

FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Robert Kaczor will be the new first grade teacher for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Kaczor is currently the fifth grade teacher at Ashwood Waldorf School. He has been with his class for the last five years and has proven to be an enormously gifted teacher. Mr. Kaczor is a talented young man with extraordinary insights into working with children. He is an intuitive, intelligent, and creative teacher.

Jacob Eichenlaub will be the teacher for next year's sixth grade. Mr. Eichenlaub will graduate his eighth grade class this June after having accompanied them through the full eight grades. While Mr. Eichenlaub has been extremely successful through all of the grades, he has been particularly noted for his talents working with middle-school students and his capacity to present a challenging middle-school curriculum.

For the last two years, the Ashwood Faculty has discussed the idea of teachers looping back prior to completing a full eight-year cycle with one class. We have also discussed the idea that a graduating eighth-grade teacher might prefer to take another class at the school, rather than the first grade. The Faculty unanimously supported this new and exciting model last fall. In January, when each Faculty member was evaluated and had the opportunity to state their intentions for the following school year, both Mr. Kaczor and Mr. Eichenlaub articulated their desire to make a change. Mr. Kaczor expressed that he would like to take the next first grade but would only consider such a change if we could find just the right teacher to continue into middle school with his class. At the same time, Mr. Eichenlaub expressed that he would prefer to take an older grade. Voilà, a perfect picture emerged!

The leadership of the school met with the parents of the fifth grade and communicated this decision to the parents of the upcoming first grade directly. Mr. Kaczor has already discussed this change with his students. **The parents of the new first grade are invited to meet their class teacher on Thursday, March 25th, at 6 p.m., in the current first grade classroom** (in the brown building, down the path from the offices). At this meeting parents will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Kaczor formally, as the first grade teacher, to ask questions, and to learn a little bit about what to expect for their children in the coming years. If you know any parents in the broader community, who are considering enrolling their child in Ashwood's first grade next year, please encourage them to come to this informative meeting.

Thanks,
Jody Spanglet

ANNUAL APPEAL - \$50 TO GO ON THE MATCHING GIFT!

Just a reminder: two weeks ago a generous Ashwood family offered to match any Annual Appeal contribution up to a total match of \$100. So far, they have matched \$50 in contributions. If you donate \$10 on Thursday, it will become a \$20 donation!

Hopefully we will have more families offering to match contributions. Keep in mind, it is not the size of the donation, but the number of people who actively participate in the Ashwood giving community. Annual Appeal donations can be mailed to Ashwood or brought to the office.

Thank you!

– *Richard Ailes, Board of Trustees President*

KILN TENDERS

Burns, dangerous fumes, dirt, and grime were inevitable side effects of being a kiln tender. Day and night they would sit by the kilns, inhaling dangerous fumes, getting covered in soot, dirt, ashes, and grime, and burning themselves when the fire flared up. Covered from head to toe in dirt and grime they would return home to their families. These were the dangers of the kiln tenders.

– Asher, Seventh Grade Student

A SELECTION FROM MY FAVORITE PLACE

California is probably my favorite state. There are a ton of places there that hold a lot of memories for me. Like the creek near my old house that was just so enjoyable. There were spots where you could swim and other parts with good rapids. The crazy thing about the creek is that in the summer it would dry up, which just seemed bizarre because it was huge in the spring, fall, and even the winter. I once found a newt that was five inches long and bright orange. I would go there with my friends and sometimes bring my dog, Shadow. He had some Newfoundland in him so he was a great swimmer.

– Jeremiah, Seventh Grade Student



THANK YOU BARRY!!

A few weekends ago, five of Ashwood's teachers spent part of their weekend learning first aid and CPR. I have to admit that the thought of 12 hours of classes after a school week was not very appealing to this teacher (I'll go out on a limb and guess that my colleagues felt the same way). Lucky for us, we were blessed with a fabulous instructor, Barry King (Sawyer and Courtney's father). Barry's knowledge, experience, and humor made the course useful, lively, and fun. I know we all feel much more confident that we would know what to do in an emergency.

– Jeremy Clough, Seventh Grade Teacher

BUMPS IN THE ROAD

Greetings, Ashwood community. As I am sure you are aware, the unseasonably warm weather has begun to take its toll on our driveway. The Strategic Planning Committee is currently forming a plan to remedy the problem and I ask for your continued patience with the situation. It is my hope that we will be able to begin fixing the driveway within a week. Thank you.

