

The Waldorf Weekly for September 28, 2011

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION
OF THE WALDORF SCHOOL
OF PHILADELPHIA

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS September

- 29 Rosh Hashanah, NO SCHOOL
- 30 Parent Handwork Circle, 8:30 a.m., Parents' Resource Room, Eagles I, 1st floor
- 30 Michaelmas (in-school festival rescheduled)

October

- 1 Fall Family Open House, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- 5 Welcome Back Potluck, 4-6 p.m., Snowdrop "Triangle"
- 6 First Grade Parent Evening, 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Parent Study, Parents' Resource Room, Eagles I, 1st floor
- 13 Observation Morning, 8:30-10:00 a.m.
- 15 Autumn Volunteer Work Day, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
- 27 Observation Morning, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Open House Weekend and Other News

We are getting ready to welcome over 100 visitors to our school this weekend. Why not come along and show your support? If you have a child enrolled here, then you're qualified to help! A few more volunteers would be appreciated to help show our visitors a warm Waldorf welcome.

The open house kicks off on Saturday, 1st October at 10.00 a.m. until mid-day. The program includes bread-baking, early childhood free-play, teacher talks, and a puppet-play by Miss Gwyn. If you're an early childhood family curious to learn more about the grade school curriculum, there is no better time to come and talk to the grade school teachers. If your child is enrolled in his or her kindergarten year, you can expect a letter from me in the coming few weeks inviting you to apply for First Grade 2012. Open houses are therefore a great opportunity to visit the grade school.



The sibling enrollment deadline is Friday, 7th October. If you are considering enrolling your child's younger sibling for fall 2012, now is the time to act. Applications received after the deadline will be considered in the date order in which they are received along with all external applications. Be aware that there is a high demand for places in our early childhood program. To avoid disappointment please submit your applications early. Application forms can be collected from the school office or downloaded from the admissions page on our website at www.phillywaldorf.com

Have you read the WSP blog lately? New items are posted daily, so check the site regularly for the latest media articles, classroom photographs and news. Recent postings include how our school recently made the news headlines with an article titled "The Waldorf School may relocate to Germantown". Read the article by clicking on our blog at www.phillywaldorf.com

Ten Second "Elevator" Speech: "The Waldorf School of Philadelphia is a proven and enriching alternative to education as usual."

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

A warm welcome to Charlie Belkowitz who has joined Ms. Stevenson's fifth grade class, Archie Lithgow in Ms. Şemin's Lilac Kindergarten and Ava Lithgow in Ms. Stevens' first grade class.



So Noted...

REMINDER: School will be closed tomorrow, September 29th, for Rosh Hashanah.

Substitute Teachers Needed!

If you are interested in filling in when a teacher or classroom assistant is absent, please forward your resume to administrator@phillywaldorf.com with the words "Substitute Teacher" in the subject line. Substitutes are paid on an hourly basis.

We love our substitutes!

THE WALDORF WEEKLY

Is published every Wednesday during the school year for the parents and friends of The Waldorf School of Philadelphia. The next newsletter will be published on **Wednesday, October 5, 2011**

Submissions for the next week are due on **Monday, October 3rd at 12 noon**. Submissions after the deadline will be included at the discretion of the editor.

Classified ads are published bi-weekly as a free service to the community. Publication in the classified section is available as space allows. Please send all submissions to office@phillywaldorf.com.

Disclaimer:

Items and advertisements appearing in this newsletter may be the opinions or beliefs of their contributors, and may not necessarily reflect the policies or ideas of The Waldorf School of Philadelphia.



THE FAIRY'S WING

The Fairy's Wing is your school store and a great source for beeswax, crayons, and Waldorf-inspired playthings. The new store hours are as follows:

Monday– Friday 8:15–9:30 a.m.

Wednesday 12:45-1:30 p.m.

Wednesday-Friday 2:45-3:30 p.m.

First of 2!

