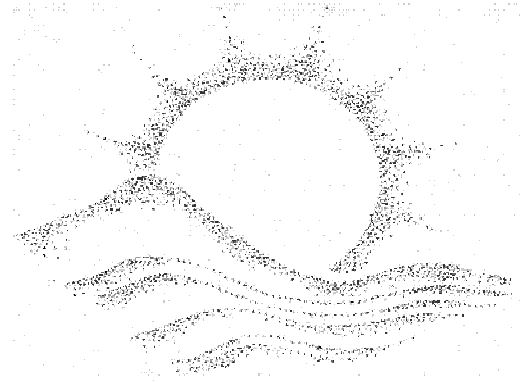




# The Golden Quill

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



3 November 2008

Issue 215

222 Scotsdale Road  
DENMARK WA 6333  
Phone/Fax: 9848 1811  
Email: steiner@denmarkwa.net.au  
www.goldenhill.wa.edu.au

## The Only One

From man's perspective  
In this intricate game of love,

It is so easy to become confused  
And think you are the do-er.

But from God's Infinite Certainty,  
He always Knows

That He is the only One  
Who should ever be put on trial.

by Hafiz, Persian poet

"You can see that one must recognize the spirit in nature, the spirit that is in the mineral and plant kingdoms of the world. It is the spirit, not the substance, that one must know, because in reality one heals the human being through the spirit that is in the mineral and in the plant."

Rudolf Steiner

## Welcome

We warmly welcome Willa Ryan (class 2), and Dakota (class 7) and Scout Bastow (class 5) and their families into the school community.

### Special events

November 4—6 Camp Class 3&4

November 6 Excursion Class 1&2

November 7 Pupil Free Day -Albany Show

November 14 Greek Olympics Class 5 in Perth

November 17 - 21 In-term swimming classes 1 to 7

### From Karri Kindergarten

Under a stone where the earth was firm

I found a wriggly, wriggly worm  
"Good morning" I said "And how are you today?"

But the wriggly worm just wriggled away

The children are enjoying picking the flowers and finding some of the little creatures who live in our garden, including earth worms. I encourage them to find a new home for the worms in the vegetable garden where they will help the plants grow, Thanks to one of our garden faeries, we now have lettuces, radishes, corn and more peas flourishing in our little patch. I hope to sow sunflowers soon, too. Our Spring weather is so changeable, the children need a sunhat, but also rain gear, and a complete change of clothes, including socks, in their calico bags at all times (all labelled with your child's name please). A waterproof bag to transport wet/muddy clothes home would also be helpful. One pair of slippers plus one lone slipper have gone missing. All are labelled with their owner's name so please check at home/in your child's school bag to see if they have

somehow found their way there. Lost property is currently in a small bag in the storeroom/office, so please check it if your child has lost anything.

Dates for this term's parent/teacher meeting (on the topic "Nutrition") and transition programme for preps and playgroup are still being finalised. I will send a separate note home once these are decided. I know it is a busy time for everyone, but thought I would let you know of my "wishlist" and maybe these things could be completed over a longer term (the Christmas holidays?). The well-loved children's armchair needs a slipcover as it is becoming more worn every day. There are some doll's beds and carry-baskets that need mattresses and pillows. Theresa has donated a large quantity of cotton fabric we can use, for these purposes. Please let me know if you would like to help. Thanks to Theresa also for donating two sets of shelves which will soon help our storeroom to be more organised and tidy.

Warm Wishes

Denise



## Winter soup and toasties

To the Golden Hill School community. It was with great pleasure that I could offer soup and toasties to the school for terms 2 and 3, 2008. It was a steep learning curve for me to have to learn very quickly how to make soup of a quality that I was happy to serve up to people other than my family! I couldn't (and wouldn't!) have done it without the initial support of Imelda (soup and toasties 2007). And it wouldn't have been possible to continue without the willingness of Karen and Ilan to step in when I had other engagements, and then there's toastie-maker-extraordinaire Linda who stepped in at a moment of need. Thankyou to Grace for a helping hand when I really needed it. Thankyou to Karen and Grace for endless moral support (translates to regular cuppas and a chat!), and to Sabine for a freshly brewed coffee on those days that I

really needed it! And I always looked forward to Theresa's arrival after lunch..... come to think of it I don't know how any of us managed to get any work done at all. Its not just many hands that make light work, surely many smiles make light work too.

It was a great privilege to be able to spend a whole day at the school and catch glimpses of children playing in the sunshine, including the assortment of sun-hat improvisations. I feel like I have experienced much more of the rhythm of the school, and met many parents, staff and students who I wouldn't normally have crossed paths with so frequently. And to my new friend Elva - I hope we can share soup and toasties again someday.

Donna



## Enrolments 2009

We would like to ask all parents to notify the teachers or the office as soon as they know that there will be changes to enrolling their child/children next year at Golden Hill Steiner School. This is very important information for any planning and budgeting.

