



BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

13th Feb 2015
SPRING TERM, ISSUE 5

"In Winter, I plot and plan. In Spring, I move."



Spring time

WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY WORKDAY

Parents – Staff – Children

AT
THE BRIGHTON STEINER SCHOOL

OPEN TO ALL!

Saturday – 28th February
(1st Saturday after half term)
10am – 1pm

We aim to work on indoor and outdoor jobs
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE NOTICE BOARD
Even if you haven't decided what you will want to do.
IT IS GREAT TO KNOW NUMBERS IN ADVANCE



Health & Safety notice: Children are welcome to participate but
under direct parent supervision.



CALENDER SALE last few going for £8 each (cost price)

The Calenders are very useful as all the term dates and colour coded festivals are included with some very important School Open day, Work Day and Fundraiser dates highlighted.

You can purchase them from Reception or Hawk Supplies.

The PTA are looking for a

- *Graphic designer*
- *Anyone within our community that works in Barclays Bank*
- *Volunteers needed for 28 Feb 15 to help with food prep and serving "school work day"*
- *Positions available in the "Sponsored Walk 25 April 15" - Walk marshals, 1st Aiders, Caterers.*

Are you this person? Please get in touch!

The next PTA committee meeting is on 23rd February 2015 in school hall

The PTA would like to hear from you, so if you have any ideas, suggestions, or comments - positive and negative! If you are interested in getting involved or want to volunteer your help with one of our many projects that may be of interest to you - please send us an email:

thebrightonsteinerschoolpta@outlook.com

Without your input we will not know if we are getting it right or wrong!

Watch this space - this is where we will keep you updated on PTA news.

Request to the School Community for the Upper School Drama production:

- Old fashioned large flash camera
- Soda Siphon Bottle
- Old fashioned microphone
- A ventriloquist dummy

If you have any of these items we would love to borrow them for our play!
Please contact reception.

Thank you, Lisa

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13 th Feb	-	Half Term
23 rd Feb	-	Back to School
23 rd Feb	-	PTA
24 th Feb	-	Community Choir
24 th Feb	-	Class 5 Parents Eve
26 th Feb	-	Class 1 Parents Eve
27 th Feb	-	The Cabin
28 th Feb	-	PTA
16 th March	-	PTA
20 th March	-	The Cabin
25 th April	-	Sponsored Walk

It's Story Time!

Have you ever dreamed of telling a story in your own way in your own words from your own heart? Of transporting your listeners safely through an imaginary world where everything speaks, where dark, strange and wonderful things arise?

Stories can be great teachers, companions and entertainers.
They carry the power to challenge, inspire and transform.

We invite you to step over this threshold. Every storyteller has a gift.
Discover and develop your storytelling potential and let your light shine.

Start date: Wednesday 25th February, 7.30pm;
Venue: Brighton Steiner School;
Duration: 12 weeks x 2.5 hours;
Cost: £150 (or £75 per part); Course Carriers: Alexandra and Arthur

For further information or to reserve a place, please email Arthur at bongomuffins@yahoo.co.uk or telephone on 01273 684 462

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

If you suspect that your child or children may have contracted a contagious disease, please inform reception immediately.

Currently we have one pupil whose medical treatment leaves them very susceptible to contracting these diseases; measles and chicken pox are especially dangerous.

Thank you for your consideration.

Local host families needed

The Upper School provides the opportunity for visiting students from other European Steiner schools to be a part of our school community, where they join classes 9 or 10 for lessons, make new friends and improve their English.

During this time the students need a host family to provide a warm and welcoming family base.

Host families are expected to provide a room, meals and a positive family experience.

The host family and the family of the visiting student would correspond to make financial arrangements, ground rules etc. Usually the rate of payment is £150 per week.

If you are interested in hosting please contact Sarah Starky on 01273 386300 ext 206 or

sarah.starky@brightonsteinerschool.org.uk for more information.

