

WINTER NIGHT PROGRAMME

5:45PM Chai and gathering fire, dragonfly drum (BYO MUG)

Walk through "night swamp" to be seated in performance space

SINGING

Kindle a fire
Darkness comes
What lies beneath a seed
Blessed are we (solo)
Deep peace

WATERFALL and mating dance of dragonflies – high school with class 3/4

HATCHING NYMPHS – orchestra and dance to shining – class 3–7 and music tutors

NYMPH PARADE -class 2/3

SINGING

Sunlight softly
Adult choir (2 songs)
Sing you
Black bird (cl 6/7)

OUTSIDE:

DRAGONFLY FIRE POI– high school

Lighting up the dragonfly – families will gather on the lawn and be invited to come and light a candle in the dragonfly template down on the ball court. As we return to the lawn, we will see the dragonfly come to light.

CLASSROOMS - Lighting of lanterns and optional walk to lake



Newsletter: 15th June 2015



Dragonfly

NOT the giant dragonfly but a beautiful Waterfall Redspot, unique to Australia and Chile! Sue Totterdel snapped this one in October near the chook house. Leanne Tobin commented "that this is how it is supposed to work, we sing it and it comes...."

On Friday, Leanne and her son Shay completed the mosaic on the sandpit wall. They have worked with children from all the classes to bring this beautiful image into being. Thank you Leanne and Shay for your imagination, warmth and light filled presence – dragonfly qualities in abundance.



Week 9: Fri 19/6 Winter's Night (week leading up to – screen free)
End of Term 2

Sat 20/6 Winter Magic, performance and stall

Monday 13th July 1st day of Term 3

Winter's Night 19TH June

The evening begins at 5:45pm with a welcoming chai around the fire (pizza oven area). Please BRING YOUR OWN MUG. This evening will be a feast of singing, music, dance and reverence for mother earth, set in a beautiful swamp context.

Jars Wanted for Winter Night

We need stashes of taco sauce jars (wide mouthed) for our candle-light dragonfly for winter's night. Please start collecting now.

Winter Magic Stall

Michelle has volunteered to coordinate a Kindlehill presence at the rubbish room/stall at Winter Magic. (Unfortunately, Michelle can't be at the stall as she has her own stall to tend). S'haila has also offered to face paint from 10 – 12. Zeb is our only volunteer on the stall so far...**can you help?** Please let Michelle or the office know if you can. **Help will be very much appreciated.** Thank you Michelle, S'haila and Zeb, hopefully you will have company!

Parking at School

Please use the car park where possible. Always enter and leave in a forward direction. There is a turning bay at the bottom of the car park to drop off or pick up your children. Please do not park at the driveway entrance/exit. Please drive slowly, and mindfully that there children around. If you park in the street, please do so in a way that is mindful and courteous toward our neighbours. Please do not double park. Kindy parents are encouraged to use the street parking and other families to use the carpark.

Stunning, Friendly, Frizzle Rooster Looking for Loving Home

"Pal", our young rooster is a bantam frizzle. This means he looks absolutely gorgeous with feathers sticking out all over him and that he is quite small. He has beautiful dark red and russet colours and long, black tail feathers and loves to fluff himself up for the girls. Pal doesn't have a bad bone in his little chicken body and is totally friendly to humans, but he doesn't like to compete with other roosters - so he will have to be a one home rooster. One more thing - Pal is not for eating, he's a pet. If you would like to make his acquaintance just call Bronwen on 0425278144



Notices....

HOUSE WARMING—Family Open Day -Thursday June 25

Waratah Cottage is a warm, homely, welcoming space for parents/ carers & their kids to spend time together and to have easier connection to parenting support & resources. Morning 'open house' 10am-12.30pm Afternoon 'open house' 2.30-4.30pm JUST DROP IN! Art & Craft activities yummy food story-telling sing-a-song 27 Waratah Street Katoomba Phone ENRICH on 47 82 5326.

Rewild your family with a holiday hike

Join us for some wilderness adventures.

- A day walk on the first Sunday of the holidays (21st June) - Lockley's/De Faur Head - Easy.

Overnight walk down Breakfast Creek in the Wild Dog Mountains (4/5th July). Enjoy a campfire and wake to the birds in the most tranquil of camping spots. Two gentle days.

Please see Philip or Bridget (Fergus's parents, Class1) for more details.

Email: philip@philipjackson.com.au or call 0416 023 867 if you'd like to join us

Fine fingers making nifty knitting and wonderful weavings.

1st class has been very busy focusing on their craft. As of the end of last week, we now have 9 knitters and 5 more very close with sanding and shining their own needles, winding their own wool ready to knit mittens, neck warmer, scarf or beanie.



Teachers at Play

Ever wonder how the teachers spend time after school. By playing a quick game of netball.



