



Weekly Newsletter

March 18, 2011

“Awake, thou wintry earth -
Fling off thy sadness!
Fair vernal flowers, laugh forth
Your ancient gladness!”
~Thomas Blackburn

This week's full newsletter can be found online at www.waldorfpittsburgh.org.

The school would like to apologize for the delay getting the Newsletter out on Friday. The delay was due to technical difficulties. Due to the delay all articles are represented in their entirety here and online.

Check out our ad on page 36 of *Shady Avenue* magazine.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Sun 3/20** • Barnes & Noble Book fair, 11:30-2:00 pm, Waterworks Mall, **Book fair code will continue to earn money for the school all week this week.**
- Mon 3/21** • First Grade Parent Evening, 6:00 pm, First Grade Classroom
- Tue 3/22** • Fourth Grade Play, 10:00 am, Chapel
• Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Auditorium
- Wed 3/23** • Third Grade Play, 4:30 pm, Auditorium
- Thu 3/24-
Fri 3/25** • Conferences, No School, Extended Care and Child Care available, Little Friends in session as usual
- Mon 3/28-
Fri 4/1** • Spring Break, No School, No Little Friends, No Extended Care

GENERAL NEWS

Conferences

Conferences are being held next week on March 24th and 25th. Sign-up sheets for time slots are on the bulletin board outside the Front Office.

Two different forms of childcare are being offered on these dates.

1. Extended care will be in session both days, each with three sessions: 8:30 am-12:00 pm, 12:00-4:30 pm, and 8:30 am-4:30 pm. Please contact Ms. Abigail at extendedcare@waldorfpittsburgh.org or at x230 to schedule extended care for your child. Sign-ups for Extended Care on these dates closed on **March 14th at 3:15 pm. All spots have been filled.**

2. Time-specific childcare will be offered for actual conferences times only. The cost is \$5.00 per family, per conference. Please contact the Front Office to schedule time-specific child care. Sign-ups for this childcare will close on **March 21st at 3:15 pm.** A minimum number of sign-up will be needed for this.

Communications Survey

In an effort to create a solid, universal line of communication with our community, the Waldorf School of Pittsburgh is polling our community to get an idea of the preferred modes of communication among our members. The survey is anonymous; however, those who take the survey online will be given the opportunity at the end to be entered in a drawing to win a \$25.00 Forest Garden Gift Certificate. Your entry for the drawing will not be associated with your answers. To take the survey visit <http://waldorfpittsburgh.org/school-communications-survey/>

Waldorf Moms' Night Out

Christina Frasher, Sundrop Kindergarten and First Grade parent, will be hosting a Waldorf Mom's Night Out on March 26 at the Squirrel Hill at 9:30 pm. In addition to the opportunity to get out and spend time with some of the other moms of the Waldorf School, this event will be a farewell night to Billye Constance, also a Kindergarten parent who will be returning to New Orleans with her family this summer.

Ms. Frasher will also host another Mom's night out in May at the Cantina in Lawrenceville (when the patio opens). So if you can't make this one there will be another one.

RSVP to Christina by email at cmfrasher@gmail.com or phone at 412-251-9368.

Student Artwork Project

Student Artwork collection started today for the Student Artwork Project Fundraiser. And will continue next week before Spring Break. Volunteers will be collecting student artwork at a table in the foyer. The PA would especially like to encourage Early Childhood children to participate as their artwork is so ephemeral. All artwork must be turned in before Spring Break.

Please give your child's artwork directly to the PA volunteer or direct your child to do so. Please have the student's name, grade and school clearly written on the back of their artwork, along with an indication of which side is up. All artwork must be turned in along before Spring Break.

Samples of items are on display in the foyer of the school along with a poster showing additional products available. For more information and to download the Art Guidelines,

visit <http://waldorfpittsburgh.org/waldorfcom/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/AnnouncementLetterWSP.pdf>

Barnes and Noble Book fair

This Sunday, March 20 from 11:30-2:00pm the school is holding a book fair at the Barnes and Noble bookstore at the Waterworks Mall. This is a fundraiser for the school and all purchases count; even café purchases. Come on by and support the school by using the Code 10416410 at checkout or just saying you are with the Waldorf School of Pittsburgh at the checkout. If you can't stop by on Sunday, please visit us online between March 20th through March 25th to purchase books, CDs, DVDs, etc. and use our code.

