



December 16, 2009

weekly announcements

**COMING UP ...**

**...ALL SCHOOL**

- ◆ WINTER BREAK  
Dec 21 - Jan 1
- ◆ BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Tue Jan 12, 5:30 - 8:30pm, GS campus
- ◆ AFFORDABLE TUITION APPLICATIONS DUE FOR 2010-2011  
Thu Jan 14, 2010
- ◆ APPLICATIONS DUE FOR NEW STUDENTS FOR  
NURSERY, GRADE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL  
Thu Jan 14, 2010
- ◆ MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY - NO SCHOOL  
Mon Jan 18, 2010

**...FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL**

- ◆ FINAL EXAMS (MORE DETAILS PAGE 2)  
Wed Dec 16, Thu Dec 17, 2009
- ◆ HS STUDENTS VISIT GS FOR SHEPHERDS' PLAY  
Fri Dec 18, 2009
- ◆ HS HOLIDAY LUNCH  
1 - 3pm, followed by dismissal for Winter Break
- ◆ HS STUDENT SERVICE DAY/  
HS FACULTY WORK DAY  
Mon Jan 4, 2010
- ◆ REGULAR HS CLASSES RESUME  
Tue Jan 5, 2010
- ◆ HS PARENT COUNCIL MTG.  
Wed Jan 13, 6:30pm
- ◆ MAIN LESSON ONLY / STUDENT SERVICE DAY  
Fri Jan 15, 8:15am

**...FOR THE GRADE SCHOOL**

- ◆ GS EARLY DISMISSAL FOR WINTER BREAK  
Fri Dec 18  
Nursery 12:15pm  
Kindergarten 12:30pm  
Grades 1-8 1:00pm
- ◆ GS CLASSES RESUME  
Mon Jan 4, 2010
- ◆ 7TH GRADE PARENT EVENING  
Mon Jan 11, 7 - 9pm
- ◆ FUTURE FIRST GRADE ( ORIENTATION MEETINGS PART 2)  
Wed Jan 13, 7:30 - 9pm
- ◆ 3RD GRADE PARENT EVENING  
Tue Jan 19, 7pm
- ◆ 5TH GRADE PARENT EVENING  
Wed Jan 20, 7pm
- ◆ 2ND GRADE PARENT EVENING  
Thu Jan 21, 7pm

Visit the calendar pages at [www.sfwaldorf.org](http://www.sfwaldorf.org) and [www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org](http://www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org) for more.



The *Shepherds' Play* will also be performed for students in K - 5 at 9:30am and Grades 7-12 at 1100am. High school students will then return to the high school campus for the Holiday Luncheon. Grade school students will have early dismissal (schedule at left).



TWO TALKS BY DOUGLAS GERWIN, PhD  
**SEXUAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN BOYS AND GIRLS**  
Tuesday, January 5, 7:30-9pm  
*at the grade school*

**THE WALDORF GRADUATE: AFTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
Wednesday, January 6, 7:30-9pm  
*at the high school*

More details regarding both talks on page 2.



*Have a Wonderful Winter Break!*

## ALL SCHOOL NEWS

### ◆ Douglas Gerwin to Speak at Both Campuses Tuesday & Wednesday, January 5 & 6, 2010

Don't miss this dynamic and insightful speaker on the subjects of Waldorf high schools and adolescence!

At the high school Dr. Gerwin will discuss his research into Waldorf high school graduates, where they go on to college, how well prepared they feel, and other interests they pursue upon graduation. Dr Gerwin will also be available to answer questions from you regarding the healthy social development of the high school student and how the Waldorf curriculum meets those developmental needs.

At the grade school Dr. Gerwin will explore the social and sexual development of boys and girls. Sometimes we hear, "They're all basically the same, only conditioned to be different." At other times we are told, "They're fundamentally different from each other in the way they grow up and the way they navigate their surroundings." Based on recent research in the development of children, we will explore the value and shortcomings of each view, paying special attention to the gestures by which children form and inhabit their physical organism in younger years and the pathologies they may develop as they enter adolescence. Why, for instance, do more girls than boys develop eating disorders? Why do more boys than girls exhibit attention deficit and hyperactivity?

In addition to these public talks, which are open to everyone, Dr. Gerwin will spend three days working with the high school faculty and students.

