

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

As the holiday break approaches, the excitement on campus is palpable and building daily. The children seem joyful and excited, ready to perform at the Winter Assembly, and have a good holiday with their families. I want to wish you all the best and most relaxed holiday ever. It is so easy to get caught up with expectations of what the holiday should be, that instead of enjoying it, we strive for an image of it that we can't achieve. May each and every one of you have a peaceful vacation. When we return to school the sun will be shining a little bit longer each day, something to be truly grateful for.

Speaking of things to be grateful for, did you know that two of Ashwood's experienced teachers from times past are back on campus and teaching Parent/Child classes? Cherry Short-Lee and Joanie Dean, long-term Early Childhood teachers, are co-teaching two mornings per week; what fortunate parents and toddlers we have! Marianne Bockli, long-term Ashwood Early Childhood teacher and, for the last two years, Grade School teacher, is also back on campus. This week she has already subbed in the Early Childhood class, and in the coming months Marianne will be mentoring Toki Oshima. And there is another thing that Ashwood can be so grateful for. Do you know how unusual it is for a school in midcoast Maine to have an international faculty? Here in our small community we have teachers from India, Brazil, Germany, and, with Marianne back on campus, Switzerland as well. Add to that Ms. Finlayson, our first grade teacher, who grew up in Canada and is fluent in French! And then there is the fact that Ashwood has six male faculty members. Most schools are thrilled to have one or two of this rare gender in elementary education! Then there is the rest of the faculty, all females hailing from the United States and all of whom are talented, dedicated, and wonderful, a Board that is vibrant and growing, parents, who give the greatest gift of all to their children, not just at Christmas but all the year through, a branch of the Anthroposophical Society that meets and cradles the school just by the very nature of its work, and, finally, those beautiful, rosy cheeked, sparkly eyed children. Yes, there is much to be grateful for (I haven't even mentioned the beautiful new building, the gorgeous mountain views, the smell of salty sea air that blows through campus every now and then, etc., etc., etc.)

Happy Holidays to all, have a wonderful vacation, and we'll see you next year!

—Jody Spanglet, School Director



### DEAR ASHWOOD COMMUNITY

Last Tuesday my term as a member of the Board of Trustees ended, and on this occasion I realized I have a few thoughts I wanted to share with the school as a whole and particularly the parents.

First, I want to say I have enjoyed every minute as a Board member. This is not to say that every minute of our meetings was fun – sometimes quite *au contraire* as we tackled difficult topics – but rather that I have never been less than impressed with the integrity of the members of the Board.

Richard Ailes provides outstanding, respectful leadership, setting the tone for open dialogue and careful questioning. Faculty and community members, Jody, parent members – all participate with willingness and joy.

The school is in excellent hands as it heads into the New Year. Our children are so lucky to be at Ashwood.

Best wishes,

—Kit Harrison, Ashwood Parent and Outgoing Board Member

## A WALK IN THE WOODS



The following pieces of writing are testimony of the third graders' appreciation of the mood of autumn in the magical woods that frame the Ashwood property.

–Ms. Leonore, Third Grade Teacher

I was walking in the woods one day,  
When everything seemed to be going my way.  
I saw a stream and I loved it so much,  
From Kindergarten history, it's so hard not to touch!  
I saw some fairly tall ferns  
And on the way some twists and turns.  
I built a store in the nature so wild,  
It was hard to believe I was just a child.  
I walked with ease  
Among those very tall trees.

– Aspen

We found leaves. Sophie and I made a fairy house.

– Ella

Ella and I made a fairy house.

– Sophie

We were playing with wet wood and bark and ferns.  
We made fairy houses. We told stories.

– Eli

When I was walking in the woods, I found some pretty autumn leaves and hiding behind a moss-grown tree, I saw a little squirrel.

– Zachary

We were playing store and made meat balls and crab cakes on a walk in the woods.

– Lindsey

We played store and we made crab cakes. We used bark to make meat balls.

– Iris

### PIZZA FRIDAYS ARE BACK!

The eighth grade is offering slices of pizza every Friday until the end of the school year. This is a fundraiser for our eighth grade class trip and is one less lunch for you to make each week! The pizza is locally made at Megunticook Market and will be delivered warm to your child's desk.

Pizza Friday will begin January 8<sup>th</sup> and run every Friday through May 28<sup>th</sup>. The first slice costs \$40 per child and the second slice costs \$35 more.

