



The Anchorage  
**Waldorf School**

*Awakening Wonder*

# WALDORF WEEKLY

January 30, 2022



**Thank you Class 4/5 Parents for  
hosting January's All School Skating  
Social! We had a BLAST!!**



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Tues, Feb 1** (7-8 pm) - Parent Council Meeting on Zoom
- **Thurs, Feb 10** (7-8:30 pm) - BOT Meeting on Zoom and In Person
- **Sun, Feb 13** - AWS Open House 1-3
- **Thurs & Fri, Feb 17 & 18** - Parent Teacher Conferences - NO SCHOOL  
Child care available from 9-1pm
- **Mon, Feb 21** - Presidents' Day - NO SCHOOL

# Some Highlights from last Wednesday's Alumni Panel Discussion



On Wednesday, January 26th, Mr. Unterberger hosted the Alumni Panel Discussion with alumni who graduated from AWS (when it was Aurora Waldorf School) in 2008 - Yuta Takagi and Anna Price. We had a few other alumni share their experiences, Maya Bolak and Aubrey Ingle. All said how Waldorf education impacted their lives tremendously.

Mr. Gary Snyder from Bettye Davis East High School shared his perspective on receiving Waldorf students throughout the years. He was taking notice, as he received the first generation of Waldorf students in his Algebra class. In summary, he said that they may have started the year not knowing some of the content, but because of their work ethic they did much better throughout the year. As the math got more complicated, the Waldorf students didn't give up - their grades got better. He mentioned that socially, all students, whether Waldorf or public school, are going to feel that awkward transition - it's 9th grade. The hardest transition is the class size - at Waldorf everyone knows what's going on with everything but at a public school, there are over a thousand students and five teachers, it's a challenging transition organizationally to keep track of classes and the different expectations from teachers. It's a different system at public school.

Aubrey said the hardest transition was the testing and feeling like she was a number rather than a person.

Maya mentioned that going from a tight-knit familial system to a very large, anonymous system was difficult. During group projects, she really got to shine and bring out her artistic abilities but that she also felt like a number on a page in high school.

For Yuta, the transition into high school wasn't challenging for him - socially, he made friends quickly, although those high school friends aren't a part of his life right now, and the Waldorf friends are. Academically, he felt he had a starting disadvantage, but quickly realized that what he had learned from Waldorf was "how to learn" versus knowing actual facts. This helped him significantly in learning during high school and beyond. He went and studied the topics on his own and tested through portions of the high school curriculum. In retrospect, he said it was such a great time growing up in the Waldorf system. There was good and bad, but it was an overwhelmingly positive experience.

Anna, who graduated from Service High in 2012, attended Montana State University and studied Snow Science, Hydrology, Math, Physics, and Liberal Arts. She has worked as a Hydrologist for the Federal Government but is now loving building drift boats - working with her hands - something she said is due to her "Waldorf roots."

What an amazing and informative zoom meeting we had with our alumni and ASD teacher panel. Thank you so much to everyone who came and contributed.

## CAMPUS NEWS & UPDATES



Because of our community's generous donations toward the annual giving 2021, we have chosen the company that will complete this project for us. Installation of the new wiring and fire panel will take place the last week of May. The parts have been ordered.

**LEARN TO KNIT CLASS on Wednesday, February 2**  
(anytime between 8:30-10:30) at the Great Hall AWS Campus



Have you glanced at your child's knitted creations wishing you could help them? Have you tried and tried to learn to knit, but just can't quite get it? Please come anytime between 8:30-10:30am to AWS's Great Hall for the Craft Guild's

**FREE Learn to Knit Class on February 2nd!**

All supplies provided.

Masks worn and social distancing done indoors.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**FOR**  
**SUMMER OF WONDER**  
**CAMP 2022!**

9 weeks of fun starting on  
**June 6**  
More details to follow!

The Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA) has asked Waldorf parents to complete this survey from the Research Institute for Waldorf Education (RIWE) to share our Waldorf experiences.

**Please complete this survey  
by February 4th.**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FQTL9BJ>**

# COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

Dear Community--

We wanted to inform you that we are monitoring COVID in our greater Anchorage community as well as our AWS school community. During the past couple weeks, we have seen an increase in both. We want to do our best to limit the spread. Operationally speaking we want to remind families that there is a chance that we might have to close school for a couple days or extend a weekend if we are unable to staff our classrooms. We ask that you continue to keep our administration and your teachers informed if you suspect your child will be out of school as soon as you are able to. This helps us to identify if there is any transmission in our classrooms. We will continue to maintain transparency and strive to keep information flowing for the comfort of all. Thank you for all your efforts and help!

Yours,  
Anchorage Waldorf School

Find us on Facebook at

[facebook.com/anchorage-waldorfschool](https://www.facebook.com/anchorage-waldorfschool)

please share the love  
by giving us a positive  
5 star review on fb  
and google

**THIS WEEK!!!!**

## Anchorage Waldorf School PARENT/TODDLER CLASS



*Parent-child classes offer a gentle introduction to a group setting. Held in a warm, home-like environment, your children will experience circle time, free play, and a warm snack. Parents will enjoy learning about Waldorf Education & their developing child, as well as a seasonal craft.*

