



the WISE connection

Issue 45 FEBRUARY 2022



From the WISE Office

Dear WISE Families,

This winter of ours has been rife with extreme temperatures, from the warmest to the coldest of days. With this in mind, we are called to adapt and be prepared for any weather. Please ensure that your children are prepared for the day with warm outerwear, mittens and hats to be able to enjoy being outside. If the weather is too inclement, we welcome children inside and will post notices on our doors advising parents.

With Spring in the not-too-distant future, we are looking ahead to the 2022-23 school year and are preparing for registration season at WISE. Families in Grades 1 through 9 will have received re-registration packages at the end of January, and Nursery and Kindergarten families will receive them at the end of February. New registrations for our Kindergarten, Nursery, Parent & Child and Home Education will be accepted starting March 5, 2022, at our annual Open House. More information will follow, and you are always welcome to speak with us in person if you have any questions.

Families who made charitable donations to WISE in 2021 can expect to receive a charitable donation receipt soon. Your support makes our programs and growth possible! Thank you!

Have a wonderful and well-earned winter break this month. These times of rest and rejuvenation are so important for our families and children.

Warm winter blessings,
The WISE Admin Team 

Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton (WISE)

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-  **WISE Facebook Page:**
[Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton Facebook Parent Group](#)
[The WISE Parent Connection](#)

The Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton respectfully acknowledges that we are located in Amiskwaciwâskahikan, or so-called Edmonton, on Treaty 6 territory. The land that the Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton sits on was once Métis scrip land. Scrip was given to Métis people in exchange for their land rights. The land of Treaty 6 territory was once a gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples, including the Cree, Blackfoot, Metis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway/ Sauteaux/Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant communities. Our faculty, staff, board, and school community commit to working toward reconciliation and decolonization.

Important Dates:

- Feb 11** Bulk Order Pickup
- Feb 14** Grades Re-registration packages for 2022/23 due
- Feb 18** PD Day, no programming
- Feb 21-25** WISE Break, no programming
- Feb 27** Bulk Order Closes
- Mar 4** No Classes for Kinder or Nursery, Half-Day classes for Grades
- Mar 5** WISE Open House
- Mar 11** Bulk Order Pick Up
- Mar 28** Rosebuds and Bluebells resume
- Mar 28-29** Parent Teacher Conferences, no programming for Kinder and Grades
- Mar 30- Apr 1** WISE Break, no programming

Office Notes

A reminder to Grades 1-8 families returning next year that re-registration packages are due back to the office by Monday, February 14th. 🌱



WISE Events

WISE Open House

Do you have friends or family who would like to learn more about our school? Our in-person Open House is on Saturday, March 5th from 1-3pm, and will be featuring all our programs, from early childhood through class nine.

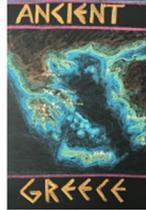
We are also hosting evening tours – check our [website](http://www.thewise.ca) for more information. 🌱

Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton

Open House ~ Early Childhood-Kindergarten -Grades 1-6, Grades 7-9
Engaging Curriculum ~ Academic Excellence ~ Lively integrated Arts



March 5th, 1-3pm
www.thewise.ca
7211-96a Ave





Bulk Order

Bulk Order is back! We have tweaked a few things to accommodate transportation and warehouse surprises, and are happy to have had a successful return to Bulk Order deliveries in January. We now close the order one week earlier, so be sure to get your orders in on time.

New to Bulk Order? Sign up for an account at <https://foodclub.org/wise/login>

Wondering more about bulk order? We're happy to take your questions at bulkorders@thewise.ca.

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of two (or three) people to share the task of running the Bulk Order on pickup days (one Friday a month). You get to work with wonderful volunteers, help our school with a very important fundraiser, and get insider information on great Bulk Order finds! By sharing the task, one person won't have to be at the school the whole day.

For more information or to volunteer for this role, please contact volunteer@thewise.ca



Elevate WISE

We are well on our way...Will you join our merry band?

Thanks to the warm generosity of our parent, grandparent, staff and wider community, we ended 2021 with 51 wonderful monthly gifts and raised a further \$17K+ since September! Your Elevate WISE fundraising committee were so joyful and grateful to realise that the number of donors giving monthly had doubled since the previous December. These are the moments that give inspiration and glimmers of hope for all there is to achieve. Thank you to each and every donor for your generous giving and believing in this dream of a beautiful light-filled school addition for our children's educational future.

We shared plans to rouse a merry band of travellers on our quest to build our new school addition last February; here's who have joined so far:

- 7 *Members of the court* giving \$10+ per month
- 27 *Seamstresses* giving \$20+ per month
- 10 *Minstrels* giving \$50 per month
- 1 *Archer* giving \$75 per month
- 6 *Bakers* giving \$100+ per month
- 1 *Knight* giving \$200 per month
- 1 *Alchemist* giving \$400 per month

In addition, one *Royal* gave a lump sum equivalent to \$1,000 per month.

