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# THE PARENTS' PRESS

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Duke Memorial Weekday School | November 2023

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## **Mark your Calendars:**

Nov. 1: PC Meeting  
Nov. 2: Fire Safety House visit (Pre-K & K)  
Nov. 3: Book Mobile  
Nov 6-10: PC Popcorn Sale  
Nov. 10: Veterans Day Observed. **No School**  
Nov. 14: Dining Out at PDQ  
Nov. 17: Board Meeting  
Nov. 22-24: Thanksgiving Holiday. **No School**  
Nov. 27: Staff Meeting- All students dismiss at noon  
Nov. 27: Donations for Christmas Market due

## **Looking ahead:**

Dec. 6: Kindergarten Open House 12:15pm, Registration Required  
Dec. 18: Staff Meeting. All students dismiss at noon



Dear DMWS Family,

October was so much fun with visits from the fire department, a field trip to West Point on the Eno for K and Pre-K, school photos, a terrific Fall Gathering and wonderful Halloween Parade! Art activities with pumpkins and leaves have allowed the children to show us their creativity! The children did a wonderful job with the fire drill on October 11.

November will bring a visit from the Fire Safety House for our older students, Friendship Feasts, and a focus on thankfulness. Note that we do not have school on November 10 or November 22-24.

As we move into cooler weather, illnesses such as flu and colds tend to increase. Our area is also seeing an increase in RSV cases. Please help us keep our community healthy by getting flu vaccines and keeping sick children home. Unfortunately, the one thing kids love to share is germs!

DMWS still has a few openings in our 2 day 2's, Pre-K and K programs. If you know anyone looking for a wonderful preschool for their child, be sure to give them my contact information.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday!

Julie Allen  
DMWS Director



# 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.

## Did You Know?

- Durham Fire Fighters visited our school on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>! We even had a special visit from Sparky the Fire Dog on the 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The Durham County Book Mobile visits DMWS on the first Friday of each month so staff can check out additional books for their classrooms.
- In 1950, DMWS started as a “nursery school” for 5 year-olds.
- Parents Council funds given to the school allowed us to purchase pumpkins for each child.
- In the 1950’s, the playground and the church parsonage was located where the side parking lot and Education Building are currently located.

## DMWS Inclement Weather Policy

The Director will determine if Duke Memorial Weekday School should be open, closed, or operate on a delay in the event of inclement weather or extenuating circumstances, using Durham Public Schools as a guideline.

This means we will not always follow Durham Public Schools.

Factors considered when assessing whether to close, open on time or on a delay include, but are not limited to: teacher availability to fulfill Safe Sanctuaries requirements, the condition of Memorial Drive/sidewalks along Memorial Drive, and timing of the inclement weather event. Parents should check for cancelations/delay information on WTVD and WRAL. Attempts will be made to notify all families by email and Remind text. The decision as to whether or not Duke Memorial Weekday School opens on a delay will be made with the utmost consideration of safety of all of our families and staff members. Duke Memorial Weekday School will build up to 4 makeup days into the school calendar. Use of these makeup days is at the discretion of the Director.

# Carpool Reminder

For the Safety of the children, please keep the following in mind:

1. Carpool line is a cellphone free zone.
2. Do not exit your car from the driver's side while your car is in a loading/unloading position. After you pull up to buckle, you may exit your car if needed. Memorial Drive is a city street and is used by many cars daily.

# NC Car Seat Safety

North Carolina has specific laws regarding car seat safety for children. These laws are summarized below.

- For birth to 12 months – Infant-only rear-facing car seat
- Ages 1 to 3 years – Rear-facing car seat until the child reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat manufacturer, then transition to a forward-facing car seat. For most rear-facing seats, often that's 35 pounds or 35 inches. Please check manufacturer information for your specific seat.
- Ages 4 to 7 years – Forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until the child reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat manufacturer, then transition to a booster seat
- Ages 8 to 12 years – A child should remain in a booster seat until they are big enough to fit in a seat belt properly

# Kindergarten Open House: Wed Dec 6, 2023 12:15pm

DMWS will hold an Open House for parents to learn more about DMWS kindergarten. There will be an opportunity to see the classroom, speak with the lead teacher, and ask questions.

Please call the office at 919-688-5130 or send an email to [julieallen@dmws.org](mailto:julieallen@dmws.org) to register for this in-person event. Depending on the number of attendees, a second Open House may be scheduled.

# Duke Memorial Christmas Market

The Duke Memorial Christmas Market is a one-day, low-cost holiday shopping event for Durham families with limited financial means. It gives parents an opportunity to give Christmas gifts to their children and honors their dignity by letting them do the shopping themselves. It gives donors a chance to share God's love and experience the true meaning of Christmas. [This year, the Christmas Market will be on Saturday, December 2.](#)

Our shoppers are families who receive services from our partner agencies such as Urban Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Families Moving Forward, etc. Our partners distribute shopper passes to families (1 pass per child) based on need and circumstance. Any proceeds from the Market go back to the agencies that distribute the Shopper's Passes, a "bonus" gift for everyone involved.

DMUMC has two gift registries you can use to purchase gifts on-line or see what sort of items are needed. Registries can be used in the stores as well. If you shop on-line, gifts will ship directly to the church. If you wish to shop in person, that is great too! Remember that places like Ollie's, Big Lots, and TJ Maxx are great places to get more bang for your donated buck! Dolls, super heroes, block sets, and cars/trucks are all good choices. Any gifts (purchased on-line or in person) should be delivered to the church by November 27. You may either drop off in carline or walk the gifts in to the office. You are welcome to send in items through carline. If you wish to donate money for DMUMC elves to shop for you, you may donate by cash or check to Duke Memorial UMC with "Christmas Market" on the memo line.

You may access registries using these links:

[Target](#) and [Amazon](#).



# Advertisements

## **SANTA PHOTO SESSIONS**

Want to avoid lines and crowds? Have sweet time with Santa? This is perfect for you! Enjoy hot cocoa, snacks and personal time with Santa!

**\$140+tax: 10 minutes, 10-15 images**

Dec 3rd: Old Mill Farm Durham

Sign-up link: [https://calendly.com/dogwoodphoto\\_co/santa-on-the-farm](https://calendly.com/dogwoodphoto_co/santa-on-the-farm)

See my work on Instagram ([@dogwoodphoto\\_co](https://www.instagram.com/dogwoodphoto_co)), [facebook page](#) and my [website](#).

Email [lacyuthe@gmail.com](mailto:lacyuthe@gmail.com) for other inquiries or questions.



## 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](mailto:dmwsparentscouncil@gmail.com) for more information.