



Week of January 26, 2009

What's Going On...

Tuesday, January 27
 Adult Eurythmy Course
 Eurythmy Room, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 31
 Upper School Basketball
 at Gilman, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 5, and
 Friday, February 6
 Parent Teacher Conferences
 Elementary School Closed
**Children's Garden and Upper
 schools open**

Monday, February 9
 Children's Garden Parent-
 Teacher Conferences
 Children's Garden closed
**Elementary and Upper
 schools open**

Thursday and Friday, February
 12 and 13
 Upper School Parent-Teacher
 Conferences
 Upper School Closed
**Elementary and Children's
 Garden open**

Monday, February 16-Friday,
 February 20
 Winter Break
 All schools closed

Monday, February 23
 School reopens

From the desk of the Administrative Chair

As promised last week, I will summarize the material presented at the Budget Process Meeting held on January 15th. The first things we described were the components of our revenue stream and how our expenses are distributed. The majority of our revenue (84%) comes from tuition. We receive an additional 10% of our revenue from gifts, grants, and other fundraising activities, such as the parent fundraising done throughout the year. Programs such as after school activities provide another 3% of our revenue, and an additional 3% comes from sources such as interest on money held in the school's bank accounts. Since the majority of our revenue comes from tuition, many decisions about what the program will look like for the coming year are based on our estimates of the total enrollment for the coming year.

On the expense side of the ledger, the expenses for the instructional program amount to 54% of the total expenses. These expenses include the salaries of the teaching faculty and the expenses for the materials used in the program. The expenses for the administrative functions of the school amount to 18% of the total expenses. These include the salaries of the people in the administrative offices, including the finance office, the admissions office, and of course my office, along with expenses for advertising, copying, maintaining the computer network and the database, to mention a few things. The maintenance of the physical facilities is the next largest expense category at 13%. This includes salaries for the maintenance staff, the cost of utilities, repairs, snow removal, cleaning, and similar expenses. Financial aid accounts for 13% of our expenses. Finally, fundraising activities account for 2% of our expenses.

On Thursday, February 5th, and Friday, February 6th, the lower and middle schools will hold parent teacher conferences, and these schools will be closed to students. If you have not already signed up for an appointment, please contact Jean Engelke (410-367-6808, extension 200). Upper school conferences are Thursday and Friday, February 12 and 13, and the upper school will be closed to students those days. Children's Garden conferences are Monday, February 9, and the Children's Garden will be closed to students that day.

Pot luck lunch for Parent Teacher Conferences

Here we go again! Our potluck lunches for Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up on February 5th and 6th. Please pick one of the dates that will work best for you and bring in a dish for our teachers. Your offering can be anything

you'd like: sandwiches, salads, soups, side dishes, desserts, etc. The teachers really appreciate this gift from the parents. It is a treat they enjoy and look forward to for sustenance through the long conference days.

Please contact Marc Silverman at msilvermann33@hotmail.com and let him know which date and what you would like to bring.

Thank you for your support.

Contact information for School Chairs

Upper School Chair: Donald Bufano, dbufano@twsb.org; 410-367-0647

Middle School Chair: Ed Meade, emeade@twsb.org; 410-367-6808 ext 365

Lower School Chair: Noris Friedman, nfriedman@twsb.org; 410-367-6808 ext 371

Children's Garden Chair: Charlotte Landgraf, cdlandgraf@hotmail.com; 410-664-7714

Administrative Chair: Larry Snyder, lsnyder@twsb.org; 410-367-6808 ext. 201

Reenrollment contracts

Reenrollment contract packages for the 2009-2010 school year have been mailed. Please review the package carefully. If you have not received your package yet, please contact the elementary office. If you have questions, please contact

Linda Zandler at ext. 206 or Kathy Lewis at ext. 205. They will be happy to assist you with the reenrollment process.

Please note that the deadline to return your enrollment contract and

\$500 per child deposit is Friday, February 13. Send in your contract on time to reserve your child's place in the school and receive a 1% discount on your tuition!

