Dear Parents

Welcome all to Term Two. A special welcome to Amber Ozols and her family. Amber joins Class 10 and we hope she enjoys her time here. We also welcomed Jude McCann into Class 9 towards the end of last term and said goodbye to several students at the end of the term – Marcus in Prep and Zuri in Class 4 who have both moved to America, and Patrick Fiyalko and George Vyssaritis in Class 5. We wish them all well in their new places.

We also extend a special warm welcome into a new role for Margaret Perversi, who is the new Class Five teacher. Margaret has been our Craft teacher for Classes 1, 2 and 3 and also stepped into the role of support for Anthea in Class One last term when she was unable to take the afternoons. Margaret is an experienced class teacher and we wish her and the class well for their journey together.

Fiona has spent the last two weeks at the New York Steiner School speaking to them about the IB programme and how we have incorporated it into our senior years here. They have been very impressed with what we have achieved in this regard and paid for Fiona to go over to speak with them.

Thank you to all who came to the working bee on Sunday. These days are so important to spruce the school up for the beginning of term and making a welcoming feeling for all on the first day of term. It matters if the students come back to a clean and tidy school. If you haven’t seen it lately, take a look at the senior school courtyard - also the Veggie Patch.

We heard of some past students achievements at Swinburne recently. Jess Gall has been commended for her art work which will be on display at the National Gallery until July, and another former student Sunni, is a class captain this year.

Jennifer West
**The Sorcerer's Apprentice**

*Mind over Machinery*

By DOUGLAS GERWIN, PhD

Let’s take television … Television mimics the human ability to create pictures. According to Rudolf Steiner, children learn to think by inwardly creating mental pictures and mental images. If pictures are outwardly supplied ready made, they rob the child of the opportunity to build the “imaginative muscle” needed to become independent thinkers. Since the ability to think unfolds gradually, the age at which children can benefit from television, rather than become slaves to it, will vary. A general guideline, though, will be: the later, the better, recognizing that we cannot shut off our children from all exposure to technology.

In a lecture given shortly after the outbreak of World War I, Rudolf Steiner said “It would be the worst possible mistake to say that we should resist what technology has brought into modern life, that we should protect ourselves . . . by cutting ourselves off from modern life.

Instead, Steiner goes on to say, the more we expose ourselves to technology, the more we need to strengthen in ourselves—precisely those human capacities that technology mimics or supplements.

In our present time, attention is turning to the appropriate use of computers in schools. Paradoxically, we read about kindergarten teachers who are encouraging the use of computers and tweeting in pre-school while some university professors are banning them outright from their lectures and seminars...

Read the full article "The Sorcerer's Apprentice: Mind over Machinery" at

http://www.waldorftoday.com/2013/01/the-sorcerers-apprentice-mind-over-machinery/

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

SPRING FAIR STALL HOLDERS

A number of people last year organised stalls on the day that reflected their own talents and skills. i.e. massage stall. Anyone wishing to organise a stall for the Spring Fair this year can they please contact Dencille by 20th April on 0412 275 782 or email delkington@noojee.com.au

‘PREDESTINATION’ FILM CREW AT THE ABBOTSFORD CONVENT

Filming has been underway during April around the Abbotsford Convent for the feature film PREDESTINATION. The film is a science fiction tale starring Ethan Hawke and Sarah Snook, and is directed by the Spierig Brothers. The production crew will be largely utilizing the vacant space in Sacred Heart upstairs. The main film unit consists of approximately 40 people. The crew will be using Lourdes car park as well as limited street parking. There will also be production vehicles parked next to the Southern Laundry on filming days as well as a silent generator in the Sacred Heart Courtyard. There will be an additional 5 days filming in mid-May. More details will be provided as they come to hand.

WASHING MACHINE NEEDED

If you have or know of a washing machine that can be donated to the school, please contact the office 9419 9229. Thank you.

SOPHIA MUNDI COOKBOOK

Calling all families, staff and teachers … We are now collecting your favourite family recipe and a story/tradition associated with it. If one of your favourites happens to come from a well-known chef, show or book please add this reference to your story. We are collecting as many recipes as we can to make a truly delicious cookbook. Recipes can include anything from cakes to preserves, breakfast to treats, snacks, sweets etc. Please email your delights and stories to sophiamundicookbook@gmail.com

Tatiana, Luisa and Paola

SURF LIFE SAVING BRONZE MEDALLION COURSE

Jen (Outdoor Ed) needs to organise a group of people to do this course. So far I have put it out to LaTrobe University, however we need 20 people. So if any parents are interested in doing the course (to get ready for summer) we need to do it before October. The best part is that the government will subsidise the course if it is booked before the end of July. It will cost approximately $120/pp for 5 days in Torquay (accommodation included). This is normally around $780. We are hoping to do the course in the school holidays. Please email me at jen.gibson@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au if you are interested. (Not available for students as yet).

