



The St Michael Steiner School

NEWSLETTER

9th May 2014

Park Road, Hanworth Park, London TW13 6PN

Email: info@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk

Website: www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk

Dates for Your Diary

MAY

Sat 10 - Open Day (11am-2pm)
Tue 13 - Class 3 Parents' Evening
Wed 14 - Class 1 Parents' Evening
Wed 14 - Class 10 Parents' Evening
Wed 21 - Class 2 Parents' Evening
Thu 22 - Class 4 Parents' Evening
Thu 22 - SCHOOL ENDS - HALF TERM
Fri 23 - STAFF INSET (no school)

JUNE

Mon 2 - BACK TO SCHOOL (8.30am)
Sat 14 - Summer Fair!
Sat 28 - Open Day (11am-2pm)

JULY

Wed 9 - END YEAR FOR ALL (12.30pm)

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

10th July - 7th September

SEPTEMBER

Mon 8 - STAFF INSET (no school)
Tue 9 - STAFF INSET (no school)
Wed 10 - BACK TO SCHOOL

The St Michael High School

This year, the High School consists of Class 10. Main Lessons have been taught by Amanda Bell (History, Art History), Brian Jacques (English), Graham Kennish (Chemistry, Human Science), Roy Allen (Maths, Physics). They had a week of Blacksmithing with Bernard Graves, and still to come is a block of Trigonometry, followed by a week of surveying in Wales, all with Roy Allen, and a block of Ecology with Nicole Cataldo.

Main Lessons have been complemented by blocks of crafts, which have become central to the pupils' education throughout the school. This has happened in response to what we have seen as a decline in practical skills learned in the normal course of life and a belief that it is vital for young people to maintain a connection with, and understanding of, the processes and people involved in making and producing the things they use every day; apart from the pleasure and sense of achievement it brings, through an intelligent appreciation of these things, empathy and moral conduct towards others can develop.

In the case of older students, it seems more valuable for them to learn how to do a few things well rather than to touch on a lot of different things. Developing a real skill gives the students confidence in their own abilities and especially an experience of achievement and improvement through process, something that is missing from many of their activities where 'success' is achieved instantly with a click. With this in mind, we decided to give our adolescents blocks of crafts, movement and arts, called Morning Modules, in the morning before the Main Lesson. This first part of the day, when they are rested but not quite 'with us' yet, is ideal for concentrated, skilful manual work, whereas communication, discussion and rational thinking are

anathema to them. They warm up slowly as they work and are ready for the challenge of the Main Lesson after break.

Morning Modules this year have been woodwork, clay modelling, pottery, eurythmy, drama, drawing and pattern cutting, with blocks of painting and kiln-building still to come.

In the afternoons, they have had lessons in French or German (their choice) with Michele Hunter or Sally Lake-Edwards respectively, P.E. and Maths and English practice lessons.

This year, Class 10 and their teachers began working with level 1 of the Steiner School Certificate (SSC). This was developed in New Zealand as a path to university for students in Steiner Waldorf Upper Schools without compromising their own curricula. Under the Lisbon Recognition Agreement, to which both the UK and NZ are signatories, it is valid in the UK.

We have found the certificate to be very flexible and rigorous, with opportunities to assess the students' abilities and achievements in a variety of ways, including written work, portfolios of art, craft and writing, performances and presentations, written and verbal tests and interviews. Their contributions to classroom work and discussions and overall participation in lessons is also assessed.

In Class 11, they will start working with level 2 assessments. Work placements will also take place in Class 11, and the students will be able to begin to specialise, taking more lessons in subjects in which they are particularly interested.

In September, we will have our second Class 9. There are no SSC assessments in Class 9, and the focus of this year is practical work. There will be a major building project as well as a camp to learn 'wilderness' or 'survival' skills. Main Lessons will include more trips to museums, exhibitions, galleries and theatre. Academic lessons will also take place, of course, but with a practical application, wherever possible.

