



ADMIN INFO

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, November 7, 2024	Pine Trees to Kings Gallery, London Kindergarten Martinmas festival 4-5pm (parents welcome) Buttercups parents consultation by appointment
Friday, November 8, 2024	Lower and Middle School Martinmas festival. 3.45pm in the woods, parents welcome.
Tuesday, November 12, 2024	Acacia Tree parents evening 6-7.30pm
Saturday, November 23, 2024	Advent Fair 10am-4pm
Monday, November 25, 2024	INSET day - no school for children. Advent spiral - Hazel and Oak (6pm), Rowan and Pine (8pm) - parents welcome.
Tuesday, November 28, 2024	Acacia and Alder Tree Advent Spiral (9am) parents welcome.
Thursday, November 28, 2024	Kindergarten Advent spiral (5.30pm) parents welcome.
Friday, November 29, 2024	Advent Concert 5pm St Vigor's Church, Fulbourn. All welcome.

EARLY YEARS OPEN MORNING

Do you know any families who may be interested in our amazing Kindergarten provision?

We are hosting an Early Years Open Morning on Saturday 9th November 10am to 12noon.

Please share the sign-up link with anyone who might be interested!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1052733362827>

IMPORTANT INFO FOR THE ADVENT FAIR!

The Advent Fair is approaching!

We really need your help! Here are things you can do before the big day!

- MAKE stars to decorate the school, from newspaper, magazines, paper, baking paper...any paper!
- PROPAGATE indoor plants and donate them to be sold on the school stall. Split your peacelillies, pot up your spiderplant babies...please bring them to Clare in reception the week before the fair!
- SIGN UP for slots and support your class reps! If you can also spare a slot on the front desk please let me know!
(adventfair@waldorfcambridge.uk)
- COOK, PREPARE and BAKE a savoury and sweet dish for the cafe and restaurant! Drop it off on the Friday before the fair, or on the day.
- CRAFT a match box cover using cross-stitch for us to sell on the school stall - ask Eszter or Zoe for more info!



FLU VACCINE REMINDER

A reminder that vaccinations will take place from 2:30pm on Friday 15th November (they will arrive earlier to set up) to minimise disruption to the lessons.

We will **not** present any child who does not have consent from their parent/guardian.

We will see the sign-up list in advance so that we know which children are to be immunised.

We will ensure that children having the vaccine are accompanied by a known staff member as the class teacher will remain in the classroom with those not attending.

If you want to be present, please let Clare know so we can plan accordingly.

A link for sign up and consent will be sent shortly.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

reception@waldorfcambridge.uk

SCHOOL CAR PARK

Please help us keep good relations with the hydrotherapy pool!

A reminder that we do not have the space for parents to drop off in the school car park at ANY time of day. Please do not use the pool spaces, even if it is for a quick drop off or turn around, it is very dangerous to turn around in the car park or in the entrance. Please park on the road and walk in with your child.

SCHOOL HOUSEKEEPER ADVERT

We are looking for someone to help clean and look after our premises and be part of a longer term premises care and development plan!

Applications through the link below.

<https://cambridge-steiner-school.schoolrecruiter.com/job/housekeeper-1441045>

TEVERSHAM ROAD CLOSURE

Road closure planned for Monday to Wednesday 4th to 6th November due to gas works.

CHANGES TO AFTERNOON CLUBS AFTER CHRISTMAS - IMPORTANT INFO!

As some of you may be aware, we have struggled to find a yoga teacher for Thursdays after school despite this being a very popular club.

We are delighted that January we will be able to offer yoga club again, but it will be on a TUESDAYS. With our amazing Art and Craft club with Loukas moving to THURSDAYS. (Clubs are for Class 2 upwards)

We hope that telling you know will allow enough time for you to make any changes to arrangements. We are sorry to make this change, but we have to switch things around if we want to be able to offer yoga again. Yoga will be taught by our own Tara Livermore who also runs Wildlife Warriors and supports with our Outdoor education in Lower school!

Clubs from January -

MONDAY - Drama club with Mr David

TUESDAY - Yoga with Miss Tara

WEDNESDAY - Italian club with Miss Cristina

THURSDAY - Art and Craft club with Mr Loukas

FRIDAY - Wildlife Warriors with Miss Tara

Please email Clare if you would like to sign up and/or change your arrangements for next term at

reception@waldorfcambridge.uk

Yoga and Mindfulness - help children to calm their minds, improve their concentration, reduce anxiety, enhance self-awareness and self-esteem, and promote relaxation and better sleep. It's also a gentle but effective form of physical exercise. Each week we'll have a different theme, which will allow us to explore yoga and mindfulness in a fun and interactive way.

Wildlife Warriors - join us to find out about our native wildlife! Each week we focus on a different species, learning in an exciting and interactive way about ecology, biology and animal behaviour - followed by a species-themed activity. Including art, craft, science, cooking and outdoor (on-site) adventures.

