a time when the poor enjoyed a bountiful harvest and children processed with candle-lit lanterns in the darkened night. When we make a lantern, we, too, may feel that we are giving protection to our own little "flame" that began to shine at Michaelmas, so that we may carry it safely through the dark world. It may only be a small and fragile light – but every light brings relief to the darkness.

During this time we might experience a mist veiling the dying natural world and our gaze being drawn inward. We turn our thoughts toward loved ones who have crossed the threshold. Other feast days at this time, All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day, are also festivals that honor those who have died.

The feast of St. Martin falls between Michaelmas and the Holy Nights and carries us along on a journey of the soul that begins with our human will being awakened through the inner experience of Michaelmas. At Martinmas, the soul qualities of love and compassion manifest in active deeds and until at last spirit light is enkindled at Christmas Eve.

- Martinmas Planners

Martinmas Song Practice

After the Friday, November 10, assembly, we will learn and practice the songs that will be sung on this year's Lantern Walk. Please join us!

- Amy Hazell, Administrative Chair

Swap ~ Don't Shop! PRWS Clothing Swap

Saturday, November 11, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Time to clean out closets and drawers, just in time for the Fall PRWS Clothing Swap!

How it works: Donate clothing and outerwear your family no longer needs. Score some new-to-you items that you do. It's that simple! Don't have any clothes to swap at this time? No worries, you can pick up some clothes for a suggested donation of \$1/bag.

Drop off: Please bring items in good, used condition (clean, no obvious rips or stains) to the Pleasant Ridge School office. Doing so before the swap is strongly encouraged, though if you need more time you may bring items to the swap on Saturday morning. This event coincides with an All-School Volunteer Workday and Lunch, always a great opportunity to connect with other families and help care for our school. Won't you join us? Questions? Want to volunteer? Call or email Robin Kottke at [608-638-2609](tel:608-638-2609) or ringleka@hotmail.com.

- Parent Association

Parents' Scrip Night Out at the Driftless Cafe

Please join the Parent Association for great food and lively conversation from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Driftless Cafe next **Tuesday, November 14**. Come for dinner, desert, and drinks (or all three!), connect with other parents, and support the school and one of our biggest SCRIP supporters. Stop in the office to pick up your SCRIP dollars in the office this week (and to RSVP if possible so we know how many to expect) or you may purchase SCRIP from Nan at the Cafe on the evening of the event. Please call Dodie Whitaker at 608-632-0150 for more information. Hope to see you there!

- Parent Association

Fall Musical Offerings Next Week

As the younger children at PRWS are preparing to carry their light into the darkening days by participating in the lantern walk this Friday, the students in grades 5-8 will share their light through musical offerings next week.

Fall Concert - Thursday, November 16th, at 6:30 p.m. in the PRWS Gym

Join us for a concert of choral and instrumental offerings by students in grades 6-8. The performance will be in the PRWS gym and will feature the 7/8 chorus, the 6/7/8 recorder ensemble, and the 6/7/8 string orchestra. All are welcome!

Concert attire is required for all performers (grades 6-7-8) at the Thursday evening performance. Children performing should arrive by 6:15 p.m.

Girls: White top which covers the shoulders, preferably long-sleeved. Black dress pants or skirt (mid-thigh or longer). Black shoes with a flat bottom or very conservative heel. Black tights if wearing a skirt. No jeans.

Boys: White shirt with collar, tucked in, dark pants, dark shoes. No jeans. All concert clothes must follow the PRWS dress code. Concert clothes that have been donated over the years are available for borrowing from the front office. Please call the office if you have any further questions.

Music at the Friday Assembly, November 17th, at 8:20 a.m.

Join us next Friday at the morning assembly when both the grade 5/6 chorus and the grade 5 string ensemble will share seasonal offerings. The 4th grade will present a recorder demonstration.

- Monika Sutherland and Stephanie Pedretti, Music Teachers

Antarctica Presentation – November 17th

Next week on November 17th there will be a shorter assembly followed by a presentation for the upper grades by Stephen Ballou, a geology professor from Beloit College. He will be sharing slides and stories from his experience as part of a NASA team hunting for

meteorites in Antarctica. Adults are welcome to stay for the presentation in the gym. Please talk to Betty Link if you have questions.

