

Dear Parents,

Feb. 6, 2006

The children's gnome pouches are coming along in various stages of embroidery, blanket stitching, sewing buttons, and finger knitting the strap. Children who did something similar last year are showing a very different level of focus and hand skill coordination. From the point of view of cerebral neocortex development, it is very exciting to watch. Thank you to Lucky Kim who helped thread needles and guide some individuals last Friday.

Brenda Theoret will also help us make a Valentine thank you gift to Wheatsfield for our wonderful organic food using the hand-made paper that the children will have made from used paper and a blender. Your child is encouraged to bring a little used drawing paper or construction paper from home to tear up and add to the endeavor. We'll sprinkle on some pressed flowers that the children gathered and pressed last fall.

The story that was started last week is aimed mostly at the older children and is a listening challenge. The vocabulary, sentence structure, and message are at a very different level. It is Mother Holle from Grimms fairy tales. To my delight, I found the children quite capable of listening attentively to a longer story and we'll be making preparations to do it as a play soon.

Prairie Flower is turning into a menagerie. The four animated gerbils have the children in delighted peals of laughter.

Last week, the mother of Matt Potowski, our AWA board president, visited Prairie Flower. It was so nice to be around her enthusiasm and to hear her recollections of when her 4 children attended the oldest Waldorf school in America.

Gracie Kim's 4 ½ year birthday celebration this Friday, the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Warmly, Delphine