

The

ESSENGER

Mansfield Rudolf Steiner
School & Kindergarten
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MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER. 09

TERM 4 WEEK 1

*God bless the corners of this school
And be the lintel blessed.
And bless the floor
And bless the board
And bless each sturdy desk.
God bless the door which opens wide
The children to let in
And bless the crystal windowpane
Through which the sun shines in
God bless the roof tree overhead
And every solid wall
The peace of man
The peace of God
The peace of love on all.*

GREETINGS! AND WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF THE MESSENGER.

2009 - SCHOOL EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER.....

Term IV Tuesday 13TH October - Wednesday 16th December

**OPEN DAY WORKING BEE - This coming Saturday 17th October
ALL HANDS ON DECK PLEASE!**

P & F Open Day Coordinator's meeting - Wednesday 21st October 3.30pm in the library

CLASS 8 PROJECT PRESENTATION Wednesday 21st October 7.00pm
MARIMBA WORKSHOPS WITH ANDY RIGBY Thursday 22nd Friday 23rd October
OPEN DAY Saturday 24th Oct
9am-1pm stalls etc
1-3pm Great food and entertainment

High Country Festival long weekend-No School Mon 2nd and Tues. 3rd November
Boss Photography Kinder/School Photos Wed. 4th - Fri. 6th November

GIRLS GROWING UP workshop 14th & 15th November (Coordinator- ??)
'THE TEMPEST' a performance of Class 7 & 8 Thursday Nov 19th at the PAC 7.30pm
AMEB EXAMS 20th November at school
CLASS 5 & 6 SURF CAMP Monday 23rd - Wednesday 25th November
Report Writing Day - Student Free Friday 27th November

CLASS 8 GRADUATION 11th December in Merton Hall 7.00pm
Little Kinder Last Session for 2008 - Christmas festival Thursday 10th December
End of Year MUSIC concert at PAC 1st or 2nd of December to be confirmed

LAST DAY OF TERM - Christmas festivals - Wednesday 16th December

Staff Clean up day - Thursday 17th December

COT/Faculty meeting - Friday 18th December

WE WELCOME

TO THE SCHOOL the following families:

Sally Clayton and Zayde (Class 2) who have recently moved to Mairdample and Rebecca & Jamie Delarue who live in Mansfield and have enrolled Jacob in Class 3.

Welcome to the school, we hope you will settle in with ease and enjoy the final term of the year.

LITTLE KINDERGARTEN - KINDER / PREP

SUN HATS - its time for us to wear our sun safe sun hats, during Term 4 all children need to have a sunhat for outside play.

KINDER WORKING BEE - THIS SATURDAY. Taryn and Kaz will be working in the kinder 10am - 2pm. Please come and help us, there are many job to be done and all helpers, big and small, are welcome.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

WE BEGIN THE TERM amidst new renovations to the foyer and moving into our wonderful new classrooms. Please bear with us as the renovations at front of the school are completed.

Please call in and have a look at our extending campus or check out the webpage - photo's up in the next couple of days.

HEAD LICE

WEEKLY HEAD CHECKS, PLEASE TAKE THE TIME!

Treatments for those who have been found to have head lice (Use commercial lice treatment 7 days apart and/or Condition and comb daily for 7 days until cycle broken)

and for everyone else a simple weekly procedure that all families could participate in: Comb through conditioner once each week, perhaps each Sunday evening...whatever suits; this simple action would be very beneficial and help prevent the spread of lice throughout the school.

Apply conditioner to dry hair and then comb through with a nit comb - this simple procedure done once on a weekly basis would stop the problem - but each family must take the time to do so -

Let's stop the spread.....by conditioning and combing our heads!!

LIBRARY

WELCOME TO OUR NEW LIBRARY! Much work was done over the holiday to renovate the library courtyard area. Please bear with us as we move in and become accustomed to this new space.

Class 7&8 Tuesday is library day and Classes 1-6 on Friday as usual, please remember your library bag and return books borrowed for holiday reading.

