FROM THE DIRECTOR

Thank you to those who attended the Community Forum this week and for those who sent their apologies. Some of the topics discussed included: learning support, finding teachers to fill our roles at the school, how the Primary School Education Administrator recruitment process is going (interviews are underway), and opportunities to create more connections between High School class guardians and students. There was also recognition from Forum attendees of the value of asking questions and getting answers ‘on the spot’ at a Forum and how we might increase attendance. We appreciate that not everyone feels comfortable asking their questions publicly; however others may ask the questions that you are interested in. We could also implement a process by which we gather questions and answer them at the Forum. If you have any suggestions about a possible process to allow more people feedback, please let us know. You can email me: director@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au or leave a message with Front Desk.

As an update on our College-Board retreat, we spent a good few hours on Friday and Saturday further developing our 20-year vision and identifying priorities. This now requires input from staff before we review and feed into our Strategic Plan. We are excited about the ideas either brought to or which arose at the meeting and look forward to sharing our revised Plan with the community in the New Year.

Warm regards
Karen Dunshea
Interim Director

Waldorf One World Fundraiser Concert
Saturday November 14th 4.30 - 6pm at the Amphitheatre
featuring the Samford Valley High School Ensemble &
The Animato Chamber Strings

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.

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.

Brendan and the music staff
BENEFITS OF PLAYING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AS A CHILD

Here is a speech written and researched by Jordan Agius, one of our Class 11 Students on playing a musical instrument. I encourage you to read her words. As a student who has continued her music begun in primary school through the high school years. Thank you Jordan for your research on this subject.

Good morning everyone, I’m going to be talking to you about the benefits of playing a musical instrument as a child. According to Rudolf Steiner, human beings are a musical being, and the making of music is essential in experiencing what it is to be fully human.

Music awakens and nurtures the inner life of the child and by engaging in activities of thinking, feeling and willing - the three forms of the human being, the experiences of playing a musical instrument, arouse and prepare the necessary forces needed, to be able to meet the challenges of the world with spirit and confidence.

The role of playing an instrument and making music with one another is an act of empowerment, self-validation, socialisation and creative expression which is the ultimate experience of our humanity.

It is important that a child is encouraged to play a musical instrument, especially during the fundamental stages of development, as it offers them many benefits and will help them become the greatest version of their self. If a child is engaged in making music, the brain will grow to support the activity as it would for any activity – but in the case of music it appears other abilities also increase. The consequence is that children who study music from an early age have an accelerated learning in other academic subjects and so the earlier a child comes to grips with music, the more the brain growth will be influenced and set up for later life.

Some of the benefits from playing a musical instrument are; enhanced coordination, the promotion of social skills, the development of team work, self-validation and exposure to cultural history. The art of playing an instrument requires a lot of hand-eye coordination, by reading musical notes on a page, your brain subconsciously must convert that note into specific motor patterns while also adding breathing and rhythm to the mix. Music involves constant reading and comprehension, being able to recognize what a note name is and translate it to a finger or slide position. At the same time, you also have to read what rhythms the notes are arranged in and produce the correct pattern.

New research suggests that regularly playing an instrument changes the shape and power of the brain and may be used in therapy to improve cognitive skills. There is continually more evidence that if you learn how to play an instrument, the parts of your brain that control motor skills, for example
using your hands for creativity, running, swimming, balancing, hearing and memory, actually grow and become more active.

Playing a musical instrument suggests many social benefits such as close circles of friends that all share something in common, gaining lifelong friendships through musical activities, orchestras and events.

Working and playing together in a group to complete a singular goal develops negotiation skills and teaches you how to work and handle different personality types, increasing your social skills and awareness of others around you, building self-confidence.

Overcoming musical challenges that you thought you’d never quite master can give you a great sense of pride about yourself. When you first start learning how to play an instrument, it seems like just holding out a note for a couple beats or hitting a high pitch is an amazing accomplishment, which it is, however as you practice and become a more experienced musician, making beautiful sounding music is not only pleasing to your ear, but to others as well which creates a very rewarding experience and sense of achievement.

Children learn to embrace other cultures through their music and begin to explore emotions through music, helping them better understand who they are. Music often reflects the environment and times of its creation, therefore you learn a variety of styles and genres, such as classical, folk, medieval and traditional music. Music itself is history, and each piece or composition generally has its own background and storyline that can further your appreciation of other cultures. In the Waldorf curriculum music seeks to bring the living and healing presence of music into the life of the child and gives them an opportunity to experience both their own individuality and relationship to a community. It provides a chance for the expression of the soul, a discipline for achieving skills and goals, and contributes to the awareness of what it means to be truly human. It is an important element to the growth of any human being to learn music, whether it be during the early years of a child or later during the years as an adult.

Playing an instrument is beneficial for all. It’s never too late to pick up a instrument as an adult and polish your inner responsibility, time management, team work and social skills, however I do believe it is crucial that a child actively has music in their life from an early age so to establish those traits and create rhythm, self-discipline and motivation from a young age. So go on, go learn to play an instrument as you will be rewarded with a great sense of achievement, confidence and creative expression.

