



# NEWSLETTER

Monday, Oct. 24, 2011

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Cape Ann Waldorf School, 701 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915 978-927-8811 [www.capeannwaldorf.org](http://www.capeannwaldorf.org)

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## **TOMORROW, 7:00 p.m.** **Experience the Waldorf Math Curriculum**

Dear Parents and Friends of Cape Ann Waldorf School,

This is to warmly invite you - and others you know who may be interested - to our upcoming curriculum evening forum: "Bringing Math to Life." Golden mean? Fibonacci series?



Multiplication through the five-pointed star? Join the Grade School faculty for a journey through the Waldorf math curriculum. Learn how math is taught to build a foundation for flexible and abstract thinking in the middle school years and beyond. For students, core math concepts come to life through first-hand experience as they develop an intuitive sense for the wonder, beauty and logic of math. Waldorf alums will join us to answer questions from their own experience and share how the Waldorf math curriculum served them in high school and beyond.

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (RSVP).

*Understanding the Isosceles triangle (sixth grade)*

*by Madeline Harlan (now in eighth grade)*

## **Halloween Party Saturday, 3:00**

The eighth grade will host an all-ages Halloween Party on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. This is geared for younger children, but there will be fun activities for every member of the family! A fun and festive old fashioned Halloween celebration that will include games, activities, prizes, stories, the Mad Scientist's Laboratory, and even a costume parade. Admission \$5.00 per child, \$10.00 per family. In addition, you can purchase raffle tickets to win babysitting and have your picture taken in our special photo room. Come dressed in your favorite Halloween costume, but nothing scary or gruesome, please!

Info: Maureen, [maureenaylward@comcast.net](mailto:maureenaylward@comcast.net); Shannon, [sunnymc22@hotmail.com](mailto:sunnymc22@hotmail.com).

***All-Community Campus Planning Meeting Postponed to Dec. 7***  
*With apologies, we must postpone Thursday's meeting. More information follows!*

# Waldorf Education in Silicon Valley

New York Times, *Sunday, Oct. 23*

LOS ALTOS, Calif. --The chief technology officer of eBay sends his children to a nine-classroom school here. So do employees of Silicon Valley giants like Google, Apple, Yahoo and Hewlett-Packard.

But the school's chief teaching tools are anything but high-tech: pens and paper, knitting needles and, occasionally, mud. Not a computer to be found. No screens at all. They are not allowed in the classroom, and the school even frowns on their use at home.

Schools nationwide have rushed to supply their classrooms with computers, and many policy makers say it is foolish to do otherwise. But the contrarian point of view can be found at the epicenter of the tech economy, where some parents and educators have a message: computers and schools don't mix.

This is the Waldorf School of the Peninsula, one of around 160 Waldorf schools in the country that subscribe to a teaching philosophy focused on physical activity and learning through creative, hands-on tasks. Those who endorse this approach say computers inhibit creative thinking, movement, human interaction and attention spans. (*NYT Photo: Reading on a desktop...*)

The Waldorf method is nearly a century old, but its foothold here among the digerati puts into sharp relief an intensifying debate about the role of computers in education.

"I fundamentally reject the notion you need technology aids in grammar school," said Alan Eagle, 50, whose daughter, Andie, is one of the 196 children at the Waldorf elementary school; his son William, 13, is at the nearby middle school. "The idea that an app on an iPad can better teach my kids to read or do arithmetic, that's ridiculous."

Mr. Eagle knows a bit about technology. He holds a computer science degree from Dartmouth and works in executive communications at Google, where he has written speeches for the chairman, Eric E. Schmidt. He uses an iPad and a smartphone. But he says his daughter, a fifth grader, "doesn't know how to use Google," and his son is just learning. (Starting in eighth grade, the school endorses the limited use of gadgets.)

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Read the entire article in [yesterday's New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com). (www.nytimes.com)

## **No Picture Retakes Tomorrow**

***Photo Retake Day has been postponed to next Tuesday, Nov. 1!***

*No photos tomorrow. It is important to notify the office by this Friday if you want a retake so that we can schedule with the photographer. Thank you.*

## **POSTPONED: All-Community Campus Planning Meeting**

We are sorry to have to postpone this Thursday's campus planning meeting to Wednesday evening, Dec. 7. We understand how much planning it takes to come to an evening meeting like this. Thank you for your understanding, and please reschedule for Dec. 7 as we plan for our school's future!

