



Stellenbosch Waldorf School
Nurturing Conscious Individuals

UPDATE

6 JUNE 2025

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WHITSUN UPDATE 2025



The Festival of Whitsun

“In celebrating Whitsun, which is 50 days after Easter, we celebrate the insight that the singularity of the individual is sacred, that a spark of divine fire shines from each one of us, and that the accord between individuals rests on the ability truly to understand one another. To communicate in a spirit of truth is often a difficult challenge in today’s world.

If this challenge can be met, even in modest ways, then the vision of the dove descending – the symbol of the Holy Spirit and the symbol of peace – becomes a reality for individuals, for groups, for nations.” (Ref: “All Year Round”, by A. Druitt, C. Fynes-Clinton and M. Rowling:)

Upon deeper reflection we realise that the impulse that is Waldorf education, is a Whitsun impulse, and how the light of the first Waldorf School in Stuttgart, whose flame was lit in 1919, mirrors and reflects an exquisite and accumulating light, throughout the world. (Teacher Tina)

WHITSUN STORY 1

The Bundle of Sticks

A certain Father had a family of Sons, who were forever quarreling among themselves. No words he could say did the least good, so he cast about in his mind for some very striking example that should make them see that discord would lead them to misfortune.

One day when the quarreling had been much more violent than usual and each of the Sons was moping in a surly manner, he asked one of them to bring him a bundle of sticks. Then handing the bundle to each of his Sons in turn he told them to try to break it. But although each one tried his best, none was able to do so.

The Father then untied the bundle and gave the sticks to his Sons to break one by one. This they did very easily.

"My Sons," said the Father, "do you not see how certain it is that if you agree with each other and help each other, it will be impossible for your enemies to injure you?"

But if you are divided among yourselves, you will be no stronger than a single stick in that bundle."

In unity is strength.

Aesop Fable



WHITSUN SONG: BROTHERHOOD ROUND

(1) *ff* all men could live as brothers what a good world this would be

(2) Live as bro---thers what a hap-py world

(3) Live as bro---thers what a hap-py world

in a higher key (easier for the recorder).

(1) *ff* all men could live as brothers what a good world this would be

(2) Live as bro---thers what a happy world

(3) Live as bro---thers what a happy world



SEEN AT THE WHITSUN FESTIVAL



WHITSUN CRAFTS

WHITSUN DOVE

You will need:

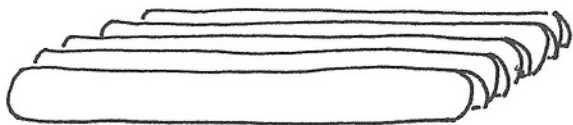
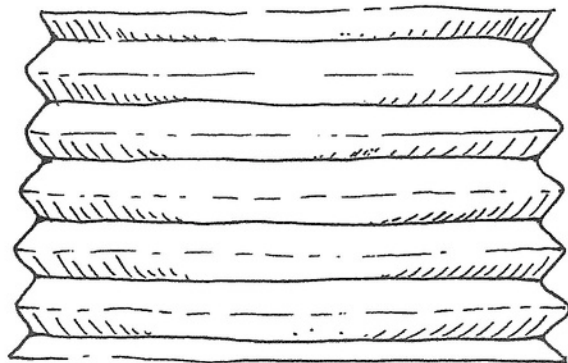
White card or strong paper