*Douglas Gerwin, Ph.D., is Co-Director of the Research Institute for Waldorf Education. Himself a Waldorf graduate, Dr. Gerwin has taught for over 25 years at university and high school levels in subjects ranging from biology and history to German and music.*

### ◆ Annual Fund Update

As we head into the holiday break, we would like to share good news with the community regarding our collective success in Annual Fund giving. So far, half of our families have contributed or pledged to the 2009-2010 Annual Fund, and our average gift has increased by 30% over last year. We are also delighted to announce that we have **one class** that has already reached 100% participation! Remember – your *gift pledge* will boost your class percentage. You can fulfill your pledge through the end of June. This year we hope that every class will reach that 100% goal by the end of our campaign on January 31, 2010.

We are very grateful to all those who have given to the Annual Fund. If you have not and still want to take advantage of a tax break for this calendar year, the Development Office will be open Wednesday and Thursday, 12/30-31 to accept any last minute gifts. Please drop your remittance envelopes at the Grade School (use the mail slot if the door is not open) or go online at [www.sfwaldorf.org](http://www.sfwaldorf.org) - or - [www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org](http://www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org).

Thank you! Best wishes to all for a wonderful winter holiday,

*Ethel Tang-Quan, Annual Fund Chair  
Mitch Mitchell, Development Coordinator*

### ◆ ISP Housing for International Students

Families interested in housing international students attending San Francisco Waldorf High School can receive a fee of \$900/month for room and board from International Student Placements (ISP). We are possibly having two students join us in January and would like



*continued on page 4 "Housing"*

## HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

### ◆ High School Holiday Lunch Friday, December 18, 1-3pm

The High School Holiday Lunch is a beloved school tradition, one of the oldest at our high school. It is a luncheon prepared by the parents for students, faculty, and staff, and is perhaps the favorite event of the year for students. By now, you should have received information about your class's responsibilities, and your class parent(s) will be helping to coordinate the efforts of your class. High school students will be dismissed after the lunch at around 3pm.

*Barbara Allen, HS Administrator*

### NOTES FROM THE COLLEGE COUNSELOR

**Financial Aid for College  
with Dr. Greg Smith  
Wednesday, January 6,  
6PM - time to be confirmed  
at San Francisco Waldorf High School**

Dr. Smith will cover the types of financial aid available, explain the terms used by financial aid professionals, and answer questions from parents. He is a knowledgeable and informal speaker.

While this event is geared towards the parents of juniors and seniors, all parents in the high school are welcome to attend.

RSVP [lrudsten@sfwaldorf.org](mailto:lrudsten@sfwaldorf.org).

### ◆ Clothing Drive for Raphael House

Our students are coordinating a Clothing Drive for Raphael House, and they are requesting your participation. The drive will end on Friday, December 18.

Donations should be gently used clothing (no socks or underwear) that is clean and in good condition. They are especially in need of WARM COATS.

Grade school families can leave donations in the development office until Thursday, December 17.

*Many, many thanks, Ella Severeid (Class of 2011)*

### ◆ Thank You HS Parents!

It takes a village, or it feels that way, when we are gearing up for Open Houses during enrollment season. We would like to thank the following 10th grade parents for supporting one or more of the Open Houses held in October, November and December, and for doing all the things required of good hosts: providing a warm welcome, wonderful food and a genuine interest in the prospective students and families visiting our

*continued on page 4 "HS Parents"*

## GRADE SCHOOL NEWS

### ◆ Ostheimer is Here!

Pick up your orders now in the grade school office.



### ◆ Handy Repair Volunteer Needed

Handy elf needed over winter break for wheelbarrow repair for the grade school gardening programs. Delivery and materials happily provided. Contact Amy Belkora if interested 415-596-2866 or [abelkora@gmail.com](mailto:abelkora@gmail.com).

### ◆ Grade School Boys' Basketball Up and Running

*By Pablo Feldman, 8th Grade*

Once again it's time to play the great game on the hardwood. The 2009/2010 grade school boys' basketball season is underway. The 7th and 8th grades are once again divided into two teams, A and B. The A team is in division 5 while the B team is in division 6. The 6th grade boys are playing in their first year of competitive sports as a class. They are playing in division 9.

The 8th grade boys started their season with a bang defeating Mission Dolores in their season opener. A week later they dominated Our Lady of Mercy winning by 19 points. This year they have two new coaches, Coach Jamal and Assistant Coach Tao, who recently graduated from the Waldorf High School.

The 6th grade boys are led by Coach Kevin and they are having a successful start to their young careers. Their record is currently 2 and 1. Many people have commented that their early success can be attributed to hustle and hard work.

