

# Radius

January 2010

Issue 53

A newsletter for Camphill Special School families

*"Receive the children with reverence, educate them with love, send them forth in freedom" - Rudolf Steiner*

## Monthly Musings: Snow is falling

*Author unknown*

Snow is falling  
From the sky above  
Snow is falling  
Put on scarf and gloves

Snow is falling  
Go look outside  
Snow is falling  
The old landscape it hides

Snow is falling  
What a beautiful sight  
Snow is falling  
It sparkles in the light

Snow is falling  
Soft cotton wool flakes  
Snow is falling  
A white blanket it makes

Snow is falling  
Short flowers disappear  
Snow is falling  
The cold is here

Snow is falling  
Its time to play  
Snow is falling  
Lets make snowmen today

## JANUARY 2010

Mon. Dec. 21-  
Wed. Jan. 6

Winter Break -  
School closed

Thu. Jan. 1

New Year's Day - Office  
and Maintenance closed

Wed. Jan. 6

Residential students return

Thu. Jan. 7

Day students return -  
School resumes

Tue. Jan. 12 1:30 pm

Parent-Staff Group meeting  
(Schoolhouse kitchen)

Mon. Jan. 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

*As always, if you would like to participate in any event,  
please contact your child's houseparent or teacher.*



### Eighth Graders present Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

The eighth grade performed the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol* for fellow students, friends, and family on December 15 and 16. The young people did a fantastic job bringing all the characters to life - from Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, and Tiny Tim, to the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future.

If you were not able to come a performance we know you are itching to know who played Scrooge...well, Madalina took on this role with much gusto!



Taking a break from practice to act silly in handmade bonnets are Emma, Mada, Jared, Joey, Becky, Alasdair, and Taylor



Mada certainly perfected her Scroogey scowl



Jacob Marley (Jared)



Director of Development Guy Alma asks Scrooge (Mada) to donate money for needy children. The miserly Scrooge responded with, "Bah humbug!"



Jeremy as Bob Cratchit and Taylor as Tiny Tim



The Spirit of Christmas Past - a puppet made by the class and played by coworker Morn



Alasdair as the jolly Spirit of Christmas Present



Christmas future looks bleak for Scrooge



Jared backstage awaiting the class' first performance

Coworkers Matthis and Brent with Joey as Scrooge's nephew Fred and aide Paula as Fred's wife



**Classroom and Transition Program Happenings**

**K:** Kindergarteners had a lot of fun preparing for the holidays. The children are looking forward to playing in the snow this winter.



Kindergarteners Kolya, Owen, and Scott

**First grade:** First graders enjoyed preparing for the holidays - baking cookies, making gifts for their parents, singing songs, seeing the "Fumblefingers" puppet show, and attending the special Christmas concert. In class they acted out the Nativity story, accompanied by a song in which the children were introduced to the sounds of the vowels. Making bird feeders to hang around our playground was another favorite activity last month.

**Third grade:** December was a busy month for third graders. They celebrated many festivals including Santa Lucia, a Scandinavian tradition of bringing light and warmth at the darkest time of the year. For this festival the class helped Santa Lucia bring the light to the children of the school and brought with them bread buns that parents from the class had helped to make. They also were very busy preparing to adopt goats from Beaver Farm for the rest of the school year. The class helped Emma make a goat pen near Antanor and many students went over to the farm to collect the goats and bring them to their new home.

**Fifth grade:** Fifth graders had a Math/Geometry block. They also were busy baking, counting, eating cookies, and making cards. In woodshop the students put the finishing touches on their fish.



Seventh grader Madeleine

**Seventh grade:** Seventh graders learned to recite a long poem called "St. John's Christmas." They made paper mache globes, dipped candles, learned new songs, and painted a picture of the Advent Garden.

**Eighth grade:** A Christmas Carol is a memory only now that eighth graders have journeyed to Africa with Emma. The class is learning the stories, geography, and songs of this mighty continent—Jambo, Bwanah!

