

6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Newsletter Number 17

Dear Parents/Carers,  
Spring is definitely in the air with daffodils opening up and the early blossoms bringing some colour to the trees. As the weather is still very changeable please do ensure that children are well kitted out, particularly on their woodland/ outdoor day.

Please see below an update from Simon, along with some community notices, a staffing update and information about upcoming events.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Sarah Fox

On behalf of the School Leadership Team



### Quick dates for the diary:

\*NEW\* - March 11<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm – Pinetrees performance of ‘The Lion and the Mouse’

March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm – Parent Evening ‘The Challenge of Raising Children in the Digital Age’ led by David van Marle – all welcome – **details below**

March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm – Parent Evening: ‘Educational Eurythmy’ led by Sara Hunt – all welcome – **details below**

April 1st from 2-3pm – Eurythmy Harvest of Work – all welcome

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Oslo City Steiner School Music Concert – more details to follow

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May – BANK HOLIDAY – no school

Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> – Multicultural May Fair – all welcome – more details to follow

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2-3pm – Harvest of Work – all welcome

Monday 25th May to Monday 1st June 2020 – Half Term – School resumes Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Thursday 9th July – Last day of term for KG and Friday 10th July 2020 – Last day for LS

Date TBC – Eurythmy Performance by the West Midlands Stage Group – more details to follow

## Whole School Messages/Community Updates

### Update from Simon Birch

Dear Parents and stakeholders, we have been working hard on preparing the school for the next stage of our Ofsted journey with whole school training on the new Inspection framework. Areas of the Action Plan are being prioritised such as taking on new Trustees. We are also working hard to improve our SEND provision. We are delighted that a fantastic new SENDCo; Charli Waller will be joining us in June. Until then I will be taking the school SENDCo role on as a stop-gap, with ongoing support from Kelly Scott. This is not ideal in that I am only in school at most twice a week but the SEND department is now blessed with a great team of TA's and my focus will be on ensuring individual plans and strategies are put in place for pupils who require support. The incredible teachers and the SEND team will work together with families here. I have thirty years SEN experience so I do need to contribute at CSS in such areas. We are also refining new behaviour and prevention of bullying policies which should help all feel safer than ever at CSS.

I have been heartily impressed with the joys of education within the classrooms and around school. It is an absolute pleasure to see all be it the play and outdoor learning, the magnificent workbooks or the striking creativity pulsing through the school. Sarah and the SLT are working tirelessly trying to support the great demands of school improvement with the well-being and work/life balance that is so crucial. Keep looking after one another in your great community and thank you for the tremendous support continually being shown.

And finally....

#### HAPPINESS AT CAMBRIDGE STEINER SCHOOL

Laugh, and the world laughs with you  
Smile and you're never alone  
This grand old earth is full of mirth  
Now relish a bit of our own  
Sing and the hills will answer  
Clouds will dance in the air  
The echoes bound to a joyful sound  
Of tenderness and care  
.....  
Rejoice and fellows will seek you  
Join and put on a show  
They want full measure of all your pleasure  
Be willing to give it a go  
Be glad and your friends are many  
At Cambridge we have a ball  
There are none to decline your nectared wine  
So many to answer your call  
.....  
Perform and your halls are crowded  
Music, Eurythmy and drama flies by  
Succeed and give and it helps you live  
Knowing you've cast it a try

There's room in the heart of all  
For a long and lordly laugh  
So one by one we carry on  
Our wonderful students and staff

.....  
Simon Birch

Adapted from 'Solitude' by Ella Wheeler Wilcox 1883 with apologies

### Staffing Update

We are pleased to announce that Rebecca Mitchell will be resuming the all important role of Admissions Officer, working alongside Bridget Crabb . There will be an Open Morning before the end of term so please have a think as to whether there is anyone you know who you could invite (flyer to follow).

Merel van Dijk has, for personal reasons, resigned from her role as Elderflower Kindergarten teacher and is leaving the school. We wish her all the best. Beate Guertler-Green will take on the class, supported by the wonderful Elderflower team.

