

The Alice Springs Steiner School



P.O. Box 2736, Alice Springs, NT 0871

Phone: 08 8953 4578 Fax: 08 8952 3897

E-Mail: office@alicesteiner.nt.edu.au

Web: www.alicesteiner.nt.edu.au

THE CORKWOOD CHRONICLE

TERM 3, WEEK 8

Wednesday, 12th September 2012

SCHOOL TERM CALENDAR

Class 4 Camp - Ross River	11th - 14th September
Spring Festival Rehearsal	12th September
Class 3 Camp - Ross River	17th - 19th September
Spring Festival - Half Day	20th September
Last Day of Term	21st September
First Day of Term 4	Monday 8th October

*"The healthy social life is found
when in the mirror of each
human soul
the whole community finds its
reflection,
and when in the community
the virtue of each one is living"*

*From Verses and Meditations - Rudolf
Steiner pg117*

Principal News

Staffing 2013

It gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of our Class 1 teacher and our second Cassia kindergarten teacher for 2013. The panel were unanimous in selecting Katy Egger to the class 1 teacher's position and Amie Sanderson as the second Cassia teacher. These two ladies are well known to the school community and their commitment to the school is well documented. Our team is developing strongly with a bright looking future. We can now plan the transition for Cassia children to Class 1 with the teacher already on board which provides great security for all.

Farewells and welcomes

This week we are sadly farewelling **Bill Pechey** from the school. Bill has given the school many fine years service in a number of capacities as Parent, as volunteer and as Facilities manager. He has contributed greatly to the life and growth of the school and the new solar system installed recently is one of Bill's great initiatives. His interest, passion and dedication for the Bio-dynamic garden has certainly borne fruit (sorry about the pun) and is one of the showpieces of the school. To be thinking that we can utilise the produce of the garden to feed the children via a canteen is a remarkable achievement and one that many Steiner school's would be envious about. Bill now leaves us to pursue another of his passions, one that he has shared with the community over the years, and that is music. Bill has had an interesting work history which is testament to this multi-skilled man and I'm sure he'll enjoy his latest venture. Thank you Bill for all your work and we look forward to your ongoing friendship into the future.

Welcome

Tony Castleden now takes over as the school's gardener. Tony has two children in the school, Flora in class 3 and Amy in Class 6 and we have all been impressed with Tony's enthusiasm working with Bill in the gardening and building projects this year. Looks like his first job will be a rabbit-proof fence. Good Luck with that Tony.....

Class 3 building projects.

The class 3 children have created some outstanding models as part of their 'Building Main Lesson' as well as the amazing paved space made with Bill and Tony's help outside the class 3 and 4 rooms. Congratulations! What a gift to the school. It has been an incredible learning experience for the children, highlighting once again the holistic nature of the teaching at a Steiner school. Bill with Tony's able assistance has facilitated a useful, 'real world' contribution by the children to the ongoing life of the school. On the day of the assembly where the space was 'opened', a new child to the school who is in class 2 was overheard planning what they would build next year (seeds of the future). It was a wonderful moment watching the children explore the space for the first time. Excitement, interest and pride in a remarkable achievement clearly evident.

Dress Code

Many thanks for the support you have shown in responding to the reminder about the practicality of mid-thigh shorts. Someone has mentioned the difficulty of procuring shorts of a reasonable length. If anyone knows a place in town where mid-thigh shorts are easily buyable please let Michele in the office know.

Term three

Term three is almost at an end with two more camps and the spring festivals to mark the end of another fruitful term. Class 4 are away at Ross River this week and Class 3 are away in the last week.

Brian Dodd

School News

Locavore News

Last week of trial

Crunch time – do we continue this initiative from Cherie Pie and Bill??? We need feedback please. If we all added our name to roster for a few hours **once a year** we would have the roster covered! Thanks must go to those who just popped in to help or offered/were begged to help. It would not have worked without you.

How wonderful it would be to continue this “café” and develop the garden to table theme within the education framework. Excite the children with their involvement in the process and give the teachers a small break! This however takes a much more “considered” view rather than purely a tuckshop process and a lot more discussion with teachers and parents maybe!

I do think the ‘café’ is sustainable enough to pay someone to continue the process – especially now a few of the “essentials” have been bought. **Anyone keen or even more sustainably a team?** It is a frustrating kitchen to work in still ... but it is getting easier. I think it was designed to make only big pots of curry in!

