



LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

WPG NEWS

Winterberry Parent Guild Public Meetings are held at Winterberry on the first Thursday of most months @ 6pm. The WPG next meeting is April 12th @ 6pm. See the School Calendar for meeting dates:

<http://winterberrycharterschool.com/calendar/>

WCC NEWS

Winterberry Charter Council Public Meetings are held at Winterberry on the third Thursday of most months. The WCC next meeting is April 19th @ 6pm. See the School Calendar for meeting dates:

<http://winterberrycharterschool.com/calendar/>

Greetings everyone,

It is with great excitement that I announce our Charter has been renewed for another 10 years! I cannot say enough about how hard our Board and Staff members have worked to make this happen. I also feel it necessary to thank the ASD review team for guiding us in perfecting the language within the charter so that it was compliant with all regulations.

With the charter renewal final, we will be able to continue building our Waldorf inspired school and providing a unique education that is only offered in a few other places.

Eric Andersen
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Head, Heart & Hands Winterberry Auction

Saturday, April 7th at the 49th State Brewing Company, 5pm
wpg.schoolauction.net/hhh2018

April 12th-20th Grade 8 Class Trip

May 10th Pentathlon

May 22nd Graduation

May 23rd May Fest, Classroom Cleaning, Classes End



Celebrating the success of our Ski/Walk Day in March!

Thank you dear Mr. Anderson, Teachers and Parents for a great day of fun! What a wonderful Alaskan community event! Cheers and happy skiing!



WFC

Winterberry Faculty Council is committed to holding our School's Mission: Winterberry nurtures and promotes the development of healthy, responsible and creative human beings. Our aim is to provide a holistic learning environment and demonstrate that all children are natural and inspired learners who can achieve. Inspired by Waldorf educational methods, our integrated curriculum seeks to provide each student with meaningful, hands-on, developmentally appropriate experiences that inspire learning and personal growth.

WFC Meetings are closed meetings held most Thursdays from 1:30 - 4:00

MARCH VIRTUE: CONFIDENCE

Confidence is having faith in someone. Self-confidence is trusting that you have what it takes to handle whatever happens. You feel sure of yourself and enjoy trying new things, without letting doubts or fears hold you back. When you have confidence in others, you rely on them.

YOU ARE PRACTICING CONFIDENCE WHEN YOU....

Know you are worthwhile and feel sure of yourself
Don't let fear, doubt or worry stop you
Discover your talents and try new things
Learn from your mistakes
Think positively
Trust that all things work together for good

AFFIRMATION

I am confident. I appreciate my gifts and give my best. I enjoy trying new things. I welcome new possibilities.

Ms. Colleen will put the Virtue card on her desk and will make a few pages to have next to the Virtue for parents to take if interested.



A letter from our school Mentors Donna Burgess and George Hoffeecker:

Dear Winterberry Colleagues, Parents and Students,

We have had the privilege of serving Winterberry Charter School staff, parents and students for the past 11 years. It has been an extraordinary experience for us, one that has positively shaped our professional and personal lives and deepened our commitment to bring Waldorf education to public school children. We remain in deep appreciation for Winterberry's steadfast journey on the path to becoming a public Waldorf school. The ways in which you have brought Waldorf education to life for the children of Anchorage are truly inspiring!

We are experiencing a change of focus in our lives. We have decided to reduce the time we spend traveling to schools far from home and to concentrate on working with schools nearer to our home in Northern California. This has health benefits for both of us. Please know that we would welcome phone and skype consultations with WCS in the future, but recurring physical travel to Alaska needs to come to an end for us. We will miss your faces and your community's warmth of heart. We have felt truly blessed to have known you, worked with you, and to have enjoyed your friendship and trust. You will remain in our hearts and prayers. We hope you keep in touch!

Very Warmly,

Donna and George



NEWS THROUGH THE GRADES:

Greetings Winterberry,

We have another great announcement to make! Our Grade 1 Main Lesson teacher position for next year will be filled by Cheryl Silcox, our current RTI teacher.

Ms. Silcox brings many years of experience with her and is a dedicated Winterberry teacher. She is excited to get back into the classroom and start another journey with students.

Please join me in congratulating Ms. Silcox with her new position at Winterberry.

Grade 1, Ms. Towner

Grade One is enjoying the springtime sun and fun! We are currently in a math block, studying all four operations. We are also getting ready for a field trip to the Performing Arts Center in April (on a bus!) and our class play in May.



Grade 2, Mr. Crawford

Second Grade continues to enjoy *The King of Ireland's Son* as we enter into our final Language block of the year. We are reading, writing, speaking, and listening with vigor and a new spring-filled energy! The artistic life is of great interest, too, and our paintings are getting ever more vibrant and colorful, with scenes from the story inspiring our work (these are best viewed in person, on the walls of the classroom and the adjacent hallway). We look forward to our first class field trip, to the Performing Arts Center to see *Peter and the Wolf*, and, more distantly, to our class play about the King of Ireland's son. We are loving our flutes, and are preparing a song for our play, as well as learning new songs for spring.



Grade 3, Ms. Becker

This week we made Raspberry Freezer Jam, Peas with Mint and Butter, and Cornbread Muffins. We've had a lot of learning experiences with reading and following recipes, trying something new, and working as a team. It's helping us understand fractions in a concrete way.



Grade 5, Mr. Dyer

Last week your student entered a new realm of virtue, truth and beauty: Ancient Greece! One of the richest traditions in mythological history, the Greek pantheon presents powerful figures that engage human curiosity and draw out our strengths. From the alphabet to exquisite maps of the region, we've all been "swept away" to this exciting time and place. Our latest folk dance, the Chiotikos, is already revealing impressive grace and synchronicity. Fifth Grade Parents, please be sure to join us at the next Block Celebration!



NEWS FROM OUR SPECIALITY CLASSES:

Handwork Teacher, Ms. Robicheaux

The first and second graders have been making wool felted eggs for Springtime, while the 5th and 6th graders have been making felted chicks to go inside the eggs. Today (March 28th), the "Firsties" went to the woods to hunt for their eggs and discover that they had all "hatched out". It is a fun and delightful surprise for the young students to hunt for their eggs and to find the chicks inside. The upper grades students enjoy a chance to help make the surprise happen for the lower grades, with many of them making a chick for a sibling or reading buddy. The current 5th graders were all first graders when I became the handwork teacher at Winterberry. I enjoyed listening to them reminisce about the chicks they received when they were in first grade.



As my mother used to say: The Spring time is the time for eggs and the time for eggs is the Spring-y time!

Music Teacher, Mr. Lind

April is testing month, and due to the layout of our building our music classes have less singing and instrument playing, but more theory and history.

The upper grades (4-7, 8th grade is next) have recently completed a timeline of musical gestures, ranging from the Renaissance to the Romantic Period.

Mr. Lind featured Michael Praetorius in a recent lesson, where students created a portrait of Praetorius with Mr. Lind (by step), and while they finished the details he shared the significance Praetorius had regarding the modern recorder.

Lower grades (1, 3) are working on reading rhythms, solfege, and spoken word/steady beat ("Will You Be My Friend" feat. maraca and "What To Do" feat. triangle). 3rd grade mastered "Apple Tree" complete with correct solfege assignments.