



# The Parents Press

Duke Memorial Weekday School

February 2013



## Mark Your Calendar!

- Presidents' Day Holiday (no school!): Feb 18
- Dining Out: Feb 19 @ Alivia's Bistro — 10% of sales from LUNCH and DINNER!
- Carnival & Silent Auction: Mar 2
- Teacher Workdays (no school!): Mar 11 & Mar 12
- Parent Council Meetings (Whitford Hall — 9:20)  
February 6  
March 6  
April 3  
May 1



From the Desk of...

*Susan Grubbs*



We are sad to announce that Mrs. Collins resigned on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. She had been a teacher at DMWS for almost 17 years. We will miss her. Michelle Fox is back with us teaching the 2 day 2's and 3 day 3's. We welcome her back!

## Summer Camp 2013

Mark your calendars for a week of summer camp at DMWS! Camp will be the week of July 15<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00- 12:45. The camp is open to students ages 3- 6. Spaces are limited and they fill quickly! More information will be sent home in March.

## Carpool Reminders!

Please remember that our carpool line is a cell phone free zone!!! Also, please pull up as far as possible on Memorial Drive when buckling your child! It helps keep the line moving!

## Inclement Weather Policy

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



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Durham, NC 27707

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www.dmws.org



## DMWS 21st Annual Carnival & Silent Auction

PLEASE JOIN US ON Saturday, March 2nd 2013 – 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM

It will soon be time for our annual Carnival and Silent Auction. Your class Carnival Representative is contacting you about volunteering to work a shift in your child's classroom. We need every family to participate in order to make our Carnival and Silent Auction a big success! It takes over 100 volunteers to run the Carnival and Auction.

The Carnival and Auction will be full of fun for all ages. Our Carnival is indoors with children traveling from classroom to classroom to play games. The games are all age appropriate and everyone always wins! Each game requires one ticket (inflatable slide requires 2 tickets; each ticket is 50 cents). **Games will open at 10:00am and close at 12:00pm in order to allow for final bidding at the Silent Auction.**

Carnival Games will include:

Golf	Fishing	Plinko	Football Toss
Basketball	Ring Toss	Tattoos	Giant Inflatable Slide
Duck Pond	Bean Bag Toss		

The Carnival and Silent Auction are the PC's largest fundraisers, and its success hinges on your support and donations. 100% of money raised goes directly to Parent's Council – which means more resources for your child's classroom! We are hoping to top last years numbers, so please let us know how you can help make this event a success!

Silent Auction Classroom Reps are busy working with the class to put together fun baskets that reflect the interests and talents of each class. Jamie Spatola (jamiespat@gmail.com) and Whitney Sandor (wlbrown28@hotmail.com) are chairing this sub-committee of the Auction, so please direct all questions to them. THANK YOU to everyone who is working to make these projects great!

We are still accepting items to be auctioned! Did you get an amazing Holiday gift that doesn't fit your style? Have new toys your kids never used? DONATE them to our auction – your item is tax-deductible, and someone is sure to love it! It would be great if each family could donate or solicit an item for our auction. If you own a business or can provide a service, then you have something to donate! You can also ask your favorite store, manicurists or restaurant to make a donation – check with Kelly Andrew at [919-479-6766](tel:919-479-6766) or [kellyandrew77@gmail.com](mailto:kellyandrew77@gmail.com) to see if they have already been contacted by our committee.

### Dates to remember :

**February 16** – Description of Items need to be turned in to Kelly Andrew

**February 19** – Classroom Projects need to be completed

**February 22** – Start dropping off items at DMWS office

**February 27** – All Items need to be collected

**March 2** – Silent Auction and Carnival

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 2nd!

**Harriet Putman and Carrie Currie~ Carnival Co-chairs**

**Kelly Andrew and Andy Ritchey ~ Silent Auction Co-chairs**

# Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Hensen's 5 day 4's

By Asha Patel and Kristyn Lewis



5, 4, 3, 2, 1...blast off! Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Hensen's 5-day 4's class has been busy learning about the solar system. A wide array of classroom activities allow students to earn stars on their "Space Ace" badges, and this class full of enthusiastic kiddos is eager to do just that. The children learn how to pronounce challenging vocabulary words related to space, like *galaxies*, *asteroids*, and *constellations*. The bookshelf is full of great topical reads that help the students learn about planets, the sun, and the stars with each turn of a page. Mickey, the classroom beta fish who lives on the science table, has a great view of the model solar system that hangs in the room to give the children a visual example of the sun and planets.

It is evident that Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Hensen have taught the students how to work well both independently and in groups. While some students worked on their handwriting sheets on their own, others enjoyed playing together in centers. Mrs. Bray led Liam, Scout, Natalia, and Connor in

making an informational solar system book. They carefully cut out planets from colored construction paper and glued them on the corresponding pages. Some listened as Mrs. Bray read each page's information, while others were excited to practice their budding reading skills on their own!

Ginger, Gabe, and Vivian played in centers focused on creative, imaginative play. Jacob concentrated on his handwriting sheet, making sure that every letter was traced perfectly. Maya and Alexis worked with Mrs. Hensen to complete their Planet Poem books (each page featuring verse and glitter, naturally) and Jake colored space worksheets. The housekeeping area of the classroom proved to be one of the most popular --Amaya, Owen, Wesley, Greyson, and Savannah used their free playtime pretending to run a kitchen.

