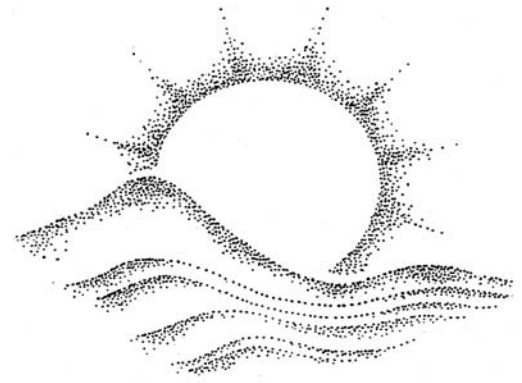




The Golden Quill

The bi-weekly newsletter of the Golden Hill Steiner School
community, Denmark, Western Australia



26 May 2008

Issue 209

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Special events

May 30	— Festival of Voice performance
June 2	— Public Holiday
June 7	— Busy Bee
June 20	— Winter Festival

Evening Prayer

My heart gives thanks
That my eye may see
That my ear may hear
That, waking I may feel
In mother and father
In all dear people
In stars and clouds

The Light
of God
The Love
of God
The Being
of God



Which, when I sleep
Shining
Loving
Bestowing grace
Protect me

Rudolf Steiner

When I was a newly single parent with two sad young children, this prayer was handwritten and beautifully illustrated by another Steiner parent who understood what my family was going through and helped us with this gesture more than she will ever know. Each night I recited these gentle words before tucking my children into bed and it brought them (and me) great comfort. Many years later, I want to share it in the hope it may help someone else, too.

Denise

From Karri Kindergarten

Clump-a-Dump and Snickle Snack
Go a journey rightly
Sneaking with their silver sacks
On their tip-toes lightly
For there lives within the wood
Oh! the giant Never-Good
We have just begun learning this song



(which has many more verses) about two gnomes and their adventures. Also, "Jasper" the Gnome has come to visit, fresh from his journeying abroad and has taught us to say "Good Morning" in German ("Guten Morgen"). We eagerly wait to see which language he shares with us next! Deahna and Letitia have gone on a journey over east with their Mum and little sister...we wish them a happy trip and look forward to their return later in the year. A warm welcome to Mary-Lou Small as our assistant on Thursday and Friday mornings.
Love from all of us in the Kindergarten

Class 5/6/7

We are, as a school starting a month long school wide (1-7) program to eliminate name calling. Even friendly teasing because it's so hard to draw the line when it turns mean or was misinterpreted. We're learning to ask for kindness as well as be tolerant of people's bad habits especially when we see sincere effort at overcoming them. It's good.

Next Friday evening we are singing at the Festival of Voice. Everybody is to be at the Civic Centre at 5:40 sharp dressed spiffily in purples and blues.

In math we're split - some working on their subtraction and addition and some working on ratios.

In morning lesson Class 7 have finished up with Pizano and the Incas and Magellan circumnavigating the globe. We are on the verge of the Renaissance but we will turn to science for a time first with the nerve-sense system in human anatomy.

Class 5-6 finished Homer's Odyssey and we move on to the foundations of Rome.



Woodwork is great, thanks Justin. We'd like to give the rain Gods a

holiday on Monday afternoons though, if anyone knows them personally.

Much love
Rebecca

Star Weavings

For the past 20 years or more, this newsletter of the Australian Association for Rudolf Steiner Early Childhood Education has been published to share reports, research, events, practical ideas and articles of interest. Most early childhood teachers around Australia receive this newsletter twice yearly. Parents, playground leaders and those people interested in the developing 0 - 7 year old child can benefit from subscribing to this newsletter. The newsletter is published twice yearly in March and September. The cost is \$45 for a 2 year subscription. This includes postage to anywhere in Australia. For our overseas clients the cost is A\$60. Please contact Vicki Kearney 07 3289 3602 or email avenuesfor-change@gmail.com if you wish to subscribe or contribute. Many thanks, Vicki

School Drops-Offs and Pick-ups

Parents and carers are advised that children are to be delivered to school no earlier than 8.35am as supervision before this time cannot be guaranteed. The parking area near Peppermint Cottage is to be used by Primary school parents and the main car-park for Kindergarten parents. For safety reasons, please back into the car-park and drive slowly at all times. Please also be reminded that, once collected from school, supervision of children is the parent's responsibility.

If collecting your child from school when a specialist teacher is teaching, please see Sabine in the office for a note first.

The Teachers

Absences

Please ensure that your child's absences from school are covered with a letter upon their return to school. Teachers also appreciate a telephone call to the office if your child is to be absent for the day.

Thankyou from the teachers

Council news

A proposal was made by Council at yesterday's meeting to form a "Heart Group". This group will be the people you can contact if you have any concerns or feedback. We will also rotate the Council chair for 3 months and reassess procedures of how council works.

The members of the "Heart Group", how to contact them and more detailed information will be announced soon.

We also take the opportunity to remind everyone that you can refer to the "Complaints and Grievances" procedure available in the office.

Council

Parent Handbook now on website

Kelly Jones did a wonderful job designing the revised Parent Handbook in conjunction with Sarah Pozzi and Clare Jones who did the editing.

A printed version will be available soon to all parents.

Please visit: www.goldenhill.wa.edu.au

**If you gobble up your food
People think you're really rude.
Eat food slowly, Chew it well,
Keep lips closed so none can
tell.
Choose food wisely when you
buy it Then you'll have a
healthy diet!**

Hot Soup and toasties on Fridays starts again in two weeks.

Can you please contact Donna Carman if you are interested in helping.

Phone: 9848 3999 or mobile: 0447 426 330

It is a great way to get your Family Participation scheme hours up!

We also need one or two sandwich makers for this, can anyone contribute?

Did you know that...

We are now in week 5 of the term and only 4 more weeks to go until we find ourselves at the beginning of the July Holidays? Some of the parents have not paid their term 2 fees yet, or are not on any payment plan and have been charged with a \$25 late payment fee. There are a few options regarding the way to pay your fees and I am happy to discuss them with you, contact me to arrange a time. Sabine

Alternatives to punishment

Aletha Solter

- *Look for underlying needs.* Give your child something to play with while waiting in line.
- *Give information and reasons.* If your child colours on the wall, explain why we colour on paper only.
- *Change the environment.* If your child repeatedly takes things out of the kitchen cupboards, put a childproof lock on them.
- *Give choices rather than commands.* Decision making empowers children; commands invite a power struggle. Try: "Would you like to brush your teeth before or after putting your pajamas on?"
- *Hold, hold, hold.* This expression of love enables children who are acting aggressively or obnoxiously to channel their pent-up feelings into healing tears.
- *Be playful.* Turn the situation into a game. "Let's pretend we're the seven dwarfs while we clean up".

The deadline for the next newsletter is 6 June '08

Please submit contributions to the file tray marked 'Newsletter' in the office or preferably email to the editor. Include your name, phone number and date. We reserve the right to edit contributions as required. Articles may include personal opinions that do not necessarily reflect the views of Golden Hill Steiner School. This newsletter was edited and produced by Sue Mills. E-mail contributions to: s.mills@westnet.com.au