FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of the key elements on which our school structure is based is the ongoing dialogue between the parts. This doesn’t always happen as we would like it to, but it remains a critical part of how we function as a school and we are always mindful of how we can improve this. Over the coming week, there are two opportunities for this to occur.

Our Term 4 Community Forum will be held next Tuesday evening (10th November) at 7pm at the Hall. This is a good opportunity for community members to provide feedback, ask questions and make suggestions about the School; and the Board and staff who attend value and enjoy the dialogue that ensues. Generally, any topic can be raised. However, if you have a matter that is personal (eg. an individual issue or related to a child or a concern about a staff member), please follow this up with the relevant staff member or their supervisor as needed. An overview of the School’s grievance policy is available on the website, under ‘Information for Parents’ then ‘School Handbook – Current’.
http://www.samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au/info-for-parents/

Secondly, this weekend the College of Teachers and the Board are meeting for one of their combined planning meetings. These meetings are an important part of how we work as a whole school: ensuring that the pedagogical vision as identified by College is developed further from a strategic perspective. After review, the outcomes will feed into our revised Strategic Plan. Both groups are looking forward to this meeting and to the opportunity it provides for increased communication and connection.

We hope to see many of you at the Community Forum.

Warm regards
Karen Dunshea
Interim Director

Reminder Working Bee tomorrow Sat 7th

The focus of the working bee is in the High School garden. Major renovations are taking place and there is lots of work to be done.

If possible it would be great if we could get a couple of cement mixers with which to mix the footings, so if anyone has a spare at home that they are not using, let myself or Margaret know and bring it along. If not we will hire one. Whipper snippers and other useful items would also be appreciated.

Gloves, hat, sunscreen, water, preferred digging tools etc. should all be brought along where possible.
Thanks, Dave
Each year the Class 12s complete their journey through our school by forming an ensemble to perform a story!

This year we are doing the well-loved and admired Terry Pratchett's *Wyrd Sisters*. This play is suitable for the whole family from pre-school to grand-folks! We hope you'll join us.

The 12s and I have made their production a Community Theatre Event this year and invited teachers, past students and current students from younger years to join us and help us bring it to life.

Each Class 12 group is unique and I strive to meet them and their aspirations with this final parting gift of a production. Some Class 12s crave the challenge of a serious drama; they long to deal with serious ‘adult’ issues. I observe other classes need the form of a well-made 3 act drama to support them with excellent dialogue.

- **2010**  *As You Like It* - combined 11 & 12 production. Shakespeare’s muscular challenging language, 1920s look - fun + history research.
- **2011**  *Cosi* - mental health and perception of others, Australian classic, dark & funny.
- **2012**  *Twelve Angry Men* - What is justice? How does racism impact us?
- **2013**  *The Importance of Being Earnest* - structured play that really supported the students with period costumes and brilliant dialogue.
- **2014**  *An Inspector Calls* - social justice, lies and thriller, also a structured ‘well-made’ play with superbly crafted dialogue, suspense and period costumes!

- **2015**  *Wyrd Sisters* - Terry Pratchett is beloved by many, he’s funny with gently satiric pokes to encourage deeper thoughts, and his characters are large, theatrical and of course have great costumes!

Each year we have lots of fun after our hard work and we wouldn’t have made it without the amazing creativity and dedication of Sonia Jago, Janine Whitten, Edmund Muller and parents - so big shout out to you guys!!

*Molly Brumm*
FISHING ON MT BARNEY
(A PARENT STORY)

A fly fisherman’s tip is ‘slow down, observe your surroundings and know what a trout needs to survive’.

I have relied on this analogy to enthuse my daughter to do something with me whilst struck down with teenism. My technique is perfect. I cast with three elegant ‘doshes’ and lay the line down on the water surface and allow the fly to sit there hoping to get a bite whilst reeling it in imitating how I believe a fly would behave. However, knowing what lures my daughter and speculating her needs to survive completely defy me.

I never get a bite only a ‘derr’ or ‘seriously’ and a reference on FB that I’m a dud or interfering.

Then out of the blue, unwittingly I bung on a random nymph fly and chuck the line in the water.

“When you’re away at Christmas I am going on a hike in Tasmania and I’m thinking of having a practice weekend on Mt Barney beforehand,” I announced.

“I’ll come.”

“Excuse me?”

A bite!

I will not let this one go and for three weeks I have this teen on the hook. It wriggled and it fought, I let the line out and reeled it back in, and last weekend, worn down by the fight I netted it. She and I went to Mt Barney.

She had been there before on one of Dave’s wilderness adventures. I offered her the lead and asked her to show me the way, closely watching my electronic devices for location!

She remembered this place as if it were her backyard. She relished being in control and showing me ‘the ropes’. Everywhere had a story for her to tell me, including Dave’s tales.

