

23/09/2024



IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024	Alder Tree parents evening 8-9pm
Thursday, September 26, 2024	Kindergarten Michaelmas celebration (children only)
Friday, September 27, 2024	Lower and Middle school Michaelmas celebration - watching the sunrise at Magog down. KG and Class 1 meet as normal.
Monday, September 30, 2024	Kindergarten parents evening 7.30-8.30pm
Tuesday, October 1, 2024	Rowan Tree parents evening 7-8.30pm
Thursday, October 10, 2024	Buttercups parents consultation - by appointment
Saturday, October 12, 2024	Quiz night hosted by Hamberley 7-9.30pm dinner included
Thursday, October 17, 2024	Buttercups parents afternoon 1-3pm
Friday, October 18, 2024	Harvest of work 1.45-3pm

THANK YOU FOR THE APPLES!

A huge thank you to everyone who picked, collected and brought apples! The result is an amazing 179 bottles of juice ready to be sold for school fundraising!



Half Term Holiday Club 28th October - 1st November 2024

We are offering Holiday Care for all children, free play inside and outside, craft activities available. From 10:00am to 3:30pm (£25)

Holiday Specialist Clubs are only available for children in Class 2 and above. From 10:00am to 3:30pm (£25)

Days for clubs will be confirmed asap but they will likely be - All and Craft Club with local artist Louisa. Craft with Beagles.

Morning top-up for all children is available from 8:30 - 10:00am (£10)

All children will need a packed lunch.

1. Parent/guardian name
2. Parent/guardian email address (please check carefully for typos!)
3. Child's name (please complete a separate form for each child)

Sign up for half term holiday camps and clubs is now open!

Please sign up using [this link](#)

Holiday care for all ages from Moonbeams upwards, Holiday club for Class 2 upwards.

Are you going to Wisbech during the week some time soon and have a big boot?? We could do with someone to collect the 179 bottles from Watergull Orchards. Please let me know if you can help! Thank you! Tina tina.hobday@waldorfcambridge.uk

MICHAELMAS REMINDER

For Class 2 to Class 7 on Friday 27th September we will meet at the foot of the pathway to Gog Magog, at the junction to Magog Down at 6am, please park alongside the road just before the parking area at Magog Down, as the parking lot is not open that early in the morning. (Haverhill Rd, Stapleford, Cambridge CB22 3AE).

Parents are welcome to stay and participate in the celebration or drop their child off. I encourage you to join us for this celebration, as it is a truly lovely experience. If you cannot, please ensure that when dropping off your child, they are handed directly to their class teacher, as it will still be dark. Please be on time as we will need to leave in good time to see the sunrise.

Please bring or send hot tea and sweet bread, low-sugar cakes (labeled with ingredients), or fruit for sharing at the hilltop picnic. You are welcome to stay until we begin our walk back to school.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately with comfortable walking boots or wellies, waterproofs, and **warm layers, as it will be chilly in the morning.** You are also welcome to bring picnic blankets to sit on.

If you are unable to drop your child off at Gog Magog at 6am, we encourage you to arrange with other parents to ensure your child can still take part in this beautiful experience. If this is not possible, you may drop your child off at the usual time at school, where they will join Class 1 and 10 in preparing for the Michaelmas celebration. **If your child will not be able to attend please let us know as soon as possible so that we can plan accordingly.**

Pick-up will be at the usual time from school. Thank you.

Best wishes, Eszter

Just to let you know that the road that leads to the Gogs carpark was closed yesterday. This seems to be an on/off thing. I realised it could cause some big issues with parents arriving with children that morning. At the moment, our family would need to come via Stapleford so folks may just to leave extra time. I'm not sure if bikes can get through the road closure.

Thank you Jennie!



MICHAELMAS FESTIVAL

Why do we celebrate Michaelmas?

Many of you will have heard of St George and the dragon. In Waldorf schools the children will hear stories of the archangel Michael and the dragon.

Michael did not slay the dragon, but through his inner forces was able to hold it within his control, at the tip of his spear. The dragon is not an external reality, but rather lives within all humankind and we combat it with consciousness in our thinking. This festival celebrates the selflessness, as well as the strength of will that we need. Michaelmas is a festival of inner strength and initiative. It offers a time of reflection for our own dragons - what are they and how can we work with them?

We do not share this detail and analysis with the children. Instead we provide opportunities for bravery and overcoming difficulties, along with celebration of community strength and togetherness.

Alder Tree will be collecting tinned goods for the Cambridge Foodbank, please bring donations into reception.

