

# MLWS News from the Parent Council

March 6, 2017

## Hello MLWS Families...

Although colder weather has returned to us briefly, Spring and its spirit of rebirth and renewal are around the corner. Parent Council looks forward to channeling that energy into support for our school. In that vein, we are pleased to share this issue of the newsletter with the community.

## PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Parent Council continues to work on the projects that the College and parents identified as priorities: a Welcome Committee for new families, Parent Council presence at public events, Faculty Nourishment, Food Drives at Music Shares and this newsletter. Our next Parent Council meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 8, 5:30-6:30pm**. Please join us and offer your time to support one of our projects. We are stronger when we work together!

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

**Tues & Weds, March 14 & 15, 6:30pm: Sixth Grade play**

The class will present "A Roman Comedy" in the MLWS community room. Please come & enjoy the performance!

**Thursday, March 16, 6:30pm: Talk with Kim John Payne**

"Being At Your Best When Your Kids Are At Their Worst", sponsored by the Mountain Laurel Executive Committee, Purchase tickets for \$15 until March 10, \$20 thereafter.

**Friday, March 17: Staff Development Day – NO SCHOOL!**

**Saturday, March 18, 10am-12pm: MLWS Open House**

Who do you know who might like to attend?

**Thursday, March 23: Walk Through The Grades**

*The Pedagogy of Storytelling in a Waldorf Classroom.* Stay tuned for more details!

**Tuesday, March 28: A Mindful Approach to Prosperity**

Join us for this thought-provoking workshop, including discussions about paying for private school and college and investing in uncertain times, sponsored by Parent Council.

**Wednesday, April 5, 6:30pm: Sex Education and The Spirit**

A talk with Lisa Romero about Understanding Gender and Sexuality through spiritual insight in the light of Waldorf Education, in the MLWS Community Room, \$10 at the door

**Friday, April 7: Parent/Teacher Conferences - NO SCHOOL!**

Meetings with "Specials" teachers will also be available.

**Saturday, April 22, 6-10pm: Spring Swing Fundraiser**

Join us for an evening of fun! Buffet Dinner, Contradance with live music and caller, Silent Auction. Ages 21+. Proceeds to benefit MLWS and Family of New Paltz.

## A MESSAGE FROM FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who bought seeds through the Hudson Valley Seed Company fundraising effort. Such a project is only as successful as the number of people who choose to participate. So many thanks to all of you! Seeds should arrive in about a week and will be distributed at that time. Once we know how much money we raised, we will let you know. Thank you and happy gardening!

One more thing: we have yet to receive any recipes for the community cookbook we are planning to produce. Please see our original request on the next page!

## ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN REMINDER

In the spirit of community and love for our school, please consider giving! You can go to [mountainlaurel.org](http://mountainlaurel.org) and click on 'DONATE', or hand-deliver or mail your contribution to the school. All donations are appreciated, from the most modest to the very generous! Every little bit helps.

## A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM

**From Mr. Steve Bernstein:** The Mountain Laurel Recorder Ensemble is delving deep into the key of C minor (3 flats!) to learn the classic tango, "Habanera" by Georges Bizet. There is much to be learned from this clever, chromatic melody! Also, the group hopes to add "There is a Rose in Spanish Harlem" to their Spring Tour repertoire, which also includes the Bach Chorale and movements of Brandenburg Concerto #1 from last semester. From Bach to Bizet!

**From Ms. Gill:** The Fifth Grade has been immersed in Egypt and Mesopotamia. We unearthed the epic of Gilgamesh, exploring devotion, friendship, ambition, and the meaning of life, and studied cuneiform, practicing in clay. Students learned of the first experiences of city culture, recorded financials, the study of stars, and the mercantile impulse. Egypt was imagined first as a lily - the crooked stem as the long, winding valley of the Nile, the flower as the river's mouth, and the bud as the fertile valley. We are reading 'The Golden Goblet', a tale written from the perspective of a boy in ancient Egypt. We diagrammed an internal view of a pyramid, and marveled at the size and unfathomable perfection of these constructions. We have had a great time learning hieroglyphics and then decoding each other's (often odd) messages. The class left Egypt with the story of Osiris and Isis. With the Nile living so deeply in the consciousness of the people of Egypt, we have discussed how to clean up our own north-flowing river - the Walkill. Several students have decided to clean up trash at recess, so if you see them, feel free to join their efforts!