Kim John Payne

The author, counselor, and educational consultant, Kim Payne, will be presenting a lecture on Saturday, April 16th from 7-9pm discussing Simplicity Parenting. On Sunday, April 17th from 9am-1pm, Mr. Payne will be taking an in-depth look at Social Inclusion in his workshop by the same name. This workshop is open to all, but especially useful to teachers, administrators and counselors. At this Sunday workshop, Mr. Payne will ask us to take a deeper look into bullying, to better understand it and work through it in the classroom and within the home. You can purchase tickets at the front desk. Please check out his website: www.simplicityparenting.com.

From the PA

For those who missed the WSPPA meeting this week, held Tuesday 3/15, minutes can be viewed [here](#).

The next meeting will be on Saturday, 4/9/11, from 9-10am. There will be coffee and something good to eat. A Grounds Committee Clean-up is scheduled for the same day. Why not come for both?

Check it out! The Parent Association now has a G-Queues list of volunteer opportunities on the school webpage <http://waldorfpittsburgh.org/volunteer/> and scroll to the bottom.

Questions and Answers about the Waldorf School of Pittsburgh's Boot & Shoe Exchange

Q: How can I participate?

A: We welcome donations of children's boots and shoes. We also encourage you to purchase boots and shoes from our selection at \$1/pair.

Q: Where is the Boot & Shoe Exchange located?

A: All boots and shoes are located on two gray shelves with pull-down covers in the hallway between the auditorium and Lavender Nursery cubbies. Currently we have two shelves worth of boots and shoes, organized by size, that you can browse through at your convenience. Please place any boot and shoe donations you have in the basket in front of the shelves.

Q: How do I pay for the pairs I want to take?

A: Place your money in an envelope labeled "Boot & Shoe Exchange" and put the envelope in the Forest Garden drop box. Envelopes will be available on the grey shelves for your use.

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

Coral Bell Kindergarten

The Coral Bell Kindergarten has been celebrating St. Patrick's Day with stories of tricky Leprechauns and ways to find their gold. Many of the children have been searching for Leprechauns and their treasures outside. Those sneaky Leprechauns have even found a way into our room to turn our food green!

GRADES NEWS

In the Second Grade

Everyone enjoyed the Shoebox juggling show from this morning. As we look into next week, we are excited to see the Grade 4 and Grade 3 plays on Tuesday and Wednesday. Also, the Grades Faculty has been working hard to find a Grade 1 teacher for next year. This week we had the good fortune to see two prospective teachers lead lessons and we look forward to another one next week. This past week, in honor of St. Patrick's Day, we read Irish stories, learned to make Celtic knots on paper and out of wax, we dressed in our green best on Thursday and got a taste of Irish soda bread as a special snack.

FROM THE ENROLLMENT OFFICE

Re-enrollment

All re-enrollment applications were due on February 28th. We still have some re-enrollment applications that have not been submitted. If you plan for your child to return next school year, please submit your form or contact the Enrollment office for another copy.

Nursery Applications

All Nursery applications were due March 15th. If you are still interested in applying for Nursery for your child next school year, please contact the enrollment office to discuss the wait list option.

VOLUNTEERING

Sign up for a summer mowing spot

The school would like to ask for volunteers to help cut grass this spring and summer. Like last year, interested individuals should sign up for a particular week during the warm months. Sometime during your assigned week, you will need to volunteer for an hour or two to cut grass or trim those areas where there is most need. You won't have to cut the entire lot!

This system worked well last year in dividing the large task of keeping the grass cut

among a group of people while lightening the work load on any one individual. You can sign up for a week using this link: <https://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=0AkpEiu-4JiYEdG5VOUVadjJQU2FCaDM4SGQ4V0hzbFE&hl=en>

Contact Brendan Froeschl at bfroeschl@waldorfpittsburgh.org if you have any questions.

All of the above articles can be found in their entirety at <http://waldorfpittsburgh.org/tag/newsletter31811/>