

Community Building

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.



Message from the Principal

The first quarter of the year is already complete, and despite any continued presence or lingering sign of winter, Spring has officially arrived, bringing with it a lack of concern and state of restlessness, also known as spring fever.

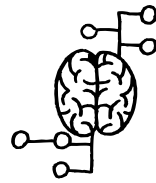
In this mid-point of exhale, we strive to 'know thyself' and imbue the virtue of the month, which is that of devotion becoming sacrifice. The Calendar of the Soul, which I typically read a verse from as part of our Treaty Acknowledgement, starts anew after Easter, reflecting how we can begin again and gain a sense of self in the face of loss, alongside the turn of the season.

Mary Conrod

Important Dates:

April 1 - 2	Spring Break, no programming
April 3	Good Friday, no programming
April 6	Easter Monday, no programming
April 15	Eurythmy Public Performance
May 1	No school for Kinder/Nursery 1/2 day for grades
May 1 - 2	Gateways Conference (No Sunflowers)
May 4	PD Day, no programming
May 18	Victoria Day, no programming
May 23	Mayfair

Office Notes



Invitation to Discussion on Artificial Intelligence

Dearest WISE Community,

We would like to start a conversation with you about what may already be on your mind, artificial intelligence. We hope to address your thoughts, opinions and wonderings about AI and what it means for all of us, most especially our children.

Join us for an in-person evening Q&A chat, facilitated by Brian Anderson, a Senior Data Engineering Manager at a data and analytics consultancy and WISE parent, and Ms. Conrod, the WISE principal. The session will take place on **Monday, April 13th after-school from 6:30-7:30 PM** in the gymnasium.

The Q&A will be based on the questions that have been received through [this survey](#). Please fill out the survey by **Monday, April 6th** to enable us to have adequate time to prepare for the evening.

WISE Charter School Council

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).

Upcoming meetings will be on the following dates:

- Wednesday, May 6, 2026
- Wednesday, June 3, 2026

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!

Stirring the Pot: With Gratitude

Our Chili Cook-Off & Community Night brought a wonderful warmth to the school gym, as our community gathered to share homemade chili, laughter, and good company.

A heartfelt thank you to our talented chili chefs, the many volunteers who helped make the evening run so smoothly, and everyone who came out to take part. Evenings like this are a beautiful reminder of the care, generosity, and connection that live within our WISE & WESE community.



May Book Study Circle

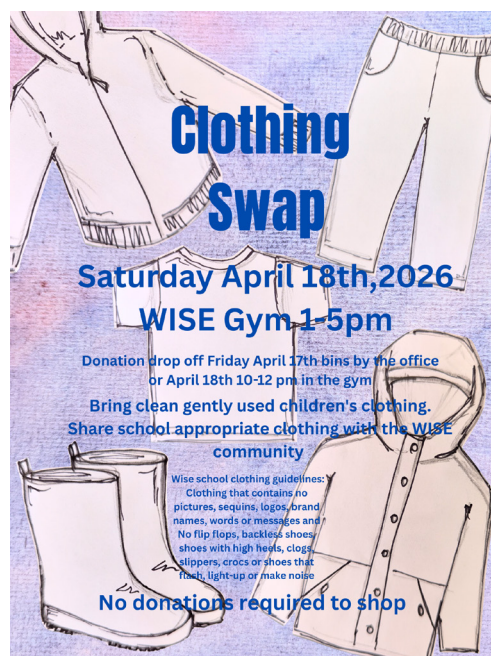
Our next Book Study Circle will take place on **Wednesday, May 6th at approximately 8:30 PM**, following the close of the School Council meetings.

We will continue our conversation on *Understanding Waldorf Education: Teaching from the Inside Out* by Jack Petrash, exploring *Guiding the Child's Journey: The Inner Work of Parents and Teachers* - the essential role of parents in supporting learning and healthy development at home; the qualities of a Waldorf teacher: active, emotionally engaged, thoughtful, and reflective; and how home and school work together to nurture the growing child.

Join us in person at the school or online via Zoom using the same link shared in the forthcoming School Council meeting invitation email. Our gathering will be approximately 30 minutes.

All are warmly welcome. We look forward to continuing the conversation together.

Spring Clothing Swap



Capital Project Update

Continuing along the winding path toward our purpose-built Waldorf school

Since our last newsletter update, the provincial budget was released on February 27th, including initial announcements under the Schools Now program (formerly the School Construction Accelerator Program - SCAP).

