

Dear parents,

As the Spring Term draws to an end, we would like to share a few important messages and highlight some upcoming events scheduled for next term.

We hope all the children have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Wednesday 24th April.

Best wishes

Sarah Fox

On behalf of the School Coordination Team and Trustees

Here's a quick summary to make sure you don't miss anything!

Whole school messages/ community updates:

- AGM *new date* Monday 29th April – 7:30pm
- Waldorf 100 Wall Hanging – an update from Tina
- School Website

Looking back:

- Working party – THANK YOU!
- Eurythmy sharing
- Spring Concert

Coming up:

- School Photographer – Wednesday 1st May
- Multicultural May Fair – Saturday 11th May
- Inspiring Talk – Tuesday 14th May with Sven Saar – 7:30pm
- Curriculum Talk – Art in the Curriculum – Tuesday 21st May – 7:30pm
- Class 7/8 Presentations – Saturday 8th June
- Class 7/8 Play – A Midsummer Night's Dream – 20th and 21st June
- Class Parent Evening reminders
- Diary dates

Whole School Messages/ Community Updates

AGM *new date* Monday 29th April – 7:30pm

Full agenda to follow. As mentioned, at the AGM trustees report on what has happened at the School since the last meeting and membership of the Board of Trustees is renewed. But it is also an opportunity for members of the association to understand and reflect on our objectives and strategies for running the School effectively. If you have any particular items you wish to be

discussed, please email joel.chalfen@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk We will be introducing new mandate groups as a way for parents to have an active role in supporting and shaping the school. We will also be discussing the question of state funding as well as other options for the School moving forward. The school is currently looking to recruit additional trustees, if this is something you might be interested in, please do contact Joel.

Waldorf 100 Wall Hanging – an update from Tina

The Celebratory Centenary Waldorf 100 Wall Hanging which is being created by the Cambridge Steiner School is well on the way to being completed.

Many children in the Lower school have been hard at work: animals, leaves, tree bark and people have been either wet felted, woven, stitched or sewn. Children in the Kindergartens have been busy felting blossoms. The Parents Craft Group has been hard at work to make the background for the hanging, and learning how to crochet snowflakes. Crocheting is one craft that our children learn in school but not all parents can do, and it is skills like this that parents can come and learn at the Parent Craft Group. We are now about to stitch all this wonderful work made by the children into place. We are well on the way to having a completed celebratory centenary hanging for its unveiling at our May Fair on the 11th May.

Our very exciting news is that the hanging is due to go to its first public exhibition. It will be exhibited at the Cambridgeshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers (CGWSD) triennial exhibition on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th May in Grantchester Village Hall, Grantchester, Cambridge. We would like to thank the CGWSD for loaning looms for us to use, and for agreeing to hang the work at their exhibition, the standard of work for which is very high. Come along to the exhibition and let your children see their hanging form part of an exhibition! Have a go at spinning and weaving - experts will be on hand to help! There will also be a pop-up cafe selling lots of cake, tea and coffee.

If anyone is interested in coming along to craft group to help stitching or to learn skills, please drop in to the 'Old Shop' on a Wednesday between 8.40 and 11.00 am, or contact Tina Tribe (Parent Craft Group Leader, mum to Amelie, Class 4 and Isabella, Elderflower KG) at craftgroup@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk.

School Website

A big thank you to Smadar and her team of helpers for all the work that is going into the new school website. Here's a little note from Smadar:

Our school website is ON!

This is still a work in progress. We have much to do and there are some technical issues we are working on but we would LOVE to have your feedback. Let us help you start:

"Hi guys. This is the best website ever! HOWEVER_____"

Looking forward to hearing from you, just email to Smadar Smadar.avidor@gmail.com

Your Website Team

Looking back

Working party – THANK YOU!

A big thank you to those parents (and children!) who helped last weekend with tidying and mending in the garden. Although the inspectors didn't turn up, we are still preparing busily for it in the new term. A total of 18 Steiner schools have now been inspected so we will get the call after Easter. The help that day was hugely appreciated. Please do look out for any other impromptu community work days.

Eurythmy sharing

Class 1-8 brought together what they have been working on in their Eurythmy lessons this term to share with all the classes and parents. Here's a little reflection from parents who attended:

Eurythmy: what's it all about?

We had the privilege of having a glimpse into the Lower School Eurythmy lessons. The children performed so beautifully and with respect and reverence. Sara Hunt gave the parents the opportunity to ask questions and gave us insight into what it's all about. But it was seeing the children in this graceful and centred activity that gave the clearest view and understanding.

Spring Concert

A huge thank you to all our young musicians who performed in the Spring Concert last week! It was such a treat! Plans are already underway for more musical activities next term. If this is something you would like to be involved with/ are particularly interested in, then please email:

sarah.fox@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk

Feedback from a parent who attended: *We have an array of talented young musicians in this school! What a treat to see these confident youngsters performing with passion and skill. And how inspiring to those who haven't been exposed yet. It certainly opened up some conversations in our household and we're looking forward to more.*

Coming up

School Photographer – Wednesday 1st May

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we will be having a professional school photographer come to visit the school to take portraits of the children, both individually, and with their whole class, that you will be able to order. The photographer will come on Wednesday 1st May – hopefully the sun will be shining! Thanks to the Publicity Mandate Group for helping to organise this.

