

THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | September 2023

Mark your Calendars:

Sept 5: Parent Orientation
Noon
Sept 6: School Begins for
Students
Sept 11: Lunch Bunch
Begins
Sept 13: Parents' Council
Meeting
Sept 14: Book Mobile
Visits
Sept 22: All Forms Due
Sept 25: Noon Dismissal
for all Students

Looking ahead:

Oct 4 & 5: Fire Truck Visit
Oct 5: K & Pre-K Field Trip
to West Point on the Eno



Dear DMWS Parents,

Welcome to our 2023-2024 school year! The staff at DMWS is excited to partner with your family during your child's preschool experience. Safety of the children and staff is very important to us. Please remember our carpool line is a **CELL FREE ZONE**. This includes all parking lots. Also remember that we cannot block the bike lane on West Chapel Hill Street.

DMWS welcomes two new staff members this year. Emily Critcher joins us as an assistant in 3 day 3's and 2 day 2's with Ms. Ludwig. Tania Suárez is the assistant in the 5 day 2's class. Former assistant teacher Ms. Schieffer will become our new Fitness teacher. We are very fortunate to have these wonderful additions to our staff.

Be sure to check our website <https://dmws.org> to keep undated on important information and access the 2023-2024 Handbook. You may also choose to pay your tuition by credit/debit card through a secure link on our webpage. The payment link can be found under the ADMISSIONS tab. Payment may also be made check, money order, or by auto-draft. If you did not receive an auto-draft form by email earlier in the summer, please contact the office.

I look forward to our 73rd school year and am so glad to have you and your child as part of the Duke Memorial Weekday School family. Feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions.

Julie Allen
Director DMWS
julieallen@dmws.org



DID YOU KNOW?

- During the summer, some leaky pipes were replaced in school ceilings. As a result, there are new ceilings and lighting in the main hallway, Mrs. Sublett's classroom and several closet spaces.
- Director Julie Allen completed a webinar series on school safety and used the information she learned to update DMWS safety procedures.
- During Surprise Camp, we had a special music presentation involving a viola and an accordion!
- DMWS received a generous donation of 7 Smart Boards this summer.

DMWS Tuition Assistance

DMWS is pleased to offer tuition assistance to families who demonstrate need. Yearlong assistance can cover up to 50% of a child's tuition. These applications are due by May 1 each year (or at time of enrollment). Emergency assistance applications may be submitted any time a need arises. Funding for tuition assistance is built into the yearly budget with added funds from Parents' Council proceeds each year. The DMWS Board of Directors determines the recipients of our tuition assistance funds. All applications/awards are kept confidential. Families interested in applying for assistance should contact the school office to obtain application forms.

The family of Connie Eva established a scholarship in her memory after she passed away in August 2019 after a brave battle with cancer. The scholarship was awarded for the first time in May 2020 and uses the same need-based criteria as our regular tuition assistance fund. Connie Eva taught kindergarten at DMWS for 27 years until her retirement in May, 2017. She involved the students in many engaging activities, including plays that gave the children experience with drama. The DMWS family named the stage in her honor upon her retirement.

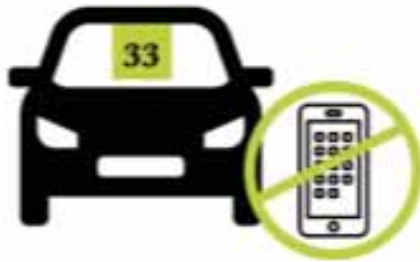
Remind Texting Service

Remind is a free messaging tool to help educators communicate with parents. Parents can opt in to receive texts from the school in the event of an emergency (fire, etc). It will also be used in the event of school cancellation/delay in addition to email notification.

To receive text messages, parents should text @dukemem to 81010 or (828)394-2095. Parents can unsubscribe at any time.

Carpool Reminders

Carpool helps us get our students in and out of the facility safely and efficiently. Please help us by prominently displaying your carpool tag (with the number facing forward) as soon as you enter the side parking lot. Our carline is a cell free zone. Please do not attempt U-turns on either West Chapel Hill Street or Memorial Drive.



DMWS is Peanut-free

No Peanuts or peanut butter will be allowed in DMWS classrooms. Children who bring lunches to school for Kindergarten or Lunch Bunch may use other nut butters (cashew butter, almond butter, sunflower seed butter, etc.)

Did you know?

You can help support the school by linking our accounts to DMWS:



Parking at DMWS

Please use the paved parking lot on Memorial Drive if you need to park and walk across the street. The spaces in the row closest to Duke Street are reserved for Church World Service employees.

PLAYGROUND RENOVATION UPDATE

THE NEW PLAY STRUCTURES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED!!! DMWS is excited to have the new equipment installed and ready for use. Several years ago, the DMWS Board of Directors set aside \$40,000 toward the new playground. The equipment, demolition/removal of the old structures, and installation exceeded this amount so our school has relied on generous donations to make up the difference. Many thanks to our wonderful Parents' Council who raised \$12134.88 toward the cost. Other donations have been received from teachers, current/former parents, grandparents and church members. We have almost raised enough to cover the remaining balance. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the project, contact Julie Allen at julieallen@dmws.org. DMWS is so grateful for the generosity of our donors.



