

You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great. ~ Joe Sabah

WHAT'S GOING ON...

August 2011

- 15** Summer Garden #3 begins
- 16** Playgroup begins
- 16** Park Play Date Genesee Town Park
- 16** Finance Committee 6:30 p.m.
- 18** Presentation by Merwin Lewis at 6:30 p.m. (See article)
- 19** Merwin Lewis *Why Waldorf* 6:30 p.m.
- 22** Summer Garden #4 begins
- 23** Park Play Date Elmhurst Park
- 23** Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 25** Presentation by Lesley Diaz at 6:30 p.m.
- 29** Registration Day/Picture Day for all PHWS families
- 29** New Parent Orientation
- 29** Outerwear Exchange (see article)

September 2011

- 1** First day of school for grades 1-8. Early dismissal at 12:15 p.m. (No Care Programs)
- 2** First full day of school for grades 1-8
- 2** Care programs begin for grades
- 2** Early Childhood Open House
- 5** **No School** - Labor Day
- 6** First day of Early Childhood Classes
- 6** Marketing Committee 6:30p.m.
- 6** All Care Programs open
- 14** Buildings & Grounds/ Development Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 20** Finance Committee 6:30 p.m.
- 27** Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 30** Michaelmas / Autumn Festival 4 p.m. dismissal
- 30** TLC ends at 3:15 p.m. - No Aftercare

Back to School Packets Emailed Today

All the Back-to-School information was sent via email this year to all enrolled families at PHWS. Remember to attend the **August 29** Registration and Picture Day – your time to return school forms and have student pictures taken.

Registration and Picture Day - August 29, 2011

On **Monday, August 29 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.** we will be holding a registration fair & picture day. This will be the time to return all your back to school forms and have your student's school pictures taken. Please note this will be the **ONLY** day we will be offering picture services from Carroll Studios. Hopscotch Photography forms will be attached to the Back-to-School email for those who wish to use their services.

The First Day of Grade School is Thursday, September 1, 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

There is an early dismissal of 12:15 p.m. and no care programs on the first day of school. The open house for all registered Early Childhood students and their parents is **Friday, Sept 2**. Details will be coming in a letter from your child's teacher (including Kindergarten class lists). Care Programs open **Friday, Sept 2** (for Grades only). The first day of Early Childhood class is **Tuesday, September 6**, right after the Labor Day weekend. On **Tuesday, Sept 6**, Care Programs will open for all students who have registered for care – forms are attached to the Back-to-School mailing.

Picture Day August 29 from noon to 6:00 p.m.

Carroll Studios will be offering our Picture Day during the **August 29** Registration & Picture Day, but from **noon to 6 p.m.** only.

Note: those wishing to have pictures taken during the 5-6:00 p.m. time slot must pre-book a time to assure we can accommodate everyone before the photographer leaves for his next engagement. Picture forms were attached to the Back-to-School email packet. Hopscotch Photography forms were also part of the email, for those who wish to use their services.



Field Trips & Emergency Forms

Keeping your children safe is important to all at Prairie Hill, and liability is of importance to our insurance providers. Your child's Emergency Cards are due on the **August 29** Registration Day, and no later than the first day of school. There are classes already planning field trips in the early weeks of school, and students can only take part in these trips if their Emergency Cards and permission slips are on file with the school office. Copies of each student's Emergency Card go on every field trip. enrolled students must have Emergency information on file. Please call the school office if you have any questions about this insurance regulation. Your Health Room Emergency Cards are attached to the Back-to-School email packet.

Where Can I Park?

The first days of school can mean full parking lots. For safety, please drive slowly and honor the "One Way" signs. When leaving the back parking lot, please do not use the "Enter" drive, as it's extremely dangerous. Travel past the front of the building and connect to the Out drive. Honor the No Parking restrictions and Reserved spaces. For students in Early Childhood thru Grade 3, please escort your carpool directly to their classroom door. Grades 4-8 may be dropped off (see your Parent Handbook). Cars dropping off students may use the lane directly in front of the school; however, if you need to leave your car and enter the building, you must use a parking space.

Looking for a Carpool?

The PHWS Carpool Directory of all enrolled families has been attached to this newsletter. Please note there are families in the process of completing their enrollment and will be added when the PHWS School Directory is released. This is a great time to call a family nearby and inquire about their carpooling plans.

Enjoy a Brat or Burger Lunch, September 2

The Class of 2012 is offering an optional Brat or Burger Lunch for students on **Friday, September 2**, during the regular Grade School lunch time. Order forms will be sent in a separate email. The cost is \$4.50 a plate and includes your choice of hamburger, veggie burger, or brat; carrots with dip and pretzels. Orders are due no later than **Thursday, September 1**, the first day of Grade School.

