

THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | March 2020



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- Mar 2:** Teacher Work Day
NO SCHOOL
- Mar 3:** Staff Development Day
NO SCHOOL
- Mar 5:** Storyteller
- Mar 6:** Book Mobile
- Mar 10:** Parents' Council meeting and DMWS Dining Out at QShack (all day)

LOOKING AHEAD

- April 4:** Spring Carnival & Silent Auction
- April 10-17:** Spring Break
- April 29/30:** Spring Book Fair



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Dear Parents,

Happy March! This month we will enjoy St. Patrick's Day festivities, the storyteller, and Dr. Seuss activities. It should be a fun month! We will also have a Tornado Drill. At the end of March into early April we will get ready for our annual Carnival and Silent Auction with Spirit Week Activities. Look for more information from our Parents' Council.

Make plans for your children to attend summer camp. Spaces fill on a first come, first served basis - so get those forms in early! Forms have been sent home in your child's folder. Cost is \$180 per week and includes time for lunch.

DMWS has a few spaces left in our program for next year. Please let your friends and neighbors know! We do keep a waiting list for classes that have filled in case children need to withdraw due to moving, etc.

Help us keep our children safe. If you cross the street with your child, please use the marked crosswalk and hold hands with your child. Cell phone use is prohibited in our carpool line. If you enter the building for late arrival, early pick-up or to drop by a special birthday snack for your child's class, please remember to sign in/out through the office. The log book is beside the "Please Sign In" poster.

On March 2, our staff will have a day of planning and time for age level meetings. On March 3, the staff will attend a workshop titled "Making Math Meaningful: Using Literature, Play and Loose Parts". Ongoing staff development is important as we strive to offer an excellent play based experience for your children.

Thank you for sharing your children with us,
Julie



Did You Know?

- + DMUMC will begin renovation of the lower level of the Sanctuary Building in March.
- + The Board of Trustees for DMUMC will hold their March meeting in one of our school classrooms. We are excited to show them around the school!
- + In February, some classrooms “went into space”. They made mission control centers, rockets, and lunar rovers from cardboard boxes.
- + DMWS has added 2 new security cameras to the hallway between the elevator and the exit to the playground. This is in addition to the camera that has been in the carpool door hallway for a couple of years.
- + DMUMC has added additional exterior security cameras to cover the parking lots and playground areas.

Quote of the Month

The importance of playful learning cannot be overemphasized.

From “The Power of Play” American Academy of Pediatrics, 2018

DMWS Summer Camp 2020

Mark your calendars for DMWS Summer Camp! This summer, DMWS will offer 2 weeks of camp this summer. You will be able to sign up for one or two weeks. **Week 1 will be June 22-26. Week 2 will be July 13-17 from 9am-12:30pm.** Campers will enjoy a variety of activities including daily music and fitness opportunities. Tuition for camp is \$180 per week. Camp is open to rising 3's through rising first graders. Look for applications in your child's folder.



DMWS Food Drive

Many thanks for supporting the DMWS Canned Food Drive in February. Urban Ministries of Durham was very grateful for the 334 food items we delivered for distribution through their food pantry. The children enjoyed lining the hallways with food and talking about helping our neighbors. We were also able to sneak in some math connections!



Need a new DMWS t-shirt??

We have DMWS t-shirts for sale, children's & adult sizes & various colors, \$15 each.

Email dmwsparentscouncil@gmail.com to get yours!

We will have a "spirit week" leading up to our carnival on April 4th and one day will be DMWS t-shirt day, in case you need a new school shirt or a bigger size for your growing kiddos!

Parking Lot Information

For parents who wish to park in the lot on Memorial Drive and walk across the street for drop-off or pick-up, please remember to observe the following guidelines.

- + Park only in marked spaces.
- + Spaces along the back fence marked in yellow are reserved for Church World Service employees.
- + Always drive slowly.
- + Cross Memorial Drive at the crosswalk. During morning carpool, please watch for a DMWS employee to stop traffic and motion for pedestrians to cross.
- + Bring all children in with you. DO NOT leave any child in a car unattended by an adult for any reason or any amount of time.



Spring Carnival 2020

Dining Out

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

The Spring Carnival will be here before you know it! The work is underway but we would love some more heads and hands as we pull this together. Help make sure the carnival is as fun as can be by participating in the planning!

Please email dmwsparentscouncil@gmail.com and we can help you find a role that works with your available time!



March's Dining Out will be Tuesday, March 10th at Q Shack (<http://theqshackoriginal.com/>) on University Drive. They will donate 5% of the entire days sales back to DMWS! Hope to see lots of friends dining out!



March Fitness Update



After the annual snowball fight, March fitness is about balance, strength and coordination. We will navigate an obstacle course that is an outdoor experience: rock climbing our wall, fording a stream on stepping stones, hiking on a trail, and spelunking our tent "caves." We will practice some balance poses and also do some partner yoga poses. From there, we will bring out the jump ropes for an introduction to single jumping and turning the rope, and do some double dutch with the teachers. For our final March fitness, we will practice our throwing at a target with some games of bocce ball. As always for your child's safety and enjoyment, please dress in fitness clothes and shoes on fitness days.

The Silent Auction Team Needs Your Help

As we seek, request and gather items and services for the 2020 event and coordinate our internal auction efforts - we need help from fellow parent volunteers!

Here's How You Can Help:

- + **DONATE** an item or service to the auction.
- + **SUGGEST** individuals or businesses who may be able to offer an item or service and **CONNECT** us.
- + **SET UP** the auction with our team on Friday, April 3.
- + **WORK** the auction itself on Saturday, April 4.



We can use all the help we can get! Please email Bethany Hsia (bethanyjbrown@gmail.com) if you'd like to join our team or with any questions or suggestions.

Tuition Assistance

DMWS is able to offer tuition assistance to families who demonstrate need. Yearlong assistance applications are **due by May 1** of each school year while emergency assistance applications may be submitted as the need arises. Applicants may pick up applications in the school office. The DMWS Board of Directors determines recipients at the May board meeting. All applications/awards are kept confidential.

The family of Connie Eva, longtime kindergarten teacher, is pleased to offer a scholarship of up to \$1000 in her memory. It will be awarded for the first time in May 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year and will use the same need-based criteria as our regular tuition assistance fund.

Open Positions for Parents' Council Next Year

Looking ahead to the 2020-2021 school year, the Parents' Council has some vital positions to fill! Would you be interested in being our:

President

Vice President (serves as president the following school year)

Treasurer

Parents' Press Editor

Please reach out to dmwsparentscouncil@gmail.com with any questions and we can go into more detail about what these positions entail. There may be more roles available in the Fall, but these are the most important and time-sensitive. Many of these positions are ideal to share with a friend, so grab a buddy and join us March 10th for this month's Parents' Council meeting, where you can learn more!!!

DMWS Openings for 2020-2021

After registration of returning and new students, some of our classes are full for the fall. There are spaces available for all ages 2-kindergarten. Please let your friends and neighbors know we have spots available on a first come, first served basis. Interested families can contact the school at **919-688-5130** or julieallen@dmws.org.