



BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL NEWS

1st NOVEMBER 2006
AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 7

We need an education to arouse in children a feeling of the glory of the world and of the sublimity of the world's processes. If we were to fail to draw the attention of our growing boys and girls to creation's beauty and greatness, if we were not to develop reverence and respect for these things, our children might just pass them by unobserved.

Rudolf Steiner

BSS Choir

Our school choir is going well with new members and old rehearsing an Advent repertoire to perform at the Bazaar and Carol concert. Heartfelt thanks to those attending for their commitment and enthusiasm. We now have just five weeks to go before the Bazaar and in order to accommodate those singers unable to attend at our present meeting time we have scheduled some extra practices. From this week we shall be meeting every Friday at 1.15pm and every Sunday (with the exception of Nov 5th!) at 6pm in the hall. Please note the time change for Sundays. The choir is open to all new singers and although an ability to read music is a bonus it is by no means a necessity, just bring along something to record the rehearsal onto in order to learn your part. For more information please call Jack.

Jumble Sale Fish Tank

Several people were interested in buying the fish tank which was donated to the Jumble Sale. We are taking offers at reception – the tank will go to the highest offer. Please speak to Sara. Also a few people still owe money – please hand in ASAP please.

PTA Request

The PTA urgently needs a garage/lock up/storage space. Our various fundraising activities often require equipment. Currently a lot of the equipment is stored in the attic space of the school but due to current Fire Safety legislation this facility will very shortly no longer be available. If you know of, or have a space which could house some of our equipment, please let Sara know.

Can You Help?

Do you live near a smart wine bar or off license? If you do, please could you enquire if they would donate any spare wooden wine boxes (empty!) to the Brighton Steiner School. Eco-schools want to put one into each classroom for paper recycling. If you can help please contact Suzi.

Early Years News



Jack O' Lantern.....let your candle light shine.

Now with an Autumnal feel to the air, and with the evenings drawing in, we're sharing in an age-old impulse to carry some of the light

and warmth from summer, to sustain us through the closing months of the year. We have returned to school amidst the warm glow of rosy apples and friendly pumpkins, and the preparation of multi-windowed marrow houses, fit for who knows which small creatures to live in!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Parents Evenings

Class 7 Tonight (Wed 1st) 7.30pm

November

Mon 6 th	9am	Class contacts meeting
Tues 7 th	3.15pm	Class 7 bake sale
Fri 10 th	4-6pm	Martinmas festival
Tues 14 th	9.30am	School tour & Upper School Talk
Tues 21 st	9am	Pupil Celebration Assembly
		Classes 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9
Thurs 23 rd	12 & 3.15pm	Carrie's KG Tombola

December

Fri 8 th		Advent Ball – Cl 9 & 10 Fundraiser
Mon 11 th	5pm	Carol Concert

Early Years Events

Thurs 9 th Nov	4.45pm	KGs' Martinmas walk
Mon 13 th	4.30pm	Playgroup and P&T Martinmas walks
Thurs 30 th	5.30pm	KG Advent Spiral
Wed 13 th Dec	9.30am	Christmas Celebration



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Preparations for our *Exciting, New Look, Christmas Bazaar* are well underway with a few big changes to the usual way we have taken this on. An update on some of the bigger changes so far:

- ✳ Firstly, we will not be using the top floor of the school, traditionally where we have had the Children's Activities, Children's Market and the Gingerbread Decorating. These will all now be located down in the Early Years rooms and courtyard (many thanks to the EY's staff for being so helpful and positive about this).
- ✳ Next big change will be to the café in the hall which will now be in Matt's fantastic marquee outside (fully heated) and which will now only be serving tea & cakes. This will provide some much needed extra space.
- ✳ And we have ***A NEW START TIME OF 11am!***

There have also been some other more minor changes which we won't go into in full detail. However, if you are interested there will be a whole school layout of where everything will be up on the Bazaar noticeboard soon.

Some things never change when it comes to this exciting event and that is lots of calls for lots of help. It's lots of fun with a very festive spirit so please have a look and see where you can join in and help out:

THINGS TO JOIN IN OR HELP WITH:

- ✳ **WORKSHOPS - Monday 6th November** (sorry but we cannot allow children at these workshops)
Nativity Figures - In Carrie's Kindergarten 7.30/8pm start- Nativity Figure making, Carrie has kindly offered to guide us on how to make these beautiful figures: the more there are the more Christmassy it feels and they are a favourite at our stall at the Michael Hall Fair. If you can help please contact Carrie.
Felt Making - Handwork room 1pm. Jane Addey and Annette will be holding this fun workshop felting necklaces, Christmas Tree Decorations, tea cosies and many other fun bits. Please contact Annette if you can make it
- ✳ **STORY TELLER** - Does anyone know a story teller who could help us with this excellent event, to be held in the woodwork grotto? Please contact Susie.
- ✳ **ENTERTAINERS** - Can you sing, play an instrument or anything else you may feel is suitable entertainment for our new café. Please contact Lionel or Jack.
- ✳ **TOMBOLA/RAFFLE**. Would you like to take this event on? Let Barbara know.
- ✳ **FIRE TEAM**. We need a team of budding would-be firemen to stoke and man our outdoor fire. There for the enjoyment of the adults waiting for their lovely ones while they are enjoying the many children's activities in the Early Years court yard. Please contact Sara at reception.