More importantly it gave us the opportunity to explore some concerns she had recently demonstrated in a way that she now knows she could have better expressed her frustrations. Instantly we shifted from a parent-child relationship to a one-on-one adult engagement. We discussed her future aspirations and tempered them with some reality.

Accidentally we were allowed to explore other areas of our relationship by a bag of lollies with questions on the individual wrappers. These developed interesting discussions on topics that I would never believe my teenism daughter, whose face is never out of the sight of an electronic device, would ever have contemplated. When it came to ‘who inspires you the most’ surprisingly I came a sad second to Dave.

That parental electronic device nightmare showed me another side of her, she has a wide and varied collection of friends from who she takes great encouragement and who she supports and offers great kindness.

But just as you think everything is hunky dory the ‘teen’ re-surfaces and whilst the tent kept the rain out, internally the lid left off a litre bottle of water resulted in a puddle of water in the foot of the tent and a ruined pack of cards and book.

The fly fisherman’s tip is a suitable starting point but technique seems not to be the answer to teenism. It comes down to random experimentation and readiness to grasp that unexpected ‘bite’.

1 Urban Dictionary
How lovely these warm days are! I have been driving to work these past few weeks and noticing the sea of purple blooms on the Jacaranda trees that just seem to be everywhere. The sight triggered some really clear memories of what I was doing and exactly how I was feeling at this same time last year. Nature provides such a wonderful link for us to connect with our past experiences and a security with regards to what is to come through the rhythms of the seasons. I know that no matter what happens to me personally in the next year, this sea of purple will be here again for me to enjoy. We speak all the time in Steiner schools about rhythm, because we know that rhythm supports health and life; the life of the universe, the earth and each individual human being. As teachers we are extremely attentive to creating rhythms, which become the framework upon which the day is hung. Rhythm helps the children to breathe, to sleep, to think and to learn how to live well in the world. Rhythm “speaks” for itself and through the rhythms we create at school and in our homes the children can know what to do, what to expect and what is expected of them.

With summer approaching we begin to experience the predominance of warmth and light and we tend to “expand out” into the world more. At school we can clearly see the seasonal changes and the corresponding human inner experience reflected in the children’s play and behaviour. The children become more boisterous and it is harder for them to bring focus. Around the school I hear many a teacher lamenting how “chatty” and busy the children have suddenly become! We can look at the life and growth cycles of the trees and plants to help us understand this phenomena. In the winter the trees activity is largely under the earth; the growth forces are directed to the roots. It is a hidden, inner activity. When we look to the trees in the spring and into the summer, all of the growth and activity is in the periphery; new leaf growth, flowers, fruits and insects buzzing about. The change we see in the children as the light and warmth begin to increase is a reflection of this “pulling out” of their consciousness to their periphery. As the children are not as aware of themselves in this peripheral state, their spontaneous and possibly challenging activity can certainly try our patience! If we are not aware of the fact that we adults also have the potential to be less self-aware in the warmer months, the abundance of patience required to meet the child’s exuberance in a positive way may be less at our disposal; unless we consciously cultivate it. Another clear and present danger is that we, in our relaxed and expanded state, let the boundaries and rhythms we have established for the children go too much at this time.

So keep those limbs that are yearning for action busy but remember that providing the moments for the balancing activity of stillness and silence are essential to ensure that the children (and adults!) don’t “lose themselves” completely in the Summer haze.

Have a lovely week.

Pep
**CLASS 3 NEWS**

*It has already been a very exciting term for Class 3 and we are only halfway through.*

We started off with our final installment of the Stories from the Scriptures which saw us discover how Saul became King, David conquered Goliath and of course the building of Solomon’s temple. We had a wonderful visit from Don Riding who keeps native bees and he spent an hour informing us of the importance of these miniature creatures. We now have our very own box of native (stingless) bees and they have already been very busy collecting pollen from the local flora. That same week saw us depart on our first three-day school camp and what a wonderful time that was. Thank you very much to Vanessa Brown, Juan Ramirez and Andrew Scott for accompanying us to Kiah Park.

Last week we started our new main lesson entitled ‘House Building’ and the children are very eager to get their building transformed from a vision into reality. We will have these projects on display during the Open Day/working bee so feel free to pop in for a look.

As part of our house building main lesson we experienced what it is like to ‘move’ as we have vacated our traditional class three and moved into the music room. It was a fabulous opportunity for the children to pack up, clean, unpack and see how everything can fit into a completely different space. There were quite a few surprises when they saw that all the desks did indeed make it into the room. This will be our new home until the end of the year... Thanks Karen.

The rest of the term will see us farming, form drawing, writing, reading and of course calculating all manner of items in our maths lessons.

Have a wonderful rest of the term.

