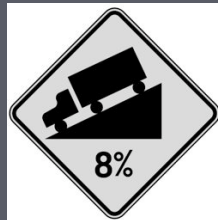
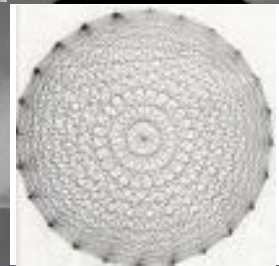


6

Class Six Preview



Friday Electives

We call them Main Lesson Enhancements, but they're kind of like electives that take place on Fridays. (Pg. 3)

Workshop Week

In November, students sign up for one or two workshops ranging from rock-and-roll acrobatics to blacksmithing. (Pg. 3)

Here's a preview of how Class 6 prepares the "academic springboard" towards High School.

At the Nelson Waldorf School, Class 6 is the first year of our Middle School Program. Students are now ready for new challenges on every level: physical, intellectual and artistic.

Our Outdoor Education program is geared to meet their needs for physical challenge, build skills and develop group awareness.

Our year will begin with a two night overnight hiking trip to Kokanee Glacier. This trip will enhance our Geology studies which will open the year. We will also take a trip to Cody Caves to explore the underground network and experience many geologic formations first hand.

A bike trip through an approximately 90-km long section of the Kettle Valley will be our exciting year-end trip.

In between we will study Roman and Medieval History and from one of these eras we will present a class play. Our class has been presenting plays together since first grade and each one serves to further develop our many faceted acting skills as well as our confidence for performance.

Our growing artistic skills will be met with the new mediums of black and white charcoal drawing and exploring the aspects of light, dark and shadow.

In science we will study geology and have our first physics lessons. In geometry the



students love for precision is developed by drawing beautiful geometric designs using straight edge and compass.

Business math opens our young minds to the concepts of percentage and simple interest and we will learn many new things by developing our own class "store".

Academics supported by the arts.

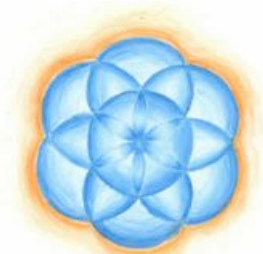
The main lesson work samples shown here are from various Waldorf school grade six classes, and represent the type of main lesson work to be expected next year.

Clockwise from top: Roman history compositions; freehand geometry based on dividing the circle; map of Asia Minor; main lesson book drawing; mineralogy painting; freehand geometry; astronomy; and, business math .

Hannibal
 After Homer's report of Carthage in the
 first Punic War in 264 B.C., Rome and Carthage
 for years of peace, but Carthage was
 weakened and unable to wage war in Italy.
 Hannibal Barca, Carthage's great general,
 hated the Romans for adding his city,
 when he went off to fight in Spain
 he sent his nine year old son Hannibal
 with him. Before they left Carthage,
 both Hannibal had to wear a veil
 of unweaving lead to save Rome. He
 never forgot that war and his wish to
 destroy Rome was his duty as Hannibal.



THE 6-DIVISION OF A CIRCLE





Friday electives & Workshop week: two ways to give Middle School students more of what they need.

Last year, we introduced Friday electives in the middle school that we call “Main Lesson Enhancement.” Here’s how the idea works: At the beginning of each term, students sign up for electives. Then, each Friday, from 9:30 to 10:10, students join their mixed grade (6-7-8) groups for their chosen activity. Typically, each group has about a dozen students.

Activities presented last year as “electives” included:

- Soccer / Badminton / Basketball (one per term)
- Guitar
- Ping-pong
- Calligraphy
- Rock and roll acrobatics
- Modern dance
- Poetry
- Snowshoeing
- Orienteering
- Bothmer gymnastics
- Choral singing
- etc...

These are a fun way to punctuate the end of the school week, by something different with a different social group.

Another program that we began and will continue next year is the concept of Workshop Week. In November, about a dozen different, week-long workshops are held following Main Lesson. Last year, middle school students signed up for workshops that included:

- Iron-age forging/blacksmithing
- Metal casting
- Piano duets
- Lazure painting
- Wet felting
- Bookbinding
- Basket making
- Songwriting and guitar
- Jive dancing
- etc...

Depending on the activity and the set-up required, students enroll in either one or two workshops for the week.

At the end of the week, there is a school-wide assembly where students present each workshop and what they did.



Following Class 6, the “Renaissance” and the “Age of Revolutions” ...

After the study of the Middle Ages in 6th grade we will come to the incomparable age of the Renaissance in 7th grade. The entire 7th grade year is permeated with the excitement of the Renaissance thinkers, scientists and artists. By 8th grade we will advance towards the modern era. Our year will be permeated with the age of revolution which serves so well the children’s awakening individualities and we will end our

year(s) together with a graduation play and a very special class trip.

Based on historical evidence, these middle school years provide an academically rich springboard into High School, while at the same time reaffirming the students’ enthusiasm for, and love of, learning. Indeed, our Waldorf grads are known to do very well in their future studies!

*If you would like to find out more about the Class 6 year or any other year,
please contact me at 250-354-3907 or dmswitz@gmail.com.*

I look forward to seeing you in the Fall... or earlier.

Thank you!

Donna Switzer

Class Teacher for Grade 6, 2009-2010

& School Mentor