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LAKE CHAMPLAIN WALDORF SCHOOL

OUR VOICE | February 14, 2014

email newsletter items to: newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org

Happy Valentines Day!



Waldorf Playgroups

Tucked away in a free-standing building on the property of All Souls Interfaith



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Gathering is the Lake Champlain Waldorf School's program for newborns to three and a half year olds. Monday through Friday, early childhood educator Kirsty Gourlay welcomes parents and children to this sanctuary of beauty and rhythm.

There is a soulful, peaceful energy to these playgroups. During Star Garden (the program for older children) two and a half year olds tromp outside in the snowy meadow and then come inside to play, sing, and share oatmeal, applesauce and other healthy foods. After snack, the moms and children wash their bowls, cups and napkins and hang them up to dry. The children play while the parents work on handcraft projects, and Kirsty leads a conversation among the adults about home rhythms and offers printed resources for them to take home and read.

Moon Garden is slower paced to accommodate the needs of babies.

Grandparents, several moms and one dad look on as their children crawl around, gnawing on wooden toys. Kirsty guides the morning through song and brings her wise and nourishing presence to parents adjusting to life with little ones.

Toward the end of the morning the group gathers on the rug, and with grace and seamlessness, Kirsty drapes a large felted scene of water, mountains, grass and sky across her lap. The felted landscape covers her knees and spills to the floor, and imperceptibly Kirsty fades into the background and the story she creates emerges. A swaying bear with a curious personality peeks out from behind her back and we hear that a bear is going over a mountain to see what he can see. A horse jauntily struts out from behind Kirsty's knee and takes a drink in the lake.

The bear soon spots a felted mouse, a mama pig, and a little boy, all of whom find their place in the scene. I am entranced. And when a pale green scarf comes down to cover the scene, and I am amazed by the beauty and simplicity of it all.

Each year, fifty-five families are touched by these LCWS playgroups, and there are several spaces still available in the upcoming session for two and three year olds and their caregivers. More information is available later in this edition of the newsletter.



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Farm to School Partnerships: Week Three

The second grade and New Village Farm

By second grade, teamwork is front-and-center in the farm curriculum. Once good work habits have been established, students can look beyond themselves to join forces with each other. Children no longer just weed or shovel side-by-side; now, they undertake tasks that can only be done together.

This fall, for example, the second grade carried a large fallen tree out of a field, rolled huge hay bales for a quarter mile, and hauled six-foot panels from one end of the farm to the other. As teacher Leah Nelson remarked, "With one child to each corner of a panel, it was clear if a student was literally failing to carry his or her weight! These projects really helped the children feel responsibility for the success of the whole group, and that became an important theme of our in-school work together."



Olympic Fever!

Malachy is competing in Oregon this weekend.

Eight grader **Malachy Snow** is competing this weekend in the 2014 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships in Portland, Oregon. He is the youngest fencer from the Vermont team attending the Championship and will compete in the foil event.

"Malachy is a young adventurer, and this is a great opportunity for him to expand his horizons and learn and grow as a fencer," said his coach, Viveka Fox a former All-Ivy fencer and the North Atlantic women's foil champion.

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Malachy has been fencing since he was eight years old and now trains three days a week with the Junior Team of the Vermont Fencing Alliance. "Fencing is really fun," says Malachy. "I appreciate the intellectual part of it as well as the physical part of it."



He also acknowledges the ways that LCWS has helped his approach to the sport. "At school I learned how to be a team player, to think about others and to be fair. I like the way we include everyone in whatever game we are playing. It has helped me in fencing because although I want to win when I play, I also want to play fairly and I want my opponent to have fun too. I have learned how to keep my body fit and how important that is for balance and endurance from Mr. Moruthane."

Good luck, Malachy!

Sixth Grade Food Drive for Harbor Place

Our Sixth Grade Class is collecting food from all the classes and delivering it to Harbor Place on February 19th. **Please put non-perishable food items in the donation boxes outside the classrooms.** Thank you!

Sincerely, the Sixth Grade

The Fourth Grade Norsemen Summit Camel's Hump



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College Acceptances

Congratulations to **Mairéad Collins**, **Oliver Creech** and **Marissa Guidry**, who have all been accepted to **Goucher College** in Baltimore, MD.

Oliver has also been accepted to **Hampshire College**, Amherst, MA and to **Marissa** has also been accepted to **Earlham College** in Richmond, IN.

Each of these schools is included in Loren Pope's ***Forty Colleges that Change Lives***, a selection of colleges with low student-teacher ratio and no teaching assistants; a faculty passionate about teaching and mentoring students and a focus on the liberal arts and sciences, with numerous possibilities for undergraduate research.

Mardi Gras is almost here...