THINGS YOU CAN BRING IN

JAM JARS - please can we have clean jam jars with no labels.

PINE CONES - small & large

There will be a box under the seats at the front door for you to place them in.



BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL NEWS

8th NOVEMBER 2006
AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 8

I saw a stranger yesterday,
I put food in the eating place -
Drink in the drinking place
And in the blessed name of the Triune,
He blessed myself and my house,
My cattle and my dear ones,
And lark said in her song:
'Often, often, often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.

Gaelic Rune of Hospitality

Please remember to wear purple on Friday for Martinmas

Martinmas Festival

Martin is celebrated as a young soldier who, when passing on a winter's evening under an archway in the city of Amiens, discovered a poor beggar huddled and shivering. On seeing him, Martin took his own cape from his shoulders, tore the garment in half and covered the poor man to warm him. The following night Martin had a dream in which he saw Christ wearing the same piece of his cape. The experience confirmed in him his devotion to all mankind, regardless of their station in life. Martin went on to become the patron saint of beggars, drunkards and outcasts. He was known for his gentleness, his unassuming nature and his ability to bring warmth and light to those who were previously in darkness. On the evening of Martinmas he is remembered with a festival of lanterns, carrying light throughout the darkness.

The traditional way of celebrating Martinmas is with lantern walks accompanied by singing. St Martin recognised the divine spirit in the poor man of Amiens and gave it the protection of his own cloak. When we make a paper lantern we too may feel that we are giving protection to our own "flame" that was beginning to shine at Michaelmas, so that we may carry it safely through the dark world. It may only be a small and fragile light – but every light brings relief to the darkness.

This Friday we will celebrate the festival of Martinmas. We will have a morning assembly for classes 1-5 and a traditional lantern walk at 5.30pm for classes 1, 2 & 3, who will then process with their lanterns through the playground and to the retired nurses home next door. Parents and siblings are

invited to accompany the children and to join in with the songs. After singing 2 or 3 songs to the retired nurses the children will process back to the Early Years courtyard to be greeted by Class 4 and 5 children around a bonfire where they will receive hot apple juice and roasted seeds. There will also be a lucky dip organised by Class 5.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Parents Evenings

Carrie's kg Wed 22nd 5.30pm

Class 5 Tues 5th Dec 6.30pm

November

Fri 10th 4-6pm Martinmas festival
Tues 14th 9.30am School tour & Upper School Talk

Tues 21st 9am Pupil Celebration Assembly
Classes 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9
5.30pm Class 5 cultural performance for parents

Thurs 23rd 12 & 3.15pm Carrie's KG Tombola

December

Sat 2nd 11-4pm Christmas Bazaar
Fri 8th Advent Ball – Cl 9 & 10
Fundraiser

Mon 11th 5pm Christmas Carol Concert

Early Years Events

Thurs 9th Nov 4.45pm KGs' Martinmas walk

Mon 13th 4.30pm Playgroup and P&T
Martinmas walks

Thurs 30th 5.30pm KG Advent Spiral

Wed 13th Dec 9.30am Christmas Celebration

We will then gather together around the bonfire to once more sing our Martinmas songs. We hope to see as many of you as possible, and look forward to singing and shining our lights together.

Our upper School students reflect the act of St Martin by visiting the Fitzherbert Centre in Kemp Town, a centre for the homeless, where they help out in the kitchen, sort donated clothing and chat to its visitors.

Early Years News

*Glimmer lantern, glimmer,
Little lights a'shimmer...*

We are busy making our own star-lanterns and, as darkness gathers, nothing daunted, we will be wending our way with them through the night-landscape on our lantern walks, (Kindergartens on Thursday, Playgroup and Parents & Toddlers on Monday); an abiding memory for the children (and their parents).

Please remember that even though children may step straight from home to car to school, they need to come equipped to enjoy the walks with warm enough coats, hats, gloves and footwear. These are also needed now to comfortably benefit from outdoor play-time.

Best wishes, The Early Years teachers

A partial summary of Dr Bodo's talks last half term – for those who couldn't attend.