An invitation to reach out to hospitalized children

In celebration of our daughter's birthday we are asking our community to help **make life a little easier for the children on CMSC-6** of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. This is one of several pediatric units where our daughter has been treated and we'd like to show our appreciation by **remembering the children currently there**. Here is CMSC-6's **Wish List**:

*Good toys

- *New DVDs
- *Stickers (the big kind on a roll, like at the doctor's office)
- *Slippers
- *Underwear for toddlers and pre-schoolers
- *Bubbles and no-spill bubble tumblers
- *Doctor kits
- *Finger paints, markers, watercolors
- *Hair clips, ponytail holders, barrettes

- *Nail polish for little girls
- *Jewelry kits for little girls
- *Shampoo for kids
- *No-tangle hair spray

Please drop-off any items to **Jean Engelke or Sherri Kasky until the end of January.**

With gratitude,
A WSB Family
(Daphne Williams, CG)

Don't forget to plan for the Eurythmy Assemblies

Plan to be here for the Eurythmy Assemblies: Friday, March 20, 1:45 p.m. for grades 2, 4, 5, and 7; and

Friday, April 3, 10:45 a.m. for grades 1, 3, 6, 8, and upper school. See you then!

Noris Friedman



Civil Rights Brunch thanks

Many thanks to our guests and volunteers who made the Waldorf School of Baltimore's 12th Annual Civil Rights Brunch a success for the Coldspring Newtown Community. More than 75 adults and students were treated to a riveting presentation by featured speaker Michelle Wright, an author, teacher, and founder of Three Sistahs Press and The Duafe History Club. Applause greeted Michelle after she delineated her role in empowering students of all ages to foster in others an appreciation of minorities who have changed the world in small and large ways.

Michelle's contribution to the annual celebration was matched by the efforts of several outstanding volunteers: Linnea Worthington, who coordinated them; Mark Garner, Gretchen Maxwell, Kimberly Field, David Cuthrell, Terry Williams, Larry Snyder, and Graciela Pasion, who set up and arranged the banquet room the night before the event, and, along with many parents, cleaned the room after the brunch; Jennifer Downs and Chadie Hughes, who assisted guests and created an aesthetically wel-

coming space; Ellyne Brown Downs, Linnea Worthington, Dana Johns, and David Noble, who ran the kitchen; Diane Hrabal, who guided student servers and offered much-valued behind-the-scenes expertise; Brooke Redgrave, who took care of young children; Virginia Efta and Michael Richardson, who procured food and beverages; Connie Prigg, who delivered beautiful centerpieces (which her company donated); Graham Redgrave, who opened and closed the brunch with eloquent remarks; Kim Weisheit, who led the blessing and student musicians; Alejandra Lorenzo-Chang, who worked tirelessly before, during, and after the event to carry out Waldorf greening initiatives, and Kathi Paradiso, who offered all-around assistance the weeks leading to and the day of the brunch.

Many student servers, including Alexandra Cruz-Wright, Valerie Pasion, Cece Rafferty, Becky Rawle, and Rosie Redgrave, also were members of the Civil Rights Choir. They were joined in their spirit of volunteerism by Christopher Frick, Naji Rodes, Thomas Schnei-

der, Chelsea Connor, Chelsea Moss and John Richardson as servers/hosts and hostesses and by Rita Eisner and Sequoia Flickinger-Scavullo as child-care helpers. The students raised \$138 in tips, which will be donated to Associated Black Charities.

Classic Catering not only provided wonderful food for adults and children, but also donated environmentally friendly plates, cups, napkins, and flatware. Loane Brothers contributed tables in the banquet and welcoming areas; Starbucks Woodholme provided coffee.

A guest of honor was Robbye Apperson, who founded the Waldorf Civil Rights Brunch 12 years ago and who has attracted more support for it since then. The event, held around the time of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, is co-sponsored by the Waldorf Community Alliance. It honors his legacy and all pioneers and current champions of civil rights.

Rüdiger Ruckmann
Administrator of Development
ruckmann@twsb.org

Therapeutic Eurythmy Block III

School has just begun and we must think of the next block of therapeutic eurythmy.

It will begin on February 23 and end on April 1 (no fooling!). There will be 11 sessions in the block for a

total cost of \$330. First payments will be due by February 9.