Order forms and checks made out to Ashwood must be dropped off in the office **by this Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!

– Mr. Eichenlaub, Eighth Grade Teacher

We went to the stream. Kayla and I told stories.

– Zaela

When we went for a walk in the woods, we saw lots of leaves and bark. Some of us played and some of us looked for pretty leaves to press. Zaela and I told stories.

– Kayla

We were playing by the river. We were playing store.

– Christian

We played store. We used bark to make meat balls.

– Aidan

We played store. We collected leaves, ferns, bark, and foam from the river. We made "crab cakes."

– Tessa

I took a walk in the woods with my class. We went to the stream and on the way we looked for leaves and other things like bark and ferns. We called them treasures. When we got to the stream we played store and collected foam from the river. In the store we made wraps. The wrap was a piece of bark. The inside was made of different things; the chicken was wet wood. We used ferns for herbs. In the store we also had crab cakes made of wet wood. We had a lot of fun!

– Cecile

### RECORDER ENSEMBLE

This year I started playing tenor recorder. In fourth and fifth grade I played violin. It was pretty fun, but I wanted to do something different. So now I play recorder with Mr. Kaczor, the fifth grade teacher. I like playing recorder a lot. Mr. Kaczor is a fun and good teacher.

–Soren, Sixth Grader

### CHORUS ENSEMBLE

It is new for the sixth grade to be in chorus. Last year we had a separate chorus class. We are doing a lot of songs. Right now, before the assembly, we are practicing the songs without our music folders. Chorus is very fun. There are lots of fun songs that we sing. I can't wait for the assembly. It is great to have such a great middle school chorus.

–Cyrus, Sixth Grader

## **SPREAD HELP AND HOPE WITH A GIFT CARD FOR CHARITY**

Are you looking for more stocking stuffers or the perfect gift for someone who has everything? You may want to consider giving a gift of charity this year. Network for Good is an online organization that allows you to easily support any nonprofit by purchasing Good Cards on their website. All you need to do is go to [www.networkforgood.org](http://www.networkforgood.org) and buy gift cards for charity in any amount you wish. The cards can be sent to you or e-mailed and printed immediately (great for those who wait until the last minute). The recipient of the gift card then goes to the Network for Good website and selects the nonprofit organization of their choice and gives their gift. Ashwood Waldorf School is among thousands of non-profits registered with Network for Good. This is a great way to foster a philanthropic spirit and possibly help our school at the same time! All purchases are tax-deductible.

–Kim Cobourn, Ashwood Parent

## **ONE DOZEN COOKIES**

Do you love to bake? Would you be willing to bake a dozen cookies, some muffins, or a loaf of sweet bread for the next *Walk Through the Grades*, Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>? Please let Enrollment & Marketing Director Jana Herbener know if you are interested.

## **ENROLLMENT & OUTREACH NEWS**

### **WALK THROUGH THE GRADES**

Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:15-10:30 a.m.

This first guided tour of 2010 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 the question and answer session. Space is limited so please call the office to register, 236-8021.

### **LEARNING TO LEARN: A Discussion with Alumni**

Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening discussion with a panel of Ashwood Waldorf School graduates. School Director Jody Spanglet will give an overview of Waldorf education and then each graduate will speak about his or her experience. Plenty of time will be given for questions and answers. This event is free and open to the public, so feel free to invite friends, neighbors, and grandparents to what is sure to be an interesting and informative evening. Please call the office to register, 236-8021.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

The Lost and Found bin in the office is already overflowing! Please come check and see if any of the items belong to your family. We have a wide variety of things, ranging from silverware to rain boots! If you're missing something, we may have it!

## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

The Fundraising Committee needs your help! If you would like to help plan and execute this winter's fundraiser, please contact Hannah Demmons at [Hannah.starr@gmail.com](mailto:Hannah.starr@gmail.com) or 542-0327. Thanks!

## **NEXT NEWSLETTER**

The next *Ashwood Leaflet* will be published on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for submissions is Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

## **WINTER ASSEMBLY**

The Winter Assembly will take place this Friday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at the Camden Opera House beginning at 10 a.m. Students are expected to dress formally for this event: boys should wear collared shirts and girls should wear dresses, skirts, or slacks with appropriate tops (no blue jeans, sneakers, or t-shirts, please). Dismissal will be from the Opera House following assembly.



## **TEA & PUPPETS PLAYGROUP**

Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 10-11 a.m.

