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## LAKE CHAMPLAIN WALDORF SCHOOL

OUR VOICE | May 30, 2014

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email newsletter items to: [newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org)

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### Endings

by Abigail Diehl-Noble

As the year draws to a close, the number of ceremonies, field trips and special events in a Waldorf school is breathtaking.

With three children, I am awash in wonderful closing moments!

It's a lot of work for us as parents (and teachers), but there is something I so value about all of this. In a Waldorf school, endings get noticed.

I find that in general our culture is good at beginnings—the first day of school, the first lost tooth, the first bike ride, first car, first job. But endings? We hide from them. We avoid talking much about serious illness, death, and separation, or we avoid the people who do talk about them. We try not to dwell on the negative and we press on.

But moving on too quickly comes at a cost. In fact, pausing to mark an end is the best way to prevent getting stuck there. By honoring what has been and allowing sadness about what is lost, we are in the best place to embrace the next step.

Each year the faculty of our school offer artistic performances—songs and poems—to the graduating eighth grade students in a private ceremony just for them, before the public graduation. The faculty also sit in a circle with the twelfth grade and remember their shining moments from kindergarten, grade school, and high school. We host a dinner in their honor, offer thanks and jokes, and sing some more (Waldorf endings always include a lot of song). Every student who is leaving the school is honored in his or her class, and in a closing ceremony before the whole school. Every teacher moving on is appreciated. No one slips away.

Taking time to say goodbye often isn't easy. It can be awkward or uncomfortable; it can bring up problems we don't want to talk about. But it's essential. If we are a community (and we are), then each one of us matters. A leave-taking done



*Essex, NY: June 3, 2013*

*One of the ways Mrs. Verman's class marks the end of the year is with an annual trip across the lake for a picnic and ice cream.*

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with love strengthens everyone for what's ahead; an absence not properly recognized takes energy from the group and the person who is leaving.

May we all have the courage to close this school year with warmth, openness, and plenty of trust in new beginnings to come.

**The entire school community is invited to celebrate with the graduating 8th graders and 12th graders.**

**Eighth grade graduation takes place at the high school on Thursday, June 5th at 4:30pm.**

**Commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2014 begin at 10:00 on Saturday, June 7th at the high school.**

**All are welcome!**

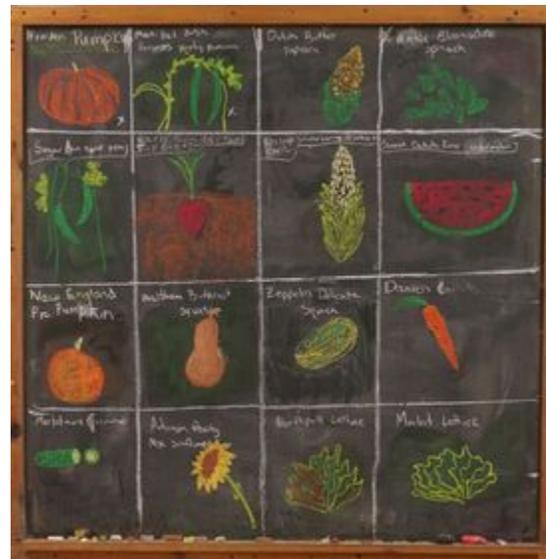
## **The Sixth Grade Donates Seed Sale Profits to the Joshua Moore Scholarship Fund and Harbor Place**

In the spring, the sixth grade formed a seed company in order to learn how to operate a business and to raise money for a charity.

Using funds raised in the fall from their work for the LCWS Rummage sale, the class purchased sixteen varieties of organic seeds in bulk and blank seed packets. When the seeds arrived, the students weighed them and then packaged the seeds in their own hand-designed and illustrated seed packets. They also set prices for each packet that would be reasonable but that could cover costs and still make a fair profit to donate to the charity.

They staffed ten consecutive booths, worked with advertising and eventually sold 93% of the seed packets to the LCWS community.

