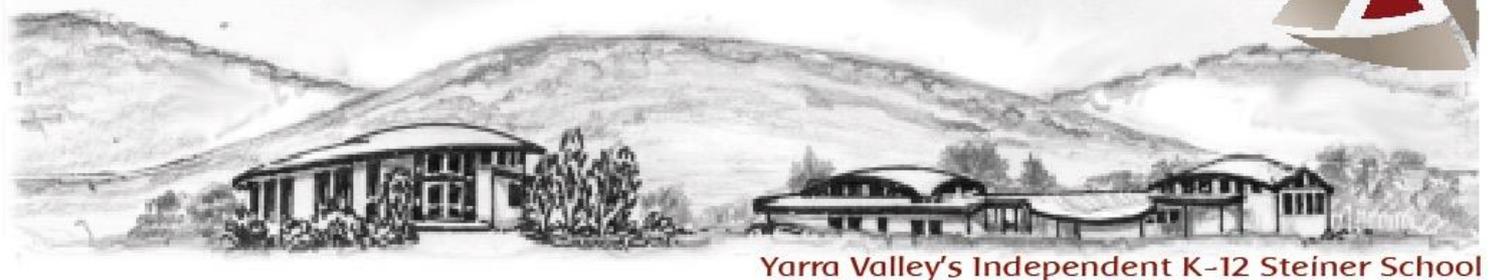


LITTLE YARRA NEWSLETTER



Yarra Valley's Independent K-12 Steiner School

Term 2 – Week 2
Tuesday 30th April 2019

From *Calendar of the Soul* by Rudolf Steiner

Verse 28

*I can feel my own essence's widths
Freshly enlivened within,
And force filled thought rays
Out of soul sun might
Loosening life expended riddles,
Lending fulfillment for many a wish,
To the wings of hope already lamed.*

We are currently enjoying the most beautiful of Autumn days – cold, crisp mornings that give way to clear sunny afternoons with just a rumour of winter on the breeze. The quality of light has become more luminous, and appears to shine as its reflected from the surfaces of a thousand different coloured leaves.

A few years ago, our College of Teachers engaged with the task of finding a way to celebrate both Easter and Autumn, without the two festival moments overlapping and detracting from one another. The performance of the Bach is such a significant event that frames the end of the first term, and the Autumn weather doesn't truly arrive until about a month later, so we decided to trial an Autumn festival at the beginning of the second term.

Next week will mark the third Autumn festival of this kind, and it feels as though we have found a form and rhythm that works well to bring an inner experience to our students of what they are observing in the natural world surrounding them.

The centre point of our festival is the story of Michael and the dragon, and this powerful image can provide much soul nourishment for us all. The Archangel Michael stands courageous and noble, the guardian of humanity, wielding a sword of purest iron forged from the heart of meteors. The dragon represents all that would drag humanity backwards in our spiritual development; all that is small, petty, self-serving and low in human nature.

At the culmination of the tale, the dragon is not slaughtered, but overcome and symbolically tethered, in the same way that humanity is called to work to transform our baser aspects into pure and noble ones.

John

Calendar

TERM DATES 2019

Term 1	29/1 – 5/4
Term 2	23/4 – 21/6
Term 3	16/7 – 13/9
Term 4	7/10 – 13/12

MAY

2 nd – 10 th	Class 9 Hattah Lakes Camp		
Tue 7 th	Autumn Festival		
Fri 10th	Inter School Sports – Cross Country	Lilydale Lake	Postponed
13 – 15	Class 6 Camp	Walhalla	
14 – 16	NAPLAN		
20 th -24 th	Dave Garb visiting		
Mon 20 th	High School Information Evening	Lecture Theatre	7 – 9pm
Wed 22 nd	Class 10 Play		
25/5 – 8/6	Class 10 Community Experience	Imanpa NT	
Thu 30 th	VCE Drama Performance	Drama Studio	7 – 8:30pm

JUNE

Wed 5 th	Music Concerts		
Fri 7 th	Report Writing Day K – 12	Student Free Day	
Mon 10 th	Queens Birthday Public Holiday	Student Free Day	
Thu 13 th	Ring a Rosy Winter Festival		
16 th – 22 nd	Class 12 Queensland Sea Kayak Camp		
Mon 17 th	Mother Holle Winter Festival		
Tue 18 th	Briar Rose Winter Festival		
Thu 20 th	Winter Festival		
Fri 21 st	End of Term Two	School finishes at 12:30	

JULY

Mon 15 th	Teachers Conference		
Tue 16 th	Term Three begins		
29/7 – 9/8	Class 9 Nungatta Camp	Nungatta	
Tue 30 th	Swimming Class 2 – 6		
	Ring a Rosy Parent Evening		

AUGUST

Mon 5 th – Fri 9 th	Class 10 Work Experience		
Mon 5 th	Class 8 Play - Matinee	Music Hall	2 pm
Tue 6 th	Swimming Class 2 - 6		
	Class 8 Play	Music Hall	7:30 pm

AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Larissa, on behalf of the festival group

Our autumn festival is on Tuesday 7th May and we ask all parents of students in Classes 1 to 12 to please send harvest produce (suitable for soup) to school with your child on MONDAY 6th MAY. The Music Hall will be open from 8:30 - 8:40 am so students can drop off their contributions on their way to class.

