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## LAKE CHAMPLAIN WALDORF SCHOOL

OUR VOICE | November 22, 2013

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



### The Circus Came to Town!

Last Friday the students in grades 2-8 from LCWS displayed their amazing talents and skills in the circus showcase at the Field House. Since the circus skills program began in September, the students learned, practiced, and created their own collaborations with other students, to share with the entire school community. We shared such joy in creating this event, and we have many members of the community to thank! From hauling endless tubs of circus gear and chairs, helping behind the curtain, taking photos/video, and of course telling the African tale, volunteers made this circus extravaganza possible!

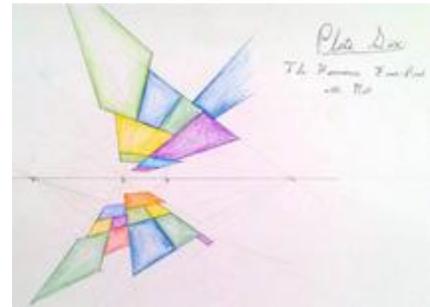
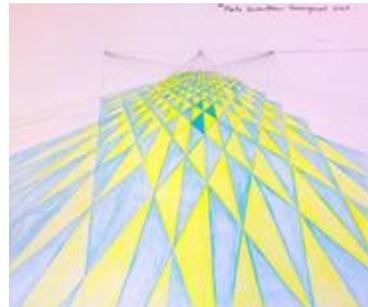
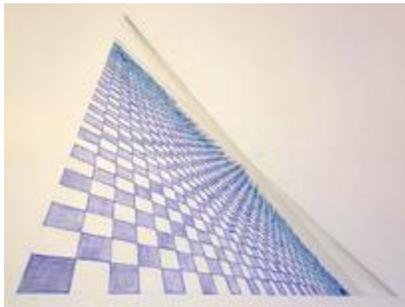
Thank you to David Sewell-McCann, Amy Snyder, Lisa Espenshade, Heidi Willoughby, Florian Foerg, Robyn Woodsworth, Renee Dame-LeBarre, Meg Huffman, Lauren Glenn Davitian, Thomas Fortin, Mairead Collins, and several high school students who participated in the drumming. Many thanks to our anonymous patron-of-the-circus benefactor who gifted all the circus equipment.

- Ms. Joni and Mashobane Moruthane

Watch [video footage](#) from the circus on CCTV courtesy of Lauren Glenn Davitian.



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## 11th Grade Projective Geometry

The October Projective Geometry main lesson introduced 11th grade students to the breadth of the field of geometry, beyond that of Euclidean Geometry. We began by questioning Euclid's fifth postulate: two parallel lines never intersect. What would happen if they did?

The conceptual content of the course stemmed from the intricacies of this paradox, and went on to question mathematical assumptions about other geometric constructs such as lines, triangles, and polygons. To explore these concepts, students drew a series of plates using precise drawing skills. The drawing itself allowed exploration of open-ended questions about Projective Geometry Theorems of Pappus, Möbius, Desargues, and the Harmonic four-point net.

Several major fields of abstract mathematics are based on projective geometry. The study of these topics supports

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theoretical thinking: in the realm beyond what we can see, what is it possible to know?

--Kate Crow



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Lake Champlain Waldorf School Capital Campaign

# Four Pillar CHALLENGE



Hello Our Voice readers!

As we enter the season of philanthropy, there are so many worthy charities which benefit from our support. This is a transformative year for our school, and we hope you'll make the [Lake Champlain Waldorf School](http://www.lcws.org) a top cause for your family!

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If you have already made a gift or pledge...THANK YOU!!!

Participation makes all the difference! Your donation of \$50, or \$500, or \$5,000 will help secure an amazing award:

**Once \$300,000 is raised from community gifts and pledges, members of the four pillars of our school (grandparents, alumni parents, current parents and the Board of Trustees) will award the school an additional \$200,000!**

**Donate Here**

**Pledge Here**



## **This week at Woodlands Extended Day Program**

In the Woodlands Extended Day Program, our group ranges in age from three to twelve years old. To provide the grade school students with meaningful physical work and a sense of community belonging, we've begun work on a Woodlands Clubhouse. After snack we head outside to the edge of the forest. On a site picked by the group, we've erected our structure. Natural materials found in a forest are our building materials. Sticks, leaves, pine needles, bark, and charcoal have come together to create a place we call our own.

