

The Rhythm of Hearthstone School

End of Year Newsletter 08-09

Hearthstone School
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Sperryville, VA 22740
(540) 987 - 9212



May Day Celebration

The day started off rainy but ended in beauty. The May Poles have been wrapped with beautifully woven ribbons donated to us by Barbara Fletcher's mother, Gertrude, and sewn together by Vanessa Dunn. Thank you, Gert and Vanessa.



Intergenerational Song Writing Project

Paul Reisler, musician and founder of Kid Pan Alley, invited the Hearthstone lower grade students to join him at the Rappahannock Senior Center for a morning of questions and answers between the seniors at the center and the children of Hearthstone.

From the talk, we learned a lot of interesting facts about growing up in Rappahannock County. We also learned how easy our life is compared to yesterday. It was humbling, rich, and sometimes comedic, hashing out the differences between generations.

The students wrote a song with Mr. Reisler about the experience, and he and the kids performed it at Kid Pan Alley in the auditorium of Rappahannock Elementary School on Friday, May 1. Good job, kids!



Erik the Viking Visits Hearthstone



On April 30, Erik the Viking came to Hearthstone School to speak with grades 3-12 on Viking history and lore. Ms. Liz's class recently finished studying Norse Mythology and Mr. Aron's class just recently studied world geography covering lands once known to the Vikings as home. The High School recently studied genealogy with Torry, and were interested in learning about the Viking heritage of Erik.

Erik basically brought a Viking museum with him, and the students were in awe. There was everything from real swords, to chainmail, mink skins, and a pendant of Thor's hammer, Mjollnir.



Outdoor Program: a Success

From May 11 - 15 Hearthstone students went to Jenkins Mountain for an outdoor classroom and overnight experience. Two teachers from Hearthstone, Frances Miller and Aron Weisgerber, took the third through twelfth grades on an unforgettable camping trip that was an invaluable experience for those students.

The main idea behind the trip was to educate the children in an outdoor setting. The various topics included wilderness education, ecology, camping practices, but most of all the students learned about themselves.

All of the students agree that they would love to do it again next year, with one exception: they all would like to stay out longer!

Fundraising Opportunities for Hearthstone School

If you are interested in being involved with a music festival fundraiser for the school that will take place at the end of this summer and again in the spring of 2010, please contact Liz Shaw (434-249-6407) or Aron Weisgerber (540-987-9191). Any help will be welcomed!

Earn money for Hearthstone every time you shop at Safeway through eScrip. Visit www.eScrip.com for more information.

We can earn money through Food Lion by registering your MVP card in the Hearthstone School office, or by visiting www.foodlion.com.

Use <http://www.goodsearch.com> with Hearthstone School as the charity you want to benefit. They donate one cent per search, and more for each purchase you make using their search engine.

If you have a TargetRed credit card, register Hearthstone School as the school you want to benefit. You can enroll at any Target store, online at <http://www.target.com/tcoe>, or by calling 1-800-316-6142.

If you shop at Martin's please fill out a form in the school office for the Martin's A+ School Rewards Program.

New School Blogs to Follow

Please take a moment to check out the school blogs on blogger.com. Tami Ruggiero has created and is maintaining a blog on the handicrafts students at Hearthstone learn to make, and you can read it at <http://www.hearthstonehandicrafts.blogspot.com>.

Ms. Liz has created and is maintaining a blog about the people and events of Hearthstone School at <http://www.hearthstoneschool.blogspot.com>. If you have any suggestions for the blogs please contact Liz at [lizbeth.shaw@gmail.com](mailto:lizabeth.shaw@gmail.com).

Open House

On Sunday, April 26 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Hearthstone School had its annual open house. The visitors were able to meet and speak with the teachers. Student work was on display, and the school grounds looked amazing. Thanks for all the hard work put in by everyone on Saturday, April 25.

Summer Camps

Summer is just around the corner! Do you have plans for your children? Check out the camps offered by Hearthstone School this summer!

This summer Mountain Adventures Summer Camp and The Children's Garden will be offering camps. If you are interested, please pick up the information packets in the office.

Mountain Adventures Summer Camp has four sessions starting June 22, available for four age groups, ranging from 5 years to 15+ years of age. You may contact the camp facilitator, Aron Weisgerber, at AronWeisgerber@gmail.com or 540-987-9191.

The Children's Garden summer camp will be located at Hearthstone School from August 3 - 7. The camp will consist of activities a child may experience on a day in a Waldorf kindergarten. This camp is available for ages 2 - 7. The instructors are Kitty Keyser and Linda Orfila. Contact and more information available at Hearthstone School, 540-987-9212.