Open Day is coming up soon and the library will once again hold it's fundraising stall with lots of wonderful treasure to be found. Happy reading in Term 4 and beyond - Kaye and Maree.

OPEN DAY 2009

IT'S TIME TO LEND A HAND!!

OPEN DAY CO-ORDINATOR'S MEETING: Wednesday 21st October 3.30pm in the Library. ALL coordinators need to attend to finalise arrangements prior to Open Day, thanks very much.

9AM-1PM

ALL SCHOOL STALLS OPERATE

Stalls to be ready for a 9am start (for early callers)

1PM-3PM

LUNCH PROGRAM - FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

1.00pm

STUDENT MARIMBA PERFORMANCE

Middle and Upper grades -Students are making a Marimba for school use on Thursday/Friday with ANDY Rigby (a popular musician and instrument maker).

Come to the front office and place your name down for an hour or two, on a stall or two, its loads of fun, or you could contact one of the stall co-ordinators.

We are looking for outdoor settings for the Courtyard Cafe, if you have one that we can borrow, please contact Maree Mielnik, as she will organise for it to be collected and then returned. (57751960 – 0425746535) Also after Sun Shelters, same deal, please contact Maree if you can lend us one for the day.

Cakes will be needed for the cafe, why not make two, one for the cafe and one to sell at the Produce Stall, Michelle and Maureen will be very grateful.

Items needed for the Raffle Hamper, all donated items can be left at the front office, much appreciated.

We will have the Marvellous Marimba Show as well as Luscious Laksas created by the Lindsay's, to go with the Fabulous Falafel and the Scintillating Spinach and Potato Rolls (and super salads).

Each class is requested to make a food item for the buffet luncheon.

Please find attached a recipe for your family's contribution and thank you for your support.

Please remember the Working Bee on this Saturday.

Don't forget to invite everyone you see.

Gumboot Cafe	Sarah Lawson	57751859 – 0418016198
Sausage Sizzle	Cameron Paterson	57789559 – 0418380319
Courtyard Cafe	Michelle & Sarah	57752984 – 57751097
Lunch Tent	Rick & Charlotte	57787797
	Janine (Roster)	57789559 – 0429863708
Produce Stall	Maureen Englefield	57751730 – 0419307509
Craft Stall	Fiona Nation	57903395 – 0427505197
Rainbow Tent	Maaika Steiner	57773037 – 0427596264
Childrens Activities	Kerstie Lee	0448713585
Library	Kay, Maree, Lyndal	
Ice-cream/Smoothies	Lou Marker-Reynolds	57791483
	Maddie Nation	57903395
Plants	Allison & Andrew	57762112
Open Day Co-ord.	Camille 57787255 – 0432875038 Maree 57751960 – 0425746535 or Janine 57789559	- 0429863708

KINDER/PREP We need parents to help with activities in the kinder. Please write your name on the roster in the kinder.

OPEN DAY PARENT LED ACTIVITIES

PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY HELPING TO COORDINATE AND SERVE ON THE VARIOUS SCHOOL STALLS FOR OPEN DAY.

OUTSIDE STALL HOLDERS

Jakob and Janina - BD Compost and Extra Lesson

Betty Gerrish - Gems and jewellery

Jean Shannon - Products from Nepal

Sylph (Kim and Louise from McAdam Square, Croydon) Steiner products

SUPERMARKET POINTS

PLEASE CONSIDER donating your supermarket points to the school - fundraising made easy!

Marks IGA

Foodworks

COMMUNITY NOTICES

PONDERING STEINER

TERM 4 Tuesday 13th October, first day back, 7.30pm Shop 5/12 High Street, we will be commencing 'Agriculture' by Rudolf Steiner. New people are most welcome. Please ring Janina on 57787567 or 5779 1911 or B.Y.O. chair on the night!

FIRST WEDNESDAY

CONCERNS& APPROACHES, open discussion with Janina on Wednesday 4th November from 7 - 8.30pm and Rudolf Steiner's Six Exercises No.3 from 8.30 - 9.00pm.