COMMUNITY APPLE JUICE IS NOW AVAILABLE!

Thank you to those of you who donated apples! Our community apple juice is now available to buy for the bargain price of £3.95. There are only 179 bottles, so when it's gone, it's gone!!!

See Tina to pay, card payments accepted!!



IS YOUR INFORMATION UP TO DATE?

Please make sure that you let us know about any changes to your address or phone number. You can send updates to katharina.woodhouse@waldorfcambridge.uk

MARTINMAS ARRANGEMENTS

Reminder of arrangements for Friday 8th November - Martinmas festival. Please bring seasonal veg for the soup on 6th or 7th.

Class 1 and 2 - pick up from school as normal at 3pm, then make your way to the scout hut for 3.45pm.

Class 3-7 - will walk to the woods during the afternoon and be there at 3pm so do not need collecting from school. Meet at 3.45pm for the start of the festival.

Please part at the Fulbourn Centre or in the village, NOT on Stonebridge Lane. The festival starts at 3.45pm with singing, soup/bread and a play presented by Class 2.

Classes 1-4 will walk and sing along the planned route with their teachers and Class 7. Class 5/6 will be manning grottos along the walk.

If you would like to walk the path, please join quietly the end of the procession, or remain at the Scout hut to help tidy up.

Please DO NOT allow your children to leave the group at any time to go and play in the woods. It will be very dark by the end and an important part of the festival is being together.

NEED A REMINDER WHAT IS AMAZING ABOUT A WALDORF EDUCATION?





HAPPY DIWALI!

Thank you to Anusha who crafted a beautiful kolam on the patio for children and staff to enjoy!

Wishing you all a very happy Diwali!



FINANCE - VAT FOCUS

UPDATE FROM WALDORF UK

Dear School Leaders, Trustees and Business/Finance staff,

You should have received the following email this afternoon directly from the DfE. We are forwarding it in case you have not received it.

The email includes the Government's Response to the Technical Note Consultation regarding the application of the new rules.

We need time to read and absorb it properly, however two headline points relevant to our schools are as follows:

UPDATE FROM WALDORF UK CONT

VAT on Kindergarten Fees

The definition of "nursery class" has changed to "a class that is wholly (or almost wholly) of children who are under compulsory school age or, in Scotland, school age, and would not be expected to attain that age while in that class". Whilst this is a shift from the position that just one child of compulsory school age in the class would mean the whole class would be subject to VAT it does not go far enough for our kindergartens. We will clearly continue to pursue this issue on the basis that as it stands, the policy will cut across our schools' ability to deliver the "established principles" of our pedagogy without the whole of our 'nursery provision' (children aged 3 & 4) attracting VAT which is counter to the Government's stated intention for the policy that nursery provision is VAT exempt.

Low cost schools should be exempt from VAT

Some small faith schools along with York Labour MP, Rachael Maskell, argued that low cost schools should be exempt from VAT where they charge under a certain level of fees. We put forward a slightly different proposal that an initial proportion of the fees should be zero rated which the official response did not address. However, the government rejected any sense that low cost schools should receive special treatment on the basis mainly that this would reduce the tax revenue; and they did not accept there was a special case for low cost schools even though they did acknowledge such schools were "less resilient".

Please note there are also various links in the email to guidance on technical aspects of the VAT.

We will write again once we have had a chance to read through the guidance fully and let you know of our next steps.

Best wishes

Fran Russell

VAT PLANNING

Dear School Community,

Following the budget on Wednesday, we now know that implementation of VAT on school fees will occur in January. You may have seen in the news that there may be legal challenges before legislation is confirmed, but we are planning as though the full 20% charge would be levied on our fees. The reality is that with the additional charge of business rates that the school will have to pay (an additional £100,000 per year on top of what we currently pay from April 2025), that the school has limited capacity to absorb any of the 20% VAT and so we recommend that families plan for the full amount increase from January. However, we are continuing to work with our accountants to explore reclaims and other methods of decreasing this amount.

We have two key actions as a school community that we want to implement to support our families to weather this issue.

We are launching a ring-fenced bursary fund which will be used solely to support families in hardship situations.

The school is committing to put all fundraising from this term (the Advent fair, school shop, apple juice and anything else!) into this fund.

We are asking families who can, to donate (and complete gift aid forms so we can claim this too) monthly, or single amounts towards this fund. We are drafting a policy on decision making about the fund's distribution and will share this with you as soon as we can, but a small committee will review confidential applications and approve the use of the funds to support families.

If you can donate to this fund, however small/large amount, this will make a huge difference in children being able to stay in our school and support the community to work together.

Please email Teresa at finance@waldorfcambridge.uk in confidence to arrange donations.

VAT PLANNING CONT

If you know you need support from this fund from January, please complete the paperwork (once we send it out) so we can support you, we really want to keep all families and support as a community.

Please engage with your class reps' requests for help for the Advent fair as this has the potential to add a significant amount to this pot!