Getting to Know...



Aron Weisgerber is a Rappahannock County native, born just outside the city of Sperryville, VA. He is a graduate of Hearthstone School and a life-long student of Waldorf education. Aron was the assistant kindergarten teacher and taught adjunct classes for Hearthstone School for the year of 2003. After finishing the year he enrolled in Prescott College of Prescott, Arizona. Aron studied Outdoor Education, Wilderness First Aid, Search and Rescue, Environmental Science, Sculpture, Photography, Business Management, Ecological Design, Rope Course Facilitation, Experiential Education, Ecological Restoration and ECT. While Attending Prescott College, Aron worked for two years as a wood-working teacher at Mountain Oak Elementary, a Charter Waldorf school.

Aron graduated from Prescott College with a major in Adventure Education with in emphasis in wilderness leadership and program management, and a double minor, one in environmental studies and the second in the arts. Also, Aron started and has operated a summer camp for children and young adults in Sperryville, Virginia. The summer camp offers outdoor experiences ranging from plant identification, to ropes course activities, backpacking, swimming, games, crafts and survival skills. Aron has managed the summer camp since 1999 and has offered it every year since. Presently Aron is teaching fifth grade English, Science, Geography, History and Math at Hearthstone School. Aron also teaches Woodworking, Gardening and Games classes. Aron is First Aid, CPR and Wilderness First Responder trained, and presently is volunteering for the Sperryville Rescue Squad, where he is running calls and training to drive the ambulances. In Aron's free time he likes to: be with his daughter, hike, garden, rock-climb and enjoy the outdoors.

Water Song is Here

Frances Miller has just released her new CD entitled "Water Song". It is available through Rainbow Market as well as through Frances herself!

Important Dates

May 25 – School Closed for Memorial Day
May 29 – Last Day of School & Closing Ceremony
June 1-2 – All School Canoe Trip
June 22-26 – Mountain Adventure Camp Ages 5-8
June 29-July 3 – Mtn. Adventure Camp Ages 8-12
June 30 – Community Meeting at 3:30 p.m.
July 6-10 – Mtn. Adventure Camp Ages 12-15
July 12-17- Mtn. Adventure Camp Ages 15 and Up
July 18 – Work Day
July 28 – Community Meeting at 3:30 p.m.
August 3-7 – Children's Garden Camp Ages 2-7
August 31- Sept. 4 – Teacher Work Week
September 3 – Potluck & Comm. Meeting at 6 p.m.
September 7 – Labor Day
September 8 – First Day of School

Birthdays

May 23 – Joseph Gros
June 6 – Anjee McPherson
June 15 – Tamara Hager
June 19 – Brian Turley
June 21 – Jane Mullan
July 5 – John Casper
July 19 – Noah Waller
August 6 – Preslee Thomas
August 28 – Lisa Powers
September 6 – Torry Keane

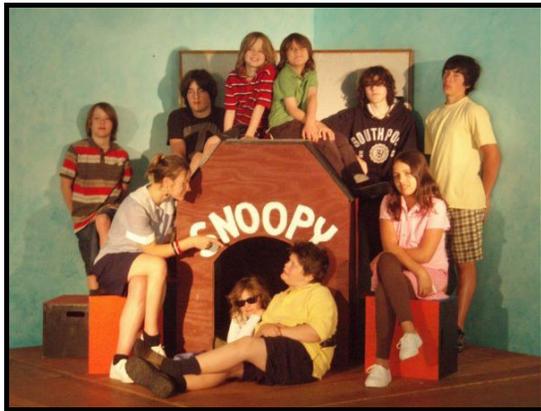
Verse for America by Rudolf Steiner

May we be centered in the feeling of
compassionate love in our hearts, as we seek to
unite with human beings who share our goals
and with spirit beings who, full of grace,
look downward on our earnest, heartfelt striving,
strengthening us from realms of light and
illuminating our love.

Hearthstone Student Work



Gardens plowed and planted!
(grades K-12)



Snoopy!!! The Musical - Cast Photo
(grades 3-12)



Woodworking Products
(High School)



Wool Angels and Fairies
(1st Grade)



Cold Frame
(High School)



Clay Frogs for a Cause
(grades 3-5)



Watercolor Eagles
(4th Grade)

A *heartfelt* thank you goes out to the entire Hearthstone community for a wonderful school year!