

FEBRUARY UPDATE 2025

Celebrating values and love

Dear Parents/Guardians

This February, as we embraced the spirit of St. Valentine, we also took the time to honour the memory of our beloved Teacher Ronel. Her wisdom, kindness, and unwavering dedication continue to inspire us, reminding us of the profound lessons she shared with us.

At Waldorf Schools, Valentine's Day is more than a celebration of romance, it's also a time to reflect on love in its many forms. We cherish the values of respect, tolerance, and inclusion, ensuring that every child and student feels seen, heard, and valued.

As we move forward, may we carry these values in our hearts and continue to spread the warmth of love in all that we do.

Stellenbosch Waldorf School Team



FOUNDER'S DAY

Celebrating Founders' Day at Helderberg Nature Reserve

This year, our school celebrated Founders' Day in the most meaningful way, by immersing ourselves in nature at the Helderberg Nature Reserve. This special day honours the birthday of Rudolph Steiner and reminds us why this holistic approach to learning is more relevant than ever.

Happy children are more likely to thrive, both in school and in life. Research shows that a strong sense of self-worth is one of the most valuable gifts we can offer our children, preparing them not just to succeed but to navigate life's challenges with confidence and resilience. Waldorf education nurtures this inner strength by fostering creativity, curiosity, and a deep connection to the world around us.

Our time in the reserve was filled with joy and wonder, exploring, learning, and appreciating the beauty of nature. It was a reminder of the balance we strive for every day: between learning and play, thinking and doing, personal growth and community connection.

Founders' Day is not just a reflection on the past; it reaffirms the values that shape our present and future. As we continue this journey together, we invite families to embrace the warmth, depth, and richness of Waldorf education: a path where children grow with confidence, creativity, and a lifelong love of learning.

A Big Thank You to all the Parents and Teachers who made this possible.



PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spreading the love on Valentine's day!



The Class 1 - 3's together with the rest of the school painted and cut out red heart shapes to decorate the campus in preparation for Valentine's day.

PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Class 6 students enjoyed the **Greek Olympics** together with other Waldorf Schools at Constantia Waldorf.



The Class 4 and 5 students are following the path of the Khoi-San in their Main Lesson, using indigenous plants to make paint.

HIGH SCHOOL



Teacher David's exquisite and inspirational black-board drawing during Cl 10 Ancient History Main Lesson.



Class 9 Main Lesson - Cave to Canvas - projects taking inspiration from Egyptian cartouches and Mesopotamian votive figurines. Work by Ulrike Oosthuisen, Wendall Matino and Layla Snow.

HIGH SCHOOL



The Class 8 students observing form revealed through the play of light and dark in still-life drawings set up by themselves.



The Class 10 Visual Arts students exploring the dynamics of contrast and the subtleties of gradation in their landscape drawings.



Class 8 and 9: An explosion of red - Valentine's day decorations taking shape.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: NEW STAFF MEMBERS



I have been immersed in Waldorf education my whole life. I have a deep passion for directing theatre productions for children and adults. I love adventure - I have walked with chimpanzees in Uganda and swum with sharks off the coast of KZN. My dream is to inspire children to seek adventures, learning and growing along the way. Toni-Lee Futter



My name is Stephanie Girie, and my teaching philosophy revolves around creating an engaging, joyful learning environment where every child feels valued and inspired. I am a mother of two daughters who keep me on my toes.. As a family we enjoy walking in nature, telling stories, making up our own songs and dancing on a Friday night to the tune of Good Hope FM.



I am fortunate to be back in our new initiative in this old Cape Dutch Farmhouse with its lush gardens and vibrant community. I will teach the Middle School English, Biology and History. I previously taught here from 2003-2019, in both the PS and HS and assisted in creating the HS in 2009.

'All things are possible if we have the Will, Faith, Hope and Love to create'.

Tina Coombes

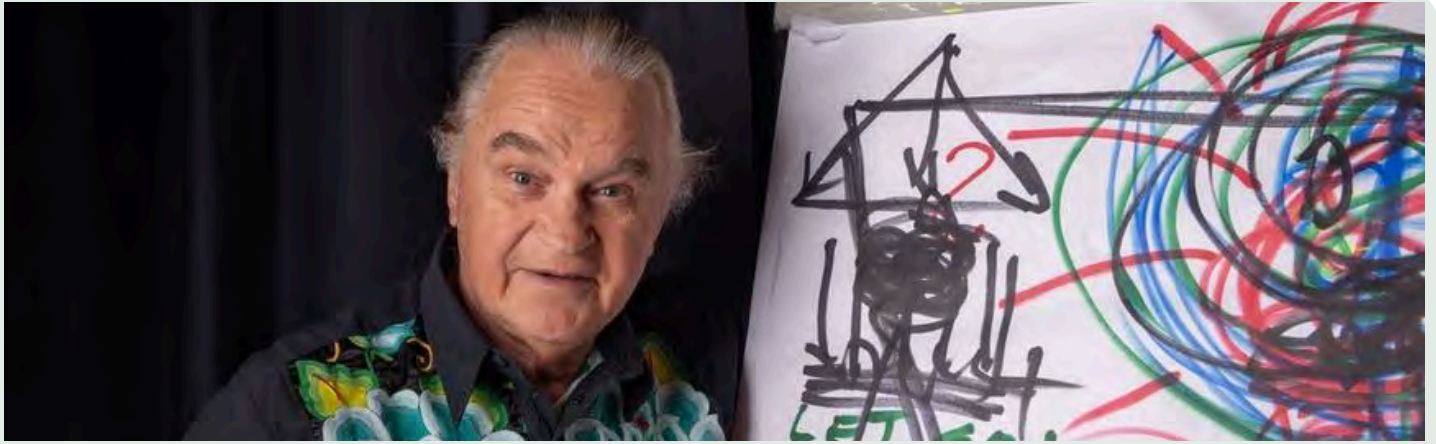


My name is Christiana Neal, and I am excited to join this wonderful community.

I bring with me a wealth of experience from the education sector, spanning 40 years. Most recently, I served as the Chief Risk Officer at Boland College, where I retired in December 2023. These years have provided me with a deep understanding of the intricacies of educational administration, and I am eager to apply my knowledge and skills to support the unique ethos of the Waldorf approach.

On a personal note, I am happily married to Patrick, and we are looking forward to celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary this July. We are blessed with two children and four wonderful grandchildren, who bring immense joy to our lives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADVERTISEMENTS



Dear Parents and Guardians

We are deeply grateful to have you here to share in this chapter of the SWS story! With your support, we've moved to a new location, surrounded by the wonderful friends of the SI.

To celebrate, we are delighted to invite you to a special musical performance by the internationally acclaimed violinist, Miha Pogacnik, on March 6th, from 18:00 to 19:30.

Please buy your ticket on Quicket and feel free to share this invitation with your family and friends. Please send your Proof of booking of tickets ASAP: email booking confirmation to stellenbosch@waldorfschool.org.za

Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to our school and be in the company of Miha Pogacnik – World recognized celebrity speaker, Classical concert violinist, Entrepreneur, Cultural ambassador and Leadership guru.

<https://www.quicket.co.za/events/302586-miha-pogacnik-concert-with-stellenbosch-waldorf-school/>
We look forward to celebrating with you!

Warm regards,

Stellenbosch Waldorf School



Dear Parents and Guardians

Please support our monthly Bake sale, on the last Friday of each Month!

College of Teachers

