

*Ignite a Life-Long Love of Learning*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**Lantern Walk**

Pre School, Kindergarten, Grade 1 & 2  
Nov. 4th—6 p.m.  
Alpha Lake Park

**School closed**

**Nov. 7-11**

Parent/teacher conferences Nov. 7 & 8

**Parent Association**

**AGM**

Nov. 16th—7 p.m.  
At the school

**Whistler Waldorf**

**School Society AGM**

Nov. 24th—6:30 p.m.  
At the school

**Advent Garden**

Pre School, Kindergarten, Grade 1 & 2  
Nov. 27—4:30 p.m.  
At the fieldhouse

## Election focus—Whistler Waldorf lobbies candidates

**Messaging, meetings, and information sharing**

The Administration team, with the help key volunteer parent PJ O’Heany, have been following through on a detailed communications plan targeting the November municipal election.

Our goal is to have a council, who over the next three years will see the value Whistler Waldorf brings to the community, and will be open to lis-

tening to proposals and supporting our efforts as we resolve our search for a permanent location.

The candidates have been receptive to our information kit, and 24 meetings were scheduled over the last few weeks. The feedback overall is positive, and regardless of the results of each candidates campaign, we feel we have made much progress in sharing our story, and creating community advocates for the

school in Whistler.

A summary of Mayoral candidates comments was distributed on Oct. 25th, and a summary of the Council Candidates comments will be distributed on Oct. 28th.

**Please vote!**

We encourage you to vote on November 19, and contribute to the process of creating a positive environment at the Council table.

## Newsletter distribution options

A few weeks ago we conducted an online survey to help determine parents’ preferred format when receiving our monthly newsletter. Thank you to everyone that participated.

To recap for those that missed out, you may choose to receive the newsletter either only in digital format via email, or both digital and printed version. If you would like to provide feedback on

this, please send me an email at [laura@whistlerwaldorf.com](mailto:laura@whistlerwaldorf.com)

Thank you!

## Pumpkin Path—Ms. Karina

The pre-school will be celebrating Halloween in class on Monday Oct. 31 with a Pumpkin Path, songs, story and a craft. Children are welcome to wear a costume but this year, we are asking parents to make a homemade costume. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend some time together and be creative!

Also a reminder there are no media characters and please nothing scary or gory. The Kindergarten program tries to foster an environment of

truth, goodness and beauty. A few ideas for a costume are an occupation such as fire fighter, baker, doctor etc or some thing from a fairy tale: prince, princess, or an animal.



## Grade 7/8/9—Mr. Morgan

After our last block, 'From Ice Ages to Global Warming' we embarked on a week long field trip to Tofino in the week of the 3rd October.

On the Monday we made a stop en route at the Sunrise Waldorf school near Duncan. After a grueling (for their teacher anyway) afternoon of basketball, ultimate frisby and soccer, each Whistler student was paired up with a Duncan Grade 8er and they were whisked off for a night with their allocated student's family. We reconvened the following morning under darkening skies and began the drive west, to the wild coast of the Pacific Rim National park, together with the Sunrise class and their teacher, Mr Stopeck. As we twisted and turned our way through the mountains and passed the majestic Cameron and Sproat lakes the rain fell in sheets and the wipers worked furiously to keep up with the deluge. Arriving in Tofino the rain kept falling and we all expressed great relief that for this trip we were booked into a warm, dry hostel on the

shore of Clayoquot Sound - no tent in sight! Finding out that the hostel had not only a sauna but a pool and futsal table simply deepened the smug feeling of contentedness. However, this strange feeling was short lived and before they knew it the students were stood in the parking lot at Chesterman Beach, clad in neoprene in the pouring rain, listening to Raph Bruhwiler, local surfer extraordinaire, shout out instructions over the drumming rain about how to best ride the tumbling breakers that were crashing on the beach a few hundred yards away. Within minutes all students were in the water and enthusiastically getting their first taste of the art of surfing. Not quite Hawaii 5'0 temperatures, but enormous fun!

