

MLWS News from the Parent Council

September 19, 2017

Hello MLWS Families...

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year! We hope things are off to a smooth start in your household. This year, Parent Council will once again publish this biweekly newsletter, which will include a Parent Council update, highlight activities of various classes and other school-related topics, offer Classified listings, and provide information about upcoming events in the MLWS community.

PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Parent Council held our first meeting of the school year on September 13. We will continue to focus on several priority projects this year including: The Enchanted Walk, a Welcome Committee for new families, a Parent Council presence at MLWS public events to support new enrollment, Faculty Nourishment, Food Drives at Music Shares to support Family of New Paltz, and this bi-weekly newsletter. Please consider attending the October meeting or offering some of your time to one of these projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, September 29, 12:00pm: The Second Grade will perform the Michaelmas Play in the MLWS school yard, followed by the Games of Courage at Hasbrouck Park field at 12:30pm. Don't forget to dress in the Michaelmas colors: Red, purple and gold!

Wednesday, October 11, 6-8pm: All-School Meeting: An opportunity for your voice to be heard and for your questions to be answered. Please plan to attend! Main topic will be school finances.

Wednesday, October 18, 5:15-6:15pm: Monthly Parent Council meeting, in the back Kindergarten classroom.

Sunday, October 29: Enchanted Walk: A Halloween-time event for K through 2nd grade families.

Thursday, November 9: Lantern Walk: A seasonal festival for K through 2nd grade families.

Sunday, November 12: Annual Clothing Sale: Please set aside your hand-me-downs to donate.

Ongoing: Sunflower Garden Parent/Infant/Child Play Group is enrolling for the Fall 2017 session, which meets on Fridays (currently full) and Mondays, 9:15-11:15am. Please see the school's website for more details.

A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM:

From Ms. Loshak: Second Grade has come back to school with strength and courage to go forth as we grapple with our dragons and find our inner light radiating forth. We begin the year with our Michaelmas play, which we look forward to sharing with the whole community!



From Ms. Gill: The Sixth Grade has started off the year by casting our sights downward to the earth. Rocks and minerals have captivated our imagination, and it has been a mind-expanding challenge to imagine that our mountainous landscape was pushed about by mile-high ice sheets. Just like our animal block in Fourth Grade, and our botany block in Fifth Grade, geology reveals truthful signs of the cycles within creation. This year, we will explore the stone formed within the darkness of caves, and we hope to show the light within the mineral world in our paintings. Many stories will be told of human experiences shaped by the complex and often overlooked formation of good old rocks. Next month, when the leaves begin to turn fiery and bright, our class will move on towards the founding of Rome.

CHORUS NEWS

Some parents have probably been told by your children of the changes in the choruses this year at Mountain Laurel. This change is something that the Music Group has wanted to do for a long time. I spent the last 2 years researching and speaking to Waldorf and public school chorus teachers. All agreed that middle school chorus is one of the most difficult classes to hold. There was only one Waldorf School out of seven schools that I spoke to that combines 6th, 7th, and 8th grade into one chorus. There were no public school chorus teachers who I spoke to at a chorus workshop I attended this summer that combines the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Teachers say that pedagogically, the difference between 6th and 8th can be, and is often, oceans apart. This year it is plain to see how far apart the 6th and 8th graders are developmentally. After presenting the idea of pulling the 6th graders out of the middle school chorus to the College, we decided the best way to do this would be to combine 5th and 6th graders together into a chorus and leave the 7th and 8th graders in their own chorus. The 4th grade would have their own chorus as well. One thing I already know about the new arrangement for this year: the 5th and 6th graders belong together. And the 4th grade is really comfortable singing together as a class. The 7th and 8th grade chorus is another story, unique unto itself. If you have any questions please email me at sbernstein1@hvc.rr.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Steve Bernstein, Chorus and Games Teacher MLWS

FROM THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Music in the Field

Thank you so much to all who joined us for the second annual Music in the Field this past Saturday. In addition to raising money for Mountain Laurel and Hasbrouck Park, we wanted to create an event where our community could come together and revel in each other's company.

We would also like to acknowledge the generosity of our volunteers and our sponsors, without whom the event could not have happened. From soliciting sponsors to directing traffic to manning the admissions booth to set-up, sound, and break-down, the volunteers were there, ready and willing. A special shout-out to Wild Earth for sharing their magic with us. Deep gratitude to all of you!

Spring Swing & Silent Auction

Planning for our spring fundraiser has already begun. This year we hope to get the entire community involved. The event will be similar to last year involving a contra dance with a caller, live band, dinner and a silent auction. The goal this year is to have a much larger silent auction. We need everyone's help to procure items. Please ask places where you shop, eat, get services, etc, if they are willing to donate. If you make things or provide services, we would also love to accept those donations. Gift cards and actual items are wonderful! If you have questions or would like to help, contact Carly at fridlichc@gmail.com

Procurement forms are available here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B953yiwYmb3gNmpEYU8tS3ZkeXM/view?usp=sharing>

Thank you for your help and we hope to dance and party with all of you in April (date coming soon)!

