



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

Friday January 22

Class 1-8 Parent/Teacher Interviews - **NO SCHOOL FOR CLASSES 1 & 2/3**
Ski Day #2 for Classes 4 to 8

Wednesday January 27

5:30pm – 7:00pm

Bluebell Kindergarten Parent Meeting

Friday January 29

NO SCHOOL FOR CLASSES 1 & 2/3
Ski Day #3 for Classes 4 to 8

Saturday January 30

Class 1-8 Parent/Teacher Interviews

FEBRUARY

Friday February 5

Class 1-8 Parent/Teacher Interviews - **NO SCHOOL FOR CLASSES 1 & 2/3**
Ski Day #4 for Classes 4 to 8

Thursday February 11

Time TBA

Carnaval Assembly

Friday February 12

Carnaval Celebrations - **12:30pm EARLY DISMISSAL ALL CLASSES**

February 15-19

Monday to Friday

PRO D WEEK - **NO SCHOOL FOR CLASSES KG TO 8**
Marigold will remain in regular session.

MARCH

Thursday March 11

Time TBA

Class 6 Play

Friday March 12

Class 6 Play

12:30pm EARLY DISMISSAL ALL CLASSES – Start of Spring Break

Monday March 15 to

Friday March 26

SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL FOR CLASSES KG – 8
Marigold will remain in regular session.

APRIL

Thursday April 1

Spring Concert – Details TBA

12:30pm EARLY DISMISSAL ALL CLASSES

Friday April 2

GOOD FRIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED/NO CLASSES OR MARI GOLD DAYCARE

Monday April 5

EASTER MONDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED/NO CLASSES OR MARI GOLD DAYCARE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SKI DAY NOTES AND REMINDERS

On we go to our second Ski Day. Here are just a few notes:

1. Since I will be busy with parent-teacher meeting, Miss Weidemann and Mrs. Russell-Lowen will hold the Ski Day.
2. Before leaving the school parking lot in the morning please make sure to check in with the class representative or their designee. The class rep. will then check in with Mrs. Russell-Lowen who will take the attendance for the whole school.
3. Remember that children need to return from the shi hill with the driver that brought them there. If you make other arrangements for your child, then do not forget to tell the driver who brought your child to Whitewater.
4. I have two helmets and three pairs of goggles in my classroom. If your child needs either one, then they can come to class five and try them on. It would save on your rental fees.
5. Thank you to the chaperones who beautifully held some of the children last Friday. I am confident that we will have the same kind of consciousness around the children this Friday.
6. For chaperones who did not yet pay for last week please make sure to visit Andromeda and pay up.

Thank you, Ralf Hoerger

NWS KNIT-A-THON for HAITI **SATURDAY, FEB. 6 from 10 am – 2 pm** (LOCATION TO BE CONFIRMED)

NWS students, parents, teachers, alumni and community members have an opportunity to help the people of Haiti by participating in a KNIT-A-THON! In fact, we're inviting all Waldorf Schools on planet Earth to join us by holding a KNIT-A-THON on Feb. 6, making this a worldwide fundraising event.

On Monday, January 25, each student will receive a pledge sheet to begin collecting pledges towards 1 HOUR of knitting on the day of the KNIT-A-THON – Saturday, Feb. 6. Knitting needles & wool will be provided.

Pledges collected for Haiti will go directly towards a soon-to-be-announced relief charity.

Some students may remember that the NWS Tsunami Knit-A-Thon four years ago raised over \$3,000, enabling the school to sponsor the purchase of a much-needed fishing boat for a small village. Imagine what a worldwide KNIT-A-THON could do... More details to follow in next week's bulletin.

Thank You Phil Fertey

CAN YOU HELP?

Imagine a directory of community resources for our children and families; from tutors to cranial-sacral practitioners or homeopaths etc. The Care Group at school seeks input and help from a parent or two in creating this Directory. We are looking for help with gathering information on available practitioners and assembling it. If this helpful, short-term project appeals to you, please call Lisa Bramson at 250 825-9282 or email bramsoncallis@shaw.ca or leave a note for me at the office. Thank you! Lisa Bramson/NWS Care Group.

WE NEED TO SELL MORE MONTHLY AND PUNCH PASSES

In order to have the city bus service to our school we need to sell a minimum number of passes. We are short of our minimum amount. Therefore we encourage all families that use the bus service to our school or for siblings attending other schools to purchase your passes through our school. **Passes can be used at anytime for all city busses. PASSES CAN BE PURCHASED WITH VISA or MC, CHEQUE or CASH AT THE FINANCE OFFICE.**



CHILD CARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS (for parents of Classes 1 to 8)

Certain childcare costs are allowed as a tax deduction from the income of a working/schooling mother or under certain circumstances, a father. A percentage of fees paid to the school by parents of children under the age of sixteen is calculated & provided as a "Tax Receipt for Lunch Hour Supervision". If you would like a receipt, please fill out the form below & return to the Finance Office.

