



Summer 2017

Dear Families:

I hope this letter meets you in the midst of a glorious summer, full of sand, sun and relaxation. I must admit however, that I am very excited about our year together and I cannot wait for the children to return, but I will be patient! I am sure many of you are also beginning to entertain the idea of returning to school, and, in that vein, I wanted to share some information regarding important dates and a general laundry list of necessities.

To support our active kindergarten day, we ask that the children have the following *clearly labeled items*:

- ~ An extra set of clothing: top, pants, underwear, socks and a sweater or light jacket
- ~ Inside shoes - a light flexible shoe that provides a little traction for inside play (a slip on or tie up with enough protection for little toes)
- ~ A bag that can carry home treasures, soiled clothes or drawings
- ~ A drinking mug
- ~ Later in the season: winter coat, snow pants, hat, scarf, gloves and snow boots
- ~ Rain pants, rain boots and a hooded rain jacket
- ~ Lands' End is a good resource, be sure to check their overstock page - many of the same items at greatly reduced prices.

It is customary that home visits occur shortly before the school year begins for families that are new to our class. This gives me the opportunity to meet you and your child in a more relaxed setting, in the child's environment. The visit lasts less than an hour and does not need to be formal in any respect. As a parent myself I would not want to put anyone in a stressful position, I am content to sit outside with a glass of lemonade! I will begin calling the first week of August to set up appointments.

Our first Preschool parent meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 5th at 7:30pm. We will gather in Bonner Hall and then reassemble in our classroom to meet and further discuss our daily, weekly and seasonal rhythm. We will also have a chance to answer any questions that arise.

Our first day of school is Thursday, September 7th, beginning at 8:10am and dismissing at 11am. Friday we will dismiss at 11am as well. Afternoon care and extended care both begin on Thursday. Mrs. Jaskowski, our Afternoon Care coordinator will discuss details and supplies needed at our class meeting on Tuesday the 5th.

I am available to you, to discuss any specific issues during the school year between 1-3pm most afternoons. I am also available via email or by telephone between the hours of 7pm and 8:30pm. My contact information is: [helwig@waldorfgarden.org](mailto:helwig@waldorfgarden.org), by phone, (646) 773-3245 or at school, (516) 742-3434. Prior to the beginning of the school year email is the best form of communication. I will be away between August 6th and August 17th, I may or may not have internet access.

In closing, I would like to share how delighted I am that Ms. Joanna Dorman will be working with our class this year. She is an alum of our school, and an Early Childhood colleague who joins us from the Green Meadow Waldorf School. Joanna brings a great warmth and exuberance for this work. We will also be joined by Ms. Alanna Michtavy, who is delighted to continue her work in our Early Childhood department. Together we look forward to a wonderful school year!

Sincerely yours,

**Keelah Helwig**

Kindergarten Teacher

The Waldorf School of Garden City

225 Cambridge Avenue

Garden City, NY 11530

Tel: (516) 742-3434

Fax: (516) 742-3457

Email:[helwig@waldorfgarden.org](mailto:helwig@waldorfgarden.org)