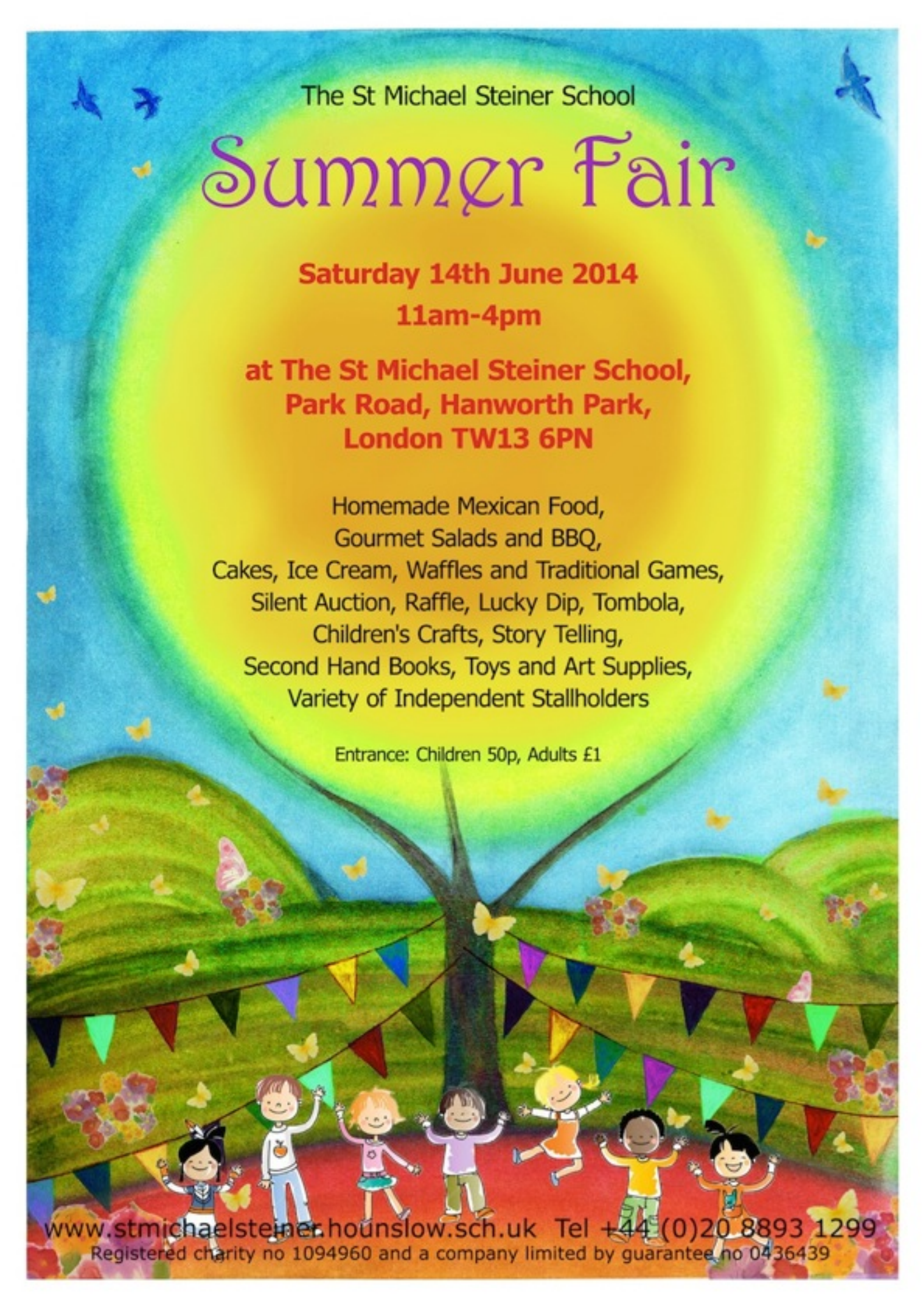
Amanda Bell and Brian Jacques



Newsletter Contributions

If you have attended a workshop or parents' evening that you particularly enjoyed or your child has come home enthusiastic about something he/she has done at school, why not write a short article about it for the newsletter? The next one will be published and distributed on Friday 9th November and the deadline for contributions is Wednesday 8th June.

Email them please to: info@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk



The St Michael Steiner School

Summer Fair

Saturday 14th June 2014

11am-4pm

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

Homemade Mexican Food,
Gourmet Salads and BBQ,
Cakes, Ice Cream, Waffles and Traditional Games,
Silent Auction, Raffle, Lucky Dip, Tombola,
Children's Crafts, Story Telling,
Second Hand Books, Toys and Art Supplies,
Variety of Independent Stallholders

Entrance: Children 50p, Adults £1

www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk Tel +44 (0)20 8893 1299
Registered charity no 1094960 and a company limited by guarantee no 0436439

Community Section

Please note that the school does not endorse or recommend, either in general or in particular, anything offered in the Community Pages and parents are advised to check the qualifications of practitioners or people offering services here.

