

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL:

We were very sad this week to hear of the sudden death of an old scholar, Nataasha van Kampen, who left the school in July 2001 after completing Class Eleven. She was 28 years old when she died unexpectedly of natural causes last Sunday, 1st July. Our thoughts are with Nataasha's sister Juliet and her parents. Steffi Cook on behalf of the whole school.

UPPER SCHOOL FESTIVAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

THIS WEDNESDAY 11th JULY 2.30pm - 3.30pm. The Upper School teachers and pupils are holding an assembly to celebrate some of the work that we have done in the last year and to reflect on some of the paths taken by pupils who have left the school in recent years. The assembly will also include music and the presentation of art work. We warmly invite parents and friends of the school to come along at 2.30pm this Wednesday to enjoy the festival. Julian Paine for the Upper School.

With this newsletter I say good-bye to putting together the weekly bulletin over the past twelve years. I have enjoyed helping with the communication between school, parents, pupils and friends in this way. I am very grateful to Wendy Farrington who will take on this task from September. Steffi Cook.

What's Coming Up:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Tuesday 10th July | 7.30pm The Winter's Tale Class Ten Play |
| Wednesday 11th July | 2.30pm Festival of Achievement in the Theatre – all parents and friends welcome |
| Thursday 12th July | 7pm Class Thirteen Farewell Evening |
| Friday 13th July | 12 Noon – term ends 12.15pm – 12.45pm Hockey Match 1pm Staff Lunch |
| Wednesday 5th Sept. | 8.30am Start of Autumn Term – Kindergarten term starts one day later |

News from the PTFA

We rounded off the year with a final discussion about what we would like from the PTFA and future events. We then had a social gathering in the café. Nick Rayment gave a presentation a few months ago about refurbishing the gym floor. This is a necessary school project and the PTFA has been able to give £10,000 towards the £15,000 needed. The PTFA was also able to contribute £230, to the Aric Sigmund talk 'Alcohol Nation' organised by the Parent Seminar Group given earlier in the Term. Thank you very much to everyone who helped raise money this year to support the PTFA and the School. Without your support none of this would be possible. We look forward to an exciting year ahead and reviewing the School wish list! You are all warmly invited to attend the first meeting of the PTFA at 7.30pm on Monday, 17th September. We hope you have a good summer break. Becky and Jason.

CHARITY WALK

Money raised so far for the Hospice of St Francis stands at just over £6,000 and counting.... Tien Lebon in Class Four raised the largest online amount of £455. Congratulations! The biggest cash fundraiser will be announced in September. Well done and thank you all!!! Steffi Cook.

Thought for the Week

Shall I compare thee to a Summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And Summer's lease hath all too short a date.

W Shakespeare

SUMMER CRAFT SCHOOL 16 – 20 July for children aged 3 – 8 years. Please give your name to Barbara by **this Wednesday at the latest**.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB STARTING THIS SEPTEMBER 3.30pm – 6.30pm. Application forms available from School office. Book now. Spaces will be limited.

Summer Concert

Congratulations to all the pupils from Classes Four to Nine who performed at this lovely event last week! What a wonderful display of musical talent – thank you. And thank you to Penny Ward and Julian Rolton for bringing it all together!

RSSKL hockey fundraiser – this Friday 13th July at 12.15pm!

Class 7 hockey players are raising funds to buy hockey equipment, including goalkeeper kit so we can play against other schools next year. We are holding an exhibition match after school on Friday 13th July at 12.15pm on the basketball court - everyone is invited, suggested £1 donation for entry. Cakes and drinks will be available to buy, so come and cheer on our teams and see the fantastic hockey they play! If you are able to donate any hockey equipment, or contribute towards the equipment we need to buy please see Miss Hobday, usually in the science labs, or email her at tinaho@rsskl.org.uk. Thank you for your support!

PLANNING THE NEXT PARENT SEMINARS

The purpose of the Parent Seminars is to enable parents to learn more about Steiner/ Waldorf education and Rudolf Steiner's ideas about the development of the child. If there is an aspect of the education you would like to know more about, please let us know.

Email elizabeth@daviesandporterfield.co.uk by the end of July, or ring 01442 876697. Nicoline and Elizabeth

FIX-IT DAY

So, after three months of continual rain, the **FIX-IT DAY** turned out to be **SUNNY AND HOT**, with cool, cloudy intervals and one ten-minute monsoon downpour. Forty-two members of the school community showed up, thirty adults and their children, and their work on Saturday will affect the following students and adults:

- All drivers - The car park potholes have been filled with gravel and the hedgerow at the entrance cut back to increase visibility onto Langley Hill.
- Kindergarten - A hidden, tarmac pedestrian path alongside the road to Friarswood has been completely cleared.
- Class One - A finger guard has been attached to the classroom door and sections of the tree-house flooring and walling repaired; further work is needed.
- Classes 3 -12 - All door frames and skirting in the first floor corridor of the Main Teaching Block have been painted, with the exception of the doorways at one end; this will be completed.
- Music classes - The wall of wooden panels outside the Music Room has been prepared for painting and this will be finished off.