Wanted: Supply Staff

Are you interested in working with young children?

The Early Years department (including Singing Tree Steiner Kindergarten in Falmer) is recruiting supply and cover staff.

Please contact Rosie Harrison (administrator) for further details

Host families are ALSO needed for visiting European students coming on work experience in the kindergartens

The approx timings for these visits are:

23rd Feb - 27th March x 1 student

4th May - 6th June x 1 student

2nd June - 4th July x 2 students

There may be other dates too.

Please contact Annette if you are interested and want more information on

annette.devitt@brightonsteinerschool.org.uk

Thanks

Request for updates on **Medical Information and Emergency Contacts**

We are currently updating our data base and request that if you have not already done so, please fill in the medical info and emergency contact update form.

Hard copies can be collected from Reception.

Should you want a form emailed directly to you please contact me on

annette.devitt@brightonsteinerschool.org.uk

Many thanks, Annette Devitt

If you are interested in doing a shift at the School Shop please contact Lesley on 07751172324. Volunteers not only support this fundraiser for the school but get to play shops and receive a 10% discount on our already cheap prices!

Job opportunities

The School is currently recruiting for the following posts:

- Educational Administrator

This role is at the very heart of the school. This is a full time managerial and administrative position involving compliance, personnel and liaising with outside bodies and the school community on many levels.

A full job description and application form are available from Rosie Harrison at

admin@brightonsteinerschool.org.uk, who is the current school administrator, but will in future be more fully concentrating on her financial management role within the school. She is happy to have an informal conversation about this role if required.

- Kindergarten Assistant - Singing Tree Kindergarten, Falmer Village

We are very proud of our off-site kindergarten in the lovely old school house in Falmer, which is growing rapidly.

We are recruiting for an assistant to the teacher for 5 mornings per week. This could be a job-share.

A knowledge of Steiner Waldorf Early Years practice is essential.

Also a temporary part time assistant.

The Closing date for both roles is the 22nd of February

Please apply to Rosie Harrison – rosiehbrighton@yahoo.co.uk

Community Choir

The Community Choir resumes practise on Tuesday 24th February 7.30 – 9pm.

All welcome.

Contact Katrin Heymann at katrin.flute@gmail.com for details.

PARENTS!

Please **do not** allow your child to throw stones/sticks/leaves into the Flow-Form (Rose Garden water feature).

Many thanks, Annette.

~ THE CABIN ~

The Brighton Steiner School's very own onsite venue producing an evening of acoustic entertainment once a month to raise funds for the school. Have you been yet?!

The first half is hosted by harmony trio The Kites and is also open to anyone wishing to perform in an 'open-mic' style in the company of a warm, supportive crowd.

The second half will feature a different artist every month, bringing their wonderful talents to our school for free!

Doors 7.30 ~ Tickets £4 (on the door only)

Pedestrian Safety

- Please do not park on the yellow or zigzag lines outside the school.
- Please do not park at the school gates.

Thank you

The private school in Silicon Valley where tech honchos send their kids so they

REMEMBER!

Please do not use your mobile phone on School premises. Many thanks. College

When children at an exclusive Silicon Valley school mention apples, they are usually talking about lunch. And they are much more likely to doodle than google. For although some of the country's top executives from Google, Apple, Yahoo and Hewlett-Packard send their children to the Waldorf School of the Peninsula, there is not a computer to be found in the classrooms. Teachers don't even like their students to go online at home.

The school situated in Los Altos, California, in the middle of the nation's hi-tech hotbed, relies on good, old-fashioned pencils, pen and paper, painting and knitting needles to educate younger pupils. It is one of about 160 Waldorf schools in America that encourages children to focus on physical activity and creative tasks in the real world rather than a virtual one.

While most principals are scrambling to find the cash for more computers, these schools are getting rid of them altogether. Rather than expand the minds of young children, advocates of the Waldorf syllabus believe computers can inhibit attention spans and human interaction.

