



Malamalama Waldorf School

News Notes

December 2007

Every year at just this time,
In cold and dark December,
Families around the world
All gather to remember,
With presents and with parties,
With feasting and with fun,
Customs and traditions
for people old and young.
- Helen H. Moore

On the Calendar

Dec 3

Grade 1, 2/3 Advent Spiral

Dec 4

Grade 4, 5, 6/7 Advent Spiral

Dec 5

Kinderhale Advent Spiral

Dec 8

Pahoia Holiday Parade
Grade 5 Rummage Sale

Dec 14

Festival of Lights

Dec 14 - Jan 2

WINTER RECESS -
NO SCHOOL

January 3

Return to School

Pahoia Holiday Parade

Saturday, December 8

There's No Business Like Show Business

Put on your top hats and show your school spirit!

Advent Spiral

This month the children of Malamalama will experience the walking of the Advent Spiral. Evergreen boughs are laid down creating a spiral-shaped path. At the center a single candle is lit. In darkness each child takes an unlit candle and walks to the center of the spiral path to light their candle. The beauty of the light penetrating the darkness becomes an absorbing experience that the child will never forget. This winter, as our days darken and we feel a chill in the air, the lighting of each candle reminds us of the light and warmth we radiate from within.

Monday, Dec 3

4:30pm, Grade 1

5:45pm, Grade 2/3

Tuesday, Dec 4

5:30pm, Grade 4 & 5

6:30pm, Grade 6/7

Wednesday, Dec 5

4:30pm, KH Hui Lilikoi

5:30pm, KH Hui Kukui

Festival of Lights

Malamalama Waldorf School celebrates the wonder and joy of the season at the annual Festival of Lights. Classes present songs and poems unique to the various holidays celebrated within this season. The festival culminates with the Santa Lucia procession, in which candles are lit symbolizing the return of sunlight in the winter sky.

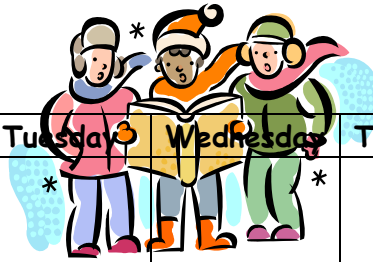
This year, the Festival of Lights will be held at the Hawaii Paradise Park Owners Association "Hui" on Maku'u and 17th Street on Friday, Dec 14. Students are asked to arrive by 5:15pm. Performances will begin at 5:30pm. Guests are Welcome and the community is invited. We invite you to bring a candle in a foil holder. Illuminating our gathering in candles lit from one flame inspires fellowship and unity during this season. A cookie potluck will follow, please bring a batch of your favorite cookie recipe to share!



Malamalama Waldorf School

Calendar of Events

December 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		*	*			1
2 	3 Advent Spiral Grade 1 Grade 2/3	4 Advent Spiral Grade 4, 5 Grade 6/7	5 Advent Spiral Hui Lilikoi Hui Kukui	6	7	8 Pahoa Holiday Parade 10AM
9	10	11	12	13	14 Festival of Lights 5:30PM	15 
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Winter Recess						
23	24 	25	26	27	28	29
Winter Recess						
30	31	1	2	3 Return to School	4	5
Return to School Jan 3						

Activities and Events are subject to change.

Please call the school office if you have questions.

School News

Pahoa Holiday Parade

It has been a tradition here at Malamalama for our students and their families to participate in the annual Pahoa Holiday Parade. We show our school spirit by wearing our school shirts and other holiday garb. Again this year, the Hancock family will be donating their truck and trailer to be decorated as our float. Please join us on **Saturday, December 8 in Pahoa.** We meet along the road that heads up to the rubbish dump (the road between the tree farm and Baptist church). Please plan on being there by 9:30am or come early (8am) if you would like to help decorate the float. For more information please see the attached flier.

Foliage needed

For all upcoming events we would appreciate donations of foliage. Ferns, anthuriums, orchids or other flowers and greenery will be thankfully accepted. Please call the school office if you could help in this way.

Lost and Found

Our school Lost and Found collection is full. From clothing to lunch bags your missing items may be here. Please come to the school office to claim your items. We will discard all remaining lost and found items over the Winter Recess.

WINTER RECESS

Winter recess begins Monday, December 17. We will return to school on Thursday, January 3. We wish you a safe and joyful holiday season.



