



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

WMS Transition Mornings

Have you ever wondered what happens at the next program level for your child at WMS? Come in and experience it.

Visit a next level classroom so you can see for yourself what lies ahead. You will observe a class in session where children are working and teachers are giving lessons.

You will also have the opportunity to ask questions about your child's transition to the next program level.

RSVP to your current teacher or theresa_conaty@wmsde.org.

Schedule of Visits:

Transition to Preschool
Wednesday, 1/19
Thursday, 1/20

Transition to 5-7 program
Wednesday, 2/2
Tuesday, 2/8

Transition to 7-9 program
Wednesday, 2/2
Wednesday, 2/9

Transition to 9-12 program
Wednesday, 2/9
Thursday, 2/10

All visits are from 9:15–9:45 a.m.
Meet in the lobby at 9 a.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January

- 20 Transition to Preschool Morning Meet in lobby, 9 a.m.
- 27 Dads Day/WMS 47th Birthday Activities begin at 8:30 a.m.
- 28 & 31 Preschool/Elementary Conferences These classes are closed. Childcare available. E-mail cass_winner@wmsde.org
- 31 Childcare Pool Party – K-6th grade 10:20 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Greater Newark Boys' & Girls' Club Bus departs from & returns to WMS.

February

- 2 Transition to Elementary Morning Meet in lobby, 9 a.m.
- 3 Chinese New Year
- 5 The Journey 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 8-10 Transition to Elementary Mornings Meet in lobby, 9 a.m.
- 8-9 Class Pictures
- 9 Admissions Open House Library, 9:30 a.m.
- 16 Annual Meeting Great Room
- 17 MTAD Presents Dr. Betty Garner Parent Workshop WMS, 7-9 p.m.
- 18 All-staff professional day Childcare Closed



Receive live updates from WMS on your computer or mobile device by subscribing to our Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/wmsde or texting **follow wmsde to 40404**.



Let it snow, let it snow!

Snow brought winter fun to WMS this week!

Photo by Heather Siple

MTAD and WMS welcome guest educator Betty Garner

The Montessori Teachers' Association of Delaware (MTAD) is pleased to welcome Dr. Betty Garner to Wilmington Montessori School for both a parent workshop (February 17, 7-9 p.m.) and an in-service teachers' conference (February 18, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.).

During her presentations, Dr. Garner, a Montessori parent, educator and educational researcher, will draw upon her experiences as an art teacher during which she watched intelligent, creative children decide that they didn't "get what it took" to be successful in school.

Dr. Garner explored the work of a variety of educational psychologists and researchers and conducted hundreds of in-depth case studies, much like Maria Montessori observing children, to better understand how children learn and process information.

In the introduction to her book, Dr. Garner writes, "The students taught me to see learning in a new way." As she explored the development of children's cognitive structures, she also developed a philosophy of the "spiritual dimensions of learning."



WMS RE-ENROLLMENT



WMS re-enrollment letters have gone home in the mail. Contracts are due back on March 1. Questions should be directed to Theresa Conaty, Admissions Officer, at theresa_conaty@wmsde.org.

CONFERENCE DAY CHILDCARE FIELD TRIP



K-6th childcare classes will head to the Greater Newark Boys' & Girls' Club on Monday, January 31 for a pool party! The bus will leave WMS at 10:20 a.m. and will return at 1:15 p.m. Register for childcare that day by emailing Cass at cass_winner@wmsde.org.



Students win teamwork award for Lego project

Zach Siple, Kevin Wolynetz and Junior Coach **Ryan Wolynetz** (all from WMS's 9-12 program) presented a project at the Junior Lego League Expo in Kennett Square on January 8 to judges and 29 other teams.

Their team, the Lego Lasers, presented a motorized, computer-driven Lego model of a radiology lab and a poster explaining their research into its history, use and operation.

The boys brought home the "Teamwork" award for their outstanding job of

bringing their individual talents together to create something special.



Can you hear the drums?

Coming to WMS from January 27 through February 4.



WMS is excited to welcome Tony Vacca and his World Rhythms as this year's artist in residence. This experience of West African drumming and rhythm will bring us an energetic and dynamic program on the nature and power of music. Look for more details in the Weekly as we get closer to the program start date!

Parent survey: Participation requested

Wilmington Montessori School is participating in a national research project on reenrollment trends conducted by Independent School Management (ISM), a consulting firm to thousands of private schools across the U.S.