Financial aid is available and must be requested in writing (note or e-mail). My contact information is below. If you would have any ques-

tions, please feel free to contact me. I would be happy to speak with you.

Virginia Efta
410-367-6808 x 373

Robotics on the run

This year's Waldorf Lego Robotics Team includes 5th, 6th, and 7th graders. Last year, the only participants were 6th graders. There has been robot construction, a scrimmage, lab work, and lots of practice since the school year started last September. On Saturday, January 31st, there will be a state tournament at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where we will have the chance to demonstrate our ideas and skills in a rigorous competition featuring about 80 teams. The winning team will be invited to the World Championship Tournament in Atlanta, GA.

This year's theme is climate and global warming, and it is called "Climate Connections." Some of the robotics missions have to do with collecting CO₂ for depositing later in underground reservoirs. Others include delivering objects to scientists on polar icecaps and taking ice core samples to measure CO₂ levels. Others include raising levees and

barriers in flood-prone areas. There is also a mission to turn arrows pointing in different directions so that they find agreement.

There has been much preparation for this tournament. We had a "no-stress" scrimmage at the Historical Electronics Museum in Linthicum. We had to construct and reconstruct programs that ran the robots and attachments used by the robots many times to complete the missions. However, when we ran the robot on the scrimmage table, the turning, power, and speed were somehow messed up. It turns out we had been using a warped table, so we had to fix the number of rotations of the wheels, the amount of power to use, how much the robot should turn, etc. After fixing the table and adjusting the settings, we were able to fine-tune the program. We had two-and-a-half minutes to run all of the missions. It was very clear that running the missions and getting them done in a timely man-

ner required teamwork.

When we first started, we constructed three different designs, using Lego pieces. The basic design had two motors on the bottom of the robot, but then there were variations on the third attachment motor on top. The first robot had the attachment motor on the top-right. The second had it on the top-center. The third had the motor on the top-left. Eventually we chose the second design, because it was the most universal and we could do more things with it. The top motor powered different attachments for different missions, including a cage-like device that would open and close, for collecting CO₂ and other materials, and an arm for finding agreement between two arrows. We tried to minimize the number of attachments so that we could spend less time switching them.

Finally, we worked with an expert

continued on p. 5

Challenge Math (remember that?)

The answers for the challenge math anagrams were:

"Counting down the days" minus 4 letters becomes "two thousand nine."

"Wet Elves" minus 2 letters becomes twelve."

Congratulations to participants in the 6th grade: Alexander Hill, Asher Gruver-Williams, Sarah Goodman,

Rose Casciero, and Talia Floyd; 7th grade: Thomas Schneider and Will Fletcher-Hill; Upper school: Emmie Downs-Flickinger, Hannah Howard, Charlotte Jones, Chaz Brown, Mustafa Mtombe, Kevin Dunn, and Grace McClintock (who participated via phone from Saratoga Springs!); and adults: John Clemson and Paul McClintock.

New Challenge Math problems are posted on Fridays on the door

frame of the math room upstairs in the Tamarind Building. The problems come from a wide variety of sources and are aimed towards middle school students. However, many of the problems are appropriate for a wider age range, from younger students to adults.

Kathy Breen
Math Teacher

Robotics on the run (continued)

(who happens to be one of our robotics team's coaches), Lynn Roberts, in her chemistry lab at the Johns Hopkins University. We looked at a design for a scrubber to remove CO₂ from the air (which we heard of from Discovery Channel's Planet Earth series), and started doing experiments of our own related to that design. We ran tests to see how putting excess CO₂ in ocean water affects coral. Water with CO₂ added to it dissolved coral, but also, when the coral dissolved, it made the water less acidic, which surprised us, since CO₂ is an acid. (We found that this was because calcium carbonate, which coral is made of, is a base.) We did other experiments, too, such as seeing whether CO₂ would react with certain rocks or waste materials. (Wallboard works really well!!!!)