The 'cafe' has the capacity to contribute to ongoing costs for the garden and class based activities [the 2013 class 3 can build one!]– but not really enough fundraising for the “kindy building fund” – although this could be a future goal. The biodynamic garden so embedded in Steiner philosophy – was developed by a volunteer parent many years ago. He now runs his own farm. Although the science of biodynamic gardening is too much for my scientist brain! – the principles behind gardening organically [healthy soil – grows healthy product] are beneficial. To watch a video done last year at the school : see <http://aliceonline.com.au/2011/06/29/biodynamics-stirring-stuff/>

I reflected this week on the privilege I have felt to be able to “donate” my time to starting this project despite, like all of us, so many other demands on my time. Luckily I am between jobs so the timing was great except for a few weeks. It has been much bigger than I expected [part of that has been the research and the accounting] but has also brought many unexpected joys - which I will treasure. Such is the life of a volunteer – poor in \$ but rich in other ways! I can see my dad smiling and his motto – you always get back more than you give ..., although it often comes in unexpected ways. So to those who have been able to pop in and help – my blessings and I know you have been enriched as well. Cleaning up at the end I’ve never enjoyed as I’ve thought of the mess in my own house and the garden that needs attention! Need a roster system for that one!

It has really made me reflect on the “value” of our school and the kids and teachers that bless and support it. I have loved the support of “my” class teacher and others who have been so appreciative [thanks Nick], I have **enjoyed** the company of some parents and sometimes their little kids but I’ve also witnessed the daily rhythm of the school on a Friday, the smiling faces receiving lunch [those who are fussy and those who aren’t!], the paparazzi from class 3 who interviewed us as part of their play time, the amazingly fresh garlic to cook with, the joy of discovering new recipes and using such fresh local ingredients. The order that had “silverbeet crayons” still makes me chuckle (a tired Michelle!).

I do understand that not everyone shares my passion for fresh organic local food and so have been prepared to use this and my past catering experience to start the ball rolling! Thank you to those who have been prepared to “give it a go” for whatever reason. When I started researching “ menu’s for school tuckshops - I was horrified. So much was written about obesity epidemic rather than “good healthy food” – something this school encourages. I was influenced by the early childhood framework here and the sharing of good food in kindy [Suzanna did spoil us and I was lucky enough to volunteer in her classes too]. I’ve tried to offer many choices and a variety of items as part of the trial process although I believe this confused a few! I’ve been amazed how many vegetarian dishes I’ve been able to make with silverbeet and there is still more! My partner dislikes silverbeet so we only grow it for our chooks! It did however make me realize how hard it is to do 100% local meal – and to find a recipe that matched the garden produce, that kids would enjoy and the kitchen could handle. I still haven’t made a potato and silverbeet curry or burgers!! We really need to grow potato’s!

Many more special moments have been the interactions with my own daughter who constantly gave me support and ideas and even gave me the go ahead for asparagus sushi – despite not really liking asparagus [which is good as there is only room for one person to eat our crop of asparagus in our house I say!!] – and whose concept of money and sums has grown having to count all the coins after school on a Friday and covert them to notes! Her money box has grown! I’ve always disliked the cashiering sides of business but this time it has had a different slant!

School News Continued

Locavore Continued -

Ohh the menu for next week – last week of trial!:

Similar to last week but using up some ingredients and the crop of asparagus, silverbeet and beetroot!

- **The silverbeet/potato pie will have feta [left in home fridge last week] and maybe wrapped up in parcels if I have helpers – otherwise it will be a bake.**

- **Pasta with silverbeet & tomato sauce**

- **Nori rolls with asparagus and beetroot filling**

- **Baked Potato's with silverbeet topping [it's getting more popular!]**

Greetings from the Music Room!

I am going to offer a catch-up lesson for the missed lessons during camp week for classes 5/6 next week. All the other classes had their 8 lessons per term and will have their last lessons this week. Those children who have missed lessons due to sickness will be called in during week 9.

Can all Violin/Viola students please bring their instruments and sheet music on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week to be prepared when it's their pick?

AMEB EXAM Oct 12th 8:30-1:30pm St Philip's College

I will give out a little map to the students so that you should find the music block at St Philip's College. I will leave a few copies at the front office too.

Please make sure all candidates are there by 8:30am (exams start at 9:00am) and are getting picked up from there at 1:30pm.

I have planned to have a day- long rehearsal in week 1 next term on Tuesday October 9th with piano accompaniment.

Please help your children to be well prepared and make sure they bring their instruments and sheet music for that rehearsal day!

Thanks, Sabine

Lost Property

There has been an abundance of clothing and other miscellaneous items left in and around the school in the past few months - and as such - the Lost Property Box is overflowing.

