
THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | September 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept 8: Parent Orientation at noon

Sept 9: School begins for students

Sept 16: Parents' Council meeting

Sept 28: Staff Meeting- All students dismiss at noon

Sept 29 & 30: Fire Truck Visit

Sept 30: Dining Out at Lakewood Social

LOOKING AHEAD

Oct 5 & 6 - School Picture Days

Oct 15- Visit from Wild Tails NC (for pre-k & k)

Oct 18- Fall Gathering



Dear DMWS Families,

Welcome to DMWS for our 76th 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. Three classrooms received new carpet this summer. We were able to purchase a new laptop for teacher use, a set of craft punches, a bookcase, a wall cabinet, and several new toys- all due to the generosity of our Parents' Council!

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 three new staff members this year. Chrischell Freeman and Ami Young join us as our new 5 day 2's team. Andrea Bernard will work as an assistant teacher in the 4 day pre-k with Amy Ludwig. We are very fortunate to have these wonderful additions to our staff. Be sure to check out the staff photos on the school website.

Visit our website <https://dmws.org> to keep updated on important information and access the 2026-2027 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 by 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 76th 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.

Peace,
Julie Allen
DMWS Director

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.

Class Dojo

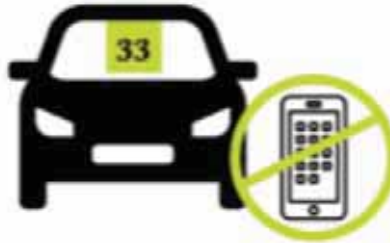
In the past, DMWS has used Remind texting service to communicate special information such as school closure due to inclement weather or traffic issues that may impact drop-off/pick-up. As of this fall, all DMWS classroom teachers are using Class Dojo to send weekly updates to the families in their class. This change also allows special all school announcements to be made through Class Dojo. If you joined the DMWS Remind group in the past, you may now delete that from your phone.

Roof Repairs

During the summer, Duke Memorial UMC began to replace the tiled roof sections on both the Education Building and the Middle Building. While the work does not impact school operations, it does mean that there is scaffolding along the sidewalk in the side parking lot and some extra trucks parked in that lot. Please be mindful of the roofers who may be in the parking lot during drop off and pick up times. For the duration of the roofing project, DMWS will not be placing the "Stop Here" sign at the bottom of the side lot.

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.



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.

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:



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.