The competition will be held at UMBC on January 31st. There will be 75-80 teams, and it will be a tense tournament, where the robot runs three times and, thankfully, only the best score counts. It will be rigorous, focusing on teamwork, time trials, and technical skills. The victorious team will be invited to the World Championship in Atlanta, GA in April. We have been working hard to perfect our robots, are recognizing the benefits of teamwork, and are looking forward to competing against all of the teams from different schools around the state. Some adult volunteers will be needed to supervise the team and to keep everybody together. Go to <http://www.fllmaryland.org/> for details. We hope that you can all come and cheer on the team!

The team would like to thank all of

the parents who have helped. Thanks go to Sherry Frick for organizing snacks, Cindy Gruver and Liora Hill for helping with research (and in Cindy's case, tie-dyeing the team t-shirts), Rob Reichel for dewarping our table, and especially Christopher and Kimberly Field, and Christopher's step-mother, for help tie-dyeing and silk-screening the team t-shirts. Most of all, thanks must be given to Sandy Fink (parent of the only non-Waldorf team member), for helping out at every single meeting. Of course, last but certainly not least, thanks must be given to the team's two team coaches, Lynn Roberts and David Schneider.

Alexander Hill
Sixth Grade
With minor edits by
Thomas Schneider
Seventh Grade

Patronize our Waldorf community businesses

Before the holidays, Board of Trustee member Chaddie Hughes suggested that, in these difficult times, we should work together and, as a community, support each other's businesses as much as we are able. We envisioned a full page of business listings, although only a few people have responded to our call so far. So if you have a business we should know about, please email csnyder@bcpl.net with your information; note "Weekly business listing" on the subject line. Look for the business page again next month.

J. Brough Schamp (Paul Newill-Schamp, 11th) is a commercial photographer specializing in architectural and aerial photography. To see samples of my work please visit: <http://www.Schamp.com>. Please call: 410-769-8016, or Brough@Schamp.com.

Friedman Family Fisheries: Avi J. Friedman (Celia, Class of 2005, and Noris, Eurythmy teacher) offers wild Alaska salmon, freshly frozen and smoked, 410-358-3008.

Community notes

Dr. P.M. Forni, a well-known "civility guru" and an award-winning Johns Hopkins University professor, will speak on Thursday, January 29, at 7 p.m. in Gilman School's Alumni Auditorium. The event, sponsored by the Gilman Parents Association, is free and open to the public. Forni's 2008 book, *The Civility Solution: What to Do When People Are Rude*, has been described as a "self-defense manual" against rudeness.

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See Victoria Mansuri (former WSB class teacher) in Neil Simon's *London Suite* at Spot lighters Theatre. Friday and Saturday, January 16-31, at 8:00 p.m., Sunday, January 19-February 1, at 2:00 p.m., and Thursday, Janu-

ary 29, at 8:00 p.m. This comedy promises a hearty guffaw. Adult language makes it appropriate for high school and up. ♦

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Discover Engineering Family Day, February 21, 2009: Fun, with the thrill of engineering success! The annual Washington D.C. Engineering Family Day features dozens of hands-on activities provided by local engineering chapters and national organizations. Every year at the start of Engineer's Week, the impressive main hall of the National Building Museum is taken over by thousands of children of all ages experiencing the excitement of engineering, not to mention slime! ♦

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Monthly Peace Circle: Next Circle on February 8, 3 -5 p.m. Beginners welcome. Dances of Universal Peace are heart-felt, healing, fun, community-building, with simple movements. Looking for more musicians to play as we move—written sheet music available (call Peggy to arrange). Near Catonsville at the Westchester Community Center; 2414 Westchester Ave., Ellicott City, MD 21043. Wear layers: outside Circles held when weather allows. Followed by pot-luck dinner, optional, around the corner at our home. For directions, see www.oella.org. For more information see www.peacedance.org. For questions, call Peggy (Naji, 7th) 410-465-1914. ♦

Marketplace

Babysitting: Celia Friedman (Noris's daughter) is available for babysitting on weekends and some weekday nights. Celia is 18 years old and a senior at McDonogh. She lives ten minutes from WSB, can drive, and loves kids! Please call 443-413-5212 (cell) or 410-358-3008 (h). ♦

