

The St Michael Steiner School

*July 2021*



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

[www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk](http://www.stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk)

020 8893 1299 / [info@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:info@stmichaelsteiner.hounslow.sch.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1094960 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 04364394



As our class is coming to the end of class 8, ready to be initiated into high school, I was encouraged to write a little piece about our teacher, Miss Karakonstanti, since after this year she will no longer be teaching us. This parting of ways is going to be an awful wrench on both sides, as these eight long years have formed a strong bond between Miss Karakonstanti and our class, and this piece is a small tribute to the many memories made and shared together.

My first meeting with Miss Karakonstanti was, like most of the people in our class, on the very first day of class one. I remember clearly my excitement and slight nervousness as I stared up at the big green staircase of my new school, at the top of which Miss Karakonstanti stood waiting to welcome us all. It was my first glimpse of her, and I immediately got the impression that she was a warm, friendly person. I could not have been more right. As I shook her hand for the first time, her smile dispelled any nervousness I had, and her voice, soothing and kind, redoubled my eagerness to join my new class. All through the years, in every class, she worked so hard to understand us and find the best ways of teaching us, constantly improving herself to be the very best teacher for us she could be. And she was. I can't think of anyone who could have taught, managed, and cared for us better than Miss Karakonstanti, and it's my belief that the reason so many of us stayed on right through from class 1 to class 8 is because of her unique guidance and strength as a teacher. She has a wonderful judgement of character, and her decisions were always fair and just, understanding even the rowdiest of us and displaying an incredible patience, with some exceptions of course!

Our class does tend to have occasional bouts of drama among ourselves, and many's the time Miss Karakonstanti had to step in to sort out scenes and arguments, probably frequently amused at the silly reasons for our disputes, but nonetheless tactful and understanding, helping us to reconcile and make peace again. We're lucky she also has a great sense of humour, often badgering Mimi for another one of her silly jokes (sorry Mimi), and occasionally treating us to Greek jokes which we all laughed over and enjoyed very much.

### ***Memories***

*We have made so many memories with Miss Karakonstanti and it's hard to keep track of every little anecdote, every laugh shared over a silly joke and every argument made up, but I think between us we've managed to dig up a good few.*

*One of our latest memories made with Miss Karakonstanti, and one I think will remain in our hearts for always was on our class 8 trip at Sacred Earth, when we were all playing a game around the fire, and to our surprise Miss Karakonstanti began to behave like a teenager, becoming very sassy and joining enthusiastically in the game. It was very amusing and we enjoyed that evening very much.*

*Another thing I remember is from around class 5 when Miss Krakonstanti was teaching us a foreign song, (I think it might have been Greek), and some other girls and I found the words very funny and kept giggling while she was trying to teach it to us. She finally demanded what we found so funny, and when we admitted the words sounded like 'silly poo', to our relief instead of getting cross she laughed along with us.*

*This one is from our Plawhatch trip in class 3, and I'm sure Bo and Mimi remember this too: when the three of us went crying to Miss Karakonstanti's tent during the night. She tried to stop us crying and make us feel better, but I could see she was rather amused as we lay there wailing like babies about missing our parents and pets and houses.*

*This was on the first night of our class trip to France in class 6. We were all very excited and refused to get to sleep, and kept trying to sneak into each others rooms at the hostel. The teachers however, Miss Karakonstanti especially, were very tired and beginning to get rather peeved at our constant giggling and supposed-to-be-quiet running around. So to our simultaneous annoyance and amusement, Miss Karakonstanti began to patrol the corridors outside our rooms at the hostel, scolding even the tiniest noise and thus eliminating our plans for a midnight feast...*

*During our class 8 play rehearsal, Twelfth Night, there were many laughs shared over silly moments, the most prominent of which in my memory was when Sara and I had to practise a sword fight scene. Sara was meant to run around the stage, screaming in fright, and Miss Karakonstanti obliged us with a very funny demonstration, running around the stage brandishing a sword!*

*There were so many more that it would take pages and pages to write them all down, but I think these are some of the ones that stayed the longest.*

Overall, I think I speak for all of us when I say words cannot express our gratitude and love for Miss Krakonstanti, for sticking by so staunchly all these years and helping us become who we are now.