The second immediate action is that if it would help to spread the increase in cost over November and December, as well as the Spring and Summer terms then please let us know. You can start to contribute towards your future invoices now.

Please note, this would NOT avoid paying VAT, it just enables you to spread the cost over a longer period which may help some families.

For example, if VAT is implemented at the full 20%, this would add approximately £600 per term to invoices. Paying this £1200 for Spring and Summer terms monthly (January to July, 7 months) would cost about an additional £171 per month. Paying it over November to July (9 months) would mean an additional £133 per month. If you already pay monthly, please adjust the amount to account for a VAT increase.

If there are any overpayments due to lower VAT amounts or other ways the school can decrease the cost, then of course you can use this money against future invoices or receive a refund.

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch through the bursar@waldorfcambridge.uk email address. This is a lot of information, and may feel overwhelming for some. If you would prefer to talk things through confidentially, and be able to ask questions, I am happy to arrange individual meetings, just let me know.

Best wishes

Tina

SCHOOL EVENTS AND WORK

KINDERGARTEN OUTDOOR DAY



UPPER SCHOOL LEVEL 2 DIPLOMA

Our Class 10 students are in their second year of GCSE and Level 2 diploma courses with their eyes on what they will do next when they finish with us in July 2025! The students are completing a variety of different modules in the Level 2 Diploma, each of which is equivalent to a single GCSE. This is in addition to five core GCSEs in Maths, English Language, English Literature and Combined Science. Our unique offer for students aged 14-16 really offers a tailored approach and one that enables the students to access any route after our school, whether that is A-levels or vocational training, Maths and Science through to Design and Art!

One of the Level 2 Diploma modules is an independent project, and Gaby from Alder Tree designed, marketed and played her own concert recital during the half term holidays. She raised an amazing £1,651 for Olympias a music charity. Huge well done to Gaby and thank you to the school community for supporting her and this great charity!

£1,651 RAISED!
WELL DONE GABY!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

OLYMPIAS
Music foundation

BLACKBOARD DRAWINGS FOR LOWER AND MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES





CAMBRIDGE WALDORF SCHOOL TARRY AND TEND

A Pikler/Waldorf inspired parent/guardian and child group for bumps, babies and beyond.

Tuesday during term time
9:30-11:30am at
Cambridge Waldorf School,
Hinton Road, Fulbourn CB21
5DZ

Come and enjoy our calm environment where play is focused on the development stage of the unique individual child. Make friends, dabble in a craft, join in singing, and storytelling with your child.



Email pandc@waldorfcambridge.uk to book your free trial session. £10/session after the trial, including snack, craft and activities.

We look forward to meeting you!
Warm wishes
Joanne

ADVENT FAIR

SATURDAY 23TH NOVEMBER 2024,
HINTON RD, FULBOURN CB21 5DZ
10AM-4PM

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES STALLS, CRAFT, CAFE

FOR STALL BOOKINGS PLEASE EMAIL
ADVENTFAIR@WALDORFCAMBRIDGE.UK

ADULTS £1.5, CHILDREN FREE

6 foot table inside £35, 6 foot table outside (under gazebo) £25.
Stall booking form - <https://forms.office.com/e/sbhLej4D31>

Creative Discipline

Harmonious Homes

Waldorf UK is delighted to offer an online parenting talk with Australian best selling parenting author, Lou Harvey-Zahra
Saturday, November 9th 2024
from 9-10:30am

Lou will focus on practical ideas to support positive behaviour and create harmonious homes & connected families with children from 3 – 9 years



Ticket Price: £15 (incl. booking fee)

Waldorf employee price: £10

<https://harmonioushomes.eventbrite.co.uk>

#WeAreWaldorf

**Waldorf
UK**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Fulbourn Forum is screening the film documentary Six Inches of Soil on Friday 15 November in the Townley Hall at 7.30pm. A very interesting documentary about sustainability and farming. It runs for 1hr 35mins.

A free event (although we do ask for a small voluntary donation to help cover costs), with booking via Eventbrite:

<https://bit.ly/sixinchesofsoil>

Fugolburna upcoming screenings:

18 Nov - hosted at Stapleford by 2G3S (Going Green, Sawson, Stapleford, Shelford).

28 Nov - hosted by Transition Cambridge at Eddington.

20 January - hosted by Wilbraham River Protection Society at Gt Wilbraham.

8 February - hosted by Cambridgeshire Libraries at the Cambridge Central Library.

Babysitting Service

Hi! I am Cedar Chalfen, a former student of the school. I am 16 years old and have been advertising babysitting to children from the age of 2, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and some weekends depending on the date. I can do from 4:30pm - (latest) 11pm. I am charging £10 an hour. I have had experience with looking after my two younger siblings and also have first aid training in baby and child-care.

Please call or text me on [+44 7497649662](tel:+447497649662) for further information.

Thank you!