The excitement has been building as students finished up their masks and practiced their dances this week. Please remind them to wear their most colorful clothes on Tuesday! My volunteer musicians should be trying out the music this weekend. If your child would like to be a musician, I can send music online. --Madame Reed

It's a girl!

Congratulations to Melinda and Dusty Haselton on the birth of their daughter on February 12th. Their baby girl weighed 8 pounds 10 1/2 ounces and measured 21 inches. Melinda reports that they had a wonderful home birth and they are enjoying the bliss.

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What a season!

The high school basketball season came to a close on Tuesday night with two thrilling games against Websterville Baptist Christian School. As we have seen repeatedly this season these games are a fan's delight with lead changes, breakaways, excellent defensive play, and close outcomes.

It was another exhilarating game put forth by the LCWS girls team, who held an early lead until the fourth quarter when Websterville staged a blistering comeback, erasing the 10-point deficit. They pulled ahead with a series of offensive plays as the clock wound down. However, as we have seen time and again this year under coach Scott Walters, the girls dug in with tenacious defense, caused several turnovers, and fought to within three points. With a minute to go, Websterville grabbed a rebound and started up the court, but Merritt Bryan managed to steal the ball and break away for a layup. After a missed foul shot there was wild scrum for the ball, eventually winding up in Clara's Slesar's unyielding hands. As time ran out, she put up a shot that bounced three times on the rim, then fell through the net for the winning score, 34:33, making the girls 10-2 overall for the season. Tense silence gave way to a roar from the Memorial Auditorium crowd as the girls concluded the season with yet another dramatic come-from-behind effort. For two seniors, Emily Nelson-Foster and Nancy Lewis, this was a memorable ending to a great season! For sure, these girls were the cardiac kids.



This year's boys team came into this game with an 11-1 record, the second best among Vermont's Division IV teams. We were particular disappointed by the cancellation of the Kimberton Tournament last weekend (they lost power in Philadelphia suburbs) where LCWS boys and girls would have competed against the top Waldorf schools in the Northeast. Drat that ice storm! Tuesday's game got off to a good start for the Websterville squad with three point scores and excellent inside play. As the game progressed, coach Tyler MacDonald called a key timeout, and the momentum began to shift. In the second half, the team featured three-point bombs by Oliver Scanlon, cutting scores by Vincent Gauthier, awesome board play by Oliver Creech, and suffocating defense by Jonas Powell. It was a 15-point win in the end, and a memorable conclusion to the basketball careers of these four seniors, supported by outstanding play by the team's four sophomores.

By way of full disclosure, I am hardly an objective (or quiet) observer of these great teams. However, after watching the development of the LCWS basketball program over the past several years, I think all would agree the Waldorf spirit is alive and well, proving that cooperation and competition can thrive together. There was so much to admire about our teams this year. Thanks to the coaches and the kids for the terrific season. You make us proud!

Tom Powell & Stephanie Lewis
LCWS parents and fans

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"I was totally inspired by Hillary Maharam's letter about breaking ground in April for the future high school.

What we need to raise, in the face of increased costs, seems a small hurdle in comparison to what we have already accomplished.

This brings me back to what it must have been like in the early years of starting our school. Yet again, we are beginning a new era. I know we can make that final leap. And I'm going to help by being one of the volunteers making calls during the phonathon next week. I look forward to talking with everyone!"

Wendy Bratt,
parent of Jonas (12th grade)
and Aidan (10th grade)



À la Carte Auction

You like it! You really like it! Pardon our boasting, but we can't contain how thrilled we are at the positive response the community has expressed over this fundraiser. Bidding opened up this past Monday and the buzz is decidedly upbeat. From the phenomenal bill of fare being offered by our gracious hosts, to the delightful opportunities for some just-plain-fun, people are thrilled with this new way to get involved.

à la carte AUCTION



Don't miss out on your chance to enjoy a sumptuous meal in the company of fellow Waldorf families. Bidding ends NEXT THURSDAY, February 20th at 3 p.m. For more information [visit our website](#) or pick up a brochure in the lobbies of the kindergarten or grade school. [Kristin DeBellis](#)

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Mark your calendars - Wednesday, March 19 at 7:00 pm

Face-to-Face: Teaching Teenagers What They Really Need to Know

Public Talk by Florian Osswald

\$10 suggested donation

Our school is fortunate to have Florian Osswald, a 30 year Waldorf teacher and consultant to Waldorf schools around the world, spend a few days with us in March. Florian has a particular expertise around teaching teenagers.

"Teaching adolescents in this time of great complexity demands that we develop our capacities of intuition, moving toward the future rather than working with concepts and actions based on the past," explains Florian. "To succeed in our schools, we must also address the young person's longing to build strong community out of the power of a healthy ego."