Introducing Charli Waller, SENDCo, joining in June:

*My name is Charli and I am very excited to be joining the Cambridge Steiner School as the new SENDCo. As soon as I walked through the door, I felt so welcomed and in rhythm with the school.*

*Originally from Suffolk, I recently moved to Fulbourn having lived and taught in London for the past 13 years. During my career in education I have worked in a variety of roles, including; class teacher, Early Years Coordinator, Interventions teacher, SENDCo and Senior Leadership Team. I have 3 young children who take up most of my time but when I get the chance I enjoy running, knitting and cooking.*

*I am very much looking forward to joining the Cambridge Steiner community and getting to know you all.*

*King regards,  
Charli*

### Invoices

Please ensure all invoices for fees have been paid. If there any queries or you haven't received your spring term invoice, please email [finance@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:finance@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)  
Invoices are being prepared for those children taking lunches and will be going out very soon.

Andrea

### Craft Group

Craft Group runs every other Wednesday, starting the the week we come back from half term, Wed 26th February.

We are making little creatures for the Parent & Child room, and will be making marionettes for Rosebud KG.

No experience needed! Come for tea, coffee and a chat, meet other families and make new friends as well as keeping hands busy. Small children welcome.

For more information, contact Tina Tribe (mum to Amelie & Isabella, Classes 5 and 1) at [craftgroup@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:craftgroup@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)

**\*Changes to the Cambridge Steiner Community Clothing & Book Swap\***

Going forward the swap will be run on an ad hoc basis and during main school events, to ensure that it is open to all families in our community and at times that suit everyone. This 'ad hoc' basis will work in the following way:

If you have items to donate please do get in touch (i.e. do not leave items in the community room or by reception, without first letting me know) or if you would like to arrange a suitable time to look through appropriate age clothing etc, please contact me (Kelly) so that we can arrange a suitable time to meet in the Community room (by reception) on either....

Email: [kwawrzyniak@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kwawrzyniak@hotmail.co.uk)

Mob: 07989 102351

We have lots of lovely things waiting to be re used and recycled!  
Remember you can leave a monetary donation if you don't have clothing items to donate, or you may owe points to the swap at a later date!

Next school event Clothing Swap: Saturday May 16th, Multicultural May Fair!

**Organic Farm in the South of France – Message from Netty Smith, French Teacher**

Hello,

I am delighted that one of our Cambridge Steiner School graduates is currently studying French at Hill's Rd 6<sup>th</sup> Form College (there have been at least 3 others to my knowledge). She has a French penfriend who lives on an organic farm in the south of France. The French family can offer camping on their land in exchange for supporting their crowdfunding project to construct a building for drying seeds, a poultry house and a donkey house. If you are interested please look at the following link: <https://bluebees.fr/fr/project/627-ferme-du-lamalou>

**CoFarm Cambridge Design Launch (poster attached)**

Tomorrow afternoon - Saturday 7th March - between 12:00noon and 3:30pm - anyone is welcome to drop in to the Horizon Resource Centre, 285 Coldhams Lane, Cambridge CB1 3HY to view and help shape draft plans for Cambridge city's first community farm and find out how to get involved.

[Click here for further details](#) are on CoFarm's website.

Those who can't make it tomorrow but want to view and comment on the farm designs can do so online: <https://www.cofarm.co/survey>

We hope you can make it!

Many thanks and warmest regards,

Gavin (parent to Monty, class 3 and Digby, Class 1)

**Contributions to the Newsletter**



If there are things you would like to contribute to the school newsletter, please contact reception: [reception@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:reception@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)

## Coming up

### **March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm – Parent Evening ‘The Challenge of Raising Children in the Digital Age’ led by David van Marle – all welcome**

The world in which our children are growing up is very different from what we experienced. The growth of the internet has revolutionised the way young people communicate, spend their time and exist within the world. Whilst this technology presents many novel and exciting opportunities, the pitfalls and challenges are great. The potential negative impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing is frightening.

How do we help our children to navigate this new and ever changing digital world? If this question interests you, come along and be a part of this world cafe style evening in which we will explore these questions together.

### **March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm – Parent Evening: ‘Educational Eurythmy’ led by Sara Hunt – all welcome**

Dear Parents and Friends,

You are warmly invited to a talk on Educational Eurythmy given by our Eurythmy teacher Sara Hunt. There will be an overview of the curriculum in each class and why it is considered to be one of the fundamental subjects in Steiner schools. There will also be an opportunity to experience some of the exercises from the lessons.

The following day the children will be showing some of the work they have been doing during the term and again you are warmly welcome.

Sara recently completed a marathon which was in aid of raising funds so that we can host a performing Eurythmy group in the summer term. Any further donations would be most welcome on the evening or after the children's performance.