The physical body of a child and his/her soul life are linked by the so-called 'life body' which is being formed during the first 7 years of life. The key characteristics of this life body, rhythm and repetition, provide the child with a means of imitating other people. If the adult being imitated is engaged in activity that they find meaningful the child will develop the habit/expectation that their own activity should feel meaningful as a child and also later in life.

In general asking a young child questions, particularly those along the lines of "what shall we do today? or "do you want a banana or an apple in your lunch box?" make demands on the young child that work against the life body and its imitative wonders.

Only through movement do we make future possibilities a reality (our children did not come into being by our thinking!) Watching television does not require movement and so we do not become part of the social future by watching it. (If TV is part of one's life balance watch with movement activity.) Modern society today is very much led by the visual. Fixed visual pictures, like those of television, leave nothing to our individual imaginations and consequently limit our inner freedom. Living, thinking, creating rich, imagin-ative "inner pictures" keeps us healthy. Similarly, in the classroom, fixed definitions have a dead quality compared to living characterisation that can be added to and developed as the child matures.

Imagine a farmyard with three types of animal: the hen with her nervous questioning and quick to take fright, the cow endlessly digesting grass but not very aware of her surroundings and the farm cat who has the freedom to dart around faster than the hen or having had the cream, then rest purring rhythmically with greater contentment than the cud-chewing cow. Waldorf education aspires to lead the children to the freedom and well being of the cat (nit free if possible!)
Anna & Henry

Eco School's Composting Launch

Congratulations to the **Composting Group** for a successful and hugely entertaining launch of the Compost program last 30th October. What a great way to open the second half of term! It was wonderful to see all the pupils and teachers gathered by the Rose Garden to receive their shiny new buckets, and to hear a few tips from parent experts, Charlotte & Pete. Children squealed with delight at the sight of compost friendly worms, chanting "Compost-Compost-Leaves!" as Pete pointed to the three dedicated bays with a flourish. A representative of Class 3, our compost custodians, cut the green ribbon to officially open the lovely bays which were built using recycled wood. Class 8 will be turning the heap regularly. They will also be carving some beautiful signs, which we can all look forward to.

THANK YOU to teachers Julie Neal (Class 3) and Henry Howlett (Class 8) for engaging their classes with this first of many Eco School initiatives to come, to the parents who built the bays over the summer, to the PTA for funding the buckets, and most of all to Compost Group rep Charlotte Macpherson who has given us such a positive start to the school year.

Eco School Nature Day

The first **Eco School Nature Day** celebration is being planned for Wednesday 22 November at 3.15pm. Led by pupils and their parents, this after school event aims to engage the whole community through nature activities that enhance and support the school setting. Nature Day will take place once a term and is an opportunity for us and our children to connect with nature in their learning environment, alongside the teachers who guide them.

The event is open to all Early Years and Main School children accompanied by parents or guardians, and all teachers and staff, of course! Activities for this autumn Nature Day include the planting of 30 hedges donated by The Woodland Trust, as well as various pots and planters which will greatly enliven the entrance areas of our school.

Please mark the date and we will keep you posted. This project is organized by the Eco School Grounds & Biodiversity Group in cooperation with the Parent Gardening Group and the PTA.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Only three and a half weeks to go
and so much to do!

- ✳ Calling all nimble fingers. Annette has lots of craft packs that need to be made up as soon as possible. Whatever your skills, we can use them. Ask Annette in reception, or look out for the bazaar rep, who will be handing out packs in the entrance hall on most mornings. Please help in any way you can – we are running short of time.
- ✳ Are you going to the Michael Hall bazaar? If you are, would you be able to do a stint on our advent stall? Please sign the rota on the Bazaar notice board.
- ✳ Tombola. This year we are running a tombola stall instead of a raffle. Please bring in any prizes to reception. We want to have lots of exciting gifts to tempt people to buy tickets, so think about what you can offer.
- ✳ Children's Market. Next Monday the list will go up on the bazaar notice board for students to sign up for a stall. So get making.
- ✳ We have an offer of free bender poles, if someone (or a group) would like to coppice them. In this beautiful Autumnal weather it could be a glorious day out. If you can help, please contact Susie Deadman.
- ✳ We need someone with a van to collect tressle tables from Michael Hall. Please tell Annette if you can help.

Wanted:

- ✳ Gas Urn. Do you have one, or could you borrow one? This year the café will be outside so we need a gas urn to make tea and coffee. If you can help tell Annette.
- ✳ Star Cutters. We need lots of these for making gingerbread trees. If you have some to lend please label them carefully and hand into reception.

Also needed: Clean jam jars without labels, matchboxes and small pine cones. Put these in the box under the seat in the entrance hall.

