

Calendar

Thu Nov 16 Fall Concert – 6:30 p.m. – in the school gym – look to right 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 Ice Skating – see inside for details. Permission form is at the end.

Fri Dec 1 Holiday Faire – Adults-Only Evening – 6:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Fri Dec 2 Holiday Faire – FREE entry for the whole family – 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Hot Lunch Prep and Serving Help Needed

There are still a few **spots open for November and December** hot lunch prep and serving spots. Please sign up online or call Therese Laurdan at 637-8787 to sign up. Thank you!

- Therese Laurdan, Volunteer
Hot Lunch Coordinator

What's Cooking!

Fall Musical Offerings This 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

Eighth Grade Hot Dog Fundraiser

Hot dog hot lunch Friday, November 17! The 8th Grade class will sell hot dogs this Friday for lunch.

They are hot dogs from Organic Valley. The hot dogs are \$2.00 each. Please pay Nan in the front office by Thursday afternoon so we can have a count of how many we will need. Please pack anything else your child may need in addition to the hot dog. Thank you from the 8th Grade class.

- 8th Grade Class

Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

Nov 17—*Music and Presentation*

Nov 24—*Thanksgiving Break – No School*

Dec 1 —*No Assembly*

Dec 8 —*Even Grades Assembly*

Antarctica Presentation – November 17th
A Wisconsin Meteorite Hunter in Antarctica



This Friday, 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. Discover what it is like to travel, live, and work in the harshest environment on earth. Follow along with a Wisconsin Meteorite Hunter and experience the beauty of the world's Premier meteorite hunting grounds as a vicarious member or the ANSMET team in pursuit of visitors from outer space.

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. This is a fun event, and I hope you can join us.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

HOLIDAY FAIRE

Spread the Word About the Faire!

The Holiday Faire is December 1st and 2nd, less than 3 weeks 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!

Check out the poster about the event at the end of the Lunchbox Express for details. Extra posters will be available in the office if you'd like to hang some up around town.

- Holiday Faire Committee

Holiday Faire Sign-Up Sheets

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.

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.

It's Butter Season!

Our Bake Sale needs your delicious contributions for the Holiday Faire! Please stop by the sign-up sheet outside the office and put your name down for an item or two (or three!). There are a variety of categories to choose from - from candies to cookies to elaborate show-stoppers. Gluten-heavy and gluten-free items are welcome. As you are baking for Thanksgiving, consider making a double batch of something that freezes well. Looking for ideas or wondering what are the highest profit items for the school? Contact Julia Ugo at 606-9125 or juliahundt@gmail.com.

The Children's Raffle is Looking for Donations and Volunteers!

We're on the hunt for donations of new or gently used prizes geared towards kids of any age. Or maybe you are able to volunteer for a bit on Saturday to joyfully assist with ticket sales. Please contact Amber Biver at [608-606-9007](tel:608-606-9007) or amberbiver@gmail.com if you can help. Thank you for your consideration.

Musicians Needed

Greetings Musician friends! The Holiday Fair is coming, and **we are seeking musicians who would love to come and conjure the Holiday Spirit** for the children and for the season. This is to wrap the gift that is the Holiday Fair in a beautiful musical garland. For more details, please contact Peter at 483-2045, or bridgepin@gmail.com.

Holiday Faire Needs for Children's Craft Room

We are looking for donations of wool scrap yarn and fancy trims for one of this year's craft items. Pieces could be small to whole skeins. Greens, reds, whites, and anything fancy would be best! Please drop your donations in the red shopping bag in the office. Thank you!

Holiday Faire Friday Night Babysitting

There will be babysitting at Youth Initiative High School on the night of the Friday night Adults-Only Holiday Faire, December 1st, from 5:45 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. The cost will be \$5 an hour for one child, \$8 per hour for two children, \$11 per hour for three children, and \$14 per hour for four children. Please let me know ASAP if you will have a child(ren) attending and also if you have any questions. You can reach me at tejahlb@gmail.com or 608-632-3316.

Thank you!

- Tejah Broser, YIHS student

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 1st, 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 by end of day on Wednesday, November 29th.** 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 Mike Moon in the hall outside the office at 11:50 p.m.

- Mike Moon, Skating Coordinator

IN OTHER NEWS

Advent Spiral – Monday and Tuesday, December 4 & 5

Advent Sunday is the first of the four Sundays preceding Christmas (and if Christmas falls on a Sunday, that would be the fifth Sunday, not the fourth). 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 at the Old Main Building, 321 E. Decker, entering through the north door on Decker St., and be seated quietly before the walk begins. Doors will be locked once the walk begins. Times for each class are listed below:

Monday, December 4

8:30 a.m. – 6th grade
9:20 a.m. – 2nd grade
10:50 a.m. – 4th grade
12:50 p.m. – 7th grade
1:50 p.m. – 8th grade

Tuesday, December 5

8:30 a.m. – Kindergartens
10:50 a.m. – 1st grade
12:50 p.m. – 3rd grade
1:50 p.m. – 5th grade

- 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

Thank You!

