

THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | December 2016

Mark your Calendars:

- ✦ Dec 7- Parents' Council meeting
- ✦ Dec 11- DMWS music students sing at 10:55 am worship service
- ✦ Dec 12- Poinsettias arrive
- ✦ Dec 12- Teacher Holiday Luncheon/Staff meeting
- ✦ Dec 16- Last day of school for 2016
- ✦ Jan 3- School resumes
- ✦ Jan 11- Parents' Council meeting
- ✦ Jan 16- NO SCHOOL due to MLK Holiday
- ✦ Jan 23 & 24- Parent Conferences- No school for children
- ✦ Jan 25- Registration for current students and siblings
- ✦ Jan 27- Registration for church members and alumni
- ✦ Feb 1 - Parents' Council meeting
- ✦ Feb 2 - Public Lottery at 10am



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Dear Parents,

Wow, December is here! It will be a busy time at DMWS. All classes will enjoy seasonal stories/music/art projects (and maybe even make you a gift!). Of course, we will also enjoy our monthly visit from the Durham Book Mobile. Be sure to read the December calendar sent by your child's teacher so you can stay up to date!

Our music students have been invited to sing two songs at the 10:55am worship service on December 11. Mrs. Combs has been teaching the children the pieces during music class- they are learning them so quickly! We hope your family can join us for this wonderful opportunity.

January will soon be here. We look forward to sharing information about your child's progress when we host Parent Conferences on January 23 and 24. After Parent Conference days, we will begin registration for 2017-2018. If you know families who may be interested in our program, encourage them to schedule a tour of DMWS so they can learn more. Public Registration will be held on Thursday, February 2nd.

The staff of DMWS wishes you and your family a safe, restful holiday.

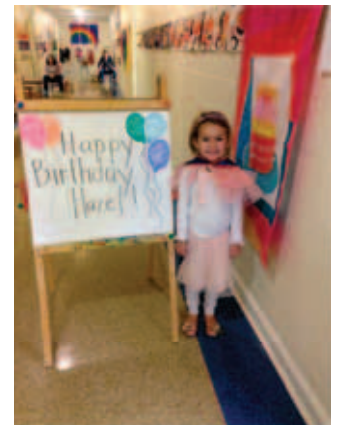
Julie Allen
DMWS Director



Classroom Spotlight: Mrs. McRae & Mrs. White-Hensen's 5-Day 4's

Every day, from drop off to pick up, the children of Mrs. McRae and Mrs. White-Hensen's 5-day pre-K class are reminded again and again how special they are. They are greeted with snuggles, hugs and genuine warmth as they enthusiastically run for their classroom framed with a purple door and begin their day with free play. As the fall is upon us some favorite activities have been raking leaves and playing in and around the class teepee. In circle time there has been much talk of Native Americans and the impending, much anticipated Thanksgiving. Last week some extra time was spent talking about the significance of Veteran's Day as a day to thank the men and women who "fight in the battles" and I couldn't believe how much to heart the children took this information. Daily jobs such as Super Student, Tidy Titan, Fearless Leader, and Courageous Caboose help the children recognize their significance as important members of this tight knit group.

Every day is a great day for the 5-day 4's, but birthday celebrations bring a particular element of excitement. The birthday child is the star of the show from the minute of her arrival when she is wrapped in a cape and has her photo taken in front of the white board proclaiming this to be her day. He is given the enviable task of holding the rainbow colored "birthday bear" all throughout circle time. As the Super Student she wields the pointer to denote the day and date as well as the binoculars to spy the weather. Next the birthday child carries the globe as he circles the sun once for each

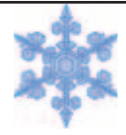


year of his life while his classmates joyfully sing "The Earth Goes Around the Sun". He blows out the candles and chooses a gift from the treasure box then a special snack and beloved book from home are the icing on the cake. While this is a truly wonderful day for the child, the best part of this magical celebration is that Mrs. McRae and Mrs. White-Hensen are so kind as to invite her most cherished adults to be part of it! Just one more reminder of how blessed our families are to be a part of this group and how THANKFUL we are for Mrs. McRae and Mrs. White-Hensen!

Vanessa Schroder, mom of Hazel



DMWS Inclement Weather Policy



When the Durham Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Duke Memorial Weekday School will be closed. If Durham Public Schools are delayed, the Director will determine if Duke Memorial Weekday School should be open, closed, or operate on a delay.

Factors considered when assessing whether to close, open on time or on a delay include, but are not limited to: teacher availability to fulfill Safe Sanctuaries requirements, the condition of Memorial Drive/ sidewalks along Memorial Drive, and timing of the inclement weather event. Parents should check for cancellation/delay information on WTVD and WRAL. Attempts will be made to notify all families by email. The decision as to whether or not Duke Memorial Weekday School opens on a delay will be made with the utmost consideration of safety for all of our families and staff members. Duke Memorial Weekday School will build up to 4 makeup days into the school calendar. Use of these makeup days is at the discretion of the Director.