The next two days were spent in much the same way except by Wednesday mid-morning the sun was shining and by the minute someone else was standing confidently on the board, legs akimbo, whooping their way towards shore on the crest of a crashing wave. There was the odd break in the surfing for food, futsal and pool but the majority of their time in Tofino was spent getting a first hand experi-



*Unconfirmed sighting of Mr. Morgan surfing*

ence of the science of wave power. Driving back to Whistler was by far the quietest car journey their teacher has ever experienced on a field trip..... Many thanks to Jim Weightman for surviving the entirety of the trip not to mention the regular, essential cups of coffee provided, and a heartfelt thank you to Bob Fawcett for the loan of the pick up truck and for lashing the tarp down so well for the journey over! Now we're on to the Industrial, American and French Revolutions, but even major social, political and ideological upheaval interspersed with battles and rousing speeches will be hard pressed to live up to the excitement of making new friends and the exhilaration of learning how to ride surging waves on a plank of hard foam.

## Grade 5/6—Ms. Reynolds



Class 5-6 has gone back in time for their current Main Lesson block. Ancient Greece is the topic - a continuation of last year's introduction to ancient civilizations. There has been a shift in our focus this year, however. Where last year we heard many legends and myths from ancient times, this block is more historical. We are learning about the development of the Greek City-State, comparing specifically the well known City-States of Athens and Sparta. Biographies of remarkable individuals from this Golden Age of Greece are also included in our study of the era along with the ongoing battles between Greece and the great Persian Empire. As we continue through the centuries, we are witnessing a shift in consciousness which is exemplified with the emergence of the

first historians in ancient Greece and with the shift from monarchy to oligarchy and to the earliest forms of democracy in ancient Athens. Although monarchies would recur throughout history the groundwork for change was laid. Our block will end with the biography of Alexander the Great who ensured that his own significant conquests were recorded along with his daily activities in royal journals. Our next history block will take right into the founding of Rome!

## Grade 3/4—M. Richer



The making of the soup for the Michaelmas Festival, which was celebrated on Sept 29, marked the end of our first block on farming and gardening. The class will reopen their Main Lesson book on the subject when we return to the farm this winter. We have been busy studying the stories of the Old Testament, a theme that is presented in Grade 3 to reflect the child's own experience of leaving early childhood, and acquiring new self-awareness, with new choices and increasing responsibility for one's actions. Every morning for a week, we painted a scene related to the 7 days of creation. The quiet and peaceful routine established during those five consecutive mornings of painting resulted in stunning wet on wet scenes. All the children mentioned at least once during the course of the week that they had accomplished their best painting so far. We revisited our bee's wax drawing blocks to illustrate the garden of Adam and Eve. Perspective and exploring new ways to develop more details in the background of a nature scene was our focus— see the photo with the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge.

We are now embarking on stories of man on earth which has provided the students with opportunities to develop their critical thinking skills. We continually reinforce our writing and reading skills through the written portion of the Main Lesson. We have focused our attention on word families such as ing, est, ime and the stu-

dents are getting better at keeping good letter proportion while writing neatly in cursive.

Following the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Paradise, where they experienced their first cold night and are forced to improvise a hut made out of branches and plants, the children built their first teepees. They learned about the importance of having a strong foundation made out of three principal poles attached together (tripod). They then explored and experimented with different natural material such as ferns, skunk cabbage, rocks, etc... to weather and provide warmth to their structure.

We are getting ready to start our block on linear measurement, in which the students need to have a good understanding of place value and adding/subtracting in columns. We have been studying place value up to a thousand. The children understand that numbers are made out of different digits and that the value of a digit depends on its place within the number. Our work

with the times table keep moving forward and we now have a firm grasp on the 2 and 3 times tables and are now working on 4, 5 and 6. The goal is to master up to twelve by the end of this year.

