School Newsletter
14 February 2014
Term 1, Week 3

Dear Parents,

Today I would like to share with you my thoughts on ‘Parent Teacher Meetings’. In Steiner Schools and here at Sophia Mundi there are three main types of parent, teacher meetings.

- The Class Meeting – There are very specific guidelines around how these meetings should be run and what the expectations are for the outcomes of these meetings.
- The Individual Teacher Parent Meeting – The primary focus of this meeting is the progress of the student. Here, discussions may centre around personal and family issues which affect the students learning outcome.
- The Specialist and or Learning Support Teacher, Parents meeting – In this meeting there may be 2 or 3 teachers discussing the learning of a particular child. Each meeting has a very distinct purpose, the first being for the information of the parents and the second two specifically focused on the learning experience of the students.

Meetings are organised to share information and keep the contact between all stakeholders of the children’s education. They are not social events or platforms for issue venting. The school has specific and dedicated avenues for these. If you as a parent would like to have a particular issue discussed at the meeting then please arrange with the teacher to have it included in the agenda.

In small schools like Sophia Mundi, the boundaries between the purposes of meetings can become a little fuzzy which can affect a good productive meeting. In all meetings there should be a clear understanding of the protocols of such meetings. Who is running the meeting? What is being delivered at the meeting? How does everyone get a chance to have their say? How do we ensure that the privacy and integrity of the students is being properly protected? Individual students should not be discussed in public forums. This is a direct betrayal of the trust that they place in us as adults and teacher/guardians.

Guidelines for running a Parent Teacher Meeting have

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Craft Curriculum Course for Adults

In this course, we make many of the articles that the students make during craft lessons in a Steiner primary School. We will explore the links between the handwork, stages in the child’s development and other curriculum areas. Taken for a full year, this course is a comprehensive training for those wishing to teach handwork in a Steiner school. However, no previous teaching or craft experience is necessary, nor is the intention to teach.

Commences Tuesday February 11th from 7 to 8.30pm
Cost: $30.00 per week, materials included
Email enquiries: marg.skerry@gmail.com
Craft Cupboard

Every Friday the craft cupboard located in reception will be open from 2.45 - 4pm. Luisa began this project as a fund raiser to support parent craft and parent education in our school.

A message from AfterCare

Dear Parents,
I am enjoying my role as Aftercare Coordinator this year. It is a pleasure to see children of different age groups playing contentedly for nearly three hours.

Aftercare runs from 3.15 to 6.00 pm. You are welcome to book children in on either a permanent or casual basis. Bookings can be made by phoning the school on 9419 9229 and taking option 4 for Aftercare.

The most popular activities at present are construction, board and ball games, quiet reading, craft activities or playing their instruments.
We have a couple of keen cooks who have already made pancakes and pasta for afternoon tea!
Please feel welcome to introduce yourself and discuss any queries.
Fiona Couttie

Shrove Tuesday

Celebrations Tuesday 4 March

Sophia Mundi Shrove Tuesday Celebrations starts at 11.15am. We will sing, dance, play games and eat pancakes that are cooked lovingly by parents from every class. Our celebrate finishes at 12.30pm.

The children love this occasion, the joy of being together and having fun. Each class has a special game they take part in with the rest of the children watching. The songs and dances are traditional to this celebration.

Teachers have their own special event, the famous Pancake Tossing Competition. Each of the primary classes makes a batch of pancakes which are delivered to high school classes and the office, so no-one misses out! Pancake Day is always held on Shrove Tuesday. In the old days is was a way for the fats and sugars to be used up in preparation for the fasting during the 40 days of Lent.

Volunteers required by 10am

See your class Pancake Day roster (Or Class Carer)
• To set up tables, stoves & utensils
• To cook the pancakes
• To serve the pancakes
• To help pack up
Please feel most welcome to come along. Bring your little ones and enjoy the morning.

Secondary Interviews (Classes 7-10)

There is an interview evening on Tuesday, 11 March from 2.30 - 7.30pm It is predominantly aimed at students who have begun the year with some concerns, so that we can support them in getting settled and engaged at school as quickly as possible. Of course, we welcome all parents that wish to discuss their son/daughters progress with our teaching staff.
You will receive a Interim Report by email on Tuesday, 4 March which will let you know whether your son/daughter is working to expectations or not.
Email dilys.hannaford@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au after you have received the report to book an intervi ew. Priority bookings will be reserved for students where there are concerns.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

The School phone number
It has been bought to our attention that Google, along with other external websites, is displaying the incorrect number for the School. Please ensure that when contacting us the number you call is 9419 9229.