Council and Teachers

## Family Participation Scheme

There is still time to complete the 20 hours per family for 2009. Regarding the FPS, we ask all parents to indicate whether they choose to complete their FPS hours or rather pay. If you have lost or misplaced your FPS hours form, you can obtain one from the school office.

Please remember that the forms are due by the end of term 4. There is still a Busy Bee on 22 November.

Please contact Deborah Devitt on 9848 3529 for further information.

## SOCK IT TO YOU FUNDRAISER.

Council has agreed to us using the Sock It To You catalogue as a fundraiser for our school. Catalogues should be coming



home today (Monday 4<sup>th</sup>) to each family. There is likely to be a few spare copies if anyone wants them. Many of their socks have been tried and tested by my family and friends and all I can say is that their quality is superb!

Please feel free to call me with any questions, or suggestions. My phone number is 9848 3999.

If you wish to pay by credit card, please fill in the details on the order form. If you wish to pay by cheque, please make it out to Golden Hill Steiner School. There is a 50c postage charge on all orders, simply to help cover their costs.

Order forms need to be returned to the school by Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, which gives me a chance to get a reminder in the next newsletter :-)

Donna Carman

## Gossip

Can be fun, erroneous and uncomfortable to be around. It's hard to know where it crosses the line and becomes a problem, or a means to avoid addressing an unresolved issue.

As members of a caring school community, we ask you to take care with information you may hear. When we take care to verify information or understand the complexities of issues that come up in the school we are richer for it. Sometimes issues come third or fourth hand and can be quite different from how events actually unfolded.

If you have questions, issues, misunderstanding, concerns...please, please first go to the one the issue concerns. If that doesn't resolve things and you would like to ask for support go to the teachers (next) then to Council if still unresolved. Please think through all the details, what, when, who was there, and what you would like to happen next. We are committed to providing the best possible education in the most beautiful atmospheres possible. Thank you  
The College of Teachers

## Absences from school

It is an Education Department requirement that all children's absences from school are explained in writing. The teachers appreciate a phone call if your child is going to be absent as it helps us plan for the day, but an explanatory note upon your child's return to school is necessary.

These are kept on file, and may be checked by the department.

Thankyou for your co-operation with this.

The College of Teachers

## The deadline for the next newsletter is 14 November '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

## The Twelve Senses – An Overview

Most of us are familiar with five senses - sight, smell, touch, taste, and hearing. However, these five traditionally taught senses provide only one model to characterize the human being. Waldorf teachers familiarize themselves with *twelve* human senses that were identified by Rudolf Steiner, and they strive to protect and nourish these 12 senses through the curriculum. The 12 senses can be divided into three groups, corresponding to the three-fold approach taken by Steiner education - Willing (hands), Feeling (heart), and Thinking (head). All 12 senses are present and active at all ages, but in each of the three major phases of childhood we can see that some of the senses are coming to fruition in new, more expansive ways. Awareness of the 12 senses can help us understand how best to protect and nourish our children's bodies, souls, and spirits.

The Will senses, or Physical senses, are focused on the developing child's physical body. These senses are Touch, Life, Movement, and Balance. They make up the "lower senses" which are the body's concentration area in the early years from birth to age 7. Children are extremely impressionable at this time. The practical activities (cleaning, cooking, washing,

etc.) that we share with our very young children in order to engage their will honour and encourage healthy development of the lower senses. We can nourish these senses by surrounding them with beautiful natural objects to use for free play, dressing them in natural fibres, engaging them in verse and movement, and seeing to their needs with awareness, love and respect. In this way, we hope for the child to *experience the world as good*.

The Feeling senses, or Soul senses, teach a person about his or her relationship to the world. These are Smell, Taste, Sight, and Warmth (or temperature). They are the "middle senses", awakening in a more vigorous way during the more emotional phase of childhood from 7 to 14 years.

These middle senses have a major role in relating to aspects of nature outside the self and reacting individually with different likes and dislikes. During this time, the Feeling senses help the child *experience the world as beautiful* and through the arts and practical hands-on experiences (like building and making things), he or she can build connections to the surrounding world.

The Cognitive senses, or Spiritual senses, direct the human being inward. These senses are Word, Hearing, Thought, and Ego. These "higher

senses" become more attuned during the last phase of childhood, the adolescent period from 14 to 21 years of age. These spiritual or social senses help the maturing human being to see people and the world in a new way, a more detached and discerning way. They turn the human being much more inward where they discover themselves and their spirituality more maturely. In the upper school the aim is to help students *experience the world as true*.

Over the next few newsletters, I will expand on each of the 12 senses with the hope that we together gain a deeper understanding of them and how to nurture them in ourselves and our children. In this way I wish to enliven our enthusiasm for living in a way that enriches our children's development as free human beings and to help us support and complement the work of our wonderful teachers. Bye for now! Love, Kristy.

