

If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may [see it online](#).

Share this:    

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WALDORF SCHOOL

OUR VOICE | October 11, 2013

email newsletter items to: newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org

**Today's newsletter is dedicated to Susan Mason,
as we present our school's new website!**



We are thrilled to introduce our new website to you. Visit www.lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org and have a look around. Our heartfelt thanks to high school parent and web designer extraordinaire, [Susan Mason](#). Her generosity and dedication to the school exceeded our wildest dreams. And thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this website happen! *Melinda Haselton*



The screenshot shows a website navigation bar with the following links: Our School, Why Waldorf?, Early Childhood, Grade School, High School, Admissions, Support LCWS, and News & Events. Below the navigation bar is a featured article titled "Reverence" with a quote from a Fifth Grade Student: "I like that nothing keeps us from being outside. Rain or shine, we're outside every day." The article includes a "Visit us today" button with a right-pointing arrow icon. The background of the article features a photo of a group of people in a canoe on a lake.

Tenth Grade Odyssey Trip

The 10th grade undertook its own Odyssey adventure canoeing and camping on Lake Champlain recently. For eight

days and seven nights, the class experienced the *Odyssey* through hard paddling, wilderness camping, invigorating discussion, and thoughtful writing.

The class was divided into two groups (boys and girls), and each group was led by two guides from Kroka Expeditions and a teacher. Every student had an area of responsibility that allowed the group as a whole to function well (navigator, tents, etc.), and two students each day did the cooking.

Glorious autumn weather made the natural beauty of our part of the world even more apparent; steady (and sometimes strong) north winds made the paddling arduous. The students paddled under the Crown Point Bridge, camped at Five-Mile Point, Cole Island, and Barn Rock, among other places. Students packed up their copies of the *Odyssey* and their journals in the "academic" barrel every day to keep them dry, along with all their gear, food and sometimes firewood.

Everything and everyone went into the 21-foot canoes to travel to the next campsite. Sitting on rock ledges overlooking Lake Champlain, students wrote in their journals; circling around the food, everyone held hands and sang before each meal. Students swam in the lake, skipped stones, went for morning runs, and paddled. They carved wooden spoons; they thought about, talked about and wrote about the *Odyssey*. They gathered firewood, split firewood, and started fires. They found wild apple trees and picked apples. The boys found a crabapple tree and picked those. The girls found grapes and had grape tea.

On the last full day of the trip, each student had a four-hour solo time; then the Kroka guides and teacher left each group on its own overnight. The students made their own dinner, broke camp in the morning, packed up the canoes and met the adults at the take-out on the Vermont side of the lake. Throughout the journey, the students developed individual skills, cultivated a close community, and lived the *Odyssey*.





Party Tomorrow!



raise the roof!
Party

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WALDORF SCHOOL

Saturday, October 12 | 7:30pm
at the future new HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS
122 Bostwick Road, Shelburne

COME Kick-off "The 'Time Is Now"
Capital Campaign

as we Celebrate Generosity and Build on Success

RAISE THE ROOF PARTY
*Saturday, October 12th, at 7:30 pm
at the future home of our high school*

7:30: enjoy wine reception, mingle with friends and meet fabulous new ones
8:15: Campaign Rally
8:30: Dance Party with DJ extraordinaire Acroy Cofiño

raise the roof (def):

when
we all work
together for our mutual
potential • dancing motion where
by the participant pushes both hands up in
the air • phrase used to express a desire to get a party

<p>Saturday, October 12 7:30pm at the future new HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS 122 Bostwick Road, Shelburne</p> 	<p>potential • dancing motion where by the participant pushes both hands up in the air • phrase used to express a desire to get a party started • an ergonomic way of expressing mass awesomeness by pushing up the air, meaning it can't even touch you because your cause of celebration is immeasurable.</p>
<p>FREE EVENT • ADULTS ONLY ALL WELCOME • CASUAL</p>	<p>Come have a ball! RSVP to Lisa Espenshade.</p>

Halloween: Two events, one for young children and one for teens

Halloween is “All Hallow’s Eve”—an ancient celebration of the closing in of the darkness.

The Celtic festival Samhain (pronounced sah-win) is the oldest version of our modern Halloween. At summer’s end, after the harvest, the thoughts of ancient people turned to the cold time that was coming. The Druids believed that in this time the souls of those who had died in the previous year wandered the earth.

At the center of the festival was a bonfire, lit to encourage the sun not to vanish entirely. People danced around the fire, wore costumes to keep the evil spirits away, and opened their doors to welcome in the souls of loved ones. All things were possible at Samhain: fortune-telling, fairy-seeing, righting relationships with those who had died. It was a time of magic and mystery, frightening sometimes, but also full of hope and excitement.

Our modern version of this old rite has left behind most of the mystery, and substituted in other things. But at its heart, this holiday is a reminder that we live in two worlds, material and spiritual, and we can move between them.



The Forest of Magic and Mystery

A celebration of the magic of Halloween for children ages 11 and under: the pleasure of walking in the dusk along a lantern-lit path, wearing a costume, seeing strange and funny characters, solving riddles, gathering treasures, and eating wholesome treats.