While Florian is here, he will give a public lecture and I would encourage our whole school community to attend. Florian was the keynote speaker at the annual North American Waldorf School's teacher conference two summers ago. Everyone at the conference--early childhood, grade school high school and subject teachers, board members, and administrators-- were so inspired by Florian's message about how Waldorf education, particularly high school education, is so perfect for today's students. Please contact me for more information and to RSVP. [Pam Graham](#)

New date - Saturday, March 15th, 10:00-11:30 am

Maple Syrup Magic

Families with 3-6 year olds are invited to visit the kindergarten for a morning. Puppet play, circle time, and pancake making...come play!

The kindergarten teachers will be on hand to talk with parents while the children play.

Please invite friends with young children to this glimpse into the magic of kindergarten.



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Tuesday, February 18th, 7:00 pm

Health Fats with Doug Flack

Low-fat, no-fat, whole fat, what fat? Having trouble understanding what is and what is not a "healthy" fat? Come join us as we discover practical ways to include healthy fats in our diet. Doug Flack, longtime Vermont biodynamic farmer and food activist, will explore the history of fats in the American diet as well as the rising high incidence of disease. By shedding some light on the many myths about what is and what is not a healthy fat perhaps we can become wiser consumers as well as cultivate a healthier food culture. While Doug's talk will certainly include fats from pastured animals there will also be information for the vegetarian and vegans among us as he delves into plant and fruit oil fats.

Recipes and food samples as well as information about local sources of healthy fats will help us navigate as consumers in search of better health. RSVP to JoAnne: jdennee@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org

Sponsored by the Forrest and Frances Lattner Foundation.



Maple Syrup and Popcorn Sale through March 7th



Windridge Farms Maple Syrup

Once again LCWS parents, Lisa and Beckner Bryan are donating their organic maple syrup from Windridge Farms. You can order Grade A Medium, Grade A Dark, and Grade B by using the link below or dropping off payment at the Development Office.

Orders due by Friday, March 7th.

[Click HERE to order](#)



YOLO! Snacks Popcorn

An assortment of popcorn is available from YOLO! Snacks, created by LCWS parent Steve Faust.

You can order original, cheese, maple and barbeque popcorn by using the link below or dropping off payment at the Development Office.

Orders due by Friday, March 7th.

[Click HERE to order](#)

Register now for Turtle Lane Camp 2014!

We are excited to announce our new season of summer camps. With art and nature camps for ages 3-8, and a whole new series of adventures camps for children ages 8-12, we are looking



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forward to a great summer here at Turtle Lane!

Dates: June 30-July 25

Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (extended day from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Price: \$285 (includes morning snack and afternoon cool treat)

CAMP

For more information and to register, see our [website](#) or contact Camp Director Abigail Diehl-Noble at adiehl@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org



LCWS on Facebook

This week on Facebook we showcased work from the seventh grade, shared an article about Cornell's president promoting arts and music education, featured the high school hot lunch program, and posted a Valentine's Day video from the First Grade. Click on our profile picture to the left to be taken to the school's page.



New Parent-Child Session begins February 28th

We have four spots available in our star garden program, a Waldorf playgroup for children ages 20 months to 3½ years and their parents. We meet once a week for 10 weeks and offer parents and children time for outdoor play, crafts, stories, songs, puppet shows, and snack. Led by early childhood specialist and LCWS staff, Kirsty Gourlay, these classes are a wonderful introduction to the beauty, simplicity and richness of a Waldorf education.

Please let your friends, neighbors and colleagues know that we have space in the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday groups.

Contact [Pam](#) for more information or share this [link](#) with your friends.

New Re-enrollment Process

We are about to launch a new re-enrollment process. Every parent with returning students will receive an email from Pam Graham before February vacation with a link to online forms to re-enroll your child. This will help us all streamline the process and eliminate a lot of paper! Please be watching for this important email. The re-enrollment deadline will still be April 1.

Tuition Adjustment

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Thank you all for getting your applications submitted before the February 1 deadline. The Tuition Adjustment Committee will be working hard and you will all hear from us by our March 14 deadline.

Our deepest condolences to Jason Cadwell, Deb Sherrer, and daughters Kate and Eliza on the passing of Jason's father John Burditt Cadwell.

Giving Back to LCWS

Dr. Heather Rice, parent of 5th grader Alya MacManaway, from Network Chiropractic of Vermont in Shelburne, announced that she has been selected OUT OF 50,000 chiropractors by a team of highly trained and mission driven entrepreneurs to double her impact in Vermont in the first 6 months of 2014. Dr. Rice recently hosted a large event at the Sheraton Hotel to announce this special opportunity to the entire community. Dr. Rice also announced that she is renaming her practice as well. The new name is Wellspring Chiropractic Lifestyle Center. As part of this exciting news, Dr. Heather is offering new patient exams for \$47, and every dollar will be given back to support LCWS. Wellspring Chiropractic is excited to be able to give back to the community in this way, as it not only benefits the school, but the health of all those deciding to contribute. There is limited availability, so please contact her office soon if you are interested. 985-9850 or go to www.belifeul.com. To learn more about Dr. Rice's venture: www.wellspringcls.com/VIDEO.