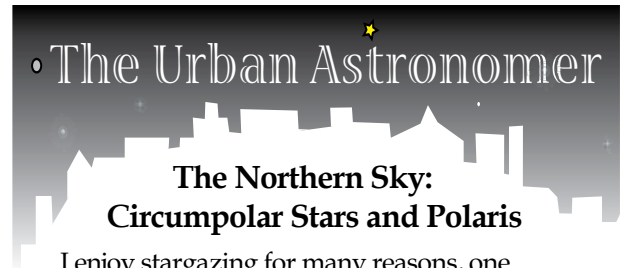
Both the 7th/8th grade A and B teams are pumped and ready to have a third consecutive playoff season. The 6th grade is experiencing the taste of victory and the feeling of defeat. So please come out and support the teams. GO WILDCATS!!!!

*Editors Note: Pablo is a member of this year's 7th/8th grade combined teams.*

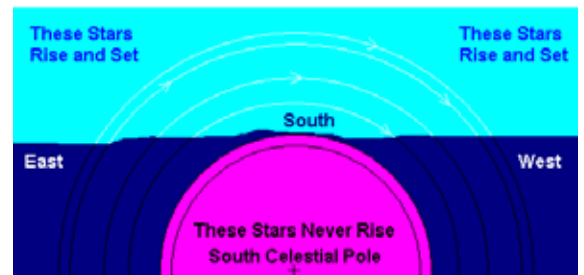
You can get up-to-date athletics information on our websites at [www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org/newsandevents/athletics](http://www.sfwaldorfhighschool.org/newsandevents/athletics) or [www.sfwaldorf.org/gradeschool/athletics](http://www.sfwaldorf.org/gradeschool/athletics)

**Last minute updates and directions? Call the Sports Hotlines:**

HS- 415-213-6197 / GS- 415-213-6196



I enjoy stargazing for many reasons, one of which is to get a sense of the motion of the sky as viewed from our vantage point here on Earth. As I have traveled around the globe, I've always tried to observe how the sky changes depending on where you view it from. One of the more fundamental things you can observe is the dynamic of the stars and constellations in the northern sky. For those of us who dwell in North America, we see the north star, Polaris, at the same height in the sky as we are located north of the equator. That is, for San Francisco at approximately 38 degrees north latitude, Polaris can be found due north, 38 degrees above the horizon.



For reasons you can read about in Wikipedia, Polaris does not move in the sky and therefore is never below the horizon. It is always fixed in the north above the horizon at the same arc as you are located north of the equator. However, the stars that surround Polaris also never dip below the horizon, but rather circle around Polaris in a 24-hour spiral that turns counter-clockwise. Long-exposure photographs show this effect very vividly.

Wonderful constellations and asterisms occupy the circumpolar region of the sky, including the Big and Little Dipper, Cassiopeia, Draco and Cepheus.

*Paul Salazar, parent, grades 6 & 10,  
[urbanastronomer.blogspot.com](http://urbanastronomer.blogspot.com)*

The San Francisco Waldorf High School  
Lecture Series Presents

### Daniel Pink in Conversation with Michael Krasny 21st Century Education: Motivation, Creativity and Achievement

*Save the Date:*

**Saturday, January 16, 2010, 2pm  
Kanbar Hall, Jewish Community Center**

Join us for this afternoon event co-sponsored by Books Inc.

Suggested donation of \$5 at the door.

Reservations are strongly recommended. For registration and information: please e-mail [hslectures@sfwaldorf.org](mailto:hslectures@sfwaldorf.org) or phone (415) 213-6194.

continued from page 2 "HS Parents"

high school:

Ellen Stephens, Mike Zatopa, Jodi & Mark Casey, Karen Staller, Sara Fusco, Gail Gurewitz, Leslie Zimmerman, Kim Beleson, Adnan Khan, Hideyo Narita, Annette Hughes-White, Cynthia Cummins, Mary Johnston, Donna Seid, Jennifer Lind, Ken Walenga, Kay Amarotico, Paul Salazar, Renee Jordan

Special thanks also to 9th grade parent, Ronnie Chism, for his participation and Alex Zatopa, Waldorf alumnus of 2009 and member of the freshman class at Santa Clara University, for providing a spark in the opening sessions.

