



Oakland Steiner School Newsletter

March 2, 2011

School Calendar

Friday, March 4

All School Beautification
2 – 6 pm

Sunday, March 6

Open House 1 – 3 pm

Tuesday, March 8

Intro. Tour 8:45 – 11 am

Saturday, March 19

Board Meeting 9 – 12 pm

Wednesday, March 23

And

Thursday, March 24

Grades 6, 7 & 8 Play
A Midsummer Night's Dream
7 pm

Saturday, March 26

Auction 6 pm

Thursday, March 31

Parent Teacher Conferences
School ends at 12:30 pm
Children's Center dismissal
12:15 pm No Aftercare
Pre-register for childcare

Friday, April 1

Parent Teacher Conferences
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, April 12

Parent Evening: Grade 1, 2, 3
& CC
6:30 – 8 pm

Wednesday, April 13

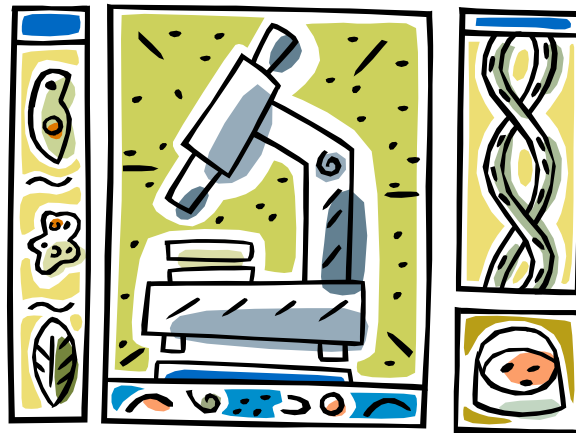
Parent Evening:
Grade 4 & 5
6:30 – 8 pm

Thursday, April 14

Parent Evening:
Grades 6, 7 & 8
6:30 – 8 pm

Alumni Snapshot

Blake Schmidt, whose mother, Barbara Wolf was one of Oakland Steiner's founders is our featured alumnus this month. Blake attended OSS from kindergarten through 8th grade, graduating in 2004. After leaving OSS, Blake attended Notre Dame Prep where he earned a 3.7 G.P.A. In high school, Blake played football, lacrosse, and was a member of the wrestling team. Blake went onto Michigan State for two years, and has now returned to the area to attend Oakland University. He is a biology major and plans to attend graduate school to ultimately work in the green energy field. Blake stays in touch with just about everyone from his kindergarten class. Blake says, "his OSS relationships (with teachers and students) are the best of his life." When I asked if he would comment on Waldorf education, he said, "If I live in an area where there is a Waldorf School I would definitely send my children there."



***OSS Needs Your Help!**

March 4th is our beautification day. We need all hands to participate, lets make our school shine!

***OSS OPEN HOUSE – SUNDAY, MARCH 6th**

The Oakland Steiner School Open House is on Sunday, March 6th from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Our goal is to present our wonderful school at its **best** by having our hallways filled with the warmth and life of your presence. Please consider being a part of the Open House by visiting the school that day to converse with our visitors. For those interested in more than lively conversation with visitors there is a volunteer sign-up sheet located on the wall outside the Front Office with specific volunteer duties. Any assistance you can provide is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your time.

Toni Kovach, Enrollment Coordinator

***Urgent Attention**

Before Care

Starting Monday morning, Debbie Gavulic will be doing before care. Mrs. Brandon will continue to do nap and aftercare, Thank you for a job well done!

Exciting Auction News!!!

This year we are having an online auction as well as our gala event at the Royal Park Hotel. The online auction service we are using is **Bidding for Good**. To keep you up to date with all of the wonderful items available and bidding deadlines we will be sending out email updates. The updates are sent by our auction committee but will show up in your inbox as coming from **Bidding for Good**.

Bidding for Good will not have your email address.

If you wish to opt out of the Bidding for Good email updates from the auction committee please write a note and bring it to the office.

The online auction will be held from March 8 through March 22.

Please pass this information to all of your family and friends from near and far. We can mail the item to the winning bidder!

We would like to have all auction donations submitted for the **online auction by March 6. We will accept all other auction submissions through March 23.**

OSS "NOODLES" SOCIAL FUNDRAISER **4:00-9:00 pm, Tuesday, March 8**

Bring the kids to dinner with the 8th grade class! A portion of your dinner proceeds will support the 8th grade field trip. The 8th graders will be on site to play with your little ones, and there will be card games and drawing tools.

Come join the fun and support the 8th graders!

Please invite family, friends, acquaintances and anyone you know who needs to eat, to this event. (You need to bring in a Noodles & Co. flyer or mention the fundraiser so your donation can be credited to the 8th graders.) Flyers will be available in the office and the upper grades dismissal area.