While we had hoped for our proposal, which was under consideration, to be approved at that time, only one new charter school project received approval across the province. This was disappointing, and somewhat unexpected given the level of need across the charter sector.

WISE will be meeting with Alberta Education Capital Planning in mid-April, which will include a tour of our school. This meeting will also provide an opportunity to review our proposal and better understand how it was assessed.

Our application is still active and under consideration. We remain committed to advocating for a purpose-built Waldorf school that can serve our community for generations to come, and will continue to share updates as more clarity emerges.

Thank you for your continued patience and encouragement as we walk this path together.

WISE Events



“Will the Future”- Public Eurythmy Performance

Sol Metamorfoles, a professional performing Eurythmy ensemble based in Santa Cruz, CA is touring Canada, Mexico and Argentina in Spring 2026, and will offer a public evening performance on **April 15th at 7 pm** at the WISE. The group are experienced teachers who came together to bring more awareness of Eurythmy's gift to the world.

This performance opportunity for the WISE and Edmonton communities is made possible by a generous donation from the Edmonton Group (Anthroposophical Society in Canada).

Evening Public Performance: “Will the Future” is a journey from the everyday self to the higher person that slumbers within each one of us. Modern poetry and music depict how to confront what hinders us from unfolding our higher selves and Will the Future. Poets and composers include: Annie Lighthart, Juan Ramon Jimenez, Diane Robitelle, Victor Hugo, Rudolf Steiner, Sergei Rachmaninoff, J.S. Bach, Alberto Ginastera, Franz Liszt. This 90-minute performance is appropriate for the whole family.



Our Beloved Gateways Conference is Back on May 1 and 2!

This year we are delighted to present our keynote talk: *Becoming Human; Phases of Development* with speaker Patricia Rubano from the Centre for Biography and Social Art:

What if we knew that the same forces that work in the sprouting seed or the circling stars are at work in our own lives? When we find our own unique life reflected in the archetypal journey of growth, development and transformation shared by all living things, we can gradually come to an understanding of the unique potential of human life as distinct and yet part of the wholeness and holiness of life.

Come for a weekend of community connection, inspiration and enriching and informative workshops on baking sourdough, nature play, meditation, and more. Saturday lunch and snacks included.

Get early bird pricing before April 16th! Tickets can be bought [here](#).

Gateways Volunteers Needed

We will need a few volunteers to help make Gateways a success! Whether you are planning on attending the conference, or just want to help out, if you are able, please sign up for a volunteer shift [here](#). Those who sign up for a volunteer shift have access to a ticket at a reduced ticket price of 70\$. Volunteer tickets will be preapproved so you must sign up for a volunteer shift before you purchase your ticket.

Meet the Board



Aaron Kurmey - WESE Director

Aaron is new to WESE, with a daughter who started in the nursery program in September. He was encouraged by Keith to put his name forward after already doing some volunteer work in the nursery and wanting to offer more time and support to the school. Aaron's background is in the arts: he managed a film production company for 10 years before starting his own photography business, and more recently completed a Master of Fine Arts in Writing at the University of Saskatchewan. Along the way he has managed marketing, finances, scheduling, and business operations; taught undergraduate creative writing; volunteered for community events; edited a small literary magazine; and organized a monthly reading series. He describes himself as highly organized, a quick learner, a strong communicator, and someone who enjoys working with others toward a common goal.



Sandy Umrysh - WESE Member-at-Large

Sandy is an entrepreneur and realtor with a strong sales background and wide connections across various industries, trades, and businesses. Her work has given her hands-on experience with budgeting, problem-solving, and strategic growth. She describes communication as one of her biggest strengths and is very comfortable listening, sharing ideas, and connecting with people to find solutions. Sandy is particularly interested in supporting WESE at this dynamic stage of growth and development, and is keen to contribute around site development, growth and development, fundraising, finance, and wherever her skills and perspective can best support the Board's needs and priorities.



The Weather

I don't mind the weather to-day,
It can rain or freeze,
The sky can be blue or even grey,
There can be a breeze
Or a bitter wind or even a gale
Or a terrible storm with frozen hail!
You see, I've got these -
A mackintosh hat, an oilskin coat,
Wellington boots, a scarf round my throat,
A fine umbrella - and so I say,
WEATHER, DO WHAT YOU LIKE TO-DAY!








-Enid Blyton

Newsletter Submissions



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.

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