



the WISE connection

ISSUE 82

NOVEMBER 2025



From the WISE Office

Dear WISE Families,

A big thank you to the School Council, Fundraising Society, and all the dedicated Fairs volunteers who make our community events magical for children and adults alike. The Pumpkin Walk was a beautiful celebration of community and imagination. In creating these moments together, we nurture children's seasonal memories and their sense of wonder, joy, and beauty beyond the consumerism that surrounds us. These gatherings remind us of the inner gifts and light we can share with one another through the darker months.

With the colder weather settling in, please ensure children (even the older ones) come dressed in warm layers, mittens, and toques, so they can fully participate in the outdoor experiences we value as a core component of Waldorf Education.

Warmly,

The WISE Admin Team 

The WISE Charter School



Phone:

780.466.3312



Address:

7211 96A Ave Edmonton, AB T6B 1B5



Website:

www.thewise.ca



Email:

(K.C.) registrar@thewise.ca

(Jaimee) info@thewise.ca

(Mary) principal@thewise.ca

(Keely) administrator@thewise.ca



WISE Facebook Page:

[The WISE Charter School and Waldorf Early Childhood Programs](#)

Facebook Parent Group:

[The WISE Parent Connection](#)



WISE Instagram Page:

[waldorf_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:

Nov 5 School Council Meeting

Nov 7 Lantern Walk, ECE-Gr 2

Nov 11 Remembrance Day,
no programming

Nov 10-15 Fall Break, no
programming

Nov 19 WISE Charter/
WESE AGM

Nov 22 Sunflowers ends,
falls term

Nov 28 No classes for
Kinder+Nursery, ½ day
for grades

Nov 29 Winter Fair

Dec 01 Advent Spiral

Dec 08 Marigolds ends,
fall term

Dec 09 Daisies ends, fall
term, M/T nursery last day
before winter break

Dec 12 W-F Half and Full
last day before winter break

Dec 12 Winter Concert (Gr 1-4)

Dec 19 Half Day (Grades), no
programming for Kinder

Dec 23 Winter Break, no
programming

NOVEMBER 2025



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 Tuesday 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).

Supervised children are welcome. 🍃

Office Notes



Welcome to our new Administrative Assistant

There is a new face in the office! As we bid a fond farewell to Claire as she begins her new career as a provisional psychologist, we are happy to introduce Jaimee Russell, our new administrative assistant. She is quickly learning all the pieces that make our school run smoothly both in front and behind the scenes. Please help us give her a warm welcome as she joins our community. 🍃

Dressing For the Weather

Please ensure your child is prepared to spend portions of the day outside, especially as it starts to snow.

Layers are very helpful, as are extra socks and mittens. 🍃



Invitation to School Council

The WISE Charter School Council is an opportunity for us to enrich the life of the school community by helping with fundraising initiatives, supporting school-wide events and championing the efforts of teachers.

Parents and guardians of WISE Charter School students are automatically members.

Meetings are held at 7pm and offer the option of attending in-person at the school or online (watch for emails from the registrar with the Zoom link before each meeting).

This year's meetings will be on the following dates:

- Wednesday, November 5, 2025
- Wednesday, January 7, 2026
- Wednesday, March 4, 2026
- Wednesday, May 6, 2026
- Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Our AGM was held on October 6th, and we are pleased to announce the following School Council members as our executive:

- Chair - Laura Mercier
- Vice-Chair - Mallory Engen
- Secretary - Kelsey Wilson
- Treasurer- Kris Cramer

Participating in the School Council is a great way to connect with families from our school community and be involved in your child's experience.

We hope to see you there! 🍀



Exploring Waldorf Education Together

The WISE School Council is looking to begin a community book study in the new year, centered on *Understanding Waldorf Education: Teaching from the Inside Out* by Jack Petrash.

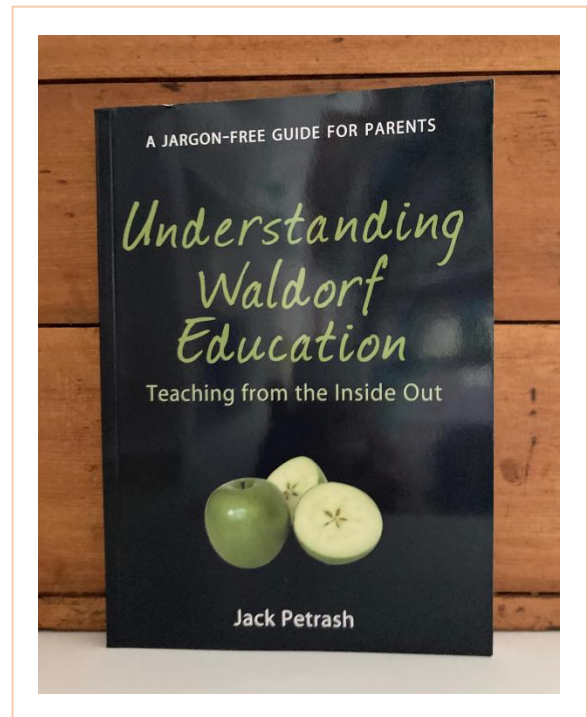
This warm and insightful book offers a beautiful introduction to the principles and developmental picture that guides Waldorf education, inviting readers to see teaching as an art of nurturing the whole child.

