



On Wednesday 6th September thirteen new Class One children made their way from the Kindergarten, under the rainbow bridge and up the stairs, where more than a hundred children and teachers were waiting to sing them into their new classroom.

The school year started with five Lower School and three Middle School Classes for the first time in its fifteen year history.

The St Michael Steiner School NEWSLETTER October 2017



Class 7 began the term with a much awaited three day Michaelmas Sword making workshop run by Bernard Graves.

The children raised the money for this event themselves a year ago by organising homework related Cake Sales. As Bernard was so busy and indeed ,we also, had a busy year culminating in a successful shadow play about the founding of Rome and a trip to Cumbria to visit the western end of Hadrian's Wall, the iron working was planned a year in advance. Much patience was needed!



The class began by setting up the blacksmithing area and building a forge, the work was heavy, hot



and exhilarating! The heated iron had to be worked on quickly - Strike while the iron is hot - comes to mind. The class produced a beautiful spiral quillon representing the dragon complete with dragon's head and tail.

They were very proud to present the Sword as a gift to the whole school at the Michaelmas Day Festival.



It will soon be mounted in the school for all to see.

Strength and Protection to you all.

Pat Alexander



News from the Kindergartens

We are delighted to welcome a number of new families to our kindergartens: in Katie's group we welcome Riddley, Ned (soon to be joined by younger brother Noah), Saul and Shad, youngest of the Eqbal family. In Maria's group we warmly welcome Santiago, Anaya, Max and Krishna, youngest of the Mair family and we look forward to Evgeny joining us in November. We see all the children settling in and finding a warm welcome from our other children and families.



We warmly welcome Angelica, our new Afternoon Care cook assistant, and mother to Joel, and the children are enjoying her delicious cooking and delightful Spanish 'blessing on the meal' verse every day. We are also pleased that Keesha has increased her days and is now working full-time with Katie in the kindergarten alongside Maria and Sarka in the Cottage.

The children have spent many hours in the large garden where new opportunities for play include the Round House, built by last year's class 3, next to the



Giant's log table and seating (which the children delight in regularly up-ending, searching for creepy crawlies!) The 'packing-crate' mud-kitchen – thank you to Dan for helping build – has been decorated with hanging baskets and flowers by the children and is a busy spot, along with the new fabulously sturdy sand box, kindly donated by a parent.



Early this term, the stone-grinder turned rhythmically, day after day, making flour for the festive Harvest meal, followed a week later by Michaelmas on 29th September. We celebrate Michaelmas as a time when the nights and days are in balance after the autumn equinox. Archangel Michael is often shown as having a sword in his hand, subduing a dragon. For us in the modern world, this is a time when the outer help of the sun is diminishing and we have to find inner strength to take us through nature's season of darkness and perhaps difficult periods in our lives. In kindergarten we celebrated the festival by planting bulbs that will be kept warm by mother Earth through the winter, before emerging in the spring when the days are lengthening and the sun begins to warm us again. Each child received from mother Earth an apple: if it is cut one way, we see that deep inside there is a star, reminding us of our own inner light.

*My nice red rosy apple has a secret all unseen,
You'll see if you could look inside, five rooms so neat and clean,
And in each room are living two pips so black and bright,
Asleep they are, and dreaming of lovely warm sunlight.*

Katie Sharrock

For the early years team



Parent and Child Groups

It has been good to see familiar faces and welcome new families as the Parent and Child groups begin again. In these first weeks we have been Celebrating Harvest time and den building. Our eagerly awaited Hut has arrived and has been constructed in our Woodland Garden.

Many thanks to the Michaelmas Day work team who have begun the task of applying coats of wood preservative. It's green dragon scale roof tiles does gives it a Michaelmas feel.

Leigha Hipkin

Biography as a Path of Development

Three Thursday evening talks at 7pm

with Julia Dvinskaya

Venue: The St Michael Steiner School

How can we become attentive to our own biography, to its underlying rhythms and forces, to ourselves and others in our life? What are the aptitudes, which we bring to this life, how we develop and meet our life tasks at different stages of our life? What can we do to take charge of our own development and our life themes to become more conscious about who we are now, how we have come to be who we are and have an insight into what we may become? These questions will guide our work during these seminars. Talks will include elements workshop activities including question & answers and individual biography exercises.

- **19th October** Overview of life-phases, planetary influences, particular points in human biography, turning points and development process in human biography.
- **16th November** The twelve human senses. The first three life-phases (0-7, 7-14, 14-21) and role of these years in how we later form and develop relationships with ourselves and with others.
- **18th January** The focus of this Talk will be determined after the first two, responding to the wishes of the attending group.

