

From the WISE Office

Dear WISE Families,

We are approaching an important milestone in the school year. As parents we can congratulate each other for having made it to the mid-way point in the school year. We can look back on the incredible growth our children have experienced this thus far. This time of year is marked with a number of festivals and observances that remind us of the importance of reflection during the darkest days of winter.






Our school was bustling with activity, joy and wonder at this year's Candlelight Market and Winter Fair. We hope that your family was able to join us! These annual festivals and fundraisers are an opportunity to welcome our entire community to join us in creating a magical experience for our children. It wouldn't be possible without your support, the countless volunteers, and the tireless efforts and vision of our Festivals Committee. Thank you!

Our upcoming Advent Spiral is a time for our children to slow down and share in the reflection and stillness of the season. And our Winter concert will be a time to gather and share in the joy and reverence of the upcoming holidays.

We wish you and your family holidays filled with good cheer and friends.

With gratitude and blessings over this year and next,
The WISE Admin Team 🌱

Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton (WISE)

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-  **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 parentpartnership@wese.ca to join our Facebook parent group)

Enchanted Garden Store Hours:
by appt: store@thewise.ca

Important Dates:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dec 2 First week of Advent - Advent Spiral | Jan 6 Classes resume (Kinder - Grades) |
| Dec 3 Last Day of Daisies and Marigolds | Jan 8 Nursery resumes |
| Dec 9 Second week of Advent - Assembly | Jan 11 Sunflowers begins |
| Dec 13 Winter Concert | Jan 13 Rosebuds / Bluebells begin |
| Dec 16 Third week of Advent - Assembly | Jan 14 Daisies / Marigolds begin |
| Dec 20 Early dismissal for Grades (12:30 PM), no programming for Kindergarten or Nursery | Jan 17 Bulk Order pick up |
| Dec 23 - Jan 3 WISE Winter Break, no programming | Jan 24 PD Day, no programming |
| | Jan 30 La Chandeleur (K - Grades) |

Important Dates Continued:

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

Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market every Thursday 4 pm - 7 pm in the WISE Gymnasium

Adult Choir every Tuesday 4 pm - 5 pm in the WISE Music Portable room

WISE Adult Sports Night floor hockey every Tuesday 8 pm - 9 pm in the WISE Gymnasium



Office Notes

WISE WINTER BREAK

Monday, December 23rd - Friday, January 3rd

We will be closed for all programming during this time.

(Note that on Friday, December 20th, there is no programming for Kindergarten or Nursery, and a 12:30 PM dismissal time for the grades) 🟢

WISE Professional Development Day, January 24th, 2020

WISE will be closed for a professional development day on Friday, January 24th; there will be no Nursery, Kindergarten or Grades programming. 🟢



Welcome

The WESE Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on November 20, 2019, at the WISE. I would like to say thank you to all those who were able to attend, and to the many volunteers that came to help set-up or participate. I would also like to offer a special thank-you to Fatima Merchant, Dana Bretelle, Alisa Vaughan, Erin McCormack and our administration for organizing the entire event. The AGM included committee reports, review of financials and a vote on the new Board of Directors. However, more importantly it was an evening where the members of WESE and the community could come together and celebrate what has been achieved thus far, as well as share the vision of the next several years. The WESE Board of Directors for 2019/20 are as follows:

President: Tim Burnham
 Vice President: Julie Yerex
 Vice President: Sydney Lee
 Treasurer: Vanessa Bodnar
 Secretary: Diana Tayler
 Executive Director: Netta Johnson
 Executive Director: Tatiana Peet
 Director: Greg Moore
 Director: Eoin Murray
 Director (Faculty): Kirsten Elliott
 Director: Erin McCormack
 Director: Alisa Vaughan
 Member-at-Large: Matt Ziprick

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the significant contributions to WESE that outgoing board members Jane Huang, Lisa Tose, Jem Mathieson, Christina Tozer and Benjamin Desnoyers have made and thank them all for their service and dedication.