Brighton Steiner School, Roedean Road, Brighton, BN2 5RA

01273 386300

Website: Brightonsteinerschool.org.uk

To advertise here bring your notice marked "FAO BSS NEWS" to school reception. Please enclose payment - £1.50 per issue per notice. The deadline for publication on the following Wednesday is Friday 1.30pm
Brighton Steiner School, a registered charity (802036) and company limited by guarantee (2395378)



BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL NEWS

15th NOVEMBER 2006
AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 9

"The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion that stands at the cradle of true art and true science. Whoever does not know it and can no longer wonder, no longer marvel, is as good as dead."

Albert Einstein

Melanie Davies

We are sorry to have to announce that Melanie Davies will not be continuing to teach music at the school. She has decided to revert to teaching students on a private lesson basis only rather than whole class teaching. We would like to express our gratitude for the music which she brought during her time with us and would like to wish her well in the future. Students interested in taking private lessons should contact her direct. The College of Teachers are currently reviewing the post of Music Teacher and in the meantime class teachers will be delivering music/singing to their classes as far as possible.
Staff Development Group

Get well soon

Lui Sarabia, a pupil in Class 8 was injured in a road accident recently and is currently off school after an operation on his leg. We would like to wish him well and look forward to seeing him back at school when he is recovered.
College of Teachers

BSS Choir - Tenors & Basses wanted

Our school choir is going well with new members and old rehearsing a contemporary and traditional Advent repertoire to perform at the Bazaar and Carol concert. We are, however, woefully short of male voices! We now have just three weeks to go before the Bazaar so if you are a tenor, bass or baritone and have been considering joining then now's your moment!! Do not fear - you will not be expected to sing on your own and to make it really easy bring along something to record the rehearsal onto in order to learn your part. This week we shall be meeting on Friday at 1.15pm in Class 2 upstairs and Sunday at 6pm in the hall. Please note the time change for Sunday. For more

information please call Jack Cryer.

Have you read your Bazaar newsheet?

Time is short and everyone's help is needed. Please contact Annette ASAP and offer to make something. As it currently stands, our stalls will not be brimming full of goodies to sell unless more offers of help come pouring in!

Whitehawk Christmas Lights

We have been invited to host some of the Whitehawk Christmas lights this year and are running two workshops to make tissue & withy lanterns to put up in the trees. Tuesday 21st & Thursday 23rd November, 3.30pm in the handwork room. (Please can we keep the proportion of children to parents fairly even, thanks. Please come!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Parents Evenings

Carrie's kg	Wed 22 nd Nov	5.30pm
Class 5	Tues 5 th Dec	6.30pm

November

Fri 17 th	8.45am	Eco School meeting
Mon 20 th	6.30-8pm	GCSE Presentations
	5.30pm	Class 5 cultural performance for parents
Thurs 23 rd	12 & 3.15pm	Carrie's KG Tombola

December

Fri 1 st		Bazaar set up (no school)
Sat 2 nd	11-4pm	Christmas Bazaar
Fri 8 th		Advent Ball – Cl 9 & 10 Fundraiser
Mon 11 th	5pm	Christmas Carol Concert
Wed 13 th	6.30pm	Shepherds Play for parents

Early Years Events

Thurs 30 th	5.30pm	KG Advent Spiral
Wed 13 th Dec	9.30am	Christmas Celebration

Tombola

Carrie's kindergarten are holding this fundraiser next Thursday 23rd November. Please could you have a dig around for any unwanted gifts - good condition toys, books, bath goodies - anything you think may be popular prizes and give to myself or Sara by Monday 20th November. Thanks, Thaisa
(Kamalika's mum)

Early Years News

We have celebrated this point in the year with our lantern walks filled with singing and the sharing of gingerbread and mulled apple juice. Thank you to the many that came to join in.

Also a big thank you to all those parents who worked so well during the half-term break in our Playgroup room to make it such a lovely refreshed space for work and play.

Best wishes

The Early Years teachers

GCSE Results.

We are pleased to be hosting the GCSE awards ceremony for last year's Class 10 pupils next Monday evening at 6.30pm. There were some changes to the original published results following enquiries by candidates and the final results table now looks like this:

100% pass across all subjects

69% A-C across all subjects:

Art 100%

Music 100%

English 92%

Maths 50%

French 55%

German 33%

The English, Music and Art results were very good, with the French, German and Maths being more average. This reflects the mixed abilities of the group. All the students are now following courses of Further Education, either A level, Vocational or GCSE based at local 6th Form Colleges.

Abiyoyo

Class 5 drama group are rehearsing their musical play Abiyoyo, based on a South African folk tale. They performed 2 songs from the play for Martinmas and they are collecting for a project in a village in Uganda "Pennies and Seeds". Your pennies will help orphans to have families and also help to build a resource centre.

