

## Calendar

- Thur Mar 12** - 3rd Grade Parent Meeting
- Fri Mar 13** - In-Service. No School
- Fri Mar 13** - Kindergarten Morning
- Sat Mar 14** - All School Work Day
- Mon Mar 16** - 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Evening
- Wed Mar 18** - Crane Making Workshop
- Tue Mar 17-Wed Mar 18** - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Play
- Sat Mar 21** - Family Fun Night & Raffle Drawing
- Tue-Thurs Mar 24-26** - 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Play
- Fri Mar 27** - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Play
- Sat Mar 28** - PRSW 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner
- Fri Apr 3** - Spring Concert
- Apr 7 & 8** - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Projects
- Apr 10 -19** - Spring Break
- Apr 25** - Community Clothing Exchange  
\*New Date

## Friday Assembly

Assembly begins at 8:20 AM

- Mar 13 - No Assembly- In Service  
Mar 20 - Odd Grades Assembly  
Mar 27 - No Assembly

## What's Cooking!

### Coronavirus (COVID-19) Communication

As the nation monitors the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19), PRWS is focused on the impact this could potentially have on our community. The health and well-being of our students, families, faculty, and staff remain our highest priority. Please see the attached letter which communicates the plan and policies that we are putting in place to keep our school environment as safe as possible.

### This Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> Head Over to the Viroqua Food Co-op for 1% Wednesday!

PRWS is the Viroqua Food Coop's Give Where You Live Recipient for the entire month of March, which means shoppers may opt to round up their purchases at the register to benefit PRWS. **This Wednesday, March 11, the VFC will donate an additional 1% of all sales generated that day to PRWS!!** Please consider saving this week's shopping (or the majority of it) for Wednesday to ensure we maximize our return. Thanks for showing PRWS some love at the Co-op this Wednesday (and for the remainder of the month)!

- Robin Kottke, Development Director

### Rescheduled Community Clothing Exchange

This event has been rescheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Still have Tickets to Sell? Raffle Promotional Event This Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Viroqua Food Coop!

Sign up for an hour-long shift at the VFC this Saturday to sell your raffle tickets! The grand prize (2018 Chevy Spark) will be parked right in front of the entrance to inspire ticket sales; Last year's event was great fun and generated a lot of sales (even more so when we enlisted our child(ren)'s help)! If you'd like to sign up for a shift click [HERE](#).

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



**Thinking about kindergarten for your child next year? If so, join us for an upcoming Kindergarten Morning!**

Friday, March 13 OR Saturday, April 25  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

All parents who are interested in finding out more about our mixed-age kindergarten program are encouraged to attend one of these mornings with their child. Registration is required, as space is limited. Contact Jordan at 637-7828 or email

[enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) to register.

- Jordan Brudos, Enrollment & Outreach Coordinator

**Last Chance for 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Tickets ~ only 10 tickets remaining!**

Tickets are going fast, with only 11 seats remaining! Get your ticket(s) while you still can, as this event will sell out. Buy tickets online at [www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org](http://www.pleasantridgewaldorf.org) or stop in the front office.

**Volunteers needed for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event! Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>!**

Help us beautify and prepare the school (hanging lights, setting up tables and chairs, decorating, etc) to host 160 guests for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Or join us on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> to clean up after the festivities.

Can you help out? Free pizza for your efforts! Contact Robin Kottke to sign up:

[robin@pleasantridgewaldorf.org](mailto:robin@pleasantridgewaldorf.org) or call 608-637-8504. Thank you!

- Martha Karlstad and Jen Wade on behalf of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Committee

**Thank You to Kickapoo Cafe for Hosting Us last Saturday!**

Thanks to Alison Sandbeck and the Kickapoo Café staff for allowing us to park the Grand Prize at the cafe this past Saturday and sell raffle tickets!

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

**Crane-Making Workshop Success + Additional Opportunities this Wednesday & Next!**

Bountiful thanks to Joen Delande for coming over to teach the art of origami crane-making last Friday! We had a nice turn-out, including the entire eighth-grade class for their last period of the day. We are making 600 cranes in honor of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary to represent PRWS graduates and current students. We still have a way to go to reach 600! The workshop will be repeated this Wednesday, March 11, and again next Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm. Please join us for all or a portion of that time.

If these times don't work for you and you'd like to contribute to the project, please stop by the office to pick up 10-20 sheets of origami paper to fold at home. Please return the cranes and any unused paper to the office by March 18<sup>th</sup>. Thanks again to Joen Delande and Shelly Brenneman for coordinating this project!