Julia Dvinskaya works as a Biographical Counsellor and also gives talks and biography workshops. Further information about Julia can be found at www.mylifeandcounselling.com

Bookings must be made in advance via the School office.

£25 for the series, or £10 for each session booked individually.

The St Michael Steiner School, Park Road, Hanworth Park, TW13 6PN

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www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk



The St Michael Steiner School

October Open Day

Saturday
14th October
11am - 2pm

Park Road Hanworth Park London TW13 6PN

www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk info@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk Tel: 020 8893 1299

The St Michael Steiner School is a registered charity no 1094960

FREE Taster Workshops

We are offering two FREE Taster Workshops on:

Saturday 7th Oct: 10.30am to 12.30pm
Saturday 11th Nov: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Both of these Taster Workshops will be held at Rudolf Steiner House, 35 Park Rd, Marylebone, London NW1

These workshops offer prospective students an opportunity to gain firsthand insight into what can be expected from our New Holistic Baby & Child Care Level 3 Diploma Course.

During these two-hour interactive workshops you will be introduced to the course and the tutors, experience and discuss some of the unique experiential approaches used on the course and be given an insight into how the integration of Steiner early childhood studies and the Pikler approach sets the course apart from other EYE courses.

For more information about the Taster Workshops or the Holistic Baby and Child Care CACHE Level 3 (EYE) Diploma course, please contact the Course Leader, Dorothy Marlen on 01904 612683.

To book your place on one of the Taster Workshops please visit the course website below and click on the booking link in the 'FREE TASTER WORKSHOPS' section at the top of the page.

For application details please contact the course registrar:

registrar@emerson.org.uk
+44 (0)1342 827 771

Or visit the website (below) to download the Holistic Baby and Child Care CACHE Level 3 (EYE) Diploma Course application forms.



Emerson College
Hartfield Road, Forest Row,
Sussex, RH18 5JX, UK

Emerson College is part of the Emerson College Trust,
registered charity number 312101.

www.emerson.org.uk/holistic-baby-and-child-care



CACHE Level 3 (EYE)

NEW Starting January 2018

Holistic Baby & Child Care Diploma

A time to learn, to reflect and answer questions about where your work and vocation truly lie.



'A transformational journey'



'A deep nourishing insight into Early Years Education'



'Far more fulfilling than the "Level 3" label may suggest'

'Ideal for parent and child group leaders, child-minders, play group leaders, parenting course leaders and kindergarten assistants looking to enrich their skills in a warm supportive environment.'

Led by Dorothy Marlen, with her team of experienced and passionate tutors, this NEWLY ENHANCED, pioneering course offers a year long exciting journey of self-development and self reflection, providing a whole range of skills over and above a normal level 3 qualification. The programme covers the development, care and learning needs of children up to five years old, with an emphasis on the crucial first three years.

'The breadth of the course is wonderful, it gives deep insights into the wonders and complexities of early years care from a perspective based on current issues and relevant theories'

The course draws upon Steiner early childhood studies and the Pikler approach from Hungary, and integrates these with the EYFS, to provide a richness and depth of understanding and a practical foundation in skills that will enable you to care confidently for children and support parents in a holistic and respectful way.

'The tutors are incredibly knowledgeable, professional and encouraging.'

The course will comprise of a combination of Saturday and Weekend-long meetings held monthly at Rudolf Steiner House, London. In addition there will be one 5-day residential at Emerson College, Sussex.

Course Fee: £3139,
plus a non-refundable application fee of £60.

www.emerson.org.uk/holistic-baby-and-child-care

Pikler



UK ASSOCIATION

Relational & Respectful Child Care

The Pikler Approach introduced by Dorothy Marlen,
Chair of the Pikler UK Association

Sat. 14th Oct. 2017

1.30 to 5pm

MYCENAE HOUSE - GREENWICH - SE3 7SE

What we can learn from the Pikler Approach about enhancing relationship and security during moments of care. This workshop will include video, experiential activities and discussion.

Training in the UK

With leading Pedagogues from Hungary and Germany

Come and join us for the next **BASIC TRAINING COURSE** – the only one of its kind in the UK – beginning November 2017, part time over 18 months.

The observations and experiences of Dr Emmi Pikler and the experienced teams of professionals at the Pikler Institute challenge our usual way of observing young children. We are asked to be open to a new experience of children; to see children with new eyes.

For details & to sign up for events, training & our mailing list

www.pikler.co.uk info@pikler.co.uk