This is a free playgroup for children 18 months to 3 years old who are not currently enrolled at Ashwood. Past and present Parent/Child students are welcome to attend. Children may bring a stuffed animal or doll to the tea party. After tea, Miss Toki will present a puppet show. Space is limited. Call the office, 236-8021, or e-mail [enrollment@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@ashwoodwaldorf.org) to save a place at the table.

## **INTRODUCTION TO FIRST GRADE**

Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening all about first grade. Teachers from both the Early Childhood and the Grade School will discuss the topics of first grade readiness, the transition to the grade school, and the first-grade curriculum. Attendees can participate in a sample first-grade circle and artistic activities. This event is open to the public, so feel free to invite friends, neighbors, and grandparents. Please call the office to register, 236-8021.

## NEWS FROM THE PARENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL (PCC)

### GIVE & RECEIVE BOARD ITEMS

Have you recently seen the items on the Give & Receive Board? Just in case you haven't here they are as of Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>:

#### GIVE:

1 pair children's snowboard boots, size 4US: \$15  
1 pair children's snowboard boots, size 5US: \$15  
1 pair women's cross country ski boots, size 38EU: \$15  
Contact Beverly Scott, 230-0272.

#### RECEIVE:

Donation of a boom-box type player for the upper grades' French class.  
E-mail Madame Nazzaro, [anazzaro@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:anazzaro@ashwoodwaldorf.org).

If you wish to purchase items from the Give & Receive Board, please write your check to Ashwood Waldorf School and place it, with the slip from the bulletin board, in the PCC mailbox in the school office.

Please keep posting items to GIVE & RECEIVE. Thank you.

–Tina Mott, PCC Chair

### PARENT CAFES

We are working on organizing regular Parent Cafes which would meet monthly in the evenings. The goal of the Parent Cafe is to bring interesting topics to the parent community to discuss, as well as to encourage community building. The PCC will be discussing the details of this new and exciting topic at the next PCC meeting. So, if this interests you, either come to the meeting or share your ideas with your PCC class rep.

### PARENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL (PCC) MEETING

December's PCC meeting was cancelled due to last week's snow storm. We will be having our next meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the Buttercup Room. Jody Spanglet will spend the first part of the meeting going over communication channels and the leadership structure of the school. This is a great opportunity to finally understand who makes what decisions and how issues are handled at Ashwood. As always, everyone is welcome – remember that being a parent at the school means you are automatically part of the PCC (Parent Community Council).

–Tina Mott, PCC Chair

### STOCKING STUFFER SUPPER SUCCESS

The PCC held a Stocking Stuffer Supper on December 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free soup and bread was enjoyed by all. Thank you to our soup makers, Hilary Budet, Sarah Smith, and Kristen Eckmann and our special guest soup server, Richard Ailes. The vendors included Bella Luna Toys, Orange Iron Fabrications, and books from Sage in Camden. Thank you to all our vendors; you helped make this a great success.



Thank you to Sarah Smith, second grade PCC rep., and Kristen Eckmann, first grade rep., for organizing the event. Thank you to Anne and Jamie Metcalfe for helping with the clean up; thank you to Mary Riley for holding and loving Poet. And mostly, thank you to all the families who attended the first of many PCC events for family and parents.

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### SCHOOL CLOSING AND DELAYS UPDATE

School cancellations and late-start days are announced on the school's answering machine at 236-8021 and on 102.5 FM, 107.5 FM, and 99.9 FM as well as WCSH6, News 8 WMTW, and the website for Knox County Village Soup. Parents may also choose to sign up for automatic text message or e-mail notification on the WCSH6 Storm Center website, <http://www.wcsh6.com> (please note the revised website address), and follow the "Text Alerts" link at the top of the page in the "Other editions" section. Event cancellations will be announced on Ashwood's answering machine. We respect each family's individual decision about whether to attend school on snowy days when school is in session. Please use your own discretion when making this decision.

To avoid confusion please note that when RSU/SAD #28 is canceled, Ashwood Waldorf School is canceled as well. When RSU/SAD #28 is delayed Ashwood Waldorf School is delayed as well.

