

From the WISE Office

Dear WISE Families,

Welcome back! It is so nice to see everyone's shining faces. We sincerely hope you enjoyed your celebrations and are feeling rested and renewed.

As we find our familiar rhythms and routines, we would like to remind everyone to be mindful of the changeable weather and ensure our children have the appropriate clothing and outerwear to stay warm, dry and fully enjoy the winter.

We are doing our best to keep pathways clear of ice but please take extra care on the sidewalks and parking lot. They can be extra icy.

Warm winter blessings,

The WISE Admin Team 🌱

Important Dates:

Jan 7 Classes Resume (K-Grades)
Jan 7 Rosebuds / Home AE begin
Jan 7 Bulk Order opens
Jan 8 Daisies / Marigolds begin
Jan 9 Nursery Resumes
Jan 10 Bluebells begins
Jan 10 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Jan 10 Handwork Circle
Jan 13 Bulk Order closes
Jan 17 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Jan 17 Handwork Circle
Jan 18 Bulk Order pick up
Jan 20 Work Bee
Jan 24 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Jan 24 Handwork Circle
Jan 25 Winter/Epiphany Season Assembly (Grades)
Jan 28 PD Day, No School
Jan 31 Candlemas La Chandeleur (K-Grades)
Jan 31 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Jan 31 Handwork Circle

Feb 2 Junior High Open House
Feb 4 Bulk Order opens
Feb 7 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Feb 7 Handwork Circle
Feb 10 Bulk Order closes
Feb 14 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Feb 15 Bulk Order pick up
Feb 15 Skills Assessments (grades)
Feb 18-22 Wise Family Break, no programming
Feb 21 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Feb 25-26 Parent Teacher Conferences, no programming K-Grades
Feb 28 Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
Feb 28 Handwork Circle


Parent Coffee every Wednesday
8:30 am - 9:15 am in the WISE Gym

Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton (WISE)

 **Phone:**
 780.466.3312

 **Address:**
 7211 96A Ave Edmonton AB T6B 1B5

 **Website:**
www.thewise.ca

 **Email:**
 (Eva) info@thewise.ca
 (K.C.) registrar@thewise.ca
 (Keely) administrator@thewise.ca
 (Alisa) volunteer@thewise.ca

 **WISE Facebook Page:**
[Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton](https://www.facebook.com/WaldorfIndependentSchoolofEdmonton)

Facebook Parent Group:
[The WISE Parent Connection](https://www.facebook.com/TheWISEParentConnection)

(Please contact communication@wese.ca to join our Facebook parent group)

Enchanted Garden Store Hours:

Monday: 2:50 - 3:15 pm

Wednesday/Thursday: 8:30 - 9:30 am

Or by appt: store@thewise.ca



Office Note

WISE PD Day

January 28th, 2019

WISE will be closed for a Professional Development day and there will be no Rosebuds, Home Arts Enrichment, Kindergarten or grades programming. 🌱

WISE Events

Celebrating la Chandeleur at the WISE

On Thursday, January 31st each class will be invited to the school gym to celebrate la Chandeleur. Students from Kindergarten to Class 9 will sing a song, prepare a crêpe, recite a verse and enjoy eating their crêpe. Following our tradition here at the WISE, Class 5 students will be hosting. All students will be encouraged to speak en français during the celebration.

This festival began in ancient times as a Celebration of Lights and of the Celtic goddess Brigit. During Christian times, in France, la Chandeleur took its name from the blessing of the candles on this day for use in the church throughout the coming year. Early February was also marked by the start of winter seed-time. Surplus flour was then used without too much risk of shortage and les crêpes were made as a symbol of prosperity for the coming year.

In modern times, la Chandeleur is above all known as “crêpes day” and generations have kept alive a collection of traditions

and customs around the making of les crêpes. We also look to the hibernating animals to come out and see if it is still winter, and whether or not we will have an early Spring. We can see how Groundhog Day developed, as a secular response to the natural world at this time of year.

Volunteers needed!

The success of this event depends on having crêpes for everyone to enjoy. The good news is that les crêpes can easily be made ahead of time, layered with parchment paper and frozen. Class reps will be contacting parents to seek volunteers to prepare les crêpes.

