The Parents Press

Duke Memorial Weekday School **April 2015**

Mark Your Calendar!

- **Mar 30-Apr 3: Spring Break (no school)**
- **April 6: Snow Make-Up Day**
- **Apr 8: Parents' Council Meeting**
- **Apr 8 & 9: Class Pictures**
- **May 1: Scholarship Applications Due**
- **May 3: DMWS students sing at Worship**
- **May 5 & 6: Usborne Book Fair**
- **May 4-8: Teacher Appreciation Week**
- **May 21- Snow Make-Up Day/Last Day of School**
- **June 22-26: DMUMC Music and Arts Camp**
- **July 20-24: DMWS Summer Camp**

DUKE MEMORIAL WEEKDAY SCHOOL

504 W. Chapel Hill St.
Durham, NC 27707

919-688-5130
www.dmws.org

From the Desk of…

Julie Allen

Dear Parents,

I am sure you are as excited as I am about the lovely spring weather! Due to the number of missed school days during inclement weather, the DMWS Board of Directors has decided to hold school on April 6 and May 21.

April and May will be busy as we watch caterpillars turn into butterflies and get our music students ready to sing on May 3 in worship. Mrs. Irvine and Mrs. Turkington will be sharing more information about this special opportunity later.

Many thanks to the parents who volunteered and supported our annual Carnival and Silent Auction- your efforts made the day so much fun for everyone. Proceeds from the event support our school.

We have a limited number of spaces available in Summer Camp (July 20-24) and in our 2 day 2, 5 day 3, and kindergarten classes for 2015-2016. If you know families that may be interested in joining our school community, please have them contact me for a tour and registration information.

Enjoy Spring!

Julie

facebook

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www.facebook.com/dukememorialweekdayschool

"Like" us for friendly reminders from the Parents' Council!

Spring Carnival and Silent Auction Wrap-Up

Many thanks to everyone who donated, volunteered, shopped and attended the 2015 DMWS Carnival and Silent Auction! Thanks to you, approximately ***$10,000*** was raised to help support classrooms, activities and programs at our beloved school. Your support is so incredibly important and appreciated!

There are just a few remaining auction items available...please contact Stephanie Wilson at stephbroka@hotmail.com to make an offer!

- ◊ 2-hour paint color consultation w/Interior Decorator - Retail $150
- ◊ Stella & Dot *catered* trunk show w/$50 product credit - Retail $250
- ◊ Handmade Back-To-School banner - Retail $45
- ◊ Framed Colorful Hearts artwork from Mrs. Fox and Mrs. Sneed's class - Priceless!

(I bought this and love it, but would be happy to pass it on to one of the families from the class if you're interested and didn't have a chance to bid.)

DMWS Silent Auction Highlights

Please check out the lists below for the winners of classroom items from the DMWS Silent Auction!

Teacher Experiences

- ◊ DMWS Kindergarten Kit (donated by Eva/Perkins) - Emily Wilder
- ◊ Mac & Cheese Party for 10 (Thompson/Wheeler) - Kate Wolf
- ◊ Lunch at Lilly's Pizza for 2 (Speight/Allman) - Cathy Ritchie
- ◊ Good Night, Sleep Tight (Turkington/Danziger) - Blake Ellis and Kelly Andrew
- ◊ Pizza Party for 3 (Jernigan/Wilder/Selig) - Brandy Lemen
- ◊ Motion on Monday for 4 (Allen/Sykes) - Mercer Griffin
- ◊ Bedtime Story and Lullabies (McRae) - Annaliese Gresham
- ◊ Tea Party for 2 (Lowder/Alkins/Sykes) - Brandy Lemen, Cathy Ritchie, and Jamie Spatola
- ◊ Museum Outing for 2 (Hardin/Bailey) - Heather Cummings

CHAIR-ity Art Projects

- ◊ "Mickey" (Lowder/Alkins T/Th 2s) - Emma Willis
- ◊ "School of Fish" (Hardin/Bailey T/Th 2s) - Tracey Streck
- ◊ "Thomas" (Lowder/Alkins M/W/F 2s) - Suzanne West
- ◊ "Sunshine" (Wilder/Selig T/Th 2s) - Bisa Meek
- ◊ "Stars" (Fox/Sneed M/W/F 3s) - Joanne Liddle
- ◊ "Birds" (Jernigan/Selig M/W/F 3s) - Brandy Lemen
- ◊ "Treehouse" (Turkington/Danziger M-Th 3s) - Amy Volpe
- ◊ "Circle Time" (Britt Chappell M-F 3s) - Kelly Jernigan
- ◊ "Froggy Friends" (Speight/Allman M-Th PreK) - Julie Yoo
- ◊ "Superhero" (McRae/Hensen M-F PreK) - Annaliese Gresham
- ◊ "Handprint Hearts" (Thompson/Wheeler M-F PreK) - Sarah Maxwell
- ◊ "ABCs and 123s" (Eva/Perkins Kindergarten) - Ashlee Smart

