



the WISE connection

Issue 17

March 2019

From the WISE Office



Dear WISE Families,

This winter we have lived through the longest number of consecutive days below -20 in 20 years. And because of that we have also lived through a most epic run of indoor recesses in WISE history. We are grateful to the extra support of our teachers, aides and recess supervisors for making this time indoors fun for the children. Now that it has passed we are eager to bundle up, get outside, bask in the sunshine, and move!

This month is one of transitions as we host the WISE Open House on March 2, begin our last semester (of this school year) of Parent & Tot programs and celebrate the (literal) start of Spring with our annual Champagne Gala Fundraiser. It may be hard to believe but these events really do mark the change of seasons and begin the final chapter of our school year. Before we know it we will be trading snow pants for splash pants and wondering when the mud will end.

But, until then ~ Wishing you blessings on the warm winds of Spring,

The WISE Admin Team 🌱

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

Important Dates:

- Mar 2 Open House, K-Grade 9
- Mar 4 Bulk Order / Fundscrip Open
- Mar 11 Bulk Order / Fundscrip
- Mar 11 Rosebuds Ends
- Mar 15 Bulk Order Pick up 3pm-4:30pm
- Mar 16 Sunflowers Begins
- Mar 18 Rosebuds Begins
- Mar 19 Daisies / Marigolds End
- Mar 21 Bluebells Ends
- Mar 23 "A Starry Night,"
Champagne Gala 2019
- Mar 26 Daisies / Marigolds Begin
- Mar 28 Bluebells Begins
- Apr 1 Bulk Order / Fundscrip Open
- Apr 7 Bulk Order / Fundscrip Close
- Apr 12 Bulk Order / Fundscrip Pick Up
3 - 4:30pm
- Apr 15-19 Spring Break, No Classes
- Apr 22 Easter Monday, No Classes
- Apr 23 Programming resumes
- Apr 27 Edmonton Resilience Festival
- Apr 29 Bulk Order / Fundscrip Open

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

Parent Education: Eurythmy, Wednesday 9:15 am - 10:20 am in the WISE Gym.

The Story of St. Patrick

Shared by WISE parent and WESE board director Eoin Murray:

St. Patrick's day falls on the 17th of March every year. In many homes the day is an opportunity to celebrate Irish heritage or dress up in green. In Canada many folks enjoy escaping from Leprechauns, one of Ireland's many mythical creatures.

Waldorf students learn about saints in Grade 2. But students of any age can enjoy this Waldorf-friendly version of the Saint Patrick myth.

Patrick was born in a village in Wales. He lived with his family in this village until around the age of ten when, one night, he was captured by pirates involved in slave trading across the Irish Sea.

Patrick was placed on a boat by the pirate captain and taken to Ireland. When the boat landed in Ireland Patrick was sold by the pirates to a farmer. The farmer made Patrick become a shepherd guarding his flock of sheep at night time. Each night Patrick would spend on the hill watching for wolves who might eat the sheep. The weather in Ireland is cold and rainy. Patrick watched the sheep all night with nowhere to shelter from the many storms that would blow in across the sea. Sometimes the best he could do was cuddle up beside the sheep for warmth.

As the seasons passed Patrick spent many cold nights on the mountainside. Each night he ate small scraps of food before resting, keeping one eye open for the wolves. Over time, as Patrick realised he would not be leaving the mountaintop any day soon, he began to find that the light of his own heart was what made him warmest of all. Soon he realised that if he shone the light of his heart brightly enough he could light up the area around him. He began to practice sharing his own inner light with the sheep. Over time he got so good at shining the light from his heart that he was able to light up the whole hillside, keeping the sheep warm and even some of the wolves would stay nearby to rest in Patrick's light.

One dark and stormy night Patrick looked from the mountain out to sea. Lightning flashed across the sky showing him the sails of a large boat. The boat was sailing directly towards some rocks. Unless it headed in a different direction it would be dashed against them and everyone on the boat would surely die. Patrick was in shock. At first, he did not know what to do. He was scared for everyone on the boat and was worried about what would happen. The storm got rougher and the waves from the sea crashed against the cliffs nearby. So Patrick did the thing he knew best to do: he shone his inner light as strongly as he could. Patrick's light shone all over the hilltop but it was not enough to save the ship. Patrick went even deeper into his heart and shone his light as brightly as he could. Soon the whole area was lit up, all across the hill and right on to the sea.

The Captain was astounded when she saw the light of Patrick's heart shining so brightly. She spotted the rocks and just in time she managed to divert the ship, saving all the people on board. She immediately ordered the ship to sail to the nearest port. When she arrived the sun was coming up. She immediately began to ask everyone about the location of the powerful lighthouse which shone its light on the rocks. Nobody knew what she was talking about until, eventually, she met a kind person who said 'that is no lighthouse, there's a shepherd boy on the hills who makes that light happen'. The legend of Patrick had spread far and wide! The kind man directed the ship's Captain to where Patrick was. The Captain was so grateful when she met Patrick that she immediately offered to buy Patrick back from the farmer and take him back to his family. That very day she took Patrick back to his home. After four long years away Patrick was delighted to see his family and old friends again. He loved to be back in the warmth of his own house and he realised the meaning of the old Irish saying 'Níl aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin' (no hearth like your own hearth).