The Fundraising Committee

CLASSIFIED LISTINGS

Cleaning out your closets? Please put aside donations for the Third Grade clothing Sale! Collections will begin in October or you can call Brandi at 914.388.9325 to arrange drop off in advance. Adult and child clothing, toys, books and useful household items accepted.

ISO Apple Press The First Grade class is looking to borrow an apple press (or two!) to make warm cider. If you have one to share, please pass it along to Theo Lundin.

Hearth to Hearth Bread Club CSA - slow fermented, brick-oven baked, fresh bread from our hearth to yours. Sign up for weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly pickup/delivery in Saugerties, Kingston, or New Paltz. Join the club! www.hearthtohearthbreadclub.com. Any questions, email baker@hearthtohearthbreadclub.com

Valentine and Wilder's Pet-Sitting Service

Experience with cats, fish and guinea pigs, but also open to other pets as well! (917) 309-7790 or seanaskye@me.com

Circus Arts classes come to Mountain Laurel!

Satori Circus Arts will provide after school classes, instructed by Richard Ferrono. Classes will teach tumbling, juggling, aerial silks, partner acro, unicycle, tightrope walking (1 foot off ground with mat), barrel walking, stilt walking and more!

When: Fridays from Sept 29 - Nov 17

Who: Open to all!

Age 9-12 3:15-4:15 PM,

Age 12+ 4:15-5:15 PM

Where: Mountain Laurel Community Room

Cost: 8-week series for \$112.00. Drop-in welcome at \$15

Please call beforehand to see if there is space.

Register: 845 475 2949 or gymboss76s@gmail.com

Tutoring Ashley Sapir Lathrop is offering tutoring for children in reading and literacy skills. She holds dual master's degrees in elementary education and literacy, with certification in both areas. Whether it is decoding, phonics, comprehension, fluency, or simply finding more comfort with literacy skills, Ashley finds fun and meaningful ways to help children shine. Ashley is available year round for tutoring, at an hourly rate of \$60, and can be reached at (845)519-5067 or ashley.sapir@gmail.com

Home Inspections: emfs, dirty electricity, radio frequency
Concerned about children's cell phone or laptop use? Get protection from new electric meters. Get emf readings on prospective new homes. Learn about router signals. Create an emf free sleeping environment. Teach children about safe wireless use. Decrease overall field exposure. Measure offices, cars, dorms. Learn about resources. Public talks. Harrison Barritt, selfkindess@yahoo.com, 256-0446

Welcome Wellness MLWS parents Liz Duncan-Gilmour and Callie Hershey invite you to experience Ondamed® PEMF therapy. Liz and Callie founded Welcome Wellness after our children achieved remission from neurological Lyme Disease with the help of Ondamed® therapy. We are delighted to introduce MLWS parents and teacher Tim Curtis Verderosa and Nancy Hoose as our trained and certified Ondamed® Practitioners. Our team has all benefitted from Ondamed® therapy's help managing the stress that accompanies caring for loved ones with chronic illness and boosting our immune systems. A one-hour session costs \$75. MLWS families will

receive 1 free session with purchase of 10. We are located at 5 Academy St., just steps away from Mountain Laurel.

Visit: <https://www.facebook.com/WelcomeWellnessOndamed/> or call (845) 288-3088 for more information.

Guitar and mandolin lessons with Mr. Steve Bernstein at his home in Gardiner, NY. Children, teens and adults are all welcome. Please call: 845 255 0822 or drop a note in his mailbox (2nd floor) at school.

Permaculture designs and landscapes created, installed and maintained by Andrew Faust and Adriana Magaña, suited to your vision and the ecology of your site. We use our 20+ years of experience and a great crew to bring you these services: Real Estate Assessment, Land Selection, Natural Building, Native Landscapes, Permaculture forest gardens, Biodynamic Orchard and Tree work, Organic Vegetable Gardens, Ponds and Solving water problems of all sorts. Contact us at 917-584-4588 or visit us at:

<http://www.permaculturenewyork.com/design-consultation>

Traditional landscape paintings in oil – Tim Smith

Offering private tuition for adults and 8th grade students in classical oil painting method. To organize a session around your or your child's specific schedule and needs, contact Tim at <https://www.timsmithpaintings.com/>

Music Composition with 'Famous Waldorf Alumna'

Have you ever wanted to write a piece for recorder? Maybe a piano sonata? Or even a symphony? My name is Stephanie Ann Boyd, I'm a symphonic composer in New York City, and I went to the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor. You can find me on the list of Famous Waldorf Alumni, and my music is being played all over the world. I teach music composition lessons via Skype and I have helped over 100 people write their first pieces. I charge \$100 an hour, and I have financial scholarships for those who need them. You can read more here: <http://stephanieannboyd.com/teaching> and you can contact me at: stephanie@stephanieannboyd.com
