



The Anchorage
Waldorf School

Awakening Wonder

WALDORF WEEKLY

September 19, 2022



JOIN US FOR MICHAELMAS
THE CELEBRATION OF COURAGE & LIGHT!
SATURDAY, SEPT 24TH, 2022
11-1PM
POTLUCK TO FOLLOW

UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Sept. 24 (11am-1pm)** - Michaelmas Festival (Potluck to follow)
- **Sept. 26-30** - Wilderness Week for Grades
- **Oct. 4** - Parent Council
- **Oct. 10** - Indigenous People's Day - NO SCHOOL
- **Oct. 20** - Board Meeting



Mackenzie C. - 9/1
Aila E. - 9/25
Evelyn K. - 9/27

WE ARE ABLE TO PAY \$150 A DAY FOR SUBSTITUTES AND NEED PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO STEP IN IN SITUATIONS OF TEACHER ABSENCE/ILLNESS. PLEASE LET RENEE PARKS KNOW AT ED@WALDORFAK.ORG.

Substitutes
Wanted!



A NOTE FROM OUR INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR

Our licensing inspection was held on Friday afternoon for about 5 hours. It went very well thanks to all of your heroic efforts!!! I so appreciate everyone who was out there raking and hauling mulch, everyone who was diligently locating immunization records and obtaining physicals. I've said it before and I'll say it again, OUR FAMILIES ARE THE BEST! THANK YOU!



A Note from the Family Partnership Charter School Principal, Jessica Parker



We are so thankful to be providing new opportunities for our mutual families. As always, please feel free to reach out to myself or Nicole with any questions or needs as we progress through the year. We have begun processing private school reimbursement requests! We have been working diligently on these since September 8th. Typically, families can expect to see their reimbursements in 4-6 weeks, but currently we are at a 2-week turn-around. We are no longer requiring the Family Partnership Reimbursement Form that was to be signed by your school. What we are finding is your receipts/FACTS sheets and proof of payment from our parents are sufficient. We would like to streamline this process any way we can, so we are no longer requiring this additional form.

A 50% protective guardrail has been put in place to begin this initiative. We will reimburse families for vetted eligible courses, up to 50% of the regular price annual tuition while not exceeding what they have paid. Families who are new to FPCS on the July lottery can only be reimbursed for payments made after August 1st. In the rare case of a family having paid tuition in full before August 1st, we ask that they work with your billing department, if possible, to be recharged after this deadline. These families could also elect to use the funds on other expenses if that is convenient for them. Some schools have already worked through this process, but we wanted you all to be aware as we are now processing reimbursements and a few more families find themselves in this situation.

We appreciate all your efforts and support in helping us organize and offer this opportunity to our mutual families. **We still have some spots left and are taking enrollments until September 30th.** Our enrollment packet can be found on our website or interested families are always welcome to give us a call with any questions or for assistance.



Family Partnership Website
Enrollment Packet
Family Partnership Phone: 907-742-3700

Jessica Parker, Ed. D
Family Partnership Principal
4400 Business Park Blvd St B-22
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 742-3701

CAMPUS NEWS & UPDATES

MICHAELMAS

THE CELEBRATION OF COURAGE & LIGHT!

SATURDAY, SEPT 24TH, 2022

11-1PM

10:45 AM STUDENTS ARRIVE

11:00 AM MICHAELMAS PLAY

11:15 AM BLESSING OF OUR MEAL-ELDERS START THE POTLUCK!

11:20 AM POTLUCK

FIREWEED KINDERGARTEN	DRINKS CLEAN-UP
SUNFLOWER KINDERGARTEN	BREAD & BUTTER CLEAN-UP
FIRST GRADE	SALAD OR SIDE DISHES DECORATIONS
SECOND GRADE	SOUP OR MAIN DISH CLEAN-UP
THIRD & FOURTH GRADE	SOUP OR MAIN DISH CLEAN-UP
FIFTH & SIXTH GRADE	SALAD OR SIDE DISH CLEAN-UP
SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE	DESSERTS DECORATIONS
GUESTS	YOUR CHOICE

12:00 PM PUPPET SHOW IN DOGWOOD COTTAGE

12:30 PM CLEAN UP

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN PLATES, BOWLS, CUPS AND SILVERWARE!
(MARK DISHES FOR THOSE WITH ALLERGIES)**

WEAR RED FOR COURAGE!

PLEASE PARK OFF CAMPUS ON SIDE STREETS.

SUNFLOWER KINDERGARTEN

We are busy building forts, playing in the dirt, watching puppet plays and in general just enjoying being together. We are watching the leaves put on their dresses of red and gold and dancing and prancing with them as they flutter and fall!



FIREWEED KINDERGARTEN

"Five golden leaves hanging from the trees dancing golden in the sun, then along came the wind, and it blew through the town, and another little leaf tumbled down to the ground."