- Betty Link, 7th Grade Teacher

Homeopathy Discussion

Join us on **Saturday, November 18th, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** to learn how to work with homeopathy and your children. Hear about basic principles and common remedies, presented by Mary Christenson, who has been studying and using homeopathic remedies for many years. Bring your questions and join in an open discussion about homeopathic remedies. We will meet in the Old Main Building at 321 E. Decker.

- Parent Association

Leftovers Potluck at Growing for Good

Bring your Thanksgiving leftovers to share on **Friday, November 25th, at 4:00 p.m.** at Growing for Good on Terhune St. Share food and camaraderie with other families before heading over to participate in the Twinklefest Parade.

- Angie Lemar, Growing for Good

Twinklefest Parade

PRWS will be participating in the Twinklefest Parade again this year, and we are looking for families to join us. The parade is on **Friday, November 24th, at 7:00 p.m.** So if you are in town and would like to be involved, please contact Jordan at 637-7828 or enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

HOLIDAY FAIRE

SAVE THE DATE!

The Holiday Faire is December 1st and 2nd

Families for all classes are encouraged to participate in the Holiday Faire. Each class has a separate responsibility for an activity at the faire. Please sign up and fill in all the spots to make our Holiday Faire a success this year. Sign-up sheets are hung on the bulletin board outside the office.

- Holiday Faire Committee

Silent Auction Seeks Donations!

Parents, family, and friends, please consider a donation to the Silent Auction for Holiday Faire. Goods and services (bodywork, basket of canned jam, yoga classes...) practical and/or beautiful home wares (artwork, furniture, jewelry...), and unique and adventurous experiences (family cabin up north for a weekend, unicycle lessons, wild food walk...) are all encouraged! Email donation ideas or suggestions to: prwsholidayfaire@gmail.com or call Jess 608.632.0162. Thanks so much!

Waldorf Resale Shoppe: Call for Donations

We're excited to bring back the Waldorf Resale Shoppe to this year's Holiday Faire! The Resale Shoppe, an expansion of our school store, offers gently used wooden and natural toys for sale. This is great opportunity 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 wooden and natural toys in good, resale condition may be dropped off at the school office through November 21st. Thanks so much for your help! Questions? Contact Robin Kottke at 608-638-2609 or ringleka@hotmail.com.

After-School Crafting for Upper-Grade Kids

The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited to come to the handwork room after school on **Monday, November 20th, and Wednesday, November 29th**, to help craft items for the

Pocket Person and the Children's Castle. Snacks provided for the worker elves! We will meet from after school until around 4:30 p.m.

The Jump Ropes Are Coming!

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.

Let the Holiday Faire Bake Sale

Baking Begin!!

Dear friends, it is that time of year to buy some butter and start your holiday baking. The days are shorter and the nights are colder, so give in to the urge to warm your house via oven. Helping us create a rich spread of special delights can be a full family event - dust off your grandmother's recipe collection and make a mess in that kitchen! Bake and freeze now - thaw and cook the day before the Faire. There will be a large sign-up sheet available outside the main office by the end of the week. Please sign up early for a slot that inspires you. Prefer to bake savory items or special candies? Even better! Looking forward to seeing your new ideas.

Please contact the Julia Ugo (606-9125 and juliahundt@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Holiday Faire Crafting

There will be a crafting night for the Holiday Faire this Friday after the Lantern Walk at 7:00 p.m. at the Lenarz/Levin's, 510 S Rusk. This is an adult gathering of folks who will work on little handmade gifts to stock the Children's Castle and Pocket Person. Supplies provided, or bring your own project. No craftiness required! We'll have a pot of soup, beverages, and maybe a cozy fire (at least a warm house). Please come if you would like to join us, and feel free to invite anyone else that would like to come. RSVP helpful, but not required: 637-7880.

