



NEWSLETTER

Monday, Nov. 14, 2011

Cape Ann Waldorf School, 701 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915 978-927-8811 www.capeannwaldorf.org

IT'S HOLIDAY FAIR TIME

Our Biggest 'Grand Opening' Ever, Friday Night

For the first time ever, the Friday night opening of our Holiday Fair will include sixteen vendors in addition to the Enchanted Caravan. That means even more holiday shopping for our community on the night before the fair. So come from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Friday for wine, cheese, music (eighth graders Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Madeleine Harlan return with their violins) and holiday shopping as it was meant to be.

Many, Many Items Needed for Wee Folke Shoppe, Pocket Lady

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed tiny treasures for Pocket Lady (a 50 cent ticket buys one surprise, like a gem or piece of sea glass, from one of her pockets) and small gifts for the Wee Folke Shoppe (where for a few tickets a child can "buy" a present and have it wrapped by elves). *However, many, many more items are desperately needed!* Don't stop production! Please contribute what you can.

The Big Chart ... Has Empty Spaces to be Filled

Cashiers and decorators needed! Oh, and town criers, security folks, parking attendants, ticket takers... Please find the chart next to the office and sign up for a way that you can support the Nov. 19 Holiday Fair (and Nov. 18 preview night). Please sign up for two additional hours beyond what you are already doing with other parents in your child's class. Thank you!

Now is the Deadline for Ordering Holiday Plants

Plants will be used at the fair Nov. 19 and then sent home with you. Forms are available on the table at school, or you can email Heather Collis Puro at heather@collispuro.net.

Support the Bake Table With Your Specialty?

The third grade parents are trying to put together the biggest bake table ever to support this year's Nov. 19 Holiday Fair. Would you please contribute your specialty (or a plate full of cookies or brownies or anything yummy)? Bake something up on Thursday or Friday, and deliver it to the fair on Friday or Saturday. All proceeds to CAWS. Thank you for your help!

Madrigals Still Open! Our final singing rehearsal for the fair is tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. here at CAWS. All are invited! FINAL NOTE: INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO THE FAIR!!

Cross County Running at CAWS, a Successful Season

As the CAWS Cross Country season comes to an end, I want to look back over a successful season.

This year we were able to bring back our Cross Country Running program after a few years' hiatus. The original program was born four years ago when Tom Braden, a beloved class teacher, approached CAWS parent Shannon McHone. In Beverly Farms the team ran the streets followed by Tom Braden in his car. He watched for traffic and carried the water and first aid kit and was on hand for numerous other purposes, especially cheering and team support.

The team paused for a few years as Tom moved on to his active retirement and the culmination of his rich life in New Hampshire. This year, as we re-inaugurate the program, we feel that Tom is smiling on us from his current abode, cheering the team on and continuing to support us from beyond our worldly home.



And much he has to cheer for! The team restarted with exuberance and new vistas. Seventeen middle school students joined. Pavement has given way to bucolic settings thanks to the warm welcome extended to us from TTOR, Moraine Farm CSA and farmer Gretta as well as Project Adventure. Not only do we have farm fields to run through but also trails with views of Wenham Lake through Project Adventure's land into Beverly's extensive J.C. Phillips Preserve. The students have been practicing since just after the school year began and have participated in three meets. For our small school and a beginning team we have fared quite well.



Our first meet at the Tower school in Marblehead, CAWS came in first place. At our second meet, the Jim Munn Invitational Meet at Stage Fort Park in Gloucester, the team met greater challenges as over 250 students participated. Our final meet was at the Massachusetts State Middle School Cross Country Championships in Tewksbury, where the team competed with almost 2000 other middle school runners.

So cheers to CAWS' Cross Country team and hats off with gratitude to our volunteer coach, Shannon McHone. She has carried the running impulse for our team even as we were on hiatus. Welcome back all!!!

-Vanya Yoors

PHOTOS, by seventh grade parent Doug Cooke: *Top* – The team at the Mass. Championships in Tewksbury; *Bottom Left* – Sophia Rugo, grade seven, running the race; *Bottom Right* – Ben Hacker, grade seven, also in the Tewksbury race.

Tour the Grades Tomorrow Morning

Are you looking ahead wondering what the middle school will be like or perhaps getting excited about the grade school and want to see it in action? Or, maybe it's been a while since you've visited classes in motion and you would love to see again how nourishing and engaging learning can be for each developmental stage...

Join us Tuesday morning from 8:15-10:15 a.m. for a real experience of Waldorf education in action. Walk through Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8, followed by a Q & A with Mrs. Babcock and Mr. Yoors. RSVP to Mrs. Hiselman, admissions@capeannwaldorf.org. Adults only please.

Welcome Facilities Manager, Peter Rudd

We are excited to share the news that Peter Rudd has taken on the role as a part-time Facilities Manager. Many of you know that Peter has been an active volunteer throughout the transition to Moraine Farm and he has been instrumental in helping the school complete the work needed on

the great hall. Peter has two daughters attending Cape Ann Waldorf School in early childhood and the grades. In this part-time position, Peter will be onsite two days per week. He will work closely with the administration and site committee to prioritize the needs of the school. Peter will also oversee the much-needed volunteer efforts for upkeep of our beautiful campus. If you have any questions related to the maintenance of our grounds and facility, please feel free to speak with Peter or to submit your questions in writing to the office (or, if you prefer, in the Yellow Binder downstairs in the kitchenette).

