

Events in March

Wednesday 7th - Open Day (booked tours from 11am) (see poster below)

Saturday 10th - Open Day (drop-in 11am - 2pm) (see poster below)

Saturday 10th - School Association AGM 3-4:30pm (see invitation below)

Friday 23rd - School Eurythmy Festival (see information below)

Friday 23rd - Term ends 1pm (or after festival)

Friday 23rd & Saturday 24th - Youth Eurythmy Festival (see information below)

The St Michael Steiner School NEWSLETTER March 2018



Hedgelaying with Class 10

On what we thought at the time, in early February, was one of the coldest days of the year, I went with Class 10 to Alder Bridge Steiner Waldorf School, just west of Reading, to lay a hedge.

We stayed overnight in the school's roundhouse, heated by a wood burner.

Using Bill hooks, axes, saws, loppers and secateurs, students were able to lay a portion of hedge and plant some young hedgerow whips to replenish the existing hedge line.

In Class 10, some of the students' work is assessed for the Certificate of Steiner Education at Level 1; this project formed part of the assessment of their knowledge and understanding of hedgerows as a natural resource.

Sarah Houghton
High School Science
and Outdoor Curriculum Teacher.



A Class 3 outing to a building site

On 21st February, Class 3 went on a trip to the nearby building site. This was connected to the Building block that the children are enjoying at the moment. We had already spoken about all sorts of different shelters that one can find all over the world – yurts, stilt houses, igloos, etc. - and we moved to the subject of modern building. The children realised that building a shelter takes much more time now than it used to in the past, and that it involves many more people with various skills who all unite to create something together.

One winter morning the children were told that they were going on a short trip. They were asked to wear high visibility jackets and afterwards, very excited and full of anticipation, they left the school grounds with me and Mr Schaad, who is with us on an internship from Switzerland. After a short stroll through the park we reached the entrance to the building site where we were warmly welcomed by one of the Rushmon Homes workers, Geoff, a tall man with a hard hat, a walkie-talkie and many interesting stories up his sleeve.

Geoff invited the children inside and, after we all signed in, we were introduced to the manager of the building site. The children were mesmerised and stood in silence to look at the tall forklift at work, mountains and mountains of bricks and steel as well as the men occupied with their hard work to progress with the building.

Geoff told the children how the foundations are made, showed them the huge scrolls of paper containing the plans of the building and the picture of how it will look when it is finished. That made a big impression on everyone. He also mentioned something of great importance, whether on the building site, or not: *Do not simply walk by*. The children have learnt that whenever one sees something that should not be there, something not quite right, one has to report it:

“If you spot a big hole in the floor at the building site and do not report it immediately, your friend might not notice it, fall into it and hurt himself.”

explained Geoff. After Geoff told all the stories and answered all the questions that the children had, it was time for us to go. Class 3 truly enjoyed their day out and got a greater awareness of where the buildings really come from. In order to thank the builders for their kind invitation, we drew some lovely *Thank*

You cards which they were very happy to pin on their board in the Manager's office. The manager assured us that this was not our last trip to the Rushmon Homes building site ...

Marta Pietrzyk, Class 3 Teacher.



Two Eurythmy Festivals

Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th March

in the Theatre at Rudolf Steiner House,

35 Park Road, London NW1 6XT

School Festival

Our end of term festival is, as usual, a festival of eurythmy, including presentations and performances from all classes from Class 3 to Class 12, as well as some special musical presentations.

The programme will begin at 11am on Friday 23rd March. Classes will be advised individually of the time they need to arrive.

This is a school festival, the whole school community is invited, and **there is no need to book**.

For children/students not performing in the Youth Eurythmy Festival, term ends after the school festival, which will be around 1 - 1:30pm.

Youth Eurythmy Festival

The Youth Eurythmy Festival (YEF) begins at 3:30pm on Friday 23rd March and continues on Saturday 24th from 2:30pm

Classes 6, 8, 10 & 12 will be performing at this festival on Friday 23rd.

Classes 5, 7, 10 & 12 will be performing on Saturday 24th.

This is an annual, national festival, involving students from schools across the country, and **you will need to book** if you would like to attend either or both days. (Students who are participating do not need to book, of course)

Places are limited so please do this very soon to avoid disappointment.

