

From the WISE Office

Dear WISE Families,

As the winter chill settles upon our school, at the WISE, we embrace this season's magic and warmth. The classrooms were transformed for the Winter Fair, adorned with handmade delights, and the scent of beeswax and spruce boughs in the air. These annual fairs and fundraisers are opportunities to participate in a magical experience for our children, celebrate our unique Waldorf school community, and share our school culture with the wider community. If it takes a village to raise a child, it must take a small city to raise the Winter Fair! These special events wouldn't be possible without your support, the countless parent volunteers, and the tireless efforts and vision of our Fairs Committee.

In our classrooms, the spirit of the season is alive with artistic expression and heartfelt connection to be shared at the Dec 13th Winter Concert, and our 5th Annual Online Handwork Auction of student work. Our teachers weave the magic of winter into their lessons, engaging students in stories and experiences that evoke the enchantment of this special time of year. Please remember to dress for the winter weather; it's tricky to truly behold the beauty and wonder of a snowflake from indoors.

As we enjoy seasonal festivals collectively, let us come together to nurture and celebrate our inner light and joy. In the quiet moments of this season, may we find inspiration and renewal.

In winter's hush, the world at rest,
A gentle quiet, a peaceful nest.
The snowflake falls with grace and art,
A masterpiece from the winter heart.

We wish you, and your family, holidays filled with good cheer and loved ones.

Warmly,
The WISE Admin Team 

The WISE Charter School

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-  **WISE Facebook Page:**
[The WISE Charter School of Edmonton](#)
- Facebook Parent Group:**
[The WISE Parent Connection](#)
-  **WISE Instagram Page:**
[waldorf_independet_yeg](#)

The Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton and the Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton are located on Treaty 6 Territory, a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages and cultures continue to influence our vibrant communities.

Important Dates:

- Dec 2** Advent Spiral
- Dec 4** School Council
- Dec 9** Rosebuds ends, fall term
- Dec 10** Daisies and Marigolds end, fall term
- Dec 13** Nursery ends
- Dec 13** Winter Concert, Gr 1-9
- Dec 18** Winter Auction
- Dec 20** Half Day (Grades), no programming for Kinder

- Dec 23-Jan 3** Winter Break, no Programming
- Jan 4** First Day of Sunflowers, winter term
- Jan 6** Classes resume (K-9), 1st day of Rosebuds, winter term
- Jan 7** First Day of Daisies and Marigolds, winter term
- Jan 8** Nursery Resumes
- Jan 27** PD Day, no Programming

Important Dates (Cont'd)



Parent Coffee

Share some laughs, learn more about our school, and get to know your fellow parents after drop-off on **Wednesday mornings**.

Coffee is on **from 8:30 am - 9:30 am** in the gymnasium (enter the front of the school and turn left at the hallway), and children are welcome. 🍃

Office Notes

Dressing For the Weather

Please ensure your child is prepared to spend portions of the day outside, especially with the snow!

Layers are very helpful. 🍃



Labelling All Items

Our lost and found is filling up!

Please label your child's belongings so that they may get back to you.

To reclaim lost items, look through the lost and found located in the east hallway just past the gymnasium. 🍃



November 20th was unique this year, as two Annual General Meetings (AGMs) were held at our school: our annual WESE AGM as well as the first AGM for The WISE Charter School. Thank you to all those who were able to attend, and to the volunteers that came to help set-up and facilitate. The AGMs included committee reports, bylaw updates, review of financials, and votes on the new Boards of Directors. Equally important, it was an evening where our communities came together to celebrate all we have accomplished and share the vision of the years to come.

The WISE Charter School Board of Directors for 2024/25 is as follows:

- President: Steven Barnett
- Vice-President: Sarah Freire-Gibb
- Secretary: Eóin Murray
- Treasurer: Margot Bright
- Director: Mark McKenna
- Director: Alison Toews

The WESE Board of Directors for 2024/25 is as follows:

- President: Calvin Engen
- Vice-President: Alisa Vaughan
- Secretary: Sydney McLeod
- Treasurer: Keith Martinot
- Director: Yvonne Trethart
- Director: Josh Thatcher

We would like to acknowledge the significant contributions to WESE that outgoing board members Matt Ziprick, Greg Moore, and Raegan Aleman (faculty representative) have made and thank them for their service and dedication. 🍀

WISE School Council

Parents and guardians of WISE Charter School students are automatically a part of our **School Council**, and we'd love to have you join us at our next meeting, **Wednesday, December 4th @ 7 p.m.** at the school. Together, we'll work on strategies to support and enhance student learning, while also discussing exciting fundraising opportunities for our students.

And yes, there will be **snacks, fun**, and plenty of chances to connect with other parents in our school community. It's a great way to get involved and make a difference!

You can also join via [Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 872 5756 7216
Passcode: 839762

We hope to see you there! 🍀



WISE Athletics

Our volleyball teams just wrapped up a great season. A huge thank you to Ms. Burak for all the coaching and facilitation, and to the players for representing our school so well. 🍀



WISE Events

Winter Fair Thank You

The Fairs Committee would like to give a heartfelt THANK YOU to the community for the support of our Winter Fair. A very special shoutout to everyone who volunteered, and especially to those who filled more than one shift. Generosity of time and talent is what makes our community so special. Thank you to the musicians who set the holiday mood, to the ECE teachers for the very sweet story, to those who helped set everything up and to everyone who helped take it down and pack it all away.

Thank you to all the special crafting fairies (you parents, of course) who created so many beautiful things for the children to choose from in our Secret Store. And thank you to all the parents who brought extra cookies to ensure our cave was never empty. The Cozy Cafe donations were able to refuel the steady stream of people coming through the door; pretty incredible for one afternoon. May the children always remember these days as they grow up and away from this place. Thank you again for helping make it all happen for them. 🍀



WISE Winter Concert: Friday, December 13th at 6pm

Please join us for our annual Winter Concert for Classes 1 through 9, which will be held at [Robertson-Wesley United Church](#) again this year. The address is 10209 123 Street.

Please have your child at the venue at 5:45pm (doors will not open before then).

Tickets are \$10 per person (ages 18 and under attend for free), and are available for sale in the office.

Dress guidelines for the concert:

Classes 1 to 5 - Dress that makes them feel like their best selves! Class 5 may choose to join the all-black attire of the older grades if it suits them.

Classes 6 through 9 - All black with a pop of colour of their choice. This can be a necklace, a tie...etc. Please **NO Black hoodies** or **hats** as they have been a distraction in the past.

Students will be sitting with their teachers for the duration of the concert, with the exception of students in classes one and two. Those parents will come and collect their children at the "Band Break", where there will be a slight pause in the program to set up for band classes.

From there, families of classes one and two can decide whether or not they want to leave with their children if an earlier bedtime is needed, or stay for the rest of the concert (finishing around 7:15pm).

Please keep in mind that it is the expectation that children are sitting in their seats and are quiet for the duration of the concert.

If you have any questions about suitable clothing for the concert or any other details, please email our Music Teacher, Ms.Toews: emily.toews@thewise.ca.

Fundraising

Bulk Order

Our deepest appreciation to everyone who has participated in our bulk order over the years. Countless pallets of food nourished our families and supported our school. As with life, seasons pass and things change. Our bulk order will be retiring in order to redirect our volunteer resources and leave the gymnasium for our students. **The final bulk order will be in January - closing January 12th for pickup on January 17th.** Look through your pantry this month so you can stock up on all your favourites!



Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton (WESE)

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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.