- Robin Kottke on behalf of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee

**Save the Date!**

The PRWS Spring Concert will take place at 6:30pm on Friday, April 3. Students in grades 4-8 will be performing. Watch for more details in the next issues of the Lunchbox!

**Volunteer Needed**

We are seeking a volunteer to help organize the school's collection of concert clothes that are available for students to borrow. Please contact Melissa Madura if you are able to help.

- Stephanie Pedretti & Melissa Madura



**Listen Up! This Week on Pleasant Ridge Today: The PRWS Podcast**

Hear the latest news and learn about upcoming events here!

<https://pleasantrygewaldorf.org/3-6-20/>

**Interview with Martha & Maureen Karlstad:**

Have you checked out that great conversation with Maureen Karlstad? We were delighted to welcome Martha Karlstad (PRWS parent) to interview her mom, Maureen, who is serving this year as Interim 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Teacher. We learned so much about what brought Maureen to PRWS, her 27 year tenure here, and how Waldorf education aligns with her personal philosophy of teaching. There was so much to discuss, we divided the interview into two episodes! Listen to Part I here:

<https://pleasantrygewaldorf.org/maureen-and-martha-karlstad-part-1/>

Part two of Martha and Maureen's interview will air next week! Thanks for listening!

- David Levin & Robin Kottke, Podcast Hosts

**Family Fun Night & Raffle Drawing on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm**

Last year's raffle celebration was so much fun we're planning to follow the same format this year! Bring the whole family over to the school for homemade, wood-fired pizza, live music, crafts, and the big moment when the winning tickets for this year's AMAZING raffle prizes will be drawn.

If you're on Facebook, please RSVP here and share the event with your loved ones:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/624998118071633/>

Be sure to invite friends and family who entered the raffle to join the fun! The event is free, though a suggested donation of \$5 per person for those who plan to have dinner.

- Raffle Committee

**Macbeth Rescheduled**

**The performance of Macbeth will be on Friday, March 27.** There will be two performances: 9am and 7pm, both in the Landmark Auditorium. The Evening performance will begin with a Chili and Hot Dog dinner and bake sale at 5:30pm. Community are welcome to attend either performance. We recommend this show for Grade 5 and up.

- Christina Hotchkiss  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

**PRWS Parent Book Study**

The Parent Association is hosting a book study of Kim John Payne's new book, *Being at Your Best When Your Kids are at Their Worst*. The book is divided into three sections. Our plan is to meet and discuss each section over the course of three meetings since there is a lot to digest and put into practice in each. Join us anytime, even if have not been able to be part of earlier meetings! We will be meeting three times to discuss Part 3 of the book, on March 20, April 24 and May 15. These meetings will all take place after assemblies in the parent child room.

- Stephanie Pedretti on behalf of the PRWS Parent Association

**Hot Lunch Volunteers Needed**

Two volunteer servers are needed to serve hot lunch each Monday-Thursday from 11:45-12:30, and free lunch is included for volunteers. You may now sign up for shifts through the end of the school year! Simply click on the March, April or May worksheet tab to sign up for your preferred days.

Please consider signing up for at least one volunteer shift [HERE](#)

- Dodie Whitaker, Hot Lunch Volunteer Coordinator



**Wanted: Waldorf Water Wonderland**

**Workers**

We are looking for a few clever, technically minded parents interested in helping create recirculating water play fountains for the Early Childhood classes (Parent-Child through Second grade). During the last week of school in May we want to celebrate the one hundred years of Waldorf Education with a Water Wonderland for our youngest students. We have received a Paul Stry Foundation Grant of a little money to make this happen, but we will have to get and use some donations to make it work. Does this sound like fun to you? Do you have experience with submersible pumps? Fluid dynamics? Solar power & electricity? Water and young children? If so, then we would love you on our team of people making this fun morning of water play possible for all the under 8 year-old children at PRWS. Please be in touch with Martha Buche at 608-797-1325 or [marthabuche@ymail.com](mailto:marthabuche@ymail.com) to join the team. Thanks, I look forward to working on this with you over the next couple of months.

## Community News

### Machines and the Human Spirit

Would you like to read and discuss "Machines and the Human Spirit" by Paul Emberson? Last spring Gary Lamb brought a presentation of this book to our school that was well attended. We want to offer an opportunity to dive deeper into the history of digital technology development, its impact on human consciousness and some thoughts about future directions.