If you think your child has lost something, please come and see me in the office to collect it as soon as possible. At the start of next term - all unclaimed items will be placed in the "free box", and in Week 2 will be given to Goodwill.

Many Thanks, Michelle

Kindy News

Billy Button

This week we celebrated Meg and Sarah's birthdays. We are on the turning 4 countdown - not many to go!

Next week is our last class for the term. We invite you to a small spring festival.

Arrive at 11.30 - 40 am with a very small plate to share - finger food size.

How about the boys' families bring sweet and the girls' families bring fruit or savoury or flowers?

I'll place a list on the door: put your contribution on the list.

At 11.30 the children will be outside. A couple of parents/children might be needed to help Jen set the tables, prepare water, cups. Then we shall decorate the garlands with flowers.

After a little dance and song outside we shall go inside for a story and shared meal. Due to lack of space/seating the parents will need to crouch/stand behind the seated children.

Thank you for another wonderful, albeit short, term with your little ones. Have a wonderful holiday and see you next term. We welcome Bahzi into Billy Button as well.

Love Rene & Jen x

Note: We need to finish promptly at 12.30 to have time for a clean-up and my timetable for Class 2.

Ruby Salt Bush 1

Hi everyone,

Just a reminder that our Spring Festival is this Friday 14th at 8.30am. It is not our normal Kindy day so **don't forget it!!** It will be a lovely morning and great to share time together celebrating the change of season and the beauty of these precious children.

If you could help with baking some muffins for the celebration, please let me know.

Look forward to seeing you all there,

Warm wishes,

M'Lis and Unanyntji

Ruby Salt Bush 2

*****SPRING FESTIVAL IS THIS FRIDAY – IT IS ONLY A
SHORT DAY!*****

The children leave after the festival. If you are not able to be here with your child, please let me know as soon as possible.

.....

What another exciting week at kindie! Sadly Jen was sick; and thank you to Denise and Izzy for helping out.

I am sure the children have related the news about our visitor and the very big circle 'pow wow' with Susanne and the Cassia big kids. Truly – it was an absolute delight! We/they learn so much at kindergarten. It is serious and important work. It is basic and essential work for the development of the future healthy human being. Child's play is the foundation of the man of the future. How to 'be' in the world? Where am I in the world? How do I impact on the world?

The dictum – Show me the child of seven and I'll show you the man - is a truism. In a Steiner kindergarten we are mindful of the stages of human development – we care for their physical development, the 4 lower senses of man (touch, balance, life and self-movement), and the 'will' forces of the child. This helps provide a strong body for the life ahead of them. **Everything is timely.**

It is such a privilege to work with these young ones – it is hard, important work for them and us (teachers and parents). They are our future. We want them to have strong healthy bodies, warm hearts with resilience and strength, co-operation and collaboration for a safe and harmonious world.

We practice all these things in kindergarten. Life is good. And beautiful and true.

Love Rene & Jen x

Cassia

Marie is leaving us this week to go back to Queensland. It has been a privilege to have her working with us and we will miss her kind and joyful presence. Some children have finished the swords they sawed and sanded with her. Now the training to be a knight or a sword maiden will begin.

Star has just started helping out on a voluntary basis in Cassia. She is a mother and grandmother and has vast experience in the classroom and with children of many ages, and is enjoying our class of competent and delightful children. Star has only been in Australia for 2 1/2 months and comes from the United States, so if you see her around please make yourself known to her.

Our creative play is mostly fruitful, and yet last Monday we observed a little gathering of children, very intent to talk about movies, and hence it took much longer for the children to settle into play and to move into other imagery. These movie images stick to your children like glue, are very, very powerful and when seen habitually, can override much of what we strive to bring to the children. Very sadly, such powerful images may rob children of their opportunity to create their own unique inner images of life. At this tender age it is an absolute gift to your child to be free of electronic imagery.

Remember our Spring Festival this Friday starts at 8.30 ends at 10.30 and all children go home after with a delicious muffin and their Spring Kite. Please bring flowers to Kindy on Friday morning for the garlands the children will be making. Cassia Class will be sitting by the sandpit to make garlands. School is on as usual the last week of term.

Love Susanne, Kitty & Marie

Class News

Class 1

Greeting all

I disappeared from the scene for over a week due to conjunctivitis.

In week 6 Class One had a great one day and night sleepover at school. They enjoyed their first camp at lot and they especially loved walking up the hill to the Shady to watch the sunset. We witnessed the spectacular evening light when the sun was setting. While watching the sunset Max exclaimed “ the light from the sunset had the same colours we painted the lantern for the mid winter festival last term. We were silent while listening and appreciating the sounds around us. Class One children also sang a tune “Round and round the earth is turning, Turning always round ‘til morning and from morning round ‘til night” . Pixie’s dad Tim took lots of photos of this scene.