**Ninth grade:** Flu season took Manfred out of commission and Joe taught the ninth graders' main lesson block on organic chemistry. During second lesson the class prepared a modern version of the Three Kings play. It will be performed on Thursday, January 7 at 3:30 pm. Hopefully the class will remember their lines after vacation.

**Tenth grade:** Tenth graders are studying the Epic of Gilgamesh, which is the oldest story known to mankind. After studying life in Mesopotamia in their Ancient History block in October, the class learned how people felt and thought in those days through this story. They spoke about and acted out different emotions, wrestled like Gilgamesh and Enkidu, the two main characters of the story, and made paintings of the Monster Humbaba and the Bull of Heaven.

**Eleventh grade:** The eleventh grade class has been studying Embryology. Such a wonderful time of the year to learn about the miracle of life. They started with conception, fertilization, cell division, and the growth of the embryo and fetus. Jessica, a coworker from Whitestone who is expecting any day, came to our class and talked about her pregnancy. The students had so many questions. They were fascinated with this subject. Of course there was the excitement of the upcoming holiday season and special events which added to the magic.

**TTP:** Advent was full of activity at the Transition Program. Each Tuesday evening students got together to sing Christmas carols and hear about a different aspect of the farm. At Beaver Hill Andreas spoke about the mineral element on the farm and how to increase soil fertility through biodynamic preparations; at the Stone House Norbert told about the plant kingdom and plans for a new garden; Ani spoke about the different animals on the farm being raised for meat, eggs, and wool; and Guy showed a slide show on the buildings that will be built on the farm, illustrating the human involvement on the farm and how everyone will live on one campus. The students also enjoyed their annual trip to Longwood Gardens to see the light display and to watch the professional ice skaters glide about on the outdoor rink.



Amanda enjoyed watching ice skaters



**Jump and Swing at this year's ProAm!**  
 By Courtney M. Coffman, Development Officer

Our Camphill ProAm will be jumping and swinging this year thanks to the efforts of parents, grandparents, family members, and friends of Camphill Special School. How can **you** help make this year's event the best ever?

Send a letter to your employer or a business with whom you have a relationship asking them to sponsor the ProAm, buy an ad in the program, or donate an auction item (We make this very easy by writing the letter for you - all you have to do is get us the contact information and sign your name!)

Send a special message to your child or Camphill Special School or publicize your business by purchasing an ad in the program.

Help make follow-up phone calls and visits to businesses that have been asked to donate an auction item or purchase ad space in the program.

Donate an auction item. Some terrific ideas that you may not have thought of include: a stay at your vacation home or time share; tickets for the theater, a concert, or sporting event (this is especially easy if you have season tickets); jewelry; a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant; antiques or artwork; professional service provided by you or someone you know (for example: interior decorating, hair styling, landscaping, maid service, etc.).

**Camphill Special School**  
 1784 Fairview Road  
 Glenmoore, PA 19343

**Mission Statement**

*Camphill Special School's mission is to create wholeness for children and youth with developmental disabilities through education and therapy in extended family living.*

**Show your support** - attend the Tennis Ball on Friday, May 7 and the ProAm Tennis Tournament on Saturday, May 8 and encourage friends and family to attend, too! Why not pitch in and sponsor a table together - for just \$1,500 you get admission for ten to the Ball, admission for eighteen to the Tournament, and an ad in the program!

If you are able to help in any way, have questions or wish to receive more information on how to support the events, contact me at 610.469.9236 x 132 or [ccoffman@camphillspecialschool.org](mailto:ccoffman@camphillspecialschool.org).

**Do you have material to submit for publication?**

Deadline for submission of items to appear in the February issue of the *Radius* is January 17. All material should be submitted in electronic form, either by e-mail or on disk, to Courtney in the Office or at [ccoffman@camphillspecialschool.org](mailto:ccoffman@camphillspecialschool.org).

Thank you!

Please note that all material submitted is subject to editing and is included on a space available basis.

**Don't forget...**  
**Raffle tickets for a seven night Alaskan Cruise are on sale.**  
**Tickets are \$50 each or three for \$100.**  
**Use the enclosed form to order yours today!**