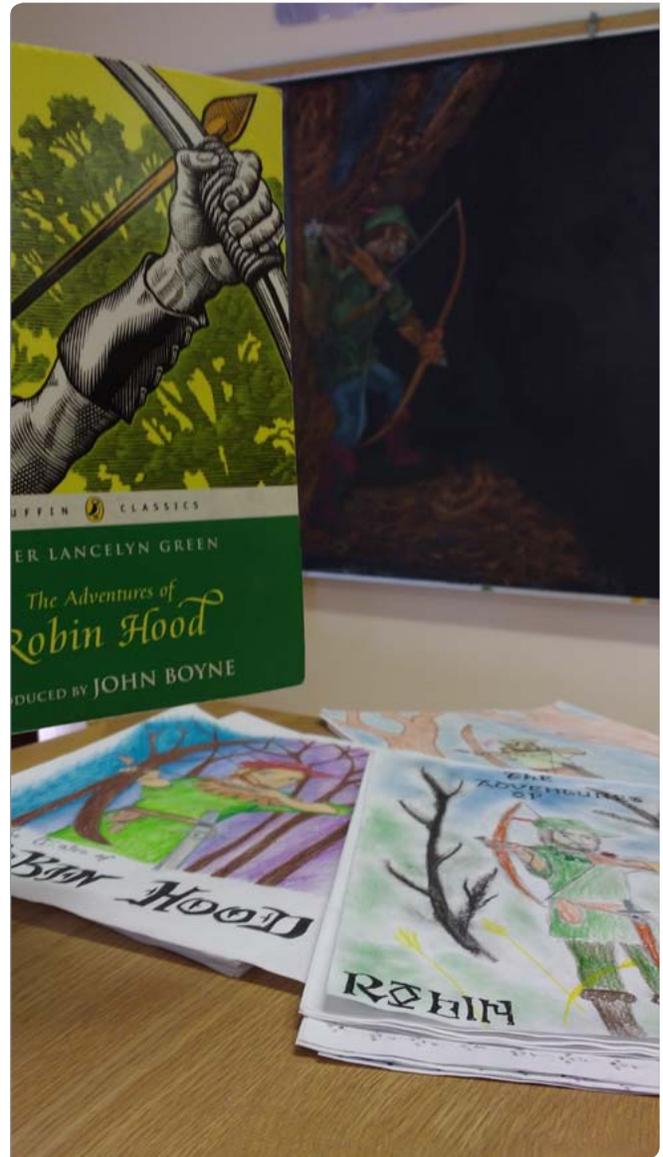
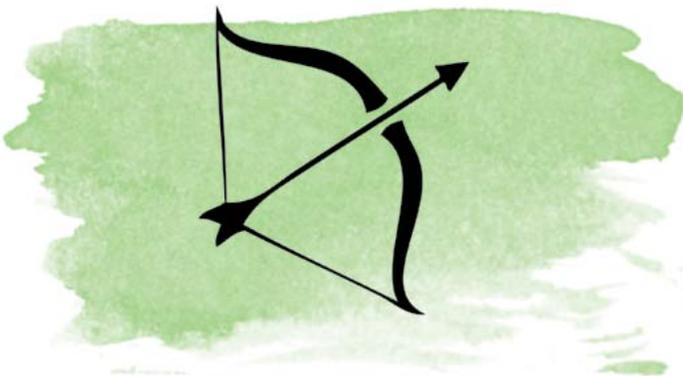
But after a short period at home Patrick began to miss Ireland. He began to miss the way that his inner light could shine and brighten the lives of those around him. So after just a few months, he set off back to Ireland, this time by choice, and he spent the rest of his life there shining his inner love and light on all those who needed it. And it was for this reason that he became known as a Saint. 🍀

Highlight of the Class

Class 6

Mary Conrod (Class 5 Teacher)

Class 6 recently completed a novel study on the Puffin Classic: *The Adventures of Robin Hood*. Using reading comprehension partners throughout the four-week block, the students embarked on completing a main lesson book that included a preface and prologue, as well as 24 original chapter summaries. Having previously studied the feudal system and the Crusades, the students better understood King Richard's absence in the book, as well as Robin Hood's followers, the Merry Men. The 308-page novel also brought to life the theme we are about to study, which is government, since the Canadian Constitution was inspired by the Magna Carta, which was signed after King John's reign. Therefore, Roger Lancelyn Green's novel was the perfect way to bridge the two main subject areas of the sixth grade year! 🌱



Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton (WESE)

📞 **Phone:**
780.466.3312

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

🌐 **Website:**
www.wese.ca

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

f **WESE Facebook Group:**
Waldorf Education Society of
Edmonton



Waldorf Education
Society of Edmonton