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The Anchorage
Waldorf
School

Awakening Wonder

NURTURE

INSPIRE

EMPOWER

Waldorf Weekly

Do you have ideas you would like to see added, or contacts that should be on the list?

Please let us know and we will work on making our newsletter the best it can be.

*The Board of Trustees, Faculty and Parents
of the Anchorage Waldorf School
request the honor of your presence at our*

Grandparents' Day

(Elders, extended family members and friends are welcome!)

Wednesday, November 27, 2019

9:00 a.m. Brunch, Presentation and Classroom Tours

11:30 a.m. All-School Assembly

*3250 Baxter Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99504*

*Please RSVP to 907-333-9062
or outreach@waldorfak.org*



Annual Giving Campaign

This year's Annual Giving celebrates our Specialty Classes and their gifts to our students and community.

Movement ~ Eurythmy ~ Russian

Woodwork ~ Handwork

~ Orchestra/Strings ~

Our goal is \$35,000 with 100% participation.

Current total is: \$14,665

Saying Goodbye to Darcy Laughlin

AWS Faculty, Admin and Staff would like to say goodbye and best wishes to our front desk administrator Darcy Laughlin. Darcy has been such a valuable asset to us and we appreciate all that she has done. Thank you Darcy!

Advent Spiral

Friday, Dec 6th



~Please help us gather evergreen boughs for our Advent Spiral. You may place them by the kitchen entrance. Thank you so much for your help in making this beautiful celebration possible.

Advent Spiral Schedule

Fireweed Preschool 6pm
Sunflower Kindergarten 6:30
First Grade 7:00
Second & Third Grade 7:30
Open to Community 8:00

The **Advent Spiral** is a celebration that is unique in our calendar of the year. There are no presentations by the grades, no speeches by the administration. Instead, we sit in silence in a darkened room, listening to lovely harp music as a candle is lit in the center of a spiral of evergreen boughs, a symbol of life amidst the dead of winter. Then, as quiet music plays, each child in turn takes an apple with a golden candle into the center of that spiral and lights it, then places the apple on a star along the path. The lights brighten the path for those who come after. Each child walks alone, at his or her own pace, in his or her own way.

This is a celebration of quiet confidence, of carrying light in darkness, of sharing that light with others. You are invited to attend this festival, not only to watch your own children, but to watch how they are in the community of their peers. How does each child approach the candle at the center of the spiral? Are his footsteps halting or rapid? Does she stop along the way to consider each golden star in the path before placing her candle near the way out of the spiral, or does she set it down right away and hurry on without looking back? Being a witness to this journey can be a moving experience, and adults and children alike carry away from the celebration the feelings and meaning they found within it.

Here in the Alaska, we are entering the darkest days of the year. The sun is down before dinner time, and even at noon the shadows are long and slanting. Holiday preparations are in full swing, and our minds swirl with plans for gifts, meals, treats, crafts, decorations, travel, cleaning. When we look out into the natural world, we see the opposite of this constant, harried motion. The earth is growing quiet. The plants and animals are storing away food for the cold months or preparing to sink into dormancy. As the snow comes, the quiet becomes even deeper.

It is no accident that so many festivals are planned for these dark days. Celebrations of light, community, sharing — these remind us to carry the gifts of summer with us into the quiet of winter. At the time of the longest night, we find joyful celebrations of returning light. The Jewish celebration of Hanukkah, the remembrance of the rededication of the Temple and of the miracle of lamps whose oil should have lasted one day and lasted for eight, falls at this time of year. The Hindu festival of lights, Diwali, was recently celebrated. Many earth-based traditions honor the winter Solstice with special joy, lighting fires and candles and exchanging gifts.

Please arrive on time, first gather in your child's class; hang up gear, put on indoor shoes and wait quietly in the classroom for your turn to walk.

- For safety please no long flowy skirts or pants and hair is tied back!
- Please enjoy the moment, no cell phones or photography.
- If younger siblings are attending, please bring something

quite to entertain them.

