

Newsletter Number 27

*“Green was the silence, wet was the light,
the month of June trembled like a butterfly.”*

— **Pablo Neruda**

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a joy it has been to welcome more children back into school this week. Thank you for your support and patience with drop off and pick up. It is important that families head straight off once your child(ren) have been collected. During the school day we are taking great care to ensure the learning bubbles don't cross paths, and we really need your ongoing support in ensuring that this is not compromised within the carpark. Our thoughts are with those who continue to shield vulnerable family members, and with those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Please continue to keep in touch about how we can be best supporting you.

The tragic death of George Floyd has caused us to stop and take time to consider our school's response to the Black Lives Matter movement, particularly with respect to our curriculum, and to reflect on whether there is more that we can do within school to provide opportunities to explore these issues.

Our school has a commitment to equality and social responsibility and our staff work hard to promote equality and inclusion in and beyond our curriculum. We also continually endeavour to promote an approach of reflection, review and openness. We therefore look forward to having open, reflective and collaborative discussions over these coming months with those who are in touch with us. I know that many of you will have ideas and suggestions and will want to be part of the conversation. Our new Diversity Group (open to all) has its initial meeting this Thursday. Please see details below.

Have a good weekend!

Warm wishes

Sarah Fox

Term Dates

Last day of the summer term: Kindergarten Thursday 9th July; Lower School Friday 10th July

Autumn Term start - Thursday 3rd September (Kindergarten have a staggered start)

Whole School Messages/Community Updates

NEW: Introducing Nilesh

Over the coming weeks David Harrison will be handing over the financial and business running of the school to Nilesh Jethwa who is stepping into the role of School Business Manager.

Nilesh brings a wealth of financial management experience from the Public sector, having previously worked for the BBC and most recently, Lambeth Council, where he was the Assistant Finance Director for the Children's Service. Through his role, he is very familiar with school settings, having regular involvement with Head Teachers and Governors on school expansion plans, including grant-funded new builds and refurbishment projects as well as the day-to-day issues surrounding school improvement and generally the challenges faced by the education sector in resource management, compliance and safeguarding.

Nilesh relocated from London to Newmarket in 2018, having taken early retirement and now feels refreshed and ready to take on new challenges at the Cambridge Steiner School in bedding down the financial and managerial policies and procedures across the School.

NEW: Looking back - Class 5 Whitsun Celebration



Last week Class 5 celebrated their return to school with a small but beautiful Whitsun festival of daisies, bread doves, flowers and song.

NEW: Coming Up - St John's Festival

Midsummer entices us to dream with its long warm balmy days (let's trust they return!), blossoms and sweet scents. But there is always the danger of getting lost in these dreams - as was so perfectly articulated in last year's Class 7/8 performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. This midsummer festival celebrates St John, he who admonishes us to stay awake

for we have a path to tread. These are the images we try to weave into the activities of this festival. Fire rituals have been associated with midsummer festivals since ancient times: fires were jumped, and cattle driven through the dying embers. We jump over the fire casting off that which hinders us and, in its cleansing, may perhaps see the next step along our path. The fiery flames may lend us the courage to take that step, no matter how bumpy the road. Community and coming together is a big part of this festival, and this year this will look slightly different. In the past the whole school community have gathered around the fire lit by our Class 5 Olympians, sharing a summer fruit salad and cool elderflower drinks. While we will not be able to invite parents and siblings to join the festivities this year, we are working on a community project for everyone to be a part of the festivities, and it will still be a very special day for the children, including leaping over the fiery embers. We will keep you informed of our plans.

Reminder: Online Diversity Group

Dear Parents and Staff,

We feel it is important to deepen our communication within our school community and to try to understand and listen to the present challenges for minorities in our current climate. We are setting up a *diversity group* at CCS in response to a need to actively represent the diversity of our parent community and wider society in our school.

Questions may be raised by parents: Does the whole community see themselves reflected in our school festivals, plays, books, curriculum and resources? Does everyone feel included and welcome at our school? How can we adapt during the time of the corona crises and hear the voices of our vulnerable children, parents and staff?

The first meeting of all those interested will take place on:

Thursday, 18th June 2020 at 6.00 - 7.00 pm.