Class Baskets

- ◊ Favorite Movies of Our Favorite Teachers - Connie Eva
- ◊ Board Games Basket - Jessica Streck
- ◊ Cooking Basket - Emma Willis
- ◊ Fun-On-The-Go Basket - Jamie Spatola
- ◊ Arts and Crafts Basket - Asha Patel
- ◊ Gardening Basket - Jessica Streck
- ◊ Legos Basket - Blake Ellis
- ◊ Local Food/Beer Basket - Joanne West
- ◊ Durham Basket - Emily White
- ◊ Wine Basket - Judy Elliott-Moore
- ◊ Movie Night Basket - Julie Yoo

Please don't hesitate to contact Stephanie Wilson at stephbroka@hotmail.com with any questions or feedback about the silent auction.

Thanks again for your support,

Stephanie Wilson and Jamie Spatola

A note from the Carnival committee chairperson, Kimsey Shanks:

SO many thanks to all who attended our Spring Carnival!!

It was a treat to see all of your smiling faces, as you detailed swords, added sparkles to crowns, slid down the 18foot inflatable slide, worked the obstacle course, caught goldfish and above all … loved seeing you dance in the halls, with your LocoPop melting down your sweet faces!! Many MANY thanks to all of the volunteers (moms, dads, grandparents, brothers & sisters), our carnival is only possible because of the time you gave. YOU made our carnival a success! Thank you Thank you!

Till next year … keep "bobbing" for ducks and practicing your corn hole!

Go Duke Memorial!

And a HUGE "Thank You" to all of our sponsors, including, but not limited to:

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CAROLINA TIGER RESCUE

Sam's Bottle Shop

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KNOW WONDER!

Preschool Calendar

Durham and Orange County Preschools operate on a September through May schedule with few exceptions. Tuition is calculated for the year and billed differently according to policies at individual schools. Some preschools require payment by the year or by the semester. At DMWS, we have opted to split the yearly tuition into 9 equal payments to make it easy for families to budget. Although your child does not attend school the exact same number of days each month, payments remain the same. Area preschools tend to start classes after Labor Day each fall. This year, Labor Day falls quite late, so DMWS will be starting school for students before Labor Day. For 2015, Parent Orientation will be held on Monday. August 31 with Tuesday, September 1 as the first day for students.

DMWS Openings for 2015-2016

After registration in January and February, many of our classes for the fall are full with waiting lists. There are a few spaces available in the following classes:

Kindergarten

5 day 3's

2 day 2's

Please let your friends know we have these spots available. Remember there is no fee to be on the waiting list for classes that are currently full.

DMWS Annual Durham Bulls Outing

Mark your calendars for the 2015 DMWS Bulls Outing!

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH AT 1:05PM

DURHAM BULLS VS. GWINNETT BRAVES

More information will be coming home soon!

Art By Me

The Art By Me projects were as cute as ever this year!! The orders have been placed and your child's masterpiece should be coming home in their tote bags soon.

Thanks so much for supporting Duke Memorial!

Mrs. Fox's and Mrs. Sneed's 3 day 3s

By Lauren Phelps

I arrived at Mrs. Fox's and Mrs. Sneed's classroom a bit early, so when I looked out of the door, down the hall, I saw smiling, squealing children running toward their classroom. The fact that they love their teachers, classmates and classroom was apparent by their every movement. Every 3 and 4-year-old in the room knows their morning routine well and they immediately set to it. They quickly sanitize hands, hang coats and book bags so that they can get to the fun!

As the kids moved around the room, choosing their activity, I was curious about what they liked most about their class. I sat down with Ellington and Sammie as they colored and asked them about their very favorite thing about school. Ellington said, "I like the wind in the trees. And coloring with blue and yellow!" Sammie was excited to tell me that her favorite thing was coloring with pink and purple. I asked as many children as I could about their favorite things at DMWS. "Playing with cars!" said David. "Swinging high!" said Reni. Kendall, Amelia, and Sofia agreed that doing projects and coloring with purple, pink, silver and gold were fantastic.

After the preschoolers put away their morning activity, they ran to take their seats for circle time. They each gave Mrs. Fox "five" by putting their hands on their head and receiving a special stamp. After Amelia checked the daily mail, Mrs. Fox asked, "Where is your heart?" Each child pointed to their chest and they had an interesting discussion about how their heart pumps blood through their bodies and learned about its appearance by passing around a plush model. To finish their lesson, they played a game to get their wiggles out. Each child picked a paper heart out of a bag that had an activity on it. The first one told them to stomp their feet 12 times. The second had them shaking their heads 3 times. The activity went on and the kids had so much fun interacting with their friends and doing silly things to make each other laugh. It's obvious to me how much these kids love their teachers, being together and having fun!

