



Little Yarra

STEINER SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

205 Little Yarra Road
P.O. Box 19, Yarra Junction 3797

t: (03) 5967 1953

f: (03) 5967 2345

e: newsletter@lyss.vic.edu.au

www.lyss.vic.edu.au

Term 2
Week 5
Tuesday 15th
May 2012

From *Calendar of the Soul* by Rudolf Steiner

Verse 32

I feel my own force fructifying
That lends me to the world with strength;
I feel my ego being reenforcing
Turning itself to clarity
In life's destiny weaving.

CALENDAR

MAY		
Tues	15th	Class 12 Excursion to Melbourne Aquarium 9.00 am - 3.30 pm
Tues	15th	Class 10 Art Excursion 1 pm - 5.00 pm
Tues	15th	High School Information Evening 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm
Fri	18th	Class 2 Parents Food Stall 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Fri	18th	Class 9 Hattah Lakes Camp returns
Mon	21st	CURRICULUM DAY
Tues	22nd	Class 5 Mesopotamia excursion to Melbourne Museum 9.00 am - 3.15 pm
Weds	23rd	Combined Schools ensemble performance 3.30 pm
Weds	23rd	Class 2 Parent Teacher Evening 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm
Weds	30th	Eurythmy Lecture by Kelly Papas 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm
Weds	30th	Class 12 Graduation Planning Meeting 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm
Thurs	31st	Class 7 - Class 12 High School Sports Day 12.40 pm - 3.15 pm

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS

- JEAN-MICHEL DAVID

The year is punctuated by various festivities and celebrations, and over the coming few weeks, a number of regular festivals are supplemented by those periodic unique and far rarer events. This Thursday marks Ascension, and ten days hence will be what Steiner describes as one of the year's most important festivals – that of Pentecost. On the 6th of June, we'll also have occasion to celebrate the rare transit of Venus, and the official opening of two of our buildings.

In *The Festivals and their Meaning*, during a lecture Rudolf Steiner gave in Christiana in 1910, he describes the festival's importance thus:

The Spirit of freedom holds sway in that Spirit which poured itself out over the first understanders of Christianity in the first Christian Pentecostal festival, the Spirit whose most significant characteristic was indicated by Christ Himself: "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free!" People can become free only in the spirit. [...] A person can become free, only when he or she finds him or herself again in spirit, and from out of the spirit becomes lord over that which is within. "To become free" presupposes the discovery of oneself as a spirit within oneself. The true spirit in which we can make this discovery is the universal human spirit, which we recognise as the Pentecostal power of the Holy Spirit entering into us, and which we must bring to birth in ourselves and allow to come to manifestation.

Given the importance Steiner placed on not only his *Philosophy of Freedom*, but also this festival, it becomes easier to understand how it is that schools grounded in Steiner's pedagogical principles place such an importance in establishing the foundations that will later more easily permit our young people to emerge as adults who are deeply self reflective, creative, and develop a passion for integrity.

HAVING TROUBLE DOWNLOADING ALL THE NEWSLETTER ?

- JIM & BARRY

Some readers have been reporting problems getting to see all the pages of the newsletter. If this applies to you, please try this. Go to the schools website: www.lyss.vic.edu.au and in the bottom right hand corner where it says "Current Issues", right click on 'newsletter' and save to your computer. You should then be able to open the downloaded file from where you have saved it.

CONVERSATION REPORT

- JEAN-MICHEL & JIM

How are decisions made in the school and what are its structures? That was what emerged from a question about the cut-off dates for progressing into the Prep Class. There was much talk about the general approach and desirability of keeping children with their age peers, and this leads to the need for a cut-off date. A cut-off date, whenever it is set, will seem arbitrary. The angst this could cause parents with children close to the cut-off date was acknowledged. The experience and insights of the Kindergarten teachers was paramount in considering the best course for children close to the cut-off date. Valuable too were the observations of others in the school, such as the curative eurythmist, and invited outsiders, such as Irmhild Kleinhenz an anthroposophic health professional. The Management Group member responsible for this area is the Education Administrator.

This highlights the change in the school following the restructure. There is now a single person on the Management Group who can be identified as responsible for managing their areas of responsibility. Management Group members and their portfolios can be found on the website. If you are still unclear about where to take an enquiry, the office should be able to direct you to the appropriate person.

Start the day with something to think about. The conversation follows its own course or the direction your questions lead it. Join us in the Main Building at 9.00 am on Wednesday mornings to be a part of the conversation. Questions on notice may be emailed to jtaylor@lyss.vic.edu.au.