*Antonia and Class 3*

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**Waldorf One World Fundraiser Concert**

*Saturday November 14th at 4.30pm*

*Amphitheatre*

*Featuring the Samford Valley High School Ensemble & The Animato Chamber Strings.*

Dear Community,

We will be holding a special concert to raise money for The Waldorf One World movement which raises money for projects connected with Steiner schools in developing countries. Many Steiner schools around the world particularly in Europe and America participate in this initiative and we will be the first Australian school to join.

In brief, each school holds a fundraising event during November and donates money from that to the Waldorf One World Charity. 100% of proceeds go to the projects that are funded. If you are interested, please look at their website. [https://www.freunde-waldorf.de/en/wow-day/what-is-wow-day.html](https://www.freunde-waldorf.de/en/wow-day/what-is-wow-day.html)

Tickets for the concert will be sold on the day. The prices are:

- Family (2 Adults and 2+ children) - $30
- Adult - $20
- Concession - $15

$5 from every ticket sold will go to Waldorf One World. Bring a picnic rug to sit on, be part of something big and come along to hear some beautiful inspiring music and help improve our world.

The concert will conclude by 6pm. Please note this is an alcohol-free event.

We look forward to seeing you there.

*Brendan and the music staff.*
**PAFA NEWS**

**PAFA Leadership Team 2016**
It’s that time of year again where we start looking forward to 2016 (where did this year go?). We are looking for expressions of interest for the PAFA Leadership Team 2016. If you have a passion for our school community, have some fresh ideas of how we can make our community even stronger, or simply like to lend a hand and get involved, we would love to hear from you.

**Friday Foodies – fortnightly at the Hub**
We had more sellers last week so thank you to all the lovely stall holders for making delicious goodies for all those hungry tummies. Next Foodies will be next week, 13th November. Brendan Hook will be gathering a team of talented musicians to perform for us, so come along and enjoy.

In 2016, PAFA will be looking for a new coordinator to carry on the great tradition of Friday Foodies. If someone has a vision for continuing Foodies and perhaps adding a home grown fresh produce component or any other element that resonates with our community, we would love to hear from you!

**Christmas Foodies – Friday, 27th November**
Would you like to run a Christmas Craft activity for the children at the Christmas Foodies? All ideas are welcome. We have carol singers lined up and would love some volunteers to make some yummy Christmassy treats to sell on the day.

**Cuppa Time - Weekly at The Hub**
This week, Karen Foster gave us a practical experience of Curative Eurythmy. Thank you Karen. It was lovely to have an activity at Cuppa Time in which the children could also participate.

**Week 6, Friday 13th November**
We have a treat this week as Jan Baker-Finch will be coming along to give us a picture of the SVSS Preschool to Class 12 journey.

**Week 7, Friday 20th November**
Pep Wright will be back to talk to us about the understanding of gender from an anthroposophical perspective, as well as how it relates to ourselves and our children.

**Week 8, Friday 27th November**
Pep Wright will be talking to us about the pentatonic scale and the music program at SVSS.

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**Paula Miller, Jacqueline Hobbs, Amy Curran, Imogen Cusack and Kim Ryan**
To contact any of our team, you can email us at: svsspafa@gmail.com. And don’t forget to check out our Facebook page for updates on what is happening: www.facebook.com/SVSSPAFA.
A PASSIONATE SCHOOLING – 11

(Apologies for the delay in doing No.11- family illness intruded.)

The basis of Steiner’s Philosophical ideas, anthroposophy and Waldorf Education. We continue with this understanding of Steiner’s basic ideas underpinning his many areas of work including Waldorf education.

“This view of knowledge, where the human being is seen as belonging at the centre, contrasted sharply with the philosophy of his time which derived from Anglo-American thought and in which ‘man (sic) is reduced to being a mere spectator of the world.’

As previously stated, Steiner was awarded a PhD in the philosophy of science and always acknowledged his respect for the principles of scientific methodology. He claimed to have meticulously applied the principles of natural scientific research in his spiritual investigations. In the biographical sketch his experience as a teacher is described; however, much of what he described in his later work, such as in farming, medicine, architecture, as well as in education, could hardly have arisen out of his personal or professional experience.
Therefore at some point the reader of his works is confronted with the fact that many of his ideas had their source in his metaphysical (clairvoyant) experience. It is evident that he was acclaimed by many of his listeners, followers and colleagues as one who could draw reliably on such a source. Steiner claimed that:

My knowledge of the spiritual — of this I am conscious — springs from my own spiritual vision. At every stage — both in the detail and in the synthesis and broad view — I have subjected myself to stringent tests, making sure that wide awake control accompanies each further step in spiritual vision and research.

Not content to be accepted on authority, Steiner related all his later writings to his earlier philosophical works. In this way these observations became accessible to reason and therefore became something more than a body of purely esoteric teachings.

