



Calendar

Fri May 26 – Last Day of School! – Noon dismissal

Fri May 26 All-School Picnic – after assembly – in the school playground – look to right for details

Fri May 26 Graduation – 6:30 p.m. – in the school gym

Bat Safety

A bat found on the sidewalk by 3rd graders near the school on Monday captured a lot of attention from PRWS children. Ansel, our 8th grade bat expert, would like to give everyone a friendly reminder to make sure that children know to **never touch wild bats with their hands or sticks, etc.** Bats often carry rabies that can be spread by bites and even saliva, so children should not touch bats in any way. **The best way for children to help bats is to ask an adult for help.** The animal control officer is available to help and can be contacted through the Viroqua Police Department at 637-2121. Also, the wildlife rehabilitation program at the Coulee Region Humane Society in La Crosse is another place to call for assistance at 608-781-4014. Ansel called Viroqua Animal Control on Monday, and the officer cared for the bat found by the 3rd grade and relocated it to a safe location.

- Shelly Brenneman, PRWS Parent

Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 10:45 AM

May 26 —Closing Assembly – **10:45 a.m.**

What's Cooking!

Closing Assembly - Friday May 26th at 10:45 a.m.

On Friday, we celebrate our graduates and their class teacher Ronald Schirmer. Each class will share a presentation in honor of the 8th graders before they walk back over the Rainbow Bridge stepping to their future. We will also take some moments to acknowledge those families that are graduating with their child.

We hope you all join us and remain for the end-of-school picnic that will be in our back yard!

Have a safe and joy-filled summer!

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

End-Of-The-Year Picnic on the PRWS Playground on Friday, May 26, After the Assembly

The last day of school is coming up quickly, and with that comes our annual, end-of-the-year picnic. Yay! The picnic will be held on our school playground following the assembly, which ends at noon, so bring your picnic gear and your appetites.

Here's what to bring: plates, bowls, and utensils for each member of your family; drinks for your family; food to share with everyone with a serving utensil (please see food assignment list below); and a dessert to share as well. In addition to potluck gear, here are a few other things that you might want to bring: balls, Frisbees, other fun things to play with, and a blanket or chairs to sit on.

Food assigned by first letter of children's last name:

A-H: Salads, side dishes

I-L: Appetizers, savory snacks

M-Z: Main Dishes

Everyone should bring a small dessert.

People are always super-hungry at this picnic, so please make sure to bring a generous amount of healthy food to share!

It is always a good idea to pack a post-assembly, pre-picnic-starting snack for your kids to help them make it through the setup.

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

ODE TO MARIANNE

From her grateful faculty

She came; she saw; she concurred
A maiden still demur
With hope in her heart and a spring in her step
"Song trailing" clouds of glory
This is a bit of her Pleasant Ridge story.

She was first given the task to guide us through
A thicket of thorny process
Accreditation loomed,
At times it all felt doomed
But we learned she brooked no nonsense.

AWSNA was her battle cry
Thank god her motto is "do or die"
She's been our collective conscience.

A songstress, an actress, a comedienne
no one could predict where her talents would
end
Then she wowed us by clogging with weird
swords that bend!

Meeting after meeting,
So many Nights away from home
You'd think - she's no time for a social life
Then - poof- she's fallen in love.

A Wooded Acre wedding ensued
To a marvelous, fabulous dude
Inviting the whole school was her vision—
Talk about believing in social inclusion!

But...No matter what was going on:
The office in crisis
Another student has lice
A parent won't relent
A teacher needs to vent—
She was always there,
And she really deeply cared.

We'll miss you Mrs. Fieber-Dhara
And we wish you all the best
We know you'll make a difference out there
And maybe...finally... get some rest!

