



The Anchorage
Waldorf School

Awakening Wonder

WALDORF WEEKLY

November 1st, 2021

A LOOK AT THE WEEK AHEAD

November 1st & 2nd

Parent Teacher Conferences- **NO SCHOOL**

November 2- Parent Council Meeting
on Zoom, 7pm

November 11 - Board of Trustees
Meeting, 7pm (also on Zoom)

November 12- Lantern Walk, starting at
6pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Phoebe- 11/2

Khalilah- 11/8

Eli- 11/18

Ms. Tre-C- 11/22

Ms. Wiley- 11/25

Elijah- 11/29

T H A N K Y O U

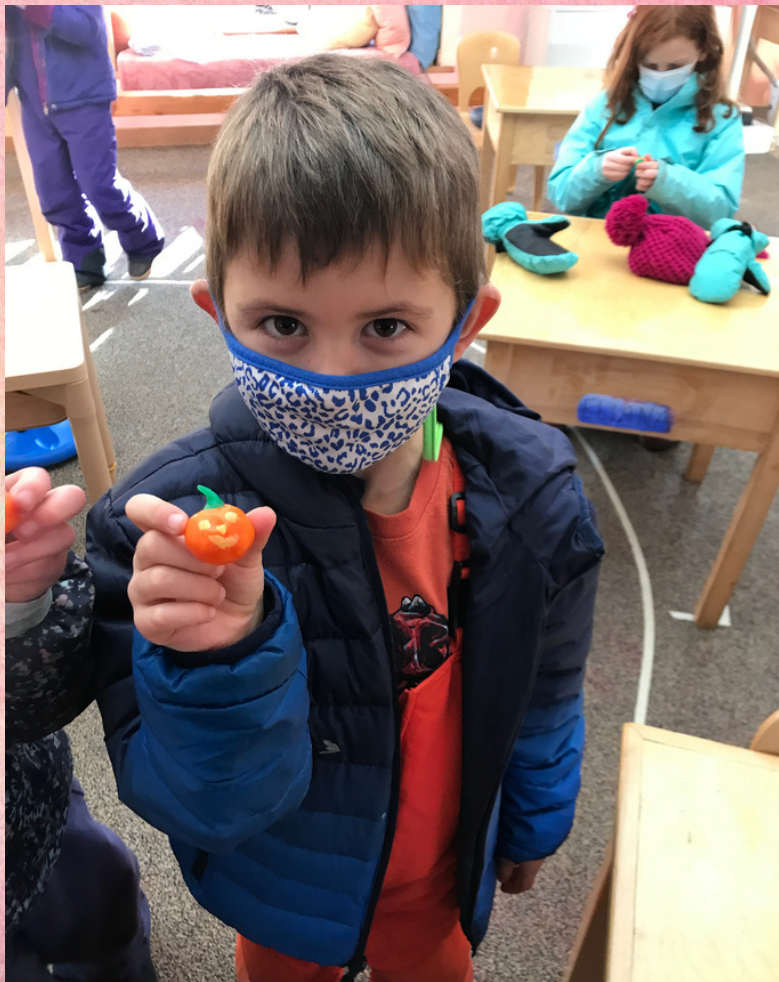
- Thank you to Ann Harris, Karen Birdsall & Parent Council for hanging twinkle lights around campus!
- Thank you to Dan for help with electrical work on one of our cabins.
- Thank you to everyone who supported grade 6 & 8 on their pizza-making & pumpkin carving endeavors!