***Malamalama Waldorf School
Faculty and Staff
Wish all of our families a safe and
joyous holiday season!
We look forward to a new year with
you and your beautiful children.
Peace!***



GREETINGS FROM ELF'S CORNER!!!

Our little store is **BUSY...BUSY...BUSY** this time of year! We received our charming 2008 Fairytale Calendars, our Kimberton Hills Stella Natura guides, our advent calendars and a charming nativity. Our most popular seasonal wooden toys have arrived--mobiles, nesting fire, nesting waves, rainbow tunnels, rainbow stackers, wooden dragons, Lavender sachet dolls, and **ADORABLE** stocking stuffers (don't forget the modelling beeswax, and Stockmar crayons). Due to popular demand, I ordered some beautiful beeswax candles and candle rolling kits, along with packages of beeswax birthday candles--they will arrive the first week of December. Also coming soon is a really fun order--'digging for crystals' kits, animal mosaics, stomp rockets, X-stream gliders, gardening gloves, tin watering cans and children's gardening tools. As always, don't forget--we will add your December purchases to your frequent shopper card (for a \$10 gift certificate). These last three weeks of school **FLY** by--don't forget to peek in to see what we have!!!

REVISED WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

Thanks so much to Etta Mae for her Felt Animals Workshop--it was so much fun--she got us all hooked!!! She has supplied our school store with the patterns and we have all necessary supplies for anyone wanting to make more. Sorry about the changes to our workshops--we are trying to accommodate everyone as best as possible. Etta Mae's Felted Ornament class has been moved a week later due to the Advent Spiral, Candle dipping has been moved to a Sunday so as not to interfere with After-Care, felted pin cushions have been requested, and added to our wet-felting project, and an extra silk-dying class has been added as per request.

SURPRISE GIFT: Friday November 30 (1-2:30)--cost \$10

CANDLE DIPPING: Sunday December 9 (2-4)--cost \$3 per candle

FELTED ORNAMENTS: Monday December 10 (2:30-3:30)--cost \$12

WET FELTED SOAPS & PINCUSHIONS: Friday Dec. 14 (1-2:30)--cost \$15 for 2

SILK DYING (AGAIN): Sunday December 16 (12-2)--cost \$7 per silk

Class News

Hui Kukui

Aloha Dear Families,

It was wonderful for me to get to meet and conference with so many of our families over the Thanksgiving week. It is so good at this time to take stock of all we have learned about each other thus far and focus on strengths and areas of growth. I was truly reminded of how deeply I care for each of your keiki and have a renewed sense of admiration for their kind hearted and devoted parents. If you missed conferences and would like one, please contact me, otherwise a conference form and some reading handouts will be mailed.

As you read this Newsnotes, we will be immersed in the season of Advent and preparations for the Holidays. For children in particular, this is a time of joyful anticipation. On the Advent wreath there are four candles, and for each week of Advent, another candle is lit. While the external light is diminishing, the child can experience an increasing fullness of light as the holidays approach.

On Wednesday, December 5th, please bring your child back to school at 5:30pm for our Advent Spiral. Each child will carry a candle to the center of the spiral where an angel lights the candle and the child then places it somewhere on his/her journey out. Please dress children nicely and be sure there is no loose or flowing clothing or hair for flames to catch.

As the holy days approach, I am ever reminded to be thankful for the simple things in life. Your dear children in their simple purity keep the light aglow.

With Much Aloha,
Deanna

Hui Lilikoi

Greetings!

It was really nice to have the opportunity to connect and speak with you about your children. Hui Lilikoi is blessed with great children, and great parents. Give thanks.

Wednesday, December 5th is the day of our Advent Spiral. This event will begin promptly at 4:30pm. Please arrive at 4:15pm. The Advent Spiral is a quiet happening, where one is able to experience the in breath of winter, as one spirals inward through the darkness, and then, the coming of the light of summer, as one lights their candle to place along the spiral path as they spiral outward. Please dress the children in pants or shorts, as loose flowing clothes pose a fire hazard. Any parents wishing to help with either setting up or taking down the spiral are greatly appreciated. Please contact Uncle Aubrey if you are able to help with the Advent Spiral.

Thanks for entrusting me with your kids. It is great to be back!