TAX RECEIPTS WILL BE ISSUED UPON REQUEST

PLEASE SEND RECEIPT FOR LUNCH TIME CARE TO:	THIS RECEIPT IS FOR CHILD/REN: (ENTER CHILD'S NAME & CLASS# IN SPACE/S BELOW)
NAME:	Child #1
ADDRESS (including Postal Code):	Child #2
	Child #3

FUNDRAISERS

HAND MADE ORGANIC TRUFFLES

A Class 2 Valentines Day Fundraiser.

Please Pre-Order at the Front Office
(exact change or cheques only).

Order pickup is 12:30 Feb. 12 in Class 3

For further details, please see attached information/order form.

BOTTLE DRIVE CONTINUES - Class 4 and 5 are doing a fundraising bottle drive & we want your ongoing empties or empties you may still have from the holidays.

Please bring them to the school and drop them in the cart located in the parking lot (across from the Bus Stop).

Thank you from Class 4 and 5.





An Epiphany Gift:

The Journey

Above the mountains the Geese turn into the light again painting their black silhouettes on an open sky.

Sometimes everything has to be inscribed across the heavens so you can find the one line already written inside you.

Sometimes it takes a great sky to find that small, bright and indescribable wedge of freedom in your own heart.

Sometimes with the bones of the black stick left when the fire has gone out, someone has written something new in the ashes of your life.

You are not leaving you are arriving.

David Whyte

TEACHER EVALUATIONS

During the next month we will be initiating our Teacher Evaluation processes. Parents will be receiving forms and given the opportunity to participate in this process. I am including here general information regarding our process.

Purpose of Evaluation

Objectively assess and support the teacher in strengthening the class, and the individual teacher's pedagogical effectiveness.

Evaluate standards of teaching

Heighten awareness of pedagogy throughout the school

Assess the need for mentorship and identify the best resources

Identify teacher's respective areas of strength to be a resource for others.

What is evaluated?

Evaluation Team duties & Self Evaluation

Professional work

Parent/teacher relationship.

Faculty/Peer relationships

Mandate work

Who Will Evaluate?

The person being evaluated and one/two other individuals appointed by the School Mentor form the Evaluation Team responsible for evaluation. (To include an outside Teacher Evaluator when available – this year due to financial restrictions it is not the intention of Faculty to hire an outside Teacher Evaluator).

When will we Evaluate?

- ◆ *First year teachers to include new teaching assignments.*
- ◆ *Year 1 – 4 – 7, or every 3 years, for all full-time teachers (both class & subject teachers).*

What do we do with the results of the Evaluation?

The Evaluation Team meets and discusses the information gathered through this process. Together, they set objectives for the future. Objectives could include specific recommendations for professional development, as well as suggestions for future evaluation needs. The Evaluation Team shares the results of the evaluation with the School Mentor/Faculty Chair in order to create the basis for future planning.

2009-2010 School Year – Teacher Evaluations:

Class 1	Marcelo Port Goncalves
Class 4	Natasha Kraus
Class 7	Carron Mulligan
Music	Bree Switzer
Eurythmy	Karin Weidemann

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well BC students are learning foundation skills in Reading Comprehension, Writing, and Numeracy. Assessments will be during the month of February. The assessment is administered each year **to Grade 4 and 7 students** in public and provincially funded independent schools.

WHAT IS FSA?

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is a set of reading, writing and numeracy tests administered each winter to B.C. students in grades 4 and 7. FSA does not measure students' ability to memorize specific facts; it measures reading, writing and math problem-solving skills that students have gained during several years of learning. Some of the questions are easy and some are more challenging. Students answer the multiple choice questions and do their written work in a booklet that goes home to parents by March 31, along with the student's overall assessment results. FSA results do not count toward student grades.

PURPOSE

FSA provides a "snapshot" of how well B.C. students are doing. Results help answer important questions, such as:

- Are all students learning vital skills they will need in school and in life?
- Is student achievement improving over time?
- Are there any trends in student performance at the school, district or provincial levels?
- How are specific groups of students doing?

FSA Information for Parents - a new link was posted on the BC Ministry of Education website www.bced.bc.ca

PARENT NEWS

January 20 2010



Published Weekly
(Submission deadline is Mondays by 3pm)
Email ~ info@nelsonwaldorf.org
or drop off at the School Office.