We will meet on Tuesdays, 7-8pm, room 202 Landmark Center beginning March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We can read from the books we have and order more if people wish.

- Mary Christenson

### Conservation on Tap

Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm,  
Rooted Spoon, 219 Main St., Viroqua

#### **Driftless Prairie, Savanna, and Woodlands - A Journey of Discovery**

*Armund D. Bartz, Driftless Area Ecologist-Natural Heritage Conservation, WI- DNR*  
Take a journey through SW WI to see and discover what remnant prairie and associated savanna/woodland really is. The journey will start at the beginning of European settlement and describe what took place up to modern times that left these remaining sites rare to imperiled and among the most decimated on planet earth. Learn what you can do to help retain these critical sites.

### Eggs

Thank you for all the interest in our eggs! Cassell Hollow Farm will have eggs available Mondays and Thursdays outside the Cherry Blossom classroom. \$4/ dozen, GMO free.

### Visit from Chicago Christian Community

The Viroqua affiliate of the Christian Community is offering "A Celebration of Lazarus, the first Christian priest".

Fri March 13<sup>th</sup> -7PM-Talk by Rev. Craig Wiggins, of the Chicago Christian Community

Sat March 14<sup>th</sup>- 9:30AM- Story to the children by Rev. Craig Wiggins. 10AM-Children's service, for school-aged children

10:30AM-The Act of Consecration of Man (adult service). All held at the OMB.

Following will be a community meal, in the Wickert home. All are welcome. For more information or if you need childcare during the adult service, contact Jenny at 608-637-8759 or [jennyspann@frontiernet.net](mailto:jennyspann@frontiernet.net)

#### **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.



March 10, 2020

Dear PRWS Community,

As the nation monitors the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19), PRWS is focused on the impact this could potentially have on our community. The health and well-being of our students, families, faculty, and staff remain our highest priority. To ensure our sound and careful decision-making, we are monitoring global, national, and local health organizations. This includes following guidelines and recommendations from:

- [Worldwide Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services \(DHS\)](#)
- [Vernon County Health Department](#)

And although we already ask this, we now ask with heightened emphasis of all students, faculty and staff - **if you're ill, stay home until you recover**. Please follow our illness policy and keep your child home if he or she exhibits any of the following signs or symptoms:

- Vomiting or diarrhea within the previous 24 hours
- Fever within the previous 24 hours
- Stomach ache
- Headache
- Persistent cough
- Sore throat
- Earache

We will be tracking student absences in greater detail so that we have accurate data regarding the degree of illness in our community. It is important that you let the school office know if your child will not be attending school and if the absence is due to illness. You can always call and leave a message or email if it is not during school hours.

Remember that, in general, common-sense hygienic habits are most effective to avoid infecting or being infected by others who might be sick. The best preventative or protective measures are: staying home if you are sick, washing your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, coughing into your elbow or a tissue that you dispose of immediately, not touching your face, avoiding close contact with others who are sick, and wiping down common-area surfaces regularly.

Consistent with public health recommendations, we are instituting the following protocols to keep the school environment as safe as possible:

- Students will be asked to wash their hands upon entering the classroom, as well as multiple times per day.
- Teachers are teaching/reminding students about proper handwashing and cough-covering techniques, as well as encouraging students to not touch their faces.
- Door handles, faucets, and other common surfaces will be cleaned daily.
- Students that are noted to have a fever or uncontrollable cough will be sent home, instead of being monitored or resting in the infirmary.

If you are planning to travel during spring break, we encourage you to carefully check the travel guidelines on the [CDC](#) and [DHS](#) websites to ensure a safe experience for your family. We recognize that families may have travel plans that include international travel, so please continue to check the CDC website for areas that have travel restrictions. We ask that you let the school office know about any travel that your family has planned. Please note that PRWS will follow the CDC and DHS recommendations regarding post-travel procedures and recommendations.

Lastly, please remember that children take their emotional cues from adults. We encourage you to monitor your child's engagement with the topic and help them understand what they are seeing or hearing. You might find these articles helpful in talking to your child about the coronavirus outbreak:

[How to Talk to Children About Difficult News](#)

[Explaining the News to Our Kids](#)

[How to Talk to Kids About the Coronavirus Outbreak](#)

[How to Talk to Kids About Coronavirus](#)

In times like this, we are grateful for the strength and togetherness of this community. This is an evolving and complex situation, and we will continue to follow the latest CDC and DHS updates for guidance on the most effective and sensible prevention measures. We will continue to provide updates as information becomes available. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

PRWS Admin Team & Faculty Council