Different shaped additions poke out of our main structure and evolve as time goes by. Birch-bark signs with charcoal writing hang above entrances to tunnels and rooms. Forest leaves have been raked away and orange pine needles carpet the

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a project together. While one student might haul heavy branches back and forth for an entire afternoon, another may focus on tidying the floor and decorating the wall of a small room. The pride and ownership over the clubhouse, however, is collective.

--Tai Dinnan, Woodland Extended-Day Program Director



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## A Win for the Wildcats!

It was an exciting game last night as our Girl's HS basketball team won their first game of the season, playing against Central Vermont Academy. Final score was 35 to 31. Both teams played a great game, showing skill, great defense and team spirit. In the last half of the game, and a score of 17 (CV) to 31 (LCWS), Central Vermont closed in with only minutes left in the game with a score at 31 (CV) to 33 (LCWS) -- all cheering, as Freshman Maya Fontanez scores the final basket, ending the game at 35:31. Great game! Go Wildcats! --Stephanie Lewis

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## Congratulations

Congratulations to these seniors who have had offers of acceptances from colleges:

Vincent Gauthier—McDaniel College, Maryland  
Emily Nelson Foster—Norwich University, Vermont  
Amanda DeBellis—Colby-Sawyer, New Hampshire



## December 6 & 7

The Holiday Fair is fast approaching! Look for special Holiday Fair emails in the coming days. Thank you to

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everyone who already signed up. Our biggest need is for two people from every class to help with clean up.

Here are the links:

[Kindergarten through 7th grade Sign Up](#)  
[High School students and parents Sign Up](#)  
[8th grade & 12th grade Cafe Sign Up](#)

Thanks to all for the grand effort!  
--Sharon Richards, Development Associate

## Delicious recipe ideas for the Holiday Fair

A BIG thank you to all those who signed up to make those FABULOUS FANCY CAKES for this year's Holiday Fair!

Here are some helpful recipes, just in case you're looking for something a little different (though ALL your fabulous recipes are welcome).

[Honey Carrot Cake](#)  
[Hot Maple Apple Cake](#)

## For Holiday Giving: Think Books (Abigail's picks...)

Books are wonderful gifts. As an English teacher I love that they promote literacy and learning, but as a parent I have other reasons for giving them: books provide hours of quiet entertainment in the winter holidays, offer the chance for shared family experiences (read-alouds or conversations about books), and can be tailored to each child's tastes. Don't be deterred if you have a reluctant reader—think read-alouds, high-interest books for struggling readers, graphic novels, wordless books (for the very visual child—there are some amazing artistic books), audio books ... the goal is to share the wonder of stories.

In our family we have a Boxing Day books tradition. On December 26 the children each open a pile of books. Some are used, from yard and library sales; a few are new. It's a great antidote to Christmas Day let-down.

Here is a random collection of some favorites: at least one classic and a few contemporary books from each category. For recommendations tailored to your child, see your class teacher, Felicia Far, me, or the lovely staff of Flying Pig, who have a wealth of information about children's literature and generously helped compile this list!

This week: Kindergarten –Grade 6 (next week, Grade 7-High School)

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--Abigail Diehl-Noble

### Kindergarten

*Bremen Town Musicians* by the Brothers Grimm—this classic fairy tale has perfect five-year-old humor, and comes in a particularly lovely version from Bell Pond Books (available from Steiner Press).

*Flora's Windy Day* by Jeanne Birdsall and Matt Phelan—Imaginative, spunky big sister Flora is in charge of her toddler brother outdoors, and has to decide whether to let the wind carry him away in this poetic and beautifully illustrated picture book.

*A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Phillip Stead and Erin Stead. An elderly, gentle zookeeper is forced by a cold to stay home from work, and receives a surprise visit from his animal friends.

### First Grade

A penguin theme:

*Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard and Florence Atwater—The gentle would-be explorer Mr. Popper finds himself the owner of an Antarctic penguin, and much hilarity ensues.

*My Cool Friend* by Tony Buzzeo and David Small—When a well-mannered little boy visits the aquarium with his father, he politely asks for a penguin, and then takes one from a pool. Caring for a penguin in a New England Victorian house has its challenges. A beautiful picture book with lots of word play.