This linking of anthroposophy to the existing philosophical ideas helped to bridge the gap between orthodox educational thought and his own teachings on education. e.g. Education of the Child in the Light of Anthroposophy (1907) In these and later lectures, Steiner delivered information and practical suggestions for classroom management, curriculum delivery and child study as well as self-development and displayed an extraordinary capacity for practical ideas for the needs of the classroom.”

Compiled by Tricia Scott from “A Passionate Schooling” by Dr. Alduino Mazzone (Available from The Treehouse bookshop) Next time - The nature of freedom and thinking.

ASSOCIATED INITIATIVES
These Steiner/Anthroposophically related activities and services, whilst not directly related the school, can be seen to be in sympathy with and supportive of the impulse of Steiner education.

Once upon a time....
Come and enter the magical world of Early Childhood! Learn how to tell stories, make dolls and study Rudolf Steiner’s teachings on the incarnation of the human being from before birth to age 7.

Our Early Childhood Foundation Studies both in Sydney and by Distance are designed to offer a pathway to Rudolf Steiner Early Childhood teaching. The courses are also of great interest to parents, home-based child carers and playgroup leaders. All welcome. Information on the curriculum and dates are found on our website, www.sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com.
For personal inquiries do not hesitate to ring Linda on 0422 429 329.
Remember: Numbers are limited so enrol early for 2016!

The Brisbane Branch of the Anthroposophical Society
The Brisbane Branch of the Anthroposophical Society hopes that you enjoy this edition of the October Newsletter - Staying Connected.

This edition has a new segment that will be included each month. We thank David Newbatt for the use of his paintings and the accompanying text by Christoph - Andreas Lindenberg on the front page, as this is the first of a series for the next twelve issues of our Newsletter. I have timed the constellation to reconcile with the Sidereal Astrology for us to consider.


Also, our last meeting together for this year is on the 5th and 6th December, Iris Sullivan's two day workshop, registration form is included in the newsletter.

Monique Davies - Secretary Brisbane Branch Anthroposophical Society in Australia 0414 291 491
Selling Cello $450
Selling Aminato 3/4 cello at the end of this year (my daughter’s from class 3 to 6). The hard case has survived about six years, so does need replacing. I have photos I can email you, or we can arrange a time at school for you to see in person. Please contact carol.kleidon@hotmail.com

Northside Fitness - Personal Training and Group Classes
If you have been thinking about making a positive lifestyle change, look no further than Nick and the NF team of highly qualified and experienced trainers. Northside Fitness has been helping improve the health and wellness and around the Hills District for 6 years now – all ages and fitness levels welcome.

Mobile Personal Training - we bring everything to your door. A comprehensive range of equipment, as well as expertise and encouragement. All you need to do is turn up and we will do the rest – motivating you and most importantly helping you achieve results. We do 1 to 1 and partner (2 to 1) training.

NF Group Fitness – a variety of classes are held across the week in Ferny Hills and Arana Hills, in both indoor and outdoor venues. Boxing, cardio, circuit and stretching – this is not a boot camp! Classes challenge all muscles of the body in a functional manner and cater for all fitness levels. First week free. Other locations for private small group training can be arranged.

Call Nick to start or to find out more. 0434 990 572. www.northsidefitness.com.au

Granny Flats avail to hire
1 bed, bunks, kitchen, lounge, bathroom, 15 amp – plus for sale 3289 6000

Fountain of Youth & Floatation Centre

Great Gifts for Christmas Rolka
Creative Building Blocks (Locally made) – 50, 100 or 150 wooden blocks in a calico bag with a fully illustrated Ideas Booklet. Hours of fun and challenging activities for all the family. Free delivery to the Samford area. 3289 4505. www.rolka.net.au

Wet Felting Workshop
Come and create a masterpiece for your wall or play scape at my house in Bellbowrie on Thursday 12/11/15 & Saturday 14/11/15 from 10 till 2:30. Beautiful play area and delicious home-baked morning tea with great company. Please bring a plate to share for lunch. $50 per workshop, materials provided. Lasma: 0420977303 earthmotherscraft@gmail.com https://facebook.com/EarthMothersCraft?ref=bookmarks

Earth Mothers Craft Group
Come and join us for some crafting fun at my house in Bellbowrie on Thursdays from 10 till 1230. Beautiful play area. Delicious morning tea and great company. $18 per session, including materials. Festive projects coming soon. Lasma: 0420 977 303 earthmotherscraft@gmail.com https://facebook.com/EarthMothersCraft?ref=bookmarks

Is your child due for a dental check-up?
The school dental program has been changed to give all parents the opportunity to be involved in their child’s dental care. To fit in with busy families we are offering free dental treatment at the Ferny Hills School Dental Clinic. To make an appointment call 1300 300 850 or contact the clinic directly on 3851 2304. For more information visit www.health.qld.gov.au/metronorth/oral-health/