Sum of my Ancestors

Wagana Aboriginal Dancer—Dance and the child international 2015. Kindlehill Performance Space 27th June 5pm PH: 0409 651 290

Blue Mountains Drama—School Holiday Workshop

Dream Play—Devising Theatre. 6-11years 10am—3pm Tuesday June 30—Thursday July 2nd . Kindlehill performance Space \$145 for 3 days—sibling discount. Let’s create a play set in a dream-world using improvisation and imagination.

holidays@bluemountainsdrama.com.au Eliza: 0414 930 455

RECLAIMING THE LIVING ROOM: SCREEN FREE WEEK

As Winter’s Night approaches, we invite families to participate in a screen free week. This is not about prohibiting or demonizing technology; it is an opportunity to take fresh stock of its use and impact on our family lives – to consciously place social warmth at the centre of family life, to replace the computer game with the old fashioned (but never outdated) board or card game.

It is an opportunity to nourish with stories (try reading a book aloud to the whole family) and to enjoy activity together such as taking a walk, making winter stars for your windows and whittling. Cooking is a nourishing activity on so many levels -let them make dinner from menu planning to clean up (chores can be fun if given the context plus it what being part of a family is about).

Try taking the cue from your children, what do they love to do? Plan the week together.

If technology is what they love, find the non tech counter offer. For example if they love games of building and invention – counter offer with a project. If they love mystery/adventure games, try puzzles, stories, quiz games and mystery/adventure excursions. If they want to connect socially on line - Join up with another family midweek for a potluck dinner or arrange to meet up at a park for Frisbee...

This week as adults, we can place reverence and gratitude for the “spirit of childhood” at the centre of our family lives with celebration and participation as key elements, but also extending this consciousness beyond one’s own family to include the valuing of childhood in all circumstances near and far.

In the words of Pestalozzi, this week can be about reclaiming the “living room” for families.

Lynn

Preview Next Term

WORLD WIDE WAYFARER CHOIR VISIT – Director Judy Clingin is bringing a 90 person choir to our school for a week, comprised of children, youth and adults from China, Japan and Taiwan. We will be billeting 45 of these people and will be able to accommodate some at school but will also be asking families to help. (The Blue Mountains Steiner School will billet the other 45). Week 4 next term will be a feast of choral and musical theatre workshops and performances both in school time and in the evenings.

Also in this week, (August 6th) we will commemorate **HIROSHIMA Day** with a **Japanese Cultural Day**. Sayoko, our Japanese teacher will work with classes to prepare for this day. **NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK** falls in week 6 and we are inviting parents, grandparents, friends of the school who are scientists to share their expertise with us for a focus on SCIENCE day. Please let Lynn know if you can help with this.

The **HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION** information morning will also be held next term as will **OPEN DAY**.

YES, the winter – spring term is going to be another full and enriching time for all.

BRING CALM & CONNECTION WITH THE POWER OF LESS

We've just returned home to our beloved mountains after what seemed a very long, rich and often arduous seven year journey, with much of it being a far cry from living the simpler life we'd been striving for, but we were always striving, and it's always getting simpler. Along the way we've learnt much about Steiner education and what our children need to nurture them during each phase of development, initially out of necessity while home schooling our children Patrick and Samara (joined Erica and John's classes this term). I'm also finishing my training in Biography, or Life Story Work at Steiner House in Sydney this year, which has really helped me become more conscious of what I do, who I am in myself and in relationships, how and why I parent as I do, and especially what I want to change!

While building and developing our biodynamic permaculture property on the edge of the Tarkine forest in NW Tassie, we worked with others to bring Steiner education to our little part of the world - being so isolated we missed the community we were once part of at Kindlehill, and others we had joined or lived in during our travels. Some seeds were planted, a small playgroup has grown, community was built around festivals and gatherings, and I ran workshops and groups based on the book *Simplicity Parenting*,

with the same principles as those underlying Steiner education. Now we've come home to be together with grandparents and our extended families, as that time in the cycle of life nears when we return some of the love and care we were given, as our elders prepare to move on in their journey of life.

So as I now prepare for the next leg of my journey to share this powerful work with our wider community here, Lynn suggested I introduce myself and sow some new seeds for parents in our school, although the article about screens and relationships by the author of the book, Kim John Payne, in our recent newsletter (4 May), has at least prepared the soil, and very probably planted the first seeds as well. Very timely, given our screen free week leading into our longest night of the year, when we likely have more time indoors as a family than any other time, perhaps together, perhaps not as much as we'd like.

As the article mentions, the Simplicity movement isn't exactly anti-anything, but based on slowing down the rush and holding back the adult world for children, reducing stress and overwhelm, or dis-order by building rhythm, predictability and balanced schedules, and growing connection and relationships in families, within simple, calm, and nurturing environments. This can be a huge challenge in our times, so creating space in the home, and in life, for what matters in each unique family is at the heart of Simplicity Parenting, and making small, doable changes taking care not to overwhelm, is how we move along the ever-changing path to aligning our life with those values.

I've since trained to support individual families as well, but that's enough from me for now, my husband Ben and I both look forward to finding our place in this colourful, caring and creative community again, and are deeply grateful for the kind welcome we've had from many families already. We love to hear from anyone interested to meet us or talk about what we do, and what you do, Ben will be home every fortnight from the Warrumbungles where he'll be working as a Ranger, or you can always come and visit us out there some time!

Enjoy creating the warm and nourishing home of your imagination to retreat in together over the darkness of winter, peace and blessings,
Lynette Correy

You can learn more or download Kim's talks at
www.simplicityparenting.com