Jacob Buckton played guitar and ukulele at the barbecue - the right music at the right time. Thanks, Jacob! The next Fix-It Day is provisionally booked for 22nd September; details will come your way later. Simon Romain and team. (*THANK YOU SIMON FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND EXCELLENT ORGANISATION!!! Ed.*)

Mandate Holders

In addition to all the superb work done by our dedicated staff and parents, much of the development and smooth running of the school has always depended on the commitment and goodwill of members of our community to take on tasks above and beyond their normal workloads. A couple of years ago these tasks were designated "mandates" and those who held mandates were empowered to make decisions on behalf of the school. As another successful school year draws to a close, I'd like to thank all the mandate holders for the time they have gifted and for the excellent work they have done for the school.

Denis McCarthy, Mandates Coordinator.

News from the Upper School Council:

The USC spent time reflecting on the work it had done over the last year and is looking forward to welcoming the new Class 9 representatives in September. There is still more work needed on the Constitution or Charter for the USC, and there will be ample opportunity to do this right at the beginning of the coming academic year.

Ralf Sealey and John Ingleby.

GREAT NEW PTFA INITIATIVE SETTING UP OLD SCHOLARS DEDICATED WEBSITE



Dear Old Scholar, former parents and teachers,
I would like to introduce myself as chair of the PTFA for the last few years- I have now stepped down and will concentrate on developing links with Old Scholars and several other roles to help the school.

One of the initiatives that I was very keen to develop was to build up a network of old scholars – so that many of you who have lost touch can re-connect. With this in mind we have developed a dedicated website where you can register – upload photos and connect with old friends –

<http://oldscholars.rsskl.org/>

We plan to feed in news from the school and the rest is up to you – this is your website and you can utilise and develop it yourselves.

There are now 65 years of old scholars so there is a lot of catching up to be done.

Please pass on the details of this site to anyone you may know and we do encourage you all to register!

We plan to have a major social event in the next few months to honour old scholars – news will follow on this.

You can register at this address <http://oldscholars.rsskl.org/>

All feedback on improving the site is welcome, either to myself – info@antondell.co.uk or to the school where emails will be forwarded to me (info@rsskl.org).

The school is flourishing at the moment and enrolment is currently almost at capacity with about 410 students. In these challenging economic times this is very good and speaks well of what the school continues to offer. We have a vast library of old archive photos which have been digitised and shortly these will be available on the website.

If you are interested we are looking for an old scholar who would like to act as administrator for the site – please let me know. Warmest Regards, Anton.

Community Notices and Adverts

- **Wooden cabin bed for sale:** Single cabin bed with built in desk, sofa, and pull-out sleeper couch. Upholstery for sofa is pink, so probably only of interest to girls (although I don't want to stereotype!). Price £150 with mattress (was bought for just over £500). Ring Ann on 01923 400551.

- **Holiday Cottage** to let in Bembridge, Isle of Wight. Sleeps 8. Large garden. 500 yards from the beach. Coastal walks, lovely beaches, rock pools, boats, beach huts, great cafes, restaurants and pubs. Everything for a perfect family holiday. Phone Peter or Noelle: 07778 843411

- **Events at Rudolf Steiner House** - SUMMER STUDY of The Earth as a Being of Life, Soul & Spirit, D.Lowe, July 19 -7 August, Thursdays 7-8.30pm. COLOUR WORKSHOP, M.Mulready, July 21-22, 11-4.30pm. WORKING WITH THE SPIRIT, Members' Conference, Dr V Sease, July 31 - August 5. Spare programmes in School foyer. www.rsh.anth.org.uk, 020 7258 7528

- **Events at Delrow Camphill in Watford** - 4th July BOTTON GRADUATION EURYTHMY PERFORMANCE Details from 01923-851703 or regular email diary.

