

7<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here's a quick update on some upcoming events and a few whole school messages. Please do take the time to have a read through.

Best wishes

Sarah Fox

On behalf of the School Coordination Team

**Whole school messages/community updates:**

- School Development Evening – June 18<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm – ALL WELCOME
- An Awesome Waldorf 100 Gift
- Drama Club with Mr David – still spaces
- Bus Update
- Newsletter contributions
- Department Coordinators – short biographies

**Looking back:**

Waldorf 100 Hanging – Exhibition Feedback

**Coming up/reminders:**

- Class 7/8 Presentations – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June – ALL WELCOME – 10:30am-4pm
- St John's/Midsummer Celebrations – 24<sup>th</sup> June 1-3pm
- Class Parent Evening reminders
- Other reminders/dates for the diary

**Messages from the Community**

- Sourdough Bread – for sale on Tuesdays (see attachment)
- Bushcraft and woodcraft activities: Summer Holiday Clubs
- Two Rooms To rent in Fulbourn From July 20<sup>th</sup>

## Whole School Messages/Community Updates

**School Development Evening – June 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm – ALL WELCOME**

Just a reminder that there is a parent's evening planned for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June which will focus on the school's plans for improvement and developments for the future. There will be the opportunity for discussion and feedback. We hope you can make it along.

**An Awesome Waldorf 100 Gift**

A beautiful, handcrafted renovation of our hall has been taking place over the past two weeks.

This is a gift to our school made possible through the generosity of our sister school in Erfurt Germany.

During the past year Class 11 students (17-year olds) Erfurt Waldorf School have been raising funds for this project. With their carpenter teacher Christiane, they have bought wood, hired a van and loaded it with carpentry machinery, wood and curtain material and made the long drive to Cambridge.

For the past two weeks half of the Erfurt class have been here working on the hall: cleaning, painting, making skirting boards, curtain pelmets, making benches for the younger classes, beautiful cushions for them to kneel on and sewing new curtains for the hall. They have been supported by two other women who have given up their time for our school.

The Class has brought the best of teenage vitality into our school, care and beauty in their work – and even a demonstration of eurythmy and song.

We have of course shown them around Cambridge, the University Library, taken them punting, hosted them in our homes, spoken English with them and fed them – thank you Hollie, Rebecca, Clara, Charlotte D, Catherina, Tina – and Rupert for the Trinity punts. This renovation could also not have taken place without the additional gift from and former-trustee of £5,000. Though the person asked not to be named, we are truly grateful. I hope you will agree that the school is a happier, healthier and more beautiful place to be with this gift at its heart.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Christiane, Hannah, Nicole and their students Ronja, Clara, Felix, Ferdinand, Neele, Charlotte, Anselm, Lea, Theo and Maria.

### **Drama Club with Mr David – still spaces**

Mr David's after school drama club has started on Monday afternoons (please see attachment). There are still a few spaces, so do get in touch with him over the weekend if you'd like your child to join. [david.vanmarle@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:david.vanmarle@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)

### **Bus Update**

For those who have been wondering... Our dear new school bus has unfortunately been poorly since we welcomed it into our car park earlier in the year. However, this week it has finally been given a clean bill of health and it has already been put to good use chartering class 5/6 and 7/8 to the woods.

### **Newsletter contributions**

If you have a contribution for the newsletter, please send to: [sarah.fox@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:sarah.fox@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)

### **Department Coordinators – Short Biographies**

The department coordinator roles were introduced this academic year to help with the day to day running and leadership of the school, to support the teachers in their work and take a lead in the development of teaching and learning across the school.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about your child's education, we urge you in the first instance to get in touch with your class teacher. For questions that go beyond the realms of the classroom, or in an instance where you feel a concern has been left unresolved, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with your department coordinator. In some instances, class teachers may also choose to seek the extra support of their coordinator to help facilitate conversations with parents/explore possible actions. If you ever feel in doubt as to who to contact about something you wish to discuss/ information you require, then simply get in touch with Beate or Sarah and they will be more than happy to help.