Written by Maxine Tsonev

on behalf of Bo, Ismael, Iyane, Julia, Juliana, Keaton, Lucy, Malaya, Mimi, Peter, Raff, Sophie, Sara and Walter



# Class 7's sailing trip

Towards the end of term, Class 7 travelled to Cobnor, near Portsmouth, to learn how to sail. They enjoyed three days on the water in variable weather and have attained their level one certificates.





My favorite event of the year was hands down the sailing trip. It was only three and a half days long but in that time I felt like everyone became a lot closer and we all just seemed so comfortable together. We also learnt a few new skills: one, I can now backflip Emmi thanks to Yaseen; two, I can sail (ish); and three, Zoe will officially have seven years bad luck starting from when she broke my mirror!

The best though was the last evening when we lit a fire and had a 'talent show'. Finlay solved a Rubiks Cube in under 3 minutes and Emmi and I did an utterly SPECTACULAR Strictly Come Dancing performance. Then Yaseen did an unbelievable Diabolo show, Selina played *The Sound of Silence* on the guitar and the girls and I did the *Cup Song*. And last but not least Belle did a comedienne dialogue about "Her son Tarquin" which was questionable but hilarious.

*- an extract from Matilda's end-of-year review*



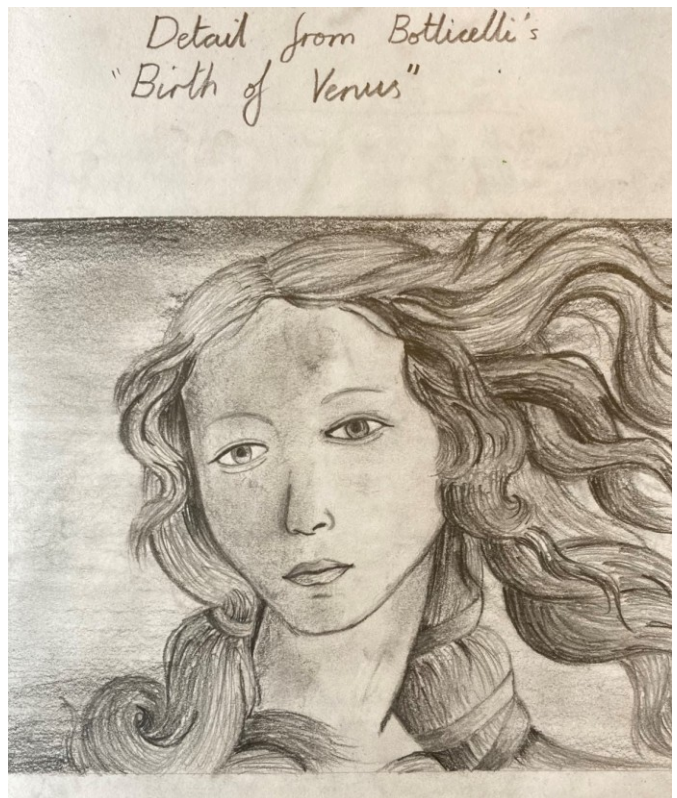
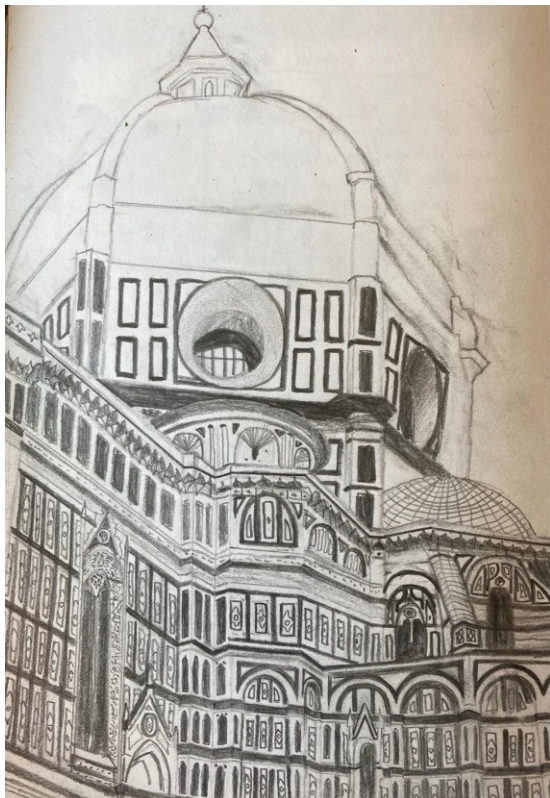
# The Renaissance in Class 7