The survey will take less than five minutes of your time, and we guarantee your anonymity. Data will be reported in the aggregate only, nationally and by metropolitan area or region, in order to identify trends and inform planning processes for WMS and other independent schools.

Thank you for representing WMS in this endeavor! The survey is available here:

<http://surveys.isminc.com/surveys/ParentReenrollment2011/ParentReenrollmentResearch.asp>

Have you visited the parent portal lately?

Don't miss out on important dates, photos, classroom updates, and more!

Visit <http://www.wmsde.org/parents> and click "Parent Login" to see what's new!

Need password info? Contact familyrelations@wmsde.org.



It's cookie time!

Find a member of WMS's Troop 177 to order your Girl Scout cookies!

Don't know any Girl Scouts? Contact Danielle Elkins at elkins.d@comcast.net to find out how to order.

PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

Surviving the Challenge of Parenthood with Yvonne Nass

Have you ever observed in amazement at how our children respond in a Montessori classroom? How WMS teachers get so much cooperation? Come share and explore how we can:

- Encourage independence
- Invite cooperation
- Have a child learn to listen
- Set boundaries and become more consistent
- Create a problem-solver instead of raising a problem
- Lower the stress within the family
- Redirect misbehavior and much, much more.

Bring a neighbor, a friend, a co-parent, extended family and whoever might be interested. Contact Yvonne Nass (mynass@aol.com) with any questions.

February 1, 8, 15, 22,
March 1, March 8; 7-9 p.m.
\$80 per person (\$130 per couple)
Register at the Front Desk

THE JOURNEY

- What makes a WMS education better, especially in the elementary years?
 - How can I understand what happens in a WMS classroom?
 - What is the curriculum in a classroom? How can learning look like so much fun?
- Come explore the answers to these questions!

Saturday, February 5, 2011;
8:15 – 3:15 p.m.

Claim five co-op hours for participation!

Childcare provided, no fee to participate. Contact Denise Knoff (denise_knoff@wmsde.org) to reserve your space.



Learning Together workshops starting in February!

WMS toddler teacher Holly Knox leads an innovative parenting class that focuses on forming a learning partnership between very young children – ages 3 months to 3 and a half years – and the adults who care for them.

Learning Together consists of two-hour classes that meet weekly in a prepared classroom, plus one adult night and one family event. During classes, a “learning team” consisting of a child and adult (parent, grandparent, or consistent caregiver) explore the Montessori environment together. Through thoughtful observation participants quickly learn about these children’s likes and dislikes, personality traits and special qualities that make each a unique individual.

The workshop series, which also welcomes families from outside WMS, begins Friday, February 4. Find a brochure, schedule and registration forms at the information center off the main lobby, at www.wmsde.org or leave a friend’s address at the front desk and we will mail them a flyer.

Dads’ Day

WMS fathers, it’s your turn to join us for a special day!

Thursday, January 27, 2011

8:30 a.m. – Elementary

9:00 a.m. – Infant/Toddler/Preschool



Beginning in the classroom with your child, followed by a special presentation by Dr. Lani Nelson-Zlupko who will share her approach on balancing work, life, and family with WMS fathers.

Dr. Nelson-Zlupko presented to a packed house on Moms’ Day last year and WMS is thrilled to have her back to present to our dads.

Safety Reminder: Using a cell phone while driving is now in violation of Delaware state law. There should be no cell phones in use while driving in the WMS parking lots.

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY SUBMISSIONS

Have a submission for the Wednesday Weekly? E-mail Wednesday-Weekly@wmsde.org by 4:30 p.m. Friday each week for possible publication in the following week’s issue.

Note: Submissions may be modified for space constraints and/or content clarity.

Inclement Weather

How can you get more information?

Sign up for the State of Delaware’s email update system for school closings and delays:

<https://diss.state.de.us/DWS/public.diss>.

Tune into the radio: KYW1060 (school code 3585), WDEL 1050 AM/WSTW 93.7 FM and WJBR 99.5FM

Subscribe the WMS Twitter feed for mobile phones by texting “follow wmsde” to 40404 to receive live updates on your phone or visit the WMS website.

Note: Please e-mail noel_dietrich@wmsde.org if you are a Twitter subscriber and did not receive this Tuesday’s closing information. Thanks!

Our Mission

Wilmington Montessori School is a collaborative learning community rooted in Montessori principles, inspiring the joyful discovery of self and a passion for learning and independent thinking. We empower children to be knowledgeable and responsible contributors to the global community.