To book, please email: youtheurhythmyuk@gmail.com

Michèle Hunter

Co-ordinator of YEF 4

CLASS 12 IN NEW YORK

6TH TO 16TH FEBRUARY 2018



We stayed in a house in Brooklyn and commuted most days into Manhattan. We saw two off-Broadway shows: a new production of *Jerry Springer the Opera* by Richard Thomas and Stewart Lee, which premiered and ran for 2 years at the National Theatre in London from 2003, and won many awards; and 'X - or Betty Shabazz vs the Nation' a new play about the murder of Malcolm X. Both were excellent.

We went to the top of the Empire State Building, took the Staten Island ferry to see the statue of Liberty and walked across



Brooklyn Bridge at sunset in the bitterest of winds.



Some of us went to the top of the One World Trade Centre, the tallest building in New York, with spectacular views, which stands beside the footprints of the twin towers, now the 9/11 memorial.





We also visited the Guggenheim and MOMA together and saw some of the paintings and sculptures we had studied in the Art History block just before we left for NYC.

We walked part of the High Line, a raised walkway through the city.



Some people went to Central Park, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and other art galleries.

There was quite a lot of shopping, in a range of stores from Bloomingdales to a vintage clothing store in Brooklyn.

And really a huge amount of eating ...



This was the class's last trip together before their graduation in June. Some of them were in our Kindergartens and have known each other since they were 3 years old.

Amanda Bell



The Certificate of Steiner Education and University applications

As I'm sure you know by now, our curriculum is designed to develop year by year, informed by the developmental needs and interests of the children at each age. This is no less true in the High School, where students from age 15 to 18 continue to study a broad range of subjects. Our [High School Course Directory](#) has information about what is offered.

You will also find there information about the Certificate of Steiner Education (CSE). Students in Classes 10, 11 and 12 are formally assessed at 3 levels, which are certificated at the end of each year. For the last 3 years, students have successfully applied to universities with their CSE at Level 3.

We send the universities detailed information about the certificate, and this year, we have begun to receive replies saying, '*Thank you, but we already know about the CSE.*', which is very encouraging.

At present, we have graduates studying at the University of East Anglia, Royal Holloway (University of London), and Bristol University.



So far, our current Class 12 students, five of who have applied this year, have received offers from:

Kings College (University of London), Queen Mary (University of London), Royal Holloway (University of London), Birkbeck (University of London), York University, Bristol (University of the West of England) and Buckinghamshire University.

Students have also received invitations for interview/audition from Sussex University, Bath Spa University, University of Wolverhampton, Central School of Speech and Drama and Cambridge University. These invitations, whether or not the students are offered places, mean that these universities have accepted the CSE as an entrance qualification.

Students from other schools offering the CSE have had similar experiences.

Amanda Bell
High School History & Art teacher



Biodynamic Gardening Club, The Kitchen Garden and Nature Club

We are growing! Since the start of the year there have been some busy bees clearing the space for the kitchen garden behind the greenhouse. Also on Sunday 25th February we had an apple tree grafting workshop with 9 attendees, so if in the future you would like to buy a little apple tree then do email me to place your reservation (£17 each). Such activities are on-going and all are welcome to join. (see below) Children can come and help/play but are the responsibility of their parent.

Kitchen Garden Workdays

- Every Tuesday after school from 3 - 5.30pm
- Saturdays; 10am - 1pm. Bring lunch to share:
- Saturday 17th March is a paid 'seed take' event (£5 charge as you will go home with an array of biodynamic seeds)
- Saturday 7th and 21st April will be kitchen garden workdays.
- After Easter there will be a regular work day not only on a Tuesday but on a Thursday too, with the possibility of a Nature Club for children (£10 per student from 3-5pm)

If you wish to place an order for veg plants to be grown for you by our school gardeners (either students or club folk) then email me:

sarahhoughton@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk We have lots of seeds to sow and would love to grow plants for your garden. All monies from events and sales will go towards supporting growing/gardening projects at school.

We would really like some rhubarb, fruit bushes, raspberry canes, Michaelmas daisies, comfrey etc. for our kitchen garden, so if you have anything from your allotment spaces/home that could add to the garden it would be most welcome.

Contact me or Tess Fiorucci (kitchen garden helper – email address on the school contact list).

Cardboard, Cardboard, Cardboard

For the growing spaces on-site we are raising the beds, so we need an ample supply of cardboard. If you have any cardboard at home or you see a good pile of it outside a shop on the way home etc please can you grab it and bring it to school. The bigger the pieces the better and without coloured writing/plasticised sides. Flattened and without tape/staples is also preferable.