- **Brand new, beautiful, unworn girls' woollen slippers.** I ordered wrong colour, size 26, perfect for kindergarten, very good online sale price that I paid £19.50. Call Annie 07970 716121
- **Looking for 1/2 bedroom flat** for short term lease from September. Anna Swann 07779 257095.
- **Wanted for next school year:** Lodging for eighteen-year-old pupil within commuting distance from the school. Preferably a self-contained annex or 'granny flat' where the pupil could be independent. Contact: Steffi Cook Tel 01923 262505 or info@rssl.org
- **Holiday House to let** in West Wales. Five bedrooms. Short distance from fine beaches and Pembrokeshire Coastal Park walks. Enquiries: Tel 01442 412230.
- **Gentle & Colourful Piano Lessons** for beginners. Trial lessons also available during Summer Vacation. Please call 07747 036787 for more information or drop me a line at muileng_jegu@yahoo.com
- **Looking for cheap accommodation** from September. Future teacher trainee, mature, non smoking, responsible, basic is fine. I could offer some type of labour in exchange for a bed. Rowan Hibbett rowan.hibbett@hotmail.com
- **METAL LOFT BED FOR SALE** with built-in desk, chair and pull-out sleeper couch. Blue upholstery, v. good condition. £50 for a quick sale (was bought at John Lewis for over £500) but buyer needs to dismantle. 5 mins from school. Please call Anna 07793 550943.
- **Juicer for Sale** Nutri-SquEASE Max 'Slow' Juicer (actually fast masticating!) Used once for review only, Boxed, New £180 – sell for £75
Low RPM doesn't damage or oxidize delicate enzymes and phytonutrients like high speed centrifugal juicers do, new technology upright compact design, impressively fast. Kings Langley. Call 01923 267445 or Simon on 07966 197571
- **Who is truly supporting** you to help move you forward in your desire to change or excel? Through the positive power of coaching I can help you find your way there. The aim is to guide you to reach your full potential, leaving you driven and energised. To find out more visit: www.symphonycoaching.co.uk
- **Holistic Family Holiday 19th-23rd July.** A nurturing space for families to play, learn and share. Eden Rise residential centre (edenrise.org) nr Totnes Devon. Beautiful barn conversion 7 acres of land. bushcraft, sugar free cookery, crafts, herb walks, sauna, films, Non violent Communication (NVC) for families, movement, singing, children's activities and more. From £150 inc all meals, activities and accommodation (children by donation). Concessions available. Call Olivia or Chris 01803 226127 www.holisticfamilyholidays.co.uk
- **ORGANIC B&B/self-catering in lovely wooden chalet**, near Devon Steiner School, Totnes. Family friendly. Rural setting but near town, coast & Dartmoor. Large garden, inspiring views, pure water. 01803 226127, info@holisticfamilyholidays.co.uk www.holisticfamilyholidays.co.uk
- Have you lost a **VTECH Advanced Extra?** Found at the school at the weekend. Come to the office for more details. Thanks Priya.
- Seeking permanent nanny/**childcare help**
To look after 3 lively boys (12, 9, 6) daily after school in term and full time in school holidays, sole charge. Living in a rural setting just outside Berkhamsted, we would like someone to join our rather noisy but loving family. (boys, cat+dog+guinea pigs and busy working parents). We are looking for a stable and caring person to bring continuity and fun to the boys' daily routine. Experience with children of these ages and driving essential (car provided). Pro rata salary approx £380pw net. Please email Deborah Dolce at deborah@dolcebarden.co.uk
- **BABY SITTING AND HOUSE WORK**
21-year-old university student from Hungary will be available for Baby Sitting and/or House Work (cooking, cleaning) from the 23rd July to the 5th August for £7 / hour. If interested, call Dora on 077 6777 4258.
- Student Teacher Trainee (starting in September) is looking for **accommodation** close to the school, willing to lodge with family-can offer babysitting. Please email Alice, alicioferkin@hotmail.com
- Student Teacher Trainee (starting in September) is **available to give piano lessons** after school, many years of experience-can teach grades or just for fun. Please email Alice, alicioferkin@hotmail.com
- **GUITAR, BASS GUITAR, PIANO & MUSIC THEORY LESSONS DURING SUMMER** Lessons for all ages and interests. Electric, acoustic and bass guitar in a variety of styles (blues, rock, folk, jazz) for all levels of ability. Classical grades in guitar and piano up to grade 4. Music theory up to grade 5. Absolute beginners very welcome. £10 per half-hour or £15 per hour. Call Aidan Maier on 07511876177 or email at a.maier@btinternet.com
- **Friendly Karate Group** has space for new members. Improve confidence and fitness. Learn an ancient art, create self discipline, understand respect for self and others. Tuesdays 5.45 – 6.45pm at Kings Langley Community Centre, for ages 7 – 14 years. Continues throughout summer holidays. Call Sensei Paul Hazell on 07739 516230.
- **If you enjoyed Gordon Coxon's Gong Bath at the Wellbeing Festival - Don't miss the full version!**
Summer Body and Soul Day - Energise Revitalise Rejuvenate Sat 21st July, with Janey Lee Grace in Chipperfield, Nia dance, Healing Gong bath, Yoga Nidre Relaxation, Inspirational talks including expert on EMF protection. See the testimonials!!! www.janeyleeGrace.com/energiseandrevitalise £75 includes natural goody bag
To book call Simon 07966 197571
- **Locally grown fresh salad produce for sale** – tomatoes, lettuce (different varieties) etc., also **antique Pine Monk's Bench for sale**, good condition, decorative sides, good for toy storage/blanket box £35. Child carry seat for bike, attaches on to bike frame to carry a toddler, well made, £15. Please telephone Laura 01923 264084

- **Free - 2 cuddly and unique Abyssinian guinea-pigs** looking for a family to love. They are eloquent and expressive at feeding time yet quiet and warm when cuddled. Please call to find out more about them. 07515 552 370.