Moving Sale!

We are a family with a child in Katie's Kindergarten and another in Leigha's Parent & Child Class, and it is bittersweet to say that we are relocating to Switzerland in July and we are trying to begin our clear out and down-sizing process. We have some lovely things to sell and wanted to open them up to the St. Michael Community before posting online.

Most of the electrics we can keep with an adapter, but we have a crock pot and hand mixer currently for sale. We also have a gorgeous fiddle leaf fig plant. I have photos for anyone interested. We are selling an Oriental rug, American Pottery Barn night stands, Pottery Barn dark wood cubby shelving units (2) and girls clothing size 12 months - 3 years; some Boden, Zara, Gap. A girls Didrikson's purple winter coat size 80cm and more!

We also have boys clothes in size 5-6; Boden dress shirt, jeans, t shirts. A gorgeous Helly Hansen winter jacket with matching ski salopettes and a Didrikson's winter coat with ski salopettes (worn once!) Additionally, a blue boys Regatta 3 in 1 waterproof jacket with removable fleece lining. Loads of girls shoes and boots. Boys winter boots. All in excellent condition.

Nearer the move we will be selling a pristine organic cot mattress from The Little Green Sheep with organic wool protector, and 3 or 4 matching organic sheets from Quick Brown Fox of Dulwich. Also, the 2nd hand white crib will go free with it, if wanted.

I also have women's clothing in size 8-10. A gorgeous Boden yellow trench coat worn once -sadly too big!

I'm sure we have loads more, but this is to kick off the sale. Please do get in touch if there is anything of interest. My mobile is 07540 261820 or email me at deborah@Hladecek.com

COTTAGE IN MALLORCA

...surrounded by orchards, with swimming pool. It is off the tourist track but 5 mins from the village and the main road to airport, mountains and beaches and ideal for a family or personal retreat.

There is also some separate accommodation, so two families could share while living semi-independently.

Phone Graham 01452 812537 or email kennish46@gmail.com

“Let the body speak”

Exploring life stories through drama and movement therapy techniques

Gloria Garbujo

MA Dramatherapy – MA Philosophy

“Dramatherapy has as its main focus the intentional use of healing aspects of drama and theatre as the therapeutic process. It is a method of working and playing that uses action methods to facilitate creativity, imagination, learning, insight and growth”. (BADth, 1998)



Gloria works as a learning support assistant in Class 3 at the St. Michael Steiner School, and she is a drama and movement therapist. She is registered with the Health and Care Profession Council (HCPC), and is a member of the British Association of Dramatherapists (BADth).

As therapist she has experience in schools, hospitals and community centres, working with:

- Children with emotional, social and behavioural difficulties
- Young people with learning difficulties and on the autistic spectrum
- Adults suffering from alcohol misuse and with mental health conditions
- Elderly suffering from dementia.

To request further information or to make a referral:

Telephone: 07501178040

Holidays in the UK

We, Anna Sophia and Aglaia, aged 17, would like to spend our holidays, from August 3rd to September 10th, in the UK to learn more about its culture and language. We would like to spend our time in the UK in a friendly family because it is the best way to learn English. Therefore we would help in the household, take care of the children and help with the daily tasks.

Hello, my name is Anna-Sophia and I am 17 years old. Together with Aglaia I attend class 11 at the Tübinger Freie Waldorfschule. I have been playing the piano for 10 years. In my spare time I work in a bakery and, together with my only sister, I play football. Apart from her I have three brothers. I am looking forward to spending my holidays in England because I have never been there before.

Hello, my name is Aglaia and I am 17 years old. Together with my brother and my parents I live in a little house in Tübingen. I also attend class 11 at the Tübinger Freie Waldorfschule. In my spare time I do voluntary work in a fair-trade shop, give private lessons in German to two Somali girls and practise different sports. I am a sociable, sporting and curious person. I like the UK and its culture and language, but, unfortunately, I have never been there so far..

We would highly appreciate a quick answer.

With best regards