Noodles & Co. is located at 6936 Rochester Rd. at South Blvd. in Troy.

For more information, contact Uta K. in the front office or Bonnie Taube @ 248.396.4426 or bonnietaube@comcast.net.

Parent Book Study

Come join the book study on Tuesday, March 15th after drop off. Christy Hand and Shannon Weidemann thought it was a good time to start a book study, so they talked to the Faculty for some book suggestions and have decided to read School as a Journey by Torin Fisner as the first book. Please contact Shannon at partyelf@gmail.com if you would like to purchase a copy of the book. Please come even if you have not had a chance to read the book, there will be a discussion and a chance to learn about this book. Plus you can help decide the next book the group will read.

Old Sheets Needed

The 6th, 7th & 8th graders are rehearsing for their upcoming production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Transforming the gym into a magical forest will require dozens of old sheets that can be ripped into strips. Any color and pattern is acceptable. Please give them to Janalee or Uta in the front office and then plan to attend the performance on March 23rd or 24th at 7: 00 pm!

First Grade Update

The first grade class led by Marko Smith and assisted by Barbara Mackaman is bustling with delightful activity! The children have proudly completed the pictorial alphabet and their main lesson books are full of lovely pages ... a bear letter, an upside down umbrella letter, and more. They have experienced the sounds of each letter and are also working on short and long vowel sounds. They often enjoy the challenges of a phonics word game and Mr. Smith said they are pleased with themselves because they are actually reading. With practice they are coming along beautifully with their penmanship including posture, grip and letter formation. They are working on capital letters and have been introduced to lower case for recognition. When presented with mental math calculations, they are excited and eager to answer. The children love to hear math problems incorporating themselves in everyday life. Through the stories about Adam and Rob (representing + and -) told by Mr. Smith, they are experiencing a deeper understanding of math. Recently, Valentine making and giving filled the classroom with joy and many golden eggs were created out of beeswax to assist with math lessons. Twice each week they have French, German, Handwork and Gym. They also have a special Tea Time on Fridays and display their best manners. While seeking boundaries in the world around them, they are learning social awareness and how to address conflict. The first graders have been using a statement to alleviate arguments among them that maybe we can all practice "Our friendship is greater than this argument." Each day they are becoming one class – experiencing movement, song, stories, social interaction, and growing together. The children are learning to love learning. There is magic happening inside this classroom...

By Jenny Rajda

Newsletter Article Submissions

If you wish to send an article for the newsletter, please send it by email if possible. Send it to janalees@oaklandsteiner.org and put "newsletter" in the message line. Submit by 12 pm, Tuesday, March 15th to be in the next newsletter.



Personal and Parent-to-Parent



*Missing from faculty kitchen.

A beautiful oversized coffee table book about glassblower William Morris.

Please contact Patty Urda



NEED A SPRING PICK-ME-UP? TRY KUNDALINI YOGA!

What is Kundalini Yoga? Kundalini Yoga is the yoga of awareness; to know thy Self is to know infinity. Experience a joining of your self with your higher consciousness through the synchronization of movement with sound (mantra), posture (asana), hand position (mudra) and yogic breathing (pranayam). The kriyas (exercise combinations of mantra, mudra, asana and pranayam) balance the glandular system, strengthen the nervous system and enable us to harness the energy of the mind and emotions, so we can be in control of ourselves rather than being controlled by our thoughts and feelings. **AND, YOU WILL RAISE YOUR OWN ENERGY!**

The Instructor, Guru Tera Kaur (AKA Bonnie Taube, parent of Montana Taube-White, 8th Grade), completed the Master's Touch Kundalini Yoga Teacher's training, led by the Master of Kundalini Yoga, Yogi Bhajan, in Espanola New Mexico in 2001, and is certified by The Kundalini Research Institute (K.R.I.) as a Level-I Instructor.

Time/Date: 12:30 Fridays

Location: 204 Stoney Creek Rd., Oakland Township. At the home of OSS parents, Thomas & Barbara Mackaman (parents of Niccolo, Sun Class and Sophia, 2nd Grade).

Cost: \$11 (Sliding scale available.)

For More Information: Contact Bonnie Taube @ 248.396.4426 or gurutera@comcast.net.



TROY RESIDENTS AND THE LIBRARY

It is very sad that the Troy Public Library's last day of service to the public is Sunday, May 1 from 1 pm – 5 pm. Though the Troy Public Library is closing, students who attend a school inside Rochester Hills can get a Rochester Hills library card. Starting May 1 your child can obtain a card, for one year, by presenting proof of enrollment and a parent's driver's license to the Rochester Hills Public Library. Renewal of cards has yet to be decided. Proof can be in the form of a report card, enrollment contract, letter, etc, and there is no age limit on the child. Parents will NOT be able to get a card. If you would like a letter for proof of enrollment please go to the main office.