THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | November 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Nov 4: PC Meeting

Nov 10: Dining Out at Tomato Jake's & Brusters

Nov 11: No School; Veteran's Day / Day Off School Fundraiser at We Rock The Spectrum Kid's Gym

Nov 12-Nov 19: Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser

Nov 17: Coffee Connection at Can Opener

Nov 25-Nov 27: No School; Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov 30: Staff Meeting: All students dismissed at noon

LOOKING AHEAD

Dec 2: Open House for 2027-2028 Kindergarten

Dear DMWS Family,

October was amazing! Our pre-k and k students met some animals from Wild Tails NC. We also took school photos, enjoyed a terrific Fall Gathering and had 2 wonderful Halloween Parades. The staff was able to attend training on October 23 to learn ideas to implement in our classrooms related to fine motor skills, gross motor skills, and social connections.

November looks to be just as busy with Friendship Feasts, cooking activities involving cornbread and pumpkin as well as a focus on thankfulness. Note that we do not have school on November 11 or November 25-27.

Parking requests from church- persons parking during the workday are asked to leave the row in the paved lot closest to Olive & Olive/Duke Street open for use by Church World Service. All other parking spots in the paved lots and dirt lot are available.

As we move into cooler weather, respiratory illnesses such as flu and colds tend to increase. Please help us keep our community healthy by getting appropriate seasonal vaccines and keeping sick children home. Unfortunately, the one thing kids love to share is germs! Also remember that our playground is very chilly in winter months so be sure to send your children with coats, hats, and mittens (all labeled).

We are also starting to give tours for the 2026-2027 school year so let your friends and neighbors know. There will be open houses for prospective kindergarten families as well as rising 2's and 3's.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday!

Julie Allen

DMWS Director

DMWS Inclement Weather Policy

When the Durham Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Duke Memorial Weekday School will make its own decision. If Durham Public Schools are delayed, the Director will determine if Duke Memorial Weekday School should be open, closed, or operate on a delay.

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 cancellation/delay information on WRAL. Attempts will be made to notify all families by email and using the Class Dojo. The decision as to whether or not Duke Memorial Weekday School opens on a delay will be made with the utmost consideration of safety for 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.

Lunch Bunch Suggestions

All lunches should be peanut /peanut butter free. If you send an alternative butter, please label it. DMWS is not able to microwave food for students in lunch bunch. Please keep in mind that your child should be able to manage the food they bring and the containers used. Finger foods are best. Children need to be able to feed themselves. If you send an item that requires use of a utensil, please send one with the lunch. Please refrain from using glass containers- we have had several break when knocked off of tables. These are suggestions of easy items for you to pack.

- Apple Slices, Clementines (peeled and ready to eat)
- Grapes (Please cut up so they are not a choking hazard)
- Sun Chips, Pretzels, Triscuits, Wheat Thins or Veggie Straws
- Pepperoni slices
- Carrots or Cucumber slices with ranch
- Applesauce pouch or cup
- Cheese stick or cheese cubes/slices
- Peeled Hard-boiled eggs
- Pita Bread with Hummus
- Granola Bar
- Turkey & Cheese rolled in a tortilla or on bread
- Ants on a log (celery with cream cheese and raisins)
- Yogurt

- Sliced vegetables (sweet pepper, avocado, cherry tomato, etc
- Dried fruit
- Muffin or slice of Banana Bread
- Turkey wrapped mozzarella cheese stick
- Trail Mix (Cheerios, raisins and mini marshmallows)
- Pineapple
- Chicken Nuggets
- Waffle or Mini Bagel with Sunbutter or Cream Cheese
- Slice of pizza
- Fruit Salad
- Cheese Quesadilla
- Reduced sugar fruit snacks

Partnership with Duke OT Students

DMWS is thrilled to announce a partnership with students in the Occupational Therapy Program at Duke University. As part of their capstone experience, the students end the semester in a community placement so they can apply their knowledge and skills while supporting the Durham community. DMWS is honored to be able to provide a pediatric placement opportunity for these students during the week of December 7-11. Ten students are assigned to DMWS to collaborate with our teachers. We anticipate hosting other OT students in May and during summer camp. What a wonderful opportunity to learn from each other and share insights and strategies that will impact our students!

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 5. 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 area non-profits- a "bonus" gift for everyone involved. If you would like to participate, you may either drop off gifts in carline or walk the gifts in to the office. 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 should be delivered to the church by November 23.

Minted Holiday Card Fundraiser

Use our code FUNDRAISEDUKEMEMORIAL to save 20% on your Minted Order! 15% of your order total will be donated to DMWS. Orders can be placed at www.minted.com.

Kindergarten Open House

Wednesday, December 2, 2026 at 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 RSVP via email to 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 WEEKDAY SCHOOL

DAY OFF FUNDRAISER

at

WeRockTheSpectrum® KID'S GYM®



For All Kids – Durham

Show this flyer or mention DMWS for 20% to be donated to the school!

Looking for a fun way to spend your day off from school?
Join us at We Rock the Spectrum- Durham,
an AMAZING new indoor playspace for a day of fun!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- GREAT FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES
- INCLUSIVE PLAY SPACE
- SENSORY FRIENDLY
- PERFECT WAY TO SPEND THE DAY OFF

We Rock the Spectrum Durham
3409 Hillsborough Rd, Ste J3
Durham, NC 27705