– Mark Ferrero, Facilities Manager

TUITION ASSISTANCE REMINDER

Tuition assistance documentation must be completed by this Friday, March 12th. You must complete your online application (<http://sss.nais.org>) with School and Student Services (SSS by NAIS) by this date. In addition, Ashwood Waldorf School's tuition assistance application (2010-2011) must be filed in our business office along with your 2009 tax return. The final component, your contract and deposit, must be received by the office this Friday, also. If you have any questions or if you need assistance please do not hesitate to call me. I'd be happy to help in any way I can.

– Susan Curry, Business Office Manager

PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

Don't forget to bring your used printer cartridges to the office! Each month we can recycle 20 cartridges (the allowed amount), which then earns \$60 in Staples Rewards, but the last few months the donations have dwindled. A drop box is located in the office. If you have any questions, contact Lauren.

SPRING AHEAD

Daylight Saving Time begins this Sunday, March 14th at 2 a.m. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour.



CONTRACTS, DEPOSITS, AND TUITION ASSISTANCE DEADLINES

Contracts, deposits, and tuition assistance applications are due this Friday, March 12th. Please return your completed contract with the deposit to the office, along with the Ashwood tuition assistance application and necessary documentation, if applicable. The School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) tuition assistance forms are due to SSS on this date, too. Please remember that in order to be considered for tuition assistance, children must be enrolled (contract and deposit received) by the Friday, March 12th deadline.

ENROLLMENT & OUTREACH NEWS

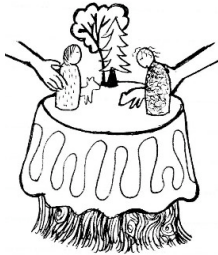
WELCOME TO OUR NEW SIXTH GRADER

Eamon Samojla has recently joined the Sixth Grade class. We welcome him and his parents, Brad Samojla and Chris Gardner, to the Ashwood community!

WALK THROUGH THE GRADES

Wednesday, March 17th, 8:15-10:30 a.m.

This guided tour of our grade school classes will start with half an hour in the first grade. We'll then visit three other classes before spending time with our School Director, Jody Spanglet, for a question and answer session. Space is limited so please call the office to register, 236-8021.



PUPPET SHOW AT CAMDEN LIBRARY

On Saturday, March 20th, Early Childhood teachers Toki Oshima and Liz Ferrero will present a beautiful story entitled "The Sandal Seller" at 10:30 a.m. in the Jean Picker Room at the Camden Public Library. This Japanese folktale will be performed with marionettes. All are welcome to attend.

ALL-SCHOOL MEETING RECAP AND THANKS!

Our thanks to all who attended the All-School Meeting on February 11th. Board President Richard Ailes discussed the school's future enrollment projections, and the Board's new initiatives to address Ashwood's enrollment goals, including the 25th Anniversary Outreach Scholarship program. Jana Herbener discussed the school's current marketing strategies and outreach events, and described the new Public Relations Committee and its mission to support Ashwood's promotional strategies. A possible "service learning" supplement to the school's curriculum was described, in light of increasing Ashwood's visibility and relevance in the greater community.

We discussed the powerful role of the "word-of-mouth advertising" that happens whenever Ashwood parents talk to their friends and neighbors about why their children attend the school; we know that this is the single most effective way to introduce new families to the school and encourage them to visit.

Discussion followed about additional ways that parents could contribute to increasing the school's enrollment. Many thoughtful and useful ideas and perspectives were offered. The Board and the Strategic Planning Committee have already taken up several of the ideas, which include some campus beautification plans.

Please contact Enrollment & Marketing Director Jana Herbener at (207) 236-8021 or enrollment@ashwoodwaldorf.org for more info.

PARENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL (PCC) CORNER

PCC MEETING

The PCC met this morning in the Buttercup Room. Jacob Eichenlaub presented "Math Through the Grades" for the first half-hour of the meeting. We discussed planning for May Faire, as well as for other upcoming events. The next PCC meeting will be Wednesday, April 14th from 6-8 p.m. As always, all parents are invited to attend!

PARENT CAFÉ

The PCC held its second Parent Café on February 26th from 7-9 p.m. There was hot soup, desserts galore, and popcorn flowing in all directions. Hot coffee and tea were enjoyed by all. Due to the late hour and pending storm, attendance was low. Nonetheless, great ideas flowed forth for future events, such as a drumming circle, themed events like Native American Night, Anthroposophic Night, and Popcorn Night; the list goes on and on. Huge thanks go to Kristen Eckmann, who thought of everything and made it happen with the gracious help of Sarah Smith and Tina Mott, who assisted with organizing this event. Big thank yous to Miss Leonore for welcoming the Café to take place in her classroom. It was the perfect warm environment for such a gathering. And thank you to Mark Ferrero for always being so helpful and flexible to the needs and requests of the PCC. This Parent Café is for you, the parents. If you have thoughts on what you would like to see for future gatherings, please contact Kristen Eckmann (PCC Steering Committee) at eckyobject3@mac.com or 299-4015.