Info adapted from:

www.vws.ca/candlemas/

<https://frenchmoments.eu/candlemas-in-france-la-chandeleur/> 🌱



WISE Events cont'd

Winter Fair

The Fair Committee would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the entire community for the help and support that our Winter Fair received! It was a wonderful day with the halls full of happy children AND happy adults, which is always our only goal. A few very key things happened this year that we would like to shout about from the rooftops.

1) Our sign-up was more full this year than it has been for any other Winter Fair in recent memory. Thank you to all who signed up as soon as they saw the sign-up, to those who signed up at the last minute and to those who heard our call and stepped in for more than one shift in many cases. A special thanks to those that stayed for the clean-up crew, there were more of you than EVER before.

2) The Secret Store was of the same quality as a high class gift shop. It was incredible. Thank you to all the Parent Elves who created such beauty. The items that were left over will be saved for a good start on next year's fair.

3) All of our volunteers are so valuable, but I would like to give a special and public thank you to Marie-Eve Pelchat. She and her husband David, and son Matthew had a new vision for the Maple Taffy event. Everything that was new about that this year was their idea and their know-how. They made over 430 sticks of Maple Taffy, tripling the amount from any other year. This is one of those things that make our community so special, people diving in and making things better. I would also like to say a deep thank you to the Fair committee. Andrea Corbin, Sydney Lee, Christine Nordell, Julie Yerex, Andrew Johnson, Farren Timoteo, Jess Purves, Claire Amanda, Justine Pavelich, we are a motley crew of very busy people who somehow make time to create these magical events. You all give of yourselves so hard, and we all fit together like this crazy puzzle that just seems to work so well, and most importantly we all make this hard work seem so fun. Words seem trite, but the Thank You is as sincere as it gets. 🍀



Highlight of the Class

Class 4

Ms. Cartmell (Class 3 Teacher)

In Class Four, we spent the month of December delving into the different archetypal animals and their qualities. Our learning provoked some deep conversations about what makes us human.

Through our exploration of animals we continue to deepen our understanding of the different classes of vertebrate animals, their characteristics, and how specific behaviours and physical characteristics allow animals to adapt and survive in various climates. To wrap up our block we've been hard at work doing our own research projects. There's a buzz of activity as students have been getting creative making dioramas and sculpting their own clay animals and putting the finishing touches on our research. We will have our project celebration for other classes and our parents next Tuesday. We are looking forward to our next main lesson block where we will explore some of those more elusive creatures of the ocean.

Yours truly,
Ms. Cartmell 🍀

Community Building

Work Bee

Our second work bee of the year will be held on January 20th, anytime from 11 am to 6 pm. The work bee will include various maintenance tasks within the school, portables, and outside in the playground/garden areas. There is always a long list of items to be completed and a sign-up genius will be established closer to the event. There will be a need for skilled workers (carpentry, electrical, etc.), however there are also a lot of basic tasks such as cleaning, organizing and moving things, where no experience is required. Please watch out for future emails and plan to come help on the 20th. 🍀



Thursdays are Pizza Day!

Cheese *Pepperoni*
Ham and Pineapple

\$4 a Slice

Preorder a whole pizza

\$15 for a Pizza

\$18 for a Gluten Free Pizza

Pick up 3pm -4pm in the WISE foyer

Panago Pizza Capilano

Organic Tomato Sauce

Cash or Debit for whole pizzas

Email order to fundraising@thewise.ca by 1pm on Thursdays.

Enjoy & Thank you! - the WISE Fundraising team



WISE Fundraisers for 2019

• Monthly Fundscrip Order

• Friday January 18 there will be a **Fundscrip Talk!** 3:30pm, during Bulk Order Pick up & cards for sale on the spot.

• All Fundscrip order dates and pick up will coincide with **Bulk Order**.

• Every Thursday is **Market Pizza Day!**

Order before 1pm on Thursdays

Whole pizzas and GF

fundraising@thewise.ca

Pick up at main doors 3pm-4pm.

• Did you know the **Farmers Market opens early for WISE families?** 3:45pm every Thursday.

• In the springtime there will a **Seed/Bulk/Plant fundraiser** with the Garden Committee & Farmers Market.