*Milly Molly Mandy Storybook* by Joyce Lankaster Brisley. Classic stories about the day-today adventures of a resourceful little girl; these stories capture a child's world, joys, and small (to us) dilemmas.

### Second Grade

Anything by E.B. White. This most perfect of children's writers produced many stories all children should know: *Charlotte's Web*, *Trumpet of the Swan*, and *Stuart Little*.

*Catwings* by Ursula LeGuin. Ms. Jane Tabby doesn't know why her four kittens were born with wings, but flying proves useful in her children's many adventures.

*The Children of Noisy Village* by Astrid Lingren. The author of Pippi Longstocking describes the life and escapades of six children on three neighboring farms.

### Third Grade

*Swallows and Amazons* series by Arthur Ransome—Sailing and camping adventure classics from the 1930s; this series is timeless for adventure-minded children.

Books by Beverly Cleary. Her several series include "spirited" *Ramona*, orderly *Beezus*, and the beloved dog-and-boy pair, *Henry and Ribsy*. These stories are great first grade read-alouds and possible third grade independent reads.

*Island: The Galapagos* by Jason Chin. Vermont native Chin creates paintings and text that inspire wonder and answer questions about this most amazing of islands—and includes a narrative of the visit of Charles Darwin. A wonderful scientific nonfiction picture book for grade school children.

### Fourth Grade

*Fortunately the Milk* by Neil Gaiman. Newbery Medalist Gaiman teams with artist Young for a funny, illustrated story of time travel. While picking up milk for his children's cereal, a father is abducted by aliens and finds himself on a wild adventure through time and space.

*Bluffton: My Summers with Buster* by Matt Phelan. A beautiful graphic novel in sketch and watercolor. In the summer of 1908, in Muskegon, Michigan, a visiting troupe of vaudeville performers is the most exciting thing since baseball. Henry meets a slapstick actor his own age named Buster Keaton.

*What the Witch Left* by Ruth Chew. These classic tales are full of matter-of-fact (non-scary) magic, perfect for

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budding fantasy readers. Also check out the stories Edward Eager—*Half-Magic* and other funny tales.

#### Fifth Grade

*The Dark is Rising* by Susan Cooper. On his eleventh birthday on Midwinter Day, Will Stanton learns that he is the last of the Old Ones, an immortal race dedicated to protecting the world.

*The Invention of Hugo Cabaret* by Brian Selznick. Combining elements of the picture book, graphic novel, and novel, this unforgettable book tells the tale of Hugo, an orphan, clock keeper, and thief. A modern classic.

*Flora and Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo. Newbery Medalist and #1 "New York Times"-bestselling author DiCamillo writes a story filled with eccentric, endearing characters, including a super-squirrel named Ulysses and his human, Flora. This novel has comic-style graphic sequences and full-page illustrations, all rendered beautifully in black-and-white.

#### Sixth Grade

*Will Sparrow's Road* by Karen Cushman. A Newbery Medalist writes about a lovable rogue and vagabond in Elizabethan England. Will Sparrow, "liar and thief," finds himself alone among circus and fair "freaks," and learns to find family in his new home.

*The Thief Lord* by Cornelia Funke. Two orphan boys run away to Venice and join a motley group of lost children ruled by the child Thief Lord. Mystery, adventure and magic intertwine in this haunting novel.

*The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trenton Lee Stewart. A dozen children enroll in a series of mind-bending tests and along the way solve a great mystery.



## The Oresteia

**Performances: Monday, Nov. 25, 7-9 p.m. & Tuesday, Nov. 26, 12:45-3 p.m. For grades 7 and up (recommended)**

Our tenth grade class chose *The Oresteia*, a gripping tale of murder, revenge, and justice, for our class play. Our initial hesitation towards this play was soon resolved when our director, Mr. Foster, proposed a modern twist to the tale: the incorporation of social media as a parallel theme. We re-worked both the set and the script in order to embrace our idea. After hours spent building and adapting, the resulting production includes a scrolling modernization of the lines being spoken (which will be projected onto a screen), and a set comprised of circuit boards and wires, along with various ancient Greek aspects. We look forward to presenting our play next week, and hope that the audience enjoys the performances as much as we do!

