



Oakland Steiner School Newsletter

May 12, 2010

School Calendar

Wednesday, May 12

Introductory Tour
8:30 – 11 am

4th Grade Play
11:45 am

Thursday, May 13

6th Grade Play
6:30 pm

Friday, May 14

6th Grade Play
11 am

Tuesday, May 18

2nd Grade Play
11 am

Wednesday, May 19

2nd Grade Play
6 pm

Friday, May 21

Pentathlon- in Ann Arbor

Saturday, May 22

Board Meeting
9 am – 12 pm

Wednesday, May 26

7th Grade Play
11 am

Thursday, May 27

7th Grade Play
7 pm

Friday, May 28

Reports Day
NO SCHOOL

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day
NO SCHOOL

Fifth Grade Pentathlon

**May your ideals give you grace and beauty,
May the warmth of hearts give you strength of limb.**

**May your bodies carry you,
As the earth carries the stag,
As the sea carries the dolphin,
As the winds carry the eagle.
A blessing of the Athletes.
LET THE GAMES BEGIN!**

The fifth grade is often characterized as "The Golden Age of Childhood." It is a time when many children seem to strike a healthy balance between early childhood and approaching adolescence. It is appropriate, therefore, that the Waldorf curriculum for grade five seems aglow with balance and harmony. The students spend many weeks over the course of the year learning about the cultures of ancient India, ancient Persia, ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and finally, "The Golden Age of Greece". As the stories brought by the class teacher take the children deeply into the imagination for the period of time, they begin to intellectually, physically and emotionally experience as entire culture. And to this end, the fifth grade Pentathlon emerges.

The fifth grade class has been preparing for the pentathlon all year through games, fitness drills and skills development for each event. They have written odes to a Greek God or Goddess that they have chosen to guide them through the events asking for courage, strength, grace, and for the good thought to be in their hearts for whoever may win. It isn't simply about who throws the javelin the farthest, but also who has the most beautiful throw and graceful movement.

The fifth graders of the Oakland Steiner School will join athletes from six other Waldorf schools in a day of competition in the discus, javelin, 50 yard dash, 700 yard run, Greek wrestling and the long jump at the Rudolf Steiner School in Ann Arbor, on Friday, May 21. The rest of the school will give the fifth grade a cheerful send-off on Thursday, May 20, at the end of the day.

The pentathlon day includes a beautiful ceremony, conducted with a mood of reverence, a parade of the athletes, lighting of the torch and singing as well as the awards at the end of the day. Spectators are welcome to view the games!

Thank you

Thank you to Martina Panian for making our adult restroom beautiful and furnished with essential needs.

Camp Updates

Seeds and Sprouts early childhood camp is a "go" this summer having met its minimum enrollment for all seven sessions!!! Additional enrollment is still possible in each session. Please invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to take part.

Adventure Camp enrollment will run until the end of May. The program activities are amazing. Please check out the camp wall near the gym for a description of each class.

Each butterfly on the camp wall represents a spot filled in camp.

Please submit your registrations soon to guarantee your own summer fun and to ensure that each of these fantastic classes will run.

Hot off the presses:

"FRIENDS AND FAMILY DISCOUNT"

This new discount is for campers who enroll with a "friend or family member" by the end of May. For doing so, each registrant will receive a 10% discount on their camp fees!!! This is a terrific way to enrich your summer and introduce someone new to the Waldorf experience.

The summer camps can be an enrollment tool for the Oakland Steiner School. It is an opportunity for families to experience OSS in a weekly commitment. Pass our brochures and your own enthusiasm and love for Oakland Steiner to your neighbors, friends and colleagues.

Attention Kroger Community Rewards Participants: It's Time to Re-Enroll!

Did you know that you can make contributions to Oakland Steiner School simply by doing your grocery shopping at Kroger and using your Kroger Plus Card? If you already signed up and have been earning rewards for OSS, please note that everyone will need to re-sign up in order to continue participation in the Community Rewards program.

It's easy to enroll or re-enroll in Kroger Community Rewards. Visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click on "Michigan" and click "Enroll." All participants must create a valid online account at Kroger.com and must sign up online to participate. Shoppers can no longer scan an organization's barcode at the registers or service desk. The code for Oakland Steiner School #83192.

Grounds Clean up

If anyone has a few minutes to pull weeds and give our gardens some care before pick up or after drop off we could use some weeding in the front of the school building. Thank you for helping to make our school look beautiful!

An appeal from former O.S.S. Children Center teacher Debrah Long



Keali and his handwork teacher, Fran Altwies.

My nephew Keali has been a Hawaiian Island boy since his birth 8 1/2 years ago. Since age 4, he has experienced colors, song, movement, rhythms, lessons, play and work as other Waldorf children do all around our world. In the Hawaiian Waldorf School he has studied German and Japanese, while his mother (Hawaiian Waldorf alumni K-8) and father have taught in the same great Waldorf grade and high school community. Keali has taken surfing, ukulele and hula dancing lessons.