WANTED: ARCHITECTS, BED & BREAKFAST PROPRIETORS, CATERERS, AND DOG-WALKERS!

List your business or service in the Ashwood Parent Services Directory. The deadline for entries has been extended to this Friday, March 12th. For more information about the Parent Services Directory please contact Jen DeJoy at dejoyjen@yahoo.com or stop by the office to pick up a form.

"THE SPRING PARADE"- WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

This spring the PCC will host a second workshop with Margrethe Ulvik, a professional multidisciplinary artist and art therapist who has practiced for many years in Waldorf schools in Norway, the U.S. and Québec. The workshop will be Saturday, March 27th, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Ashwood. The cost will be on a sliding scale from \$60 - \$90. Please pay at the level most comfortable for you; proceeds support the PCC. No previous artistic/watercolor experience necessary. Contact Sarah Smith to enroll, 338-0730 or sarahwilliamssmith@gmail.com, by March 19th. Space is limited.

PCC STEERING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Steering Committee will be developing their mandate over the next couple of weeks. We look forward to charting a course for the PCC and receiving input along the way. If you have ideas to share or are interested in volunteering for PCC events or other activities, please speak with a member of the Committee: Kristen Eckmann, Sarah Smith, Kim Sampson, or Jen DeJoy.



CONTRADANCE THANK YOU

A big round of thanks goes to Lisa Newcomb for organizing a fun-filled evening of dancing! Toki Oshima, John Pranio, and their son Jamie, provided the festive music as a group of enchanted little girls gazed at them. Much fun was had by all and we are already looking forward to next year's contradance.

Please contact Jen DeJoy, PCC Steering Committee member, at dejoys@gwi.net. for additional PCC information.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Curious about the Waldorf High School Curriculum? Visit Merriconeag's high school campus in New Gloucester to learn why families are moving to Maine for Waldorf grades 9 – 12!

- **High School Demonstration Classes** - Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. Come for a firsthand experience of Waldorf high school with mini-classes in chemistry, Shakespeare and foreign language.
- **Walk through the High School Grades** - Wednesday, March 31, 8:45 – 10:30 a.m. Observe students and teachers as they move through their morning lessons (9th grade chemistry of living things with Jeff O'Brien, 10th grade human physiology with Sarah Buck, and 11th/12th grade "Hamlet" with David Sloan).

These events are intended for current parents, prospective parents, and any other interested adults. Please RSVP to Lyn Baird at 865-3900, ext. 103 or admissionsdirector@merriconeag.org.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Tutoring services offered by Kate MacKillop: I provide tutoring services to Ashwood students in reading, writing, and math on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. I also currently have a private practice in Camden and previously had a private practice there for 10 years. I spent eight years "on the road" providing professional development to teachers to enable them to help their students become fluent and independent readers and the last six years I was working directly with schools in New York City, training teachers and helping schools develop and implement literacy plans. I am currently accepting new students; if interested please contact me at 236-8231 or mkmackillop@myfairpoint.net.

Mom and Baby/Prenatal Yoga Class: Sarah Trapani is offering a mom and baby/prenatal yoga class on Thursday mornings at the Open Door Yoga center on Molyneaux Road in Camden. There has only been one class so far and there is room for more to join!! It's such a wonderful mix of moms and their babies supporting and sharing with mothers-to-be. The session will run for six more weeks (until April 15th) and cost \$72 for the six weeks or \$14 per class for drop-in. For more info, please call Sarah at 230-1291.

Ashwood's Music Teacher Michael Braun is available for private and small group lessons for violin, viola, cello, bass, recorders (also for a few catch-up lessons for (a) member(s) of the 6/7/8 recorder ensemble), chromatic hammered dulcimer, bowed psaltery, clarinet, French horn, piano, and voice (also for drone therapy). Lessons can be held at Ashwood after school or your home, under certain circumstances. Individual –30-minute lesson: \$25.00: two students –40-minute lesson: \$18.00 each; three or more students –40-minute lesson: \$13.00 each; other configurations possible. For those looking to have lessons for even less than \$13.00/week, I encourage you to consider a conversation with me about barter. Contact Michael Braun at mbraun@ashwoodwaldorf.org or (360) 320-0770.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Jody Spanglet – Director – ext. 103
Susan Curry – Business Office Manager – ext. 109
Mark Ferrero – Facilities Manager – ext. 102
Jana Herbener – Enrollment & Marketing Director – ext. 105
Lauren Lynch – Administrative Assistant – ext. 101

E-MAIL CONTACTS

Board of Trustees: boardoftrustees@ashwoodwaldorf.org;
Alumni Committee: alumni@ashwoodwaldorf.org;
Parent Community Council: pcc@ashwoodwaldorf.org.

School Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
(8 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. on Thursdays)

Thank you to Toki Oshima for artwork used in *The Ashwood Leaflet* and Parent Handbooks.

We encourage your contributions to this bi-weekly school newsletter. Please give submissions, paper or e-mail, to the Administrative Asst. in the office or e-mail newsletter@ashwoodwaldorf.org. Deadline for submissions to *The Ashwood Leaflet* is Monday at 9 a.m. the week of publication.



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March 2010

A Newsletter for Waldorf School Communities
from the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America

Facts about Waldorf Education...

- Introduced to North America in 1928.
- Schools and institutes 100% independently founded. Every school is an independent organization, self-directed and based on Waldorf pedagogy.
- Covers 3 countries in North America, 34 states, 4 provinces in Canada, 3 regions in Mexico, and 1 Native American nation.
- 162 affiliated Waldorf schools.
- 250+ early childhood centers.
- 17 teacher education institutes with over 600 students preparing to be teachers.
- 39 complete Waldorf Education programs pre-K through high school.
- 1 school entirely adapted to the needs of children with special needs.
- 1 school adopted by Native Americans.
- 165 stores sell Waldorf-inspired products.
- 8 Waldorf schools with educational programs designed in partnership with farms practicing organic or biodynamic agriculture and 57 schools with gardening and farming programs.
- 2 children's outward bound camps for further education.

NOW is the time to register for the AWSNA Summer Conference "*Working Together: Building the Bridge to Adolescence.*" This conference focuses on how Waldorf schools prepare students for high school, meeting the challenges of adolescence, and building vibrant K-12 programs. Keynote Speakers include Betty Staley, Douglas Gerwin, Michele Starr, and Arthur Pittis, and accompanied by a wide array of focus groups, artistic workshops, round table discussions and an opportunity to network with hundreds of colleagues. Hosted by the Atlanta Waldorf School and Academe of the Oaks, from June 22 - 25, 2010. You can register at www.whywaldorffworks.org.

Good news... AWSNA received special funding for building integrity and quality in the institutes through site visits from other institutes' teachers. The emphasis is going to be on building collaborative strength and high quality. This funding came through the Freunde der Erziehungskunst, with the hope that high standards globally for Waldorf Teacher Education could be cultivated and shared on an international level.



"**Why Waldorf Works Books&More**" is available on our website ... this is an enhanced online store that acts as a rich resource for children, parents, and teachers. You'll find books that enrich, inspire, and reveal the truth, beauty, and goodness in children, in Waldorf Education, and in the world. Every book has been cleared through AWSNA as a good representation of the kind of literature, and curricular support, for deepening the unique view of the unfolding human being we hold in Waldorf Education.

A new Effective Practices module on Governance is available in the Affiliated Resources section of Why Waldorf Works. This module covers important topics such as Board of Trustees, Pedagogical Decision Making, Administrative or Rights Realm, Brotherhood, Operational Coordination, Decision Making Processes and Reflections on Governance.

Save the date: June 7, 2010! AWSNA's annual golf tournament, *Winning with Waldorf V*, will be hosted by the Emerson Waldorf School in Chapel Hill, NC.



March/April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11 5:30 p.m. 4 th Grade Play for Family and Friends 5:30-7 p.m. 5 th Grade Parent Evening	12 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly - 2 nd Grade	13
14 2 a.m. Daylight Saving Time Begins 	15	16	17 8:15-10:30 a.m. Walk Through the Grades 	18 5:30 p.m. 3 rd Grade Play for Family and Friends	19 No School Faculty Work Day	20
21	22 9 a.m. Ashwood Leaflet Submissions Deadline	23	24 Ashwood Leaflet Published 6:30-8 p.m. 7 th Grade Parent Evening	25 New Thursday Session of Parent/Child begins 6 p.m. Incoming First Grade Parents Meeting	26 New Friday Session of Parent/Child begins 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly - 3 rd Grade	27 10 am – 4 pm PCC Art Workshop
28	29	30	31	1	2 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly - 4 th Grade	3

We encourage you to post this calendar in a visible place in your home. Thank you!