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Experienced Arborist available for your tree care needs—proper pruning, removals, storm damage, and prevention. Affordable rates. Contact Brandon (uncle of Zoe Moon in the Dandelion Room) at 443-797-7915 or treezaregood@yahoo.com. ♦

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Jennifer Brown, LCSW-C (Chaz 10th, Grace 6th, and John 3rd) is pleased to announce that, in addition to her Baltimore County home office, she will be expanding to a new location at Ruscombe Mansion. Jennifer is a psychotherapist with nearly 20 years experience providing play therapy for children (as young as 2 ½) and psychotherapy for adolescents, individual

adults and families. She has extensive experience working with children and adults regarding social, emotional, relational, and behavioral and mood issues. Trained in a variety of theoretical orientations, Jennifer believes strongly in starting where the individual is and utilizing appropriate treatment methods based on each client's unique needs. For more information call 410-459-3885. ♦

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Looking for a small business opportunity? Become an integrative reflexology practitioner! Study 2-4 hours/week in Lutherville with Danette M. Shue, CMT. If interested, contact Eileen Silverman (Landon 4th), 410-493-8894. ♦♦

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Please join us in the Music Room for some Gentle Yoga Stretching! The stretching, breathing exercises and stress-reduction, relaxation poses we are doing in this class are suitable for anyone who would like a gentle, easy, balancing, and relaxing class.

We will combine warm-ups, restorative yoga, and supported yoga postures that can be modified for any condition. More experienced students may enjoy the more relaxed pace in this class. All the postures will be suitable for pregnant women! Teens and up welcome. Drop in and try a class, or join up for 4 sessions. Meeting now on Monday evenings, 6-7:15 p.m. Please let me know if you want me to bring a yoga mat for you to use! Call me with any questions you may have! I look forward to seeing you on Monday evenings at Waldorf! Jeanne Deignan, 410-833-6067(h), or breathofjoy@hotmail.com www.breathofjoy.com. ♦♦♦

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Healing, Relaxing, Meditative, Incredible! Hot Stone Massage with Bill Good, LMT, RMP. Husband of Christine Good, 3rd Grade Teacher. Bikram Yoga, Hampden, 410-243-2040;

continued on p. 7

Marketplace (continued)

JHCP at Canton Crossing, 410-522-9940 Ext. 0. ♦♦♦

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For sale: LifeTime brand portable adjustable height basketball backboard system with large acrylic backboard. Only 1 year old and not used much (seriously, maybe 6 times). Sells new for \$300 +/-, but will sell for \$100! Presently partially disassembled for convenient moving; should take 2-3 hours to reassemble (assembly manual included). Please call Jim Denzler (Garrett, 10th), 410-831-1690. ♦♦♦

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For sale: Ergo Baby Carrier: good condition, black with beige head cover; \$50 or best offer. Contact Kathy Vizachero, 443-552-7958. ♦♦♦♦

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Caring for Our Own at Death: two events at WSB. First, on Tuesday, February 3, 7-8:30 p.m.: A free introductory evening with Beth Knox of crossings.net. Includes a film made for Public Television, *A Family Undertaking*. Second, on Saturday, February 28, 9-5: A workshop on Home-based After-death Care, including a focus on green burial options. Includes practicalities, simple rituals adaptable to family and community, state laws, expenses, experiences. Cost: \$125 (includes workshop, resource guide, lunch, and snacks). Crossings is dedicated to renewing simplicity and sanctity to death care, demonstrating that home funeral care

is still legal and possible. Contact Jennifer Downs, 410-367-8242; jdownslac@gmail.com; www.jenniferdowns.com. ♦♦♦♦

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Clothing alterations: men's, women's, or children's. Charge by hour or by garment; rates competitive with dry cleaner. Call Kimberly Field (former handwork assistant and mother of Lucretia, 5th), 410-366-5033. ♦♦♦♦♦

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Need that deck repaired? Trim work done inside? Woodworking specialist; inside or outside work; repairs, door hanging; artistic work. Plenty of WSB references. Mark Chmura (uncle of Lucretia, 5th), 410-366-5033. ♦♦♦♦♦

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