

## **WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK**

The 2007 – 2008 school year has begun. All grades, all subjects and all the early childhood classes and programs in both locations have had their first sessions and are on their way. We are adjusting to new routines, new faces, renewed faces, new configurations, new classrooms, new desks, new subjects and a new year. We come on the foundation of the now 21 years of the Cape Ann Waldorf School behind us and are forging ahead past that significant milestone as “young adults” ready to make a difference in the world.

Like youth at age 21, many of whom graduated the previous spring from undergraduate studies and have completed their last excuse for a summer vacation, we now fully face how we will take our next steps in determining what and in what form we make our contribution to the world. As in all those graduated youth, the value of what we bring is inherent in who we are and in the truth, goodness and beauty of what we are striving to bring forth. Like for them, our challenges lie in the striving to stay true to our journey as it traverses deserts, crosses seas and climbs every mountain. From the small children who do this naturally but unconsciously, and depend on a safe and pure environment in which to grow, to the older children who develop through their stages of maturation to awaken and begin to take responsibility for who they are within their environment, to the community of parents and teachers – many well beyond the age of 21 but now re-entering it through the school’s now 21 year old turning point – we are in this together to realize our school’s mission *to provide the foundation upon which children become aware,*

*The mission of the Cape Ann Waldorf School is to provide the foundation upon which children become aware, well-rounded, healthy adults capable of facing the challenges of tomorrow; to offer Waldorf education in a non-elitist, non-discriminatory manner to all children whose parents desire it.*

CAWS Parent Handbook

*well-rounded, healthy adults capable of facing the challenges of tomorrow.*

This is no simple task in a world that is also going through its changes, but we are well equipped and the solutions are among us because what better solution than the foundation of aware, well-rounded and healthy youth growing towards adulthood.

The school year has begun and the learning ever continues. Welcome and welcome back to the 2007 – 2008 school year. *Ed.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT***

As you read in our summer mailing, I have been working to fill the very big shoes, metaphorically speaking, of Rebecca Dawson, who ably filled the position of Administrator since March. In just a few months, she helped us make important strides in making our administration more professional and accountable. My hope is to be able to help the school take its next steps in the administrative realm.

My work will include the following:

- To assist the various bodies and committees of the school in communication, accountability, and follow-through regarding their decisions.
- To clarify and strengthen the decision-making and communication processes in the school (i.e., where to go with questions and concerns, and how they will be addressed).
- To assist the faculty, board, and parents in strategic planning and school self-study/assessment.
- To continue work on staffing and strengthening all the administrative functions of the school, thus laying groundwork for the transition to a new Administrator next fall.

Regarding the last item, we have filled the position of office coordinator on an interim basis, and will be seeking candidates for that and other positions, including office support, bookkeeping, and development.

I will be at school on Mondays and Thursdays, on those days meeting with Office Staff, Executive Committee, Faculty, and College. I am generally available on Mondays from 8:10-10:10, by phone on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and by e-mail anytime. If I can't answer your question or concern myself, I can direct you to the right place.

I look forward to working with you all in this capacity!

COMING NEXT: *A Field Guide to the Cape Ann Waldorf School*, or, "Who Do I Talk to About..."

Jenny Helmick  
978-853-8056 (cell)  
[jenniferhelmick@comcast.net](mailto:jenniferhelmick@comcast.net)

### ***NEW PARENTS RECEPTION***

All new parents at the Cape Ann Waldorf School this fall have been invited to a New Parents' Reception on Friday evening, September 28, 2007. This year it will take place

in Manchester at the home of eighth grade parent Anita Siljeholm from 7-9 pm. Refreshments and cocktails will be served, and parents will be able to meet other parents and members of the faculty and staff as well as get questions answered about the school. If you are a new parent, and for some reason did not receive your invitation by mail, or have any questions, please call the office at 978-927-8811.

### ***SEEKING PART-TIME FIRST GRADE ASSISTANT***

We are seeking a part-time assistant to work 2 – 4 hours per day, beginning at 8:00 AM in the First Grade classroom during morning lesson and morning extra subject classes. The successful candidate should love working with children and adults in an educational setting, and would be flexible and eager to help in whatever way is needed. A background or interest in education, and especially Waldorf education, is highly desired but not required. Please send resume, cover letter, and three references to the Teacher Search Committee at CAWS. Questions regarding the position may be directed to Rose Sheehan. Deadline for application acceptance is Monday, September 17.

### ***EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN***

Please turn in an emergency form for each child enrolled at the school if you have not yet. The next notice sent home will have to include a deadline after which your child must stay home until we receive his/her emergency form. All students new to the school, students entering first and sixth grades and students who participate in extracurricular sports activities must have documentation on file of a physical examination performed within the last 12 months.

Immunization documentation is required for children entering the Bluebell, Sunflower,

Yellow Rose and Red Rose early childhood classes and for each of the grades in which a physical examination is required (see previous paragraph).

If your child is scheduled for an upcoming exam, please give Pam the date. Otherwise please turn in these forms as soon as possible.