On Thursday 19th October Tibetan monks

came to visit Classes 5 & 6. Here are some comments by class 5 on the visit.

They originally came from Tibet but when the Chinese invaded Tibet they moved to India. They are now touring Brighton for the World Festival of Sacred Music and we were lucky for them to visit us. Claire



They came to show Classes 5, 6 and 7 their life style. They did a dance and played some music on lots of instruments. Roanna

They were a real treat. Their performance included a full demonstration of what they wear and the instruments they play in the monastery. Kaya & Orlanda

The monks made a sand mandala in the Unitarian Church. The monks use the horns to tell the people in the village that they that there is going to be a special event. Zoe.

The clothing they wear is particular to the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery. Plain red robes are worn by monks who are still studying. The red and orange robes are worn by monks who have completed their studies. Kaya & Orlanda

The monks are not allowed to have any valuable possessions so their red skirts are made of lots of little patches of cloth. The stitches at the edge of the short sleeves are blue in memory of the Chinese monk who helped them once. The Chinese monks wear blue robes. Sayana



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Only two and a half weeks to go!

- * Michael Hall stall. We need people to help man this great stall. So, if you're going can you lend a hand for an hour or two. Please sign the rota on the Bazaar notice board.
- * URGENT: wood workers & sewing kits needed. If you can help with either please see Annette.
- * Pine cones: we need many for children's activities. Also if you know where we can collect them please let Barbara know (679147).
- * Jam jars: jam or honey size only, no labels or lids.
- * We need someone with a van to collect trestle tables from Michael Hall. Please tell Annette if you can help.
- * Tombola: please bring in any prizes to reception.
- * Volunteers needed to man the open fire in the courtyard.

* **Gingerbread recipe:**

¾ lb / 337g plain flour
¼ oz / 7.5g bicarbonate of soda
½ oz / 12.5g ground ginger
¼ oz / 7.5g ground cinnamon
¼ oz / 7.5g mixed spice
4 oz / 112.5g soft brown sugar
4 oz / 112.5g butter/margarine
½ lb / 225g treacle or golden syrup
evaporated milk or water to mix

Heat butter in pan with syrup and sugar.
Stir in all dry ingredients and make into a
firm but pliable dough.

DO NOT BAKE

Please start bringing this from Monday. Wrap in cling film and put in box in porch.

- * Face painting and children's market rota now up on bazaar board.
- * Please can everyone start filling in their class rotas.
- * Story tellers needed, an hour on the day would be great.
- * Wanted: brown wool to knit donkeys. Please give to Sara.
- * Produce Stall - Ali Paton has agreed to label the jars of jams, chutneys etc. Can you start bringing them in now so as to avoid the mad rush of labelling which she has had to do previously! Thanks. Does anyone want to make a large gingerbread house to sell on this stall, see Annette.
- * Please start looking for Greenery. We will need to decorate our stalls, so be on the look out for evergreens and conifers which won't mind a trim in 2 weeks time.



BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL NEWS

22nd NOVEMBER 2006
AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 10

“Confidence is one of the golden words that must govern life in the future. The other golden word is love, love of that which we have to do. And in the future, good deeds will be done for the love of humanity.”

Rudolf Steiner

Lunches

A reminder there is no longer soup on Mondays and now no pasta on Fridays. Any offers of help would be much appreciated – these are good class fundraisers!

Lantern-making workshops

Reminder - last workshop to make tissue & withy lanterns will be held tomorrow, Thursday 23rd November at 1-2.30pm in the handwork room.

Eco School NATURE DAY

We hope to see many of you for the Eco School Nature Day tomorrow, Thursday 23rd November, from 3.15 to 4.30pm! Some reminders to all families...please bring light gardening tools and rain gear (the ground will be ready for planting, so no heavy digging on the day). Also, **all children MUST be accompanied by a parent or guardian as this is an after-school activity.**

In observance of the theme “Roots and Renewal” this year’s Nature Days are dedicated to the founders and pioneers of the Brighton Steiner School. A small tree will be planted on this occasion, outside the entrance gate where the Elms have gone, followed by hedgerow planting activities throughout the Main School grounds and Early Years. We have just received a native hedgerow pack of 30 saplings from The Woodland Trust. The school has also been gifted with 100 narcissus bulbs by one of our dear founders and teachers, Diana Westlake. These bulbs will start off planting activities for pots, tubs and window boxes along entrance areas, combined with seasonal bedding and small trees.

Refreshments will be provided by Class 9 who are fundraising to build a sheltered seating area by a proposed biodiversity garden in the grounds.