--Brendan Fontanez and Clara Slesar, '16

## Observation Mornings

The first Observation Morning on the Turtle Lane campus is scheduled for the Tuesday after our

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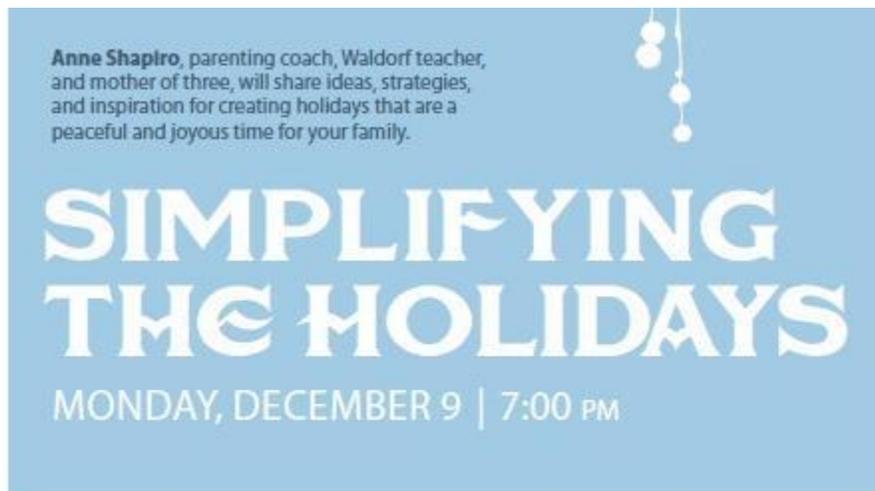
Thanksgiving break—Tuesday, December 3 at 8:30 am. Please invite any of your interested friends for kindergarten and grade classroom observations followed by a question-and-answer period. We have designed the morning to be a tour through the grades, which has been wonderful for prospective families. For those of you who liked participating in these mornings, we have adapted the time for you to visit your child or children's classrooms during this time. If you would like to attend, you still must RSVP to me at 985-2827 ext 12 or [pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org).

**The next High School Observation Morning** is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4 at 8:30 am. The main lesson schedule this month is quite diverse in subject matter: the ninth grade block is Thermodynamics with Danielle Drogalis, the tenth grade block is Physiology with Bet Dews, the eleventh grade block is Renaissance History with Steve Crimy and the twelfth grade block is Russian Literature with Mary Collins. Please come visit the high school and invite your interested friends. RSVP to me at 985-2827 ext 12 or [pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org). -Pam Graham

## Thank you parents!

Thank you so much for the delicious, nutritious and lovingly prepared goodies for faculty/ staff meeting. After a long day, we all need and look forward to the assortment of savory and sweet treats-dairy and wheat ...(or NOT!). Oh and when the bounty is hearty enough to stand in lieu of a meal, the grateful sighs are audible!

With Awe and Appreciation, Felicia Far for the faculty and staff



Anne Shapiro, parenting coach, Waldorf teacher, and mother of three, will share ideas, strategies, and inspiration for creating holidays that are a peaceful and joyous time for your family.

# SIMPLIFYING THE HOLIDAYS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 | 7:00 PM

**FREE ADMISSION**  
RSVP to Pam Graham at (802) 985-2827 ext. 12  
or [pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org)

**Lake Champlain  
WALDORF SCHOOL**  
359 Turtle Lane, Shelburne, VT  
[www.lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](http://www.lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org)

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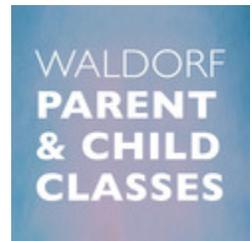
## Thank you for a wonderful conference!

We had a fabulous conference this past weekend with Sharifa Oppenheimer, who brought inspiration to parents with young children on ways to bring family life into balance and harmony. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers and board members who helped us with the organization and logistics: Sarah Thompson, Heather Preis, Heidi Willoughby, Nell Coogan, and Liz Poulsen. Thank you again to our sponsors, Pill-Maharam Architects, Balance in Childhood and Adolescence, and The Forrest and Francis Lattner Foundation.

