



the Parents Press



Duke Memorial Weekday School

November 2011



Mark
Your
Calendar

Parent Council Meetings

(held in Whitford Hall)

- November 2nd, @ 9.20am
- December 7th, @ 9.20am
- January 4th, @ 9.20am
- February 1st, @ 9.20am
- March 7th, @ 9.20am
- April 4th, @ 9.20am
- May 2nd, @ 9.20am

Student Pictures

November 3rd & 4th

Veteran's Day

November 11th, NO SCHOOL

Kindergarten Play

November 16th

DMWS Dining Out

November 30th @ Five Guys
(Patterson Place 4pm - 9pm)

Thanksgiving Break

November 23rd - 25th

Kindergarten Open House

December 1st

Poinsettia Orders Due

December 1st & 2nd

Carnival & Silent Auction

March 3rd, 2012



From the Desk of...

*Susan
Grubbs*

Dear Parents,

Happy Fall to everyone! It is hard to believe that November is already upon us! Lots of fun autumn activities are happening in all of the classrooms. Many classes will be having feasts before the Thanksgiving break. Many classes are cooking delicious treats as they talk of pumpkins and fall.

The Fall Gathering was a huge success! It was standing room only in Whitford Hall that evening! A great time was had by all who attended! A big thank you to everyone who helped make it such a fun event! The Book Fair and the change all of the children brought in will help provide over \$120.00 in books for the Ronald McDonald House.

The Kindergarten play will be on Wednesday, November 16th at 11:00am in Whitford Hall. All parents are invited to come for this special day.

We will also have our Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, Dec. 1st at 10:30am. This event is for parents only since we will be going into the room and observing during the school day. More information can be found in this issue of the Parents' Press. Please call the office to sign up.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Susan Grubbs



504 W. Chapel Hill St.
Durham, NC 27707
919-688-5130

Inclement Weather Policy

When Durham Public Schools are closed or delayed due to inclement weather, DMWS will be closed.



KINDERGARTEN CLASS 2011 / 2012

BY ~ JAN DUBICK-FREEDMAN & LINDY MATHIS

When you enter the Kindergarten room there is a wall-hanging which states....

Childhood Should Be A Journey... Not A Race

Our children are enriched by caring relationships with teachers, by friendships with classmates, by a stimulating curriculum and a creative environment. Each of these points is touched on every day in the classroom.

Caring Relationships with teachers, classmates, and community...

Mrs. Eva and Mrs. Perkins have a combined 36 years teaching at Duke Memorial Weekday School. They LOVE their job and it shows through their interaction with the children.

The children know that they are in a safe and loving environment - which allows them to share their dreams and aspirations. When asked about their dreams (what they wanted to be when they grow up) - here is what they stated:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| *Alexis: Policewoman | *Ashley: Veterinarian |
| *Keiza: Teacher | *Christopher: Ninja |
| *Anna Beth: Dinosaurs (Paleontologist) | *Jake: Nascar driver |
| *Reece: Doctor | *Ben: Spaceman |
| *Liam: Space guy | *Angie: Scientist & Doctor |
| *Sam: Fighter Jet Pilot | *Sadie: Veterinarian |
| *Christina: Teacher & Dancer | *Keaton: Vet, Art & Mommy |



Creative Environment and Stimulating Curriculum

Helping the children from what they already know to what they need to know... by using the following methods: Handwriting without tears, Production plays (twice a year), and learning through first hand experiences rather than verbal instruction.

Centers - designed to grow independence, extend knowledge, and develop imagination. When asked about their favorite center. Here is what they stated:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| *Alexis: Kitchen | *Ashley: Art |
| *Keiza: Outside Play | *Christopher: Blocks |
| *Anna Beth: Science | *Jake: Invention |
| *Reece: Kitchen | *Ben: Blocks |
| *Liam: Invention | *Angie: Art |
| *Sam: Blocks | *Sadie: Kitchen |
| *Christina: All of them | *Keaton: Kitchen |



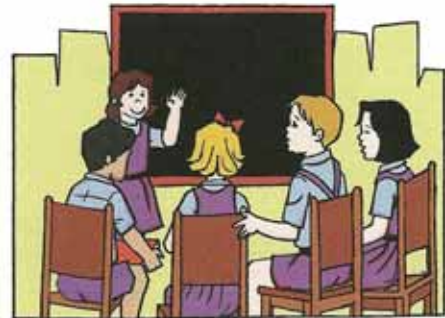
THANK YOU!!! Mrs. Eva and Mrs. Perkins for preparing our children to enter into the first grade with confidence.

DMWS Kindergarten Open House

If you were wondering what Kindergarten is like at Duke Memorial Weekday School, come along to the open house on December 1st at 10:30am and see for yourself. Here is what just a couple of parents had to say about their child's experience in this fun filled, educational class :

I really can't say enough good things about the Duke Memorial kindergarten; I think it's the best deal in town. My two oldest children are both graduates of the kindergarten, and my youngest will attend next year. Even though it is a half-day program, Mrs. Eva and Mrs. Perkins pack an entire day's worth of fun and learning (and then some!) into the 4 hours. The kids learn an incredible amount, all while having a blast. The year is packed with fun: two fabulous plays (performed for the whole school); a daily rotation of centers focusing on art, cooking, science and building; great field trips; and a constant stream of amazing projects (like getting to build and explode your own volcano!) and activities (like "buying" their snacks from a class store during the money unit). The children have the time of their lives, but it is all carefully orchestrated to help them learn everything they need to be fully prepared for first grade: fine motor skills, basic science and math concepts, reading and writing skills, problem solving, staying at the table during lunch, raising their hand to speak, speaking in front of their classmates, and so on. My children started kindergarten at very different levels, both academically and socially, but both thrived and were extremely well prepared for first grade because of the loving and individualized environment that Mrs. Eva and Mrs. Perkins create. Perhaps the most important thing that the kindergarten gave them was a boost of confidence that helped ease the transition to a larger elementary school. I could go on and on... but Mrs. Eva and Mrs. Perkins make the kindergarten such an amazing place that we are always sad when another year with them draws to a close.