I was really pleased when I took this picture of the boys playing with their "mini-bike" for two reasons. First, they built the sand box earlier this year and they have now turned-it into a miniature bike park. Secondly, as they are building the jumps, ramps, tunnels, etc... they are getting into a deep creative and imaginative place, which is an important and necessary part of their development.



# Grade 1 and 2

—Ms. Karklin

Happy Fall from Grade One and Two. We are enjoying everything that this season has to bring - autumn songs, finding many colors of leaves on nature walks, and a farm trip to North Arm to visit the pumpkin patch. While we were there we had a chance to eat corn right off the cob, pick our own pumpkin, feed the animals, and the children loved every second of picking tons and tons of fall raspberries. At the end of the day we came home with two cardboard flats of delicious berries that we made into a raspberry-apple crumble the next day. Another fun experience was making soup with the root vegetables that we got from the farm. We spent an afternoon preparing the veggies, and enjoyed eating the yummy fresh soup all together one Friday morning. We will be starting our first math block at the beginning of November and have already been practicing some simple adding and subtracting as well as new songs all about math. The class is looking forward to the upcoming lantern walk and will be making Martinmas lanterns during the next few craft periods.



Grade 1 and 2 students picking raspberries at the farm—yum!

# Kindergarten—Ms Graham

“Many days are bright in October, there is happiness in the air

Red and yellow leaves from the Autumn trees are drifting everywhere.”

Our afternoon nature walks through the crisp, Autumn air fill the children with awe as they go exploring through the forest.

There are leaves to collect to decorate the snack and nature table and mushrooms to find and gather for boats in the stream. Being outside has a positive impact on the child’s development as they child gains balance and agility as they walk over logs, rocks and streams.

They learn about sharing and teamwork as they build rock walls and bridges over the stream and creek beds in the forest. The young child under age 7 lives through their senses, feeling the water and earth, smelling the leaves and foliage



*Its’ a beauty, says Samuel.*

and listening to the birds provides peace and calmness to the child’s busy life. We will continue to explore the Autumn season with our annual trip to North Arm Farm next week as we look for a pumpkin or two to bring home.



*It’s a peace boat, says Luke.*

# Calling all singers!

## Coffee Choir

The Coffee Choir is making joyful noises in the Kindergarten room every Friday. We meet around 8:45 and start singing at 9:00-ish for 30-45 minutes. No experience necessary, just a love of music and a willingness to open your mouth.

NOTE: On Friday, November 4th, we will be having a special "Lantern Walk Songs Edition" of Coffee Choir. Parents: Join us and get to know the songs your children will be singing in Lantern Walk that night .



M. Richer's tree of life drawing

## Where can I volunteer to help?

The parent council has formed several working committees which offer many different options for parents to get involved, help the school community and meet other parents. If you are interested in any of these, please contact the chair directly...**new members always welcome!!**

**Maintenance and Beautification Committee**

Yvonne D`Arcy (Chair)  
 Lee Anne Van Dongen  
 Peggy Vogler  
 Bob Fawcett  
 PJ OHeany  
 Tim Cull

What they do: projects in the school, and on the grounds to help with maintenance and contribute to a beautiful environment.

**Class Parent Committee**

Mon/wed pre school - Open!  
 Tue/Thu pre school - Ghlee Mcleod  
 Kinder - Laurie Grant  
 1/2 - Paula Jeffers  
 3/4 - Anastacia Chomlack  
 5/6- Amanda Sandahl (Chair)  
 7/8/9- Shelagh Weightman

What they do: help the class teacher communicate with parents about field trips, class projects, etc.

**Annual Gala Committee**

Peggy Vogler (Chair)  
 Megan Fullerton  
 Julie Edwards  
 Riva Karklin  
 Paula Jeffers  
 Laurie Grant

What they do: One big fundraising project...the annual Wine event and auction in the spring. Last year called the May Soiree...this year looking for creative input!