This can be left in the greenhouse at the back of the car park or in reception.

Sarah Houghton

Eurythmy Therapy in our school

We are very fortunate at The St. Michael Steiner School that eurythmy occupies a prominent position in the curriculum unquestioned by our pupils and their families, as the benefits and visible results have been impressed on our consciousness. Believe me, this is not a given in Steiner Waldorf schools across the world! As Michèle prepares the students for contributions to the Eurythmy Festival to be held at Rudolf Steiner House on 23rd and 24th March, we are given the opportunity once more to appraise eurythmy and its role within our pedagogy.

You may not be aware, however, that we also offer eurythmy therapy in one-to-one sessions for pupils who have been deemed by our school doctor and/or their Class Teachers to be in need of extra developmental support. Unlike more conventional movement therapies, it works not so much directly with the physical body as with the invisible but palpable life or growth forces that surround us in nature and are active in us to give health and balance. Thus a child referred for eurythmy therapy will not necessarily have an illness, but may have flat feet, wonky teeth, a squint, tummy aches, allergies, eczema, lack of focus, a weak memory, faulty spatial orientation, a bed-wetting problem, anxiety, poor motor skills - the list of slight malfunctions is long!

By devising a set of exercises originating in classical eurythmy but applied in intense and specifically targeted form, the therapist sets about correcting potentially problematic tendencies, addressing irregularities and releasing blockages to restore harmony and vitality to the troubled area, and, ultimately, to harness the individual's own healing forces.

Having taught English, French and German in schools for many years, I re-trained for 5 years to become a Steiner teacher and eurythmist. I then qualified as a eurythmy therapist, after 2 more years of study and practice, and have worked at Michael Hall, Canterbury Steiner School and now here since January 2014.

Up to now, the school has offered eurythmy therapy as a cost-free service, but this can no longer be the case from the summer term onwards. If your child is already receiving eurythmy therapy and needs to continue, or is referred by the doctor and/or Class Teacher, I am proposing 2 weekly sessions of 20-25 minutes each, over a period of 5 weeks within a given half-term - so a block of ten sessions. These will be charged at £15 each. There is proven benefit in applying the programme of exercises intensively, then allowing them to settle and permeate the organism over an ensuing "rest" period. If another cycle of sessions is needed, it can be initiated once the child's development and progress have been observed and assessed. I shall also strongly recommend that a parent sit in on sessions and record the exercises, so that they can be practised daily at home. Repetition and regularity are key elements in the therapeutic process.

This is a scheme which we were reluctant to introduce but which has become necessary. Up to now, we have been the only Steiner school in the UK not to charge for eurythmy therapy. I am aware that additional financial outlay could be a problem for some families, so am hoping that a reserve fund can be created through free donations and money-making ventures to supplement a possible income shortfall.

I may need to call upon a group of parents to instigate this, and also welcome comments, thoughts, ideas and questions.

I am intending to give a demonstration and talk in the near future, quite possibly at 2.30, just before the end of the school day. Date and venue to be confirmed. I also want to attend Parents' Evenings next term to show some typical exercises and describe their effect.

Please contact me on: sallylakeedwards@hotmail.co.uk with suggestions or for more information.

I look forward to getting to know many of you as we work together to improve harmony, balance and wellbeing in your child.

With very best wishes

Sally Lake Edwards

From The College

The school has no Head Teacher but is led and managed by teachers and administrative staff working as The College.

The College is made up of staff members who are able and willing to take responsibility for the leadership and management of the school.

The College meets, at present, on Wednesday afternoons from 4-5:30pm. Meetings are chaired by a member of the group; a new Chair is chosen periodically by the group.

The College oversees the general wellbeing of the school, ensuring that the aims and vision are kept in mind and reflected in practice, and is responsible for monitoring all aspects of the education offered by the school.

Dogs

Please do not bring dogs into the school grounds at any time unless they are on leads and any excrement is picked up immediately.

Dogs must not be brought inside the school buildings at any time or under any circumstances.

Children unsupervised at school

Some children have been on site after school, unsupervised, often waiting around for older siblings who attend after-school activities. Please make alternative arrangements for them as we cannot ensure their safety.