VACANCIES AT LITTLE YARRA

- DANA

Two new job adverts have been uploaded onto the school's website; a part-time sport teacher position for a four week block in Term 3 and next year's Class 1 Teacher position. If you know of anyone who may be suitable and would be an asset to our school, please encourage them to view the job ads at www.lyss.vic.edu.au/employment.

COMBINED SCHOOLS' PERFORMANCE

- TIM BLAKE

Class 8 & 9 Students from Little Yarra's Chamber Ensemble, which rehearses every Wednesday afternoon, will present a 30 min work in progress performance in the Lecture Theatre 3.30 pm on Wednesday 23rd May. Combining with the visiting Chamber Strings ensemble from Camberwell High School, the students will spend the afternoon in a workshop rehearsing for the presentation. Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

WELCOMES AND GOODBYES

- LARISSA

This term Class 10 have welcomed a new class member in Shayden Fitcher, and Class 7 have welcomed Forest Terry into their class. We wish them and their families an enriching time at Little Yarra.

Joshua John has left the school. His last day was the Friday of Week 1 of Term 2. He has gone to Red Woods.

CLASS 2 FOOD STALL

- HIROMI

Class 2 is having a food stall fundraiser at pick-up time on Friday, 18th of May. We will sell lots of sweets and savoury dishes including Thai cuisine and vegetarian/Macrobiotic bento boxes. Please come and get your afternoon tea or supper at the bus shelter!

CLASS 2 LOOKING FOR SANDPIT TOYS

- HIROMI

We are currently collecting sandpit toys for Class 2 children. We would be very grateful if you could donate any metal pots, plates, cups and cutlery (especially spoons) that you no longer need. The collecting boxes will be placed both at the main office and in the Class 1&2 foyer. Thank you!

CRAFT GROUP

- HIROMI

We will continue our crochet project for the next few weeks. Come along and learn how to crochet. Bring your own crochet hook (size 4 or 5 for our wool) and yarn, if you have one. We meet on Thursday mornings between 9am and 12 in the main building. The profits from our group go to the Community House project. Children are welcome and morning tea is available.

FAIR & OPEN DAY UPDATE

- NICK WILLIAMSON

CAKE MAKERS WANTED. After popular demand we decided to bring back the Cake Tent to this year's Fair & Open Day. Kat Toomey is coordinating the tent and what we need NOW are people willing to MAKE CAKES as part of this team. Our target is to have 100 cakes which are estimated to raise about \$4000 for the building of the new kindergarten. We therefore need about 20 people or more to help with this task. CAN YOU HELP?

AUCTION ITEMS WANTED As part of this year's Fair & Open Day we have decided to conduct an Auction. I will personally conduct the Auction on stage at 2pm on the day. All items WILL BE SOLD and all monies raised will go to the building of a new kindergarten. We would greatly appreciate any auctionable Goods and/or Services that you are prepared to GIVE for auction.

WE STILL NEED HELPERS This year I have taken the approach of getting parents involved in those Fair and Open Day Activities they want to do, as opposed to feeling you 'have to' because that is the task to which your children's class is assigned. However I am also not opposed to the approach where parents have traditionally supported a particular area of the Fair and Open Day. Whether you want to support your children's traditional class activity (see below) OR you just want to 'make cakes' for example, either one is OK. Importantly, we want this to be fun for everyone and not a chore whereby we are all striving towards a common purpose of raising funds to build a new kindergarten.

Areas in which we especially need extra help right now include - Food Stalls, Children's Activities and Cake making.

Class/Group	Task	Coordinator
Kinder, Prep, Class 1	Children's Treasure Trove	Helen Brock
Classes 2,3,4	LYSS Craft Stall	Jacqui Wellings and Isabelle Young
Classes 5,6,7	Equipment Set-up	Des and Jude Cousens and Joe Saitta
Classes 5,6,7	Outside Entertainment	Jenny Fabien
Classes 5,6,7	Market Stalls	Francis Klugman, Jacquie Riley, Jacinta Davies
Classes 5,6,7	Cake Tent	Kat Toomey
Classes 5,6,7	Food Stalls	Emma Logan-Jacobson
Classes 5,6,7	PR and Marketing	Nick Williamson
Classes 8,9	Childrens Activities	Jenny Fabien
Class 10	Pack-up and General Help	Nick Williamson
New	Auction	Andrea Haider

If you can offer assistance in any way please do so and help bring the Fair & Open Day together. Email Nick: nwilliamson@lyss.vic.edu.au or contact Coordinators directly. Thank you.