## CALLING ALL COOKS!

The fundraising committee is excited to announce our newest project: a community-inspired cookbook. Our vision is to create an enriching book filled with recipes, pictures, festivals to celebrate and cultural exchanges. Our community-inspired cookbook will be fun, unique, crafty and written with families and children in mind. To make this happen, we need you!

Send us your recipes! Please consider what recipes remind you of home? Of family? What is your comfort food? What about quick and easy recipes? Recipes for the picky eater? Or plain and simple, what is your favorite recipe? We would also like to include your stories and photos -- your family traditions, your festival celebrations, or what a special recipe might mean to you. Thank you! Recipes and stories can be sent to Patty Gandin: [pattyjacobson@gmail.com](mailto:pattyjacobson@gmail.com)

## CLASSIFIED LISTINGS

The sixth grade is looking for the following items for their play. Please contact Bevin Gill at [bevingill@gmail.com](mailto:bevingill@gmail.com) if you have any of these items to lend:

- Two reclining chaise lounges or covered benches
- Two roman style chairs (or other fancy villa chairs)
- Curtains, tapestries, carpets
- Low (coffee) tables, goblets, fruit, grapes
- Large plants/ flowers

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The Second Grade would appreciate these donations:

- Previously-sculpted beeswax for class projects
- Bricks for playground use

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The Eighth Grade class is soliciting advertisement sales for their Yearbook. Forms can be found on the bulletin board in the school lobby. If you, your business, or family members or friends would like to take out an ad to support the Eighth Grade, your participation would be greatly appreciated. Deadline is March 10, 2017.

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ISO Assistant/Caretaker, 7-8 hours/wk, for Waldorf family Seeking help with various household tasks, due to health issues. Duties to include cooking, light cleaning, shopping, computer work, childcare, more. Must have knowledge of healthy lifestyle and cooking, and take initiative and work independently. Contact Lisa at [sunsnake@optonline.net](mailto:sunsnake@optonline.net) or text 845-430-4633 if interested or with any questions. Thank you! (Please feel free to share this ad with others.)

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PIANO for sale: Beautiful Everett upright piano in excellent condition. Tuned yearly and has great tone. Complete with matching seat and music books. \$400. Located in Gardiner. Photos available on request. Contact Tenney 845-797-2079

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BMW for sale: silver, 50,000 miles \$22K. Please contact Kiki at [elanstudio.kiki@gmail.com](mailto:elanstudio.kiki@gmail.com) or 845-332-7257.

Hearth to Hearth Bread Club CSA - slow fermented, brick-oven baked, fresh bread from our hearth to yours. Sign up for weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly pickup/delivery in Saugerties, Kingston, or New Paltz. Join the club! [www.hearthtohearthbreadclub.com](http://www.hearthtohearthbreadclub.com). Any questions, email [baker@hearthtohearthbreadclub.com](mailto:baker@hearthtohearthbreadclub.com)

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Mr. Steve Bernstein offers guitar and mandolin lessons at his home in Gardiner, NY. Children, teens and adults are all welcome. Please call: 845 255 0822 or drop a note in his mailbox (2nd floor) at school.

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Tim Smith -- Traditional landscape paintings in oil. Offering private tuition for adults and 8th grade students in classical oil painting method. To organize a session around your or your child's specific schedule and needs, contact Tim at <https://www.timsmithpaintings.com/>

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Home Inspections: emfs, dirty electricity, radio frequency Concerned about children's cell phone or lap top use? Get protection from new electric meters. Get emf readings on prospective new homes. Learn about router signals. Create an emf free sleeping environment. Teach children about safe wireless use. Decrease overall field exposure. Measure offices, cars, dorms. Learn about useful resources. Public talks available. Harrison Barritt, [selfkindess@yahoo.com](mailto:selfkindess@yahoo.com), 256-0446

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Andrew Faust and Adriana Magaña create, install and maintain Permaculture designs and landscapes, suited to your vision and the ecology of your site. We use our 20+ years of experience and a great crew to bring you these services: Real Estate Assessment, Land Selection, Natural Building, Native Landscapes, Permaculture forest gardens, Biodynamic Orchard and Tree work, Organic Vegetable Gardens, Ponds and Solving water problems of all sorts. Contact us at 917-584-4588 or visit us at: <http://www.permaculturenewyork.com/design-consultation>