Thanks for Work on Great Hall, Driveway

Ever wonder where your old discarded jeans end up? When the Great Hall is fully operational take a glance to the ceiling at the recycled denim insulation! On behalf of the Waldorf Community Association, we would like to thank Peter Rudd for spearheading the insulation team: Kevin Andrews, Tony Cheng, Guy Johnson and Chris Dowley. Also, much gratitude and thanks to Tony Cheng recently for his work smoothing our ride into school by filling many potholes with shovel and wheelbarrow. – *Laura Freysinger for the WCA*

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

How Does a Developmentally Appropriate and Socially Inclusive Waldorf Education Affect Our Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan?

We are updating our policies and procedures and will be undertaking a review of the Discipline Policy section in our parent handbook to meet the requirements of a recent MA Law (M.G.L. c. 71~370.) At their parent meetings, early childhood teachers and class teachers will be bringing insight as to how the curriculum implicitly addresses social education and emotional needs in a way that is appropriate to the children's developmental stage; what steps will be taken when this is not adequate and what policies we have to address extreme circumstances. There will be time given during these parent meetings for your input and comments. In mid-January, the faculty will review input from these meetings and suggest changes and improvements to our policy. The Management Team will then update our policies as appropriate and share these changes with you.

We thank you in advance for your participation,

The Management Team –

Susan White, Brian Macdonald, Vanya Yoors, and Rebecca Rugo (Scribe)

Thank You to Eighth Graders

They Do More Than Clean Up Your Yard!

I am so thankful to the enthusiastic group of eighth graders who came to our house this weekend and raked out every nook and cranny of the yard. My kids are jumping in the gigantic pile of leaves they made for them in the woods. If anyone else is thinking of signing up for service, you won't be disappointed. And if you have young children, it will make their day! Not only do you get the perfect leaf pile (or you can have your leaves bagged if you like) but you get a group of kind young people of the sort that *fascinate* the younger ones. Please email their equally hard working, fun, and loving parent leader, Joan Wendt, to reserve a time for your annual yard cleanup: meepadog@gmail.com. –*James Kennedy*

Parent Conference Sign Up Next Week

There will be sign up sheets out next week, on Tuesday, November 22 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Parent conferences with your child's teacher are coming up Thursday, Dec. 1 (following early dismissal) and Friday, Dec. 2. Thank you.

CAWS Marketplace

Thanksgiving Turkeys! [Farmers to You](#) is now taking orders for Thanksgiving turkeys from Misty Knoll Farms. Orders taken until Nov. 13 for a Nov. 23 delivery. These delicious birds range from 12 to 30 pounds. Each size range is its own order item. You can head over to the website to see the pre-ordering procedure and why these birds should grace your table. (Cooking guidelines are included with each turkey.) If you have not yet partnered with Farmers To You, their truck is in the parking lot every Wednesday between 2 and 3. Come by and see the bounty of Vermont delivered weekly. Talk to CAWS parent Maureen Aylward Wrinn, our on-site host, for more information on how you can form a partnership.

CAWS Marketplace

Need Some Babysitting for the Holiday Season?

Olivia Fantini, a CAWS graduate and current sophomore at Carleton College, will be home for holiday break and is available to watch your children from Dec. 7 through Jan. 1. She has experience in taking care of children, toddlers, and infants, has her own car, and is responsible and punctual. She likes to be active with the kids she takes care of, and enjoys taking them outside, playing games, knitting, reading books, cooking together, etc. References available upon request. Contact Olivia at fantini@carrleton.edu or (781) 576-9335.

Re-Founding CAWS College of Teachers

In late October a ceremony was held to re-found the College of Teachers at Cape Ann Waldorf School. *Please see remarks and a photo from the ceremony on the next pages.* Continuing the tradition begun at the first Waldorf school in 1919, many, if not most, mature Waldorf schools today have a College of Teachers. Its main task is to deepen the education offered by the school. It consists of a group of teachers and staff committed to anthroposophy—the “science of the spirit” developed by Rudolf Steiner. They work collegially (listening to and learning from each other) and engage in active inner work. College members work on behalf of the whole school, extending beyond his or her own subject and class.

On Thursday, October 27, 2011, a ceremony was held to re-found the College of Teachers at Cape Ann Waldorf School. The members of the College are Mari Yamaguchi, Brian Macdonald, Mary Mansur, Susan White, Anna Scalera, Sabrina Babcock, and Jenny Helmick. Below are words of welcome and context delivered at the ceremony by faculty member Jenny Helmick.

Thank you for joining together today for this celebration.

On this occasion, it's fitting that we consider the past, the present, and the future.

We look back, to the past, with gratitude for the work of those before us who have made our work possible. We think of those who gave birth to the first Waldorf school in 1919, and of those who gave birth to this school nearly 70 years later. We also think of those deeply connected to the school who have crossed the threshold from earthly life to the spiritual world.

