To the English Teachers at the
European Rudolf Steiner Schools / Waldorf Schools

Dear Colleagues,

Summer seems to have finally arrived, which means that the time has come to invite you to the

from Sunday, November 12th – Friday, November 17th, 2017

in beautiful, historic and now fully (!) renovated Haus Altenberg. For those of you who are not familiar with the concept of the English Week, here is a brief description of what you can expect:

The concept of the English Week is based on our conviction that intensive artistic work with actors, directors, story-tellers, poets and clowns, can be of immeasurable benefit for foreign language teachers. Thus, we view the daily three-hour artistic workshops as the keystone of the entire English Week. In addition, there are morning lectures based on the general conference theme and a wide variety of working groups addressing different methodological issues and questions, as well as a ‘Teachers Sharing’ offering an exchange of materials and ideas. The evenings are full of the "Spirit of English" in the forms of songs, dances and artistic presentations. Another aspect that has always been important to us is to encourage an open exchange with leading authorities in foreign language teaching outside of Waldorf circles. We are delighted this year to have Prof. Dr. Manfred Schewe from the University of Cork, Ireland, one of the world’s leading authorities on using drama and drama techniques in foreign language teaching, joining us for our conference. Manfred's expertise also fits perfectly to our conference theme.

The theme of this year’s conference will be

The Spirit of Language in Body, Soul and Spirit

One of the core principles underlying Waldorf Education is a recognition of the threefold nature of a human being existing simultaneously in the physical, soul and spiritual realms. When we examine a child's natural acquisition of her mother tongue/s, it becomes evident that this process occurs in and simultaneously forms the child’s body, soul and spirit. In considering all that a child learns in the first three years of life – standing, walking, language and thinking – Rudolf Steiner speaks of the confluence of the wisdom of higher spiritual forces with the unconscious will-forces of the child: “Working out of a wisdom that doesn’t exist within him, a child works on himself. This wisdom is more powerful and more encompassing than all later, conscious wisdom” It is from this understanding that we are called upon to address the developing child and youth and to support and enable them to realize their own individual possibilities in life.

An approach to foreign language teaching based on this view of the human being and language calls for corresponding goals and methods. Although these will be tied to the age of the pupils, they will at all stages be deeply rooted in the belief that learning a foreign language can be deeply transformative, leading to a richer, more encompassing and differentiated understanding of the world and of oneself. As Raimon Panikkar writes, “Language is the human way of being in the world, and the plurality of languages shows plainly that there is more than one way to be human.” How can such goals be integrated into the daily practice of teaching English in Waldorf Schools?
What capabilities on the part of the teacher are called for to realize such aims and how can they be developed? How can we authentically convey to pupils, parents and colleagues that the potential meaning of foreign language learning goes far beyond pragmatic aims such as passing state exams?

The lectures and courses of the English Week 2017 will attempt to address these different questions. Parallel to this, it is also our deep-seated conviction that it is exactly the artistic workshops, which constitute the ‘heart’ of each **English Week**, which offer teachers unique chances to go substantially further in developing both the entire range of their perceptual capabilities, as well as a higher degree of self-awareness; all within a highly supportive environment full of warmth, humour and trust.

The entire **English Week Team 2017** will naturally be

a great help in enabling us to realize such goals and ideals. We are delighted to have **Sarah Kane** one of the leading Chekov drama specialists in Europe and the U.S.A., back with us. We are very happy that two very appreciated colleagues **Catherine Bryden** for theatre clowning and **Paul Matthews**, England's leading specialist for creative writing, will be present. **Norman Skillen** from South Africa, one of our co-founders, will also be able to join us. We’re delighted that **Ivone Grene**, one of Denmark’s most experienced and successful English language teachers, will be offering courses. **Susan Wehner** from Hamburg, **Mario Radisic** from Haan-Gruiten and **Beate Langer** from Stuttgart will all be giving courses again. Finally, we have been able to get **Claus-Peter Röh**, the co-leader of the **Pedagogical Section** in Dornach to speak to us about the conference theme. And naturally, Silvia Albert-Jahn (Mülheim), Christoph Jaffke (Stuttgart), Doris Schlott-Lüdicke (Frankfurt), Peter Lutzker (Stuttgart), Duncan Macintosh (Forest Row/GB), Robert McNeer (Ostuni, Italy), Martyn Rawson (Kiel and Hamburg), Ulrike Sievers (Hamburg), Alec Templeton (Basel), and Tessa Westlake (Bochum) will all be back.

