

Radius

December 2015

Issue 109

A newsletter for Camphill Special School families

"Receive the children with reverence, educate them with love, send them forth in freedom" - Rudolf Steiner

Student Council

On October 23rd the high school held an election for this years student council. There were 14 nominees and one write in, Dubem ,who decided to run on his own! There were also some last minute withdrawals. The eventual candidates had all prepared speeches detailing why they should be elected. Many good ideas were presented. The ballots were prepared by Cara Schmidt in the main office, thank you Cara!

After counting the votes, the elected representatives are:

Grade 9: Ben and Alex

Grade 10: Kelly and Haley

Grade 11: Galya and Alex

Grade 12: Jenna and Will

At their first meeting they decided to hold a food drive. Donation boxes were placed prominently through advent. Thank you for your support!

Calendar

Tuesday Dec. 22	Students depart (half day)
Thursday Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Office and Maintenance closed
Friday Dec. 25	Christmas
Monday Dec. 28	Office and Maintenance closed
Friday Jan. 1	New Year's Day Office and Maintenance closed
Tuesday Jan 5.	Residential students return
Wednesday Jan. 6	Classes resume
Wednesday Jan. 20	Parent Workshop: Transition Planning (see page 4)

Holiday Traditions

Cookies were made in Rowan– for more photos, check out our Facebook page! Thank you to Michael Oliveira for capturing the fun.



Thanks to all who helped with our Community Landwork Day!



Happenings

Yellow the bracken, golden the sheaves
 Rosy the apples, crimson the leaves
 Mist on the hillside, clouds grey and white
 Autumn good morning, Summer good night.

We have gathered many apples for **kindergarten** use this year. One day we walked to Else's house to pick Apples. The branches were so heavy and low with the fruit that it was easy for the children to gather the many apples on the trees.



We picked crisp green ones, golden ones, red rosy ones. Each kindergarten child brought a basket from the kindergarten and the baskets were filled many times with apples, big ones and little ones. Then we loaded up the wagon we had brought from school, it was very full by the time we left Else's house.

On the way back to school our youngest child sat in the middle of the wagon surrounded by apples of every size and shape. Back in Meadowsweet we made lots of applesauce for our applesauce snack day. We grated some cinnamon into the sauce and it tasted delicious!

The **second grade class** took a field trip to pick pumpkins and made apple sauce.



The **third grade** has been hearing the story of the seven days of creation. We explored light and darkness, warmth and movement through painting. At times the children were dancing in rings, playing instruments, and even lying on the floor sleeping during main lesson (don't tell the parents!).



Grade eight: Three students from Ash's class - Bobby, Braden and Jad were joined by six new students Matilda, Melvena, Zara, Asa, Joseph, and Seth. The class began studying exploring and the voyages of Christopher Columbus. History and geography were also explored as they learned about the ways Native Americans lived in different parts of the country. The foods they ate were of particular interest! Eighth grade has been making good use of the bountiful apple harvest making apple sauce, apple jelly, and enjoying the apples at snack and making several apple desserts.

The **ninth grade** have joined the high school program and are really taking it on! We started the year with a literature block, "The Education of Little Tree" by Forrest Carter. We are now exploring the human senses. We are having great fun experimenting with the different sense organs. We welcome Charlie from Massachusetts to our class.

Happenings, continued

Twelfth grade: We have been having a lot of fun working with this story through dramatic story-telling as well as acting out selected scenes. We started with the block by introducing the theme of searching for life's purpose by talking about Graduation and what each student would like to do in her/his life in the future, as far as they were able to speak about it. We came to a picture that most of the students are quite happy with their future outlook and not too worried at this point. Then we began to talk about Faust, who feels very differently at the beginning of the play.

In the meantime we continued to work on our class project in Woodshop. We are now finished with our block on woodworking, and will continue with handwork. In handwork we will be working on book-binding, and each student will make her/his own book.



The **Transition Program** class has been studying trees during our beautiful fall weather. We have been learning how to identify trees by their leaves and their autumn color, as well as how important trees are for wood, food for people and animals, shade, beauty, and most of all for contributing to the oxygen that we breathe! Here are Elizabeth and Victoria on a tree walk at Monocacy Hill.



Parent Workshop: Transition Planning

The question of life after Camphill Special School is always on everyone's minds, so we are offering a Parent Workshop on this theme at the Transition Program at Beaver Farm on **Wednesday, January 20th, at 7 pm.**

Our workshop will be led by Michele Leahy, of M. Leahy & Associates, and Lori Leathers, of the Special Needs Resource Network/1847 Financial. Their mission is to help as many families as possible to achieve their goals by ensuring all financial, legal, and government benefits resources are working together for them.

RSVP to [Erin Byrne](#) if you are able to attend, and come prepared with your questions!

Welcome baby!



Congratulations to Narkie and John on the arrival of baby Zoey on October 2nd!



Our mission is to create wholeness for children and youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities through education and therapy in extended family living.

Items for the next issue of *Radius* must be submitted by the third Monday of the month. Materials should be submitted to cschmidt@camphillspecialschool.org

All material submitted is subject to editing and is included on a space available basis.

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