Spending the school day in Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Hensen's classroom means a day full of learning, exploration, and fun! Dare we say it? It's outta this world!



## ***Mrs. Lowder and Mrs. Alkin's 3 day 2's***

By Kavita Rajagopal & Stephanie Wilson



And just like that, it's January and our little ones have been in school for 5 months already! It was lovely to see all the happy, excited faces running to class to see their much loved teachers Mrs. Lowder and Mrs. Alkins, who make sure every school day is filled with wonder and excitement. It was really interesting to watch the little ones interact with one another. While they still engaged in some parallel play, many of them spent time playing with their friends as well. There was a LOT of laughing in this fun class! These little 2-year-olds are maturing into bright, interactive, inquisitive preschoolers right before our eyes.

After the remarkably controlled chaos of arrival time, Mrs. Alkins and most of the class sang the alphabet song, went through their numbers, and then sang the alphabet song many more times because it was just so fun! All the kids loved being read to, and it's safe to say that Mrs. Alkins enjoyed reading to them just as much. Half the class ended up on Mrs. Lowder's lap when one of the kids discovered a wind-up penguin toy, and quickly the kids learned to take turns and cheer their friends on. There were lots of squeals every time Mr. Penguin did a flip!

Here is what the little ones were busy doing that morning:

Alex spent some time looking through some books and had a lot of fun wheeling cars with Gavin and Mrs. Lowder. Car-loving Avi enjoyed sending toy vehicles zooming down the ramps with his friends! He's also quite the little neatnik and did some 'vacuuming'. Cate loved playing Chef in the kitchen and occupied herself for quite a while 'cooking' up what I'm sure was a scrumptious meal! Casey had a lot of fun 'talking' to Dora on the phone and snuggling with Mrs. Lowder. She also enjoyed playing with the snowballs and wintry creatures at the sensory table. Another car loving boy, Mason spent some time making sure the cars were lined up just so before rolling them to his buddies and Mrs. Lowder! Future architect Gavin had a blast building towers with the giant blocks, and he and buddy Jack would charge into it and knock it over and laugh! After exploring the wintry sensory table, Jack had a lot of fun hiding in the igloo and building (and knocking down!) towers with friend Gavin. After some busy play time with her friends exploring the sensory table, Kira snuck away into the igloo with a book for some alone time. Mira had fun playing with the little penguins at the sensory table with her friends and enjoyed some pretend play in the igloo too! Kenzie loved all the pretend play their fun classroom has to offer, and she played with some animals and enjoyed some reading time with Mrs. Alkins. Chloe cooked up some fantastic goodies and did some serious shopping! She had a lot of fun playing in the igloo, too.

It was so exciting to watch the enthusiasm with which every child got up and pitched in to tidy up their class room (while singing of course!) and earn their coveted hand-stamp once it was accomplished. We are truly blessed to have our children in the care of such loving and nurturing teachers, and we really enjoy watching how much they learn at school. I for one cannot wait to see how much more they'll learn and grow in the coming months!



In January we visited Mellow Mushroom for Dining Out. Many thanks to their team for their generosity, delicious food and commitment to the DMWS community.



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Gabe Nehring-Redmon is a student in Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Henson's class. On March 2nd Gabe will be shaving his head in an effort to raise money to support St. Baldrick's and their mission to cure childhood cancer! Check out his website and support him here: <http://www.stbaldricks.org/participants/GabeNehringRedmon>. Way to go, Gabe!



## Art By Me!

We are excited about participating in a wonderful fundraising program called Art By Me again this year! During the month of March look out for a sample of your child's art work in their tote bag. This art work can then be transformed into adorable, beautiful, and professional gifts and keepsakes. Items like mugs, t-shirts, magnets, note cards, calendars (and so many other choices) make wonderful birthday, Mother's/Father's Day, and grandparent gifts. Look out for the program letter and order form next month!



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## Get Published!

The Parents Press is published throughout the school year by DMWS Parents' Council. Please send submissions to Allison Shultz at [ajmckenney@gmail.com](mailto:ajmckenney@gmail.com). The submission deadline for the March newsletter is February 15.

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 \$5, and we also ask that you'd be willing to donate 10% of your proceeds to DMWS when sales are made from the ad during the remainder of the school year.



# DMWS 21st Annual Carnival & Silent Auction

## Saturday, March 2nd, 2013

*Tickets now on SALE.....*

We encourage everyone to purchase tickets in advance to assist us in estimating attendance and to avoid waiting in line the day of the carnival. Another order form will be sent home in a few weeks. Additional tickets will be available at the carnival.

*Please Note: tickets are non-refundable.*

If you wish to purchase tickets now, **PLEASE RETURN** this form in your child's folder with cash or check made out to DMWS Parents' Council **by Friday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ PH #: \_\_\_\_\_

### **BOOTH TICKETS**

Cost is \$0.50 per ticket (1 ticket/booth).

Advance tickets are sold in increments of \$5.00 only.

Number of Tickets Requested (Please check one):

\_\_\_\_\_ 10 tickets (\$5.00)    \_\_\_\_\_ 20 tickets (\$10.00)    \_\_\_\_\_ 30 tickets (\$15.00)

### **LUNCH**

Lunch will be available from a variety of food trucks. Dang Good Dogs, American Meltdown and Local Yogurt will be at the carnival to offer your family delicious lunch and dessert options!

*Please bring cash or credit card for the food trucks*