Sales over the course of a week were lively and fun for the sixth graders, and their customers. Some students acted as sales people; others recorded purchases, and made change for customers. They counted sales and kept a running balance sheet of expenses and income. **After calculating expenses, the class made a grand total of \$248.40.**



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and learned of local, national and global charities that devoted themselves to the needs of human beings, animals and the earth. **In the end they made a matched grant of \$100.00 to the LCWS Joshua Moore Scholarship Fund and a donation of \$150 to Harbor Place, a local short-term housing and resource shelter, primarily for homeless and displaced families.**

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## Thank you from the Moore Family

As the school year draws to a close, we send our heartfelt gratitude to the faculty, staff, students and families of the LCWS community for your support since Joshua's passing. We have been blessed by your love and generosity. Your prayers, cards, gifts, meals, and presence with us have truly touched our hearts.

Thank you to those who sat with us on Thursday nights in the fall and shared your own memories of loved ones who have passed on. Thank you to the many students who drew beautiful pictures that we will treasure, and for your sweet gifts. A special thank you to Mr. Olson and all the singers and musicians for offering your beautiful spring concert in Joshua's honor.

Thank you to the families in Sueanne's class for your tremendous support despite navigating your own children through the loss of a friend. Thank you for bringing your children to visit us and for celebrating with us as we welcomed Brendan to our family. And thank you to Melinda & Malcolm for your labor of love to record such a touching song for Joshua.

And finally: Sueanne, we thank you for walking with our family and for carrying the entire school community through this difficult loss. You have gone above and beyond the role of even a Waldorf kindergarten teacher, and we will be forever grateful.

Christina and Jason Moore



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*Now I walk in beauty*

*Beauty is before me*

*Beauty is behind me,*

*above and below me.*



## We Are Children is Available

We can't embed a player into this newsletter, so you'll just have to go to the school's website to [hear the beautiful song, We Are Children](#), that Melinda Kinzie is offering to honor Joshua Moore. All proceeds from the "sale" of the song will go directly to the Scholarship Fund. Please share with your friends by clicking the "share" button underneath the heart on the website.

## Trips and Excursions

What a busy time of year! The **third grade** went on their Farm Trip to Hawthorne Valley Farm, the **fourth grade** spent three days camping in Underhill and summited Mt. Mansfield at sunrise, the **fifth grade** hosted and participated in the Pentathlon, the **sixth grade** spent three days at the Kroka basecamp in New Hampshire, the **seventh grade** went to Quebec City, the **eighth grade** biked in Nantucket, the **tenth grade** camped and canoed throughout Vermont on their Hydrology trip, and the **eleventh grade** volunteered at the Flack Family Farm. Here are few photos from the various adventures and more can be found on [the school's Facebook page](#).



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## The rose, the bud and perhaps a thorn...

The 6th grade reflects on their Kroka experience

The Sixth grade spent three magnificent days at Kroka's base camp. We camped, cooked, did chores, canoed, rock climbed, sang and had loads of fun and adventure. The Kroka counselors had us engage in a daily activity where we spoke of the rose of the day, the bud for tomorrow and perhaps a thorn. This was how we would review each day together. The following are a few roses, written by Sixth graders:

*A big rose for me was the rock climbing. I've already rock-climbed a lot but never with my friends. Rock climbing with them made the whole experience better!*

*When I was at Kroka I had many roses, but my best one was when I felt the rush of having repelled off a cliff. Another rose was canoeing to the island and finding Crumbeard's Treasure!*

*The high-point was the rock-climbing because I got nervous I was going to fall, but I didn't! I learned that if you don't cooperate with your partner, your canoe will turn around and around, getting nowhere.*

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*My rose for the Kroka trip was pushing myself for the rock-climbing and repelling. I proved to myself that if I set my mind to it, I can do anything!*