Thank you,

*Susan White, Administrator*

## **Halloween Costume Swap--Extended by Popular Demand**

The third grade had such an outpouring of Halloween costume and accessory donations for their farm trip fundraiser (and such a wonderful response from the community!) that they will offer another opportunity for CAWS friends and families to stock up for Halloween on Wednesday, October 26, at pickup (noon and 2:40). Make a \$5.00 donation and leave with your Halloween costume. Many assorted items like hats, masks, and accessories for \$1.00. ***Last minute donations gratefully accepted (nothing scary or gruesome please)!***

## **Place an Order from Steiner Books, Support CAWS**

Last week all families received the Steiner Books Catalog. There are many wonderful titles available for the youngest child up to and including adults. If there are books that you are interested in ordering, please do so through the Enchanted Caravan School Store. Ordering this way saves on shipping costs and all the profits from your purchase go directly to CAWS. Ordering is easy: either place a note in the Holiday Fair mailbox or email Heather Collis Puro at [heather@collispuro.net](mailto:heather@collispuro.net). Ordering deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 9.

## **Holiday Fair Craft-Making, Sessions Added**

Please join us at CAWS! All skill levels are welcome. Bring your ideas; all materials will be provided. Dates & Times:

*\*Just Added\* Every Monday, Thursday and Friday after drop off.*

**CANCELLATION:** Thursday, Oct. 27, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 6, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Knitted and Needle felted Animals

Friday, Nov. 11, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, Topic TBD.

Also, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Nov. 11 we will be pricing Enchanted Caravan items being sold at the fair.

*Contacts: Heather Collis Puro and Laura Freysinger.*

The Official  
**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

The Cape Ann Waldorf School  
**Holiday Fair**

Please check your availability  
and contact the appropriate coordinator TODAY  
to schedule your volunteer efforts for our 2011 Holiday Fair.

**Early Childhood**

- Parents prepare and run the Wee Folk Shop which requires the following:
- Donations of natural materials to be used in designing the shop
- Donations of Wee Folk gifts and wares for children to buy (see back page for ideas!)
- Set-up crew for Friday PM (very elaborate & creative)
- Elves who work 2-hr shifts: coordinating the line & entrance, collecting tickets, wrapping gifts
- Take-down/clean-up crew for Sat PM (after the Fair is over)

**Wee Folk Shoppe Coordinators:**

Christine Garcia Akers  
christinegarcia2008@yahoo.com  
Doris Hasbun  
[dorishasbun@yahoo.com](mailto:dorishasbun@yahoo.com)  
Susan Sappia  
978-281-0038

**Grades 1 – 8**

- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades: Families provide baked goods for the Bake Table
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: Parents provide for and run the Bake Table
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade: Families prepare and run the Dragon Room
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Families sell raffle and activities tickets
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Families prepare and run the candle decorating room
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Families prepare and run the Cafe
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Fundraising for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Trip

**Grades Coordinators:**  
Class Parents

**Everyone**

- Shop at the Enchanted Caravan
- Gingerbread Houses (for our silent auction)
- Plant orders (info forthcoming)
- Pocket Lady Items (20 per family: see back page for ideas!)
- Candle Dipping Room
- Musicians (Sign Up Outside Music Rooms in Main Hall)
- Madrigal Singers
- Encourage friends and family members to attend
- When the "Big Chart" is posted, please sign up for at least one shift. We're asking each family to donate 6 hours beyond their class commitments either before, during, or after the Fair.

**Fair date is Saturday, November 19, 2011 9am – 4pm**

**Everyone Can Do Something**

*2011 Holiday Fair Coordinators:*

*Heather Collis Puro ([heather@collispuro.net](mailto:heather@collispuro.net))*

*Laura Freysinger ([artnsew@comcast.net](mailto:artnsew@comcast.net))*

## **Get Your Wassail On – Join the Madrigal Singers!**

If you like to sing, please consider joining the Madrigals who perform seasonal songs throughout the day during the Holiday Fair, Nov. 19. No previous experience required! Fifth grade parent and Chorus Director, Julia Elliott will be rehearsing all interested singers on the following dates here at school. Please join in for all rehearsal sessions or just one!