Thank you for your continuing generosity... you brighten the journey and lighten the load!

We need many more donors to make our school addition a reality - for those who would like to join this merry band, your WISE re-registration packs provide all you need to establish your monthly gift. A solid base of monthly donors from school families propels us towards our goal and inspires larger gifts from the wider community as they see the passion and commitment from within our school. All gifts over \$25 total per year will receive a tax receipt. You can also [become a monthly donor here](#). Thank you!

Your Elevate WISE Committee 🍀



Vice President – Sydney Lee

Sydney and her family have been members of our community for the past eight years. She is passionate about Waldorf education and our school. This is her fourth year serving on the board; she is currently part of the Communications, Fairs, Parent Partnership, and Growth and Development Committees. Outside of the school, she cuddles animals and immerses herself in nature as much as possible. 🌱



Executive Director – Matt Ziprick

Matt is excited to begin serving on the board. He and Claire have 4 kids and it's their fourth year to be blessed by being at Waldorf. Their family enjoys zoos, waterslides, camping and arguing over Ticket to Ride. Matt grew up in Louisiana until he was 13 when his family moved to the Edmonton area. He quickly lost his Southern drawl and discovered "eh" wasn't the first letter in the alphabet. Matt graduated from the University of Alberta in Commerce. He then studied at Concordia Lutheran Seminary. He's been a pastor for 19 years of a wonderful community who is together learning how to be human. They are active in Syrian refugee sponsorship, instrumental in building a school in Kenya (and supporting the needs of the kids), providing sports programs for community kids, and discovering the joys of being a good neighbour. Matt values hearing the voices and stories of others and helping them tell their story. 🌱



Director (Faculty Representative) - Mary Conrod

Mary has been at the WISE since 2017, when she became Class Teacher to a grade 4 class (for the final three months of the school year) before taking them through grade 5, 6 and 7. In 2020, she joined a new group of students, whom she currently teaches in Class 7. Mary thinks of the WISE as her second home and heeds a silent note of gratitude in her heart each day upon entering her classroom. She is excited to join the board this year and broaden her sense of community even more by deepening her understanding of the school through her service beyond the classroom, as well as the Faculty Council and Junior High Division Chair. 🌱



Meet the Board (Continued)

Director – Jamie Lynch

Jaime and her family have been part of the WISE since 2018 when their son first entered Kindergarten and their daughter started Parent-Tot. Jaime will never forget the day she stepped foot into the WISE when her and her husband came for the Open House event. The welcoming staff and volunteers, smiles, warmth and coziness of the school made it a very quick decision to apply, and they have never looked back!

Jaime and her family enjoy camping, mountain biking, gardening and anything that involves being outdoors. Jaime is excited to be serving on the board this year as a Director and looks forward to learning more about this incredible community. 🌱



Member-at-Large – Graham Lettner

Graham and his partner, Thulasy, and their two daughters, Marya (8) and Laurel (5), moved to Edmonton in September 2021. The two girls are self-directed learners, and Marya had been enrolled with another homeschool board in Alberta before the family met WISE facilitator Kory Baker-Henderson in their new neighbourhood and decided to make the switch to homeschool through the WISE.

Graham resonates with the spiritual values of the WESE and simply wishes to contribute to the success of the WISE with a particular interest in the homeschooling program of the school. 🌱



Member-at-Large – Alejandra Sanchez

Alejandra is an adaptive and caring person with a keen interest in inspiring others to feel grateful today. She discovered WISE last year and experienced the wisdom of service and collaboration with love and respect, through its lovely community. She has an MBA degree, and 16+ years of management experience. She enjoys the permanent self-education work in inner development and spending time in nature with her family. She is excited to join the board and serve its community. 🌱



A Story From the Playground

The story of Bob the Snowman began in early winter of 2019. Class 1, at the time, was filled with joy, wonder and determination to build Bob the Snowman. Sadly, he met his demise early that year. The following winter, Class 2, at the time, rebuilt their snowman dream of Bob along with his new partner Georgina. As fate would have it, the beautiful snow couple were met with another early demise. With sheer determination, the current Class 3 completed their project of Bob and his now fiancé Georgina. Thanks to the rain and snow melting into compact ice, the snow couple has lasted longer than in previous years. On January 14th, we were able to join the snow couple in witnessing their holy matrimony and celebrate their special union that has thus far been three years in the making. As snowman culture has it, hula hoops were used for their sealing token of love instead of rings due to their lack of fingers. We had a flower girl scatter petals as members of the wedding marched down the aisle. There were speeches and well-wishes for the fictitious couple. It was an honour as recess supervisor to officiate the wedding. Class 3 was proud and full of joy during this momentous occasion. Stay tuned for next year, when the future Class 4 will be adding an addition to the snow family: a bouncing bundle of joy, their first snow baby. With a little luck and determination, perhaps the magic and journey of Bob and his family will continue throughout the years until this once wide-eyed Class 1 becomes Class 9. 🍀



(Photo Credit: Edi Ntiranyibagira)



(Artist: Amanda Clark)



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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.