Fall is here to stay. The children have been enthralled with the falling leaves, dancing as they spin to the earth. In both practical life activities and free play, your child increasingly takes hold of their body through movement.



At this stage, we see it as they learn to run faster, jump higher, hop on one foot and skip. Every bodily movement feeds the developing brain, and every physical skill mastered forms a foundation for cognitive learning and spiritual freedom. We strive to nurture these particular gifts in Kindergarten, and of the first seven years of life.



GRADE 1

I feel like last week just flew by! Our main lessons have been busy and our work is good work. In the morning, before we begin class, we've been gathering with 2nd grade to practice for Michaelmas.

I'm looking forward to watching the fruition of their efforts on Saturday.

Our focus for our bookwork continues to be on the consonants. I told some fantastic stories this week, some of my personal favorites: "Longshanks, Girth and Keen", and "Grandfather Twilight". We practiced the letters P and D and began L. They are practicing their handwriting and are working on getting the rhythm of the letters. The flow of handwriting is important as it aids in the ease and speed in which we are able to write. And being able to write effortlessly is a wonderful skill to have!

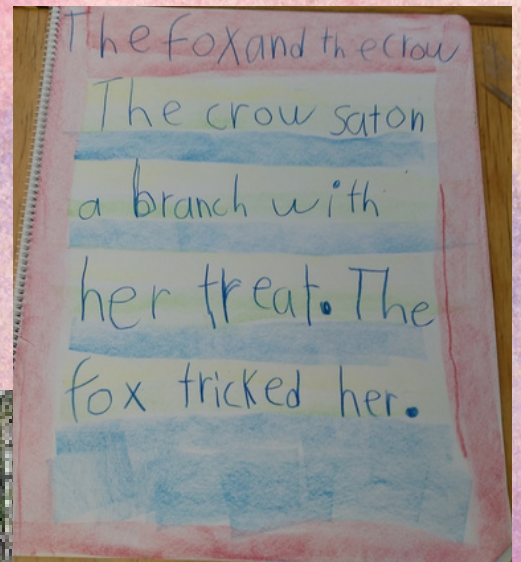
-Renee Parks



GRADE 2



We continued talking about consonant blends and adding to our sight word list. We had a few students surprise themselves with the words they could recognize and decode. Our painting this week was a lot of fun as we created fall colors using our yellow and red paints. We also started practicing for the Michaelmas Play. Next week we will start practicing the play and write sentences using the consonant blends that have been discovered from our stories.



GRADE 3/4



Grade 3/4 has been busy learning about the measurement and weights of different forms. We explored standard vs. non-standard ways of measurement and the students learned the history of weight and the differences between stones, ounces, and pounds.



On Friday, Shayn the Farmer came in to talk to the students about the gardens they had designed and took the students out to our garden to share her thoughts on how we could improve the garden.



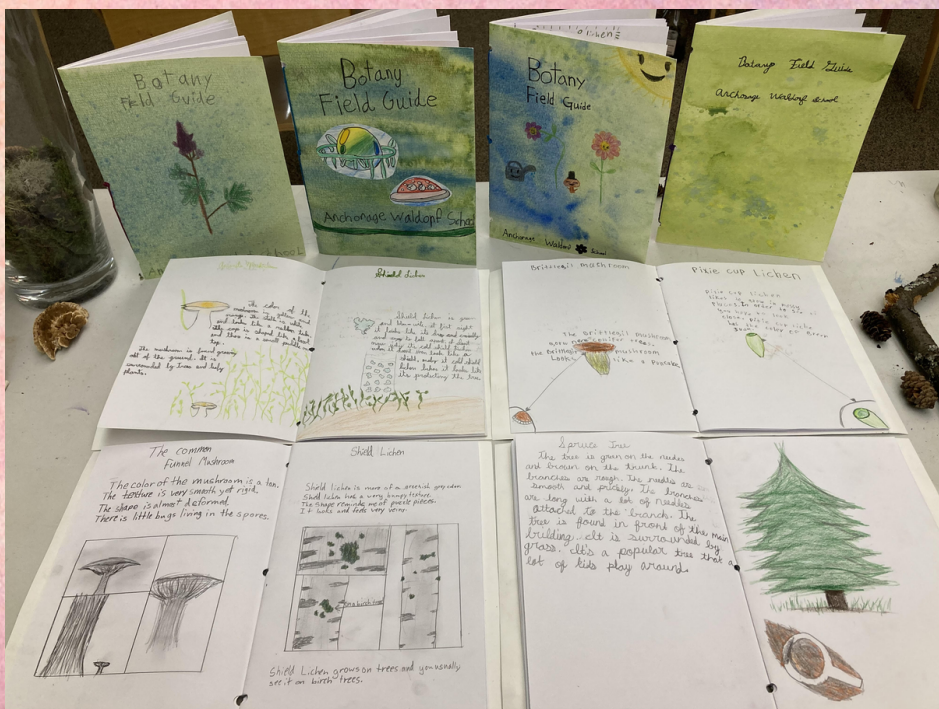
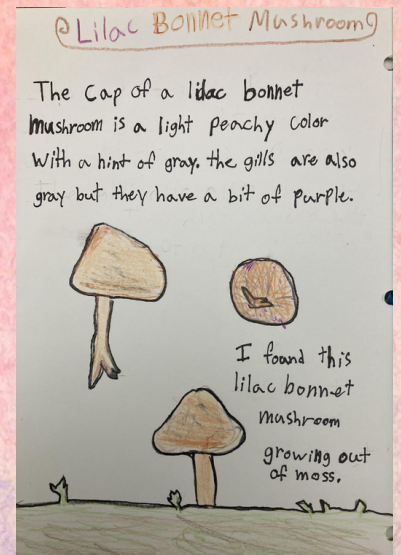
3/4 has also enjoyed our reading period on Thursdays and are always eager to pull out a good book to read with a friend!