Heartfelt thanks also to the high school faculty and staff for their essential contributions: Joan Calderera, Lauren Rudsten, Bridget Quinn, Dan Ingoglia, Paul Gierlach, Patty Townsend, Paolo Carini, Caroline Alba, John Burket, Karen Apana, Barbara Allen, Fernando Rivas and Cristobol Peres Luna and our truly incredible Student Ambassadors! A special thank you to Charlene Davis for her tireless attention to detail as both a 10th grade parent and her work in the Admissions office.

*Lisa Barry, HS Enrollment Director*

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to see them placed with families within our school community.

SFWHS is delighted to be continuing its relationship with ISP in coordinating housing for our international students\*. ISP Coordinators provide a detailed in-home orientation for all host families and are available at all times throughout the year to answer questions and solve any issues that may arise.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact Maria Sanchez-Chan, Homestay Coordinator-San Francisco, at maria@isphomestays.com. You may also contact our High School Enrollment Director, Lisa Barry, at lbarry@sfwaldorf.org .

*\* Please note that ISP housing is for our international students and does not pertain to our regular student exchange program with Waldorf schools around the world.*

San Francisco Waldorf School Association.  
www.sfwaldorf.org

Grade School: 2938 Washington Street, SF, CA 94115;  
tel. (415) 931-2750; info@sfwaldorf.org

High School: 470 West Portal Avenue, SF, CA 94127;  
tel. (415) 431-2736; highschool@sfwaldorf.org.

Comments regarding these Announcements or requests for e-mail pdf copies can be sent to cpowers@sfwaldorf.org

## REGISTER NOW!

### FAMILY LIFE SERIES 2009-2010

Mondays, 9:00 - 11:00am (Grade School Campus Library)

*An opportunity for parents to explore topics in parenting, Waldorf education and the arts, and to build the foundation for a healthy family journey. Limited childcare available for children ages 2 to 4 1/2.*

*For more information contact Lalla Carini at 415-931-2750, ext 212.*

*For registration assistance, contact Cory Powers @ 415-931-2750, ext 309*

**WORKING WITH ANGELS** with Lee Sturgeon-Day

**ART WITH CHILDREN** with Elena Forrer

**FEEDING OUR CHILDREN** with Nicole LoBue

**RHYTHMS OF LIFE** with Marianne Alsop, Patricia Ardziejewsky, and guests

**PARENTING BY TEMPERAMENT** with Lalla Carini & Astrid Thiersch

Register online! Link at <http://www.sfwaldorf.org/news/>

## OF INTEREST

### ◆ Miss David's Winter Day Camp

Rhian David, Grade 1 Assistant, will provide a playful and adventuresome day camp structured around a cozy, winter mood. This camp is appropriate for children in kindergarten through grade 4.

Monday, 12/21 - Thursday, 12/23 and Monday, 12/28 - Thursday, 12/31

Contact Rhian at 415-505-5516 or rhiandavid@gmail.com

### ◆ Sing-it Yourself Messiah - SF Food Bank Benefit

**Sunday, December 20, 4pm** . At Calvary Presbyterian at Jackson and Fillmore.

SF Academy Orchestra, Alden Gilchrist, Guest Conductor. Soloists: Heather Klein, Janet Campbell, Brian Thorset

Everyone is invited to sing the Christmas portion, plus Hallelujah chorus (approx. 1 hour total) 415-346-3832 Suggested donations \$20 Adults; \$15 Seniors & Students Bring your own score or purchase one for \$5. Reception follows.

### ◆ Extra Lessons with Ingun Schneider

Does your child (ages 8 to 18) have difficulties:

--with writing, reading and/or math

--writing with a relaxed grasp on the pencil

--copying from the board

--sitting still during lessons

--remembering a sequence of instructions

--managing movement activities with ease, and/or organizing school equipment/ assignments?

Ingun Schneider, Director of the Remedial Education Program at Rudolf Steiner College, is back in town and has space for individual sessions on Thursday and Friday afternoons in her Extra Lesson educational support practice in Glen Park. The initial assessment determines the focus of future sessions' movement-based tutorial activities. The goal of this work is to further neuro-pedagogical development thus leading to improved efficiency in the processing and execution of school tasks. Contact Ingun Schneider, P.T., M.Ed. 415-401-7671.

### ◆ Another Interesting Article about Waldorf Education

Lala Mejia (grade 12 parent and Board Trustee) shares this interesting article , "Steiner schools - has their time come?" from The Guardian (U.K.) about Waldorf (Steiner) education.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2009/dec/01/steiner-schools-cambridge-review>