We are in the COVID **RED** zone



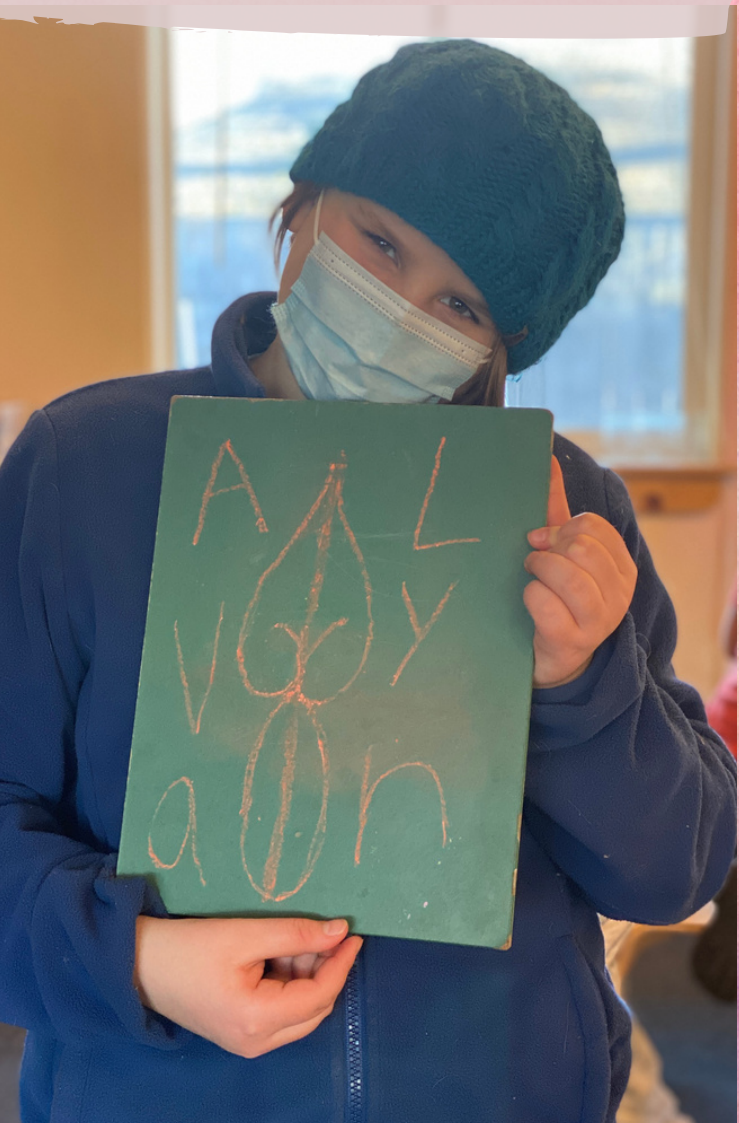


FIRST GRADE





2/3 has been working on symmetrical form drawings! The students were eager to show off their work and even add extra flairs and details to their forms. 2/3 has also started silent reading and whisper buddy reading once a week. The children did fabulous and were able to silently read for the full 15 minutes! Go 2/3!!



2/3 was super excited to have several eighth graders join us for lunch on Monday. Thank you for eating with us!



Dear Community,

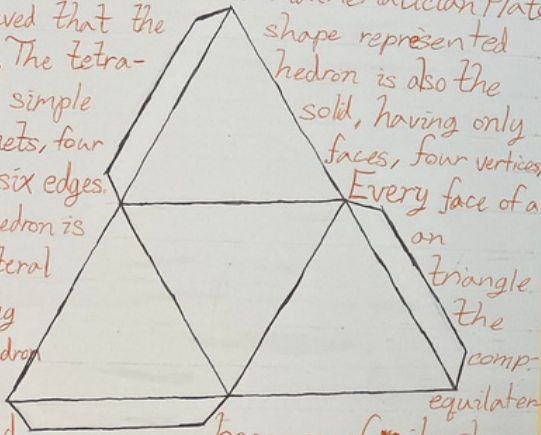
Thank you so much for your support of the 6th grade pizzeria!! The students had a great time cooking, preparing and then selling to you! We hope you enjoyed their offerings. This week marks the conclusion of their economics block and their work with gesture in clay as well. The underlying basis of economics theory as being a social endeavor was experienced by the students with these activities that we were able to complete. As we all know - to give is to create greater wealth for all!

with warmth, Shannon Herda

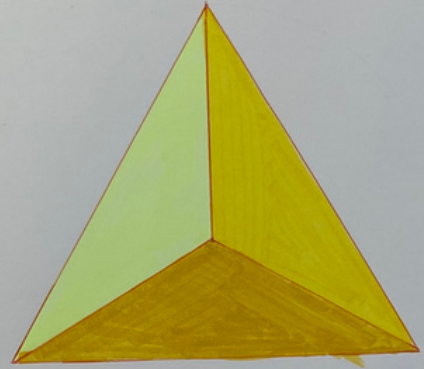


Tetrahedron

The tetrahedron is one of the five regular platonic solids, and the mathematician Plato believed that the shape represented fire. The tetrahedron is also the most simple solid, having only two nets, four faces, four vertices, and six edges. Every face of a tetrahedron is an equilateral triangle making the tetrahedron completely equilateral. And because of its shape, it has the minimum amount of vertices, faces, and edges. It should also be noted that tetrahedrons resemble the basis of carbon, which is quite interesting when thinking about Plato's theory.

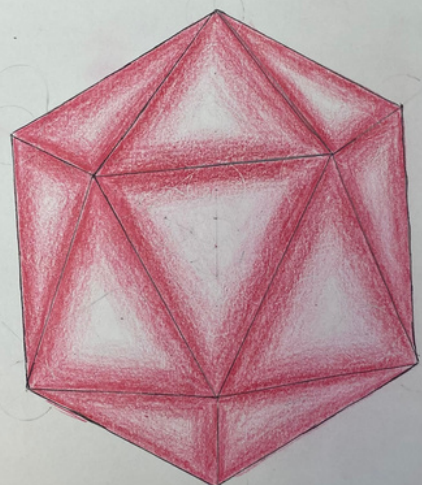


faces	edges	vertices
4	6	4



20	30	12
FACES	EDGES	VERTICES

$$V = \frac{5(3+\sqrt{5})}{12} (a^3)$$



$$SA = 5\sqrt{3} (a^2)$$

LANTERN WALK *Friday, November 12th*

Fireweed- 6:00pm, **Forget-me-Not Kindergarten-** 6:15pm,
1st grade- 6:30pm & **Grade 2/3-** 6:45pm

In Waldorf schools all over the world there is a tradition that takes place each year in early November. The children learn songs about light and they create and decorate beautiful lanterns for this lovely festival. Why? In late autumn, when the sun often scarcely penetrates the wind blown clouds, and the days grow ever shorter and darker, children go out into the twilight with their lanterns. It's as if they have received the last gift of sunlight and now, carefully protecting it, they carry it singing before them. It's not yet time to light the first candles indoors to celebrate the winter holidays to come. We have to become the light we wish to see. We have to hold the inner light and wisdom to sustain us through the dark winter months.