- Margret Lenarz and Monica DeClercq,
Children's Castle Coordinators

ADMIN

Promoting School Growth

We are pleased to announce that Jordan Brudos, our Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator, will now be working four days per week to better serve new and existing families as they join the PRWS community of learners. Jordan is very often the first person that our new families encounter when inquiring about PRWS. She is a warm and knowledgeable staff member, dedicated to the mission of PRWS. Please be sure to thank Jordan for her service to our school which facilitates community growth.

- Amy Hazell, Administrative Chair

Respect our Neighbors

Please be respectful of our neighbors by not blocking driveways while parking around the school. Even though you may be away from your car for just a short moment, that moment is usually just when someone needs to leave their house on an urgent errand. Thanks for your consideration!

- Amy Hazell, Administrative Chair

DATE CHANGE for the Spring Concert!

Please update your calendars. The Spring Concert will **NOT** be in March. **The new date is Friday, April 20th**. Please join us then.

- Monika Sutherland, Music Teacher

Teacher Feedback - Reminder

Comments and suggestions from parents are part of our annual evaluation processes for faculty as well as staff. We value your input as we strive to provide the best environment for you and your children. Evaluation forms are available in the front office. **We would like to have these forms before the Thanksgiving break.** Please turn in completed forms in the box in the office.

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.

- Amy Hazell, Administrative Chair

When School is Closed due to Inclement Weather

It's that time of year! Here's the scoop on winter-weather closings. PRWS (and YIHS) follow the Viroqua School District when it comes to closing for inclement weather. We would only deviate in the case of a closing that is not weather-related or if the VAS school schedule is different than ours (for instance, when they may have a half day already scheduled). We rely on the bus garages, who have their eye on all the roads, to make the safest decision, and - *no matter what - if it doesn't feel safe to drive, don't!* Though only a few PRWS students take the bus, many families and a majority of the faculty and staff drive in, and safety comes first.

How do we account for snow days in our calendar?

Each year the faculty and administration carefully make the yearly schedule, including multiple drafts and much forethought and intention for the health of the children and their families. When the ideal schedule is found, the administration carefully counts up the hours (not days) of the school year with plenty of cushion for those inevitable snow days. When the public school "makes up" hours for snow days at the end of the year, this is actually because of their funding structure.

There are many ways to find out if school will be closed or delayed.

1. Text message and/or Email: Sign up ahead of time by going to www.news8000.com. Under the weather tab, find email/text alerts. Sign up for your county. The message will come out as soon as the decision is made.

2. Online: www.news8000.com Click on school closings, located under the Weather tab.

3. Call the school [608-637-7828](tel:608-637-7828). A message will be on the machine by 6:30 a.m. in the case of a closing or delay. In the case of a delay, it's a good idea to check back before the 10:10 a.m. start time in case the weather has turned.

4. TV/Radio: **WDRT, WVRQ, WKBT, WTCO**

Do you have other questions? Ask a faculty, staff, administration, or board member or a veteran PRWS family. We will find the answer.

- Amy Hazell, Administrative Chair

Growing for Good Opening for the Holidays!

Growing for Good is opening on Wednesday, November 15th, for the holiday season.

Garland, wreaths, poinsettias, and Christmas trees will be available. The trees are sustainably grown at a family farm. You can pre-order items for a 10% discount by calling 637-8200. The store will be open Wednesdays-Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Sundays from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- Growing for Good

FUNDRAISING

We've Got Coffee!

Don't forget to pick up a fresh bag of Kickapoo Coffee in the office and support PRWS! We have 12 oz. bags of whole beans of the Harvest Blend available in the office for \$12. This will be an on-going fundraiser for PRWS this year!

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

Dragon Wings - An Adventure Board Game Fundraiser

PRWS alumni parent, David Breitbach, has designed a game with his daughter, Kessie, and is offering a fundraising opportunity for the school. **Each game that is sold through the school earns \$5 for the school.** At game night last spring we had a couple prototypes of the game to play. People enjoyed it because it was easy for both children and adults to engage in the fun.