---

**Dates to Remember**

**Saturday 14 November**
Waldorf Worldwide Fundraiser Concert, 4.30pm

**Wednesday 18 November**
Class 6 Play 7pm

**Wednesday 25 November**
Class 5 Play 7pm

**Friday 27 November**
Christmas Foodies 3pm
Class 4 Play 6pm
Class 12 Production 7pm

**Saturday 28 November**
Class 12 Production 7pm

**Thursday 3 December**
Kindergarten Summer Advent Celebration 8.30am – 11.30am
Class 7 Celebration 11.30am
Class 12 Graduation Ceremony 1.30pm
Last day of term for High School

**Friday 4 December**
Primary School Christmas Picnic
Term 4 ends

---

**Vacation Care December 2015 – January 2016**

Vacation Care will once again be offered in the upcoming holidays. For detailed information, please download the forms in the email body. This service is closed for two weeks over the Christmas period from the 21st Dec 2015 to the 2nd Jan 2016. We are also closed on the 25th Jan and the 26th for the Australia Day Public Holiday.

*Kylie Turner*
OSHC Co-ordinator
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 those interested in being part of PAFA in 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**

Foodies is on today! Yay! Come and enjoy some delicious goodies and listen to our very own talented musicians led by the wonderful Brendan Hook.

**Christmas Foodies – Friday, 27th November**

Christmas Foodies is shaping up. We have a number of festive stall holders - but could always do with more, so if you are thinking of holding a stall, contact us now. We have some craft activities being planned and carol singers to help provide the festive feel, so if you haven’t done so already, put the afternoon of **Friday 27th November** in your diary and join us in celebrating the end of yet another busy year at SVSS.

**Cuppa Time - Weekly at The Hub**

This week, **Week 6, Friday 13th November**, 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.

*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](http://www.facebook.com/SVSSPAFA).
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 warmly invites everyone to our last workshop for the year!

On December 5th & 6th we will welcome Iris Sullivan's workshop 'Colour and Consciousness Workshop' $135.00.

This course will trace human and colour development through the Major and Minor Ancient Epochs of time. To follow the path of colour change is to follow the path of developing human consciousness. From Ancient Times our inner development has been parallel to our colour awareness. As we grow into our human destiny so our range and experience of colours expand. One can think back to the changes that has occurred since fluoro colours were found and the development of spiritual awareness of today.


Hope to you there!
RSVP: Monique Davies Secretary Brisbane Branch Anthroposophical Society in Australia 0414 291 491

CLASSIFIEDS

Please note: All Classified Advertisements are submitted by individuals for the community benefit. They do not in any way express the views, opinions, endorsement or policy of the school and should not be relied upon as such. There is a flat $5 charge ($2 for school families) for each advertisement and payment is required prior to inclusion.

White Socks Walk ‘n Wheels
On Saturday 21 November at 10:00am I am hosting a community event at the Ferny Grove State School. The White Socks Walk ‘n Wheels is a White Ribbon Community Walk that I am encouraging everyone to take part in. This White Ribbon event will raise community awareness and make the statement that we will not be silent any more on domestic and family violence. Whether you come on a push-bike or in a wheelchair, whether you wear the latest cross-trainers or a pair of old gum-boots, pull on your white socks and your loudest shirt and come on down to the school on the Saturday morning for the walk and a sausage sizzle.

I warmly welcome you to attend either or both of these events. Please contact my office to register at ferny.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au.

Creative Kids Workshop
Why not get kids off screens (even more!) this school holidays? Creative Kids workshops held at Samford by creativity coach/counsellor. The goal? New eyes. New ideas. Expression. Lots of laughs. Inspiration. A bunch of creative pieces to take home. And best of all? Not an electronic screen in sight! Details: 9:30 to 12:30 7 Jan, Samford Community Hall. $30 per child or $24 per child for more than one child.

Contact details: Creative Vault on facebook, www.creativevault.com.au, Karleen on karleen.jentz@creativevault.com.au

Selling Cello $450 (or nearest offer)
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

Preloved Baby items for Sale
I have several Preloved baby items for sale. They are:
1 x Beema-Q Pram with sun shade & extra padding insert
1 x Maclaren stroller with rain cover & extra sheep skin cover
1 x Bebe rocker
1 x Steelcraft high chair
1 x Safe & sound (meridian) baby car seat rear & forward facing (up to 18kgs)
1 x First Years booster seat up to 26kgs
1 x Infasecure booster seat
All items are in good condition and are ready to move onto someone who is in need of them. If you are interested in any of these items call Sam Beetson (Mackenzie’s mum class 1) on 0438832949 or email sam.beetson@gmail.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 in 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/

Raising Resilient Kids for our Community
McCosker-Dell Counselling is hosting a series of FREE workshops being held at New Farm Library and Chermside Libraries (on Saturdays 28th November, 5th December and 12th December). These workshops will provide you with tools for enhancing the emotional resilience of your whole family. Come and meet like-minded parents and learn how your strengths can support and assist you through challenges, change or times of transition. The first two workshops are specific for Fly-in-fly-out (FIFO) parents, the final workshop is open to all parents. For more information or to book your place, please go to www.mccoskerdellcounselling.com/blog, or email mccoskerdellcounselling@gmail.com.