We are extremely sorry that **Anne Ayre**, our long-standing Welsh music teacher from the Kings Langley Steiner School who patiently guided us into singing and filled our hearts with the British spirit of music, will not be able to join us this year. However, we are delighted to welcome **Michael Rose**, an experienced former class and music teacher from the York Steiner School. He has composed many songs for Waldorf class teachers, some of which are widely used in the English-speaking world. He now works in Waldorf teacher education.

We will offer

an open space called ‘**Teachers Sharing**’, designed to facilitate the exchange of teaching materials and ideas for all grade levels. This space is intended to enable teachers to directly offer and explain resource material and ideas they have developed. **Thus, please bring copies to exhibit and share; examples of students’ work, and/or books/readers you wish to recommend** - even the smallest contribution like a tongue twister or a poem that worked well in class is welcome.

We are very glad to be in the fully renovated facilities of **Haus Altenberg**. Whereas the rooms will be brand-new but functional, that beautiful old Gothic cathedral in the courtyard is still standing there and for those of you who don’t know it and the immediate area, it’s a wonderful place to spend what will certainly be an inspiring week.

The amount of places is limited, so we strongly suggest that you register soon. See you in Altenberg!

Peter Lutzker  Silvia Albert-Jahn  Doris Schlott-Lüdicke  Martyn Rawson  Christoph Jaffke
ENROLMENT FORM

NAME .............................................................................................................

School .............................................................................................................

PRIVATE ADDRESS: .......................................................................................

STAMP OF YOUR SCHOOL: .................................................................

Sorry, we can’t accept your enrolment without a stamp.

I have been to the English Week before ☐ It’s the first time I am taking part ☐

How long have you been teaching? ........... years How long have you been teaching in a Waldorf School? ........... years

mainly classes .......................................................... I currently teach classes ..........................................................

☐ I’m a full-time student in my ........... year at the seminar in ..........................................................

☐ I’m a part-time student at the seminar (berufsbegleitend) in ..........................................................

I. Conference Fee €290.- (to be paid in advance)

II. Accommodation and full board Sunday to Friday: (to be paid in cash on arrival)

There are different room categories. Please make your choice clearly visible. (Only limited number available in categories II,III,IV - first come first serve)

☐ I. double room with shower and toilet on each floor € 235.-

☐ II. double room with ensuite bathroom/WC € 265.-

☐ III. single room with shower and toilet on each floor € 310.-

☐ IV. single room with ensuite bathroom/WC € 360.-

☐ V. full board conference package without accommodation € 130.-

I would like to share a double room with my colleague

(Mr/Mrs)......................................................................................................................

from the school

in ..........................................................................................................................

TRANSPORT: ☐ I’m planning to arrive by train ☐ I’m planning to arrive by plane ☐ I don’t know yet

☐ I’m planning to arrive by car

☐ I would be willing to offer a lift from ........................................................ via .................................. to Haus Altenberg

Thank you for offering. Please be so kind and send Doris Schlott a short email (englishweek@t-online.de) well in advance if you can offer a lift or if you are looking for a lift to Altenberg from where you live. We'll try to match the driver / passenger.

MEALS: I am a vegetarian ☐ YES Please note, that we can only offer a full board arrangement including all meals and coffee breaks.

For special diet requirements such as gluten/lactose intolerance please contact Doris Schlott (englishweek@t-online.de) well in advance.

I’d like to attend the

AFTERNOON DRAMA WORKSHOP (15 – 18.00) I’d like to attend the

MORNING WORKING GROUP - slot 1 (10 – 11.30)

1st choice: ...........................................................................................................

1st choice: ...........................................................................................................

2nd choice: ...........................................................................................................

2nd choice: ...........................................................................................................

3rd choice: ...........................................................................................................

3rd choice: ...........................................................................................................