Don’t miss this special event on Halloween night, October 31, 4-5:30 p.m. Ticketing begins next week; advance registration is required, as the event typically sells out before Halloween. The Forest of Magic and Mystery is produced in collaboration with [Sparkle Stories](#) of Charlotte, Vermont. Family fee to cover expenses.

The 6th Annual Lake Champlain Waldorf High



School Haunted Happenings:

A Haunted Circus takes place this year on Saturday evening, October 26th. Tours run from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Dare to enter the Big Top of evil clowns, creepy entertainers, and fearsome performers. Not for the faint of heart!

A fundraiser for the 12th grade trip and high school yearbook, tours cost \$10. Suitable for ages 12 and up. High School Campus: 735 Ferry Road, Charlotte. For further information contact Alice Lissarrague: alissarrague@lakechamplainwaldorfhighschool.org



SAVE THE DATE:

Guiding Our Children: Discipline with Heart

Friday, November 15 | 7-9 pm
(Contois Auditorium, Burlington)
Saturday November 16 | 8 am-1 pm
(Turtle Lane Campus)

This presentation and workshop by early childhood educator and parenting consultant Sharifa Oppenheimer will offer practical tips for making life with young children (ages 9 and under) better. Learn how to make the rituals of daily life, including mealtimes and bedtimes, less stressful, how to shape your family culture, and how to bring more joy to your life with children. Come be inspired and recharged!

The full workshop costs \$60, early registration is \$49 (ends 11/1), student and senior discount is \$49, and Friday evening only is \$20. **Online registration begins next week. Stay tuned!**

Life of the Child Book Group

Looking ahead to the Life of the Child conference, would you like to gather with a few other parents to read and discuss her book, *Heaven on Earth*? This would involve a few informal gatherings to preview the book, which is full of practical ideas about making life with young children smoother. Reviews of the book are below. Please email chrissydague@hotmail.com or 233-2614 if interested.

Reviews of *Heaven on Earth*:

"Engaging, optimistic, joyful ... A fresh revelation that clearly outlines the natural, simple, yet power-filled steps we can take to avoid the many pitfalls parents and children face in our day."

- Joseph Chilton Pearce, Author of *Magical Parent, Magical Child*



"Being a parent is a challenging assignment, but with the help of Sharifa Oppenheimer's book, *Heaven on Earth*, our work immediately becomes easier. This book is both heartfelt and practical. It offers sound parenting principles with down-to-earth examples of how to raise children with both insight and grace."

- Jack Petrash, director, Nova Institute, and Author, *Navigating the Terrain of Childhood: A Guidebook for Meaningful Parenting and Heartfelt Discipline*

8th and 1st Grade Buddies

Each week, the 8th grade class visits with their 1st grade "buddies" for snack, conversation and fun. Here, the students meet their buddies for the first time.



Sixth Grade Biking and Hiking

The sixth grade has been biking, and now are hiking, with Maria Cimonetti, cross-country and triathlon coach.





Acclaimed Children's Author Coming Next Month

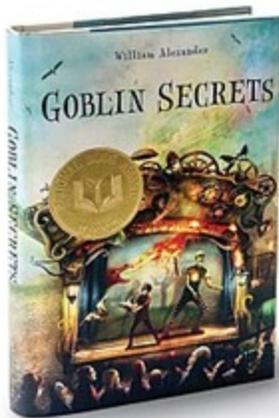


On November 4, 2013, LCWS is hosting a visit from William Alexander, best-selling author of *Goblin Secrets* and *Ghoulish Songs*. Alexander is the winner of the 2013 National Book Award for Young People's Literature and a Waldorf alumnus (Kimberton Waldorf School, 1995). He is a young and highly acclaimed middle-grades writer in the steampunk genre, with some Vermont roots: Alexander earned his English Master's degree at UVM before turning to writing full-time.

On Saturday, November 2, the Flying Pig is hosting a book reading and signing by Alexander at Shelburne Town Hall at 4:00 p.m. This is the only place to get a signed copy of Alexander's book!

On Monday, November 4, our school will sponsor a full day of literary and artistic activities for Waldorf upper grades students around the state, who have read *Goblin Secrets* as their summer book.

On Monday evening, from 7-9 p.m. at our Turtle Lane Campus, Alexander will deliver an adult-oriented public lecture on the power of fantasy to create personal and social change. Don't miss this glimpse into a writer's vision of how imagination can and does change the world.



Sponsors Sought for William Alexander Lecture:

Do you love children's literature? Would you like to support literature and the arts in the LCWS and wider community?

You can be a part of this special cultural event. LCWS is seeking \$100 sponsorships; sponsors will be recognized through print and web, and live at the event. If you are interested to learn more, please contact [Lisa Espenshade](#), Director of Development. **DEADLINE to become a sponsor: Oct 16**

Abigail Diehl-Noble, Upper Grades Teacher. Photo: Matthew Aronoff

Focus on Philanthropy

"Deeds of giving and acts of loving kindness are the very foundations of the world." Jewish saying derived from the Mishna, Pirker Avot 1:2



This week's question: Why does participation matter? Can't "major" donors take care of the financial requirements of the school??