Short Biographies:

#### **Beate Guertler-Green Early Years' Coordinator**



Having grown up in a beautiful village in Germany, I lived a childhood nurtured by the freedom to roam in the outdoors, explore for myself, and invent and direct street games. I always felt an affinity for working with children and have been able to develop this passion since I started in Cambridge Steiner School in 2000. The outdoors has always been my passion and I am proud that we are now in our 10th year of running our woodland programme for the kindergartens. This has been hugely beneficial for the children and served as a model which many other settings followed. Being the teacher of Elderflower Kindergarten for 11 years, I now enjoy supporting other teachers and staff to develop the gifts and skills they bring. I love working in this community and I will never cease to see the magic which the children bring to this world. Being a role model in all we do and are is the most important thing I have learnt.

As a member of the School Coordination Team I am

keen to develop close links between Early Years and the Lower School, and improve communication on all levels. I hope to continue to contribute to make our school a vibrant and sustainable place, so that future generations of children can thrive in this environment. I love reading biographies, enjoy a good dance and being out in nature. I studied pedagogy in Germany (level 6) and qualified as a Steiner Early Years Teacher (level 5) in London in 2009.

### **Sarah Fox – Lower School Coordinator**



I spent my own early childhood in East Africa and my family later moved to the Scottish Borders. I studied Combined Social Sciences at Durham University, specialising in Education. Before university I spent some time volunteering at the Gaia Waldorf School in Cape Town, and after I graduated from Durham and moved to Cambridge it wasn't long before I had found my way into the classrooms at Cambridge Steiner School, teaching subject lessons in the Lower School and assisting in the Kindergarten. Alongside my work at the school I completed the West of England Steiner Teacher Training course and in 2012 I became a Class Teacher in the Lower School. In the following year I joined the school management team. In 2015 I left the school to start a family, though I continued to support the Lower School in a voluntary capacity. In January 2019 I took up

the post of Lower School Coordinator. In this role, I hold overall responsibility for the running of the department and for monitoring the quality of teaching and assessment, pupil's learning, the curriculum and pupil's personal development. I represent the Lower School in the School Coordination Team.

### **Looking Back**

#### **Waldorf 100 Hanging – Exhibition Feedback**

Here's some feedback from one of the members of the Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers following the recent exhibition where our wall-hanging was displayed:

*I wanted to give you some feedback about your school's contribution to our event.*

*The artwork itself is magnificent, the quality is superb and the content engaging, but I think more important was the input from the children. The project reminded me strongly of my own education in the 1960's, learning without children even realising they're doing it, which I think is a wonderful way to educate - I speak as a retired science teacher.*

*We had many young visitors during the two days, many of whom had worked on the project, and they were, without exception, a joy to talk to. They all explained their part in the project and told me what others had done, clearly proud of their own work and that of their fellow pupils. In addition they were interested in the activities of the Guild, I joined a group who were watching a demonstration of tapestry weaving and was impressed by the intelligent questions they asked - clearly they were thinking the process through.*

*Please pass on my congratulations to all who were involved in the project, pupils, parents and staff - perhaps particularly the staff who are clearly doing a wonderful job in these very tough times for education.*

## Coming up

### **Class 7/8 Presentations – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June – ALL WELCOME – 10:30am-4pm**

You are warmly invited to the Class 7/8 Project Presentations this Saturday (8th June), which will take place here at school between 11am and 3pm, refreshments will be provided. Everyone welcome - come along and be inspired by what the pupils have been working on this year!