For detailed information on the afternoon drama workshop leaders and the courses please contact Doris Schlott (englishweek@t-online.de)
NAME  ...........................................................................................................

School ...........................................................................................................

How to proceed in order to register

**Step 1:** Fill in the enrolment form including your school stamp and send the completed and signed form by post to:

Silvia Albert-Jahn  
Frohnhauser Weg 98,  
D - 45472 Mülheim/Ruhr  
(overseas enrolments: first scan your enrolment form and mail it in order to speed up the whole process till your letter arrives by post).

and - if this is possible for you - email your enrolment form as well to englishweek@t-online.de, just in case your letter gets lost in the post.

Should it be impossible for you to get the school stamp due to the holiday season you could send the enrolment form now in order to secure your place, but please don't forget to post it again later completed with your school stamp to make your enrolment binding.

**Step 2:** PAYMENT: (max 7 days after step 1) Please transfer the conference fee (290.--) to our account  
GLS Gemeinschaftsbank eG Bochum  
Konto DE29 4306 0967 6042 4729 00  
Ref: Waldorf English Week 2017 - your name and your school/country  
(Special arrangements on request for non-German schools to avoid high bank charges - contact Silvia Albert-Jahn)

**Step 3:** Wait for our letter of confirmation (by email) - we only send out the letter of confirmation once we have received your signed enrolment form AND your payment.

ONLY AFTER WE HAVE RECEIVED YOUR PAYMENT and your enrolment form by post bearing your full signature your booking is legally binding. Sometimes letters get lost in the post. Should you not hear from us within a reasonable length of time please do not hesitate to contact us (s.albert-jahn@web.de or englishweek@t-online.de)

- For last minute enrolments from 7th October onwards first contact englishweek@t-online.de to find out if there are still places available. If yes - only then send your enrolment form AND your payment immediately and wait for our confirmation.

- In case of cancellation we'll try our best to give your place to one of the participants on the waiting list in order to minimize your costs. However, we are charging a handling fee of €40.- Depending on the overall number of participants we may have to charge you up to 100% of our conference fee in the case of cancellation within the 10 days before the English Week starts, and 50% for cancellations from 15th October onwards. We trust that Haus Altenberg will be as generous as they previously were and will only charge a minimum fee to cancel your accommodation and your meals.

- The accommodation/full board should be paid in CASH on arrival (sorry, no credit card facilities at Altenberg). As the closest cash machine is at a local bank is in Odenthal, about 3 km from the conference centre we strongly advise you to organize your cash in advance.)

The English Week 2017 Organisation Team / Verein Waldorf English Week e.V.

Date / signature (I herewith acknowledge the terms and conditions stated on page 1 and 2)

Englishweek e.V. does not assume any liability. The participant acknowledges, that no claim for damages can be made against the organiser unless it is guilty of gross negligence or unlawful intent.
Travel

Can you offer a lift? Where from? Are you looking for a lift to Haus Altenberg? - See enrolment form page 1. Please let Doris know to help you find a match.

Flights
The closest airports are Cologne/Bonn (25 km) and Dusseldorf (60 km). The other airport – quite misleadingly called Germany-West or Airport Weeze - is about 130 km west of Altenberg. This applies as well to Frankfurt-Hahn (regular bus connection to Cologne main station).

Trains & Public Transport
For your connection please check www.diebahn.de For the English version please click 'Deutsch' and choose your language. This is what the top line looks like:

Do you have any questions or need assistance? Send an email to Doris (englishweek@t-online.de).

Early arrivals (Saturday or even Friday)

Please contact Haus Altenberg if you wish to arrive one night early. This only makes sense if you arrive at Haus Altenberg before 7pm. Please bear in mind, that you have to check in by 7pm. Afterwards the reception desk is closed.

However, Haus Altenberg DOES NOT TAKE ANY RESERVATIONS FOR THE OFFICIAL ENGLISH WEEK SUNDAY TO FRIDAY.

If your plane/train arrives in Cologne or Dusseldorf on Saturday late afternoon/evening
we highly recommend to find a cheap hotel/hostel/B&B in Cologne (great choice on the internet) and take the bus to Altenberg on Sunday morning.