According to the New York Times, the preference among some of the 'digerati' for their children to go back to basics has prompted a debate over the role of computers in the classroom.

'I fundamentally reject the notion you need technology aids in grammar school,' Google executive Alan Eagle, 50, told the Times.

Mr Eagle's children, Andie and William, attend the Waldorf elementary and middle schools in Los Altos, where three-quarters of the pupils have parents with connections to the hi-tech industry.

Rather than routers and wireless connections, the nine-classroom school boasts chalk blackboards and book shelves full of encyclopedias, an anathema in most schools these days. It's only when children reach eighth grade when teachers allow the limited use of gadgets.

'The idea that an app on an iPad can better teach my kids to read or do arithmetic, that's ridiculous,' added Mr Eagle.

Although he uses an iPad and a smartphone, Mr Eagle said his fifth grade daughter doesn't know how to use Google and his eighth grade son is just learning his way around the search engine.

He insisted to the Times that he sees no contradiction in his views.

'If I worked at Miramax and made good, artsy, rated R movies, I wouldn't want my kids to see them until they were 17,' he said.

Fifth grade pupils practice knitting socks to help their math and problem-solving skills, second graders play catch with bean bags while repeating verses after their teacher. They're not synchronizing their mail boxes and Facebooks - they synching their brains with their bodies.

One teacher cuts up cake and apples to help her pupils with fractions they could do in seconds on calculators with a lot less mess.

The Association of Waldorf Schools of North America insists the philosophy works. It cites statistics showing that 94% of students graduating from Waldorf high schools between 1994 and 2004 attended college, with many heading to prestigious universities. However, Ann Flynn, director of education technology for the national School Boards Association, told the Times that computers were essential.

'If schools have access to the tools and can afford them, but are not using the tools, they are cheating our children,' she said.

The Waldorf way is not cheap. Annual tuition at the Silicon Valley schools is \$17,750 for kindergarten through to eighth grade and \$24,400 for high school. There are 40 Waldorf schools in California, more than any other state. Mr Eagle insists there's no rush for their children to start brushing up on their keyboard prowess.

'It's supereasy. It's like learning to use toothpaste,' he said.

'At Google and all these places, we make technology as brain-dead easy to use as possible.

'There's no reason why kids can't figure it out when they get older.'

The children get the advantages, as well.

Finn Heilig, 10, told the Times that he liked learning with a pen and paper so he could see how his handwriting had improved over the years.

'You can't do that with computers 'cause all the letters are the same. Besides, if you learn to write on paper, you can still write if water spills on the computer or the power goes out,' he added.

ARTHUR AND JAKE'S HOLIDAY CLUB



More physical feats, forest fun, games on the lawn, bushcraft, awareness and tracking, food at the fireside, stories, natural discoveries, nature trails, wild riddles...and much more.

Dates: Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February

Time: 8.30am - 2.30pm

Where?: Stanmer Park

Drop off: 8.30-9.30am - On the green opposite Stanmer House

Ages: 5-10 years

Cost: £20/day - Book the whole week to receive a 10% Discount
or
- 20% Discount for the second sibling

To book or for further info contact Jake at
warsarnay@yahoo.com or 07517697499

NoticeBoard

Brighton Steiner School does not necessarily endorse the courses or adverts included in the newsletter.

Visiting Students

Au Pair:

My name is Jule Luisa Bender and I am 18 years old. I live in Germany and attend the last class of the Freie-Waldorfschule Haan-Gruiten.

I would like to work as an au pair in England for the summer of 2015. I have some experiences with children because I have two brothers and one sister. I have different families where I babysit and I did my social internship two years ago in Carries Kindergarten. In my free time I like to play the guitar, sports and photography.

Please email me if you need an au pair or if you know any family that needs one. Thank you.

Jule.Luisa@gmx.de

My name is Grace Pambu Pesa and I am 16. I live in Switzerland and am currently in year 9. I would like to work as an Au Pair in July and August. I am very patient with children and often baby-sit my neighbours 5 year old child, creating various activities to keep them entertained!

