



Weekly newsletter of Raphael House, Rudolf Steiner School

8 May 2009

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends

It is very good to be back in School again after a very exciting and rewarding time away.

Six of our Class 12 Students and I represented Raphael House at the International Class 12 Conference at the Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland. We spent four and a half full days together with 550 other students from 16 countries around the world. The Conference theme was "Are we all part of the same picture?" and "What is our responsibility in the World and to the World?" and "How can we shape the future together". These poignant questions were carried throughout the conference and were woven through the activities successfully.

The participants were encouraged to contribute by sharing their Class 12 projects, carrying a workshop and participating actively in conversation groups held each afternoon. There was a large exhibition of Class 12 projects on display. Guided tours of the Goetheanum during lunch breaks, which many students volunteered to join, Keynote speakers, lectures, workshops, conversation groups, practical activities, evening performances and the night café which ran from after the evening performance to very late.... each night.



I felt extremely proud of our students who participated positively and actively throughout the conference and who, together with students from Michael Park in Auckland and Taikura in Hawkes Bay, put on an evening of music and song at very short notice because the South African Class became ill and had to pull out of their planned evening performance. I don't think our Maori songs and dance and the haka with 60 students has ever been performed in the great hall of the Goetheanum before! The organisers of the Youth Section were incredibly impressed and grateful to the New Zealand students for such a heartfelt and moving evening.

This was an extremely worthwhile conference for our young people to attend, to connect and to feel a part of something much larger than the New Zealand Waldorf experience alone.

I want to thank the students for representing Raphael House so positively. I believe this was a unique experience and one well worth undertaking.

Over the coming weeks there will be an article by the students sharing some of their own learning and experiences.

A reminder to you all that there will be a Class Representatives Meeting next Monday 11 May at 7.30 pm in the Eurythmy Room and on Wednesday 13 May at 7.00 pm, our Community Meeting.

We look forward to seeing you all.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Karen Brice-Geard

School Co-ordinator/Principal

on behalf of the College of Teachers: Ray Shore, David Stephenson, Norbert Mulholland, Adam Ricketts and Margaret Sweaney.

UP DATE FROM THE RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL TRUST

We are pleased to announce that Dr Rene de Monchy has joined the Rudolf Steiner School Trust. Rene is known to many in the School Community for his lectures in Adult Education and as a former GP he was our School doctor for many years. His own children attended Raphael House before moving to the Hastings Steiner School (now Taikura). Rene brings a wealth of experience from his Anthroposophical medical and therapeutic work, as well as a thorough understanding of Steiner Education. We look forward to his long and fruitful association with Raphael House.

As announced earlier in the BOT update, Adrian von Aesch has been appointed as a Proprietor's Rep. We welcome him to the team and look forward to working with him alongside fellow reps, Chris Penman and Paul Kirby. Our sincere thanks to Alan Chapman for his 3 years of work and commitment as a Proprietors Rep on the Board.

Paul Denford
For Rudolf Steiner School Trust

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

18th May - Class 3 Parent Meeting 7.30pm

21st May - Class 12 Parent Meeting 7.30pm

FROM THE OFFICE

REMINDER

Dear Parents - Please return the Update of Student Information details to the office a.s.a.p. as we need to update our data base in case of any emergency that might occur. Thank you for your co-operation.

WE HAVE A SUSPECTED CASE OF WHOOPING COUGH (PERTUSSIS)

We have a suspected case of Whooping Cough (Pertussis) in the school and the child concerned is being kept at home.

How Do You Recognise It?

Whooping Cough usually starts with a cold and irritating cough, but this then develops into spasms of coughing, which may end with vomiting, or with a 'whooping' sound. Complications can include pneumonia, ear infections, and symptoms related to the effects of coughing. It can be particularly serious in children under one year of age who are more at risk of serious complications including in very severe cases brain damage and death.

If you would like any more information regarding Whooping Cough, please contact the Regional Public Health Communicable Disease Team on ☎ (04) 570 9002.