School contact list

We would like to remind all families of the importance of letting the school know if any of your contact details (address, email address or telephone numbers) change. This is to ensure that you get included in all mailings and that the school can get hold of you in an emergency. Our parents' contact list is updated and distributed by Grace at the beginning of each term and we would be grateful if you could inform Grace immediately if any of your details on the list need changing.

The School Association AGM

The AGM will take place from 3-4:30pm on Saturday 10th March. All welcome. The invitation and the minutes from last year's meeting have been sent out to all parents, staff and trustees. (See invitation below).

Open Days

We have two Open Days in March; visitors can book a place on a tour of the classrooms on Wednesday 7th March from 11am, guided by some of our older students; on Saturday 10th March, there is an opportunity to see the children's work and speak to teachers and other parents. Please spread the word. (see poster below)

Current College members:

Pat Alexander
Amanda Bell
Dorothea van Breda
Peter Brewin
Julian Coxon (Chair)
Vicky Dunn
Leigha Hipkin
Sarah Houghton
Michèle Hunter
Eleni Karakonstanti
Birgit Möller (ex officio)
Stella Ottewill
Marta Pietrzyck
Stuart Purdy
Julia Wallace
Katie Sharrock

Fees for 2018/2019

Please find below details of tuition fees for the academic year 2018/19. As you will see, there are two rates for the family fee, a full rate, and a reduced rate. We would like to encourage those of you who can afford to pay the full rate, or something in between the two rates that you feel you can afford. You can also consider donating an additional amount to the Financial Assistance fund; gift aid is possible on such a donation.

You will see that fees generally have risen by 3%, but that the Kindergarten fees will remain at the same level next year. This is because Kindergarten parents have to pay an additional fee for afternoon care, and this increases their costs considerably.

The application for financial assistance for tuition fees is now open; if you have not already done so, please email Birgit at bursar@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk for an application form.

Totals	Per term	Per year
Family Fee (payable per family):		
Full Rate	£3,262	£9,786
Additional costs payable per child:		
Class 9 - 12 oldest/only child	£2,610	£7,830
Class 9 - 12 1 st younger sibling	£2,610	£7,830
Class 9 - 12 3 rd /4 th etc. sibling	£1,545	£4,635
Class 5 – 8 oldest/only child	£2,266	£6,798
Class 5 – 8 1 st younger sibling	£2,266	£6,798
Class 5 – 8 3 rd /4 th etc. sibling	£1,202	£3,606
Class 1 – 4 oldest/only child	£1,923	£5,769
Class 1 – 4 1 st younger sibling	£1,923	£5,769
Class 1 – 4 3 rd /4 th etc. sibling	£859	£2,577
Full Time Kindergarten oldest/only child*	£1,284	£3,850
Full Time Kindergarten 1 st younger sibling*	£1,284	£3,850
Full Time Kindergarten 3 rd /4 th etc. sibling*	£250	£750
Afternoon Care for Kindergarten children £17 per session. Parent & Child/Baby groups £6 per family per session (drop in)/£30 per half term (booked)		
Discounts Available		
Family Fee Reduced Rate (payable per family)	£1,065	£3,195
Part Time Kindergarten fees are calculated individually on a pro rata basis		
Fee Assistance is available. Please contact the Bursar for more information.		

If you are struggling to calculate what your fees for next year will be, please contact Birgit at bursar@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk

The St Michael Steiner School

The only school in London offering Waldorf Education for students from 3 to 18

Open Days



Wednesday 7th March at 11am

Call or email to book a place on a tour of the Kindergartens, grounds and classrooms.

You will be met and guided by some of our Class 8 students and there will be an opportunity to meet and speak with other students, parents and teachers

Saturday 10th March from 11am - 2pm

Drop in and speak to teachers and parents, see the Kindergartens, grounds and classrooms.

At 12 noon there will be a talk about Maths teaching in our school from our Class 6 teacher, Dorothea van Breda.

Park Road, Hanworth Park, London TW13 6PN

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

Website: www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk



The St Michael Steiner School

Hanworth Park, Park Road, London TW13 6PN

Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, 10th March 2018
3-4.30pm**

Dear Parents & Colleagues,

You are warmly invited to this year's AGM.

The minutes from the 2017 AGM should also be included with this invitation. If you have any proposed agenda points for the 2018 AGM, please email Birgit at **bursar@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk** by Wednesday, 28th February 2018

You can also contact Birgit on the above address for any further information

Park Road, Hanworth Park, London, TW13 6PN.

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

www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk

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