Above: Class 7 students working on a mural of Raphael's *School of Athens*.

Right: the (nearly) finished result.

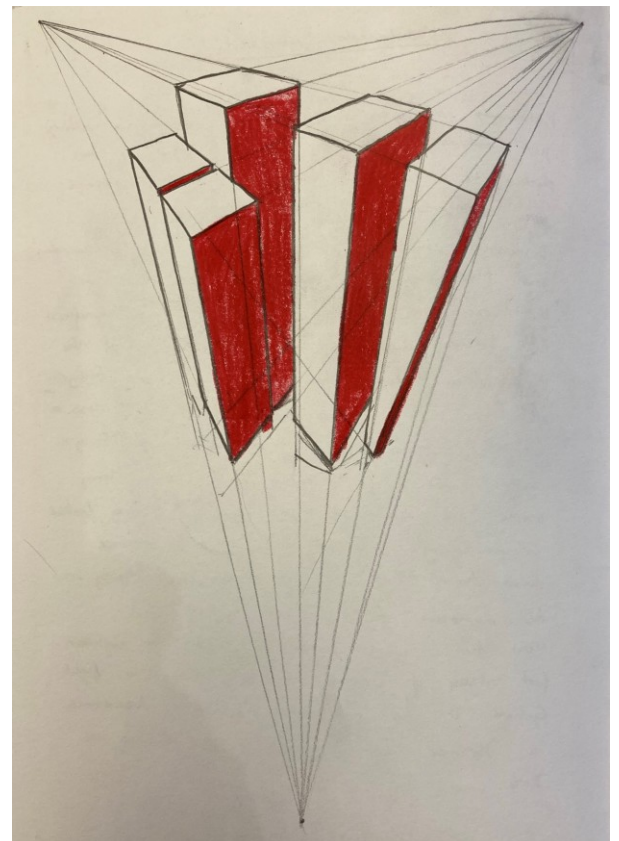
Below: Selina's drawing of Florence's cathedral *Santa Maria del Fiore*, with the dome designed by Filippo Brunelleschi





Above: Class 7's tableaux of Leonardo's *Last Supper*, with the original painting underneath.

Below: examples of single-point and three-point perspective drawing.



# Regency costumes

made by Molly Meaker, Class 11



Barnaby Michael as Mary Bennet, Rose Dowsing as Lydia Bennet, Pearl Kelly as Mrs Bennet, Sophie Poll-Hulshoff as Jane Bennet, and Dan Waring as Mr Bennet.



Anton Beugelink as Mr Darcy, Emily Barnard as Mr Bingley, and Molly Meaker as Caroline Bingley.

In July 2021 Class 11 produced and performed a stage adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*. During the course of their High School education students have the opportunity to take part in at least four major productions, and are asked not only to perform acting roles but to get involved with all aspects of the production including music, designs, costumes, stage management, and set construction.

This year Molly Meaker went above and beyond in her work on costumes. Not only did she design and dress all seventeen characters, she made all the major pieces of costume herself, with just a little work delegated to her classmates. The result was a feast for the eyes and a gift for the performers, all of whom grew further into their characters thanks to the attention given to their costumes. We are pleased here to be able to show you the highlights of her work.