Let’s all gather together for this creative and social occasion, to enliven our outdoor environment while honouring the ground we stand on, as the Brighton Steiner School community.
Sarri Tapales

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Parents Evenings

Carrie’s kg	Wed 22 nd Nov	5.30pm
Class 5	Tues 5 th Dec	6.30pm

November

Thurs 23 rd	12 & 3.15pm	Carrie’s KG Tombola
------------------------	-------------	---------------------

December

Fri 1 st		Bazaar set up (no school)
Sat 2 nd	11-4pm	Christmas Bazaar
Wed 6 th	7.30-9.30pm	Playground consultation
		Eco Schools & PTA
Mon 11 th	5pm	Christmas Carol Concert
Wed 13 th	6.30pm	Shepherds Play for parents
Sun 17 th	10-2pm	Farmers Market

Early Years Events

Thurs 30 th	5.30pm	KG Advent Spiral
Wed 13 th Dec	9.30am	Christmas Celebration

End of term:

Early Years Wednesday 13th Dec
Main School: Thursday 14th Dec (half day)

Recorders

Many thanks to the PTA for our recorders which were very gratefully received.

Richard Holden on behalf of the Music Dept.

Karate Club

Peter Davey will be holding a karate club every Monday after school from 3.30 – 5pm for class 7 upwards. Please wear loose fitting clothing.

A piece on Martinmas by Mercie Dodd, Class 9

For Martinmas for 4 mornings Class 9 and 10 went to a homeless shelter to do odd jobs and help out. When we got back to school I wrote a little phrase on different people's opinions on homeless people. I wrote a bit on shopkeepers, children, police, the homeless themselves, volunteers, religious people, neighbourhood, Government/Council and I wrote a bit on my opinions at the end. Try to work out who would say what.

"I want to help these people but I can't have them sleeping round the streets. It scares my children."

"I don't mind them sleeping there one or two nights but I don't want to have more homeless people on my doorstep, it's just not fair."

"You can't sleep here you're going to have to move on."

"It annoys me when the police and other people move me on – I'm just trying to sleep."

"Mum why doesn't that man go home?"

"These people need to be helped and cared for. We are trying to help these people but it takes time and money."

"People feel that all homeless people are bad people but most of them are good people going through a bad time in their lives."

"I wish that there were more places for homeless people to go at night time. There are only a few places for homeless men to go in Brighton and nowhere for homeless women to go."

Early Years News

*"Little gnomes so stout and strong,
Heavy footed march along."*

With winter and the earth closing in, our kindergarten tables have become the settings for bands of little twig and felt gnomes with long, woolly beards and warm, hooded cloaks, all purposefully making their way among fallen leaves and mossy logs, to gather for their work underground.

Especially because of the change in weather and the wetness we've had recently, please make sure all children have bags fully supplied with a change of warm clothes and waterproofs, and wellies.

Best wishes

The Early Years teachers

Little Anecdotes

As a family was walking along the sea front it started to rain and their child who is in playgroup said "Mummy, the sea is going to get wet!"

As the darker days of autumn are here one child said "Mummy, the sun is broken it is so dark!"

A Martinmas message from Class 2 – to help our journey to Advent!

All men have light within them
St Martin shows us the way
To see the hearts of each other
And behold each shining ray!
When darkness gathers round us
And nature grows bleak above
May our souls be brightly shining,
May we bring the warmth of love.
For gods now live in all men
Rich, poor, old and young
'Tis this light we see gleaming
In the eye of everyone.

Parents Meeting Space

Parents wishing to hold meetings at the school may book the Handwork Room during Main Lesson (8.45 – 10.30am) via Sara at reception.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Only one and a half weeks to go!

- ✳ **FIRE ATTENDER:** we have someone to tend the open fire in the morning. Can we have someone to help for the afternoon maybe 1.30 till 4?
- ✳ **TOMBOLA:** is there anyone who would like to help Thilaka contact local businesses about donating prizes for the Tombola.
- ✳ **CRAFT KITS:** Annette still has craft kits to give out. The more we have made the more enchanting our hall will be, full of all our hand made gems for people to buy. If you have finished kits you already have please bring them in as soon as possible (items to be returned in time for this Saturday's stall at Michael Hall).
- ✳ **TOWN CRYER:** this fun job is looking for someone to take on part of the day as well, please phone Barbara.
- ✳ **MARQUEE:** can someone help Matt set up the marquee on Friday at 10am?
- ✳ **WOODWORKERS:** it is still not too late to offer to make something for the Bazaar next week. See Annette.

WE ARE SHORT ON A FEW THINGS - WE WOULD LOVE TO BORROW:

- ✳ **COATED TABLE CLOTHS:** we are hoping to buy plastic sheeting for the gingerbread stall but use wipeable mats so if you can lend these they will be cleaned and returned promptly to you, please call Barbara.
- ✳ **POCKET MONEY CAVE:** if you have any little items you may feel would suit the pocket money cave please contact Nadia.
- ✳ **STEEL BINS:** Eco Schools are going to have recycling bins outside the café. Could you lend us your bin if you have the metal type, again we will return them promptly and clean, please phone Susi.