Tim Burnham 🍀



Meet the WESE Board of Directors

President - Tim Burnham

Tim Burnham is entering his second year as president of the board after two years serving as the chair of the site development committee. This time also included one year serving on the board executive. Tim has spent many hours at the school organizing maintenance projects, building portable classrooms and coordinating workbees with the maintenance and playground committees. During this time he has worked with many volunteers, staff and parents. He has been a key part of the team that purchased the school property. In his first year as President, Tim has been a strong supporter of the Ottewell Artisan Farmers Market and Ottewell Community Garden in an attempt to strengthen relationships between WESE, WISE and the broader community. Tim, his spouse Janelle, and family are originally from Ontario and moved to Edmonton in 2012. He has four children who are all attending the WISE, and he is very committed to Waldorf education. Outside of WESE, he is an executive at an engineering and construction company. Tim is a professional engineer, project manager and vice president of operations, but most importantly his favourite Waldorf activity is water colour painting and pretending to play the flute.



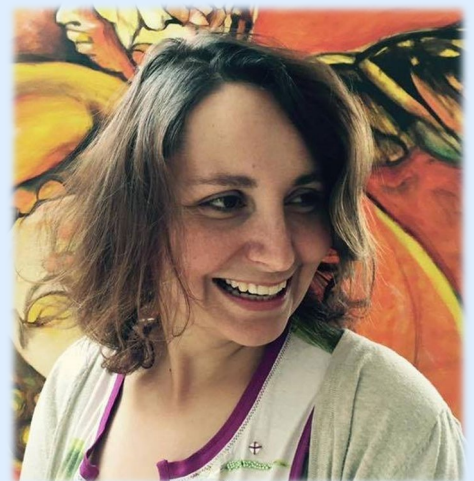
Secretary - Diana Tayler

Diana is a Waldorf mom with twins in kindergarten. She is an active member of the WISE community serving as Class Representative and WESE Board secretary, and enjoys the immense pleasure of playing harp for school events whenever requested. Diana is also a classical musician (playing harp and piano) and an active member of Edmonton's choral music scene. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies from the University of Alberta.



Executive Director - Tatiana Peet

Tatiana Peet has been a proud Waldorf parent since 2012 and an alumni of the Parkallen Waldorf School, which she attended in the eighties in Edmonton. Tatiana works as a psychotherapist, university instructor, and Expressive Arts facilitator. She has served on various professional committees and has Chaired a Master's-level Art Therapy program in the past. She has been serving on the HR Committee for the past two years. Tatiana and her husband Chris have also organized and hosted Anthroposophy study groups. Tatiana is passionate about Waldorf education and is immensely grateful for WISE. She is delighted to serve on the Board for a second year.



Director - Alisa Vaughan

Alisa has been a parent at the WISE for six years and is currently a full-time stay at home parent to Nora, in class one, 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. This is Alisa's second year on the board, where she will continue to chair the Parent Partnership Committee and serve as our Volunteer Coordinator.



Director - Greg Moore

Gregory (Greg) Moore is continuing 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.



WISE EVENTS

Advent

December is the month that our school observes Advent, beginning with the Advent Spiral on December second. Your class teacher will share how your children will be observing Advent throughout the month. For a deeper understanding, here is an interesting article from an online Waldorf Library with some beautiful thoughts on the Advent Spiral:

<https://www.waldorflibrary.org/articles/1266-thoughts-about-an-advent-festival>



WISE Winter Concert

Friday, December 13th at 6:30pm

Please join us for our annual Winter Concert for Grades 1 through 9, which will be held at McDougall Church this year! The address is 10025 101 Street & Macdonald Drive.

Please have your child at the venue by 6pm, and give yourselves plenty of time to find parking.

There will be a short intermission between the two sets (Grades 1-4 in first set, Grades 5-9 in second set). Concert will end at approximately 8:30 pm.

Tickets are \$10 per person (ages 16 and under attend for free), and are available for sale in the office.

Dress guidelines for the concert: Black dress shoes, no high heels, skirts/dresses below the knee. Please wear one or more of the following colours - black, white, green and red.