If you have a fundraiser you want to run, let's do it! 🌱

Meet the WESE Board Directors

Treasurer Vanessa Bodnar



Vanessa is serving her third year on the WESE Board of Directors as Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair and Casino Chair. She has progressively increased her involvement with

the school since joining this community in 2012. She's served as a member of the Gala and Fundraising Committees since 2015 to co-chair of Fundraising in 2016. She is continually inspired by the good work and passion of the school community, faculty and board members.

In addition to her work with WESE she is a Holistic Health Practitioner and also serves

the province as the Issues Coordinator in the Assistant Deputy Ministers Office for Alberta Energy where she also extensively volunteers with various committees, including Wellness in the Workplace, Women in Leadership and the Diversity and Inclusion teams. Growing up in rural Alberta she highly values nature and hard work ethics. Her daughter has been enrolled in programs with the WISE since 2012 and she couldn't imagine a better environment to raise her daughter. 🌱

Director Greg Moore



Gregory (Greg) Moore is beginning his second two year term as Director with the WESE Board. Greg was born in Calgary but spent grade three through university in

Edmonton. He has a BA in English/ Psychology as well as a professional teaching certificate from the U of A. A parent of three children, Greg also has three grandchildren. Greg has been a member of the Anthroposophical Society in Canada for more than twenty years and serves as facilitator of the evening parent study group. 🌱



Meet the WESE Board Directors cont'd

Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton (WESE)

Phone:
780.466.3312

Address:
7211 96A Ave Edmonton AB T6B 1B5

Website:
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Email:
president@wese.ca
parentpartnership@wese.ca
volunteer@wese.ca

WESE Facebook Group:
Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton



Waldorf Education
Society of Edmonton

At the moment, Netta sits on various staff and board committees, and Co-chairs the Finance and Gateways Committee. In her other life, Netta is a Publisher at Stonehouse Publishing, a new Literary Publisher in Edmonton. She also sits on the board of the Book Publishers Association of Alberta as a member-at-large. Her two children, Oliver and Eloise, attend the WISE. 🌱

Director Eoin Murray



Eoin Murray works in communications for the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters. He has worked in the non-profit & government sectors in Ireland, the UK, Israel and

Palestine for almost twenty years. He has two boys in the school, Tom (class 4) and Hugo (class 1). The family chose the WISE when they moved to Canada in 2013 because of its commitment to a holistic education accessible to everyone. 🌱

Director Sydney Lee



Sydney and her family have been members of our community for the past five years. She is passionate about Waldorf Education and the philosophy behind it. She has been lucky to be

part of the Fairs Committee for the past four years, while her husband, Charles, has been working with the community garden committee and building many things around the school. She has two children in the WISE, and is currently the class one parent rep. 🌱

Director Alisa Vaughan



Alisa has been a parent at the WISE for 5 years and is currently a full-time stay at home parent to Nora, in Senior Kinder, and Ross, in Parent-Child. Prior to starting a family, Alisa worked with

children with special needs both in the Edmonton area and abroad. Volunteerism and community building were foundational values in her family growing up and she is passionate about sharing the same lifestyle and values with her own children. 🌱

Member at Large Lisa Tose



Lisa Tose is the mother of two daughters (ages three and five) who are both in Waldorf classes. Lisa has been an attorney for close to twenty years and has practiced both

in Canada and the United States. Lisa has provided legal representation and advice to private clients in most areas of law, including representation in court, administrative tribunals and alternative dispute resolution processes. Lisa's graduate work and publications were in the area of health law, policy and ethics, and as such she has enjoyed advising executive, nonprofit and governmental clients with compliance issues, as well as legislative and policy development. Lisa's career has also included extensive professional speaking, designing and teaching professional education courses, as well as teaching college philosophy. The Waldorf education philosophy resonates deeply with Lisa's commitment to inspiring thoughtful, compassionate and happy children who can flourish within a supportive and loving community. 🌱

Executive Director Netta Johnson



Netta Johnson has been on the WESE board since 2002, and was one of the founding members of the Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton. After attending Waldorf School

in Edmonton in the 80s, and discovering how formative her experience with Waldorf Education was, Netta was drawn to helping to re-establish a Waldorf school in Edmonton. Joining WESE in 2002 as the Treasurer, she has held nearly every position on the board since then, including Secretary, Secretary-Treasurer, Director, President and Vice-President.