

The St Michael Steiner School

Friday Bulletin

26th June 2020



Class 8

For the past three weeks, Cl. 8 have been working on *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and this week had the opportunity to perform Act III to a small, invited audience.

Dear School Community,

As we are reaching the end of this academic year, we would like to thank you for your support and understanding during the strange and unprecedented times of the lockdown.

Zoom sessions are not what any of us would associate with teaching and yet we found ourselves working to maintain a sense of rhythm and nourishment as we taught through a screen!

The government furloughing scheme and the contribution of the families who were able to keep paying fees, have kept the school afloat financially. Thanks to this support, and generous donations from others, we were able to set a Coronavirus Bursary fund aside in order to assist with school fees and therefore have been able to keep many families in the school who would otherwise have left during this difficult time.

We are hoping that we will be back five days a week in September and that we will no longer have to keep the “social bubbles” so that the children can move freely around the school. But we will be planning for all eventualities.

Looking ahead to the next academic year, there are a number of staff changes:

Stuart Purdy is returning and will take Class 1 in September. Stuart has been a Class teacher for the last 7 years and has been working at Michael Hall Steiner School since he said goodbye to his Class 8 at St Michael's in 2018.

As many of you know Joana Martins, our Class 1 teacher, and Pan Ferendinos, our Class 2 teacher, have both left the school. In September Dorothea van Breda, who is now sending her Class 8 into the High School, will be taking Class 3, and for the first term at least will also be taking Class 2, as a combined class. Our current Class 2 is very small (only 3 pupils) but we are advertising and have already interviewed a strong candidate for the Class 2 teacher position, and we hope this group will grow into its own class by January 2021.

Vicky Dunn, our beloved Games and Bothmer teacher, has decided to take a sabbatical and live in Scotland for a year. In her absence, Susan Kelly will teach in her place. Susan worked at Michael Hall Steiner School for many years where she was one of the main organisers of the Class 5 Olympics. Since leaving Michael Hall, she has worked as a freelance Bothmer instructor and games teacher.

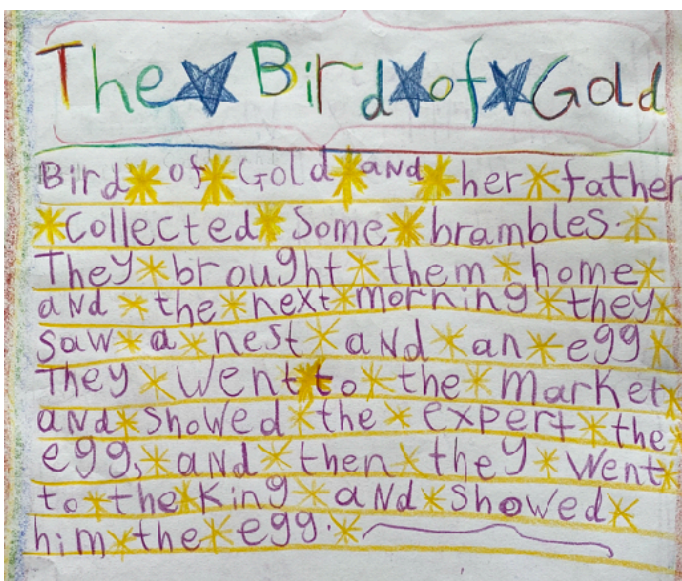
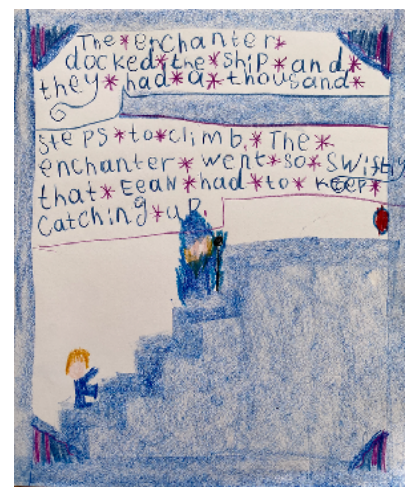
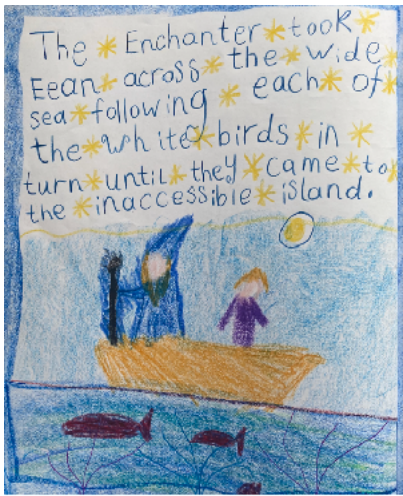
Caroline Jung has been with us as a Trainee Teacher this year, doing her in-school placement which is part of the Waldorf Education Diploma course in Kiel, Germany. It is our pleasure to announce that she will be staying on with us next year to teach German in the Lower and High School

Next year we will also welcome back Kilian Voss, who worked in the school 7 years ago before moving to Germany. He will be teaching Craft in the Lower and High School, including woodwork, metalwork and clay modelling.