We look around us, in the present, with gratitude for the selfless gifts of colleagues, parents, and friends of the school, and with gratitude for our students...

And we look to the future, to the families and children coming toward us, to resolve to meet them with a full Waldorf education, or in the words of one of our founding parents, to bring them bread instead of stones.

The Cape Ann Waldorf School first founded its College of Teachers in 1995. That College strove to act with courage and initiative on behalf of the school, and to deepen the school's work to meet the children in its care. If we think of the school as an organism, we can say that that College helped the school grow from childhood into adolescence. That College led the school through growth spurts, tumultuous and sometimes wrenching times, and joyous events alike. We could say the College guided the school as it grew up.

And so our small group worked diligently and faithfully to establish new habits, a new way of working, that made conscious inner work paramount, free from the press of administration and decision-making that had crowded the work of the first College.

But moving from adolescence to adulthood was a challenging process. Our school began a major governance restructuring some four years ago. The process revealed that some things had to die away and be reborn for the school organism to be healthy and strong. One of those things was the College, which in 2008 concluded its work as it had been formed.

In 2009 our faculty asked a small group to take on the task of re-forming the College of Teachers. A group of three began, and became a group of five, and worked with the following question: how can members of a future College best devote their inner work to serving this school? We took as our charge the words that Rudolf Steiner spoke to the

first group of Waldorf teachers in 1919:

"In approaching our task, we must be conscious that we are not working here merely as persons working on the physical plane. This way of working has spread far and wide especially during the last

centuries and has lived in people almost to the exclusion of everything else. This manner of conceiving Man's task has led to forms of education and teaching which are to be improved through the tasks which we now set ourselves. Therefore, we want to contemplate how we can create links with the spiritual powers in whose charge and mandate each one of us will have to work."

And so our small group worked diligently and faithfully to establish new habits, a new way of working, that made conscious inner work paramount, free from the press of administration and decision-making that had crowded the work of the first College. We took this work as far as we could as a small group, and have been encouraged to complete the founding process by the whole faculty. We are gratified to be able to re-found the College today, during the season of Michaelmas—as the trees shed their leaves and nature prepares to sink into winter death, it's a time for people to feel the burgeoning of spirit and be inwardly active and awake.

Seven colleagues will be the founding members of the College of Teachers. Our school's ideal is that all colleagues become part of the College, and we are encouraged that three and perhaps more intend to join this work in the near future.

We have planned a simple, but we hope meaningful, founding ceremony today, and will hold a more formal celebration for our friends near and far at Easter time.

Today, following a musical offering by the faculty, we will light candles that represent each vibrant aspect of our school—the being of the school, the children and teachers of the Early Childhood programs, the students and teachers of the Grades classes, the students and teachers of the special subjects, the staff, the Waldorf Community Association, the Board of Trustees, and the Advisory Council. This will be followed by a reading of words given by Rudolf Steiner, known as the College Imagination, at the founding of the first Waldorf School—words that the College re-forming group has worked with intensively. A candle lit for the re-founded College will be passed among everyone assembled, and we will close by singing together.

Thank you.



CAWS Calendar

November 14 – December 3, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13	14 3:15 Boys Basketball Practice	15 8:15 – 10:30 Admissions Grade Tour Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8 3:15 Girls Basketball Practice 5:00 Shepherds' Play Practice 7:30 Madrigal Singers Rehearsal in Eurythmy Room	16 7:00 – 10:00 Board Meeting 7:30 – 9:00 3rd Grade Parent Evening	17 8:15 – 1:00 7th and 8th Grades to Boston for Romeo & Juliet 3:15 Boys Basketball Practice	18 No Sweet Pea Classes 12:30 – 2:30 3rd grade to CSA 3:15 Girls Basketball Practice 7:00 – 9:00 Holiday Fair Preview Night; includes vendors (Adults Only)	19 9:00 – 4:00 Holiday Fair
20	21 3:15 Boys Basketball Practice	22 Parent Conference Sign Up 3:15 Girls Basketball Practice 5:00 Shepherds' Play Practice	23 Grandparents and Special Friends Day No Early Childhood classes 10:45 Assembly 12:10 Dismissal	24 Thanksgiving No School	25 Thanksgiving Break No School	26
27	28 3:15 Boys Basketball Practice	29 Basketball Games at Cohen Hillel 3:45 Girls 4:45 Boys	30 7:30 – 9:00 1st Grade Parent Evening	1 12:10 Dismissal Parent Conferences	2 Parent Conferences No Classes	3
4 Spiral of Light Nursery to Grade 3	5 3:15 Boys Basketball Practice	6 Admissions Tour Grades 1, 3, 5 and 7 3:15 Girls Basketball Practice	7 7:00 – 9:00 All-Community Meeting;	8 8:30 – 10:00 WCA Meeting in Eurythmy Basketball Games 3:30 Girls 4:45 Boys	9 12:30 – 2:30 3rd grade to CSA 3:15 Girls Basketball Practice	10

		5:00 Shepherds Play Practice	Campus Planning	7 – 10 Board Meeting		
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