*My rose was doing the rock climbing and repelling. I was very nervous about it because I was afraid of heights. I was the first one from my group to try it. First I did not want to do it, but after awhile I became relaxed and it became easy for me. Repelling was my favorite part of rock climbing!*

*I remember when we first pulled into Kroka, and I thought, I hope the Kroka counselors are nice. At first I was not sure, but when I started to fully live into their world and do everything with them. By the end of the day I was laughing at their jokes and listening intently to everything they had to teach me. I fully trusted them for the rest of the trip.*

*Finally, my rose (speaks Katherine Verman) was a deep appreciation and trust in Kroka and an every growing faith in the strength and heart of the Sixth Grade and Waldorf Education!*

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## Bringing the Rain to the Kapiti Plain

Photos from the third grade play



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## Not sure if you won an auction item?

Don't forget to stop by and pick up your Auction winnings at the Development Office. If you haven't paid for your items, you may pay online through the auction website, or by cash, check or credit card when you pick up your items. Not sure if you won? Check the [auction website](#) by logging in with your e-mail address and password, or contact [Karen Nolin Govett](#).

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## Watch the Thursday Spring Benefit Family Concert on CCTV

LCWS parent and Executive Director of CCTV Center for Media and Democracy, [Lauren Glenn Davitian](#) has once again recorded the Spring Benefit and [made it](#)



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[available on CCTV](#). Lauren-Glenn has recorded many LCWS events over the years and you can search the CCTV archives for more LCWS offerings. Thanks Lauren-Glenn and CCTV!

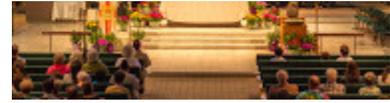


Photo by Dana Govett



## Summer Picnic!

Pack your blanket and picnic and come to the Lake Champlain Waldorf School all-school picnic on the last day on school, which is Wednesday, June 4th. The picnic starts right after school from 3:30 until 6:00 pm at the Shelburne Beach. There is no agenda...just time to socialize and enjoy good company. Parents, please remember that there is no life guard on duty, and you need to supervise your children. Remember to pick up all trash (the beach does not have any trash cans). Hope to see you there! Please note: We have a rain date scheduled for the following day, June 5th from 10:00am - 2:00pm.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to LCWS Alumna **Lindsay Graham**, daughter of **Pam Graham**, who got married this past weekend to Tony Francescutti. One guest said, "Their love was so palpable and clear that it shifted my entire focus onto seeing what is right, good and fabulous in my own marriage. It was as if being in the space they created made love so ever present that all else just faded away. It was really a gift to behold." Lindsay is a freelance graphic designer and LCWS has benefited tremendously from her brilliant work.



## Shout-Outs

*We are experimenting with a new section of the newsletter where readers can express gratitude toward other community members. If you'd like to submit a Shout-Out, please email: [newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org).*

A huge shout-out to **Kathy Pintair** who has put in countless hours with the 8th graders over the last three months to help them design and publish a memory book. The gorgeous book is a result of Kathy's humble grace, eye for beauty, and dedication to the children. Thank you Kathy!

Big thanks to the **7th grade at Orchard Valley Waldorf School and their class teacher Jane Hill**. When the OVWS students heard about the LCWS 7th grade shoe drive for Youth Catalytics, they wanted to help out and sent shoes from their own school community to LCWS.

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I was extremely moved by the **high school video project** for the capital campaign. The chalkboard memories, great fiddling, and snapshots of you as children were just beautiful. **Well done, high school students.** You're a talented and thoughtful bunch! -Caroline Homan, 1st grade and Kindergarten parent

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## Community News

**Waldorf, Summer Style! Turtle Lane Camp at the Waldorf School** has openings for children ages 3-8 for four weeks of woods exploration, fort and fairy house building, nature stories, gardening, delicious home-made snacks and plenty of play. Our forest and fields are a lovely place in July, with wildflowers, cool shade, animal life everywhere, and lots of materials we gently harvest for nature art projects. June 30-July 25, Earth, Air, Fire and Water camps, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., with before- and after-care available; \$285/week; scholarship available. Contact Camp Director [Abigail Diehl-Noble](#).