We wish you a lovely summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all again in September.

With deep gratitude,
The College of Teachers

Over the last four weeks, Classes 1&2 heard the story 'The Boy Apprenticed to an Enchanter' by Padraic Colum. These are some drawings and writing from the block.



Dear Parents and Students,

After many enquiries from students this year, the school has been looking into running the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive range of programmes for anyone aged 14-24, which gives young people the opportunity to undertake new activities and develop existing skills.

The programme consists of three levels which lead to a Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

Depending on their age, young people are free to start at any level, but most prefer to try for Bronze and work upwards.

Starting ages
Bronze: Year 9 (around 14 years) Silver: Year 10 (around 15 years) Gold: 16 years.

Timescales

Bronze				
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	
3 months	3 months	3 months	Plan, train for and complete a 2 day, 1 night expedition	
Participants must also undertake a further three months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.				
Silver				
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	
6 months	One for 6 months / one for 3 months		Plan, train for and complete a 3 day, 2 night expedition	
If participants haven't achieved their Bronze Award they must undertake a further 6 months in Volunteering or the longer of their Physical or Skills section				
Gold				
Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One for 12 months / one for 6 months		Plan, train for and complete a 4 day, 3 night expedition	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights
If participants have not achieved their Silver Award they must undertake a further 6 months in Volunteering or the longer of their Physical or Skills section				

Costs

There is an annual licence fee of £1320 + VAT for the group, as well as the individual cost of a participation which is £22 for Bronze and Silver, and £29 for Gold.

These costs will need to be fundraised by the group of interested students, which will also support them in their dedication.

What the school will provide:

The School DofE Coordinator will set up and run the expeditions for Bronze and Silver and support Gold in organising theirs. They will also hold monthly meetings with the different award levels to check in on their Skill, Volunteering and Physical sections of the award.

Speaking personally, I feel that this award is a very well formed system for encouraging and developing extra curricular activities and getting involved in your local community. In my experience the expeditions and teamwork were hugely defining. This award will push you to find your true limit and unearth hidden skills that are not often tested in daily life. I can highly recommend this programme and it would be a real pleasure to bring it to the students at St Michael's.

If you would like more information please have a look at the Award's website: <https://www.dofe.org/do/> or get in touch with me directly: alexharrison@stmichaelsteiner.com.

All the best,

Alex Harrison

EURYTHMY RETREAT

EXPLORING THE *DIVINE FEMININE*
AND *DIVINE MASCULINE* WITHIN
AND BRINGING THEIR SACRED
DANCE INTO EXPRESSION
THROUGH ENSOULED MOVEMENT.

DATE: 21ST-23^D AUGUST
2020

TIME: 10.30-12.00/16.30-18.00



MICHÈLE HUNTER
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Mobile: 07947040554

LOCATION

PEREDUR CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
WEST HOATHLY ROAD - EAST
GRINSTEAD - RH10 4NF

We will spend the first session exploring the theme in movement and becoming gently aware of the wisdom within our bodies. In the second session we will deepen our explorations through a creative process and bring the divine within into expression through ensouled moving partnerships.

Rates: Residential: £500 including workshops and 2 nights' accommodation (self-catering facilities onsite)

Early birds before 21st July: £250

Non-residential is possible too, please ask me.

No experience necessary and all experience welcome.



Dear Parents,

I am offering the following therapeutic eurythmy sessions which are based on exercises Dr. Steiner gave 100 years ago, as the world faced the ravages of WW1 and the spread of Spanish Flu.

You are all welcome to join at any time as the exercises are slow and easy to penetrate at any stage.

No eurythmy experience necessary just the will and desire to do it.

The earlier you can start the better, as you then benefit from the growing forces, which you perceive over time and repetition of the sequence.

Do invite friends and family to join as this is particularly relevant for our times.

Tuesdays at 4.30 pm: A new sequence of exercises for strengthening the "I" and growing resilience, building the Immune system, and overcoming fear and nervousness. From 2nd June to 7th July

Thursdays at 4.30 pm: A sequence of exercises for strengthening the "I" and resilience, building the Immune system, and protecting against viral infections. From 14th May to 18th June.

email: mhunter1life@aol.com And I shall send you the links every week.

I look forward to seeing you there.

With warmth,
Michèle