Camp Glen Brook

You are invited to the home of Christopher, Karen, Sarah and Hailey White on Sunday, February 16th from 3–4:30 p.m. to learn about Camp Glen Brook. Glen Brook is located in southwestern NH and has been weaving Waldorf ideals into an amazing summer camp experience for 3rd-10th graders since 1946. Please RSVP: 802-425-5961 or office@glenbrook.org. Watch a [video](#) about Glen Brook in which Karen and Christopher appear. In addition, Camp Glen Brook's Director will have an information table at school on Monday morning (2/17) during drop-off.



Waldorf in the News

Here's a [link](#) to the February edition of *Inform*, the Association of Waldorf School of North America's (AWSNA) monthly publication.

Community News

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Open House: Mara's Morning Garden, Saturday February 15, 10:30 am-12:00 noon

Don't forget to bring your 2-4 year olds to play, draw, bake and eat cookies, and generally have fun learning about Morning Garden and meeting Mara. Come to 92 Overlake Park, Burlington, VT 05401 or phone 802-864-4423 for more information

Adventure Game Theater Weekend at Orchard Valley Waldorf School, May 30-June 1st, 2014. Join students grades 6 through Alumni for a weekend of perilous quests and daring adventures. Orchard Valley will be transformed into a land where magical fairies and dangerous monsters may roam the woods and where you may rise as a hero on a quest to save the Kingdom. We will battle with swords and ancient weaponry, use magic to heal and fight off evil, and use our strength of spirit and mind achieve the impossible. Visit www.ReTribe.org, or contact Julia, ReTribeTransformation@gmail.com for more info.

Classifieds

Do you love young children and being in nature? LCWS is seeking a Head Counselor for our Kindergarten Camp (ages 3-5). Requirements: 3+ years of experience leading groups of young children, love of the outdoors, familiarity with Waldorf philosophy and early childhood curriculum. June 25-July 26 (Monday-Friday and one Saturday); Hours: 8:30-3:30. Competitive salary. Email Abigail at adiehl@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org for full job description and more information.

Seeking 1st Grade Main Lesson Teacher, Lakeside School at Black Kettle Farm, Essex, NY

Lakeside School offers a dynamic and innovative elementary school program on a working farm. While a strong foundation in curriculum and healthy classroom management are bedrocks of the program; this 1st grade classroom has the flexibility to develop new ways of working with the young elementary students both inside the school building and on our 213-acres of farm and forest. Responsibilities include cooperatively caring for shared spaces. The 1st grade students will join the 2nd & 3rd grade combined class for lessons and mealtimes after main lesson. If there is a surge in enrollment, this position will become a full time position. In the future we are looking to have two class teachers to carry the 1st-3rd grade elementary program. Subject teaching or farm possibilities available depending upon qualifications.

To apply, send resume, letter of intention, a brief biographical sketch, and two professional phone references. E-mail Robin Gucker at Robin@lakesideschoolinessex.org. Deadline: March 1, 2014.

Pledge!

Donate!

Support the Lake Champlain Waldorf School.

Upcoming Events At A Glance

February 18: Healthy Fats with Doug Flack, Turtle Lane Campus, 7:00p.m.

February 20: A la Carte Biding Ends, 3:00p.m.

February 20: Simplicity Parenting Series: Soul Fever, Turtle Lane Campus, 7:00p.m

February 24-28 NO SCHOOL: February Break

February 28: New Parent Child Session begins, All Souls Interfaith Gathering

March 3-5: NO SCHOOL: Parent-Teacher Conferences

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March 6: Simplicity Parenting Series: Rhythm and Schedules, Turtle Lane Campus, 7:00p.m.

March 7: Maple Syrup and Popcorn orders due

March 10: Grains, Nuts, Beans and Seeds with Dough Flack, Turtle Lane Campus, 7p.m.

March 13: Simplicity Parenting Series: Filtering Out the Adult World, Turtle Lane Campus, 7:00p.m.

March 15: Maple Syrup Magic in the Kindergarten, for families with children ages 3-5, 10:00a.m-11:30p.m.

March 20: Simplicity Parenting Series: Simplicity Parenting to Go, Turtle Lane Campus, 7:00p.m

TO SEE THE SCHOOL CALENDAR [click here.](#)

There are four, layered calendars (All School, College Guidance, Middle and High School Sports), which you can turn on or off. Click on the drop-down arrow next to the "Agenda" tab.

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