FELTING CIRCLE

- ISABELLE

Our next wet-felting day will be this Monday (22 May) at Hiromi's house in Gladysdale. Our theme this time will be slippers. If you want to make slippers for someone else, please remember to bring a tracing of their foot size with you. Also, as slippers use a reasonably large quantity of wool, it would be best if you brought it with you. For an adult you will need around 250g of wool, for a child, around 125g. Making slippers is not for the fainthearted: you will not have time to finish them in one session but you should be able to get them to a stage where you can finish them at home. If you want to wet-felt something other than slippers, that is also fine.

As always, we will be meeting in the car park after drop off before heading to Hiromi's. You are welcome to stay all or part of the day. If you are staying for lunch, please bring a plate of food to share.

24 HOUR THEATRE

- ALANA

Thank you to all those who came to the performance on Sunday night. The whole event went wonderfully and all involved put a lot of hard work and dedication in to bring you the show "The Temperamental Bus Stop". As a result of the generous contribution of gold coin donations, after expenses were taken out, we are pleased to donate \$100 to the Little Yarra Drama Department. I would like to thank a few people as I forgot some on the night. A massive thanks to the mentors Anna, Simon, Clare and Phil. Thank you to Jules Ward, Michael Hamer and Lisa Dalboni for providing us with home cooked hearty meals for the weekend, Charlie for doing lighting and sound, Tom for filming throughout the weekend, Lily for creating the poster, Barry for helping advertise, Renee my supervisor and Bec and Gemma for taking photographs. A huge thanks to all the people that attended the event; writers: Christine Brown, Linda Staintion and Dean Watson, Directors: David, Jeminah and Sav and the Actors: Gemma, George, Iden, Radhika, Ellicia, Mingka, Nicole, Alex, Sarah and Bec. And lastly thank you MISFIT Theatre and the Little Yarra Steiner School for your support.

PLANTING DAY 2012

- JULIE SALE

We were all able to enjoy a wonderful sunny day full of activity and enthusiasm. The children seemed to enjoy the various activities that were offered on the day. The class six students helped their class one 'buddies' either dig a 'frog bog' or plant grasses and shrubs nearby. The class 4 children had a more difficult task of planting on the mound near the dam and the digging tested everyone's strength and patience. Class five accompanied the Preps class on their first tree planting experience. I am always impressed by the way in which the older students take care of their younger counterparts.

Many thanks to the parents who came along to help plant and also to the teachers and students for their hard work and for their enthusiasm. A special thank you to Fleur Brennan who also puts so much time and effort into helping. And where would I have been without the cheerful assistance of our German volunteers and also Karyn, Kat and Melanie.



Top: Planting Day 2012, Centre: Digging the Frog Bog, Bottom: Older students support the younger ones, Above Left: Parent help was much appreciated, Bottom Left: Planting around the dam.

REPEATS AND REMINDERS

SLAPPED CHEEK IN CLASS 3

- JIM

Please be aware that we have had a case of Slapped Cheek (a common viral infection — Parvovirus B19) reported in Class 3. In children this is a mild illness with little or no fever but a striking redness of the cheeks. Infected adults may have cold-type symptoms and sometimes painful or swollen joints. There is no need to withdraw children from school as they cease to be infectious once symptoms occur. There are heightened risks for some people: those with chronic blood disorders, immunosuppressed people (e.g. those on chemotherapy), and occasionally an unborn baby of a non-immune mother if infected before the 20th week of pregnancy. If you are concerned, please consult your doctor.

CHILDREN'S TREASURE TROVE

- ALICIA

Briar Rose parents are currently collecting matchboxes that will be needed to make some of the beautiful items for the Children's Treasure Trove at the Fair this year. We need around 50 so if you can help please leave empty matchboxes in the space provided at the office. Thankyou.

NEEDING SOME LAND TO GET BACK TO

- SOPHIE HOUGHTON

I'm in year 12 this year and for my project I am looking for some special land I can camp on and run my nature re-connection workshop on. If you have land that has access to flowing water, bush land and some grass land and would like to help by letting me use it to camp on for a weekend in August please call me on 0417044993 or 5966 5391 or email me on houghton.sophie@live.com. The sooner the better! I would appreciate this a lot!