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT - Walk to School

395 Johnston St (nr school)
Two offices available
Short or long term
We are currently two Steiner parents occupying office space and we’d love to have more join us to run our businesses so conveniently close to our children, the Convent and parkland. Phone James: 0409 325 943

MACHINE SEWING LESSONS

I have been a clothes-maker for 35 years and would be delighted to give sewing lessons to anyone in our school community, be it occasional, throughout term or during the school holidays. $40 per hour. I am also available to do alterations and repairs. Happy holidays everyone! Helen Bakowski (mother of Walter in class 10) 0402 417 538

TO DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES OF SCHOOLHOUSE STUDIOS

Schoolhouse Studios must move on from our current site in Abbotsford. We are excited to announce that we have secured a new site in Rupert St Collingwood. Property developers the Molonglo Group have offered to contribute $75,000 per year towards rent in order to make it financially viable and keep the rent low for artists.

This is an amazing opportunity for Schoolhouse Studios and we are raising money for the internal build and infrastructure. Crowd funding is an alternative funding avenue for the creative people of Australia. Artists place descriptions of their projects on the site for the general public to view and support financially if they feel so inclined. If you don’t reach the amount you are requesting within the allocated time frame then you do not receive the money, so please help us spread the word. It’s been three years of hard work and we are very excited to be embarking on a new phase of Schoolhouse Studios.

You can view our campaign here
www.pozible.com/schoolhousestudios

Thank you for your support.

Cheers, Alice

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS OF ANTHROPOSOPHICAL STUDIES

The Harry and Rose Goldman Trust is a non-profit Trust set up to provide support for individuals wishing to study courses, in Australia or overseas, based on the work of Rudolf Steiner. The Trust aims to support individuals to participate in studies for professional development at a tertiary level. Courses in the arts such as painting, eurythmy, speech and drama will be given preference, but other courses will be considered.

Applications are now being called for from individuals currently in courses or who will start courses within eight months.

The Trust offers a once-only, interest-free student loan of $2500

All applications must be received by the Trust by Tuesday JUNE 4TH 2013

For an application form or more information, please email hrgtrust@gmail.com
'Biodynamic Community Garden'
The Michael Centre, 37a Wellington Park Drive
Warranwood
Information Morning
20th April - 10 am
Biodynamics more than Organics
Healthier soils = Highly Nutritious Food = Healthier People
All Contributions Welcome and Needed
Interest / Expertise / Participation
Contact
Australia Biodynamics Victoria Inc. (not for profit)
www.biodynamicsvictoria.org
Email: biodynamics.vic1@bigpond.com
Tel: 03 9722 2840

A Warm Zumba Invitation to all Sophia Mundi Mums, dads, teachers and friends.
start the week with a perfect combination of dancing and meditation.
move to beautiful world rhythms, get fit, learn some or lots of that elusive co-ordination, and find peace and unity within your own inner heart beat.
When – Every Monday, for the whole term 2
Starting : Monday 22nd of April till 24th of June
Where - Rossina auditorium
Time - 9 am - 10 am (45 mins of Zumba and 15 mins of heart rhythm meditation).
Cost – donation to cover hall hire
What to bring - Water, towel, comfortable clothes and runners and loads of Good energy!!
For more information please contact: Irina 0432712984

Parenting Workshop
Sunday 26th May
Dandenong Ranges

Clearing your relationship with you the parent, and with those you parent with. In the morning we will have fun with the Concept Clearing Dyad - working together on how to become conscious of the concepts and beliefs we each hold that individually inform us in our roles as parents. In the afternoon we move on to clearing our relating space with others and the world around us, using the Relationship Evolution Dyad.
I encourage couples and family members to come learn together, and also welcome people attending on their own - all will benefit.

Dandenong Ranges Steiner School
$40 per person or $60 per family couple
Bookings essential
Bring a plate to share for lunch

The techniques used are very easy to learn, suitable for beginners and invaluable tools to take home and use in your everyday life.
Enquiries and Registrations, contact Lisa
Phone: 0437 483 778 ~ 5472 3503
Email: lisa@veritasabsolute.net

Art classes for Young Artists
12 to 18 yrs
at the Abbotsford Convent
Saturday 10 am to 12 noon
classes from April 20th

Saturday morning Art Classes, with Adrian Montana, are for teenagers who want to excel in art. Adrian teaches professional techniques whilst students develop insight into contemporary art and art history. Classes will extend young people's involvement in art making and appreciation. Designed to enhance VCE portfolios, or increase personal expertise and enjoyment. A variety of media is covered including charcoal, pencil, pastel, paints and plaster. Young people work through engaging activities and receive graded rewards.

Cost $26 per lesson. Enrolment includes most materials.

For enquiries and bookings
Telephone 9419 6686
or email: adrian@montana.net.au
All classes take place in the delightful Antique Bookstore, Abbotsford Convent
1 St Heliers Street, Abbotsford 3067