Pam Deveau, Administrative Assistant

### ***THE ENCHANTED CARAVAN HOURS***

The Enchanted Caravan (school store) will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:15 AM to 12 noon (possibly 1:00 PM). On Tuesdays and Thursdays the space in the store is needed for Educational Support where tutoring, extra lesson assessments and extra lesson will take place. With the change in hours of operation for the Enchanted Caravan, the development of alternative avenues for ordering from the store is in the works. Volunteers are welcome for increasing the hours of operation on the appropriate days and assistance with the transformation of the store to create a pleasant environment for the children during tutorials.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and time.

Jen Schafer  
Enchanted Caravan manager

### ***DIRECTORIES AND PARENT HANDBOOKS***

The 2007-2008 Directories will be completed by next week and the Parent Handbooks will be completed by the last week in September. Thank you for your patience while we gather all the updated information. Please direct any questions you may have to the office.

### ***PAPER RECYCLING***

CAWS is part of a paper recycling program that pays for the paper they receive from us. You can, therefore, help support the school in a small but easy way by putting your old newspapers

and paper-to-be-recycled in the green and yellow bin at the side of the front school yard. No cardboard or telephone books, please – and thank you!

### ***FIRST CASTING FOR HOLIDAY FAIR***

The annual Holiday Fair tends to sneak up on us just when we are finally into the rhythm of our school year. It is my hope to get more preliminary work done ahead of time and would like the names of those interested in attending a preliminary organizational meeting in the next couple of weeks. We will set the time of the meeting according to what is best for those who respond.

There is one task that someone should take on right away, which is to send applications to potential vendors. They should be sent in a week or two. This first step of notifying potential vendors is about a two-hour project. If anyone could take it on for me it would be a great help.

The time has also come to prepare for a changing of the guard in coordinating the Holiday Fair. I would like to work together with one, two or even three people who would like to spearhead the Holiday Fair next year.

Please let me know through the office if you are interested in any or all of the above. Thanks.

Andrea Higashibaba, Holiday Fair Coordinator

### ***PERSONAL***

#### ***CHARMING HOUSE FOR RENT***

2-3 bedrooms (middle bedroom is a walk through). 1 ½ BATHS. Renovated kitchen with new stainless refrigerator and Bosch dishwasher. Farmer sink. Custom paint colors. Full basement with washer/dryer. Large garage. Small fenced back yard with deck. 2 blocks from beach; 2 blocks from town. On Ocean Street – a quiet, one-way, friendly street in the

Cove neighborhood. \$1950/mo. CAWS kindergarten family next door!

Elizabeth Frederick

Reply to: [hous-402696418@craigslist.org](mailto:hous-402696418@craigslist.org) or [elowe.f@verizon.net](mailto:elowe.f@verizon.net)

### **SEASONAL RENTAL IN GLOUCESTER**

Seasonal rental available in Gloucester September through to the end of July (start date can be flexible). Private one-bedroom apartment within a family house overlooking a tidal river with boating access (great for kayaking). Wide wood flooring and plenty of storage space. Includes 1 ½ baths, dishwasher and laundry facilities. Looking for a non-smoker and environmentally friendly tenant. Asking \$800 plus utilities. Apartment can be furnished or unfurnished. Very friendly neighbors and close to town. Please call Kerstin at 978-291-8988.

Kerstin

### **THE ANNUAL INTRODUCTION AND DISCLAIMER OF OUR NEWSLETTER**

The *Cape Ann Waldorf School Newsletter* is meant to be a vehicle of communication and a source of inspiration and information for the CAWS community and friends. For those attending the school it holds the answer to many questions and helps to keep one abreast of what is going on at the school, so we strongly recommend you read it regularly. For others it is a place to check in to see what's going on and how we're doing. *You* may read it at your pleasure and leisure. We also accept personal notices for a small fee (to cover copying costs only), and we accept and encourage submissions of ideas, quotations, inspirations and articles from the community. *Ed.* is the editor and is responsible to get the newsletter out most school weeks with much support from the office and Mary Ellen Donohue who comes in each week to make the copies and do the mailing. Most of

the work comes through volunteer hours and volunteers, however, and although we do our best to copy-edit each newsletter, grammatical and other errors do get through for which we apologize yet must somewhat disclaim ahead of time. We appreciate feedback about any errors in content any time, and if there is anyone particularly good at proof reading available first thing on Thursday mornings, we would be happy to have you look through the newsletter before it "goes to print."

Any submissions to the newsletter can be sent to the school's email address ([info@capeannwaldorf.com](mailto:info@capeannwaldorf.com)) - please identify it as a newsletter submission in the subject line – or things can be submitted through the office, preferably on a disk. All submissions should be in by Friday to go into the newsletter the following Thursday. Except for the fliers that are sometimes attached to the newsletter, the main body of the newsletter is included on the school's website.

If you have any questions, you can speak to Andrea in the office who has a very close connection to *Ed.* or to Pam who retrieves all the emails for the newsletter and does much of the preparation for it. So welcome to this school year's volume and have a good year and a good read. *Ed.*

#### ***Who's Learning What in Main Lesson Now?***

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Form Drawing and Nature Stories**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Form Drawing and Fables**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Old Testament Stories**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Norse Myths**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Botany**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade – South American Geography**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Perspective Drawing**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade – The American Revolution**