Remind Texting Service - Sign up now!

Remind is a free messaging tool to help educators communicate with parents. Parents can opt in to receive texts from the school in the event of an emergency (fire, etc). It will also be used in the event of school cancellation/delay in addition to email notification.

To receive text messages, parents should **text @dukemem to 81010 or (828)394-2095**. Parents can unsubscribe at any time.



Get Published!



The Parents' Press is published throughout the school year by DMWS Parents' Council. Please send submissions to Megan Klenk at megan.klenk@gmail.com. The submission deadline for the January newsletter is December 27th.

In addition to information about DMWS, the Parents' Press offers space to advertise your small business. The fee to advertise is \$5.

Classroom Spotlight: Mrs. Thompson & Mrs. Wheeler's 5-Day 4's

The 5 day 4 class taught by Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Wheeler is full of fun. Before the fun begins the kids hang up their bags, sign in and wash their hands. Mrs. Wheeler makes sure the chores are done before the kids are off to morning play. The play morning began with...Etta, Emmeline and Cali building towers with rods and joints, trying to build the tallest tower without falling. Phillipa (Super Fairy), Wade (Batman), and Alex (Iron Man) snuck off to the tent where they played superheroes. Logan and Ian pulled out the magnetic blocks to build rocket ships, while Yatee and Nick rolled and cut play dough.

After morning play Mrs. Thompson called everyone to the circle for the morning meeting. In the meeting some students received jobs. Today Logan was line leader, Nick was weather helper, Etta was blessing helper and Emmeline was the caboose. Nick predicted that the weather would be sunny and cold - he was spot on! Before the kids were off to play again they ended the meeting with the pledge.

Thanksgiving was only a few days away so the art project of the day was creating the Mayflower. The kids used paper plates, popsicles sticks, cotton balls and paint for this project. The kids really enjoyed this project and they turned out great!

As much as I would have liked to continue hanging out with Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Wheeler's class, I had to go. They were off to more play and a visit to the playground.

This is an awesome class, with awesome teachers!

-Emma Schaufele

Dining Out



A BIG THANKS to Freddy's for sponsoring our November dining out and for all the DMWS families who participated!

Stay tuned for announcements about December Dining Out events at Saladelia and Bull City Burger coming soon!



The January Dining Out will be on Tuesday January 10th at the Original QShack on University Drive from 4pm until close. DMWS will receive 10% of sales from our group so let cashier know you're from DMWS!

DMWS Sings at December 11 Worship Service



Duke Memorial United Methodist Church has invited the music students of DMWS to sing at the 10:55am service on December 11.

Mrs. Combs has begun to teach our 3 year old, pre-k, and kindergarten students two songs for this special occasion. Children are invited to sit in worship with their parents, sing, and then either return to sit with their parents or leave with childcare workers for the remainder of the service.

Registration Information for 2017-2018

As hard as it is to believe, it is time to plan for next school year! During Parent Conferences on January 23 and 24, you will receive an application for each of your currently enrolled children. Applications for siblings will be available in the office.

Our registration dates are:

Wednesday, January 25 - Registration for current students and siblings

Friday, January 27 - Registration for church members and alumni

Thursday, February 2 - General Public Lottery at 10am



In order to hold a spot for next year at the time of registration, you will pay one month's tuition (credited to May 2017), a registration fee of \$75 for returning students (\$85 for new students) and a \$50 facilities fee. **All registration fees are non-refundable.**

Tuition rates for 2017-2018 will be available on our website soon.



Hospitality Committee Updates



1. The Holiday Teacher Luncheon will be on Monday, December 12th. Please be on the look out for an email about signing up to set up, clean up, childcare, and food!
2. The Bradshaw room will be available for parents and children during teacher conferences on Monday, January 23rd and Tuesday, January 24th. Childcare will not be provided. Parents will need to coordinate with other parents to trade off watching children during their scheduled conference times.

- Angie Heinrich & John Tassa

DID YOU KNOW?

- DMWS participated in the Preschool Fair hosted by the Durham Mothers Club at the Downtown Library on November 5.
- Due to the generosity of Parents' Council funds, DMWS has been able to purchase additional unit blocks, magnetic blocks, a CD player, and sensory toys.
- DMUMC recently installed new exterior lighting around the church buildings and a security camera on the DMWS main hallway.
- The T-Th 2's came together as an age level to enjoy some turkey songs/videos and a feast of cornbread, bananas, cheese, and trail mix.
- DMWS offers Tuition Assistance to qualified applicants. Yearlong tuition assistance applications are due each year by May for the following school year. Emergency assistance is available whenever a significant significant change in family finances creates a need.



Around DMWS