- **Shaolin QI GONG and KUNG FU** classes will restart on 6th September at the Chipperfield Community Hall. Qi Gong 4.30-5.30pm (adults) and Kung Fu 5.30-6.30pm (adults and children) on Thursdays during term time. Cost: £7 per session. Info: Andrea Chishti:01923 829302 or 07913 538 732

- **Do you need a babysitter?** Emily Martin (Class 12), responsible, great with children, understanding. Call or text 07840 364691.

- **Tennis for the summer holidays.** On weekdays, from Monday 9th July to Friday 31st August 2012, Langley Tennis Club will be holding a Tennis and Sports Camp suitable for girls and boys aged 4 upwards. Location: High Woodhall Lane, King's Langley, HP3 8RW. For further information please call 01442 230234 or email: info@langleytennis.com. Website: www.langleytennis.com

- We are looking for a family who would like to **look after our two very fluffy female guinea pigs** during our holiday (Friday 13th July to Tuesday 2nd August). We will provide cage and food etc. Contact Fiona 07764 683951.

Waldorf One World (WOW) Day is 28th September (which is also Michaelmas day) this year and, building on our Peace One Day event last year in support of the Arab Jewish Waldorf school, Ein Bustan in Israel, we would like to host an international food luncheon. There will also be a 'Puppets for Peace' performance by Mr Mike's new Class Nine drama group and any others who would like to be involved. All funds raised will go to Ein Bustan. More details to follow!

In the Ein Bustan June newsletter Rachel Gottlieb, the outreach coordinator, wrote these words about their efforts to expand:

"Eventually, after much nervous waiting, and despite support for our initiative from mayors, supervisors, lower level education officials, etc. we received a definite negative answer from the Ministry of Education. In a curt and laconic letter, with no added explanation, we were informed that the Ministry rejected our request to establish a bi-lingual class in an existing school, or to establish one of our own. We were instructed to dismantle the present class, segregate the children based on language and religion and inform their parents that they must remove them from Ein Bustan - and register them to separate Arab and Jewish schools. The Ministry warned us that if Ein Bustan held classes despite the Ministry's objection, we could be persecuted for an illegal act.

Despite the disappointing reaction of the Ministry, the parents and staff of Ein Bustan took a brave stance - they were determined to forge ahead. They said:"We will not be separated and our children will continue to learn and grow together." Israeli law allows parents to refrain from sending their children to the regular school system if they are officially "home schooling". Thus the respective families decided to take advantage of this loophole and register their children to "home school" (with Amir and Hasna's expert guidance...). Of course this will not be accompanied by any Government subsidy or budget. Happily, we now have 14 families (7 Jewish and 7 Arab) registered for next year's combined first and second grade class! The families have already begun to meet, and you can read personal accounts by two of the mothers in the articles by Lee and Amal. In order to physically accommodate the new class, we will need to raise approximately \$20,000 in donations to cover the needed renovations. On a positive note, we are currently in the midst of negotiations to gain use of an existing building for the school, belonging to the local council of Bosmat Tivon, which enthusiastically supports our plans.

The commitment of the parents from both sides reflects the trust and friendship that have evolved between Arab and Jewish families. The feeling that our destinies are tied together is an indication of how much Ein Bustan has become a strong community, overcoming differences in culture, religion and language."

Rachel also wrote a letter to me asking the following:

Would it be possible to get some kind of project going between our two schools which could lead to a more personal type contact?? For example, maybe children in UK could sew some aprons or toys for children here? As you wrote: indeed we "need everything"...both the "big" things like money for renovations and equipment but also the small stuff...we are opening an additional toddler group next year for age 1-2 - perhaps people have "gently used" toys that could be sent in a care box? (i.e. soft dolls and animals, wooden blocks, play clothes, a changing mat, sturdy metal pails and toy shovels for the sandbox and garden etc. etc.) Also I wanted to ask if you think it might be possible to look for specific "sponsors" for individual children here, who are economically disadvantaged, to help them with tuition assistance. Each donor will receive a picture, update and drawing from the child at the beginning and end of the year.

If you can help in any way please contact ann.marcuson@me.com or andrea_chishti@hotmail.com

The news sheet is published on Mondays, copy deadline Friday 4pm. Sales of goods or services £3 per advert, house or flat rentals £20, house sales £75. Email info@rsskl.org with your ad or drop it into the office. The school newsletter is a forum for many different members of the community, and views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the school.

Have a great summer break! Steffi Cook info@rsskl.org