-Elizabeth Richardson Vigdor



I came to DMWS specifically for Kindergarten with our oldest child not only because I believe in the easement into full time school with a half day, but he was also very young. It's hard to be brief with my admiration for the dynamic duo of Connie Eva and Dawn Perkins having been blessed with two memorable years. One of their greatest strengths is creating community in and outside of the classroom. Each week children are purposefully grouped and through guided interactions learn to accept and appreciate everyone's uniqueness. As a parent you quickly become spoiled with the level of communication and total family involvement. I know that I struggled with cutting in Kindergarten, but my children developed incredible fine motor skills through targeted daily activities! The reputation of DMWS is far reaching and I have heard from many 1st grade teachers that children who come to them from DMWS are better prepared in every aspect than other Kindergarteners. This year I'm starting my DMWS experience all over again and I have no doubt that we are on the four year track. I cherish not only for my children, but myself the special experience that is Kindergarten at DMWS.

-Kimbie Sprague



Thanks All Round!!



Fall Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who came to our book fair this year!! We had a great turn out and sold over \$1800.00 in books which was a **HUGE** success. We also want to thank those of you who took time out of your busy schedule to volunteer at the book fair. The One for Books program blew us all away this year. By sending in your spare change we raised \$192.00 dollars for the Ronald McDonald House. That is almost 10 times as much as last year – **FANTASTIC!!!** We know these books will be sure to put big smiles on some little faces!!

Thanks everyone!

Lauren Kruse &
Tiffanie Hoover



Everyone's A Winner!!

A **HUGE** Thank You to all of you who supported the DMWS Fall Raffle. We are happy to report \$824.00 was raised due to your generosity. Congratulations to the following people who won the various prizes, Kimbie Sprague, Lindy Mathis, Jake Ward, Stephanie Wilson, Megan Piccini, Puttachat Kelly, Catie Kendall, Bridgette Bishop, Corli Jones, Martha Zeagler, Rebecca Mead, Jodi Koviach, the Markum Family and Nick Jones.

Thanks!!

Katie Hanczaryk & Susan Sailer-Ward
2011 Fall Raffle Co-Chairs

Fall Gathering

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who helped out with Fall Gathering! It was a huge success and a lot of fun for everyone... the Bouncing Bulldogs were thoroughly enjoyed by all! None of it would have been possible without the help of the parents who volunteered their time preparing for the event, during the event and with clean-up... all of your efforts were **MUCH** appreciated!!!

Thank you!!!





Giving Tree 2011

Dear DMWS Families,

As the holiday season is approaching, we are getting ready to set up our traditional annual Giving Tree. The Giving Tree is our way to give back to our community and also foster a giving heart in our children.

This year we are sponsoring the "Share your Christmas" program managed by the Department of Social Services and the Durham Volunteer Center. The program provides disadvantaged families with new gifts for the holiday seasons. The program will match us with families that have children in the same age range as our kids (2-5 years old).

The tree will be set up by November 1st and will be at the end of the hallway from the director's office. There will be tags on the tree, from which you can select wish list items from the children. We hope you will stop by to sponsor a child. Please bring your child(ren) when you pick a tag as it is a special way for children to participate in giving.

Your unwrapped gift will need to be placed under the tree by December 5th with the tag attached.

As always, thank for your support and generosity. We wish you And your family a happy holiday season.



Thank you.

DMWS Annual Carnival and Silent Auction

Please save the date : March 3rd, 2012



It's not too soon to start thinking about the DMWS Carnival and Silent Auction, which will be held on March 3rd. This annual event will offer fun for all ages! Game booths will be set up in each classroom, and a pizza lunch will be served in Whitford Hall in addition to the Silent Auction. This is our school's biggest fundraising event and it requires the help of all families to make it a success.

Be on the lookout for more information about his upcoming event and ways in which you can help out. Classroom Representative will soon begin collecting names of Carnival and Silent Auction Reps from their class rooms, as there will be a planning meeting in January. We are looking forward to another successful carnival and auction!





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Picture Day
Is Here !!!

This is just a reminder that John Elkins will be at DMWS on November 3rd & 4th to take individual student pictures.

If you would like to bring a sibling to be photographed, arrive at the school by 9:00am on either day, ready to take pictures.

POINSETTIA SALE

We will have our annual Poinsettia Sale again this year. Orders will be due on Thursday and Friday December 1st and 2nd. The plants will be ready for pick up the following week. More information will come in your child's folder.



Durham Rescue Mission

Thank you to all the Duke Memorial Weekday School families who generously donated to the Durham Rescue Mission's Women and Children's Shelter this year. It is great to know there is a place in Durham that women and children can go if they need a shelter and a safe place to stay.

Your donations help the shelter to provide a welcoming play area and daycare, as well as clothing and other supplies the families may need as they arrive with little or no belongings of their own. The daycare director is always so thrilled when your donations come in and she says how much it helps. Thank you so much for your support.



Sincerely,
Anne Campbell

Get Published

The Parents' Press is published throughout the school year by DMWS Parents' Council. Please send submissions to Laura Lloyd at drago.draco519@gmail.com. The submission deadline for the December Newsletter is **Monday, November 21st**.