At the shady we also unexpectedly found a big pile of sweet mandarins sitting on an old wooden table with writing notes saying “They wanted to give Class One’s children a mandarin each” The note was signed by Gnome!! Truly I am not joking!! We believe that this wee little creature must love Class One Children.

Before getting really dark, we gradually made our way back to our school grounds to prepare our swags on the oval.

The children also liked playing a night game called ‘Spot Light!!!’ and they went to bed when listening to a story “ A wounded Swan” told by their Class Teacher.

Max’s dad and I played music to rock our Class One’s souls until they all fell asleep”.

Now back in my class again, the students finished their English main lesson two weeks ago. Class One are now able to identify many letters of the alphabet.

Now Class One is on Maths Main Lesson for 4 weeks, the children are listening to stories about the numbers gnomes whom they love with their weird behaviour. The children are now learning about numbers, and can chant numbers in different patterns. The also chanted in 10’s, 5’s, 2’s and 1’s. Through gnomes stories they also are learning about Maths signs +, -, x and ÷. They all seemed to enjoy their exploration in number patterns so much and in the classroom, often you can hear the children say “ This is real fun”, “ Let’s do it again”

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Spring Festival next week.

Warm regards

Pairroj Prommar (Class One Teacher)

Class 5/6

Greetings class 5/6 parents,

What a term this has been. Not only has the weather been all over the place, but so have we (on camp).

The camp was an outstanding success for a number of reasons. We were well organised, the parents who came along to support performed their role beautifully, but the main accolade goes to the children in the way that they supported each other and worked as a social unit. I was extremely impressed with the way they did what was asked for meals, and the general high standard of behaviours in public. I am so proud of them, and proud to be associated with them.

We have the Spring Festival next week on Thursday, and if you look in the newsletter you will see the time. We will be eating first. This is always a fun festival and I am sure you will enjoy it as well.

Then it rolls into a holiday for two weeks. For me, the holiday will be tinged with a degree of sadness as the class 6's and I start the journey of separation and goodbye. It's all healthy stuff.

Shalom to you all.

Noel

Community Notices

LOOKING FOR A HOUSE-SIT OR GRANNY FLAT (6 WEEKS)

I am looking for a house-sitting opportunity or granny flat in Alice Springs for a short-term visitor from September 2 through to October 13, 2012 - or any part of that period.

Contact: Rita Cattoni, 0458527524,
rita@cattoni.com.au

HOUSE SWAP

We are in search of a house swap Castlemaine to Alice Springs from January 2013 to Dec 2013.

Our 3 bedroom, centrally located home would be ideal for a Steiner family who were interested in experiencing this area for a while. Our home details can be viewed on

http://www.aussiehouseswap.com.au/pg_what.php

CONTACT US:

Kerry or Peter: 0417 007 268, (03) 54725148
email: kcollins@mmnet.com.au

There are a series of Parks Community Events happening this September and October – namely, wildlife Night Stalks!

What are they? They're a series of nocturnal surveys that were started by Perth Zoo and are now held every year between the September 1 and October 16 nation-wide. More than 730 people have been involved across the Northern Territory since 2008!

The purpose of an event is to give people an opportunity to get out into nature, practise their spotlighting skills looking for wildlife and learn about the threats that face our native wildlife. Not to mention it's fun! The results from across Australia are collated and published on the Perth Zoo's website (www.perthzoo.com.au/nightstalk).

There are community Night stalks organised on NT Parks in central Australia. These will be held;

- Friday 7 September, 6.30pm-8.00pm (National Threatened Species Day), Simpsons Gap, MacDonnell Ranges National Park
- Friday 21 September, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve
- Friday 28 September, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Ormiston Gorge, MacDonnell Ranges National Park
- Thursday 4 October, 6.30pm-7.30pm, Simpsons Gap, MacDonnell Ranges National Park – linked to the Bird Festival (organised by the Alice Springs Desert Park)
- Friday 5 October, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve (private event for people on this mailing list and timed with the start of a 24hr Twitchathon, part of the Bird Festival)
- Tuesday 9 October 6.00pm, Watarrka National Park
- Saturday 13 October, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Ormiston Gorge, MacDonnell Ranges National Park

Please note that numbers will be capped at 20 participants – please contact me (8951 8247 / jacelyn.anderson@nt.gov.au) to book a place. Participants should wear practical footwear/clothing, insect repellent and bring a good torch / spotlight if possible.