Note: Ads for the Parent News are space permitting & are on a first received basis. All ads printed are for one week only. An ad may run for an additional week if space permits but is not assured. To re-submit an ad, allow at least a 2 week break.

OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY - Nelson is hosting the Olympic Torch on Saturday Jan 23 – a family day starting at 9am at the NDCC for pancakes, skating & street hockey until 12pm. Celebrations continue on Baker St. 12pm-6pm with the Torch arriving on the VANOC stage (Vernon & Josephine St.) between 6 & 8 pm. The Grand Finale at 8 -9pm with music, dance and a visual presentations at the Grand Hotel.

Park & Ride free shuttle from Lakeside Drive.

COOKIE TIN LOST AT WINTER FAIRE – a red cookie tin (bottom) with a native design is missing. It was brought with cookies for the Cookie Kingdom. If you know of its whereabouts, please call Marjie at 354-4221.

SING FOR LITERACY - with three Nelson Library FREE events in celebration of Family Literacy Week. All events held in the Learning Place, Victoria St. entrance of the library. No registration required,

1. Sing around the Rosies – a special singing time with parents & preschoolers 10:30 to 11:30, Wed. Jan.27
2. Campfire singalong – wear your PJ's, have a snack – bedtime story too. For Families – kids age 5-8 yrs Thur. Jan. 28, 6:30 to 7:30pm.
3. A youth Karaoke Night. Ages 11 & up Fri. Jan. 29 7 to 8:30pm

For info, call Joanne 352-6333 jharris@nelson.ca

BIG LIP SYNC CONTEST – registration is at the Capitol Theatre Feb. 9-24/\$8per person. Performance date is Sat. March 6 at 7:30pm at the Capitol Theatre. Contact Laurie 352-1618/354-1510 or lmjnel@telus.net

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING - Tuesday January 26, 6:30-8pm, in the Parent Room. Anyone who can come will be warmly welcomed with open arms. It's not too late to become involved with this small group of dedicated parents. Please send an email to iainpardoe@gmail.com if you'd like to know more.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT - We're seeking one or two parent volunteers who could help with the Lighting the Way to the Future Fundraising Campaign. Contact Bev if you can offer your assistance.

FOOD FOR FUNDRAISING - Pantry empty after the holidays! Stock up using grocery cards purchased through the school! Drop by Andromeda's office to pick them up.

THE HOT LUNCH PROGRAM is available twice a week. Tuesdays are Pizza day and Thursdays are Hot Dog, Smokie or Tofu Dog day. Each meal includes fruit or veggie and juice. A single meal is \$3.00, extra portions are an additional \$2.00. The family rate for 2 full meals is \$5.00 and 3 full meals are \$7.00. Completed orders forms can be received on scheduled days before 10am or anytime in advance for multiple days or weeks. Payment by cheque or exact change only and must accompany orders. An order form is available below or at the Front Office. **PLEASE NOTE:** this will be the last week that the order form will be at the bottom of the weekly Parent Page. In future, a link will be available on the NWS website which will provide a page (containing 4 forms per page) to print as needed.

Hot Lunch Order Form

SINGLE PRICES 1 meal is \$3.00/Additional Portions are \$2.00 each		TUESDAYS ~ Pizza ~ With veggies & juice Cheese Vegetarian Pepperoni Ham/ Pine	THURSDAYS ~ Hot Dogs ~ With fruit & juice Tick column of choice			Notes to Julien
FAMILY PRICES 2 meals \$5.00 - 3 meals \$7.00		Portions & topping Eg.CheeseX 2	2-BBQ Hot Dogs	1 Tofu Dog	1 Smokie	Advance Orders by number of weeks.
NAME	CLASS					X _____ Weeks
1)						
2)						
3)						
CHEQUES PAYABLE TO <u>JULIEN CORMIER</u> (Not the School) Or <u>*EXACT CHANGE ONLY*</u>						Total Paid \$

Class 2 Valentines Day Fundraiser

Hand Made Organic Truffles

Please support our class 2 fundraiser while at the same time treating yourself or your Valentine to our delicious hand made truffles. Each truffle package contains 2 truffles (1 cocoa, 1 coconut covered). They are made with organic ingredients.

**Please pre-order your truffles at the school office.
Truffles will be available for pickup at
12:30pm Friday, Feb. 12th in Class 3**

ORDER FORM

1 package truffles.....\$1.50 x # of pkt = Total \$

10 packages truffles..... \$10 x # of pkts = Total \$

Name Phone .

Email .

**To order please leave your order form at the school office.
We are able to accept exact change only or cheques payable to
Amy Smith or Chantal Boisvert**