ADULT EDUCATION TALKS FOR LYSS COMMUNITY

- FRANCIS KLUGMAN

This year the school has organised a series of talks for the school community. This series has been jointly funded by the Parents and Friends as well as the school itself and there will be a minimum donation of \$5 at the door (Any profits will be taken by the P&F). All lectures will run for about 1.5 hours and will start at 7:30pm in the Lecture Theatre.

TERM	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3
2	Who was Rudolf Steiner? Johannes Schuster. Monday April 30	Early Childhood Irmhild Kleinhenz. *No Charge* Thursday 10 th May	Eurythmy Kelly Papas. Wednesday 30 th May
3	Introduction to Anthroposophy Johannes Schuster. Monday August 5	Caring for the Sick Child Annette Batchelor Thursday August 16	Bio-Dynamics Tobias Mager Wednesday September 5
4	Introduction to Steiner Education Johannes Schuster. Monday October 22	Festivals and Seasons at Home Thursday November 8	

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

- BARRY

If you would like to have an email link for the newsletter each week, please visit the School website www.lyss.vic.edu.au and subscribe. That way you have the colour version of both the School newsletter and Sweet Porridge emailed fresh with each edition.

GET ONTO THOSE PHONES

- JIM

Donate that old mobile phone you've got tucked away in a drawer. Fonebankfundraisers refurbish discarded mobile phones and make them available at affordable prices in Third World countries. The school receives cash from Fonebank for collecting the phones, the environment benefits because the phones are recycled and making modern telecommunications available empowers people in poorer communities. Just bring your old phones and place them in the box in the foyer of the school office. Fonebank recommend that you remove your SIM card and any personal data, photographs or contacts. You can get help doing this and more information about the program at www.fonebankfundraiser.com.au. Bring the phone (handset and battery) but not chargers or accessories.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

- BARRY

EMA cheques have arrived and are available for collection from the Office for those who nominated to receive their portion by cheque. Those who elected to have their portion deposited into their bank account will have now received their payment.

REPEATS AND REMINDERS

WOOD FIRED PIZZAS ON FRIDAYS

- EMMA

Pizza orders can be left in the baskets outside classrooms or at the office for the high school. With name, class, pizza type & amount (1/2 or whole) clearly written on bag or envelope & correct change please, we cannot give change. Term orders can also be placed at the office.

Anybody interested in joining our team for a fun day of making pizzas & feeding the school community please call emma 5967 1638 or email stevejacobson@netspace.net.au or come & visit us at the ovens on Fridays.

Pizzas available:

Margherita – Tomato base with cheese	1/2	\$3.00	full	\$6.00
Margherita w/olives	1/2	\$3.50	full	\$6.50
Pepperoni – Tomato base with cheese, salami feta & olives	1/2	\$4.00	full	\$7.50
Vegie – Tomato base with cheese, pumpkin, grilled capsicum, spinach, feta & olives	1/2	\$4.00	full	\$7.50
The Lot – Everything	1/2	\$4.50	full	\$8.00

Special orders are available on whole pizzas only.

ADULT ART CLASSES with SUE SCHUSTER TERM 2

Beginning Tuesday 15th May and Wednesday 16th May

<p>Tuesday 1.30- 3.00pm</p> <p>Introductory: Language of Art and Design</p> <p>This Beginners/Refresher course is designed to introduce students to the language of art through a number of lively exercises where design elements and principles are explored in a creative way, providing an opportunity to develop both skills and art appreciation.</p> <p>Duration: 6weeks 15th May - 19th June</p>	<p>Cost \$30.00 per session</p> <p>Concession: \$25.00 per session OR if the full term is paid in advance</p> <p>Materials: 2 xHB, 2 x 2B Pencils barrel sharpener Ruler/white hard rubber Whiteout pen 0.2, 0.4 Black fine liners Cartridge sketchbook A4 or A3</p>
<p>Wednesday 1.00- 2.30pm</p> <p>Intermediate Drawing and Painting</p> <p>This intermediate course is designed for students wishing to develop their drawing and painting skills. A number of tonal studies will be undertaken which will later be interpreted in colour.</p> <p>Duration: 6 weeks 16th May-20th June</p>	<p>Cost \$30.00 per session</p> <p>Concession: \$25.00 per session OR if full term is paid in advance</p> <p>Materials HB, 2B, 4B pencils Barrel sharpener Ruler/white hard rubber/kneadable rubber Suggestions as to which paints to buy will be given in the first lesson Cartridge sketchbook A4 or A3</p>

Enquiries and Enrolments: Sue Schuster on 59 643 637