Hope to see you out there!

Jacelyn Anderson

Community Notices Continued

"Goldie Needs a Home"

My 6 year old Charlie has a very special little silkie chook he has had since it was a baby-called "Goldie" and Goldie has just turned into a rooster!...unfortunately we can't keep Goldie as we are in town- and I am searching for a good home for him- Charlie is very sad to see him go. Due to the billions of cuddles Charlie has given him- he is very placid and huggable.. Is there anyone out there who can give our beloved Goldie a lovely new home, or know of anyone who could?

Please call Bron- 0407976622





Alice Springs Town Council

2012 night markets

in the Todd Mall from 5pm until 9pm

★ **Thursday 13 September**
Performances by...

- Lacuna Style
- John and Tree Collective
- Lucy and the Diamonds
- The Ltyentye Apurte Drummers

Proudly supported by:



For more information call
(08) 8950 0500 or go to
www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Community Notices Continued

SPRING FESTIVAL NEWS

We invite everyone to come and celebrate the change of season and end of term at our Spring Festival. Please meet us on the oval at 5.30pm Thurs 20th Sept with a BYO family picnic.

Then be prepared to dance and sing in the season from 6pm. We can enjoy the mood set by the dusk light across the Eastern Macs as we journey through each class' interpretation of Spring. You may be inspired to get more involved...

Strings players may need to check with Sabina for tuning time.
See you there!

SCHOOL EXCURSION: Bamba and the Big Tree

Presented by Tangentyere Youth Services and Red Hot Arts Central Australia, in line with The Alice Desert Festival

Classes 1-6 (except Class 4 who will be on camp) are booked to attend

Thursday 13th Sept 11am - 12noon

The bus will pick us up at 10.30am and return us in time for lunch.

Cost per child is \$8.00

Please look out for consent form coming home soon and return it signed to class teachers with money as soon as possible before the performance date.

Bamba and the Big Tree (Schools Performance)

Bamba and the Big Tree is a play about cultural values taken from a Gambian folk story. It is a dynamic, interactive performance with traditional African dance and drumming.

Presented by: Tangentyere Youth Services and Red Hot Arts Central Australia

Written by and featuring: King Marong, Bec Matthews, Peter Lowson and the dancers, actors and drummers from Drum Atweme

DESERT VOICE 2012

The beautiful harmonies of our desert choirs return to share the magic of the human voice, including African freedom songs, modern choral arrangements, the sounds of Aotearoa, and hymns from Central Australia. Choirmaster Morris Stuart will lead the audience through a program of contemporary and classic songs in this very special musical



showcase.

Presented by: Red Hot Arts Central Australia

EVENT INFORMATION

Saturday 8 Sept, 6–7:30pm

Araluen Arts Centre, 61 Larapinta Dr

Cost: \$20 adult, \$15 conc/child, \$50 family - available from Araluen Box Office (08) 8951 1122

Community Notices Continued

ALICE SPRINGS DESERT FESTIVAL UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY 12 SEPT

5.30 - late,

Featuring Max Savage and the False Idols, Warren H Williams and Friends, Katie Harder, Lucy and the Diamonds.

\$15 presale / \$20 on the door

COMEDY CLUB

5.30 - late, Thursday 13 September

Featuring Frank Woodley, Leon Tripp, Eshua Bolton, Donna O' Brien.

\$35 presale / \$40 on the door

NINE LIVES CABARET CLUB

6pm for an 8pm show, Friday 14 September

Presented by Cat's Meow Cabaret

\$25 presale / \$35 on the door

SATURDAY 15 SEPT

5.30 - late

Featuring Guthrie, Tek Tek Ensemble, Los Bandoleros Perdidos, Dr Flouride, Desert Rain

\$20 presale / \$25 on the door

SUNDAY 16 SEPT

12noon - 7pm

Featuring Jamesy Ohhh, Bec Matthews, 'Aiba, Off the Page, Junior Bowles, Alice Springs Desert Music Club - Festival Jam.

\$20 presale / \$25 on the door

HOUSE FOR RENT

2 Bedroom partially furnished OR 3 Bedroom

unfurnished

Single Bathroom, separate toilet

Small Swimming pool, Cubby House, low

maintenance Garden

On small 700 sqm block in Braitling, Northside

Available for 12months from 8/12/12

Contact Kira 0419425027 or

Peter 0417312734

Receive the children in reverence

Educate them with love

Let them go forth in Freedom

Rudolf Steiner