It's time for me to pack up to leave as the children get ready to go to the playground. They are so excited to get some fresh air and swing, slide and get good and sandy in the sandbox. As I look around at their smiling faces, I only have one question: Can I come back tomorrow?

Mrs. Wilder and Mrs. Selig's Class - 2 day 3s

By Emily Nicholson

I feel lucky I was able to spend some time in the Sunshine room this month. The theme of the classroom completely matches the personalities of these wonderful kids. They are all smiles and it is clear they like to have FUN.

There is a new theme each week in the sunshine room, where the kids enjoy crafts activities and books that focus on the theme. When I walked into the room they were busy working on a "tooth mobile" to complete a project they had been working on to learn how to care for your teeth. While hard at work, they took turns telling me what they had learned. The class read a book called "Little Bear Brushes His Teeth." The class loved the bear's imagination, and how he was able to make brushing teeth fun.

After asking what their favorite part of the school day was, there was a class consensus on "playing with each other."

The Sunshines take turns doing classroom jobs- Star of the day, door holder, snack helper, caboose, lights and messenger. Helping comes naturally to this group of kids, as I saw them help each other with toys and books. They even made a younger visitor feel comfortable by offering a stuffed animal to play with.

The Sunshines enjoy a fitness class every Tuesday. They recently played a game where they played "tennis" with ballons and fly swatters. The whole group enjoyed this creative activity and were all giggles when asked about it.

Although they don't attend the school's music class, it is often praised as being one of the most musical rooms. Fortunately, I was treated to a private concert. At the end of the day, each child finds his or her spot on the alphabet mat by standing on the first letter of their name. We then danced to "Shake Your Sillies Out" by the Wiggles. Everyone had fun being silly and singing and dancing along.

Mrs. Lowder and Mrs. Alkins 3 day 2s

By Morgan Rutherford

In March I had the wonderful opportunity to visit Mrs. Lowder and Mrs. Alkins' 3 day 2's class! It was dinosaur week so everything was all about dinosaurs. Dinosaurs were hanging from the ceiling and the toys were dinosaur focused.

I arrived mid-way through the day just as Mrs. Lowder was handing out pictures of dinosaurs to paint. Children were called to receive their dinosaur based on their current behavior - the quieter they were, the quicker they were called. It was awesome to see the children listen to Mrs. Lowder so well! As they filed off to their seats with surprising discipline, I asked a few of the children what they were doing. Sabrina told me she was painting her dinosaur pink, Court told me he was painting a Stegosaurus and Caleb asserted he was painting a T-Rex.

After the painting was over, Elizabeth Grace and Clara found some wipes and "helped" clean the table. Mrs. Alkins was kind enough to indulge the girls as they smeared the existing paint around the table. Their hearts were in the right place.

The children had time for free play as Mrs. Lowder helped the students one at a time complete their foxes from the week before. Crawford and Court played with the Dinosaurs around the room, Phoebe read and Elias played with cars. As I walked around the room chatting with the children, I learned they had fitness with Mrs. Sykes before I arrived. Andy and Crawford recounted the events of fitness class by explaining they had played with fly swatters and balloons - they loved it! I learned they had read Thomas and the Dinosaur during story time and that they excavated dinosaurs. Mrs. Lowder and Mrs. Alkins cleverly froze plastic dinosaurs in ice cubes and had the children break the dinosaurs out of the ice!

After free play, Elizabeth Grace turned out the lights to signal it was clean up time. They sang a cute little song as they worked and I was impressed with their quick clean up. After the room was clean, they gathered on the carpet and those that assisted in clean up received stamps. Those that did not clean up, did not receive stamps. Now we know what to look for in carpool line!

The children gathered for a group photo and then they were dismissed one by one to get their coats and bags and line up for car line.

It was a fast and furious day in the 3 day 2's class! Thanks for letting me visit!!!

SUMMER CAMP 2015

DMWS Summer Camp will be held July 20-24 from 9-12:30 daily. The cost is $165 and includes a time for lunch. Rising 3 year olds through rising first graders may attend. There are a few spots remaining, so contact Julie Allen if you are interested.

Thanks to Pompieri Pizza and everyone who came out to support DMWS for the March Dining Out!

The April Dining Out is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7th from 5pm to close at Alivia's.

10% of Sales will be donated to DMWS. We hope to see you there!

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 4th-May 8th is Teacher Appreciation Week. The Hospitality Committee would like your help in providing our dedicated teachers with a delicious breakfast for the mornings of Monday, May 4th and Tuesday, May 5th. Please be on the lookout for the opportunity to sign up following Spring Break. Additionally, later this month, we will be in contact with the parent reps for each class with ideas on ways to involve our children in saying "Thank you!" to our teachers for all they do each day. Please contact Angie Hong (angiekayhong@gmail.com) or Tracey Streck (tagibbons@gmail.com) with any questions or suggestions.

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 May newsletter is April 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 a flat $5.