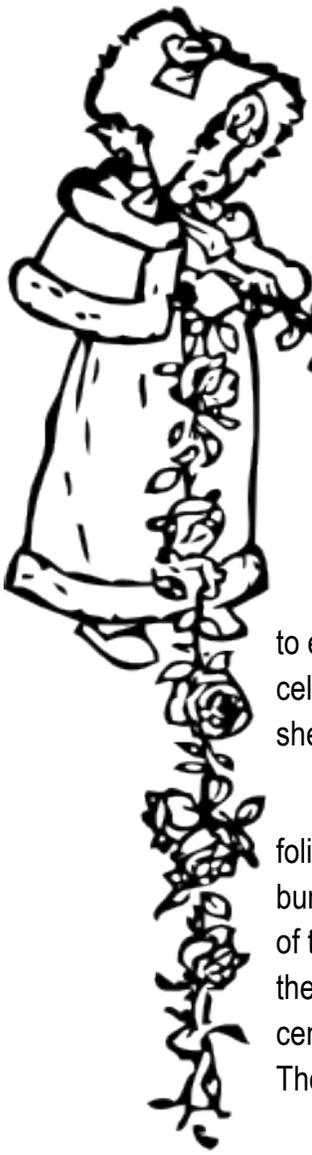


SunRidge's Winter Spiral



As autumn gives way to winter, numerous cultures hold traditions to embrace light within the darkest time of the year. We invite you to celebrate our Winter Spiral to experience the light each child gives as she/he walks the Winter Spiral with her/his class.

Imagine a darkened space with a spiral of evergreens and winter foliage and crystals creating a path to the center where one candle is burning. Quiet music creates a reverent mood as parents await the entry of the children led by their class teacher. One by one, each child walks the spiral with his or her own candle nestled in a rosy apple. At the center, each candle is lit and placed on the stumps defining the spiral. The room brightens with the light of each child's candle.

To prepare for the quiet mood of the evening, allow time before and after the celebration free of electronic media stimulation, including recorded music. Find ways to foster anticipation, reverence, and inner quiet. Upon arriving on the school campus, guide your child to his or her room where a teacher will be waiting and gathering his or her children before the ceremony begins. We ask that you please do not let your child(ren) play around the campus either before or after the ceremony, but hold a mood of reverence and quietness from the moment he or she arrives to the moment he or she departs with you. Consider afterwards spending a quiet evening at home, as it will further the experience. Separate apples for eating will be provided after the walk. Your child is invited to bring home his or her apple-candle, which can be used to light the way to sleep.



Families are invited to dress in festive attire. For safety reasons, tie long hair back and avoid full skirts and dresses. In order to maintain a

quiet atmosphere, we ask families with younger siblings to sit next to an exit in case they become restless and need to be taken outside of the building. Please leave cameras at home.

This year grades K through 8 will walk a spiral in the Multipurpose Room (the gym). Home School will walk the Winter Spiral in their classroom. Sign-ups for each classroom's needs will be posted by each grade's teacher. Please contact your child(ren)'s teacher for ways that you can contribute to this festival.



Before escorting your child to his/her class, please make certain that your child uses the restroom. It is essential that each child arrives at their designated arrival time. The time between arrival and the beginning of the ceremony is time the teacher needs to prepare the class before the walk. After dropping off your child, please find your way to the multipurpose room. Please help us maintain a mood of quiet and reverence prior, during, and after the ceremony.

After a class has walked the spiral, their teacher will lead the students to the faculty room where they will each receive an apple for eating while they await the apples from the spiral to be delivered to the faculty room. Parents are encouraged to leave the spiral quietly and assemble in the courtyard at the front of the school outside the staffroom. Meanwhile, the hosts/hostesses extinguish and gather the apples and give these to the teacher via the door inside the multipurpose room. The teacher then will release each student to his/her family with a spiral apple to head homeward. Once you gather your child at the end, please promptly take your child on his/her journey homeward to keep the reverence and quiet mood alive.

<u>Thursday, 11/29</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Ceremony</u>
2 nd Grade	4:25pm	4:30 to 5:25
3 rd Grade	5:25pm	5:30 to 6:25
4 th Grade	6:25pm	6:30 to 7:25
5 th Grade	7:25pm	7:30 to 8:25
<u>Friday, 11/30</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Ceremony</u>
1 st Grade	4:50pm	5:00 to 5:55
6 th Grade	5:50pm	6:00 to 6:55
8 th Grade	6:50pm	7:00 to 7:55
<u>Saturday, 12/1</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Ceremony</u>
Dragonfly K	3:20pm	3:30 to 4:25
Morning Star K	4:20pm	4:30 to 5:25
7 th Grade	5:50pm	6:00 to 6:55