**Social Committee**

Jenn Raffler, (Chair)  
 Jacinta Mousset-Jones  
 Ghlee MacLeod  
 Tanya Rowe  
 Laurie Grant  
 Peggy Vogler

What they do: create opportunities for parent engagement and fun...crafting mornings, social networking, new ways to connect with other parents at the school.

**Parent Education Committee**

Sheila Sherkat (Chair)  
 Peggy Vogler  
 Michelle Kirkegaard  
 Tracy Graham  
 Michelle Pascal  
 Kristen Wint  
 Laura Street

What they do: organize expert speakers, film premiers and other events to provide educational opportunities for parents at the school and the community of Whistler.

## School Yearbook Project

This year the grade nine class will be putting a yearbook together in Mrs. Fawcett's communications class.

We are asking that anyone with **good pictures of school events** please send them to [whistlerwaldorfyarbook@gmail.com](mailto:whistlerwaldorfyarbook@gmail.com)

Thank you!

Grade 9 class

## Parent reading: Waldorf in NY Times

TECHNOLOGY | October 23, 2011

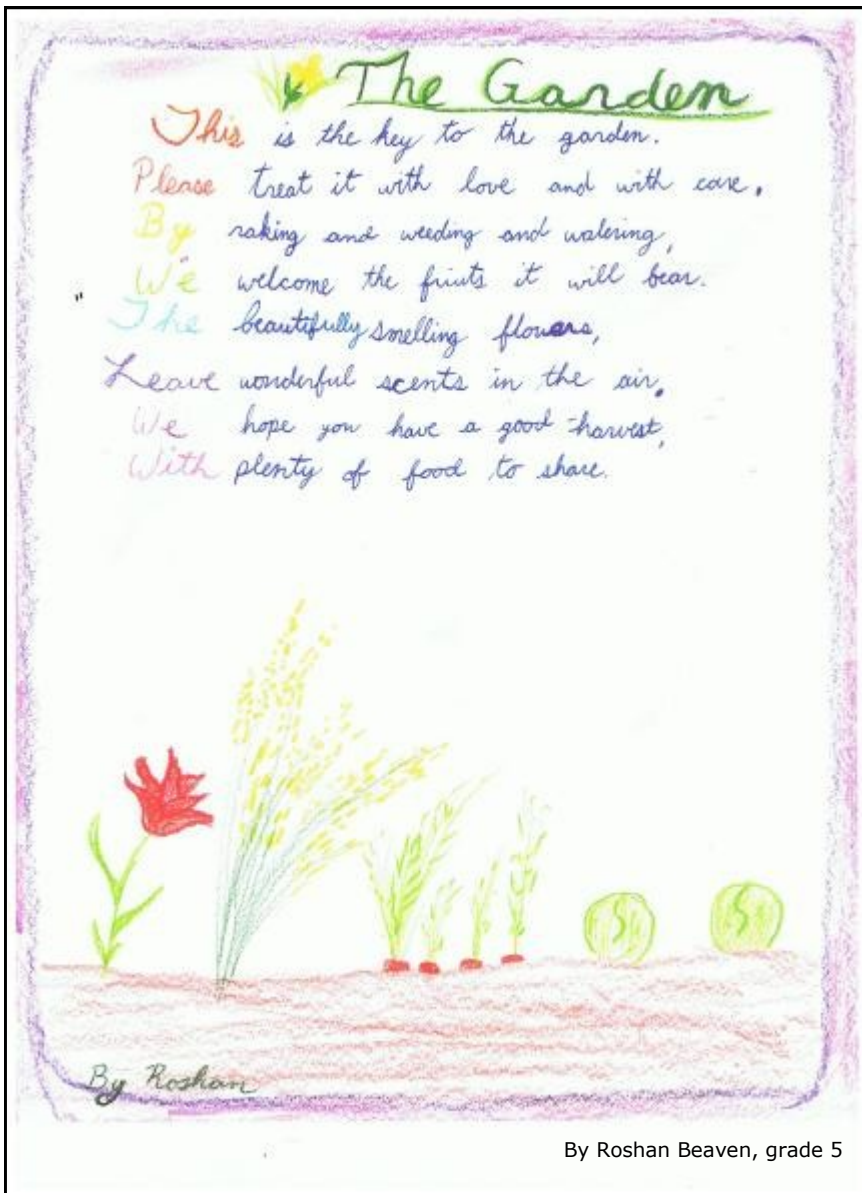
### Grading the Digital School: A Silicon Valley School That Doesn't Compute