Aloha,
Uncle Aubrey

Grade 1

Dear Parents,

As the holiday season approaches there are many exciting events ahead of us. The first graders and their families will experience their first Advent Spiral together on **Monday, December 3rd**. This is a beautiful event and a magical way to begin the holidays. **Saturday, December 8th** is the Pahoā Holiday Parade. As in years past, our school will decorate a float and participate in the community festivities. The more the merrier, so plan to join in the fun! Before we all take a break from school and celebrate the holidays with families and friends, we will come together with our own celebration, the Festival of Lights, on the evening of **Friday, December 14th**. Please note the date change from the original all-school calendar. There will be additional details on each of these events in the days to come. I am looking forward to seeing you all and to enjoying this time together. I am especially looking forward to watching the sparkling wonder in the eyes of the children as the magic of the season unfolds.

Thank you to all of you who were able to make it for a visit during the parent-teacher conferences. I enjoyed the opportunity to share with you all that your children have accomplished so far this year. They have already grown so much in so many ways! Thanks for your continued support.

We are currently in a Language Arts block, focused on completing the letters through amazing fairy tales. The children love finding the letters hidden in the board drawings and they are exciting at the thought of finishing all the letters by the holiday break. A big holiday gift to themselves and quite an accomplishment! I'm proud of them!

Peace on Earth!
Ms. Pena

Grade 2/3

The gift of light I thankfully hold
And pass to my neighbor its shining gold
That everyone may feel its glow
Receiving and giving forever shall grow.

Dear Class 2/3,

Parent/teacher conference week was rewarding. It was wonderful seeing all of the class' work spread out and taking the time to read through each student's books. I appreciated meeting with you and talking about your children. We have a great class!

We're in a math block now practicing carrying, borrowing, multiplication tables, and division. The King of Ireland's Son continues to provide rich story material.

I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. This is the season of joyous celebration. There are so many opportunities for us all to get together and enjoy!

Monday, December 3rd at 5:45pm we will have our Advent Spiral. Saturday, December 8th at 9:30am meet in Pahoā to be in the Pahoā Holiday Parade. This year's theme is: There's No Business Like Show Business. Friday, December 14 in the morning, our class will have a potluck party and Secret Santa gift sharing. This same evening is our Festival of Lights. The festival begins at 5:30pm. Students will need to arrive dressed and ready by 5:00pm. Please bring the Santa Lucia buns at this time also. We will need this time to put on sashes and prepare. We'll need a few parents help "backstage" to put on sashes and light candles. Once again our class has the honor of spreading the lights for our Festival of Lights.

With Fond Holiday Wishes,
Ms. Jenkins

Grade 4

Dear Fourth Grade Parents,

Seasons greetings to everyone and I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that the students had a restful break. I am very proud of how well the fourth grade performed at the Thanksgiving Festival and it was much enjoyed by all who came. Thank you also to the parents who came to our helpful Parent/Teacher meetings.

We finished our first Math Block, which went very well. We played math games and used flashcards and worksheets to review the four math operations. I also introduced rounding, greater than/less than, and we started learning about fractions using foods like pizza and apple slices to help us visualize what fractions really are. I was impressed with the fourth graders' effort to catch up on their math skills.

I am very excited about our current Human Being and Animal Block in which we will be learning about different animals and comparing them to the human form. We will also be doing fun animal observations, great drawings and paintings, descriptive writing and an animal report.

We have many exciting events coming up which include the Advent Spiral on Tuesday, December 4th at 5:30 pm, and the Pahoia Parade in which Malamalama is participating in on the morning of Saturday, December 8th. The theme this year is "There's no business like show business" and if anyone is interested in making top hats for the event please speak with Ms. Jenkins. Come join us for these fun family events! We also have the Festival of Lights on the evening of December 14th, which is a nice closing school celebration before we have our holiday break.

I hope everyone has safe and happy holidays and as always mahalo for all of your help and support!

Aloha,
Mr. Germain

Grade 5

Dear 5th Grade Parents,

I enjoyed meeting with you during our Parent Teacher Conferences. Thank you for making the effort, and most importantly, the commitment to your child's education.

It is December already, a time of flurry and festivity. Mark your calendar for several important events this month. We will set the mood for the beginning of Advent with an Advent Spiral on Tuesday, December 4th at 5:30pm sharp. I will provide candles and ask that you bring in an apple that day. As we walk the spiral we symbolically find our inner light during this time of dark long nights.

Saturday, December 8th marks two important events, our class rummage sale (starting at 7:00am) and the annual Pahoia Christmas Parade (meeting time at 9:30am). Please look for valuable rummage at home that you want to donate, and bring it in next week. Thank you Tabby, Liz, and Kiah for organizing this fundraiser. We are almost one third of the way toward reaching our goal for our Maui trip.

