

10 May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy start to the term we have had! Please do take the time to read this newsletter as it contains some important messages and details of upcoming events.

Best wishes

Sarah Fox

On behalf of the School Coordination Team

#### **Whole school messages/ community updates:**

- Communication / School Development Update
- Bikes – keep them locked!
- Woodwork Club
- Photographs
- Erfurt Students – coming in June!

#### **Looking back:**

- Thursday's concert

#### **Coming up/reminders:** (see previous newsletters for original details)

- TOMORROW: Multicultural May Fair – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May – 11am-4pm
- Open Morning – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, from 9am
- Early Years Parent Talk – Children's Drawings – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 1:30pm-3pm
- Harvest of Work – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – 2-3pm
- HALF TERM - 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May
- Class Parent Evening reminders

#### **Other reminders:**

- Inspiring Talk – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May with Sven Saar – 7:30pm
- Curriculum Talk – Art in the Curriculum – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May – 7:30pm
- Class 7/8 Presentations – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June
- Class 7/8 Play – A Midsummer Night's Dream – 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June

#### **Messages from the Community**

- Bushcraft and Nature Connection Day – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, Abington Woods, 9-4pm
- Outdoors in Nature – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019, CSS, from 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Looking for Accommodation

## Whole School Messages/ Community Updates

### Communication / School Development Update from SCT

Improving communication has been highlighted as a key area for development within the school. We are trialling sending out a newsletter each week with key information and reminders about upcoming events. In addition to sharing information directly relating to school life, we also want to celebrate and support our wider school and local community by sharing community messages with parents. For now, these messages will be added to the whole school newsletter. However, we are exploring other ways in which these messages could be shared. One suggestion that has been put forward is a community communications newsletter, that parents could opt-out from if they wish. This could be something held by a mandate group. If you would be interested in contributing to this idea, then please contact [sarah.fox@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:sarah.fox@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)

We would like to take this opportunity to apologise for the duplicate emails some families are receiving due to having children within more than one class group. The school has recently changed its email provider, and we are still working out some of the technical issues. Thank you for your patience.

The School Coordination Team has been working alongside staff, trustees, parents, pupils and external advisors to revise the school's improvement plan. Feedback from the parent evening early last term, along with individual feedback that has been passed on from parents, has fed into this process. We would have liked to have a greater dialogue with community members whilst undertaking this review; however, it has been important to take the time to work with the feedback we had already received and develop plans for improvement and change. We greatly value the commitment and input of you, our parent body, and we plan to host a parent's evening next term that will focus on the school's plans for improvement and developments for the future. We will confirm a date soon and hope you can make it along.

### **Bikes – please keep them locked!**

Please remember to lock your (children's) bikes that are left in the car park. Thank you!

### **Fine Woodwork Club**

This term, on Wednesdays, we are running a fine woodworking after school club for children age 7 up. The sessions will start on Wednesday 15th May, 3:15 to 4:30pm.

The children will learn fine woodworking skills using hand tools, such as saws, chisels, planes, drills, rasps and hammers. They will engage in age-appropriate projects, developing their hand skills, fine and gross motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

The number of places is limited to 8. The cost of attending the club this term is £120. The cost includes tools and materials.

If you would like to enroll your child or would like more information about the woodworking club please do not hesitate to contact Andor Vince at [vinceandor@outlook.com](mailto:vinceandor@outlook.com) or call 07952635317.

## School Photographs

Teachers are handing out school photos; you should receive your child's portrait and class photo with an envelope to give back to your class teacher, or order direct on line. Also available are large whole school photos, available for order; please see Elke at the front desk if you would like a memento of all the pupils and teachers of the lower school gathered by the crocodile. Orders for photos need to be placed, if possible, over the next two weeks before the start of the half term break- by Harvest of Work on Friday 24th May.

## Erfurt Students – coming in June!

In early June we will be hosting a group of woodwork students from Germany! Once again they will bring their gifts - we will have benches for a Moveable classroom for Classes 1- 3 and an inspiring makeover for the Hall. painting, woodwork and fabrics - ready for 100 years of Waldorf Education. I'm still looking for another 2/3 families to host a student or two! If you have any questions please do let me know. [ute.towriss@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:ute.towriss@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)

## Looking back

### Thursday's Concert

The school was bustling with activity yesterday as we hosted a group of Class 12 music students from the Oslo Steiner School. They performed two amazing concerts for us, it was such a treat!