**Nature Institute Courses for Waldorf Teachers and Parents.** The Nature Institute in Ghent, NY, north of NYC, is offering two summer courses of interest to Waldorf teachers and parents. *Reading in the Book of Nature: Enlivening Observation and Thinking Through Plant Study*, June 29-July 5, will include careful plant study, exercises in flexible thinking, and artistic work with clay. Faculty for the course are Craig and Henrike Holdrege and Patrick Stolfo. *Dynamic Embryology and Morphology: Exploring the Wisdom of the Developing Human Form*, July 31-Aug. 3, will be taught by Jaap van der Wal, PhD, MD, a retired teacher of Anatomy and Embryology from the University of Maastricht in The Netherlands. The Nature Institute's work is inspired by Rudolf Steiner and is based on a Goethean approach to science, emphasizing mindful attention to the full ecological context of phenomena. Scholarships Available for Waldorf Teachers. More information is [here](#) or email [info@natureinstitute.org](mailto:info@natureinstitute.org).

**Camp Hoopla! Let's Put on a Show!** 7/21-7/25, 10-3, Charlotte Central School. 10-14 years olds, spend an unforgettable week laughing with Woody Keppel (the endearing and eccentric character, Woodhead), Andy Smith (music teacher extraordinaire), and Wendy Bratt (LCWS mom)! Emphasis on collaboration and FUN ~ Students of all levels: music, theatrical clowning, juggling, and improvisation of all kinds. Wendy Bratt; 802-777-1057, [wbratt@gmavt.net](mailto:wbratt@gmavt.net) fb: <https://www.facebook.com/CampHoopla>, Charlotte Rec Office: [recreation@townofcharlotte.com](mailto:recreation@townofcharlotte.com).

**Summer Day Camps for Nature and Animal Lovers.** Otter Creek Wildlife Rescue in Addison, Vermont presents day camps for animal lovers from 9AM-4PM with additional childcare available until 5:30 if needed upon request. Choose your dates: Ages 6-10, June 23-27 or July 21-25. Ages 11-14, July 14-18 or July 28-August 1. We will teach campers about species here in Vermont, and dangers they face. We'll observe them in the wild, and explain their needs when in trouble. We will learn about important protocols and prepare food for the animals in our care. We will also enjoy summer activities like swimming, hiking, gardening, music and more! LCWS's own alum, Anna White will be a full time counselor! For more information and to register, please contact Anna at [annawhite94@gmail.com](mailto:annawhite94@gmail.com) or 802 399 1414.

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The June edition of Inform newsletter from the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America can be read [here](#).

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**Magic Forest Morning Garden.** Bridget Ryan is pleased to announce that enrollment for the Fall of 2014 is ongoing at The Magic Forest morning garden in Shelburne. The Magic Forest provides care for children birth through 4 years old. Our philosophy is inspired by the principles of Waldorf education, The Forest Kindergarten programs, and the infant and toddler care philosophies of Emmi Pikler and Magda Gerber. Enrollment is now open for infants and toddlers in our morning program. We have openings now! Contact us through: <http://magicforestearlychildhood.com/>

**Fairie & Gnome Camp:** (June 23-26; July 14-17; July 21-24; Aug., 4-7 & 11-14) Lets find the Magic in "Mother Nature's Garden"; make new friends, play and romp through her magical forest at Miss Terri's. SIGN UP Now! P.s. Never offered before: "Fairy & Gnome ALUMNI Camp". If you are double digits (10, 11, 12 plus years) and want to come and see the magic again... ONE CAMP available .... JUNE 23-26. We will create BIGGER projects; clay, handwork, hammer and nail "real" fairy furniture. Learn to dowse, build a sanctuary, learn to find edibles from the fairies and more. Call (802)343-0471 or email: [terispirit2002@yahoo.com](mailto:terispirit2002@yahoo.com)