## THANK YOU WALDORF SINGERS!

My sincere thanks to everyone that took part in our singing group at Christmas by the Sea. Special thanks to Beverly Scott, without whom this would not have happened. I think it was a true community choir that was born here, and the performance was just so beautiful! Thanks to each one (in alphabetical order): Emma Berryman-Moore, Jasper Berryman-Moore, Amy Carpenter, Elsa Chandler, Brenda Cotton, Leanna Cotton, Caleb Edwards, Lesley Finlayson, Jana Herbener, Ursula Leonore, Elisa Olds, Kayla Olds, Jamie Oshima, Toki Oshima, Anikka Reinwand, Mary Riley, Beverly Scott, and Ginna Scott.

– Luigi Irlandini, Music Teacher

## REMINDER: ROSEWOOD IS PEANUT FREE

Due to an allergy, we ask that you observe a **No Peanut Zone** for the Rosewood Early Childhood building. This includes all three classrooms at all times during the school year. Thank you, kindly!

– Toki Oshima, Early Childhood Chair



## CLASSIFIEDS

**Furniture for new home.** If anyone has any extra bookshelves or an extra file cabinet, I would love to borrow them for the school year or buy them if they are not too expensive. I'm also looking for someone who can help me hang a huge photograph on my wall. Please contact First Grade Teacher Lesley Finlayson, lfinlayson@ashwoodwaldorf.org, if you have either of these items or can help hang the photo.

**Cedar Works full play set** available for the taking. It is about 11 years old and still serviceable for several years to come. Call former Ashwood parent Esperanza Stancioff, 236-7273 or 706-6977.

**Two violins for sale:** one Euro ¼ size with case \$600; and one Nat Slobodkin Chinese ½ size \$550 with case. Both quality violins. Call former Ashwood parent Esperanza Stancioff, 236-7273 or 706-6977.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**High school demonstration classes:** Merriconeag Waldorf High School teachers are doing "demonstration classes" for all interested parents on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, from 7–8:30, at the Pineland campus. Jeff O'Brien will be teaching a mini-lesson in 9<sup>th</sup> grade thermal physics, Eva McVicar will conduct a German class, and David Sloan will do a presentation from 10<sup>th</sup> grade ancient cultures on how Champollion deciphered the Rosetta Stone and unlocked the long-hidden secret of the hieroglyphs. There will be time to ask questions about their unique curriculum and approach. This is a fun way to experience life in a Waldorf high school classroom. Please call Lyn Baird to register (865-3900 x103) or, if it's a last minute thing for you, just come!

### Administrative Staff

**Jody Spanglet** – Director – ext. 103

**Mark Ferrero** – Facilities Manager – ext. 102

**Jana Herbener** – Business Office Manager – ext. 109

**Lauren Lynch** – Administrative Assistant – ext. 101

**Maria Northcott** – Enrollment & Marketing Director – ext. 105

### E-mail Contacts

**Board of Trustees:** boardoftrustees@ashwoodwaldorf.org

**Alumni Committee:** alumni@ashwoodwaldorf.org

**Parent Community Council:** pcc@ashwoodwaldorf.org

**Newsletter:** newsletter@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 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.

# DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13	14	15	16	17	18 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Winter Assembly	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

HAPPY

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
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HOLIDAYS

3	4 School Resumes	5 5:30 p.m. Early Childhood Parent Evening	6 7-8:30 p.m. MASG Study Group  Newsletter Resumes Jan. 13th	7	8 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly- TBA	9
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We encourage you to post this calendar in a visible place in your home. Thank you!



## The Leadership School at Kieve

Ms. Jody Spanglet, Director  
Ashwood Waldorf School  
180 Park Street  
Rockport, ME 04856

Dear Ms. Spanglet,

I am happy to report that working with your students last week was a great success. I feel confident in saying that the majority of your students will have returned to your community with skills to help them become better communicators and responsible participants in their learning environment. The energy and enthusiasm the Ashwood Waldorf School students brought to our school was amazing, we hope that this can be the start to a relationship that will be around for many years to come. Please pass along to your school community what a pleasure it was to have them here for the week, you should be very proud at how well mannered your students are, and how supportive and kind they are to all those around them.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Amy, Jacob and Jeremy for all of their help and support throughout the week. It was a pleasure having them here as a part of our school community, and we hope that they enjoyed the experience. Enclosed please find progress reports for each student. If you could please see to it that the progress reports make it home to the families I would be appreciative. If you have any questions or need further information about your students' week here with us, please do not hesitate to contact me at 563-6212 or at [samanthar@kieve.org](mailto:samanthar@kieve.org).

Thank you and have an enjoyable fall.

Warm Regards,

Samantha Richard  
Program Manager  
The Leadership School at Kieve