We are currently exploring interest within our community, and will be finalizing details at our next School Council meeting on November 5.

The intention is to begin discussions, in-person and online, immediately following the adjournment of the January 7th, 2026 School Council meeting at 8:30pm.

All parents and caregivers are warmly invited to take part, whether you read every chapter or simply join in for the conversation.

From those discovering Waldorf Education for the first time to those who have long walked this path, all voices, reflections, and experiences are warmly welcomed in our shared discussion and study.



If you are interested in joining or learning more, please reach out to wsc.vicechair@thewise.ca.

"Waldorf education is an art — one that engages the head, heart, and hands of the child in the process of becoming fully human." - Jack Petrash, Understanding Waldorf Education: Teaching from the Inside Out 🍏

Concert Updates

After the happy-accident of last year's relocation to the concert venue at the school, we are pleased to announce we will be hosting the Winter and Spring concerts at the WISE once again.

This year, the concerts will be split by grade-level, which includes:

- Winter Concert (**Grade 1-4**) held on December 12
- Spring Concert (**Grade 5-9**) held on June 12

More information pertaining to the concert will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date, so stay tuned. 🌱



Lantern Walk

Our early childhood through class two children will come together in a walk under the stars on **November 7th, 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm.**

This calm and reverent event is a special early childhood celebration honoring the warmth and light within each one of us.

Children and their families sing lantern walk songs as they carry their handmade lanterns and proceed along a luminaria-lit path.

The lights bring relief in the cold and darkness, a reminder of our duty to help others and be the good in the world. 🌱



I Go with My Bright Little Lantern

*I go with my bright little lantern
My lantern is going with me
In heaven, the stars are shining
On earth shines my lantern with me
My light shines bright, through darkest night
La bimba, la bamba, la bim*

(Traditional Waldorf Lantern Walk Verse)

Pumpkin Walk

The Fairs Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who helped make this year's Pumpkin Walk the special evening that it was.

To the bake sale table minders, those who brought food donations, those who organized, the fire minders who kept us all warm, the actors and last-minute stand-ins who shared the story, those who came and helped set it all up, those that stuck around to help take it all down, those who brought pumpkins and those who bought tickets and came to spread the joy, thank you!

We love our community and can't wait to see you at the Winter Fair. 🍀



Winter Fair Vendors Needed!

Our beloved Winter Fair and Candlelight Market is a busy place, with many people looking for holiday gifts.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in being one of our vendors, please contact fairs@thewise.ca for more information. 🍀



Winter Fair

You are invited to our Winter Fair on **Saturday, November 29th**, from **12:00 pm - 4:00 pm**.

Adult admission is \$4 (children are free), and most activities are \$2 (tokens for the activities are available at the front desk). Friends and family are also welcome to attend.

This event is our largest festival of the year!

The school is transformed into a magical place - activities are found in each classroom (and outside), a market takes over the gymnasium, and live music sets the mood for a wonderful afternoon.

Something this big needs EACH FAMILY to [sign up](#) for at least ONE volunteer shift; please do so early to get the shift you want!

We also need parents' help to ensure we have enough treats and Secret Store items for all the children.

Class 1, 2, Kindergarten, and Nursery families are asked to craft 12 small items each for the Secret Store. Need ideas? - check out our [WISE Pinterest Board!](#)

Class 3, 4 and 5 families are each asked to bring 1 dozen cookies (nut-free and free from artificial food colourings) for the Cookie Cave ~ a wondrous nook where fresh baked cookies float before your very eyes. Please package them individually in small clear plastic bags with colour-coded ribbons on them to indicate the following:

White- regular

Green- vegan

Blue- gluten free

Class 6, 7, 8 and 9 families - We need items for the Café! Savory items are recommended but everything yummy is welcome!

Items will be collected the week prior to Winter Fair (in marked bins outside the office), except for Café items, which we ask to have dropped off on Friday, November 28th or the morning of November 29th.

Thank you for helping us create a wonderful event!

The Fairs Committee
(fairs@thewise.ca) 🍀



Candlelight Market

Looking for a chance to visit our local vendors before the Winter Fair and perhaps do some shopping without any little eyes watching? Interested in pre-purchasing both admission and activity tokens for the fair the next day to avoid the line?

Join us on **Friday, November 28th** between **7 - 9 pm** to do some holiday shopping! This event is for adults only (babes in arms welcome).