Everyone from our school with an interest in inclusion and diversity is welcome. Please get in touch if you would like to join our meeting or find out more.

I look forward to hearing from you - anne.patel@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk

NEW: Recipes from the Kitchen No. 7 – Vegan Fritters!

Simple recipes which you can enjoy making with your children - Recipe No. 7 attached.

Reminder: Lockdown Blossoms - Please upload any contributions the child wants to make to Google Classroom or email direct to: lockdownblossoms@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk. Multiple entries welcome.

Please keep in touch

- General enquiries, Bridget Crabb: reception@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk
- Admissions, Rebecca Mitchell: admissions@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk
- Fees or finance, Nilesh Jethwa: finance@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk; nilesh@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk
- Early Years, Beate Guertler-Green: beate.guertler-green@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk
- Lower School, Sarah Fox: sarah.fox@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk
- SEND, Charli Waller: charlotte.waller@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk

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

COVID-19

We encourage you to keep up to date with the latest developments and continue to follow government guidelines. Useful links:

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Community Messages:

Summer Childcare

Wondering what you are going to do for childcare through the summer holidays? Suzie Webb is a registered childminder, OFSTED think she's outstanding. This summer holidays she has space for extra children on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and possibly Fridays between 8.30 and 5.30. She will be on holiday with husband Iain and daughters Alice (Class 5) and Jody Peach (Rosebuds) from 3rd to 14th August but apart from that would love to have your darlings (moonbeams and older) round to play. Contact her on 07970128826 or suzieiloart@yahoo.co.uk.

Bushcraft and Craft Holiday Club with Andor

Dear Parents,

I am planning to run a summer bushcraft and craft holiday club from Monday 13th to Friday 17th July. It would be run on the grounds of the school from 08:30 to 15:00. The cost would be £35 per child per day with £25 for subsequent siblings. The children will engage in bushcraft activities and crafts using different natural materials including wood, willow and clay. The holiday club would be open only to children who are attending our school and their siblings from ages 8 to 14. In order to run the holiday club I would need to have a certain number of children every day. I would be grateful if you could indicate whether your child would like to attend and on which days this would be by Monday 22nd June. Please e-mail me at vinceandor@outlook.co.uk or send a message to 079 52635317. Thank you.

Please note that there are concessions available for families on low income.

Warmest wishes

Andor

Other Reminders/ Links:

NEW: Joyful June Calendar - attached

Reminder: A Year and a Day magazine - Beautiful new Waldorf-inspired magazine for children

You can get the free first issue and order the second issue by going to the 'shop' on our website: www.ayearandaday.co.uk

Reminder: Waldorf Wave – June Edition

From our friends at the School of Sophia: you can download your copy [here](#).

Information below has not changed since last week:

Reminder: If you're worried about your **child's anxiety**, YoungMinds is a charity dedicated to children's mental health. They've opened a [parents' helpline](#) for confidential, expert advice. You can reach them at 0808 802 5544. They can also give advice on supporting children and young people through **grief and loss**, click [HERE](#) for more details. [Winston'sWish](#) and [HopeAgain](#) are two other organisations which can offer support. For younger children, a therapeutic story may help, Badger's Parting Gifts by Susan Varney, is a lovely example.

Online Safety /NSPCC Helpline:

- [Online safety and coronavirus](#)
- [Upsetting coronavirus content online](#)
- [NSPCC helpline](#)

NHS Information Page – [What parents need to know about COVID-19](#)

Audible – stream stories for free <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Getting out and about: [A Walking Guide to the Fulbourn Area](#)

5 Golden Keys, by Helle Heckmann: Sleep, Movement, Food, Rhythm and Love – here is a [link](#) to some parenting workshops by Helle Heckmann exploring these themes.

Floris Books blog: - <https://www.florisbooks.co.uk/blog/2020/03/24/resources-for-parents/>

Simplicity Parenting [HOME PAGE](#) and [PODCAST](#)

Stories for Children in Times of Trouble - [The Little Prince](#) installments

[Talking to Children about COVID 19](#)

Post pictures and stories to the residents at Home Close, Cow Lane, Fulbourn CB21 5HB