**LCWS's Extended Day Director Tai Dinnan is excited to be offering a new garden-themed day camp in Charlotte** for 1st-5th graders! There are two weeks to choose from: June 23-27th and/or August 4-8th - situated conveniently before and after LCWS's Turtle Lane Summer Camp *What:* Your thumbs will turn green after a week in Charlotte's school gardens this summer! Play and work with friends to deepen knowledge and boost excitement about vegetables, fruits, seeds, pollination, decomposition, and garden ecosystems. Become an animal lover during our walking field trip to visit sheep at nearby Fifth Fence Farm. Each afternoon, transform into a chef to prepare a daily snack using ingredients just harvested from the garden. Don't forget to save some energy for playing on the playground, creating garden-themed art, exploring around the base of Pease Mountain, and making discoveries in and out of the gardens! *When:* Sign up for one or both of our week-long camp sessions: June 23-27th and August 4th-8th. Our days run from 9am to 3pm. *Who:* Rising 1st-5th graders are welcome. Campers are encouraged to sign up with friends. Cost: \$250/week, need-based scholarships are available. *Where:* Charlotte Central School Garden and Ground. *Bring:* Weather appropriate clothes and closed toe shoes that can get dirty, a bag lunch, water bottle, and sunscreen. A snack will be prepared and enjoyed by campers each day. More Information + Registration: Visit [www.charlottevt.org](http://www.charlottevt.org) and click on "Recreation" or email [ccsgreenthumbs@gmail.com](mailto:ccsgreenthumbs@gmail.com)

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## Classifieds

**Cello Lessons Offered.** Dana Govett, current 10th Grade student at LCWHS, is offering cello lessons beginning this summer. I would be happy to work with students who have basic foundational skills. I play in the VYO and have participated in New England & All State Music Festivals. Please contact me at [danagovett@gmail.com](mailto:danagovett@gmail.com) or 425-4230.

**East Charlotte House For Sale.** East Charlotte house for sale. We are selling our dear little house at 1212 Prindle Road. It's in a gorgeous corner of Prindle Corners - 15 minutes to LCWS, and 12 to Hinesburg. Three bedroom, 2 bath with such a lovely yard of just under 2 acres. (It's such a sweet place for a family; it inspired Sparkle's "Martin & Sylvia" stories!) Find the Hickock & Boardman listing [HERE](#). Lisabeth Sewell McCann: [lsewellmccann@gmail.com](mailto:lsewellmccann@gmail.com) or 802-540-5545.

**MISSING MOUSE!** We're in search of a knitted black mouse that went missing from the foyer of the school. He is much-loved, and has a little tag with the name "Finn". Has he made his way to your house? If so, please do let us know. Thank you! Lisabeth Sewell McCann: 802-540-5545 [lsewellmccann@gmail.com](mailto:lsewellmccann@gmail.com)

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**School Sheep Care needed.** June 8 through June 29 at the Turtle Lane Campus: Tess (3) and Baby (10+) need at least one daily visit with love (yours), grain and hay (provided), and fresh water (nearby). If you are interested in this sweetly rewarding volunteer sheep-care opportunity, please call Lisa McCullough at 985-2531.

**Buy CAbi Clothing and benefit LCWS.** Purchase this season's great looks! Stop by 4946 Spear St. Shelburne, Saturday May 31, 4 pm, or make a private appointment. These are quality women's clothes with an amazing fit and style. I am donating 20% of purchases to the school, so treat yourself and the school! To RSVP or set up an appt: [mcomey@me.com](mailto:mcomey@me.com), 802-355-1905. For CAbi information visit [www.melendycomey@cabionline.com](http://www.melendycomey@cabionline.com) Melendy Comey, Independent CAbi Consultant.

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Thanks for the many ways that you support the Lake Champlain Waldorf School.

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**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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