If you have any questions about suitable clothing for the concert or any other details, please email our Music Teacher, Ms.Elliott - kirsten.elliott@thewise.ca.

Warm thanks,
Kirsten 🍀



Community Building



WISE Adult Sports Night

Want a fun way to connect with other adults in our community? Come to the school and play floor hockey in the gym! It's every Tuesday night at 8:00pm, and goes for about one hour. For more information, contact Eric Campbell at canmorebaseball@gmail.com.

From the OAFM Market Manager

The Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market is proud to be one of the largest fundraisers of the WISE. Did you know that supporting our 25+ vendors goes a long way... proceeds go directly towards library, playground and music equipment upgrades? Your kind support will also make a small Alberta business owner do a happy dance.

Our market runs year-round, we are closed only December 26th & January 2nd. We reopen January 9, 2020 and will continue to run EVERY THURSDAY FROM 4-7 pm.

We heard your requests to bring in more seasonal fruit & veggies all year!! Steve & Dan's BC Fruit and Lacombe Fresh greenhouse veggies will be stocked up every week!

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for vendor highlights, giveaways and more.

Thanks for one year of support!

Elaine Doucette/ OAFM team

Ottewell Artisan Farmers' Market
<https://www.facebook.com/ottewellartisanfarmersmarket/>
Instagram: @ottewellartisanfarmersmarket

Located inside the WISE Gymnasium –
Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton
7211 96A Avenue



SHOP LOCAL YEG
7211 96A AVE



EVERY THURSDAY WINTER MARKET
NOV 28, DEC 5, 12, 19

MARKET IS CLOSED DEC 26 + JAN 2
RE-OPENS JAN 9 2020!!



Highlight of the Class

Class 3 has covered many topics this year: beginning stories, myths, farming, and time — now we're jumping into the exciting world of money. We began this topic by discovering that people didn't always have money — when people relied on bartering and trading to get what they needed and wanted. We tried our hand at bartering in the classroom and had the challenge of trading our surplus items to acquire the things we needed to survive. I enjoyed standing on the sidelines watching wood being traded for an ox, and a painting of a cat being traded for barley!

In anticipation for the Class 3 market in the new year, we will be working with nickels, dimes, quarters, and loonies — to count and practice giving change. Just before the break, Class 3 was on a two-week treasure hunt that ended in digging up a treasure map in the playground and finding a chest by the school portables. It was full of coins to practice counting after the fall break.

In our Practical Arts classes, we've had the opportunity to work together preserving our fall harvest foods by dehydrating and making freezer jam, making potato soup from potatoes we planted in the spring, and making vegetable sushi — some were even adventurous enough to discover the power of wasabi! To cap it all off, we invited parents and family members to attend a Harvest Feast potluck at the school. Next month we'll be continuing our hands-on learning by working with sandpaper, drills, and saws to create something out of wood.

I would like to give a special thanks to Ms. Montana and Ms. Valencia for all their hard work in the classroom, as well as the parents of Class 3 who make all of what we do at school possible. Class 3 is a special class and I feel lucky to be a part of their lives here at The WISE.

I look forward to the coming months of learning, sharing, and exploring!

Jared Riley 🍏



Fundraising

Mabel's Labels Fundraiser

Available anytime of the year just go to:

https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/

In the search box enter:

Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton

(Search on a part of the name may be incomplete!)

Order items! Please note there is a special fundraising combo pack for \$16.95 🌱

Warmth and Weather

You can now order all year long shipping directly to your household using the link:

<https://warmthandweather.ca?ref:wese>

(10% of sales going to the WISE) - friends and family are welcome to participate as well. 🌱



Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton (WESE)

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📘 WESE Facebook Group:
Waldorf Education
Society of Edmonton



Waldorf Education Society of
Edmonton

We encourage your comments, suggestions, and submissions to newsletter@thewise.ca. The deadline is the fifteenth of the month. Anything after the deadline will be considered for the following month. All submissions are subject to editing and approval.