



The Parents Press

Duke Memorial Weekday School

February 2015



Mark Your Calendar!

- Feb. 4: Parent Council Mtg.
- Feb. 5: Public lottery 10am
- Feb 16: President's Day (no school)
- Feb 24: Dining Out @ Bull City Burger (5:00-8:30)
- Mar 2 & 3: Teacher Workdays (no school)
- Mar 4: Parent Council Mtg.
- Mar 7: Carnival & Silent Auction
- Mar 25: Rags to Riches Theater Performance
- Mar 30-Apr 6: Spring Break (no school)
- May 1: Scholarship Applications Due
- June 22-26: DMUMC Music and Arts Camp
- July 20-24: DMWS Summer Camp



From the Desk of...

Julie Allen

Dear Parents,

Although it is still February, many of you are planning for the summer. Note the dates of the following opportunities.

DMWS Summer Camp: July 20-24 from 9:00am-12:30pm. Spaces are limited and usually fill quickly for each age group. Applications will be available in March. Cost will be \$165.

DMUMC Music and Arts Camp: June 22-26. Details from church staff will be available soon.

Be sure to mark your calendars with important dates in March. DMWS will be closed to students on March 2 and 3 for teacher workdays. Teachers will complete staff development activities and have planning time. The Parents' Council will sponsor our annual Carnival and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 7. Be sure to attend this wonderful event!

Thanks for letting us enjoy your children!

Julie Allen



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HEY!!



DMWS 23rd Annual Carnival & Silent Auction is
Coming Soon!

Saturday, March 7th, 2015 – 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Indoor and Outdoor Activities from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Silent Auction from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Lunch available from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

FUN FOR ALL AGES!!

New Carnival Format: Themed rooms with fun activities

Inflatable Slide! Face Painting! Sports Games! Princesses and Pirates!

Prizes for everyone!



WIN STUFF!!



NEW THIS YEAR! Chair-ity Art Project: Each class will have the opportunity to decorate a child-sized chair to be offered at the auction. Sarah DeVore (sarahdevore@hotmail.com) is organizing this unique project. Please be sure to bid on one (or several!) of these one-of-a-kind items!

Class Baskets: Always creative, fun and popular at the auction! Kavita Rajagopal (kavita.rajagopal@gmail.com) is working with class representatives to organize a themed basket assembled by each classroom

Teacher and Staff donations: Our wonderful staff at DMWS will offer exciting and unique activities, outings, and opportunities to spend time with a favorite teacher or staff member

Lots of great items and experiences both large and small:

Collegiate and professional sports stuff

Photography

Jewelry

Health and Beauty items

Professional Services

Birthday Parties

Babysitting packages

Crafts and works by local artisans

And LOTS more!

**Keep an eye on Facebook for some sneak peeks of a few of our fabulous auction items and join us for a Parents' Preview night at Six Plates on Tuesday, March 3rd! More info to come...

FOOD TRUCKS!!

Dang Good Dogs Only Burger LocoPops

**Please bring cash for food trucks and for extra game tickets!

HELP!!

We need volunteers for both Carnival and Auction!



What can you do?

Sell Tickets!

Supervise games!

Get donations!

Help set up or clean up!



Contact:

Kimsey Shanks (kimseyshanks@gmail.com) to help with the carnival

Jamie Spatola (jamiespat@gmail.com) or

Stephanie Wilson (stephbroka@hotmail.com) for the auction

100% of money raised goes directly to Parent's Council - which means more resources for your child's classroom! Start spreading the word to family and friends about our great family fundraising event - all are welcome to share in the fun at the Carnival and Silent Auction.

See you on March 7th!

Mrs. Britt and Mrs. Chappell's 5-day-3's class

By Katy Barron

On a wet morning in January, a plastic underbed storage box filled with large frozen ice discs and miniature plastic Arctic animals awaits the children in Peggy Britt and Cristen Chappell's 5-day-3s class. It's all part of this month's lesson on the different forms water can take, as well as this week's focus letter, P, as in Penguin.



After obediently handing over their folders and hanging up their coats, Dot and Olivia begin playing with the polar bears, penguins and whales. "What are they playing on?," I ask. "They're playing on water because ice is a type of water, right Olivia?," Dot says. "Yes, and liquid and gas," Olivia replies.

Wow. The children teach me a lot in my short visit. Lesson one: they're way smarter and way more capable of doing things independently than I give them credit for.

I've done a lot of interviews in my life, but none with children. As I walk around the room observing them for this article, I start with a softball question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" The group playing near the ice immediately answer: Titus: "A big giant whale"
Stella and David: "A stingray"
Sarah: "A penguin"

My second lesson is that language precision is important. Mrs. Britt suggests changing the question to, "What job do you want to have when you are a grown-up?" The answers get more realistic:

Ayyub and Henry: "A firefighter!"