One Call Now System Test Scheduled for Wednesday, October 5th

One Call Now is an automated messaging service that is used by the school to convey time-sensitive information to families. The 2011-2012 school roster has been uploaded and a test call is scheduled for the primary numbers only on **Wednesday, October 5th**.

Expect to receive a phone call on Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. from the One Call Now System. This is to test primary phone numbers only (usually the home number). Primary numbers are used to relay non-emergency information. If you would like a phone number to be added/removed as a primary telephone number, please contact Carrie in the school office.



PARENT STUDY BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

CALLING ALL FAMILIES!
EVERYONE'S INVITED!

The purpose of Parent Study is to read, study, and discuss material related to Waldorf education. This could mean anything from the curriculum to the philosophy underlying it (anthroposophy), to parenting issues. Parent Study also provides a place where parents can connect. Our goal is to create a supportive environment in which to educate ourselves and have fun in the process! We read aloud together and then discuss, so no homework. Easy!

We will meet every Wednesday from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the Parents' Resource Room in Eagles I (near Snowdrop Nursery). If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please feel free to contact me at 215-226-3688.

~ Donna DiStefano

RAINED-OUT POTLUCK RESCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

Autumn began last Friday, but you'd never know it if you were looking for clues in the muggy, drizzly weather. It was too wet to plan an outdoor event but, never fear, the potluck picnic is on again. The Parent's Association welcomes all to its annual Welcome Back Potluck Picnic on Wednesday, October 5th from 4-6 p.m. on the "triangle" near Snowdrop Nursery.

This annual tradition is a great warm-up to the school year and is always quite fun. It is an ideal time to catch up with friends and to meet some new ones. We encourage you all to come out and join in on the merrymaking! As this is a potluck, please bring a dish to share.

Here's a reminder of the kinds of foods to bring:

All Kindergartens:	cold or hot salad of any kind
1st and 2nd Grades:	cheese and crackers
3rd Grade:	bread, butter, and dips
4th, 5th, 6th Grades:	main dish of any kind
7th and 8th Grades:	desserts

(If you have children in two grades, choose one from above list)

Also, please bring your own: chairs and/or blankets; plates, cups, and utensils for your family (in the interest of being Earth-friendly). And don't forget your beverages!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE YOUR PLATTERS HOME WITH YOU (or they will be left for the groundhogs, squirrels, vultures, ants, etc)

See you all there!
The Parents Association



Welcome autumn and help our school by working with other families to make our flower beds and grounds more beautiful. There's weeding, digging, planting, transforming and caring for our school grounds — plenty for everyone to do! Enjoy a workout with friends. Plant donations gratefully accepted; can be left in the Grades dismissal area along the wall.

~ Karl Andrek, for the Gardens and Grounds Committee

AUTUMN VOLUNTEER WORK DAY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 10 A.M.—2 P.M.

**New
date!**

**SOCIAL INCLUSION
CORNER**

COURTESY OF THE MONTH

Compassion becomes steadiness of feeling

-Rudolf Steiner

Warm Greetings: welcome the day to everyone you meet. Try a new greeting.

The Social Inclusion is an on-going project designed to bring greater awareness to issues of social inclusion, courtesy and bullying in our school. Our school participates in, and supports, The Social Inclusion with the goal of creating a healthy social environment that nurtures children and adults, encourages open discussion, and provides ways of resolving disagreements and conflict that are beneficial to the school community.

The Waldorf School of Philadelphia's HOLIDAY FAIR News



Sign Up Now for Mac and Cheese Baking, Soup and Vegan Chili Making

Here are the details:

Macaroni and Cheese: One of our most popular items at Saturday lunch, we ask that all bakers use the same recipe and a disposable pan. This makes our "mac" consistent in quality and easy for volunteers to heat and serve. The recipe is posted by the sign-up sheet and disposable pans are waiting for you in the office on the third floor. Make it NOW AND FREEZE IT so you'll have time for more fun things to do closer to the Fair.