Participants who don't stay overnight at Haus Altenberg

If you wish to commute/stay somewhere else the price for the full board package excluding the breakfast is € 130.- Please tick the relevant box on your enrolment form page 1.

The number of single rooms at Haus Altenberg is limited - first come, first serve. In case you enrol only shortly before the English Week starts and really need a single room you may wish to contact Hotel-Restaurant Wißkirchen (www.hotel-wisskirchen.de in walking distance).
We will try again to negotiate special prices for you.

Relevant Information on Haus Altenberg

What kind of standard to expect:
Please bear in mind that Haus Altenberg is run by the Catholic church and hosts many youth groups. Hence all newly refurbished rooms in the main building are furnished in a modern, but basic and functional way. In the bathroom you will find an ordinary hand towel. For your own comfort you may wish to bring your own bigger bath towel and a bathroom rug/mat for the floor.
It might be sensible to bring your own hair dryer.

There are hotspots all over the premises. Most rooms have their own internet access. On request each guest gets an individual ID code to use the internet.
# Waldorf English Week e.V.

**November 12 - November 17, 2017 / Haus Altenberg, Odenthal-Altenberg**

**Theme:** The Spirit of Language in Body, Soul and Spirit

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday, November 12</th>
<th>Monday, November 13</th>
<th>Tuesday, November 14</th>
<th>Wednesday, November 15</th>
<th>Thursday, November 16</th>
<th>Friday, November 17</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breakfast</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lecture Claus-Peter Röh</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lecture Peter Lutzker</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lecture Manfred Schewe</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lecture Ulrike Sievers</strong></td>
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<td>7:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30 - 16:00</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Check in, 15:00 Tea / Coffee</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td>'Welcome'</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Opening Lecture: Martyn Rawson</td>
<td>Methodology WORKING GROUPS 1 including a lecture review</td>
<td>Methodology WORKING GROUPS 2</td>
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<td>17:30</td>
<td><strong>Supper</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td><strong>Supper</strong></td>
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<td>18:45 – 19:45</td>
<td>Drama Workshops</td>
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<td>20:00</td>
<td>Performance</td>
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**AFTERNOON DRAMA WORKSHOPS**

I. **Tessa Westlake:** The Gift of Language: bringing text to life
II. **Robert Mc Neer:** Breath made visible
III. **Duncan Mackintosh:** Becoming Living Word
IV. **Sarah Kane:** An apocalypse of beekeepers: exploring scenes from modern British theatre
V. **Catherine Bryden:** Theatre Clowning: Preparing for the Unexpected - "Knowing what to do, when you don't know what to do," Max Van Manen.
VI. **Norman Skillen** Storytelling: Into the Zone
VII. **Paul Matthews:** Language Alive: Writing Creatively

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Dear participants, for your own sake: Please make an effort to stay for our last song. We are arranging buses & taxis for 10.30 a.m. to take you to the station. We also assist you to find people to share taxis with.
### Morning working groups

Minimum number of a working group is **6 participants**.

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<tr>
<th>Working group I. (10 - 11.30 am)</th>
<th>Working group II (11.45 - 1 pm)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Intensive working groups</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday to Thursday (4 sessions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2a + 2b: Monday and Tuesday (2 sessions)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2c + 2d: Wednesday and Thursday (2 sessions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2c + 2d: Wednesday and Thursday (2 sessions)</strong></td>
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#### Working group I.

1. **Michael Rose (Music)**
   - The soul of a people lives in its songs. In these sessions we shall explore and enjoy both the music and the language of traditional British folk songs, including also examples from other English language cultures. The aim will be to collect a basket of musical material that can help enliven, extend and nourish the heart of the language lessons, while also exercising the mind with some of the linguistic and musical oddities of the folk genre. Ability to read music is not essential: the songs will be taught by rote, though examples will be provided in sheet form for future reference.

#### Working group II

1. **Michael Rose (Music)**
   - In these sessions we shall sing our way through the round of the year, using songs appropriate to different age groups celebrating the seasons and the festivals. Again, the songs will be taught by rote, with sheet music provided for reference.