Thursday, Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

*For more information contact Julia at [juliabelliott@verizon.net](mailto:juliabelliott@verizon.net)*

## **Grandparents and Special Friends Day: Forms Due**

The form for inviting grandparents and special friends to the school for a Nov. 23 visit went home with students last week. Please fill out the form and return it to the office this week so that the school can send an invitation to each guest you designate. Please submit the form to the office ASAP, but no later than this Friday, Oct. 28!

Note to Early Childhood families: the morning does not include visiting the Nursery or Kindergarten classrooms, but please know that early childhood parents are welcome to participate if they would like to visit a grades classroom and attend the assembly! Please RSVP to the office at 978-927-8811.

## **Eighth Grade Fall Yard Clean Ups**

The CAWS Class of 2012 is scheduling appointments for your annual Yard Raking. Why not get your yard cleaned up and help support the eighth grade as they fundraise for their end of year trip? To schedule or have any questions answered, please contact eighth grade parent Joan Wendt at [meepadog@gmail.com](mailto:meepadog@gmail.com).

*Right: eighth graders & their first grade buddies last week at Booksby Farm, Peabody.*



## **The Enchanted Caravan, Our School Store**

If there are items you would like to see at the Holiday Fair and/or special items you would like to purchase through the school store, please contact Heather Collis Puro at [heather@collispuro.net](mailto:heather@collispuro.net). Shopping through our store benefits CAWS, so please consider doing your gift buying through the Enchanted Caravan.

## **This Weekend: Parenting Workshop/Lecture in Lexington**

Kim John Payne will be at the Waldorf School in Lexington for a Friday evening lecture and Saturday morning workshop, Oct. 28 - 29. Author of *Simplicity Parenting*, he led a similar event a few years ago here at Cape Ann Waldorf School that was a great success. If you want to take a step towards the type of simplicity, beauty and discipline that you find in, say, a Waldorf Kindergarten...*definitely attend this lecture and workshop*. You can register at [the web site of the Waldorf School of Lexington](#).

## **Steiner Study Group**

The Monday Night Anthroposophical Study Group at CAWS will meet this week on **Tuesday, Oct. 25.**

## **A Note on Asbestos**

Dear CAWS families,

We are required by law to inform you that there is no asbestos in our school building. If you have any questions or would like to see our asbestos management plan, please see Susan White.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan White*, Administrator

*NEXT PAGE: This month's CAWS calendar*

## CAWS Calendar October 24 – November 12, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	24	25 1:00 – 2:30 5th Gr. Kestral Nature Program  7:00 – 8:30 “The Waldorf Math and Science Curriculum” Presentation	26 12:00 – 1:00 ish Halloween Costume Sale  2:30 – 3:30 Halloween Costume Sale  7:30 – 9:00 1st Grade Parent Evening	27  1:00 – 2:30 5th Gr. Kestral Nature Program	28  12:30 – 2:30 3rd grade to CSA	29 3:00 – 5:00 Halloween Party in Great Hall Public Welcome  7:00- 10:00 Middle School Dance
30	31	1 Picture retake day for all classes  7:00 – 8:30 6th Grade Parent Evening  7:00 – 8:30 Nursery and Kindergarten Parent Evening	2   7:00- 8:30 5th Grade Parent Evening	3  7:00 – 9:00 8th Grade Parent Evening  7:00 – 8:30 2nd Grade Parent Evening  7:30 Madrigal Singers Rehearsal	4  12:30 – 2:30 3rd grade to CSA	5 10:00 – 12:00 Open House and Tour with Lantern Making
6	7 7:00 – 8:30 7th Grade Parent Evening	8 7:00 – 9:00 Adult Speaker Series	9 5:30 Lantern Walk for grades 1 & 2	10 Professional Day – No Classes  Lantern Walk 4:30 Nursery 5:30Kindergtrn	11 No School	12 10:00 Madrigal Singers Rehearsal in Great Hall