- Once the entire class has completed their walk, children will be sent the children back to parents. Please take kindergarten children upstairs where a teacher will snuff the candles out and bring their apples. We ask that no one remains in the Great Hall as the harpist needs a chance to rest between the classes!



Little lights a 'glimmer...

Saturday, December 14

Winter Craft Faire

If you are interested in having a booth to sell your crafts or food or are a musician and would like to play music for this event, please contact Mr.

Unterberger or the front desk. If you are available for set up and or break-down, please check in with either of the above contacts for more information about the times.



From the AWS Parent Handbook

What not to bring to school

We ask that you please do not allow your child to bring any toys or personal items such as art or office supplies to school. Any such items may be held by the teacher until the close of the school day and will be returned to the student at that time. If an item is brought to school repeatedly, the item may be held until claimed by a parent. For more information, please see Page 13 of the Parent Handbook.

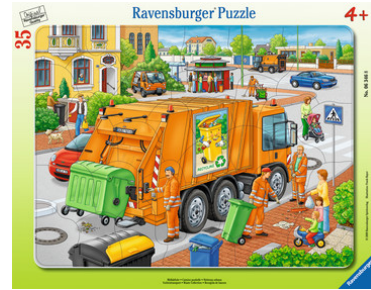
Tuesday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30

Craft Guild



'Tis the season for crafting! Would you like to learn to make adorable Waldorf crafts for your children and our school store? If yes, please join us for the school's Craft Guild. We meet every Tuesday morning after drop off, in the Handwork room. For the next few weeks we will be working on gnomes. Materials and instruction are provided. And as always little ones are welcome to join us. Hope to see you Tuesday! And please stop by the school

store in the lobby to check out what treasures we have already completed. All school store sales benefit our school!



Greetings from Golden Cottage!

- We would like to welcome Zach Butch to the Golden Cottage team. Zach comes to us with 4 years of teaching experience. Zach is energetic, loves teaching and being outdoors. Please welcome him to AWS when you see him around the school.
- Golden Cottage would like to remind parents that by the end of the school day, snow gear can be wet from the activities of the day. It's not a bad idea to pack extra gloves and (wool) socks for those especially wet days. Golden Cottage children will go outside every afternoon.
- Lastly, Golden Cottage is in need of some activities to do when the weather is too bad to play outside. We are looking for donations of puzzles and classic board/card games (no cartoons or characters please). Only puzzles under 300 pieces. We don't mind gently used but we ask that they have all the pieces. Thank you! Lauren McGrain, GC Administrator

Grade 8 is hosting community donations!

AWAIC and Toys for Tots

Please donate any *new, small size* toiletries, including toothbrushes, nail clippers, shampoo/conditioners into the baskets marked in the main entry. These will be donated to AWAIC, Abused Women's Aid in Crisis.

Specific items on AWAIC's wish list include:

For children and teens: Learning toys, Coloring books, crayons, games (no Clue or anything with violence), Arts and craft kits, Science kits, Journals/sketch books, colored pens, pencils, Fancy lotion, body wash, Wallets/purses, Backpacks

For women: Journals, planners, adult coloring books or sketchbooks with colored pens/pencils, Robes, Pajamas, Hoodies, Slippers, Slipper socks/ fuzzy socks, Travel coffee mugs, Water bottles, "Look Good, Feel Good" supplies (fancy lotion, body wash, etc.) and cozy throw blankets.

Thank you for donating to your community!

Toys for Tots is a program run by the U.S. Marine Corps., and distributes donated toys for underprivileged children.



Helping Hand

Help us reconnect with our community members. We need someone to sort our records and call old contacts as we build a centralized

database. Email Tasha at outreach@waldorf.org for more info. Please note that due to the nature of this project, we will require a background check and signed confidentiality agreement. Let's build our community together.



Upcoming Events:

Grandparents Day & Assembly, 12:30 Dismissal: Wednesday, November 27

Thanksgiving Holiday: Th. & Fri., Nov. 28 & 29

Parent Council: December 2

Board Meeting: December 3

Advent Spiral: December 6

QUESTIONS?

Give Us A Shout!

CONTACT



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Alaska 99504 United States

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