GRADE 5/6

Grade 5/6 has been deeply immersed in their plant studies in their final week of Botany. It has been amazing to witness the growth of the class and attention to detail in both their work and in awareness of the living world around them. Many times a day I hear "Ms. Power, come look at this!" as a student enthusiastically shows me a plant they found.

Each morning has begun in quiet observation outside as a journaling exercise to help with writing poetry. Each student has been carefully studying the intricate details of the plants found on campus and have been documenting them by word and drawing into their very own field guide books that they have created. Impressive work by all of the students!



GRADE 7/8

Dear Community,

Well, the epic bike ride along Powerline Pass with an overnight did not eventuate for class 7/8 - the forty days and forty nights of rain scuttled our plans. However other explorations continue and the picture shows us coming back from the Russian Jack Park Greenhouses. Our creative writing work has ended with some surprise ending work and writing our own excuse notes. These were a lot of fun but excuses aside we are now focusing on our work with Algebra and Geometry.



with warmth, Shannon Herda



MOVEMENT

Movement Work Together

At our Waldorf school, the curriculum brings a rich sensory experience that students learn from through the visual arts, music, performing arts and movement in the everyday lessons including reading, math, and science. Great care is taken to integrate movement and the arts into the daily work in a developmentally appropriate way. My weekly Movement classes for the grades 1-8 consist of imaginative play, fun and exhilarating games, exercises, body awareness and athletic skills building, along with performance training. I approach movement in a holistic manner while exploring dance, theatre, cooperation, sport, and outdoor games. Learning developmental movement patterns, coordination with



the breath, and focus on posture and alignment allows all students to grow at their own pace. Students develop healthy social engagement through movement practice, and even in competitive games when they get older, while learning from a diversity of cultural perspectives that I try to bring in. We are mostly outside during movement classes, but I hope to have one movement class per week inside too. Tumbling and gymnastics, NYO (Alaska Native Youth Olympics) events, animal and elemental movement, circus arts are the kinds of activities we may do inside throughout the grades.

In fifth grade, students are trained to run, wrestle, throw the discus and javelin, and perform the running long jump in preparation for the Greek Pentathlon, where they engage with students from other Alaska Waldorf schools. In sixth grade we practice archery.

As far as preparation, this means students just need to be wearing clothes they can move in. For outside, in the fall, they will need good running shoes as well as good rain/muck boots depending on the day. Here in Alaska we are lucky to experience Nordic skiing and skating and other activities during winter movement classes. Good, warm socks, snow suits, snow boots, hats and gloves, neck gators, are essential in all winter movement classes. During the winter ski/skate blocks each class will let parents know what times we will need drivers. I have gear at school for loan during these blocks. If you plan to get your own skis/skates please let me know that you have them. I don't often know which block I will do first, ski or skate, depending on conditions, so I would like students fitted for both by Thanksgiving. I will be letting you know which days I will want a parent helper for the fittings for each class.

Thank you. I look forward to moving, skipping, running, skating, skiing, tagging, dodging, dancing, tumbling, juggling, throwing, catching, breathing and laughing with the students and seeing you all soon.

Mr. Unterberger, (matt.unterberger@waldorfak.org)



ORCHESTRA

This year 3/4 started Strings class. The students are eager to learn and love playing their instruments!



HANDWORK/WOODWORK



5th & 6th Graders have been working on wood burning in woodwork. They have practiced on two different pieces of wood, transferring images and wood burning for their culminating Moncala (aka: AKsala) board.

HANDWORK/WOODWORK CONTINUED



**A huge Thank You to Mr. Pat Coller,
Kylie's grandfather, for volunteering in
our 5/6 Woodwork classes.**



In Handwork, students gathered leaves and pressed them into silk to be naturally dyed. We used turmeric/yellow onion skin, purple onion skin, dried elderberries/fresh blueberries, and fresh raspberries/strawberries/currants to dye our material. Thank You to Mrs. Sherry Poplarchik, Broxton & Harper's grandmother, for volunteering in 5/6 Handwork!