Schedule of the Day:

10:30-11:00 market place- discuss the projects with the children in an informal way

11:00 -11:20 Freya: "Norse Silver Jewelry"

11:20-11:40 Jeronimo: "Building and welding a gravity racer"

11:40-12:00 Milan: "Building a remote control aeroplane"

12:00-12:20 Yano: "The comic Adventure"

12:30-1:30 light lunch provided by class

1:30-1:50 Pip: "Making the blue boar (sailing boat)"

1:50-2:20 Indigo: "Cope Dot Art"

2:20-2:40 Sebastiano: "The electro-Harp"

2:40-3:00 Sonny: "Mechanics"

3:00-4:00 Market place

### **St John's/Midsummer Celebrations – 24<sup>th</sup> June 1-3pm**

Midsummer entices us to dream with its long warm sunny days, blossoms and sweet scents. But there is always the danger of getting lost in this - as you will see in Class 7/8's production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. It delightfully illustrates how Fairyland makes mockery of us humans when we lose ourselves in the joys of summer. The celebration of St John's (24<sup>th</sup> June), a few days after the Summer Solstice, calls us back from dreaminess to address what is important – both in ourselves and in the world around us. Part of this

celebration involves the purifying, transformative power of fire. Fire rituals have been associated with Midsummer since ancient times: fires were jumped and cattle driven through the dying embers.

The Lower School invites all families to join us in this festival of song, food and jumping the embers of the fire. Monday 24th June 1-3pm School Courtyard and then in the Playground

Note for Lower School parents:

On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June could your child/ren please bring in:

- Flowers
- Summer fruits to share in the salad that we will prepare for all the school, kindergarten children and lower school parents.
- **Please note: to jump the fire safely children – and adults too - must be wearing proper shoes that will support their feet during the jump (no crocs, flipflops, loose sandals). In the past adults have jumped barefooted but from now on everyone needs to be properly shod.**

If you have any questions please do speak to your class teacher or to me.

Ute, on behalf of the Lower School

### **Class Parent Evening reminders**

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

Elderflower Kindergarten – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 7:30pm

Rosebud Kindergarten – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 7:30pm

### **Other reminders/dates (see previous newsletters/class updates for more details):**

- Whitsun Celebrations in the KG – week starting 10<sup>th</sup> June
- School Development meeting – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June
- Class 7/8 Play – A Midsummer Night's Dream – 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June
- **\*\*Elderflower and Rosebud End of Year Ceremony – 11<sup>th</sup> July – 10:45am-1pm (KG finishes for all at 1pm)\*\***
- **\*\*End of the Year Celebrations/Lower School Reports Ceremony – 12<sup>th</sup> July – 1:30-3pm\*\***

## **Messages from the Community**

### **Sourdough Bread – for sale on Tuesdays (see attachment)**

For sale Tuesdays after school in reception area/the parent and child room. Rye/wheat bread: pure rye, white bread, seed or fruit bread and more available by order.

Email: david.vanmarle@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk

### **Bushcraft and woodcraft activities: Summer Holiday Clubs**

This summer we will be running a summer holiday club over two weeks. The holiday club will be run from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at the Cambridge Steiner School in Fulbourn and from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Abington Woods, Little Abington village.

The children will engage in bushcraft and woodcraft activities such as fire lighting, outdoor cooking, tracking, foraging, green woodworking and learning survival skills. The children will listen to stories and play outdoor games.

The holiday club is suitable for children from age 7 to 12.

The club starts at 8.30am and finishes at 3pm. The cost of the club is £35 per child per day with subsequent siblings £25 per day.

Spaces are limited. If you would like more information or you would like to enroll your child on the holiday club, please e-mail Andor Vince at [vinceandor@outlook.com](mailto:vinceandor@outlook.com) or call 079 52635317.

### **Two Rooms To rent in Fulbourn From July 20<sup>th</sup>**

(Mr) David is looking for 2 housemates to join him. The house is a Victorian end of terrace house with a nice garden on Impetts Lane just opposite the Green and a 2-minute walk from the woods. It is a 20 minute walk from school and a short bike ride.

Rooms from £400-500. Please spread the word!!

If you are interested and would like to come and have a look at the rooms you can call David on: 07873352769.