### 4 WEEK SESSION

held at:  
**Anchorage Waldorf School**  
3250 Baxter Rd  
\$150 for 4 classes

### TUESDAYS

February  
1, 8, 15 & 22

11:00-12:30 pm

### THURSDAYS

February  
3, 10, 17 & 24

11:00-12:30 pm

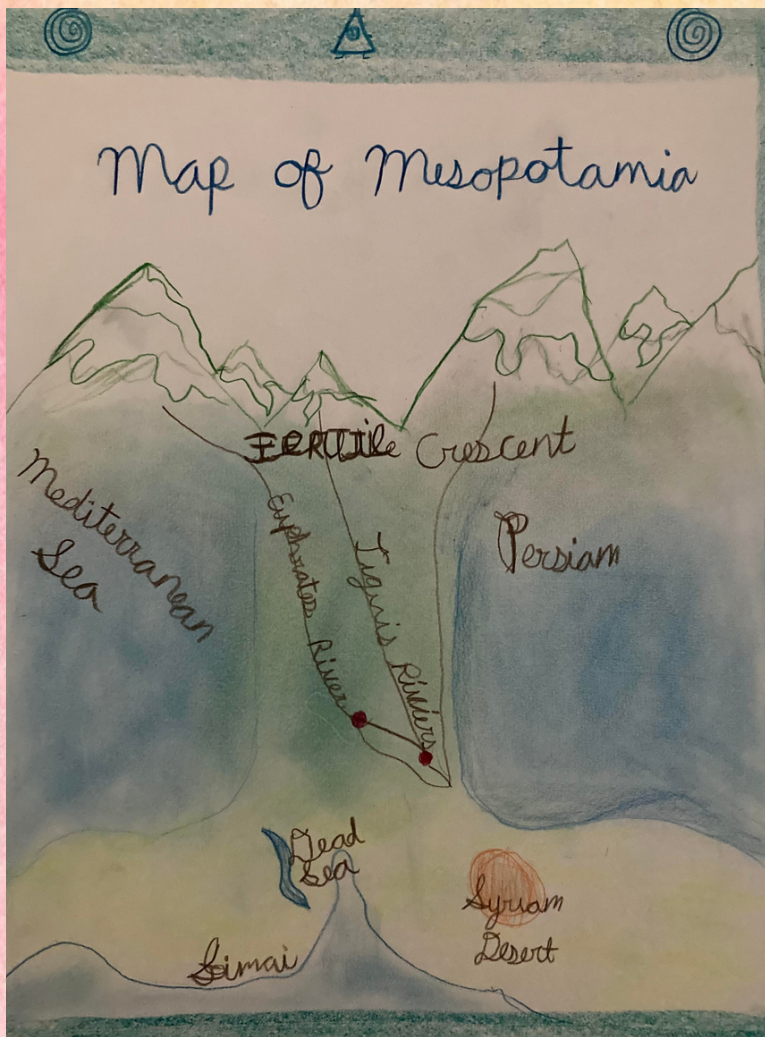


**Skiing at  
Russian Jack**



**morning  
yoga  
with  
grade  
2/3**

## GRADE 4/5



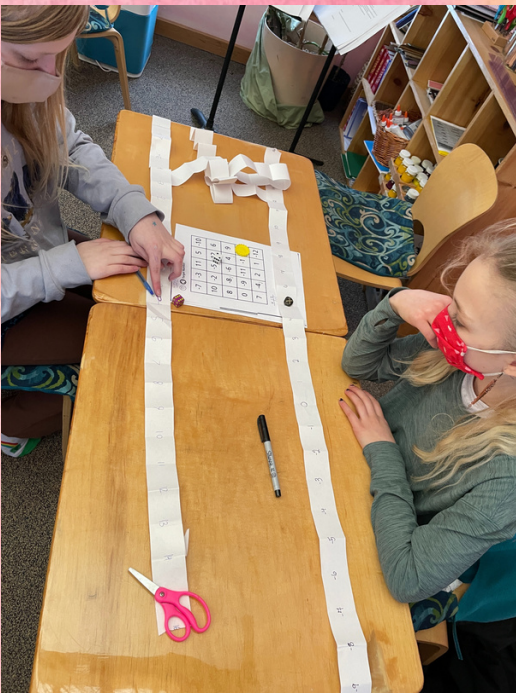
This week Grade 4/5 is studying the history and stories of Ancient Mesopotamia, the land of two rivers, in our Ancient Mythologies block. The class inscribed their names in clay tablets like the Babylonians, painted Ziggurat temples, and heard the beginning of the story of Gilgamesh.

# GRADE 6

Dear Community,

Class six has ended their exploration of Physics - the study of matter with static electricity in a grand fashion. The students were able to see their teacher's hair stand on end and they loved holding the discharge wand themselves and seeing "lightning" form! We weren't quite brave enough to all try having our hair stand on end as the Van De Graaff generator we have was very strong! In our exploits while skiing I have included a picture to show what can happen when a student decides that they have had enough of standing on their skis and is willing to try "floating" on them instead! Now.... we are on to Rome II with our intern teacher Scott Misching helping us along the way.

Look out for our class to offer truffles for sale for valentines day - February 14th !



# HANDWORK



Thank you to Wendy Turner for coming in to share her book binding skills. Eighth graders made a Travel Photo Book for their upcoming end of year trip to the San Juan Islands. They used maps of the region for their front and back covers of the book and will fill the books with small polaroid pictures, paintings, and descriptions.



Congratulations  
Charlotte!  
We have another  
completed Kitty in  
the 1st grade!



# RUSSIAN

Grade 8 spent some time creating beautiful signs in Russian and posted them around the campus. If you need help to read or understand them, ask Grade 8 students!



Can you count in Russian? 1st Grade can! We counted and put together some puzzles,

built very tall towers and snow cakes.... so many snow cakes that we lost count!



# EXPERIENCE



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## OPEN HOUSE

Want to know exactly what your child will experience as a student in each of our grades - from early childhood, Grades 1, 2/3, 4/5, 6/7, 8 and handwork/woodwork? See each classroom and participate in curriculum demonstrations from our masterful teachers.

**SUNDAY,  
FEBRUARY 13  
1-3PM**

**3250 BAXTER ROAD  
ANCHORAGE**



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