Thanks to the Giving Circle we now have...

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Our Facilities Manager, Brett Haller, along with his parents, Tom and Laurie Haller, built a new greenhouse for our Farm and Garden program this fall. Step outside in the back garden area and take a look, if you haven't already.

The greenhouse will enable our Farm and Garden program to expand by extending the growing season by several weeks in the fall and spring.



Eurthmy teacher Mark Ebersole will be coming to Da Vinci Waldorf School March 6th-24th, 2017, for a three week block of Eurythmy for all of our students.

Eurythmy was described as "art of the soul" by its founder, Rudolf Steiner. It is sometimes called "visible music" or "visible speech" and is used as an form of artistic expression, a tool for learning, and for therapeutic purposes.

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Robert Karp will be mentoring at DVWS to help expand and improve our Farm and Garden program. As a long-time social entrepreneur, Robert has helped start numerous innovative food projects, including community supported agriculture projects, farmers' markets, institutional buying projects and farmer-buyer-consumer alliances. He is also the founder of New Spirit Farmland Partnerships, LLC, and has served as executive director of Practical Farmers of Iowa and as board chair of the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute.



What would **you** like to see happen next?

Giving Circle for 2016-2017 kicks off on 11/29!

Teacher Development

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Our teachers were able to use these funds toward the costs of tuition, fees and travel expenses associated with teacher training, including classes, workshops, conferences and intensives. Their broadened abilities and knowledge enable them to bring the best learning experience possible to the classroom, illustrating how the Giving Circle is a direct investment in our students.

Mrs. Westlund attended a second grade intensive at Sunbridge in New York. Mrs. Fiskum attended a workshop which addressed the essentials of a sensory education through art and movement. Miss DuRocher is working toward her MA in education through the Great Lakes Waldorf Institute. Mrs. Griffith's renewal course at the Fiber Craft Studio in Chestnut Ridge, NY focused on fourth grade handwork. Mrs. Ecklund attended an intensive on the Art of Teaching Grade 7 at Rudolf Steiner College in California. These and many others put the Giving Circle teacher development scholarships to great use.

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The Edible Landscape project is a long-term plan that will include the planting of apple and pear trees, berry bushes, and more. The plan calls for these to serve a dual purpose: the harvest from these trees and bushes will be used for school programming, and the trees and bushes themselves will grow, in time, to act as a barrier landscape, creating a more beautiful environment on our campus. Plans are underway and work will begin this spring.

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Over the summer our Facilities Manager, Brett Haller, undertook the project of upgrading the kitchen area and installing a new teaching island. New cabinets, countertops, and a hood were installed outside of the kitchen. These will be used for our Farm and Garden program to serve hot lunch and for many other uses, including chemistry experiments, hands-on cooking experiences, the science fair, and for improved food service at our events.