Lydia: "A superhero!"

Serena: "A cowgirl"

Nora: "I want to have a dog."

Ellie: "I want to eat the hot sauce that Daddy has."

Next, I try some investigative journalism. "Is there anything you don't like about school?," I ask. Well, Stella doesn't like having to sit on her stool and Titus doesn't like playing with dolls, but otherwise the answer was a resounding "No!"

And I can see why. The teachers are fun. The kids all demonstrate how Mrs. Britt taught them to walk like a penguin. And Mrs. Chappell even shows them how to walk like an Egyptian, but I think they miss the 80's reference.

There's paint, Legos, dress-ups, a dollhouse, a kitchen, stuffed animals to play with and books to read. The children indulge in all these playthings and then, when the bell chimes, miraculously clean it all up with very little help (see lesson one).



THIS MONTH AT DMWS...



THIS MONTH AT DMWS...



Mrs. Turkington and Mrs. Danziger's 4 day 3's

By Blake Ellis

On any given day when you walk into the Tree House Class you can always hear laughter, squeals, kids talking and just general happiness in the room. This is what you want from Mrs. Turkington and Mrs. Danziger's 4 day 3's class.



I had the opportunity to observe a whole class lesson, and it was such fun. I walked in and it was almost silent, every child was seated at the table with paper and glue in front of them. They were all listening very intently to Mrs. Turkington as she told them what body part to glue on. No this wasn't some science experiment, they were creating MICE! They had been learning about colors, numbers and shapes and had been using Mice books to help them. They had read, Mouse Paint, and Mouse Count and on this day they were creating their own mice. They each took turns rolling a die and counting the number of dots on it. Once they had counted the dots, which worked on their one to one correspondence, Mrs. Turkington told them which part it matched up to, 1 being the body, 6 the ears. The children were having the best time! Each one was listening, counting along then following directions, exactly what you would hope they would be doing in school, and loving every minute of it. Each child had the chance the roll the die and it kept landing on 4. They all thought this was very funny and I

remarked that the die must know that it was in a class of 4 year olds! Each child was so engaged and no one rushed ahead and just glued all the parts on.

Finally they had rolled all the numbers and their mice were complete! Each child was so proud of what they had made and each mouse looked different. This is what I love most about this age, even though they all had the same pieces of paper and the same directions they each made their mouse the way they wanted to. Some legs touched the body, some arms came out of the neck, some heads were upside down but they had put their own spin on it and made them fabulous! After they had put them in the cubbies to dry then the laughter, silliness and normal 3-4 yr old behavior was back! The smiles and happiness my twins, and every child in the Tree House Class experiences every day is the main reason we love Mrs. Turkington and Mrs. Danziger and are thrilled that they teach, nurture and love our children for 3 hours a day, 4 days a week!



Art By Me!

Super cute artwork coming your way!! The students are in the process of completing an Art By Me project in their class. Your child's adorable artwork will be coming home in their tote bag later this month in the form of a preview postcard. Along with the postcard will be an order form with over 40 different products that can feature this same artwork! Your child's masterpiece can be featured on a mug, t shirt, apron, key chain, calendar, and so much more. These items make the most thoughtful Mother's Day, Father's Day, Birthday or Grandparent gifts. Look for more information coming your way soon.

If you have any questions contact
Lauren Kruse at
laurenkruse@hotmail.com



A big thanks to Six Plates and to all the adults that came out to support DMWS on Jan 26th! A good time was had by all.

The February dining out will be on Tuesday the 24th at Bull City Burger! Bull City Burger will donate 10% of all receipts collected during the hours of 5:00 - 8:30. We will have a bucket set up for anyone to put their receipt in and we will donate 10% of those sales. Please make sure that everyone knows to look for the bucket and encourage everyone else to do the same.



Harris Teeter sponsors the **Together in Education Program** that allows schools to earn money. Be sure to link your Harris Teeter card to Duke Memorial Weekday School, account code **4246**. The program runs August through May. Cards must be relinked each school year.

Inclement Weather Policy

When Durham Public Schools are closed or delayed, DMWS will be closed.



Get Published!

The Parents Press is published throughout the school year by DMWS Parents' Council. Please send submissions to Stephanie Crowe at dmwsparentspress@gmail.com. The submission deadline for the March newsletter is February 24th.

In addition to information about DMWS, the Parents Press offers space for you to advertise your small, at-home business. The fee to advertise is only \$5.