

## Calendar

**Fri Dec 20** – Festival of Light - 10:45 a.m.

**Fri Dec 20** – Noon Dismissal for the Grades;  
10:30 a.m. Dismissal for the Kindergartens

**Mon Dec 23** – PRWS Alumni Reunion – 6:00  
p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Driftless Cafe

**Dec 23-Jan 3** – Holiday Break

**Mon Jan 6** - School Resumes

**Fri Jan 10** – Korean Student Welcome  
Assembly

**Fri Jan 17** - \*date change – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Eurythmy Performance

## **January Hot Lunch Forms**

Please turn your January Hot Lunch forms in as soon as possible. Due to the upcoming break, there is only a limited time available for processing the forms before the New Year. Many Thanks!

## Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

*Dec 20 – **Festival of Light- 10:45 a.m.***

*Jan 10 – Korean Student Welcome  
Assembly*

## What's Cooking!

**January Hot Lunch-UPDATE!** It is important for both the kitchen and office staff to have a clear idea of who will be eating **PRIOR** to the start of the month. The first week of this month we ended up **running short of food** with too many last minute/day-of sign ups! In order to keep costs down and to minimize food waste, our cook needs accurate numbers for each meal in advance. **Please fill out your January form before the Holiday break**. As January will be upon us directly after a break, this is even more imperative this month. The menu is attached and forms are also available in the hallway, in the office, and on the school website. Also, please note: **We will no longer be accepting Hot Lunch forms without payment attached**. If you know your child likes to eat all the meals offered consistently, please consider signing up for Automatic Withdrawal.

- The Admin Team

### **Raffle Tickets are In!**

Please stop by the office and pick up your raffle packets before the break if you can. It's handy to have them along during Holiday visits and get-togethers!

### **Shop Local this Holiday Season**

Be sure to check out the **Natural Toy Shop**, located **inside Ewetopia Fiber Shop** in downtown Viroqua, as you do your holiday shopping this season. There you will find: cooperative games, art supplies, baby items, books, silks, handmade dolls, wooden toys, stocking stuffers, and much more! Sales support Pleasant Ridge Waldorf School and your local community.

- Jordan Brudos and Kathryn Ashley-Wright,  
School Store Coordinators

### **Library Books**

Please return all school library books before the Holiday break. Thank You!

- Diane Banner, Volunteer Library Coordinator

### **January Aftercare Form is Now Available!**

December is a short month! Be sure to sign up for your January Aftercare now. Forms are available in the office or [Here](#).

- Jordan Brudos, Aftercare Coordinator

## **Just in Time for the Holiday Break - Raffle Tickets have Arrived!**

Raffle packets are ready to be picked up in the main office. Stop by and find yours! Each packet is labeled and includes the quantity of tickets your family has opted to sell, information about the fabulous prizes, raffle rules, selling tips, and a raffle ticket tracking document. We're excited to announce this year's lineup of prizes and the local businesses who have partnered with us to bring you this year's raffle prizes:

- Grand Prize: *Brand New, 2018 Chevy Spark from Sleepy Hollow Chevrolet or \$10,000 Cash Alternative*
- Second Prize: *\$500 Gift Certificate from Bluedog Cycles*
- Third Prize: *Guided Fly-Fishing Expedition for Two from Driftless Angler*

All raffle ticket sales must be completed and turned in to PRWS by **Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**. We also encourage folks to bring them in as you sell them, too. **Save the date:** The raffle drawing is scheduled to take place **Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**, at a Family Fun Night here at the school. Raffle questions or ideas? We'd love to talk with you!

- Raffle Committee (Hallie Ashley, Erica Gerrity, Robin Kottke, & Simon Stumpf)

## **100% Participation Annual Giving Update —Join our Flock!**

Current Participation:

- Board: 100%
- Faculty & Staff: 97%
- Parent Body: 72%

Many more birds grace the lobby windows this week. Many thanks to all who have pledged or given a gift toward our 100% participation goal. The power of 100% participation can't be understated. High rates of participation inspire others to give generously; foundations and corporate partners consider levels of parent and community participation when awarding grants and gifts. Whether a gift of \$5 or \$500, all contributions count toward our goal. We simply ask that it come from the heart in an amount

that is appropriate for your family. There are many options for participation, perhaps a gift in honor of your child(ren), a beloved teacher, or in memory of a loved one. Participation is easy—here's how:

1. Pledge your gift (to be paid by June 30, 2020)

OR

2. Give a gift now (no amount is insignificant—really!) either by dropping off at the school office (remittance envelopes available there) or online at [www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org/donate](http://www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org/donate)

Thank you—together we can do so much!