Multicultural May Fair – Saturday 11th May

More info to follow soon, but in the meantime a little heads up: Come along and join in this wonderful celebration, sharing cultural traditions and delicious food from around the world and

enjoying a dance around the Maypole. Our community festivals rely on everyone pulling together to help with preparations and logistics on the day. All families are asked to contribute to the multi-cultural feast (more details to follow), and lend a hand with setting up beforehand or clearing up afterwards. Any musicians are very welcome to join the band for the dancing (there will be a band rehearsal in the morning before the fair). If you'd like to help with the organisation of the fair, your support would be greatly appreciated. Any ideas or feedback from last year very welcome. Please contact: reception@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk

Inspiring Talk - Tuesday 14th May with Sven Saar

Dear All,

We are delighted to announce that Sven Saar, a very experienced class and upper school teacher, teacher trainer and advisor will be coming to Cambridge to do a talk on the **development of the adolescent** in the Upper School years (ages 14 -18) and how the Steiner Waldorf curriculum is able to support them at this time as they start to make the transition into adulthood.

Please save the date as this is a truly inspiring talk and a wonderful insight for parents and teachers alike -Tuesday 14th May 7.30 pm

If you would like any more information please contact me on cambridgeintegratededucation@gmail.com. With best wishes Rebecca Mitchell on behalf of the Upper School Project

Curriculum Talk – Art in the Curriculum – Tuesday 21st May – 7:30pm

Class Teacher David van Marle will be presenting a talk on the role of **Art in the Steiner Waldorf Curriculum**. All parents (and any interested friends or family) are more than welcome to join! We look forward to seeing you there!

Class 7/8 Project Presentations

The class 7/8 projects provide a chance for the pupils to gain many skills that will be invaluable to them in their future education and careers. They get a chance to really explore, study and develop skills in an area that they are particularly interested in. On Saturday 8th June the class will be giving presentations on their projects.

As Class 7/8 have been our pioneer class, this will be the first event of this kind at the school. To help give a little idea of what to expect, here is a little reflection from a parent who has firsthand experience from another school: *What an enjoyable and memorable event the Class 8 Project presentations were for the whole school community, and how important it is as the academic highlight of the whole year. For new parents with kindergarten children, it is an opportunity to see the achievements and the pinnacle of what can be reached by the older students; for the lower school children and families, it is a long-awaited moment to see their friend/pupil/child move on to the stage alone, and talk about their passion in what are very engaging, and interesting talks... The students see what a challenge it is to bring a project to fruition, to write a dissertation, to give a*

presentation, and to set out a stall with a display of photos and texts, books and possibly the project itself laid out with the student on hand to answer questions.

Class 7/8 Play – A Midsummer Night’s Dream

You are warmly invited to the Class 7/8 performance of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ on the 20th and 21st June, 7:30pm.

Class Parent Evening reminders:

Future Class 1 – 18 June - 8:30am – peep into Class 1/practical preparations

Class 1/2 – Tuesday 7th May 7:30pm

Class 3 – Tuesday 18th June 7:30pm

Class 4 – Tuesday 30th April 7:30pm

Class 5/6 – Tuesday 4th June 7:30pm

Class 7/8 – Tuesday 7th May 7:30pm (please note change of date)

Kindergarten – TBC

DIARY DATES (please note, some additional events are still to be scheduled)

Tuesday, 23 April
Training Day for All Staff - no school for all children
Wednesday, 24 April
Start of the Summer Term for All
Monday, 29 April
19:30 – AGM – 7:30pm
Tuesday, 30 April
19:30- Class 4 Parents Evening
Monday, 6 May
May Bank Holiday - school closed
Tuesday, 7 May
19:30 - Class 1/2 Parents Evening
Saturday 12 May
Multicultural May Fair from 12noon
Tuesday, 14 May
19:30 - Class 7/8 Parents Evening
Tuesday, 21 May
19:30 - Curriculum Talk – Art in the Curriculum – ALL WELCOME
Friday, 24 May
Last Day of the First Half of the Summer Term
14:00 - Harvest of Work Lower School – ALL WELCOME
Monday, 3 June
Start of the Second Half of the Summer Term
Tuesday, 4 June

19:30 - Class 5/6 Parents Evening
Saturday 8th June
Class 7/8 Project Presentations
Tuesday, 11 June
19:00 - Class 7/8 Project Presentations
Tuesday, 18 June
08:30 - Future Class 1 Morning
19:30 - Class 3 Parents Evening
Thursday 20, June Friday, 21 June – 7:30pm
Class 7/8 Play
Monday, 24 June
St John's Festival
Wednesday 26 – Friday 28 June
Class 5/6 Olympics Trip
Monday, 1 July
No school for class 5/6
Wednesday, 10 July
Last Day Buttercups KG
Thursday, 11 July
Last Day of Summer Term for Kindergarten Children
Friday, 12 July
Last Day of Term for Lower School Children