



The Parents Press

Duke Memorial Weekday School

March 2014



Mark Your Calendar!

- Carnival & Silent Auction: Mar 1
- Dining Out: Parent's Night Out! Mar 25 from 4pm until midnight @ Six Plates
- Spring Break: Apr 14 through Apr 21
- Spring Book Fair: May 6 & May 7
- Durham Bulls outing: May 18
- Parent Council Meetings (Whitford Hall — 9:20)
March 5
April 2
May 7



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From the Desk of...

Susan Grubbs

Dear Parents,

Excitement is building as we gear up for the annual Carnival and Silent Auction. A huge THANK YOU to all of the volunteers for all of their hard work to make this a huge success. I know all of us will have a great time.

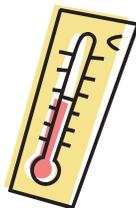
Summer is right around the corner and that means Summer Camp is as well. This year camp will be July 21-25. The hours are 9:00- 12:30. The cost will be \$155.00 for the week. Camp is open to rising 3 year olds through 1st grade. Space is limited and the camp fills up very quickly. (Please note that we do not offer camp for the children starting our 2 year old classes in September.)

The weather this winter has been quite a challenge! I hope everyone was able to get out and enjoy the last round of snow. Since we have missed so many days we will NOT have the two scheduled Teacher Workdays in March on March 10th and 11th. We will use those as make up days.

I look forward to seeing everyone on March 1st at the Carnival and Silent Auction!

Happy Spring! Susan

Sick Policy



Please remember that our Sick Policy states that if your child has had a fever, diarrhea or vomiting, they MUST stay home until they are symptom free for 24 hours. This is done for the benefit of all of our students!



The Busy Bees — Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Wheeler's 5 day 4's

By Dana Irons



The 4 and 5 year olds in Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Wheeler's class definitely live up to their class name. They are very busy! They have a wonderful huge new classroom this year with space for lots of wonderful centers. According to Josh and Parker, the blocks are the most popular because "We get to build spaceship homes." From another perspective, Macie, Annie and Layla W. think the home center is best because that is where they can play with Strawberry Shortcake dolls. At any given time, you might find students in this class creating crafts with string, beads, ribbon, and paper, drawing at the easel, sorting color manipulatives at the lego table, dressing up, making "breakfast," or sitting by the "fireplace." Some students have picked

up on the fact that the toys and centers do not always stay the same... Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Wheeler wisely change things up when they are not expecting it.

For the Busy Bees, life is pretty good. They are learning a lot without even realizing it. When I had the privilege of having a special snack with the class before Christmas, they used their *addresses* as a way to take turns going to the snack table. They took their first field trip, to the Duke Homestead, to learn about life on a working farm before electricity. I think they were surprised to learn that popcorn could be made on a real fire!

The class is learning to be more independent in preparation for Kindergarten next year. I recently visited the class soon after drop off, and it was clear that everyone knew just what to do when they arrived: hang up backpacks, wash hands, give homework folder to teacher, record the weather, then free play.

Homework, you ask? Yes! Since the New Year, the students each have their own homework folder with an assignment for every night. They have truly enjoyed practicing their letters at home. So far, "Mr. H" has been a hit, as the students drew his "Horrible Hair." Although, "Mr. F" was very *funny*, inspiring lots of silly show and tell items on Friday. When I asked them what they thought about Kindergarten next year, they said, "It will be fun... but I don't know how it will be different."

During circle time, the students have been keeping a countdown until spring- 36 days left on the day I visited. They have also been keeping weather logs, and "Cloudy" has definitely been winning so far, though I think "Snowy" may soon be a competitor! Rain or shine, these kids are making the most of their time, and whether they know it or not, they will be very ready for whatever comes next!



THIS MONTH AT DMWS...



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Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Bailey's 2 day 2's

By Andy Ritchey

Learning, creative play, reading stories, and singing fill the three hours that these twelve children spend together every Tuesday and Thursday. As the children begin their preschool experience, Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Bailey do a great job instilling imagination, independence and responsibility while developing friendships. The children learn the basics of sharing, playing well with others, and listening to their teachers.

Free play, dress-up, circle time, puzzles and games, arts and crafts, and of course the trip to the playground are all packed in to their daily activities. On Tuesdays, the highlight of the day centers around their trip upstairs to fitness class. Each day has a break for snack time, which is always fun, but even more so when it is something that they have helped to make. From pumpkin pie, to candy apples, to their own pizza, these two year olds are becoming quite the little chefs.

In all, these children have quite an adventure together each day. Although they only have a short time together each week, they have clearly developed friendships and preschool skills that they can take with them to their three year old classes and beyond.





Art By Me!

The Art By Me projects have been completed and they are as cute as can be. You will be receiving a postcard preview of your child's artwork this month. This artwork can be made into a wide variety of adorable keepsakes and gifts so be sure to keep Mother's Day, Father's Day and grandparents in mind while placing your order. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Kruse at laurenkruse@hotmail.com.



Our Usborne Book Fair will be held on May 6th & 7th. For the first time, the book fair will be set up in the teachers' lounge right across the hall from Susan's office, so it will be more convenient than ever! Mark your calendar!



DMWS Annual Durham Bulls Outing

Mark your calendars for the DMWS Bulls Outing!
More information will be coming home soon!

SUNDAY, MAY 18TH

DURHAM BULLS ATHLETIC PARK



In February we visited Mattie B's for Dining Out. What a fun and delicious night! Thank you for your generosity and commitment to the DMWS community!

Get Published!

We've gone electronic! You will receive a PDF version of the newsletter via e-mail from your classroom Parent Council Representative. A limited number of paper copies will be available in the office, if this is your preference!

The Parents Press is published throughout the school year by DMWS Parents' Council. Please send submissions to Allison Shultz at ajmckenney@gmail.com. The submission deadline for the April newsletter is March 18th.

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.