

TERM 4, Week 7, 1st December 2008

A Verse for Summer

Can I expand my soul
That it unites itself
With cosmic word received as seed?
I sense that I must find the strength
To fashion worthily my soul
As fitting raiment for the spirit.

Rudolf Steiner

Diary Dates

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- Mon 1st Dec: Board meeting to finalise our budget for 2009.
- Tue 2nd Dec: Bothmer Gym session 3:30-4:00pm here at school. All welcome!
- Wed 3rd Dec: Playgroup 9-11am here at the school sandpit. Please bring morning tea.
- Wed 3rd Dec: Parent Group meeting 1-3pm at school. All welcome.
- Thu 4th Dec: Kindy children join class 1 for orientation 2pm-3pm.
- Thur 4th and Fri 5th Dec: Class 1 camp at Tyalgum Ridge Retreat.
- Thu 11th Dec: Kindy children join class 1 for orientation 2pm-3pm. Parents are invited to join Marga and the children for afternoon tea from 2:45-3:30pm.
- Wed 17th Dec: Kindy Festival 1:15-2:45pm. Please bring a small plate to share.
- Wed 17th Dec: Primary end of year Celebration and Graduation Ceremony. This is the last day of school for the year. All welcome!
- Thur 18th Dec: Beach Day for all school families at Brunswick Heads. Please bring some lunch to share. All welcome!

Teaching Positions

Applications for Primary Assistant Teaching Position for 2009 and Relief Teachers
Applications are sought for the position of Primary Teaching Assistant to Marga in class 1/2 for 2009. Teaching qualifications are essential and Steiner training and experience are highly desirable. A job description is available from the school office. Ph 6689 7033.
Applications may be made in writing to the school office and close this Friday 5th December at 5pm. Applications may also be emailed to admin@rainbowridge.nsw.edu.au.
The school is also seeking casual relief teachers. We encourage enthusiastic, suitably qualified individuals to inquire about becoming involved in our school.

What very changeable weather we are having at the moment. Rain, rain, blazing heat. The children are coming in and drinking gallons of water.

There is a flurry of activity, some very dramatic language, and exciting looking costumes around the school at the moment, as two classes prepare plays. We look forward to invitations for the Class 2/3 play of 'Gilgamesh' and the Class 4 play of 'The Theft of Thor's Hammer'.

We will miss Class 1 for a few days this week as they head off to camp at Tyalgum Ridge Retreat Centre.

A very successful talk on Bio-dynamics, by Brian Keats, was held last Tuesday, and almost 30 people attended. Brian gave a brief introduction to the two main preparations which are used to enliven our soil and nurture the earth. He also spoke about the compost preparations which spread the planetary influences into our gardens. Afterwards, several people expressed interest in forming a bio-dynamic study group with the possibility of field days and working bees on people's properties. Anyone interested in being a part of this new impulse should contact Cristina in the office.

Further talks by interesting speakers are already planned for next year, so watch this space. A very useful meeting was held on Monday with all members of the BOD and the COT to look at how we implement the results of the RSSA review of the school that was conducted in March this year. Important points have been raised for discussion and these will be looked at again in Monday's Board meeting.

We welcome Jodi Payne (soon to be Calkin) as our Literacy and Numeracy Teacher until the end of the year, and several children in the middle and upper primary have already been helped by her skills.

The end of year celebrations and festivities are beginning to take shape, with a lovely whole-school welcome for the children from kindergarten planned for the afternoon of Wednesday 17th December. There will be many enjoyable jobs to be done to prepare for this and the festival group is working with the teachers to organize this now.

Put Thursday 18th December in your diaries as the School Beach Day. Lots of food, fun, friends and farewells to be had as we finish off at Brunswick Heads beach. Look out for a great treasure hunt as well.

There certainly is a lot to look forward to. Wishing you a great week.

Peter for the College of Teachers

On Friday we went to Billen Cliffs to look at our horses - the foal we visited at the beginning of the year has grown a lot. Then we visited Rhiannon's home. We were welcomed Bronwyn, Ben and Tom in their beautiful mud-brick house surrounded by shady trees. The children explored the house and surroundings. They were offered cool drinks, fruit and early birthday cake for Rhiannon.

C A M P

On Thursday we leave at normal school-starting time for Tyalgum Ridge Retreat. I have put a list together of what the students need to bring:

- Walking shoes
- Rain gear - coat - gumboots - umbrella
- Swim wear
- Warm clothes - long pants - jumper (plus a change of
- Cool clothes (clothes)
- Toiletries - toothbrush, soap, towel (for the shower)
- A water bottle - **Very Important!**
- Pillow slip and a sleeping bag or sheet and doona.
- Morning tea for the first day (other meals are provided)

Continued overleaf...

All our food will be provided and as there are several vegetarians in the class I have ordered vegetarian meals for everybody. I've always done this on class camps, simplifying the catering. Please ring me before the camp if your child has any medical condition that I need to be aware of. You need to let me know before Thursday. We are going to have several planned activities like animal feeding, bushwalking, a treasure hunt, clay modelling, having fun with each other and getting to know each other better. We'll be back on Friday for bus time. Please let me know if you will be picking up your child from school on Friday. We will be accompanied by Jodi and Louise.

Last Thursday the older kindy children were greeted in the afternoon with a small play "Little Puff" by class 1 and all children did some paper folding together taught by Harumi. We are getting to know each other and I am looking forward to the afternoon tea with the kindy children and parents on Thursday the 11th December at 2:45-3:30pm.

Love Marga

Thank you for all the wonderful Persian, Indian and French foods. A special thanks to Amber and Stewart. We have raised over \$150 towards adopting 2 orangutans and the left over money will be put towards next year's camp. Tony Gilding will be formalising the adoption this Friday at school and explaining the situation regarding the Bornean and Sumatran orangutans. I have not been able to set a date for the play as yet, but it will be after the 10th. More on that VERY soon.

Love Simone

All is steady and calm as we head for the end of the year.

The children continue on their Norse, Greek and Roman main lessons, woven in with the preparation of class plays. The making and giving of gifts has begun, with the children organising their own 'Secret Santa' activity. This week the children will prepare tuck shop on their own, cooking vegetarian sausages and baking. Farewells are being prepared for Takani, who leaves us for high school, and Zhan who leaves us for Bega. Sad losses indeed. Items for a class concert are being polished and that's about it.

Have a great week.

Peter Calkin

Offered For Sale:

We have some beautiful Christmas cards for sale here at the office. They are \$3 each or \$12.50 for a pack of 5 cards.