### Sources:

Davy, J. Hope, Evolution and Change. 1983. Hawthorn Press.

Patterson, B. and Bradley, P. Beyond the Rainbow Bridge - Nurturing our children from birth to seven. 2000. Michaelmas Press.

Soesman, A. The Twelve Senses. Hawthorn Press.

---

## Ecovillage Seminar

Greenedge Ethical Investments Ltd have chosen 10 locations around Australia to present an informative seminar on what ecovillages are from a sustainable perspective, and what they are limited by. And Denmark is one of those locations!

Paul Antonelli of Greenedge Projects (based in Chidlow, WA) is a very inspirational speaker and has had a grassroots ecovillage journey, from concept to reality. Greenedge has now developed a model for what they believe offers best practice sustainable living, based on experience and extensive research. Ethical investment opportunities in the new wave of green property development will be discussed. Phone

Donna Carman on 9848 3999 with any questions, or visit [www.greenedgeethical.com.au](http://www.greenedgeethical.com.au) for more information on the seminar, or [www.greenedge.org](http://www.greenedge.org) for more information about Greenedge. Denmark's seminar will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm at the Centre for Sustainable Living (meeting room 1).

## Rental needed

Lisa and Michael Petty (Kindergarten parents) and their 2 young children plus a dog are looking for a 2 bedroom flat or even a big shed space were they could stay. Please contact them on: 0427 701 227



## Golden Hill School Performance Information for 2007

Percentage of students in Year 3 and 5 achieving the national literacy and Numeracy benchmarks for their year.

Class 3: 10 students took the Numeracy test. 6 were above the benchmark and 4 were below. The reading test was taken by 8 students, 6 were above the Benchmark, 2 below. 7 children tested in spelling. 3 were above the benchmark, 4 below. 9 children took the writing test. 5 were above the benchmark, 4 below. Class 5: 11 children from participated in the Numeracy testing. 8 reached above Benchmark, 3 were below. In Reading 10 children took the test out which 7 were above the benchmark and 3 below. In Spelling 10 children in took the test. 3 were above the benchmark and 7 below. 11 children participated in the writing test. 7 were above the benchmark, 4 children below the benchmark.

### Values the school holds

A Steiner curriculum is based on a universal pattern of child development. While recognising the

diversity of individuals and their cultures, this picture of a common experience forms the foundation of the education we offer at Golden Hill Steiner School.

### Reverence and respect for the individual child.

Against the background of a common path of development, each child brings a certain individuality. Each child has his own temperament, family environment and destiny to pursue. The central task of our education is to strengthen the individuality of the child to establish faculties that enable the child to relate to the world and other people in a successful way.

### Respect and concern for others in the school community

Our school promotes a sensitivity and concern for the well-being of others. Each person is encouraged to be caring and compassionate, and respectful of others. Conflict is seen as an opportunity for growth and is managed constructively.

### Participation in the wider community

Our school is an integral part of the Denmark Community and participates in aspects of life in the wider

community where possible. We also encourage members of the wider community to share aspects of our school life.

### Environmental awareness and responsibility

Golden Hill Steiner School is committed to developing an awareness in each person of the interdependence of all elements of the environment. We encourage respect for our natural and cultural heritage. We endeavour to work towards using resources sustainably and taking responsibility for caring for the school grounds and surrounding environment appropriately.

### Parent, student teacher satisfaction.

In 2007 the schools student numbers increased compared to 2006, which shows that the overall parent, student teacher satisfaction is a healthy one, allowing for mutual respect and understanding.

For a copy of the complete school report for 2007 please contact Sabine in the office or look it up on our website:

[www.goldenhill.wa.edu.au](http://www.goldenhill.wa.edu.au)

## Surf Rescue Certificate

There is a possibility to get your "Surf Rescue Certificate" which enables you to possibly save people(!) and to fulfil government regulations for field trips around water. It's a two day course covering CPR, First Aid and sea rescue carries.

There's a fitness test, 100m run, 100m swim, 100m run in 5 minutes (apparently everyone passes). There are no dates yet but the course will probably run in November.

Cost: 175

See Rebecca if you're interested. We need 2 or 3 more to run a class.



School of Integral Art

## Biography the Adventure of your Life

Write your story - Tell your tale - Act your part  
Live your life

A three-term part time creative writing, story telling and acting adventure into the depth of your own life, with **Horst Kornberger**, author of 'The Power of Stories,' and 'The Writer's Passage.'

The human life is a grand orchestral piece that plays its universal themes in seven-year movements. Our individual lives are the breathtaking improvisations on top of this steady rhythm. In this course you will learn to hear this background music. The course culminates in an exploration of the stages of the soul's journey beyond life through imaginal writing and performance.

Courses commencing in February 2009

For more information contact Horst Kornberger [kornberger@sofia.net.au](mailto:kornberger@sofia.net.au) or call 9331 1880.