We All Like Ice Cream

Come to the Ice Cream Social on **Friday, September 2nd after the 3:15 dismissal**. The Grade 8 class is sponsoring a sale of ice cream (\$1 per scoop) to benefit their Class Trip fund. It's a great time to say hello to new and returning families. Please join us in the courtyard.

What Do You Wear When It's 65 Degrees or More?

Shorts of course! Just a reminder from the Dress Code section in the PHWS Parent Handbook, students may wear shorts when the temperature is above 65 degrees at the beginning of the school day. If not, shorts can be brought and changed into later. Please check the Parent Handbook for our general Dress Code before back-to-school shopping and the first day of school. We thank you!

MERWIN LEWIS

Merwin Lewis, Waldorf master educator, poet, playwright, and composer, currently working as the pedagogical chair and Trustee at London Waldorf School in Canada will be visiting our school and offering two presentations for parents and others interested in learning more about the power of a Waldorf education. Join us!

"Teaching the multi age Waldorf classroom" Wednesday, August 17 at 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

"Why Waldorf Now? The Wisdom of a Waldorf Education for Your Child" Thursday, August 18, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Phone Hours for August

Phone hours for the month of August are 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, offices are closed on Friday.

There is Still Time to Join Summer Playgroup

The Playgroup session begins **Tuesday, August 16 and ends Thursday, August 25**. We will be enjoying the outdoors as much as possible, so tell your neighbors and friends to join us! Our Playgroup is designed for children 18 months to 31/2 years - younger siblings are welcome. (There is a small fee for an additional child over one year).

The August Playgroup is a great way to explore the rhythm and dynamics of our School Year Playgroup, which is scheduled to begin **September 13**.

Also, we are considering offering an infant and parent group this school year, so if you have any interest or know of anyone who may be interested, please contact **Stanlee Maliszewski** for more information at (414) 477-7109. We look forward to seeing you!

Sports on the Brain for Grades 5 - 8

This wonderful weather makes me think about sports. Prairie Hill offers Volleyball (girls), Basketball (boys/girls) and Track (co-ed) to Grades 5-8. Volleyball begins right after the school year opens, followed by Basketball; then track in Spring.

We are looking for Coaches for these teams or co-coaches, and also a parent for basketball to

coordinate the games schedule. Practices are usually two times per week, from school dismissal at 3:15 until 4:45pm. Basketball offers a Grades 7/8 competitive team, and a Grades 5/6 skills drills.

Please take a moment to consider this worthwhile opportunity and call or email to let us know your questions or interest. Thank you to **Lisa Dedinsky/Volleyball**, and **Claire Herdeman/Track**, for volunteering to coordinate the game schedules.

On behalf of all the students who look forward to these programs, I thank you. **Sally Sommer**,



PARENT COUNCIL CORNER

Sports program communications.

Clothing Exchange - August 29, 2011

Parent Council will be hosting an Outerwear Exchange during the PHWS Registration and Picture Day on **August 29 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.** Community members will be able to pick up gently used outdoor gear free of charge. Now is the chance to fill the holes in your student's gear inventory and be ready when the rain and snow starts to fly! Of course we will only be able to offer gear if gear is donated; we will be accepting items any time from now until **August 28**. You may drop clean items off in bags at the front office when the school is open or on the front porch if the school is closed. The specific items we are accepting are: Rain and snow boots, rain and snow jackets and pants, hats and gloves. The items must be clean and without holes or rips. Please adhere to these guidelines to lessen the workload of Parent Council. Direct any questions to **Cathy Brummer** at (262) 522-9614.

IN THE COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Childcare Available - Fall Start

With our Summer friends heading back to school soon, the Krill family is looking forward to meeting new playmates! I am **Julie Krill**, mom to Jacoby of Juniper Tree and Issace and Sullivan, one year old twins and have been working with children for over fifteen years. Our group has always been small and will remain so in order to keep it an attentive, safe and active home. I care for your children as I do my own whether it be with activities, space and time to create on their own, cuddling before naps and mostly homemade organic meals and snacks.

We love to dance, paint, sing, read, build and play outside! Please call or email with any questions. I

look forward to meeting you and your little one(s), (262) 367-4939 or juliekrill@gmail.com

STRINGS AD EXCHANGE

String Instruments Available

If you have a string instrument your student has outgrown, please think about advertising its availability in the August Update. Send emails to news@phws.org no later than **August 17** to be included. List type and condition of instrument, size, price and contact information. We hope this ad exchange will help parents who wish to obtain an instrument for the Strings Program rather than rent one.



Update Deadline and Details

PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS TO THE WEEKLY UPDATE VIA EMAIL TO **MICHELLE LAWRENCE**, AT MICHELLEL@PHWS.ORG. IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE IN YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS, HAVE ANY PROBLEMS IN THE RECEIPT OF THIS E-LETTER, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO UNSUBSCRIBE, PLEASE CONTACT NEWS@PHWS.ORG OR CALL **MICHELLE LAWRENCE** AT (262) 646-7497.