Lexie Skilbeck Murray as Elizabeth Bennet and Dominic Mugenis-Mendonça as Mr Collins.



Pearl Kelly as Mrs Bennet, Fernando Coxon-Aristizabal as Mr Wickham, Rose Dowsing as Lydia Bennet, and Takumi Voss as Mr Brandon.



These photos can be found on the 'Student Spotlight' page on the school's website. To see other past highlights from the high school students, [click here](#)



Class 5 were able to experience the Olympic Games despite being hit by the pandemic. Nine of the eleven children camped near Michael Hall Steiner School and, watched by their proud parents and teachers, they processed in, dressed in their Greek tunics, lit the Olympic flame and excelled themselves in all the disciplines. It was a fitting end to the school year and all our thoughts were with the two children who couldn't make it due to enforced isolation.

Mr Coxon





## Wooden garden benches made to order (by Class 9)

Class 9 will be making wooden benches in their Craft block for the last 4 weeks of term. They will make some new ones for the school grounds, and once they have mastered the design and construction, they will make them to order, to raise money for the school.

The benches are very sturdy and durable (the ones Class 9 made in 2015 are still going strong, even though they are moved around, stood on and climbed on every day). They are made of treated construction timber, which we sand and finish with wood preservative. This one - made in 2017 - is by the entrance, if you want to have a look.

If you would like to order one, please contact [amandabell@stmichaelsteiner.com](mailto:amandabell@stmichaelsteiner.com)

Alternatively, you could sponsor one for the school, in which case we will mark it with your name.

Order one: £90

Sponsor one: £45



# Community, notices and adverts

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

For advice and support during the pandemic

*Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families:* [www.annafreud.org](http://www.annafreud.org)  
offering seminars, courses and support to families on mental health.

*Hand-in-Hand Parenting:* [www.handinhandparenting.org](http://www.handinhandparenting.org)  
resources for parents to read, listen, watch and courses on Aggression, Sleep, Setting Limits, Parents' Stress, Siblings, and Separation

*Beginning Well:* [www.beginningwell.com](http://www.beginningwell.com)  
holistic support for parents of young children

## Looking for a baby-sitter?



My name is Rose. I'm a 17 year old student currently attending The St Michael Steiner School and I have been in Steiner education since kindergarden. I love children, and I am dependable and responsible when it comes to work. I am currently looking for babysitting jobs for Friday evenings and the weekend. Rates are negotiable, I am happy to look after children of any age, and can travel within reach of the Richmond area.

Contacts - you can text me at  
+44 07432 582 320  
or send me an email at  
[rose.dowse@outlook.com](mailto:rose.dowse@outlook.com)

## HILL TRIBE 2021

A new 'Rites of Passage' programme for 12-16 year olds. 3rd - 9th August 2021

<https://www.onthehill.camp>



## COMMUNITY LITTER PICK EVENTS IN HANWORTH PARK



Organised by Friends of Hanworth Park House  
and  
Hounslows Environmental Champions

Supported by  
Feltham Rugby Club &  
Cartier Printers

SATURDAY 26th JUNE 11-1pm  
litter pick with a focus on Mental Health

SATURDAY 10th JULY 11-1pm  
litter pick & take pictures of the park mini competition

SATURDAY 21st AUGUST  
11-1pm litter pick & 1-3pm BBQ at Feltham Rugby Club  
Celebrate & enjoy food, music & drinks. Prices apply.

Covid Government guidelines on outdoor activities apply

Meet in Feltham Rugby Car Park  
Hanworth Airpark, Park Road,  
Feltham, TW13 6PP



Litter pickers, gloves and hand sanitiser available  
Wear clothes & footwear relevant to the terrain and weather

Toilets & Refreshments provided  
All ages welcome, children to be accompanied & will  
receive a certificate



## EURYTHMY RETREAT 21st to 23d August 2021

In working and moving meaningfully together through creative expression:

- We can re-discover ourselves and reconnect with our 4-fold nature,
- We can re-connect to the elements in a way that brings meaning, deepens our relationship to and our understanding of them and their roles in our lives.
- We can find a connection between the elements and the temperaments of our children to understand them more deeply.
  - We can grow consciousness.
  - We can improve our relationship to self and others.
  - We can work from chaos, through the heart, to resolution.
  - We can strengthen our immune systems and increase resilience.
- We can tap into our body's divine wisdom, and through this Silent Master, move closer to our Higher Truth.