The Lantern walk is a time for celebration and reverence. It is a reminder of the goodness that can be found in each of us. We, as a group and as individuals, also give gestures of love at this time of year. We come together and sing, walk in memory of the light that has faded externally only to become illuminated internally. This little lantern is a gesture of our inner light.

Of course the children do not need this explained to them. They somehow have an internal wisdom guiding their little souls. We simply provide the atmosphere which nurtures them and provide warmth and community to sustain them. After our walk, we ask that you carry this inner "glow" of silence home with you. It is a quiet time; a time of peace and tranquility; a time of reflection and gratitude. By embracing the silence of the night we continue to hold the experience for the children...even in their sleep.

All Families are asked to please observe the following:

- Respect the mood of reverence and wonder through quiet speech.
- Park across and down the street at Baxter Elementary School and allow time for the short walk, punctuality is essential to the success of the walk.
- Dress yourself and your children warmly: November can be very cold, windy, wet and or/snowy. Warm boots, coats, hats and mittens make for a pleasant experience.
- Meet outside of your child's classroom for a story and singing through of our lantern songs
- After our lantern walk we will form a circle as a class and sing through our songs one last time, then adjourn and quietly disperse to our homes.



TEACHER PERSPECTIVE

Why do we ask our families not to allow media use on school nights, including Sunday evening?

The idea of limiting the media exposure of our children is not a new one to most parents today. We here at Anchorage Waldorf School ask that our families avoid media during the week and that this request extend to Sunday evening as students head back to the classroom on Monday morning. Why do we consider this so important and why should you follow through with this?

The developing child is deeply interested in all that is around them. Interaction with their natural environment is essential in allowing the full capacities of a child to grow. Their sense of self and the other is developed through every connection. The strengthening of these capacities lead to the strengthening of every quality we value in our young people.

The child who is passively absorbing media is cut off from this natural environment. There is prescribed, controlled interaction in this space, passive reception of input presented by others rather than created by the child. This passivity is alluring and powerful, children's brains are constantly seeking the novel and media creators effectively capitalize on this addiction. Our children are woefully inadequately prepared to resist the onslaught of a multimillion dollar empire designed to increase human consumption.

Your children's teachers are striving to create a classroom where each child feels valued and seen. They work hard to encourage growth from every child in all that they bring. The ability of our children to participate in this healing education is enhanced when they are given the chance to know themselves without comparison to artificial measures of success that are portrayed in the popular media. A great gift we can give our children is to be brave, resist what popular culture is assuring us is educational or beneficial. Hold a game night instead, watch a movie with our children and talk together about it. Challenge each other to a bike ride or walk around the neighborhood.

In a nutshell:

Media promotes passive engagement – children do not discover for themselves– they are given concepts created by others

Media does not encourage struggle or futility – needed for growth

Media promotes low self-esteem – constant comparison with others

Media promotes stereotypes and other people's bias

Media use promotes lack of movement leading to obesity

Enjoy the gifts media brings together and with limits and enjoy each other even more around the dinner table, over the game board and around the neighborhood parks.

COMMUNITY FORUM

This week's question:

Do you prefer to swim in a **lake** or in the **ocean** and why?

newsletter@waldorfak.org

Last week's results:

What do you consider the best pet and why?

WOLF - 1

BIRD - 1

HORSE - 1

HAMPSTER - 2

CAT - 7

DOG - 14

The dogs have
it this week
with almost
50% of the
votes!

**THREE OTHER VOTES
THAT DESERVE A NOTE
ARE:**

GODIZILLA - 2

"ME" - 2

VELOCIRAPTOR - 1

"Dogs are man's
best friend."

"Dogs are sweet
and nice and you
can do a lot of
things with them."

"Cats are best because they are
lovable and nice at the same
time. But mainly because they are
always there at the end of the
day to love you."

"I think a bird is the
best pet, because it
can fly and catch bugs
to play with."

GIVING CAMPAIGN 2021



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"My family participates in the Annual Giving campaign because it is an integral component to supporting the School's mission of developing the whole child in an independent, inclusive and reverent environment."

*Shane Kingry
AWS Board of Trustees President*

**Please join us by being part of
The Anchorage Waldorf School Annual
Giving Campaign 2021.**



Our current effort is focused on supporting continuing education for our teachers and critical replacement of the firebox and electric wiring throughout school.

Your support and generosity is important for the growth of our current and future generations of students.

Our goal is to raise \$75,000 by December 15th 2021.

Open your camera app and aim your mobile at the QR code to make a donation today.
Thank you for your generosity!



*Anchorage Waldorf School Tax ID # 92-0132913. A receipt will be sent for all donations.
Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law*