



## NEWSLETTER

### *In This Issue*

***SWS is Looking  
Amazing!  
Important Changes for  
2015/16  
Special Thanks to  
Summer Crews  
Dr. Susan Johnson  
Coming  
PE Reminders  
Instrument Rentals  
BC Curriculum Changes***



*The Handwork Dye Garden*

### ***Upcoming Events***

**Tuesday, September 8**  
*School Begins 8:25 am  
and ends 3:10 pm*

**Please Note: Important Changes to the Daily  
Schedule**

**School Begins 8:25 am**

**School Ends 3:10 pm**

**No early dismissal on Thursdays**

**Welcome Back!**

You will notice a lot of changes at SWS when you

**Wednesday,  
September 9**

7:00 pm SWSPA  
Meeting

**Friday, September 11**

1:45 pm Rose  
Ceremony  
2:00 - 4:30 pm  
Instrument Rentals

**Saturday, September  
12**

10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
New Parent Orientation

**Tuesday, September  
15**

7:00 - 9:00 pm Susan  
Johnson MD Lecture  
for Parents

**Friday, September 18**

Professional  
Development Day- No  
Classes

**Saturday, September  
19**

9:00 - 10:30 am Susan  
Johnson MD Lecture  
for Parents

**Thursday, Friday  
September 24 & 25**

Class 7 Field Trip-  
details TBA

arrive next Tuesday! From grounds and gardens to a beautiful new kitchen, the entire school being painted, upgraded bathrooms, new furniture in some classrooms, new sinks and new parent cubbies. It looks amazing!

There are also important changes to the daily schedule that allow us to offer a fuller curriculum and space to take more out breaths during the day. For the grades school only, the school day will be 15 minutes longer, with school starting at 8:25 am and ending at 3:10 pm. In addition, we will no longer have early dismissals on Thursday afternoons: school dismisses at 3:10 pm every day of the week.

For the 2015/16 school calendar, [click here](#). Please be aware that we have added three early dismissal days that end at 1:30 pm (Oct 9, Jan 22, Apr 29) for professional learning and planning opportunities for our faculty. We have also scheduled a Pro-D day for Friday, September 18 for the faculty to meet with Dr. Susan Johnson. Please see below for more information about Dr. Johnson's week-long visit and parent presentations on Tue, Sept 15, and Sat, Sept 19. The school calendar does not include recital dates at this time but these will be announced within the next several weeks.

**Introducing Our Faculty for 2015/2016**

A very warm and enthusiastic welcome to new and returning faculty.

**Preschool**

Ms. Paulette Tarnawski

Mr. Jason Pressman

**Bright Angel Kindergarten**

Ms. Filipa Santos

Ms. Anisa Yaeger

**Shining Star Kindergarten**

Ms. Ruth Ker

Ms. Mima Djordjevic

Ms. Angela Komljenovic

**Class One**

Ms. Hannah Hidson Miles (Interim Teacher)

## WHO DO I SPEAK WITH WHEN...?

When you have questions about your child, the curriculum or anything pertaining to the classroom, you are encouraged to speak directly to your child's teacher. If you are not satisfied with the information you have received, then please speak to the Head of School, Kevin McDuff. You may speak with the Head of School any time you feel that there is an issue that needs immediate attention. If you have questions regarding registration, please contact the Office Manager, Lisa Stacey. Questions regarding finances and billing should be directed to our bookkeeper, LaVerne Granbois. For general inquiries and attendance, please see Teri Cunningham at reception. If there is a conflict or other social health concern that you cannot resolve by meeting with the individual involved, you may contact any member of the Social Health Committee

### **Class Two**

Ms. Vivian Markovich

### **Class Two Special Education Assistant**

Ms. Sarah Cabena

### **Class Three**

Ms. Samantha Mansfield

### **Class One, Two and Three Teaching Support**

Ms. Joy Harris

### **Class Four**

Ms. Schuyler Koby (Interim teacher)

### **Class Five**

Ms. Sietske Fichter

### **Class Six**

Ms. Lisa Hitch

### **Class Seven**

Ms. Rachel Cameron

### **Class Eight**

Mr. Hans-Peter Mothes

### **French**

Ms. Katia Rheault

### **Eurythmy**

Ms. Taiya Ryan

### **Handwork**

Ms. Aurelia Bellavita

### **Handwork Assistant**

Ms. Donna Huston

### **Woodwork**

Mr. Massimo Pintus

### **Physical Education**

Ms. Georgia Newsome

### **Strings**

Ms. Alexis More

### **Piano**

Ms. Christine Dandy

### **Administration**

Head of School: Mr. Kevin McDuff

Office Manager and Registrar: Ms. Lisa Stacey

Admissions Coordinator: Ms. Chantey Aldridge

Bookkeeper: LaVerne Granbois

Administrative Assistant: Ms. Cheryl Galloway

Receptionist: Ms. Teri Cunningham

### **Rose Ceremony**

(Rachel Cameron, Ruth Ker, Samantha Mansfield, Chantey Aldridge) or the Head of School.