FOODBANK DONATIONS

Please drop off your donations to Clare in reception. Here is the list of items currently most needed:

- Pasta sauce
- Jam
- Biscuits, snacks and confectionary
- Tinned custard and rice pudding
- Cooking oil
- UHT milk
- Long-life fruit juice
- Tinned meals eg. chicken in sauce, chilli con carne
- Noodles and rice
- Tinned vegetables and pulses
- Pasta sauce
- Long-life puddings
- Teabags (packs of 40, 80 or 120)
- Small jars of instant coffee
- Tinned beans, tomatoes, soup
- Toilet Roll
- Toiletries
- Tinned fruit

Thank you for your support. Alder Tree will take the goods on Friday 27th September so please send in your donations before then.

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

Tina Hobday and Charlotte Burdett share the responsibilities for Teaching and Learning, and Pastoral and Safeguarding respectively across the school, we also co-chair the 'College of teachers'. Kay and Irena lead in Early Years (Kindergarten). Anita leads SEND across the school with Joanne focusing on provision in Kindergarten.

Staff meetings on Tuesdays focus on department specific issues, training and events, while Thursdays are the 'College' meeting. These meetings are based on Steiner's indications for school leadership. Our College focuses on the pedagogical and spiritual aspects of the school. We study and learn from Steiner's writing, ensure our policies reflect our school and our aims, and work together to support each other and solve school issues.

MEET OUR STAFF

Tina Hobday -
Teaching and Learning
Lead and Upper school
Science and Maths
teacher.



I have always enjoyed science and maths and love learning and discovering new things.

After a PhD in biochemistry and cancer biology with Cancer Research UK, I started teaching at the Steiner Waldorf school in Kings Langley. RSSKL supported my development as a teacher, I completed graduate teacher training to gain qualified teacher status and then leadership and management qualifications so I could support the school with responsibility for the Upper school which had pupils from Class 9 to Class 13.

During my 8 years at RSSKL I fell in love with the Waldorf curriculum and it's amazing ability to meet the needs of our pupils, not just academically, but also emotionally, socially and physically. My love of music and art also influences my teaching.

Between 2018 and 2022 I worked in a 'mainstream' school, further developing my teaching practice and also leading the school's hockey provision.

I have a deep interest in Steiner philosophy and in 2023 completed a Masters in Educational Leadership and Management. My dissertation focused on Steiner's ideas for non-hierarchical leadership and leadership in Waldorf schools for today.

My family and I arrived from London in January last year and I feel very lucky to return to Waldorf teaching. I am absolutely committed to working collaboratively with my colleagues to provide the best Waldorf education for our pupils, supporting their development into rounded individuals who can continue on to their future settings and fulfil their ambitions.

MEET OUR STAFF



Charlotte Burdett -
Pastoral Lead and
Designated
Safeguarding Lead.

I have always found myself drawn to Social Sciences, having studied Psychology at A-level and Anthropology at degree level. I then

went onto a Foundation in Integrative Psychotherapy during my twenties. I began life at Cambridge Steiner School as a single parent in Parent & Child. I discovered that engaging with child development through the Pikler and Steiner approach felt aligned with how I wanted to parent and how I wanted to revisit a Psychotherapeutic training. I began a Post Graduate diploma in Psychosynthesis Counselling in 2020, which is a holistic model and has many crossovers with Steiner's view of human development. I deferred in 2021 for maternity, and I am currently in the last year.

I worked as a Teaching and Learning support assistant for 3 years before taking on the Pastoral Lead role, which allowed me to develop familiar and trusting relationships with staff and children. My current training also helps to inform my practise at school and enables my commitment to self-reflection and ongoing professional growth. In all my work I am dedicated to the personal responsibility for inner reflection and professional development which I consider to be crucial to this role. I am constantly open to how I may improve and how I can contribute to the ambitious standards we aspire to at this school.

School term and holiday dates for 2024/2025

Holiday clubs run Monday 26 to Friday 30 August 2024, 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024, Monday 14 to Friday 18 July 2025 (details TBC).

Please note Kindergartens will end on the same day as the rest of the school - this is a change from previous years.

Autumn Term dates

Non school days: Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 September, Monday 25 November 2024
Wednesday 4 September to Friday 18 October 2024

Half Term: Monday 21 to Friday 1 November 2024

Monday 4 November to Friday 13 December 2024

Christmas Holidays: Monday 16 December 2024 to Friday 3 January 2025

Spring Term dates

Non school days: Monday 6 January and Friday 14 February 2025

Tuesday 7 January to Thursday 13 February 2025

Half Term: Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025

Monday 24 February to Friday 04 April 2025

Easter Holidays: Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April 2025

Summer Term dates

Non school days: Monday 21 April (BH), Tuesday 22 April, Monday 5 May (BH) 2025

Wednesday 23 April to Friday 23 May 2025

Half Term: Monday 26 to Friday 30 May 2025

Monday 2 June to Friday 11 July 2025

Summer Holiday: Monday 14 July 2025 onwards

ADVENT FAIR

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

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES STALLS, CRAFT, CAFE
ADULTS £1.5, CHILDREN FREE

FOR STALL BOOKINGS PLEASE EMAIL
ADVENTFAIR@WALDORFCAMBRIDGE.UK

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

HANDWORK RESOURCES REQUEST

Do you have leftover handwork materials lying around?