Farewell from the Hunts

The Hunt family (Dan, Lauren, Sylvia in grade 7 and Toby in grade 6) wishes to express its deep gratitude to all the teachers, staff, and amazing parents at PRWS. Thank you for sharing your children and yourselves with us over these last 14 years. We are better people for being a part of PRWS and will cherish this school and community in our hearts forever. We will be relocating to Ann Arbor, Michigan, this summer to be closer to Lauren's parents who are in Detroit. The kids will be joining the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor next fall and perhaps will continue on to the Steiner High School. We are leaving soon, so if you see us, please share hugs and well wishes! And lastly, stay tuned for details of a community party we are planning to have to say goodbye sometime in the next couple of weeks at Eckhart Park (we are still securing a date)!

- The Hunt Family

With Sincere Appreciation

There are many folks this year who supported our students and families in various ways through their work in and out of the classroom. We had an opportunity to honor many of them last Friday; however, as we close out our year, we also would like to take a moment to acknowledge the following people:

Stephanie Pedretti – Recorder Ensemble - we are delighted she will be returning next year.

Dodie Whitaker – choral support and solo/ensemble competition preparation

Joen Dealandé – most recently, the 6th grade play support – Bravo!

Pita Daniels – technical support for a number of theatrical productions!

Courtney Maatouck – for taking on the Aftercare program with enthusiasm and conscientiousness.

Erica Pfeiffer-Hill – for the garden programming support and our new Garden Field Days!

Christine Zinky – for her assistance with Miss Carrie's maternity support and our Enrichment Days.

Susana Ruder – for her management of our first series of Enrichment Days.



Sandy Loucks – for her work with 1st and 6th grades and all our **Substitute Teachers** - there were many who helped in the grades and early childhood! This is one of the toughest tasks, to step into a class, often with little time to prepare – thanks for keeping the classes going.

Chris Leinberger and her library staff were again rock solid and excellent in keeping our library circulating – we are always looking for more volunteers, if you would like to sign up for next year! Call the office or Chris!

Friday Front Office Support – our consistent smiling face this year was **Amber Knutson** - we were lucky to have her in the front as well as support the music rental program and many other tasks.

Rosanne Morici worked with students on reading and math, thanks to the arrangement between the Viroqua Area Schools and PRWS. Many, many lunch servers helped keep the chow line moving thanks to **Therese Laurdan's** organization.

Thanks to all parents who have stepped in with chaperone duties, costume making, refreshments, fundraisers, class projects, field trips, and snow removal and for choosing Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School!

We love your children!

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

DEVELOPMENT

Development Search

We could use some help in identifying a couple of people who have given donations to the school this year. Are you related to Maggie Nylander (we have no address to send a receipt) or John and June Schutz? Please email or call me. Thanks! Please call Mary at 637-8504 or email

mary@pleasantrydgewaldorf.org.

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

Annual Giving Update

We are getting very close to meeting our goal of \$50,000, thanks to the generosity of many individual donors, as well as our business donors like Organic Valley, Vernon Memorial Healthcare, Viroqua Food Co-op, and Citizens First Bank. Look for a letter in your mailbox with a complete report on fundraising and development activities.

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

Growing For Good

The Bloom and Grow Garden Center carries a fine selection of annuals, vegetables, and herbs ready to plant in your garden. We still have nice hanging baskets.

This week we're offering 40% off on all cement statues, plaques, and decorative pots! 4" pots of red geraniums are only \$3.50.

We are open Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and are located at 520 E. Terhune in Viroqua. The telephone number is 608-637-8200 if you have any questions.

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

Save the Date – June 16-17

Permaculture Design Workshop

Mark Shepard, former PRWS parent and permaculture professional, will lead a permaculture design workshop on June 16-17 at Growing For Good at 520 E. Terhune in Viroqua. On Friday night, starting at 6:30 p.m., Mark will present the design principles and show various applications. On Saturday, starting at 9:00 a.m., we will work on the land with an eye toward sculpting the land to work with water remediation needs. More details coming.

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

Do You Have a Small Business? Advertise in the 2017-2018 PRWS Directory and Handbook

Work is beginning on the 2017-2018 PRWS Directory and Handbook published in September. Cynthia will be sending out a renewal letter to nearly 100 businesses that support our yellow pages ad book and help fund our school. If you've never advertised in our yellow pages---please think about an ad for 2017-2018. The directories are given to our entire school community of parents, faculty, and staff, including the 10-20 new families who join us each year. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Cynthia via email at cynthia@pleasantrydgewaldorf.org or phone at 637-8504 vm2, Tuesday-Thursday. Scrip businesses qualify for discounted rates.