All the sales of *Dragon Wings* are on their website. Please go to https://dragonwingsgame.com/?ap_id=prwsd_wg so that PRWS earns the \$5 when you buy. Orders need to be placed in October, and the game will be delivered in early December. You will be one of the few to have one! The first game sold, just last week, is going to an anthroposophical kibbutz in Israel. Also, those who select "Local Pickup" get \$10 off the game price and don't have to pay for shipping.

This is how David describes it:

The world is a bit crazy right now! People, families, nations...are relating at an all time low! **The Dragon Wings game is a powerful step to change all this!** It helps kids (and parents) learn to relate and bond. It raises their emotional IQ. With *Dragon Wings*, kids and adults seem to forget about their phones, iPads, and TV for a while. In fact, from those who have played it a lot, a big change starts happening around the house.

"If we are to reach real peace in this world..., we shall have to **begin with children.**"

Mohandas Gandhi

"Teach a child to relate, and **they'll be loved for a lifetime.**" *David Breitbach*

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

December Hot Lunch Form Due ASAP

The new December Hot Lunch Menu is attached to the back of this Lunchbox Express.

Please fill it out and return it as soon as possible. Because of the Thanksgiving break, there will be little time to process all the forms before the start of a new month. Thank you!

- Nan Marshall, Office Manager

COMMUNITY NEWS

Youth Initiative High School proudly presents William Shakespeare's *As You Like It!* Set in 2017, this production asks what it means to love and how to find ourselves even in the most challenging circumstances through comedy, music, and joyous celebrations. *As You Like It!* will be performed over the course of two weekends in the Landmark Center Auditorium in Viroqua. Evening performances are November 10th, 11th, 17th, and 18th at 7:30 pm with two 2:00 pm matinees on Sunday, November 12th and Saturday, November 18th. Tickets may be purchased at the door and are \$8 per person or \$25 per family with a special rate of \$4 for children 12 and under. Questions may be directed to Zoe Drew-King at 637-6445.

Norwegian Christmas Music Concert

Come and hear one of Norway's foremost performers at the The ARK in Viroqua, November 24, 8:00 p.m. Jardar Johansen and his band will sing traditional Norwegian Christmas music, as well as international Christmas Classics. Hot drinks and Norwegian treats will be offered after the concert. Free will offering. Check out his video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOy7Wf81a1I>.

LUNCHBOX EXPRESS COMMUNITY NEWS POLICY

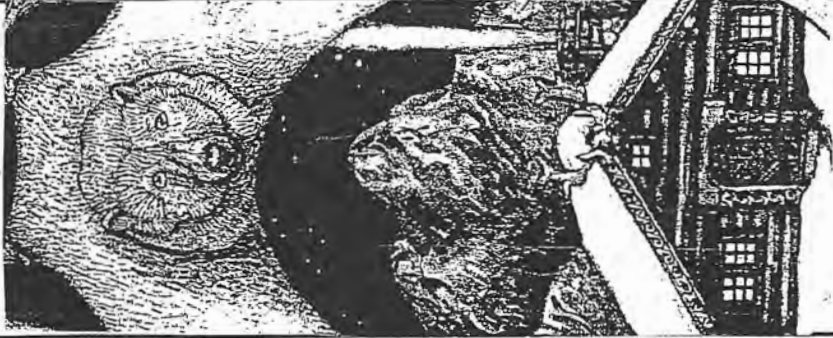
The Lunchbox Express Community News section is provided as a service to the school community. Printing of an ad does not imply endorsement by Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School.

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.