Students in classes 7 to 12 will need to bring a bowl or cup and a spoon on TUESDAY.

Your child's teacher or guardian will be in touch should your child require anything further, such as particular clothing or props for the day.

Thank you

FEEDBACK ON THE BACH

John

This wonderful reflection was shared with the MRSS community after our performance of the St. John's Passion last term:

At the end of last term Little Yarra Steiner School presented a performance of Easter music of J.S.Bach, the 'St. John's Passion'. This was in St Paul's cathedral just opposite Federation square. The building was full of children and parents from the many Steiner Schools.

It was astonishing to see such a joyful crowd of our broader community filling the pews and aisles of one of our city's largest cathedrals. The music was wonderfully inspiring, with so many youngsters from the Little Yarra Steiner School singing their hearts out and expressing the grand sentiments of this Baroque musical masterpiece. We can imagine how the good will and love of childhood that inspires our support of this education flowed into the centre of our city, and that it will have had a profoundly good influence upon our society. Outside St Paul's there was the hurly-burly of a typical warm Friday evening in our great city, and inside, by contrast, a joyful performance of profound and sacred music carried on the love and innocent striving of young people. I profoundly thank the Little Yarra Steiner School community for this beautiful gift.

Robert Martin

Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School

LYE JUNIOR MEETING

Rachel

This Wednesday's rehearsal will finish at 4:45 pm and then we invite you to a meeting about the upcoming tour to Ballarat and Geelong (Thursday 13 to Friday 14 June). Hope to see you there.

MARIMBAS FOR PARENTS

Damien

From the beginning of Term 2 the school would like to offer a musical activity to the parents. Each Tuesday (Term 2) I will run a Marimba workshop for parents. This will be offered on a Tuesday morning from 8:45 until 9:15 followed by a short social gathering for us to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and reflect on the experience. The Marimba Class will be in the old Class 7 room which is next to the Drama Studio and the social activity will be in the main building. You don't need to have any musical experience or understanding to partake in the class. The Marimba class will be a unique opportunity the school is offering to give you, as parents, an insight into some of your children's musical experiences. Please email me your intention to be a part of the class at music@lyss.vic.edu.au

COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Bernie

On the 26th May, National Sorry Day, Class 10 will be on a bus travelling to the community of Imanpa in the Northern Territory; close to Uluru and Kata Tjuta. The aim of our time on the community is for the students to experience giving to the community – an altruistic gesture - rather than gaining an experience of work, as they will later this year with Work Experience. The activities will involve helping out wherever we can; working alongside the resident youth worker, playing games and reading with the primary school students, artistic activities with the high school students, helping out in the community store, general maintenance where possible, helping in the nearby art gallery and other jobs as they arise. We also hope to engage in some sporting and cultural exchange activities with both the primary and high school students during our stay.

27th May to the 3rd June is Reconciliation Week with Mabo Day concluding the week. It will therefore be an opportune moment for all of us to reflect on the issues affecting Aboriginal people in Australia and in the Torres Strait Islands as well as find ways forward towards reconciliation and understanding.

This will be our 10th annual visit and on our return I hope to share with you some of our reflections and experiences.

COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Bernie

Donations of warm clothing and football boots gratefully accepted - As part of our giving to the Aboriginal community at Imanpa we are able to take some items of clothing and footwear to donate. If you would like to be involved there will be a box at reception in which you can leave jumpers or hoodies and football boots; beanies are also welcome. Please do not leave items other than this.

It becomes very cold at night in Imanpa from this time of year and the residents having, come through the extreme heat of Summer, can sometimes find themselves unprepared for the coming Winter. The boys and young men love to play AFL Football on the dirt oval and having a pair of footy boots instead of bare feet brings them great pleasure. We also bring sports equipment to donate and the girls and young women play a lot of softball so if you happen to have any softball equipment to donate they will make good use of it.

STUDENT WELLBEING – YOUR CHILD’S USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Cath

In the ever-evolving area of digital technology, it can be quite a challenge to keep up with how our children are using electronic devices, and what they may be accessing online. There are some excellent resources produced by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner. These are developed specifically for parents and carers, and can be found at <https://esafety.gov.au/parents>

CLASS ONE DAFFODIL PLANTING

Bronwyn

Class One planting daffodil bulbs with Claudia. What a wonderful way to spend the morning before Main Lesson. Nature can be a child's greatest teacher, plus it was fun digging holes!