2. **Christoph Jaffke (lower school)**
   - **Moving, Speaking, Singing and Playing in the Lower School**

3. **Peter Lutzker**
   - **Teaching the Literature of the 21st Century in Grades 11-13**
   - One of the challenges of teaching literature in the upper school is finding contemporary, new materials that are also age-appropriate. We will work together on some recent short stories and poetry that could come into question.

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<tr>
<td><strong>An introduction to teaching and learning English as a foreign language in a Waldorf school.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Anthroposophical basis for Waldorf foreign languages.</strong> Steiners anthroposophy offers many aspects of language and learning language that are different from conventional understandings. These are important to understand in order to experience that the Waldorf approach is not just a question of teaching methods. In particular the relationship between the senses of self-movement and the sense for language and sense of thought inform the Waldorf way of teaching. Questions about the spiritual dimension of language and culture will be addressed.</td>
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<td>For those colleagues who are new to Waldorf and have not had a specific training as Waldorf foreign language teachers, I am offering this introductory course which will focus on those basic aspects of teaching and learning in the classes the participants actually teach. Of course anyone can consider her or himself a beginner!</td>
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<td>5. Ulrike Sievers</td>
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<td><strong>Media studies - an enriching field for foreign language learning through active creative processes (classes 7-12)</strong> The aim of the course is to get to know various media, discuss their meaningful use in the FL classroom and develop ideas of how to initiate processes in which the pupils can create recordings, videos or newspapers themselves.</td>
<td><strong>Artistic ways of supporting sustainable foreign language learning</strong> (middle and upper school) You will get ideas about how to include elements such as storytelling, scenic presentations, creative writing, and debating exercises into the FL classroom</td>
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<td>6. Alec Templeton (lower school) How we get Cl. 1-4 children into re-enacting (on a more conscious level) what they have “in their ear” from Cl. 1-3, thereby discovering rules of spelling, word and sentence shapes. How we can follow this up with about 30 writing tasks that lead into enthusiastic reading.</td>
<td>6. Alec Templeton (middle school) In this workshop we will look at 7 tenses, indirect speech, ing-forms and infinitives as phenomena of the English language. We will discover how this approach leads directly to correct usage, is better understood and more easily remembered.</td>
<td>6. Alec Templeton (middle school) In this workshop we will look at 7 tenses, indirect speech, ing-forms and infinitives as phenomena of the English language. We will discover how this approach leads directly to correct usage, is better understood and more easily remembered.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Susan Wehner <strong>Short stories for the upper school</strong> Getting more than just a feel for the language: developing a moral compass through working with short stories.</td>
<td>7. Silvia Albert-Jahn, Doris Schlott <strong>Regional studies</strong> - learning about the British language, the country and the people in the middle school</td>
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| 8. | **Manfred Schewe**  
**Going Performative in Language, Literature and Intercultural Education**  
Participants will be introduced to the theory and practice of a ‘Performative Foreign Language Didactics’. Texts from different genres (drama, poetry, prose) will serve as a departure and reference point for embodied action in the advanced level EFL classroom. |
|---|---|
| 8. | **Manfred Schewe**  
**Focus on the teacher/artist:**  
In this workshop you will be introduced to basic performative approaches. The focus will be on short practical exercises and how these can be adapted for different target groups / foreign language teaching & learning contexts. |
| 9. | **Paul Matthews**  
**Gleeful Grammar:** Writing Playfully  
We will look at ways how to get the students talking and become independent learners through various individual projects. |
| 9. | **Beate Langer**  
Class 8 and preparing the students for the upper school. We will look at ways how to get the students talking and become independent learners through various individual projects. |
| 10. | **Norman Skillen**  
**History in English Words** (after and based on the book of the same title by Owen Barfield)  
A chance to deepen knowledge of the layers of consciousness that went into the making of English and sharpen awareness of the poetry that is intrinsic to language. This will involve learning rhymes, poems and participating in exercises to stimulate the pedagogical imagination. |
| 10. | **Mario Radisic**  
**New Approaches to Teaching Grammar Creatively in grades 7-10** |
| 10. | **Mario Radisic**  
New Approaches to Teaching Grammar Creatively in grades 7-10 |
| 11. | **Ivone Grene**  
(middle & upper school - will follow shortly) |
| 11. | **Ivone Grene** |