Soup Makers: We ask that you make at least 2 gallons of your soup. We serve 8-10 oz. servings so any less of one variety means we run out too soon! You can do anything you want and there are some sample recipes by the sign-up sheet if you need inspiration. If you have a great soup that freezes well, do it NOW.

Vegan Chili Makers: Fair cooks have adapted and perfected this recipe over the past several years. It is based on the Frog Commissary Cookbook and is simple to make. Once you make it for the Fair, you'll make it again and again for friends and family.

***Please remember that the school is happy to reimburse you for the cost of ingredients. You can turn in your receipts and reimbursement form to the Development Office. We appreciate the time and talent of all our volunteer cooks and bakers.

The Committee Chairs Are..... (drum roll please)

Vendors: Laura McCann*

Children's Shopping Room: Ilka Cassidy, Anna Marzkiewicz Munoz, and Gretchen Wright

Bake Sale and Cafe: Lucy Martinez-Zuviria

Children's Craft Room: Maggie Davis

Parent Handwork Table: Nina Letherer*

Puppet Play: Gwyn Linsalata*

Orchestra and Holiday Chorus: Amanda Rogers-Petro* and Eliza Cho*

Jump Rope Making: Adam Carangi*

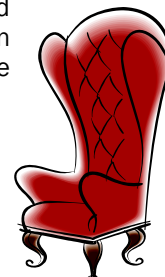
Live Music Friday Night: Janet Benton and David Updike*

Decor: Mercedes Urena-Duran*

Grand Prize Raffle: Anna Ziegner*

* denotes returning chairperson

We thank each and every committee chair for their energy, enthusiasm and time. If you have questions or would like to help now with any aspect of the Fair, please contact the chairs listed. We are still looking for help managing candle dipping, maintenance and the food rooms. Contact Pat Fiorella if you can step up to take the lead (or part of the lead) on any of those areas.



THE waldorf
SCHOOL OF PHILADELPHIA

HOLIDAY FAIR AND CRAFT BAZAAR

November 18 & 19, 2011

Homemade gifts for sale
and magical children's activities

Enjoy the new pattern for the Parent Handwork Table
on page 5.

JOIN IN THE CRAFT-MAKING FOR THE CHILDREN'S SHOPPING ROOM

Craft -making is well under way for this year's Children's Shopping Room. Anyone willing to help with craft-making is welcome to come to Parent Handwork (Fridays, 8:30—10:30 a.m.) or join an evening crafting session on Thursday's at 8:00 p.m. in the home of Ania Mazurkiewicz-Munoz (e-mail ania2m@msn.com to RSVP and/or get directions) or contact Ania Mazurkiewicz-Munoz if you would like to take over a craft.

- We are also looking for donations of supplies. The following would be very welcome:
- Whole walnuts
- Lots and lots of ribbon (1/4 inch to 1 inch widths, especially)
- Sock wool
- Beeswax
- Felt

A box for donations will be set up in the Parents' Resource Room and in the school office. Thank you in advance for your donations!!

Holiday Fair Knitting Pattern

Pocket Mouse

Materials

white or grey yarn
needles which will make your knitting tight enough so stuffing will not show through.
carded wool for stuffing

Body: Cast on 3 stitches. Purl the first row.

1. Increase 3 stitches on the next row, at each end and in the center.
2. Purl 1 row and repeat, increasing on the knit rows until there are 12 or 15 stitches.
3. Work 5 rows, finishing with a purl row.
4. Knit 2 stitches together, knit 1, knit 2 stitches together, knit 1 etc., to the end of the row.
5. Purl 1 row. On the next row, knit 2 stitches together to the end of the row.
6. Break the yarn and pull it through the last stitch.

To assemble mouse:

1. Sew the mouse together and stuff with wool until it is firm and hard, otherwise it will lose its shape.
2. Crochet a tail of chain stitches (a braided tail would work too).
3. Sew the ears with 3-4 buttonhole stitches, turn and sew stitches on the top.
4. Continue until the ears are nice and round. Anchor the yarn by sewing into the mouse.
5. Repeat with other ear. Sew on eyes with a few stitches.