REMINDERS:

- ✳ **GINGERBREAD:** kits to make the dough are for sale at Hawk Supplies from Friday. Each family needs to donate a portion of dough for this activity. This needs to come in on Monday 27th.
- ✳ **CAKES CAKES CAKES:** all families are expected to bring in 2 cakes for our lovely café so get baking - we will need them coming in on Thursday & Friday. Please remember **NO NUTS** and to include a list of all ingredients.
- ✳ **GREENERY:** we always need loads of greenery to make the school look so beautiful, so please start bringing it in from Monday.
- ✳ **NO SCHOOL FRIDAY:** there is of course no school on Friday as everyone is expected to set up and help decorate the school - it's a massive and very fun job.
- ✳ **NO UNSUPERVISED CHILDREN:** if they have to come into school on the Friday all children **MUST** be with an adult at all times.
- ✳ **CRECHE:** Vicky will again be providing this great facility on the Friday for class one and under. Please remember you must reserve a place because numbers are limited. There will be a list on the Christmas Bazaar notice board, and remember their lunch.

Brighton Steiner School, Roedean Road, Brighton, BN2 5RA, 01273 386300, Website: Brightonsteinerschool.org.uk
To advertise here bring your notice marked "FAO BSS NEWS" to school reception. Please enclose payment - £1.50 per issue per notice. The deadline for publication on the following Wednesday is Monday 1.30pm
Brighton Steiner School, a registered charity (802036) and company limited by guarantee (2395378)



BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL NEWS

29th NOVEMBER 2006
AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 11

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR THIS SATURDAY FROM 11AM TO 4PM (Remember no school Friday – set up day)

Tell family, friends and neighbours to come along.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR YOUR SHIFT YET?

If you haven't then phone your bazaar rep ASAP (if you don't know who it is ask your class contact).

CAKES - every family needs to make 2 cakes for the café, so please get baking – any flavour you like (nut free), so make your favourite recipe – **TWICE** – and bring them to the kitchen on Thursday or Friday.

CRAFT WORKERS - please can you get finished pieces back to Annette as soon as possible, and if you have time to do any last minute jobs she would be delighted to hear from you.

GREENERY – please collect greenery to make our school beautiful and pile it up beside the compost heaps – we need masses of it!

LOGS – do you have a wood pile? If you could spare an armful of logs for the bazaar fire, please bring them to the dustbin area and put under the tarpaulin.

SNOW QUEEN and GROTTO need more FAIRY LIGHTS, SPARKLY MATERIAL AND DECORATIONS in particular: black out material ie dark curtains etc to cover windows, white material, old lace curtains, sheep skin rugs, white/silver cushions, paper cut out snow flakes are effective, any white/silver Christmas decorations, tinsel, beads, etc - just fab stuff to make a beautiful fantasy land. Please label these carefully and hand in to reception.

GAS CAMPING STOVE needed for heating the wax on the candle dipping stall. Please bring in to reception.

TOMBOLA – Thank you for articles that have already been donated but we need lots more. Items can be handmade or bought, for adults or children, big or small –we want to entice everyone. Leave them in the entrance hall labelled 'Tombola'

CRECHE – one CRB checked volunteer needed on Friday between 1 and 3pm. Please phone Carol.

PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION – on Saturday the playground needs to be supervised by a CRB checked adult at all times. Can you sign on for a shift? Phone Barbara.

And finally **CHILDREN'S MARKET**. Children's stalls cannot be set up until Saturday morning, when the school will be open from 9am.

Thanks to everyone who has given so much time and effort to this event.

It's going to be a FABULOUS DAY!

Eco School Nature Day

THANK YOU to each and every pupil, parent, staff and friend of the school, who took part in making our first Nature Day a huge success!!! Despite the teasing weather many eager hands, hearts and minds came together in a truly spirited way, to bring much needed renewal to our outdoor spaces.

The program was opened by Eco School Grounds & Biodiversity Rep Kelly Williams, who dedicated the event to all founders and pioneers of our school. We were very pleased and grateful to have some of them with us - Diana Westlake (our very first class teacher, who continues to teach Class 1 Religion), Clare Martin (our pillar in Learning Support), and Christina Sahin (who pioneered the eurythmy program and is now a parent in the school). Diana cut the green ribbon, expressing her delight and support for the initiative. Christina and her daughter Ayla gifted us with lovely violin music, lending a sense of beauty to the busy afternoon ahead of us.