For further details please contact me, Grace Pambu Pesa at nyotapambu@yahoo.fr or my linguistic exchange teacher Christine Racine 024 441 49 72 / 079 935 38 31

My name is Theresa and currently I'm a student at the Steiner school in Frankfurt, Germany. In June I will finish my school career with my Abitur (A-levels). After this, I want to spent a year as an Au-Pair in the UK.

I thought about ways how I could find my perfect family. At my school I often see postings from students who want to come as an au-pair to Germany, or from around the world.

Are there are families who need an au-pair? I look forward hearing from you.

Theresa Mülverstedt

theresa-muelverstedt@web.de

Wanted

House to Rent

We are a family of 4 with two children at the Brighton Steiner School and we are desperately looking for a 2-3 bed house or ground floor flat for a short period of between 3 to 6 months from mid-end of February.

We are in the process of buying a house and waiting for the chain to resolve. We are clean living, non-smoking and also own a well behaved and clean cat!

We are happy with furnished or unfurnished but with a minimum of kitchen fittings and heating.

Our budget is around £1200/month.

We can provide a good reference from our current landlord.

Please contact Bruce - 07958596793 - jacksonbruce@mac.com or

Julie - 07961054245 - j.m.g.delwarde@gmail.com

Home to rent

We're looking for home to rent. A large one bed or even a two bed. Something on a ground floor or with lift access (or as few stairs as possible) and the absolute best would be to have a little outside space to grow strawberries and flowers. We need to move out by 28 March (Easter Holidays) or we could take a holiday and move in when term starts. We are great tenants, come with good references and all that. If you know of something suitable please contact Charlotte on 07769413090.

Many thanks

Charlotte & Eli (Sally's Kindergarten)

Accommodation Needed

Part time Steiner School Teacher needs accommodation for Monday nights. Please call Sam - 07518296129

Living

Prenatal Yoga Class @ Rottingdean Village Hall, Saturday's from 9.45-10.45. Please call Bee for more details and to book your space 07880898094

Homeopathy at Rock Clinic

270 Eastern Road. Maggie O'Riordan RSHom.

Appointments 07793200959; www.homeopathyinbrighton.co.uk

Email: Maggie@homeopathyinbrighton.co.uk

Concessionary rates available

Scenar Therapy - A non-invasive biofeedback device to help the body self regulate.

Do you or your children suffer from any of the following?

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Sleep problems
- IBS
- Pain
- Depression
- Fatigue

Available for adults and children.

For more information please contact Jake Thompson (School Reception) - 07517697499

CREATIVE PSYCHOTHERAPY with Lisa Douglas MA, BA (Hons)

Dramatherapy - Creativity is the key to communication and change.

Therapy is often about talking our problems through. Dramatherapy offers something different and unique: the chance to explore challenging feelings that may be holding us back in our lives and relationships, in creative and dynamic ways.

It is a intended safe form of reality where we can begin to make experiments and rehearse change.

Tel: 07799 738449

Email: dramatherapy1@talktalk.net

Web: dramatherapy.yolasite.com

"You have this amazing natural ability to 'hold' the therapy and make me feel safe. You are so gentle, yet you challenged me to work with my inner negative perceptions in a concrete and productive way, thank you so much..."

Classical trained and very experienced flute and recorder teacher gives lessons near the school.

For further details please contact Katrin Heymann on 01273 622338 or email katrin.flute@gmail.com or visit www.musicteachers.co.uk

Child Minder

I am an ex Steiner school pupil and am currently studying Sociology at the University of Sussex.

I'm 20 years old and am an experienced child-minder. If anyone needs any part time child-minding please contact me at faith.rtd@live.co.uk

For Hire

I have a Luton Van with tail lift and I'm available to do jobs like removals, rubbish clearance, deliveries etc. Please call Kerry – 07947996406