It is one of the treasured and foundational principles at our school that we, as a learning community, celebrate and are appreciative of all financial gifts – no matter the amount. The school also critically needs financial giving at all levels to fund the mission of providing a unique Waldorf education to as many students as possible. When you picture the children in the infant and toddler program, or the students at the grade and high schools working hard with their teachers throughout the day you know, deep in your heart, that the financial support of this enriching effort for the children comes from each of us making that commitment.

When considering large donations many philanthropists, corporations and foundations rarely ask “how much is raised from the community?” But they do ask “how many gave?” and/or “what percentage of the community gave?” This participation information helps to gauge the quality and strength of the mission that a donor may choose to support. Being able to proudly say that we have an excellent level of parent, grandparent, alumni, teacher, administrator and Board support for our fundraising then allows our school to grow the overall amount of financial giving, and help make our school stronger in every way: pedagogically and financially.

So, when it comes to participation, everyone is a "Major Donor!"

NEXT WEEK: I like the option of giving monthly, like to VPR. Can I do that to the school?

Questions? Just ask! Contact: [Lisa Espenshade](#), Development Director

Calling All Vendors for Holiday Fair 2013!

Applications are now being accepted for vendors to our annual Holiday Fair, being held Friday and Saturday, December 6th and 7th. Printed forms are available in the lobby of the grade school. Additionally, forms may be downloaded and printed from our new [LCWS website](#). For the tech savvy, the form may



also be completed online. Inquiries and submissions should be made by October 28th to Kristin DeBellis: kdebells@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org.



Family Open House

Saturday, November 2 | 10:00 am –12:00 pm | Turtle Lane Campus

Bring family and friends to see the magic in our classrooms! Teachers and high school students will give tours of our campus; young children can make lanterns and play in our kindergarten. We will offer an "Introduction to Waldorf Education" presentation at 11:00 am. Refreshments we will be provided.

Alumni News

Ezra Sassaman (Class of 2012) is having a great time at Dickinson College. He sings in a choir and in an a cappella group, and as his dad says, is "majoring in German, supposedly, but drifting more and more into philosophy classes." Here is a photo of Ezra, #7, aka Pigwidgeon, playing on the college quidditch team. His parents wanted to host another LCWHS exchange student this year, but decided that the 350-mile daily commute to school would be too much.



Community News

A rousing, fun contra dance is happening on Friday, October 18th, 8-11pm, at Shelburne Town Hall with the Irregulars and excellent caller Will Mentor. No experience necessary. No need for a partner. All dances taught. \$8 for adults \$5 for children under 12. We hope to see you there! The Irregulars include LCWSHS students: Chris Krag and Oliver Scanlon; LCWS graduates: Eileen O'Grady and Dana Hartshorn and LCWS friend, McKinley James.

Classifieds

October 22nd 3:30-5:15. \$40.

Squash Ravioli Cooking Class for Waldorf Teens:

In this class everyone will make pasta dough from scratch that we will then roll and turn into squash ravioli. Making pasta dough involves mixing, kneading, and resting the fresh dough. We will discuss how to roast a squash and making the filling in detail. The homemade ravioli will be served with a class-made brown butter sage sauce. Everyone goes home with fresh pasta dough to roll out at home for the family to enjoy! Sign up at [Chef Contos](#)



2011 Kia Soul For Sale: Only 15,000 miles, black, standard. Has had one small accident but no major damage. Asking \$14,000. Please call 518-726-0423 if interested. Renee Dame-LaBarre, Dame1014@aol.com

For Sale, 2 violas: 15" viola in very good condition with soft case, \$450. 16" viola in very good condition, hard case. \$600. Contact Nancy Lewis for details, 802-825-1948 or 802-825-1947. Both purchased from Burlington Violins.

Leaving town for next week's Teacher In-service days? Need a house-sitting family? Our downstairs floors are being refinished next week, so we are moving out. If you're leaving town and want a family take care of your home, or rent it, please let us know! Lisabeth lsewellmccann@gmail.com, 540-5545.

Need a winter rental?
Our East Charlotte cottage on Prindle Road will be available to rent for January and February. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautiful quiet spot, sweet sledding hill. 25 minutes to Burlington, 30 to Middlebury. Photos: <https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/777123> \$2100/month includes all utilities. Lisabeth: lsewellmccann@gmail.com.

We have a sweet hamster named Kevin who loves to be held, and simply is not getting any attention from his 13 year old girl. He's looking for someone with a young and gentle heart to play with him. Please call Tracy 734-7724.

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.

359 Turtle Lane | Shelburne, VT 05482
lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org

359 Turtle Lane | Shelburne, VT 05482 US

This email was sent to lespenshade@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org. To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add us to your address book or safe list.

[manage](#) your preferences | [opt out](#) using TrueRemove®.

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.