Eurythmy brings us into creative expression which can help lead us to our Higher Self. When we connect to our Higher Self, we then begin our journey towards and enter our Higher Purpose in the world.

Much needed today! Through this retreat, we can begin that journey.

I look forward to seeing you there.  
Michèle

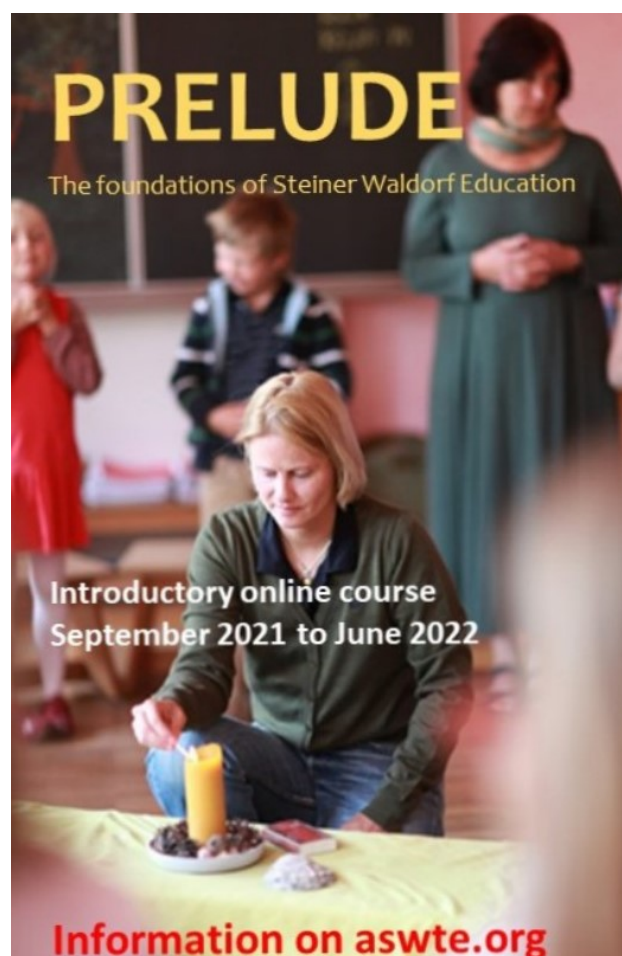
## Mangoman



The other night, a man turned up in our street with a van full of the most INCREDIBLE organic, non GMO honey mangoes from Pakistan. They had been picked from the trees three days before and tasted like sunshine itself. Shaham he's called and he and his friend are building a quality fruit delivery service, direct to streets and communities. I was wondering if anyone would be interested in him doing a weekly school/carpark visit starting in September. By then the mango season will be over, but he will have other fruit and I'm sure it would be just as delicious and reasonably priced. Email me on [nataliemeddings@gmail.com](mailto:nataliemeddings@gmail.com) if you'd consider buying a fruit box (I think come September it's oranges and bananas) and I can see about organising it.

## Fitness class

A few of us currently gather once a week for a fitness class with a great teacher from Strong Tribe Fitness. He is called Ron Burnett. He is thinking of starting one in the mornings this September, after drop-off. If anyone is interested in attending, please email Natalie on [nataliemeddings@gmail.com](mailto:nataliemeddings@gmail.com).



### **PRELUDE: a 30-week on-line introduction to Steiner-Waldorf education**

Are you a trustee, parent, former student, home-schooler, aspiring teacher, support staff, or just plain curious and wanting to know more about this unique education? A new opportunity to join Prelude in September `21, following the success of our `20-`21 programme.