A big thank you to all who helped organize the PRWS Clothing Swap last weekend: Susana Ruder, Robin Kottke, Jillian Davis, Dodie Whitaker, Sonja Finn, Kate Holmes, Jen Wade, and Janna Kottke. There were lots of "new" treasures discovered. There will be another swap in the spring, so start saving up your outgrown clothes now.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator

Snow Shoveling at the School

Clearing the doorways and sidewalks of snow and ice at Pleasant Ridge is a job that falls to parent volunteers. The way we organize volunteers is as follows: each class covers two weeks over the course of the winter. Classes have a volunteer coordinator who alerts the parents in that class that their week has come up and provides them with the information they need to complete the task. Parents in the class should pitch in during that week to the extent that personal schedules, work hours, small children, etc. permit. Schedule and class coordinators are listed below:

Class	Coordinator	Week1	Week2
8	Krings	11/5-12	1/21-28
7	Dehlin	11/12-19	1/28-2/4
6	Hundt	11/19-26	2/4-11
5	Brudos	11/26-12/3	2/11-18
4	Lenarz	12/3-10	2/18-25
3	Cole	12/10-17	2/25-3/4
2	Severson	12/31-1/7	3/4-11
1	Ugo	1/7-14	3/11-18
K	Hundt	1/14-21	3/18-25
	Facilities Comm.	12/17-31	3/25-

Please contact Jason Cole at 608-637-7160 or jasoncole@gmail.com or your class's coordinator with any questions.

- Jason Cole, Snow Removal Coordinator

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

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

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

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



Thank you for participating in the Viroqua Food Co-op's 1% Wednesday on November 8th. Continue to Round Up for Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School for the rest of the month.

- Amy Hazell, Administrative Chair

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 Breitbart*

- Mary Christenson, Development Director

Family Square Dance, Sunday, November 19th, 3:30 p.m., with potluck to follow. The dance takes place at the LaFarge Community Center at 202 North State Street. Live music. All ages welcome. No dancing experience needed. This dance will be called by Sue Hulsether and will be very kid (and adult) friendly. \$5 per person/\$15 per family. For more information, call (608) 432-1863.

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.

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>.

HOLIDAY FAIRE ICE SKATING

WHO: Pleasant Ridge students from grades 1 to 6.

WHAT: Ice Skating fun and child supervision for grades 1-6 at the Viroqua Community Arena while others set up for the Holiday Faire (*children of adults setting up can skate for free*)

WHY: School is released on Friday, December 1st, at noon

WHEN: Friday, December 1st, 12:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

SCHEDULE: 1) Eat lunch at school at 11:30 a.m.
2) Caravan to arena at noon
3) Skate and have fun safely until 2:30 p.m.
3) Be ready for pick-up at 2:45 p.m.

There will be NO bus pickup at the school in the afternoon on December 1st.

Parents, if you would like your child to spend the afternoon at the ice arena, please see below:

TO SKATE:

- **Fill out the form below, one for EACH child**
- **Return the form and \$5.00 to the office or Jim Olson by the end of the school day on November 28th.**
- **Send your child to school on December 1st with lunch and either ice skates in hand or \$2 for skate rental, which is available at the arena**
- **Pick up your child at 2:45 p.m. at the arena**

Further questions – please call Mike Moon at 608-772-4386.

I give permission for my child, _____, grade _____ to go skating at the Viroqua Community Arena. I understand this means that my child may ride in a car driven by an adult or may walk to the arena.

_____ I will pick up my child at the arena no later than 2:45 p.m.

Parent or guardian's signature

date

Phone Number Where You Can be Reached if Needed: _____

I am part of the Holiday Faire setup crew: Y / N

HOLIDAY FAIRE

2017

FRIDAY December 1

A Joyful Wassail for Adults

6:00 – 10:30 pm

Live music and entertainment, singing, tree lighting, unique artisan vendors, warm and hearty soups, decadent desserts, silent auction, and raffle.

ADMISSION

\$6 in advance / \$8 at the door
(food and beverages purchased separately)

Wassail Gold Pass - \$30 / 2 for \$50

(includes entry, dinner, beverage, dessert, and a raffle ticket)

Tickets available at Viroqua Food Coop, Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School office, and Growing for Good greenhouse.

Babysitting available at Youth Initiative High School by students from 5:45-10:45pm. Call YIHS at 608.637.6445 for details and to RSVP (appreciated but not required).

SATURDAY December 2

A Festive Day for the Entire Family

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Beautiful craft making, marionette play, children's castle, crystal boat, and raffle. Unique artisan vendors, silent auction, hearty lunch, bakery, and live music.

ADMISSION

Free *(food, beverages, and activities purchased separately)*



ALL WELCOME – CELEBRATE. SHOP. EAT. ENJOY.

PLEASANT RIDGE WALDORF SCHOOL

431 E. Court St., Viroqua • 608-637-7828 • pleasantrygewaldorf.org

For more details, visit our website: pleasantrygewaldorf.org/our-school/holiday-faire.