Admission for the evening is \$2, and tea and decaffeinated coffee will be provided. 🍵



Community Building

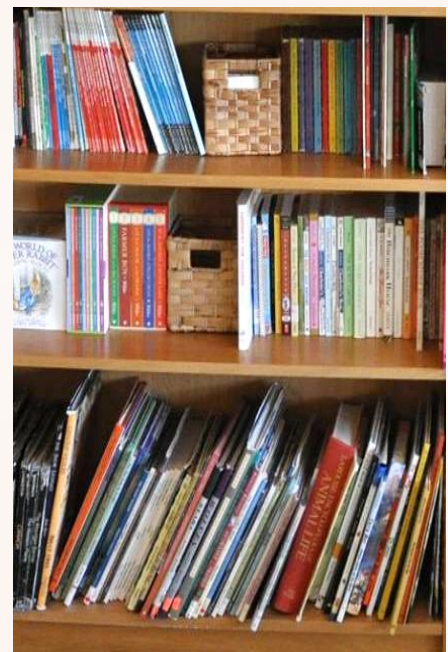
Library Comittee

For another consecutive year, parents Diana Tayler and Pam Woolger have agreed to serve on the Library Committee for the WISE. Thanks to their countless hours of dedication, students are able to access the school library, which has been catalogued and organized by Diana and Pam, and sign books out.

If you would like to volunteer on the Library Committee (as a full member or substitute) please reach out to Diana (dianamarieis@gmail.com) or Mary (principal@thewise.ca).

To support the Library Committee's efforts this year, please reach out if you are able to donate:

- a loveseat (pet-free/smoke-free home)
**Send photograph with dimensions to Diana at dianamarieis@gmail.com
- non-fiction books appropriate for elementary students 📖

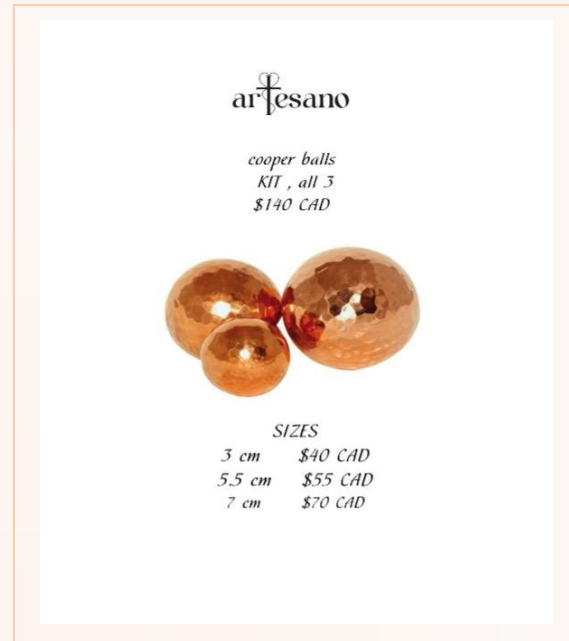


Sale of Copper Balls & Foot Rollers

This year, the WISE Study Group is making an order, in particular, for copper balls and copper foot rollers. Copper is a highly conductive metal, found in a free metallic state in nature. It is a warming metal, not only in its color, a reddish brown, but also in its function in nature and in the human being.

If you are someone who likes to work with copper for meditative, coordination exercises or you simply love copper, please email

Simone at sdiafolla@proton.me for more information no later than November 15th, 2025 to place an order. 🌱



Message from the Principal

As we continue to inhale alongside the Earth, breathing in our surroundings and the externalities of our environment, a new virtue of the month emerges. Rounding off the intake of breath in this season of the year, we are encouraged to control our speech. By staving off talkativeness and gossip, we in turn can develop a feeling for truth.

With many people losing their voices altogether through illness, you may find yourself becoming more acutely aware of the power of your voice. Whether it's within your personal circles of friends, communal circles of the classroom or committees served at school, strive to suspend your thought, so that your words may bring yourself and others closer to the truth.

This discernment of falsehood and truth, of conjecture and fact, will help guide us in the next portion of the year, which is the winter of our held inhale.

Mary Conrod 🌱

LIKE A GIANT IN A TOWEL

By Dennis Lee

When the wind is blowing hard
Like a giant in the yard,
I'm glad my bed is warm;
I'm glad my bed is warm.

When the rain begins to rain
Like a giant with a pain,
I'm glad my bed is warm;
I'm glad my bed is warm.

When the snowstorm starts to howl
Like a giant in a towel,
I'm glad my bed is warm;
I'm glad my bed is warm.

And when the giants realize
That no one's scared of their disguise,
They go to bed and close their eyes -
They're glad their beds are warm;
They're glad their beds are warm.

Waldorf Education Society of Edmonton (WESE)

Phone: 780.466.3312

Address:

7211 96A Ave Edmonton
AB, T6B 1B5

Website: www.wese.ca

[Waldorf Early Childhood
Education](#)

Email:

president@wese.ca

parentpartnership@wese.ca

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.

