



RALEIGH DAY SCHOOL Newsletter

May 2023, Issue 17

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 05/01 – 05** – Teacher Appreciation Week
- 05/03** – Grades strawberry picking field trip
- 05/05** – May Day, **12:30 dismissal** (rain date 5/12)
- 05/13** – Unslumber party
- 05/29** – Memorial Day, **no school**



FROM LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

EXPANDED PROGRAM FOR 2023 - 2024

We are so pleased to announce our expanding program for 2023-2024: dedicated handwork and games, music, and Spanish! Our handwork program will be taught by Joanna Hody, an experienced handwork teacher with training and certification through Waldorf Handwork Educators. Joanna will teach handwork in grades 1-4 and also will teach our games class. She has been teaching handwork to children from first - seventh grades in a local charter school for the past 5 years.

Jean Marie Whaley is known to us as having provided aftercare during the current school year, as well as being our substitute TA in the early childhood program. She is an accomplished music teacher and music director with many years experience in schools, churches, and community organizations. She teaches private music lessons as well. Jean Marie will continue to provide instruction in pentatonic flute in first and second grades and will introduce diatonic flute in third grade. Fourth graders will begin ukulele. All grades students will experience folk dancing and singing.

Nicole Narayanasamy is gifted in her knowledge of languages. She is multilingual and graduated college with a BA in Spanish. Nicole has a history of working with children as a teacher of ESL to young children through high school, as a lead teacher and aftercare program coordinator, and as a nanny. Nicole is mother to 4 year old Nila, who will be joining our Early Childhood program.

Please see these teachers' biographical information on our website.

The decision to expand our day and our program to include more formal specials classes represents the growth and increasing stability of our school. Bringing in specials teachers will allow our class teachers dedicated time to engage in classroom planning, meetings, and mentoring during the school day and afford them a better work-life balance.

SEEKING A LOVING AFTERCARE TEACHER FOR NEXT YEAR

To accommodate our parents who need care for their children a bit longer than our regular school day, we want to continue to provide aftercare. We are searching for a loving aftercare teacher who can provide this important service to our community. If you know someone (maybe you?) who might be interested and whom you believe could be a great candidate, please have them contact Lucy Chartier at lchartier@raleighdayschool.org.

SCHOOL YEAR NEARING COMPLETION

It is difficult to grasp that this school year is nearing completion. It has been heart-warming to see our students develop in body, mind, and heart: letters, numbers, words, reading, art, flute, singing, jump roping (always with numbers and rhymes in mind!), class plays, baking, reciting, knitting, crochet, building, celebrating, loving, sharing, caring, struggling, forgiving...all resulting in learning about themselves, friends, and the world around them. Best of all the joy that is experienced and expressed almost every day. It is a gift that you share your most precious children with us. We take seriously the task of caring for and educating them and are always mindful that this is a privilege.



Click [here](#) to access the 2023–2024 School Year Calendar.

FROM PARENT CIRCLE

RDS SWAG

Shop our new SWAG store and show your school spirit! Click [here](#) to see an offering of RDS apparel and accessories. Our school receives 12% of every sale!



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK



Teacher Appreciation week is May 1st - May 5th. Children are to bring a homemade card for their teacher(s) on Tuesday May 2nd. We will collect them during morning drop off. On Thursday May 4th we will host our Teacher Luncheon. Please sign up [here](#) to contribute. For full details about the planned events, please see the email that was sent last week.

MAY DAY FESTIVAL & RECEPTION

Spring is coming! You are invited to Raleigh Day School's May Day Festival, with a reception hosted by Parent Circle to follow. Families are encouraged to invite grandparents or adults with a special relationship with your child(ren) to attend. We ask that everyone arrive at 11:45am so guests are seated before the start of the may pole dancing at 12:00. We will provide some chairs for those in need, otherwise families are asked to bring a picnic blanket/camp chairs to sit on. The children will be formally dismissed from the grove door at 12:30pm. They will then meet us on the play yard for a strawberry shortcake and lemonade reception hosted by Parent Circle. While the reception will be on school grounds, please note that parents will be responsible for their own children during this time. RSVP kindly requested. Please see your inbox for the E-vite.

FROM FUNDRAISING

THE UNSLUMBER PARTY – PARENTS NIGHT OUT

The Unslumber Party on May 13th is our final fundraiser for the year. For full details and to sign up, please click [here](#).

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIR

Fundraising Chair Needed for 2023-24! Work closely with Lucy and our faculty to organize several fundraisers throughout the year. Recycle fundraising events from previous years or bring your fresh ideas! Please email Bridget if you are interested. bleibold@raleighdayschool.org



FROM GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION



GROUND'S COMMITTEE CHAIR

Grounds Committee Chair needed for 2023-24. Work closely with Lucy and our faculty to address needs as they arise throughout the year and host two volunteer workdays (one in August/September and a second in the spring) to keep our grounds beautiful and safe. Please email Bridget if you are interested. bleibold@raleighdayschool.org

SIMPLICITY PARENTING SUMMER RETREAT

Simplicity Parenting Summer Retreat
Saturday, June 24, 2023 9am-5:30pm
Raleigh Day School
\$97 per parent
Registration Link: <https://calendly.com/innerlifeparenting/simplicity-parenting-summer>



Escape the chaos and join us for a transformative one-day Simplicity Parenting Retreat at Raleigh Day School. Discover how to simplify your family's life and create a more meaningful connection with your children. Led by Certified Family Life Coach, Raelee Peirce, this retreat offers practical tools and strategies to help you reduce clutter, streamline schedules, and cultivate calmness through rhythm in your home. You'll leave feeling refreshed, rejuvenated, and equipped with a new perspective on parenting that puts simplicity at the forefront. Don't miss this opportunity to invest in your family's well being and create a life of greater ease and joy.

LAST MONTH'S EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Among our normal daily rhythms, students tended and monitored the garden, harvested carrots, painted, cared for caterpillars, processed wool, planted for Earth Day, and built a city during inside recess.







THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

Mr. Rayner for leading our Parent Circle discussion group this year

Michael for our beautiful new RDS signs

Mary for coordinating the family camping trip even though the weather didn't cooperate