Sharifa's book, *Heaven on Earth*, is a must-have family resource book and we still have some available to purchase. We also have a few copies in our early childhood library in the kindergarten building. Please contact me if you would like to purchase a book 985-2827 ext. 12 or [pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org). --Pam Graham

## Last call for Parent & Child Classes

We still have a few spots open in the next session of Parent & Child Classes, beginning the week of December 2. The classes, crafted for children newborn to three years, are held in Shelburne at the All Souls Interfaith Gathering. Please share information about this program with any interested friends. The descriptions of the different age groups and the registration form are on [our website](#). If you have any questions, please contact Pam Graham at 985-2827 ext. 12 or [pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org](mailto:pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org).



## Community News

Please support alumna Ayla Yandow as she navigates brain surgery this winter. Ayla attended LCWS from Morning Garden to 12th grade, and graduated in 2009. Let's show Ayla how much LCWS still loves her! No donation is too small. You can visit [her website](#), let's all write her notes.



### SPECIAL INVITATION TO WALDORF THESBIANS:

Shelburne Players will bring Shakespeare to the Town Center Stage next spring when we present "Twelfth Night," a comedy directed by Donald Rowe. Production dates are April 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 2014.

**Audition dates are Friday, Dec. 6, 6-9pm, Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, 1-5pm.** Auditions will be held in the upstairs meeting room at Shelburne Town Center, 5420 Shelburne Road, Shelburne. Rehearsals will begin in mid-January. There are roles for 10 male leads and 3 female leads, and smaller roles for 4 males. Various ages from young adult and upwards. Please email Donald Rowe at [donald.rowe@hotmail.com](mailto:donald.rowe@hotmail.com) with any questions.

Alumni Grandparent Maxine Davis (grandmother of Katlyn Davis '11) is holding her annual glass studio holiday sale this weekend! Friday, November 22 through Sunday, November 24, 9am-5pm or by appointment at the Maxine Davis Glass Art Studio, 2257 Fuller Mountain Road, North Ferrisburgh. Call 425-3034 for info on the sale or on upcoming workshops.

**If anyone has found an iPod** in a red rubberized case (possibly in front of the high school?), please let Dov Schiller know! 802-310-5318 Thank you!

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## Classifieds

**Got Pain?** Low Energy? Mental Dullness? Allergies? Heard of PowerStrips by FGXpress? Call Dr. Mary Spicer 802-363-1089. Get Stripped! It will Change Your Life! I will donate 10% of your initial Power Strip order to LCWS. Find out more: [www.checkoutthestrips.com](http://www.checkoutthestrips.com)

**For Sale:** Various baby and toddler Patagonia winter outerwear in very good condition: Size 3M cranberry/floral Synchronia Bunting \$30; Size 12M blue Synchronia Bunting \$40; Size 24M pink Synchronia Bunting \$40; Size 24M pink/cranberry Puff Ball Jacket and Snow Pants,\$100. Dawn Leuschner, [dawn.leuschner@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.leuschner@gmail.com).

### 3rd Annual Winter Mixer and Wreath Auction Next Thursday at Magic Hat to Benefit Shelburne Craft School

Brass and Copper Wreath 28 inches round by SCS's Board of directors president: Jack Lazarowski  
Over 27 wreaths made out of clay, stained glass, metal, balsam and other natural materials will be auctioned off in our live auction. Wreaths by: Close To Home, Magic Hat, Dostie Bros. Frame Shop, Scharf Law, Selin and Selin, Heart of the Village Inn, Village Wine and Coffee, In Full Bloom, Sage Tucker-Ketcham, Sarah Sprague. Learn more: [www.theshelburnecraftschool.org](http://www.theshelburnecraftschool.org), [info@theshelburnecraftschool.org](mailto:info@theshelburnecraftschool.org) or call 802 985-3648.

**Violin For Sale:** Full-size, German-made violin for sale. Includes 2 basic bows, case, extra strings and a well-used shoulder rest. All for \$525; or \$560 with an upgraded case. 15% OF PURCHASE PRICE WILL BE DONATED TO LCWS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. Call 425-4230 or [karengovett@gmail.com](mailto:karengovett@gmail.com). See photos at <http://burlington.craigslist.org/msg/4168285472.html>.

**Great condo** available December 7 in Shelburne on bus line. Four bedrooms, 5 bath, drive in garage, fireplace, laundry, many new upgrades including new wood floors, pool and tennis courts. \$1,800 mo. Contact Maureen Wheeler at 238-7042.

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## The Week Ahead and Beyond...

**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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