White tissue paper 12cm x15cm

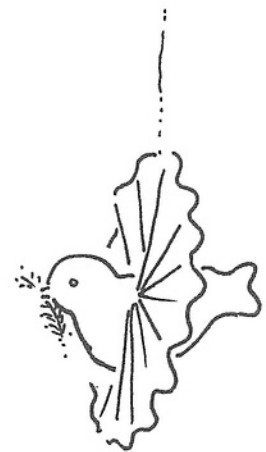
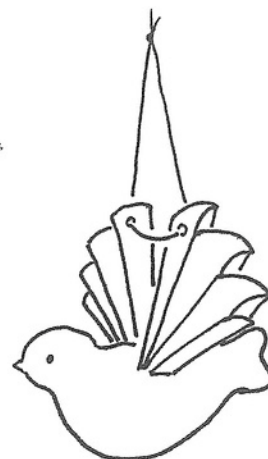
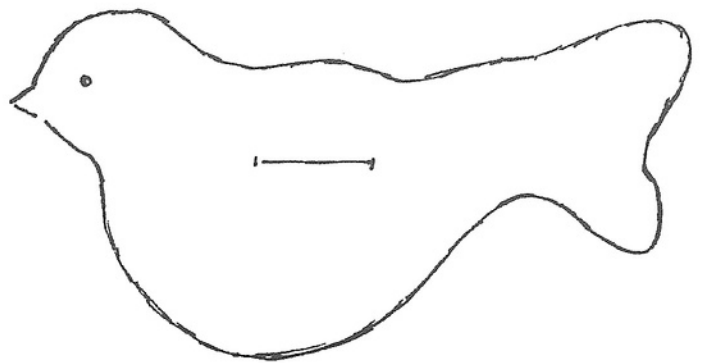
White or gold thread

From the white card or paper cut out the dove
As shown. Cut a slot for the wings where indicated.
Mark the eyes with a blue pencil.

Fold the tissue paper as shown — the folds
must not be wider than 1.5cm. Trim the
ends.



Insert the folded tissue paper through the
slot in the body piece and open it up in a
fan-like way. Pull the wings so that they
meet in the middle. Carefully sew them
together with white or gold thread, and
leave a length for hanging.



WHITSUN STORY 2

The class 9, 10 and 11's explored the story of Sadako Sasaki and the Thousand Paper Cranes through film, discussion, and paper-folding. With cross-curricular themes of current affairs, compassion, and global awareness, students folded cranes in solidarity with child victims of conflict around the world, accompanied by their singing of festival songs, A quiet, powerful reminder of learning that connects heart, hands, and world. Inspired by Sadako's story, they have contributed to our Whitsun festival by folding origami cranes. With each careful fold, they offered a quiet wish of goodwill; a gesture of peace carried on wings of paper.

Please click on the link below to read the story.

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/the-story-of-sadako-sasaki.htm>



Eid al-Adha and the Spirit of Brotherhood

Eid al-Adha is a special holiday celebrated by Muslims around the world. It commemorates a story about a prophet named Ibrahim (similar to Abraham in the Bible), who showed great faith in God. On this day, families come together to pray, share food, and help those in need. It's a time of kindness and giving.

Similarly, the Whitsun festival (also known as Pentecost) is a Christian celebration that remembers the coming of the Holy Spirit. It brings people together in faith and encourages them to spread love, hope, and good deeds in their communities.

Both festivals are about sharing what you have, caring for others, and celebrating the power of faith to bring people together. No matter the religion, Stellenbosch Waldorf School, we are united in community, and we are a brotherhood that exists with and for each other. We wish our broader community a joyous and blessed Eid and a wonderful Whitsun festival.

TERM PLANNER

Term Planner 2025	
Compiled: 27 March 2025: subject to updates	
TERM 2	
Monday, 5 May	Start of Term 2: ALL
Saturday, 24 May	Harvest Market and Open House
Friday, 30 May	Bake Sale
Friday, 6 June	Whitsun
Monday, 16 June	Youth Day
Thursday, 26 June	St. John's Festival
Friday, 27 June	End of Term 2: ALL
TERM 3	
Tuesday, 22 July	Start of Term 3: ALL
Friday, 25 Jul	Bake Sale
Saturday, 9 Aug	National Women's Day
Friday, 29 Aug	Bake Sale
Saturday, 13 Sep	Open House/puppet show, crafts, activities
Wednesday, 24 Sep	Heritage Day
Friday, 26 Sep	Michaelmas/End of Term 2: ALL
TERM 4	
Monday, 13 Oct	Start of Term 4: ALL
Friday, 24 Oct	Bake Sale
Saturday, 29 Nov	Advent Market and Open House
Wednesday, 3 - 5 Dec	Teacher's Shepherd's Play
Sunday, 7 Dec	Advent Spiral: KG
Monday, 8 Dec	Advent Spiral: All
Wednesday, 10 Dec	Advent & End of Term 4