Small Group Opportunity

Dear moms, grandmothers, caregivers, friends,

I invite you to join me in the Wednesday Morning Women's Small Group at Duke Memorial this semester. If you're free on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11, please come! We will read the book *Tell Her Story: How Women Led, Taught, and Ministered in the Early Church* by Nijay Gupta. 2023. 224 pages. If you need help getting a copy, let me know.

We'll meet Wednesday mornings in the Commons at Duke Memorial (ground level, near the playground) starting September 20 and will continue for 10 weeks, usually discussing one chapter a week over snacks and coffee. (Note: we won't start discussing the book til week 2.)

I started participating in this group 13 years ago when my youngest daughter was a baby in PMO. It became a highlight of my week - a time to meet friends, soak up some support, and enjoy the opportunity for learning and thoughtful conversation. Let me know if you're interested or have any questions!

Peace,
Karalyn Colopy, Duke Memorial member
karalyncolopy@gmail.com
919-956-7875

WANT TO ADVERTISE?

If you have a business you want to promote to the school community, consider an advertisement in the monthly Parents' Press. Quarter page ads are \$10/month.

Email dmwsparentscouncil@gmail.com for more information.

DMWS Carpool Line

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CARPOOL LINE IS A CELL-FREE ZONE AT ALL TIMES. STAY FOCUSED AND KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE.
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Three cars at a time pull along curb for loading.
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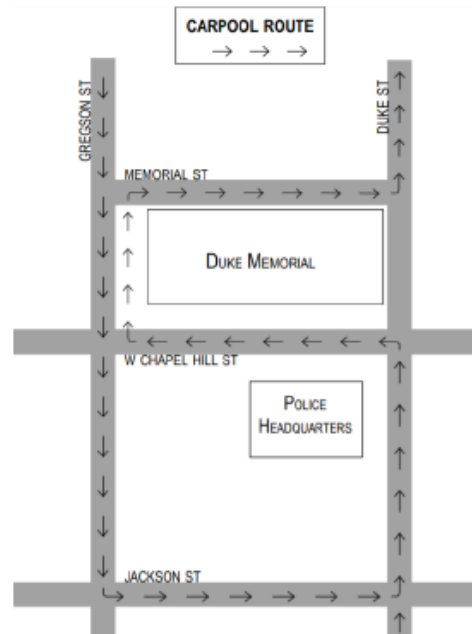
Wait at stop sign for next turn in loading zone. Please have your carpool number displayed.
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There is no left turn into the parking lot. Follow the route around the police station.
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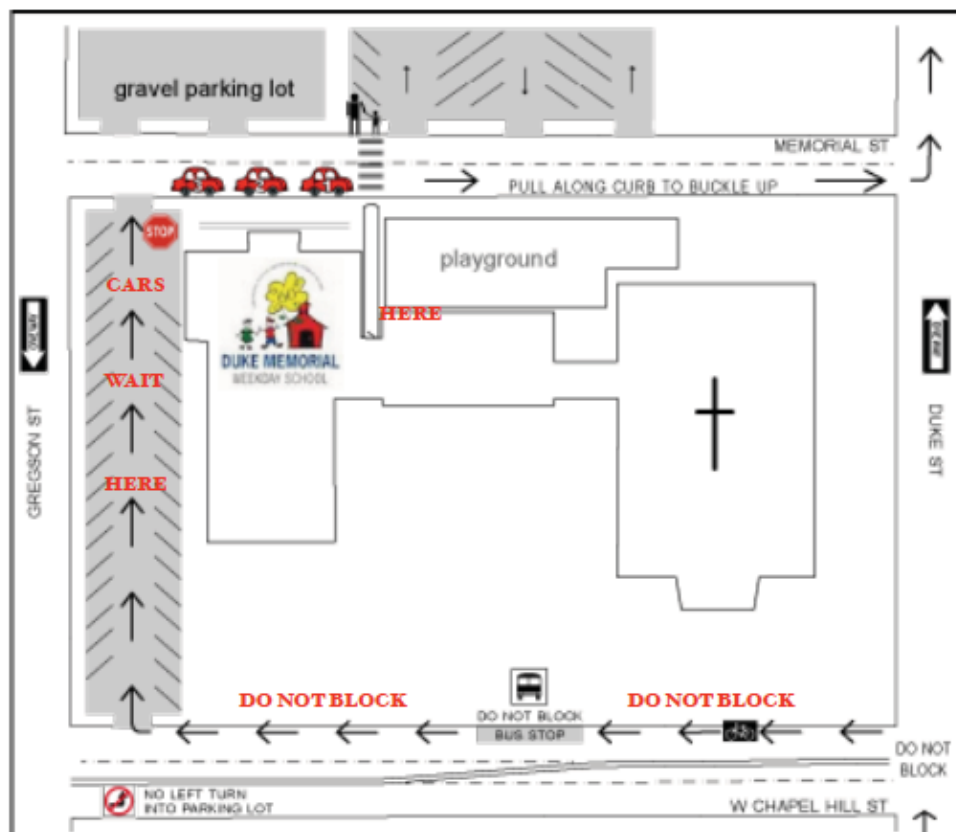
Carpool line occupies the bike lane. **Do not block the bus stop or the Duke St intersection.** If the line is full, repeat the loop around the police station.
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Parents walking to pickup should line up along the sidewalk with their carpool number in hand.
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Use crosswalk at all times. Do not cross between advancing carpool cars.



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