Websites for further information:

www.moh.govt.nz

www.imac.auckland.ac.nz

Wendy Daals

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The ENTERTAINMENT™ BOOKS are back! Demand is escalating. A new order has been placed. The School earns 20% (\$11.00) from each sale. Orders are being taken in the Lower Office or contact: Alan Chapman, 569 5161; email: alan.c@raphaelhouse.school.net.nz

SPORT

UPPER SCHOOL BASKETBALL

12 May	RH v Aotea 2	Aotea	5.00pm
19 May	RH v Wellington College 4	Wgtn College	6.00pm

LOWER SCHOOL BASKETBALL Games commence on Wednesday 13th May. Practice and game times TBA.

LOWER SCHOOL NETBALL

9 May	RH vs Chilton St James	Court 4	3pm
9 May	RH vs Fergusson	Court 7	4pm
16 May	RH vs NIS	Court 1	3.30pm
16 May	RH vs SP&P	Court 15	4.30pm

UPPER SCHOOL NETBALL

9 May	RH 2 (JO's Team) vs Heretaunga 5	HH Court 2	1pm
16 May	RH 1 (Grace's team) vs Sacred Heart	NN Court 2	11.00am

RH RAVENS (KAPITI COAST U/S NETBALL TEAM)

9 May	RH Ravens vs KC Keas	Finman Court	11.30am
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FOOTBALL

12 May	Raphael House vs Kilbirnie	St. Pat's Wgtn 4	9.00am
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ALSO ON THIS SUNDAY at Trentham Memorial park, **MERIDIAN KID'S BIKE JAM** (For 5-13 year olds). Medals, certificates and goody bags for all participants.

Visit www.kidsbikejams.co.nz to register and for more info.

ADULT EDUCATION

PARENTING IN THE KINDERGARTEN AND EARLY PRIMARY YEARS

VENUE: EURYTHMY ROOM

Please take note of the wonderful programme run by Adult Education this term. There is something different every week so watch this space! The Term Programme is available from the Lower Office. The first lectures coming up with Mary Willow are:

Lecture 1: The Journey of Early Childhood – Saturday 9th May 1-4pm

Lecture 2: Positive Parenting – Saturday 16th May 1-4pm

Lecture 3: Loving, Nurturing Boundaries – Saturday 23rd May 1-4pm

NOTE: All parents must attend Lecture 1 before they can come to lectures 2 and 3. These courses are **FREE**.

Child care will be available in Class 1. Please contact Anna Sprekeling (Class 12): pukanna@hotmail.com or 586 9166 to reserve a place. **PLACES MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE.**

This is a Parent Curriculum series and we strongly ask that all parents from Kindergarten and Class One and Two make a concerted effort to attend these lectures. The Parent Curriculum lectures offered by the School aim to deepen our knowledge of child development and reflect the 'Special Character' of the Raphael House.

Mary is a very experienced speaker and brings with her immense knowledge and wisdom.

We look forward to seeing you there.

The Adult Education Group

BIG AUCTION FOR BIG CHANGE - CONCERT UPDATE

My fundraising concert is coming up 16th May (next weekend), so now's the time to get your tickets. You can get them from me (Elli, class 12) or from the Lower office. Thanks again for your support. Cheers Elli Class 12

ARE YOU A STIRRER?

It's never too late to become one! We'll be stirring Preparation 500 (a biodynamic garden preparation devised by Steiner) for the School gardens on Tuesday 19th May from 2.30pm to 3.30pm in the Matuhi St Playground. Come and join us and bring a container to take some home for your own garden.

(Pref. RSVP if you want to take some home so that we have enough,
phone Judy Judy Randall and Brett Whincup

THE WELLINGTON GERMAN PLAYGROUP IS HOLDING A FLEA MARKET "FLOHMARKT"

On: Saturday, 16 May 2009
9.30 am to 12.30 pm
Ngaio Union Church Hall, Kenya St, Ngaio

We sell children's clothing. There will be many German brand toys, (this is your chance to get toys that may not be available in NZ) cakes & sweets. The Germans are known for their wonderful recipes. Household items, books, (watch out for German and English children's and other books), clothing, (bound to have lovely overseas brands).

Looking forward seeing you there, The German Playgroup (Claudia Schwalm)