- Robin Kottke, Development Director

## **Listen Up! Pleasant Ridge Today Podcast latest episode now available**

Hear the latest school and community news online or via your favorite podcast player. This episode includes a review of Holiday Faire, Santa Lucia, Hot Lunch news, a 100 in 100% Annual Giving update and discussion, and coming events. Listen [here](#):

Thanks for listening!

- David Levin & Robin Kottke, Podcast Hosts

## **Thank You**

Many, many thanks for all those who helped with the Lucia Celebration on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Just as in other Lucia celebrations at Pleasant Ridge School, this one was created and carried out with the help of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Christina, our students and our families – from preparing costumes to rehearsing, from shopping for ingredients for the saffron breads to mixing, shaping and baking hundreds of them – many hands and hard work make this event not only possible, but *light-filled*. Thank you, all.

- Catherine Young & Julee Caspars Agar

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to PRWS students who were part of the Polar Express event at the McIntosh Memorial Library on Friday, December 6! Ivan Messier and Logan Saunders participated in the readers theater presentation of the Polar Express story. Mari Kottke, Bella Max-Funovits, and Logan Saunders performed holiday music on recorder.

## 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 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grades will only go once/week. To make this possible, please work with your child at home teaching them to tie their own skates as we will not have skate tying volunteers this year.

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.** There will need to be a minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  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.

**School skates will be available in the gym after school to try on and sign up to borrow during the first two weeks of school in January.** The sign up will be self-serve. 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. All students need full winter outdoor gear; snow pants, mittens, warm socks, hats and warm coats.

- Lerie Alstad van Ells, Movement Teacher

## Bleacher Seats for Sale

Aren't assemblies neat? Imagine them with a sweet seat! Help support the 8th grade fundraiser for their upcoming class trip! Limited addition bleacher seats... only 18 left. \$25.00 each. Available for sale in the 8th grade room or the office!

# Events

## Strings Performance

The grade 6-7-8 string orchestra and recorder ensemble will present a very short, informal performance of holiday music they have been learning this month during class at **1:25 PM on Thursday, December 19** in the gym. All are welcome to attend! Students will wear their regular school clothes - no concert dress required.

- Stephanie Pedretti & Melissa Madura, Music Teachers

## Festival of Light – Friday, December 20 **10:45 a.m. in the PRWS Gym**

To honor the season, we will celebrate the Festival of Light with all students in grades 1-8 performing. Please join us for this reverent, joyful, and candle-lit festival. Please have students in grades 5-8 dress in concert attire (white tops, black bottoms) and students in grades 1-4 dress in festive attire. Performers will have time to change before the festival if they would like.

**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.

- Stephanie Pedretti and Melissa Madura, Festival of Light Coordinators

## **PRWS Alumni Reunion**

**Monday, December 23rd, 2019, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., at The Driftless Café** Please stop in at the Driftless Cafe, 118 W. Court St., Viroqua to catch up with past teachers, students, and friends of PRWS. **Alumni from all classes are welcome and encouraged to attend!** Weigh-in on plans for Alumni events and initiatives as we gear up for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration this spring and the worldwide centennial anniversary celebration of Waldorf education. Dinner will be served and the bar will be open for drink purchases. A \$10 donation is requested. **Thank you for helping spread the word to your PRWS pals!**

RSVP: <https://www.facebook.com/events/570594990384929/Contact> or contact

Robin: [robin@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:robin@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) or 608.637.8504.

- Robin Kottke, Development Director

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

Attached are the minutes from the December Board Meeting.

# Admin

## **Got 45 Minutes? Sign up for a January Lunch Server Shift!**

Two volunteers are needed to serve lunch from 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. It's a fun and delicious way to help out at the school, and your lunch is free!

Thank you! Sign up for January Lunch Shifts [Here](#).

## **Winter/Spring Session of Parent-Child Classes at PRWS**

Parents and their young children (ages 1-4) can join Ms. Martha once a week on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings from 8:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Classes begin the week of March 3rd. Cost is \$135 for the 9-week session. Click [here](#) for more information and registration form. Contact Jordan at 637-7828 or [enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) with questions or to register. Gift certificates are also available.

# Community News

## **Desks for Sale**

Two student desks for sale, chair/seat and flat desk top all one unit. They look like they come from the 1960's era. They are in very good condition. \$5.00 /each. Call Bill at 606.5329

## **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.



**Closing Verse:**

May wisdom shine through me,  
May love glow within me,  
May strength permeate me,  
That in me may arise a helper of humanity,  
A server of holy things,  
Selfless and true.