*The concert moved me to tears; it wasn't just the music, the amazing talent and the beautifully performed pieces, it was seeing this group of young people, so clearly passionate about what they were doing, enjoying making music together. They radiated joy and a wonderful self-confidence; no hint of arrogance, just a sense of being comfortable within themselves. An inspiration for us all!*

*It was very much needed... to just let go and listen to some cool and talented children... and even dance :)*

*Absolutely fantastic. The ingenuity of the instruments, rhythm, enthusiasm of the students was infectious. They should be invited to play in a bigger space with general public invited... proper concert. Great to show what Steiner education can achieve.*

*We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the concert! Down to earth, passionate, unassuming, yet in-your-face skillful brilliance! What an inspiration for Eva both musically and emotionally, Thank you!!*

*It was amazing, joyful and made me cry.*

*Some comments from Class 7/8: Brilliant! Awesome! Sublime! Really really good! A large variety of music styles with a Norwegian twist. They received a standing ovation and we got an encore.*

## Coming up

### **TOMORROW: Multicultural May Fair – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May – 11am-4pm**

As in previous years, we will celebrate the arrival of spring as well as the richness of our multicultural school community with maypole dancing, music, an international bring-and-share lunch, may crown making and the chance to chat and enjoy a lovely afternoon together.

On the day, please bring the following:

- a picnic rug
- any flowers to decorate the may crowns (whatever you can spare from your garden will be great, and dandelions and daisies look lovely, too!)
- food to share from your home country
- if you have a large table cloth you could bring that would be very helpful
- your dancing shoes

Looking forward to seeing you all there and - please don't hesitate to ask any questions you may have. If you can't make it for the whole day, then please don't let that stop you from coming along for however long you can!

### **Open Morning – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, from 9am**

Just a reminder that current parents are always welcome to join in our Open Mornings, for a chance to peek into the classrooms and see what the children are up to. Email: [admissions@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:admissions@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk) if you'd like to join next week, or speak to Elke or Rebecca.

### **Early Years Parent Talk – Children's Drawings – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 1:30pm-3pm**

After our successful last parent meeting about child development, we would like to offer another interesting topic 'Children's drawings'.

When: Wednesday 22/05/19 - 1.30-3.00 pm

Where: Parent and Child/ Community room

Parents/carers and people generally interested in this topic are warmly welcome. Please let your teacher or group leader know that you are coming. Thank you.

### **Harvest of Work – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – 2-3pm**

All welcome – come along and see what the children in Lower School have been learning about this term.

### **HALF TERM - 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May**

School resumes on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June for all children.

### **Class Parent Evening reminders**

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

Class 3 – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 7:30pm

Class 5/6 – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 7:30pm

Kindergarten – TBC

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

- Inspiring Talk – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May with Sven Saar – 7:30pm
- Curriculum Talk – Art in the Curriculum – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May – 7:30pm
- Class 7/8 Presentations – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June
- Class 7/8 Play – A Midsummer Night’s Dream – 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June
- End of Year Ceremony – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July

## **Messages from the Community**

### **Bushcraft and Nature Connection Day**

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June we are running a family bushcraft and nature connecting day at Abington Woods, Little Abington.

Families with children of all ages are welcome!

This one-day practical bushcraft and nature connection workshop is aimed at families who would like to learn basic skills to enjoy the outdoors. In this workshop you will learn to:

- set up a simple shelter for cooking over an open fire
- chop wood and prepare kindling using axe and hatchet
- light fire using different fire lighting techniques
- cook outdoors over a fire
- use simple wood carving techniques with a knife with emphasis on safety with children
- play nature connection games with children

You will also experience family-orientated practical nature connection activities in a woodland setting. The day will include a talk about nature connection and its importance for the physical

development and mental wellbeing of children and adults with time for discussion and questions. The workshop includes a list of resources to take away.

The workshop will start at 09:00 and will finish at 16:00. Cost per family £65. Concessions available.

Spaces are limited to six families. Booking is essential.

If you are interested in attending or would like more information about the Bushcraft and Nature Connection Family Day, please e-mail Andor Vince at [vinceandor@outlook.com](mailto:vinceandor@outlook.com) or call 079 52635317.

### **Outdoors in Nature – Saturday 15th June 2019, CSS, from 9.30am – 2.30pm**

Nature Play Workshops offer adults a practical learning experience to support children's play and development. Workshops are designed to bring you to a deeper understanding of play. We look at how we adults can best support children's play, and we explore the elements that make a great play environment.

- How play unfolds – universal play patterns
- Our relationship with the outdoors
- The roles of movement and care in play
- Lessons in child-led play; adult roles and approaches
- Exercises, slides and time for discussion

To book a place please contact Menna Godfrey on [mennagodfrey@gmail.com](mailto:mennagodfrey@gmail.com).

For more information go to:

<http://www.nature-play.co.uk/workshops.html>

### **Looking for Accommodation**

Dear friends and families,

We are a family with two young children. I am working in buttercups kindergarten.

We are looking for a place to stay from 11th May till mid August ideally near fulbourn or chery hinton area. We are happy to pay.

One big room or small accommodation for us would be perfect for the time being or something to share in a family.

Please contact me for further details on my email address [martagandini.indaco@gmail.com](mailto:martagandini.indaco@gmail.com)

We are urgently looking for something as soon as possible .

We hope someone can help.



Thank you so much,

Regards

Marta