With the average year round temperature of 81 degrees day time and 65 degree nights, Keali has been comfortable going to school in very light apparel and sandals each day. When the school year

ends at the end of June, Keali and his parents will be moving off the island to beautiful Oregon. He will finish his grade school years there in a very different climate. A whole new but simple household must be set up on the mainland, with most belongings left behind at their rental (just steps from the Hawaiian Waldorf campus).

Keali will need clothing for damp, cold, windy, cloudy, muddy Oregon days. I ask you for donations of gently worn, outgrown, clean (plain, no logo) long sleeve tees, sweaters, sweatshirts, light weight and winter jackets, hats, long pants, rain suit and rain boots. This will help enormously as his Mother and Father need to replace their attire also.

Yes, he will leave behind the ocean's warm water, sandy beaches, surf board, grass dance skirt, but a loving Oregonian Waldorf community will support him with loving hearts and open arms. A new life awaits a young, peaceful, loving family of three. (In our Waldorf world)

If you wish, please include your child's name, your name and e-mail address with each donated item. (Even your child's picture would make him smile!)

Keali is tall and thin. His April 2010 sizes are:

Shirt- child M 10-12

Coat arm length- 28.5 inches

Shorts- 6 or 7

Pants inseam- 55-60 cm.

Height- 56 inches

I thank you for your warmth, love, and generosity.

Sincerely,
Debrah Long

There will be a labeled box for the donated items in the foyer where the middle school is dismissed. The deadline for items to be dropped off is Thursday, May 27th.

Sale in the Gnome Home

It's a perfect time to check out the great gifts for yourself or someone else on sale in the Gnome Home. New items will be added weekly for the remainder of the school year:

Wrapping paper made from recycled paper: buy 1, get 1 free

Plant It Note Cards hand made and infused with flower seeds: buy 2, get 1 free

*Select Books: 10 % off

*550 Count Puzzles Made in Michigan of Recycled Paper: 20% off

*Journals: 10% off

*Paint, Paint Brushes and Jar Sets: 20 % off

*Wool Yarn: reg. price \$6.50, now buy 2 get 1 free

*Wool Pet Felting kits: Now 20% off

*Dr. Hauschka First Aid Kits: Now 20% off

And don't forget the 50% off table.

In addition to these great sales, orders are being taken for all your spring and summer needs. All orders must be pre-paid and can include books, games, toys and more. See Ellen in the Gnome Home for more information or to place your order.

MAKE HOLIDAY/BIRTHDAY SHOPPING EASY FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Visit the Gnome Home and pick out all your favorites, place them in a special basket in the store with your name on it, then send in your family and friends to buy your presents from what you have already selected. Remember, all proceeds benefit OSS.

MENTION THIS AD
AND RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL 15% OFF
ANY ONE ITEM, EXCLUDING SCRIP
MAY 12 - MAY 27

8th Grade Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Please join us this Friday, May 14th for a spaghetti dinner. This event is hosted by the eight graders, their parents and the Smith Family. The cost is \$5 per dinner and will include spaghetti with meat or vegetarian sauce (regular or gluten free noodles), salad and bread. Your food will be available from 3 to 6 pm. Please place your order by Wednesday. You will be able to dine in or carry out. Thank you for your continued support.

Personal and Parent-to-Parent



Ready for spring planting? Want to have a garden but don't have a sunny spot in the yard? Don't feel like turning over your sod or grown over plots this year? No problem. Vitale Farms and Jupazza Specialty Products is now offering plot rental at reasonable rates all within walking distance from OSS. Plots are pre-tilled ready to go. Garden set up and planning consultation included as is unlimited chicken manure! Call or e-mail Julie Vitale for details or check out Jupazza Specialty Products on line.

313-207-9196, julie@jupazza.com

A World Music Benefit Concert for The Anthroposophical Prison Outreach Program

The Anthroposophical Prison Outreach Program provides mentoring and a lending library of inspirational books for prisoners. There will be live Celtic music by Cairn To Cairn, and traditional African music by Ibrahim Aminou, a Silent Auction, Prison Art Exhibit, and International Cuisine on May 15, from 6 to 9pm at 1923 Geddes Avenue at the Rudolf Steiner House. The Silent Auction will help raise funds to support spiritual development for individuals in prison. Give someone a chance to find meaning in their life.

Admission \$20 at the door. Donated items or services are also needed for the silent auction. Please call Kathy Serafin, 662-9355 ext.38 if you can help.

House for rent with excellent view and access to Silver Lake- two bedrooms, fully equipped- includes washer, dryer, dishwasher and AC. Located across from the Pinckney Recreation Area which has 4,000 acres of hiking and biking trails, swimming and fishing. No pets, \$500 a week. Please call (248) 543-2032