

THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | September 2024

Mark your Calendars:

Sept 3: Parent Orientation at Noon
Sept 4: School Begins for Students
Sept 11: Parents' Council Meeting
Sept 20: All Forms Due (Immunization records, etc)
Sept 30: Staff Meeting-NO LUNCH BUNCH

Looking ahead:

Oct 3 & 4: Staff Development/Teacher Work Days
Oct 9 & 10: Fire Truck Visit
Oct 10: Field Trip for Pre-K and K

Dear DMWS Parents,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! The staff of DMWS is excited to partner with your family during your child's preschool experience. Over the summer, staff members have been at work making classrooms ready for your children- I am sure you will be impressed!

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. If you walk across Memorial Drive with your child, please remember to use the crosswalk and hold hands. Also remember that we cannot block the bike lane on West Chapel Hill Street.

DMWS welcomes two new staff members this year. Amy Wilson joins us as the lead teacher in 3 day 3's. Gina Culbreth will work as an assistant teacher in the 2 day 3's with Valerie Hamlett. We are very fortunate to have these wonderful additions to our staff. With the retirement of long-time teacher Holly Speight, some staff members have shifted into new roles. Be sure to check out the staff photos on the school website.

Visit our website <https://dmws.org> to keep undated on important information and access the 2024-2025 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 74th 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



DMWS Birthday

Did you know DMWS was founded by the Education Committee of Duke Memorial UMC in 1950 to provide nursery school for 5 year olds in the community? The committee saw the value of early childhood education and wanted an opportunity for children to attend a half day play based program before entering first grade. Over the years, the preschool has expanded to serve children ages 2-kindergarten. Fall of 2025 will mark 75 years of service to children in Durham. During the current school year, we will begin planning ways to celebrate this milestone for DMWS. For the next two school years, our monthly newsletters will include fun facts about DMWS.

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.

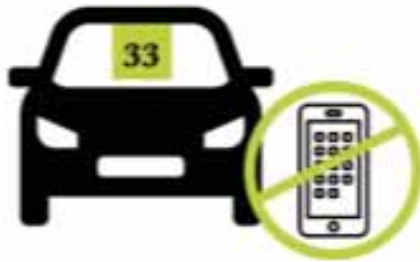
Remind Texting Service

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 your 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.

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



CARPOOL LINE IS A CELL-FREE ZONE AT ALL TIMES. STAY FOCUSED AND KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE.



Three cars at a time pull along curb for loading.



Wait at stop sign for next turn in loading zone. Please have your carpool number displayed.



There is no left turn into the parking lot. Follow the route around the police station.



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.



Parents walking to pickup should line up along the sidewalk with their carpool number in hand.



Use crosswalk at all times. Do not cross between advancing carpool cars.