LETTER FROM THE  
MINISTRY  
REGARDING  
CURRICULUM  
CHANGES

The BC Ministry of Education defines curriculum requirements for all BC public and independent schools. SWS has worked closely with the Ministry to ensure that our curriculum meets all learning outcomes mandated by the Ministry while staying true to Waldorf educational philosophy. [Click here](#) to read the letter from Education Minister Mike Bernier introducing changes that are being instituted to the BC curriculum, changes that bring the curriculum requirements more into alignment with Waldorf methods.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

We would first like to start by thanking Angela K. and the other library volunteers for

This year's Rose Ceremony will be Friday, September 11, 2015 at 1:45 pm in the Hall. Class One parents, please find a seat in the hall. Ms. Hidson Miles will lead the children to the Hall. The children will be dismissed from the classroom after the Rose Ceremony.

**New Parent Orientation**

Welcome to all new families from faraway places and the Cowichan Valley. We invite you all to join our New Family Orientation on Saturday, September 12th starting promptly at 10:00 am. We will tour the campus and answer questions. You will be given information

For parents only as we cover things in the adult realm of the school. A light lunch will be served at 12:00 pm. RSVP with the number of adults attending to [admissions](#).

Happy first week of School to all!

Chantey Dayal  
Admissions Coordinator

**Dr. Susan Johnson MD, FAAP is Coming to SWS**

Dr. Johnson completed a three-year fellowship in Behavioral and Developmental Pediatrics at the University of California and is a graduate of the San Francisco Waldorf Teacher Training Program. She has a private practice in Behavioral and Developmental Pediatrics. Dr. Johnson elucidates the science of love, convincingly demonstrating the underlying emotional logic of relationships. Dr. Johnson will be presenting to faculty on September 18, 2015 (no classes) and will be available to parents for lectures on the evening of Tuesday, September 15 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm and Saturday, September 19 from 9:00 to 10:30 am. Child-minding will be provided for both lectures. Please sign up for child minding. A sign up sheet will be [posted in the school hallway closer to the events.

**Many, Many Thanks to All the Summer Crews**

SWS has had an amazing and busy summer

their dedication and commitment last year. The library will reopen it's doors once Ms Ryan, our new Eurythmy teacher, has had a chance to create her new space. Thank you for your understanding.

#### FROM THE SWSPA



It is time to get involved in the SWS Parent Association. There are currently only 4 of 11 executive positions filled in this non-profit and we are asking the SWS community to engage with us. Our main question is: "Winter Faire 2015 - To Be or Not To Be?" Please attend meetings on Wednesday, Sept 9 and Monday, Sept 21 at 7:00 pm to be a part of the answer. The SWSPA has important updates to share. [Click here for more details.](#)

CLASSIFIEDS  
The Classifieds

renovating the inside of the school, demolishing the old school Library, and working to beautify and improve our gardens and general grounds. We would like to thank all the hard working individuals who worked diligently all summer long to make this happen. A special thank you to the SWSPA for our beautiful updated kitchen, complete with new dishes!

#### Strings Instrument Rentals

Larsen Music is again coming to SWS on Friday, September 11th from 2:00 to 4:30 pm to make arrangements for those wanting to rent a string instrument this year. You can view their rental policies ahead of time on their [website](#).

All students from Grades 4-7 are required to have a string instrument for class. Grade 4's will all need a violin and Grades 5-7 will need either violin, viola or cello.

Alexis More

#### PE /Movement Reminders

Welcome Grades 3 & 4 parents and children to formal Physical Education / Movement lessons.

During these lessons, students in Grade 4 upwards are required to change into games clothes and wear running shoes.

Grade 3 children should plan to wear appropriate clothes for moving freely to school on Mondays.

Please ensure your child has the following: shorts and/or sweat pants; short plain sleeved T-shirt or polo shirt, and sweat shirt for cold days; properly fitting running/gym shoes which support the foot.

Grade 5 parents and children, please ensure you have PE kit and running shoes for lessons.

Lesson Times:

Gr. 3 Mo; Gr. 4 Mon & Wed; Gr. 5 Tues & Wed; Gr. 6 Mon & Thu; Gr. 7 Wed & Thu; Gr. 8 Mon & Tue

Thank you,  
Georgia Newsome



deadline is September  
15th for the October  
Newsletter.

**AWSNA  
NEWSLETTER**

Click on the image  
below for the  
September AWSNA  
newsletter.



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