- Cynthia Olmstead, Development Office

ADMIN

Music Instrument Return and Summer Rental

Instruments rented from the school need to be returned before the end of the school year. If you will be returning the instrument, you may drop it off in the office or return it to **Amber Knutson who will be available in the lobby to check in the instrument at drop-off and pick-up on Friday, May 26.** She will also have forms to fill out to sign up for the summer rental program.

If you are currently renting an instrument from the school and would like to continue to rent it over the summer, you will need to fill out the rental paperwork before the last day of school. The cost for the summer is \$40 for stringed instruments and \$20 for recorders. Instruments must be returned either to Amber or dropped off in the office. They should not just be left in the hallway.

If your instrument is not returned before the end of school, you will be charged the summer rental fee.

- The Music Team

Re-Enrollment - Final Steps

Please note the following changes to the re-enrollment process this year. To complete your children's re-enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year, the following items are **due by June 30th, 2017:**

- Your payment plan in the form of either post-dated checks for the entire year or a completed ACH (Automated Clearing House) form. ACH forms are available in the office.
- Any open balances for 2016-2017 or any prior years, including all raffle and instrument rental balances are brought current.
- A \$150 supply fee for each grade student and a \$250 fee for each kindergarten student enrolled for 2017-2018.

Please note that your re-enrollment is not finished until these steps are completed. Contracts finalized after June 30, 2017, will be assessed a \$250 late fee.

You are welcome to drop in between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays through the end of May to check on your account balance and finalize your contract or email finance@pleasantrydgewaldorf.org to make an appointment. I will be happy to assist you in any way possible. For questions, email or call (608) 637-7828.

Thank you for supporting our operations as we bring the program to your children.

- Sofya Hundt, Business Manager

Summer Office Hours

We will have regular office hours through the end of May. Our summer office hours will be Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to noon starting June 5th. The office will be closed in July and then open for the same summer hours in August. Have a great summer!

- Nan Marshall, Office Manager

Parent Library Returns

As the end of the school year quickly approaches, please check through the books in your house to see if you might have a Parent Library book lurking in a pile somewhere. Please try to return them before the end of the school year so they can be inventoried over the summer.

- Sonja Finn, Coordinator

Personnel News

Open Positions

PRWS has the following openings now advertised on our Employment page (<https://pleasantrydgewaldorf.org/our-school/employment/>) with application instructions and job descriptions. **See below for job descriptions.**

Administrative Chair

The Administrative Chair is central to the operations of the school, liaising between the Board of Directors and the Faculty. This position oversees the administrative staff and support personnel, works closely with the Business Manager on human resource matters, and leads or participates on a number of committees. An understanding and commitment to Waldorf education along with an interest in collaboration with colleagues and parents are required qualities in candidates wishing to be considered for this position. For specific details regarding this position, please refer to the Administrative Chair job description found on our website. Application Deadline for this position is: **until the position is filled.**

Development Director

The Development Director - Annual Giving and Alumni Relations develops and maintains the annual giving, alumni relations programs, and community relations at Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School and oversees the on-going fundraising projects of the school. The Development Director must be compatible with the collegial style of the school community and work to build a team in the development office. An

understanding of Waldorf education and Anthroposophy is required to help carry the vision of Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School. For specific details regarding this position, please refer to the Development Director job description found on our website. Application Deadline for this position is: **until the position is filled.**

Eurythmy Accompanist

Beginning in September 2017

Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School is looking for a piano accompanist to support our Eurythmy program beginning in September. Sheet music provided for the different class levels will be at an intermediate skill level. This position is shared with another accompanist beginning in November through April at which time there will be a reduction in class hours. Employment application and information may be found on our website. **Position will be open until filled.**

- Marianne Fieber-Dhara,
Administrative Chair

Lawn-Mowing Sign-Up

We are looking for volunteers to take on a SINGLE round of mowing around the PRWS campus and the Old Main Building during the week of their choice this summer. Please find the sign-up sheet hanging across from the Main Office and sign up for a week that suits you. The Facilities Committee will supply all necessary tools, gasoline, and reminders. Thank you for helping keep our school looking good and on this side of city regulations!