December Lunch Menu

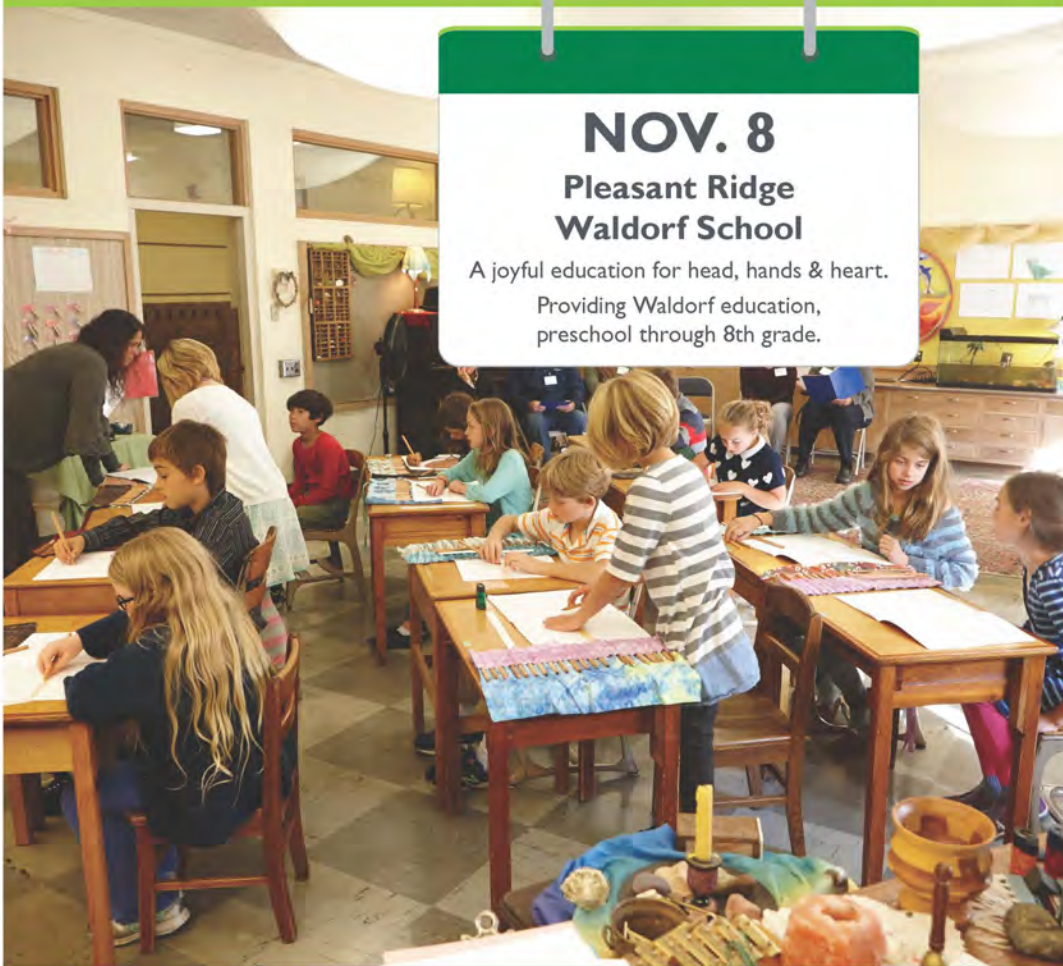
One form per person / ✓ checks the boxes you want / Add → + ↓					
NAME _____					
GRADE _____					
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Alfredo with Fruit	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Burritos + Fruit	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Soup + Bread	7 <input type="checkbox"/> GF Shepherd's Pie + Fruit		
11 <input type="checkbox"/> Pizza + Salad	12 <input type="checkbox"/> GF Beans, Greens + Grains	13 <input type="checkbox"/> Stew + Cornbread	14 <input type="checkbox"/> French Toast + Fruit		
Happy	Holidays	% all	Of you!!		
See	you	Next	year!		
Monthly plan due by Nov. 15th.			Subtotal		
All meals are \$3.50 each.			- Credits		
			Total		



Give Where You Live

Help us make a difference!

You can now **ROUND UP** your grocery bill to the nearest dollar at the register to donate to the owner-selected "Give Where You Live" nonprofit each month.



NOV. 8

**Pleasant Ridge
Waldorf School**

A joyful education for head, hands & heart.

Providing Waldorf education,
preschool through 8th grade.

We donate 1% of sales on the second Wednesday each month to a local nonprofit selected by our owners. Help grow our impact by donating at the register!

Viroqua
food **co+op**