I would love repurposed and recycled materials already existing in our community. So, if you have natural materials that you no longer need and that are in good condition (no moths please) then bring them to school and I will use them with the students.

I am particularly looking for:

- chunky wool yarn for knitting and crochet (no yarn containing synthetic/acrylic please)
- cotton yarn/thread for knitting, crochet or embroidery
- raw wool for stuffing and felting (without moths please)
- coloured wool for felting
- wool felt (sheets or offcuts)
- leather
- buttons
- wooden beads
- pipe cleaners
- dyes and powdered pigment

Please leave at reception or give them directly to me. For other materials and queries email me first at begona.velez@waldorfcambridge.uk

Many thanks,
Begoña, Handwork Teacher

SCHOOL HOUSEKEEPER ADVERT

We are advertising for a School Housekeeper! 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 School Recruiter website - link below.

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

NATURAL VOICE, MINDFUL SINGING

🎵 Good morning, everyone! I hope you had a fantastic week! Did you know that singing is incredibly beneficial for your overall well-being? The simple breathing techniques and the act of singing itself can do wonders for both your physical and mental health. Our Natural Voice, Mindful Singing Group is all about singing for fun, relaxation, and lifting each other up. We sing beautiful, uplifting songs with positive messages, along with some unique versions of covers you'll love. We're creating something truly special and would love to welcome more voices to join our growing group! Whether you're experienced or just love to sing, come and be part of this joyful experience. ✨

Book your first FREE session by emailing gemmafranco@live.com! You'll leave feeling refreshed, centred, and so much lighter. Come and sing with us – you'll be glad you did! ❤️

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

The Parent Pact is live - now let's make it take off in your area! 🚀🚀🚀

Our new online Parent Pact is here – and we're embarrassingly excited about it 😊.

We've made a simple online tool that enables you to stand up and be counted in your choice to wait to give your child a smartphone – and see how many others in your school and region are doing the same.

Every region in the UK has their own bespoke Parent Pact, because we know the collective action trap we're in can only be solved by parents in local communities committing to take action – together.

We want this to spread way beyond our existing community so please sign it yourselves then share it far and wide – it takes just 30 seconds and might just change the world ;)

parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk

The more of us who sign, the more powerful it becomes in shifting the social norm in your area, and we'll use the data to show the Government how much this matters to parents everywhere.

Your choice – and your voice – really is powerful 🙏

Visit our website

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

WELEDA

We are selling Weleda products in our school shop at reception. Some items are available from the shop while others you can order via Marta, our Weleda Skincare Advisor. Walk in between 8.15-8.30 am and after 3pm. Marta is also available for skin consultation, facial, hand/feet massage. To learn more about the products you can visit Marta web shop <https://weleda-advisor.co.uk/shop/martagandini/products.html>

Needle Felting Workshops:

Create your own unique Pumpkin Doll and Witch/Wizard

Unleash your creativity this season with two exciting needle felting workshops! Whether you're new to the craft or a seasoned felter, these hands-on classes are perfect for bringing a bit of magic into your home. Choose one or both and let's have some fun together:

Pumpkin Doll Felting Workshop – 12th October 12:30-3:30pm

Celebrate the harvest with a cute, needle felted pumpkin doll! Learn how to shape wool into a plump pumpkin base, then add charming details like green vines, tiny pumpkins, adorable hats and more. Perfect for your nature table or as a gift!



Witch/Wizard Felting Workshop – 26th October 10am-1pm

Step into a world of magic by creating your very own witch or wizard doll. This workshop will guide you through the steps to needle felt a whimsical character, complete with their pointy hat, broom and cauldron. Ideal for Halloween or just for fun!

All materials included: wool, felting needles, foam pad, and accessories.

Location: Cambridge Steiner School

Cost per Workshop: £40

Limited Spaces Available! For registering or for any questions, please contact Renata on 07475167345, or email renata@wispy.com.

Looking forward to having some fun together!



SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER

PIANO RECITAL



Gabriela Gibbs & Patrick Hemmerlé

Special guest
Jo Yee Cheung

Works by Marcello-Bach, Ginastera,
Sibelius, Tchaikovsky, Scarlatti, Debussy,
Scriabin, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Granados,
Grieg, Grainger, Bach/Kurtág &
Rachmaninoff

Free admission
Donations & proceeds to
Olympias Music Foundation

1.10PM TO 2.10PM
ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH
CAMBRIDGE CB2 1QA
PARKING IN GRAND ARCADE



DRAWING FOR Wellbeing ONLINE COURSE

A guided 4 week group experience, establishing a powerful, mindful drawing routine and healthy habits that will be your new superpower, bringing you joy, presence and peace.

- Do you struggle to switch off?
- Is it hard to prioritise making time for yourself?
- Have you tried meditating or mindful practices but nothing sticks?
- Are you ready to make a change for better balance in your life?

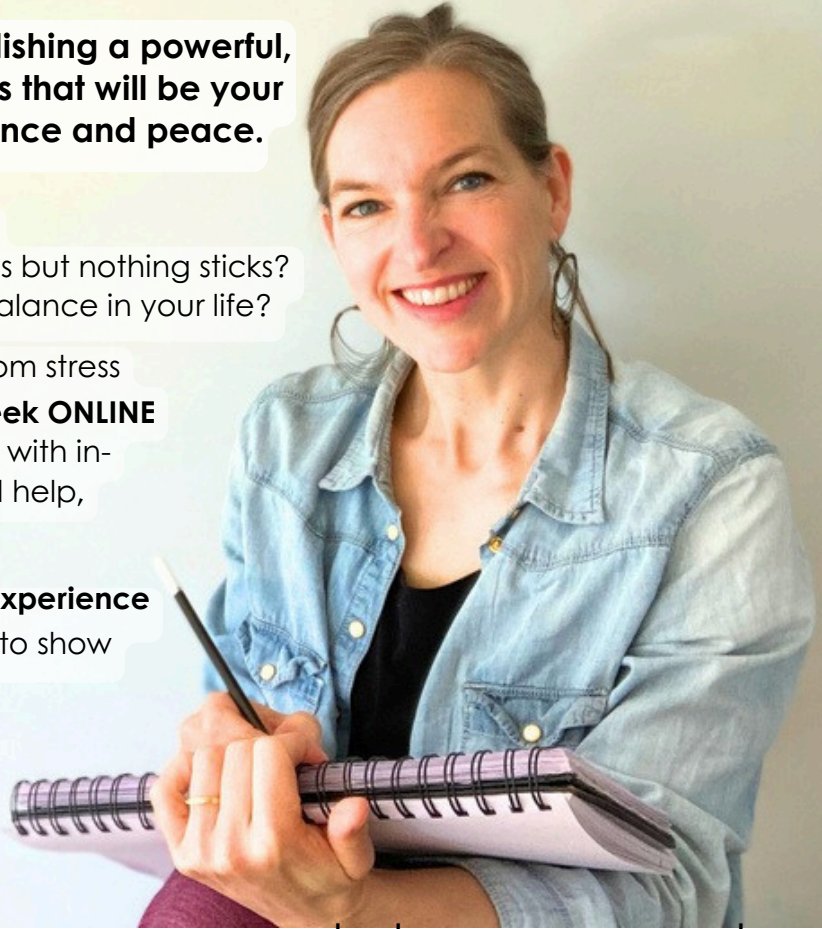
Join me to journey through your pencil, away from stress and brain-fog to clarity and presence for a **4 week ONLINE course starting Sunday 29th September**, packed with in-depth Zoom sessions, daily support, personalised help, guided MP3s and more.

The great news is you don't need ANY drawing experience or expertise at all! Your pencil is simply your tool to show you what's going on in your head.



BOOK NOW!

Booking closes 22nd
September 2024



www.helenaperry.co.uk

"This course gave me motivation to dedicate time to drawing and my wellbeing in general. I definitely recommend!"
Richard Batters



"If you are feeling stuck, arty or not, this course is ideal, as it slows us down into the moment, gently and deeply, allowing a rekindling of appreciation for much we thought we didn't have any more. We still have so much. We just forgot..."

Suzie Loveday



"Before this course, I'd been putting drawing off because I feared being hijacked by anxiety out of fear which stemmed from childhood. I am astounded that in 3 weeks, I no longer feel that way and I now have tools to help me on my way in staying present, joyful and curious without judgement. I feel freer and that is priceless."

Natasha Coombes



"This course has been a delight which has helped me see so much joy."
Erin Johnson



- ✓ Experience the pure joy of the present moment and how to get there whenever you want
- ✓ Feel the transformative benefits of regular mindful practice, that you integrate into each day
- ✓ See the world through fresh eyes, feel the benefits of healthier thought patterns
- ✓ Understand what's going on in your brain and body and how to make lasting change in your life