- Sofya Hundt, Facilities Committee

OTHER NEWS

Celebration of the Arts Cards for Sale

Stop by the office to select from a variety of note cards printed with the chalkboard art of our talented teachers! Cards are only \$2 each. Pay at the front desk.

- Nan Marshall, Office Manager

COMMUNITY NEWS

Library Book Sale Results

Thanks to everyone for donating books and buying books! We raised just over \$200 on our sale. So now, if anyone has suggestions for new books, please submit them to the library (mailbox in the office). We also kept some of the donated books that we did not have in our library, and those are being processed now for everyone to enjoy. Look for the NEW BOOKS display in the library. Because summer break is approaching, please locate any library books that are due and return them. I will be making a list of overdue books to pass to children. Parents, please help your children with the responsibility of returning library books. I appreciate everyone's help with all library matters!

- Chris Leinberger, Volunteer Library
Coordinator

Compost Bin and Pail Sale

Interested in backyard composting? We can help you get started with the Home Composter bin. Come pick one up today! They will be available at the Viroqua Farmers Market Saturday, May 27th, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and at the Bloom and Grow Garden Center May 31st from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (formerly The Flower Basket) at 520 E. Terhune St. in Viroqua.

Call 715-347-5979 with questions or view the poster here

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/069eae_1c817b7bd8894924935a0793225fb837.pdf.

- Angie Lemar, PRWS Parent

PRWS 2017 Summer Camp Program

The PRWS Summer Camp Program is back again this summer – with even more camps from which to choose. Camp brochures and registration forms are available in the office. Information is also available on our website: <https://pleasantrydwaldorf.org/programs/summer-camp/>.

Midwest Waldorf Collaborative - July 17 - 21, 2017 An intensive for practicing and trained Waldorf teachers and Development Professionals. This week is brought to you by a collaboration between Da Vinci Waldorf and Pleasant Ridge Waldorf Schools and will take place in Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School facilities and locations. Keynote lectures and presentation on *Anchoring the Ego* by Joan Treadaway. For more information on the courses, schedule and fees please go to <http://davinciwaldorfschool.org/2017/04/30/mwc2017/>

Organic grass-fed goat milk available. If interested, call Megan Felt at 608-495-4194.

Summer Piano/Singing Lessons with Ms. Carrie begin June 12th! There are daytime lesson slots available for this summer at my home. Contact carrie.waldorf@gmail.com or text 414-630-0453. We have a Google doc with available times I can send you. Three Types of Lessons offered:

NEW: Ages 7 and under - pre-reading/pre-school-age children - 15 minute/\$8.00 - "Just Sit and Play" - learning songs and finger exercises through images and imitation. No books or practice time necessary. Parents are welcome to sit in!

Ages 7+: Piano lessons include finger warm ups, method book songs, note reading, and music theory, plus composition and ear training. Parents welcome! Light practice is fine. It's summer! \$15/half hour.

Adult voice lessons: vocal warm-ups and technique exercises, song preparation, vocal production, freeing the voice and body, folk/classical/sacred/popular, whatever you are working toward. We have a great time. \$15/half hour.

Interested in Babysitting This Summer?

Looking for a few babysitters to call upon for my just about-7-year-old boy, Ivan. We pay \$5 an hour and live very near the Dragon Park and the skate park, two places he enjoys very much. Availability on Friday and Saturday later afternoon until evening is generally what we're looking for. Call Ashley at (608)513-4731 if interested! Thank you! Happy Summer!

Ms. Shannon is downsizing. She has things to give away or sell at very low "give-away" prices. Furniture, beds, shelves, house plants, linens, books, gardening materials, and more. Please call 637-8188 – maybe we can help each other.