Neighborhood News

Mr. Rogers always opened his show with the song, "It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood". Mt. Airy itself IS beautiful with its old stone and brick houses, streams and, of course, a good-sized parcel of Fairmount Park bordering many streets. Mt. Airy is also beautiful in the rich diversity of people who live here, the result of a conscious effort by community activists in the 1950's to keep Mt. Airy an integrated community. In the last decade Mt. Airy has gone through something of a renaissance, with new businesses cropping up that offer everything from food to services for elders to yoga and couples mediation. It's no wonder, then, that Mt. Airy is also host to some of the most interesting events in the region, a number of which kick off in October. *Neighbor-*

hood News is a periodic column that highlights events that might be of interest to families at our school. We've a lot to tell you about, so pull out your calendar and take a look at what's happening in our neighborhood.

MOVE AT MAMA

The neighborhood's own "mini Y", Mt. Airy Moving Arts Studio (MaMa, for short), is offering a number of new classes for children and adults beginning the week of October 3rd. For young children (beginning at age 1½), MaMa offers a movement series called "Story Dance". Described as "story-inspired creative movement for boys and girls", Story Dance uses language, rhythm and images from classic children's stories to inspire kids to jump, run, and

dance with abandon.

Children ages 6-14 and adults can enroll in classes in hip hop dance, Brazilian capoeira, and jazz dance, while "Babe in Arms" offers modern dance for adults with 3-12 month olds as sidekicks. MaMa is located at Greene Street and Carpenter Lane. Information about classes and programs is available on the blog, *MovingArtsblog.com* or by calling (215) 842-1040. You can also check out the flyers on our community bulletin board near the west entrance leading to the kindergarten playground.

READY FOR BATTLE

After the Open House on Saturday, October 1st, join colonialists in fight-

(Continued on page 7)

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
Coffee & Conversation with

Dr. Natasha (Tash) Kassell, VMD
A HOLISTIC VIEW OF PET CARE



Saturday, October 22nd, 11 a.m.

Our pets are important members of our families. Learn how to care for them using conventional and complementary veterinary approaches to diet, health and illness.



A Special Invitation from Andrea Smith ...

Andrea Smith invites Waldorf families to join her at a concert of vocal and instrumental music dedicated to the memory of Lewis DuPont Smith by
VOX AMADEUS and AMA DEUS ENSEMBLE
Mozart's Requiem and Other Works



Lewis DuPont Smith with statue of German poet Friedrich Schiller in Fairmount Park.

**Friday, October 14
at 8 p.m.**

**The Perelman Theater at
the Kimmel Center**

This Grand Opening of the Ama Deus Ensemble is dedicated to the memory of Mr. Smith, an ardent supporter of the arts and member of the boards of trustees of Vox Ama Deus and The Waldorf School of Philadelphia. Tickets are available through Ama Deus at www.VoxAmaDeus.org, or at the Kimmel Center box office.

(Continued from page 6) **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

ing the British in a re-enactment of the Battle of Germantown.

The battle depicts the October 4, 1777 fight between George Washington and his men, who sought to push the British out of Philadelphia, then capital of the colonies. The Continental Army lost the battle and retreated to Valley Forge for the winter, but the battle is considered a pivotal moment in the Revolutionary War because it helped to obtain the support of the French on the side of the Americans.

Completely costumed and outfitted re-enactors will march along Germantown Avenue from the north, just as Washington's army did, to Cliveden, home of Chief Justice Chew and his family, where the battle will erupt with authentic muskets and cannons. There will also be activities such as storytelling, colonial shopping, children's games, juggling, food, and a puppet theatre. Re-enactments take place at noon and at 3 p.m. In addition to the activities at Cliveden, all of the historic sites and houses in Germantown will be open for tours. For complete information about the day's festivities, visit www.revolutionarygermantown.org.