(control + click on title to follow link; or paste link below into your browser)

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/23/technology/at-waldorf-school-in-silicon-valley-technology-can-wait.html?\\_r=1&emc=eta1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/23/technology/at-waldorf-school-in-silicon-valley-technology-can-wait.html?_r=1&emc=eta1)

By MATT RICHTEL

The Waldorf School's computer-free environment has become a draw for parents at high-tech companies like Google.



By Roshan Beaven, grade 5

### Garden Poem

This is the key to the garden.

In the soil is a seed. The seed grows towards the sun light.

I water the plants every day.

I take the rocks in the garden and throw them away.

So the plants can grow.

I dig out the weeds.

The seed starts to grow into a flower.

I pick the flower.

I put the flower in a vase.

By Eric Sandahl,  
grade 5

### Garden Poem

This is our key to the garden

Where plants like to grow.

Children will laugh all day long, until the sun goes down and when the night comes around.

Then the children have to go back to their homes.

There is a stream that flows by the garden. And when the sun goes down, the children rejoice at the harvest that in the garden they found.

By Kate Viner  
grade 6

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Ignite a Life-long Love of Learning

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[www.whistlerwaldorf.com](http://www.whistlerwaldorf.com)

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## Our Mission:

Our mission is to educate each child with reverence and respect; to nurture wonder, confidence and initiative, so they may participate in the world guided by a sense of truth and responsibility.



## School Community Classifieds

*This space is set aside for the school community to share their talents, needs and wants. Submissions should be sent to [communication@whistlerwaldorf.com](mailto:communication@whistlerwaldorf.com) by the first Friday of the month.*

**Never Ending Bottle Drive!** You can now request your bottle return money be donated to the Whistler Waldorf School! Just tell the attendant at the Whistler Bottle Depot you would like them to put it on the Waldorf School account!

**Piano Lessons** available for both children and adults. After school in The grade 1 classroom. Contact Katherine Fawcett at [bob-kath@telus.net](mailto:bob-kath@telus.net)

### **Winter clothes for Sale**

Boys Burton Jacket (Red)  
Size XS and  
Boys Burton Pants x 2 (Red and Black)  
Size XS  
Fit age 5-6 (or big 4 yr old). Good Condition. \$50 the lot.  
Burton Helmet (White)  
Youth Large (53-55cm)  
Brand New \$40

We also have an assortment of kids Ski and Snowboard equipment. call: Brian or Abbie Finestone 604 938 6321

### **LOST AND FOUND**

This silver (pewter?) brooch was left at the school over the summer. If it is yours, or you know who it belongs to, please speak to Ms. Reynolds. She has been wearing it in the hopes that someone will notice it and claim it but as yet no-one.



**Lost and found brooch**



# November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Progress Reports Lantern Walk, 6:00 Class 1-2 Parent Meeting, 12:15	5
6	7 Parent Teacher Conferences School Closed	8 Parent Teacher Conferences School Closed	9 PD Day School Closed	10 School Closed	11 Remembrance Day School Closed	12
13	14	15	16 ITPS Parent Associa- tion AGM, 7:00 pm at the school	17	18 Class 7-8-9 Parent Meeting, 12:15 pm	19
20	21	22	23	24 Whistler Waldorf School Society AGM 6:30 pm at the school	25	26
27 Advent Garden, 4:30 pm, Fieldhouse	28	29	30 Open House Tour, 9 am			