Tuesday, December 11th we will go on a field trip to Saddle Road to collect greens for making candle holder decorations. We will sell these after school to contribute to our fund. Then on Friday, December 14th at 5:30pm the whole school will come together for our Festival of Lights. Each performance is so precious; I hope everyone can attend.

Amidst all this activity we are doing practical work in school learning the decimal system. We will apply this knowledge to calculating the money we make and need. Reading through our play is also exciting!

Thank you for your beautiful children. I wish you a holiday season filled with peace and good cheer.

With Aloha,
Mrs. Hartsook

Grade 6 / 7

Dear Parents-

Thank you for making time to meet during conference days last week -- it is always fun for me to share my experiences with you and to have you share yours with me. Your children are wonderful human beings; I appreciate them and applaud you for your good parenting.

"The gift of light we thankfully hold,
And pass to our brothers its shining gold,
That everyone may feel its glow -
Receiving and giving, may love and grow..."

The joyful advent season is upon us and we are quite the busy little bees! Our Advent spiral will be held Tuesday, December 4th at

6:30 p.m. and our Festival of Lights on Friday, December 14th at 5:30 p.m.

Our Main Lesson work has brought us to the study of the physics of sound and light - the first of two scheduled physics blocks this year. Students are learning to draw conclusions based upon observable and experiential phenomenon. Fun, fun, fun!! Science is one of our favorite subjects and the Waldorf middle school provides a rich science curriculum.

We would like to have a Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 13th after lunch. In preparation for this we would like to have Santa's grab bag with each child bringing in a wrapped gift (on Thursday) that either a girl or a boy would enjoy (\$10.00 value).

See you soon -

Joyeux Noel,
Ms. Gold

Movement Education

Grade 6/7:

1. Reminder: students please bring the results of your NAME - research, Coat of Arms, due in the first week of January, back to school.
2. Dear Grade 6/7 Parents, I still need help building a pair of stilts by January 15th.

Grade 5:

Dear 5th Grade Parents, parents who volunteered for building the running long jump pit, please call me at 896-9705.

Grade 4:

Dear 4th Grade Parents, please help your child collect 10-20 smooth lava rock and coral pieces and 8-10 brown, gray, and white kukui nuts (no black please), for our Hawaiian games.

Grade 4 through 7:

Track and Field is coming up. There will be two events on February 9th and 23rd. I will be gone for a week in January (16th-23rd). If you would like to participate in the Track and Field events, please let me know by the last day of school in December.

MAY THIS SEASON BRING PEACE AND HAPPINESS TO YOU

Mahalo & Happy Holidays,
Rosa Ahrens

Music

Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life. ~Berthold Auerbach

Dear Parents:

It may wash away a few germs as well – I have not missed a school-day due to illness yet, even though there's been a threat this week.

During our break I discovered that one of the Hawaii County Council members plays the violin! Bob Jacobson borrowed my violin to play; we read some music together at a Thanksgiving gathering.

I feel thankful for all the growth and progress I see at school. First-graders are practicing blowing gently into their flutes. Second and third-graders are in the midst of several rhythmical conundrums. Fourth-graders start new rounds for the season. Fifth-graders are singing in three-part harmony, as are the sixth and seventh-graders, who will debut their alto recorder-playing soon. The violin and viola classes are preparing a duet, where Stage 1 violinists must quickly switch from playing "pizz" (plucking the strings) to "arco" (with the bow).

The Young Music Studio/Orchid Isle Youth Orchestra concert is on Sunday, December 9, at 4 p.m., at the East Hawaii Cultural Center. On the program are selections from *Fiddler on the Roof*, Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*, and Corelli's *Christmas Concerto* which features three soloists from the orchestra – two violinists and one cellist.

Several members from my youth orchestra will perform in another free holiday variety concert on Wednesday, 7 p.m., December 19, at the KMC Theater in Hawaii Volcanoes Park – along with many other community performers.

Hear Tanta Rosa sing with the Hilo Community Chorus in Handel's *Messiah* on Sunday, December 16, 2 p.m., at the Church of the Holy Cross in Hilo. While there's no charge, people are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the Food Bank.

We're off to Virginia on December 15 to spend the second half of the month with my family. Happy holidays! Thank you for your lovely, talented, and musical children.

Aloha,
Cathy Young