POST

Philadelphia's largest self-guided tours of local artists'

studios begins this weekend with tours west of Broad Street, including visits with artists in Germantown, Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill. POST (Philadelphia Open Studio Tours) runs from 12 noon until 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and include Mt. Airy Contemporary Artists Space at 25 West Mt. Airy Avenue, and its near neighbor, Mt. Airy Art Garage at 11 West Mt. Airy Avenue, as well as group shows at studios on East Herman Street and Lena Street in Germantown. Studios in West Philadelphia, Fairmount, Manayunk and Center City are also open to visitors. For information about artists, venues, and media, visit the website, www.philaopenstudios.com.

FUMCOG Craft Fair

If what you've seen so far doesn't interest you, consider visiting the Art and Craft Fair at First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG) on Saturday, October 1st from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The fair will feature artworks and fine crafts produced by local artists including paintings, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, quilts and fiber art. FUMCOG is located at 6001 Germantown Avenue, just a few blocks south of the battle site.

So, take an early fall walk this weekend and explore the neighborhood. There's lots to see!

STOP THE PRESSES...

As we were in final edits, we learned that the Parents' Association has new leadership. Thanks to Jim Brannon ("Mr. Jim") and Ania Mazurkiewicz Muñoz for stepping into the roles as Co-Conveners of the Parents' Association. Watch the next issue of *The Weekly* for information about PA meetings and other events.

H i g h M o w i n g H o s t s O p e n H o u s e

High Mowing School, the Waldorf high school for boarding and day students, hosts an Open House for prospective students and their families beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 22, 2011. The Open House is part of the annual Parents Weekend, and includes campus tours, meetings with faculty and staff, a student panel discussion, organic lunch, music performances and more. The school is located on Abbot Hill Road in Wilton, NH. The event is free. Please call Nadia at 654-2391 x103 by Tuesday, October 18 to reserve your space.

High Mowing School was founded in 1942 and is the first Waldorf high school established in North America. The school serves 100 students in grades 9 through 12. The school's creative and developmentally-based curriculum, warm social atmosphere, and beautiful hilltop setting provide the perfect environment for students to reach their highest potential as intelligent and compassionate human beings, ready for the future. Learn more at www.highmowing.org.

Parent Education

Introductory HANDLE training opportunity – open to all

October 22-23 2011, Pendle Hill Conference Center, Wallingford, PA (near Philadelphia)

Waldorf Teachers, parents and students are all finding HANDLE to be complementary to Waldorf Education and a useful addition to their lives. How can one approach help such different people? "HANDLE" stands for Holistic Approach to Neurodevelopment and Learning Efficiency. It was developed by Judith Bluestone, who herself overcame neurological and physiological challenges and became an award winning therapist and educator.

HANDLE offers a new paradigm for understanding behavior as communication. It recognizes that all human's innate desire is to achieve, grow and please others, if this is not happening than the resulting behavior is a compensation technique, not an intention to do wrong. Confusing behaviors then can become clues into sensory and processing challenges. For example a hypersensitivity to touch might result in an awkward pencil grip and might account for some of the wiggles and fidgety behavior when sitting on a hard chair. Through intuition and academic study, Judith Bluestone developed a deep and penetrating understanding of her own irregularities and saw clearly how to help others achieve integration and balance as well. She developed playful and deceptively simple activities to help people overcome their hypersensitivities. HANDLE complements and supports Waldorf Education and Anthroposophical therapies. Many HANDLE activities can be easily integrated into the classroom rhythm and home routines.

HANDLE offers a gentle, non-drug approach to overcoming life and learning challenges. HANDLE can help individuals of all ages with: attention issues, dyslexia, dysgraphia, Tourettes Syndrome, sleep and anxiety disorders, autism spectrum, Aspergers, behavioral challenges, and more.

Early registration discounts available through October 10, 2011

For more information contact Elizabeth Frishkoff: 413-528-0477 or efrisha@sover.net or visit www.handle.org



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