Myki Cards for Swimming and other activities
Please may we remind you to make sure your child has their Myki card with them on the days that they have swimming or other external activities.

Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.
Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.
For more information about the EMA, visit http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx

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A message from Class 8

On Mondays, after school, Class 8 will be selling cake, cookies, popcorn and maybe some vegetables. We are trying to fund raise money for our year 8 camp. We are hoping to go to Falls Creek for around 5 days skiing.

Kindest Regards,
Norman Sievers, Principal
Community Notices

5 Star Hutch!

This hutch will accommodate 3 bunnies with ease. Measures roughly 180cm90cm. Has open plan living and an enclosed sleeping area, 3 doors for easy access and cleaning. The Slat floor dismantles for thorough clearing. Rear wheels makes it easy to move around. Requires a little TLC but is fundamentally a sturdy hutch. Feeding wheel included.

$25 Pick up only (Coburg)

Contact Franca (Oliver Y11) 0419 811 866.

In another show at La Mama, yes, another show about being in shows! Will be fun and funny too, so come on down.

THE PLAY’S THE THING

By Brenda Palmer

Woody Allen meets Kath and Kim and together they rediscover Hamlet. An affectionate, truthful romp into the world of Actors, Directors and Writers.

Speak the Speech I pray you
As i pronounce it to you
trippingly on the tongue
- Shakespeare

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 02
Wed/Sun 8.30pm Thur/Fri/Sat 6.30pm
LA MAMA THEATRE 205 Faraday Street, Carlton
$25 Full $15 Concession
Bookings: www.lamama.com.au or 03 93476142

Does Your Relationship Need Help?

Often holiday breaks can show us how much we need to work on our relationships. Skills to improve your ability to hear and be heard by your partner are a great start. A safe, accepting environment and skills to foster empathy could turn things around. Janie has worked with families and individuals for 14 years and brings her Anthroposophical awareness to all her work. Janie Bailey is a Psychotherapist who is now focusing her practice on Relationship Counselling under the mentorship of Fay Lehmann in Kew Junction.

All enquiries and bookings to Janie on 0412 864 741
Or check the website www.relationshipsboroondara.com.au
http://relationshipsboroondara.com.au

Janie Bailey

THE INNER WORK PATH

AND ANTHROPOSOPHY

Courses For Establishing Or Deepening Meditative Practice
WITH LISA ROMERO

FOUNDATION COURSES 2014

Rudolf Steiner gave many exercises and meditations to strengthen the human being through its journey of developing consciousness. Together we will explore the inner work, the birth of the higher self, the spiritual year and how exercises can bring us closer to our own experience of these processes. This will enable us to both hold and further our daily-practices. Those wishing to establish a meditative life and long-term meditants have found this work invaluable in deepening their relationship to the path.

MELBOURNE 7TH – 9TH MARCH

TIME FRIDAY 7PM-9PM SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 9.30-2.30PM

VENUE THE MICHAEL CENTRE 37A WELLINGTON PARK RD WARRANWOOD VIC

COST FOR 3 DAYS $300 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

TO DISCUSS THE COURSE PLEASE CONTACT LISA ROMERO (02) 6684 1636

FOR BOOKING ENQUIRIES AND DIRECT ENROLMENTS innerworkpath@gmail.com OR KATHERINA KISS (02) 6684 6147

Please turn over for information on Lisa Romero and conditions of Esoteric Trading. 
Teenagers today are a switched on bunch. They are able to communicate in impressive new ways. Meditation helps fine tune these abilities by increasing concentration and attention times as well as opening a channel for questioning themselves and the universe. It is also a good opportunity for teenagers to meet and socialise with others. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions and discuss their experiences openly. Tuesday nights 7.30pm (4 weeks) beginning 4th March By donation. Limited Places hurry!

Odiyana Buddhist Centre
14 Auburn Grove, Hawthorn East, VIC 3123
Phone: (03) 9813 2431
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