Then children, parents and staff went to it, working swiftly and joyfully against a darkening sky. And yes, all that could be planted was definitely in place within that one busy hour! Refreshments provided by Class 9 were warming and very much enjoyed. Among the closing scenes of the day were children and parents laughing in the rain as they hurriedly tidied the newly transformed grounds. It was cold and dark by then, but their gladness made everything seem quite light.

There are so many people to thank; the list of individual names is too long....you know who you are!!! Deepest thanks and best wishes from **The Eco School Group**

Next Steps for School Grounds Improvements

Moving on from Nature Day the Eco School Group continues to raise awareness and much needed funds for our school grounds with the following initiatives this December...

An Eco stall at the Christmas Bazaar, featuring eco friendly and nature-themed gift items, including toys, activity kits, stocking stuffers, books and more...

A School Grounds Forum on 6 December, Wednesday, 7.30pm in the Hall. All older pupils, parents and teachers are welcome to a consultation on school grounds co-hosted by the Eco School Group and the PTA. The first part will focus on Early Years outdoor spaces followed by Main School concerns, with special emphasis on playground improvements. Various areas of the grounds will also be discussed as possible class projects or parent initiatives. Please come and voice your concerns, so that we may work towards a balanced view on matters concerning the short and medium term development of the school grounds.

First Advent Assembly

Monday 4th December. Please remember to wear dark blue for this assembly.

Advent Ball

Ever wanted to learn how to dance? Now's your chance! Classes 9 & 10 are hosting an Advent Ball being held in the hall on Friday 8th December from 7.30pm. At just £3 entry you can't afford to miss it! Waltz, fox trot, cha-cha, swing... learn the basics and dance the night away. Novice or old hands all welcome. There will be plenty of delicious refreshments and wonderful entertainment!

PTA Update

The minutes of our big PTA meeting on the 18th of October are on the PTA notice board.

In summary, the exciting bits of the meeting were as follows: -

A teacher's wish list was presented - items on that list that had quotes and that could be purchased without too much further consultation, were agreed to be paid for out of the PTA fundraising fund. These items include recorders, science lab equipment, dictionaries, a new ceiling in the woodwork room, German books, a donation to the allotment, lathe and chisels, a pay phone for reception area, an apple press for Early Years and the entrance area improvements proposed by the Eco-schools team.

Already some of these items are in place and are being used by our children and the entrance area of our school looks so much better and rather more loved thanks to our fundraising efforts. Well done everyone!

It was agreed at the meeting that one of the headline projects for PTA fundraising for this year would be improvement of our outside space and provision of some play structures. Please come to the Eco-schools meeting on the 6th of December to hear their proposals. The PTA will continue to fund the on-going teachers' wish list items (obviously in consultation with College and BMG).

There is a large PTA meeting every term and smaller PTA Steering group meetings every ½ term. Everyone is welcome to these – they are advertised in the newsletter –

Together we can make a difference!

Early Years News

"I saw three ships come sailing in..."

Our Christmas cakes are waiting on their shelves, each one filled with tempting ingredients and a wish from each child as we took turns to stir with the wooden spoon. Now it is time to make gingerbread houses, decorated so wonderfully. We will know why Hansel & Gretel couldn't resist breaking bits off the one they came across in the dark forest.

All the while we move ever closer to our Advent Spiral. We are practising Advent songs and walking a path carefully. Please remember to dress children in the Advent colour of dark blue for Thursday evening, without flowing or voluminous skirts and with hair tied back so that we can use our candles safely.

Best wishes

The Early Years teachers

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Parents Evenings

Class 5 Tues 5th Dec 6.30pm

December

Fri 1 st		Bazaar set up (no school)
Sat 2 nd	11-4pm	Christmas Bazaar
Wed 6 th	7.30-9.30pm	Playground consultation Eco Schools & PTA
Fri 8 th	7.30-9.30pm	Advent Ball (Classes 9 & 10 fundraiser)
Mon 11 th	5pm	Christmas Carol Concert at St George's Church
Wed 13 th	6.30pm	Shepherds Play for parents
Sun 17 th	10-2pm	Farmers Market

Early Years Events

Thurs 30 th	5.30pm	KG Advent Spiral
Wed 13 th Dec	9.30am	Christmas Celebration

End of term:

Early Years: Wednesday 13th Dec

Main School: Thursday 14th Dec (half day)

Brighton Steiner School, Roedean Road, Brighton, BN2 5RA, 01273 386300, Website: Brightonsteinerschool.org.uk
To advertise here bring your notice marked "FAO BSS NEWS" to school reception. Please enclose payment - £1.50 per issue per notice. The deadline for publication on the following Wednesday is Monday 1.30pm
Brighton Steiner School, a registered charity (802036) and company limited by guarantee (2395378)