CLEANERS FOR THIS WEEK: Please make note of your rostered day to clean and make the effort to get here - the classes look cared for when it's done, a little neglected when it's not...

	<u>KINDER</u>	<u>SCH 1</u>	<u>SCH 2</u>	<u>SCH 3</u>	<u>SCH 4</u>
Mon. 13 th Oct.	Cam	Kerstie	Kerstie	Allison	Allison
Tues. 14 th Oct.	Melinda	Kerstie	Kerstie	Allison	Allison
Wed. 15 th Oct.	Helen	Patterson	Patterson	Allison	Allison
Thurs. 16 th Oct.	Lisa	Clare Ch.	Sarah B.	Sarah B.	Jenny R
Fri. 17 th Oct.	Lisa	Lyndal	Lyndal	Charlotte	Jenny R
Windows- Sharon	Merton Hall- Sarah Mc		Outdoors -John		Merton Hall-Fri. Sarah McC

CLEANERS PLEASE NOTE: There has been a small change in the school cleaning layout:

KINDER - as before

SCHOOL 1: new Staff room, kitchen, foyer and school admin area

SCHOOL 2: new library area, toilet block and carriage

SCHOOL 3: Class rooms 1 - 4, toilets and Artroom

SCHOOL 4: new Class rooms 5 - 8 and toilets.

The Merton Hall and music rooms will now also include the **SCIAC** room.

Please bear with us this term as we determine what is working well and what is not, if you have any queries please speak with Sally or Richard, thank you.

THE WALDORF SCHOOLS – 32 questions and answers – Wade B. Holland

An Overview of the education from the Elementary School through the High School.

We are including a series of questions and answers on Steiner education over the coming weeks. (These are offered for your general interest and background understanding. Although they are generally applicable to Steiner education they do not necessarily reflect exactly what happens in individual schools.)

7. What is the approach to reading?

As already noted, the Waldorf curriculum begins with the oral tradition – mankind's oldest form of record-keeping. The oral approach is used throughout the education, for mastery of oral communication is seen to be critical to all learning and to life itself. While preparation of the student in the language arts is well underway in the nursery, it is emphasized in the Waldorf kindergarten and first grade. Reading is deferred, often even into the second grade. In fact, reading in a Waldorf school *follows* acquisition of a firm grounding in *writing* – just as mankind had first to develop systems of notation in order to have something to read. By exploring throughout the first grade year how our alphabet came about, and letting the children discover each letter in the same way that its form evolved to the ancients out of a pictograph, writing comes out of the children's art, and their capability to read evolves as a natural, and indeed comparatively effortless, stage of their mastery of linguistic communications.

Printed textbooks do not appear so early in a Waldorf school as in other schools. Rather, the children make their own colorful 'main lesson' books in each subject. The first of these. In the first grade, are largely pictorial, and may appear on the surface to encompass little beyond the child's illustrations of the fairy tales told in class. In fact, they record the child's crucial first steps across the threshold into the world of formal education, in which he or she is acquiring the underlying concepts of notation, leading to writing, and then to reading.

The children at first read from the blackboard, and later they read what they have written with great care in their main lesson books. Most children have become proficient in reading by the end of the third grade. Readers may be introduced in the second grade, and while the Waldorf child's reading vocabulary quickly becomes rich, there is no prescribed list of word the children are expected to know.

8. Does the 'block' method really work? Without constant repetition, don't the children quickly forget what they've learned?

Certainly superficial facts and knowledge are forgotten, at least as far as instant recall is concerned. But the subjects taught in blocks are those in which the goal is to instill concepts, processes, thought – not to produce fact-filled computers. What's more, the process of 'forgetting' is part of the process of assimilating the material, of sorting out the 'facts' from the deeper knowledge. And because the curriculum is cumulative and comprehensive, the children return to each block later on. Subjects such as English, arithmetic, and foreign languages require constant exercise, and these are taken up continuously rather than in blocks.