



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

Happy 48th Birthday, WMS!



Yesterday, Wilmington Montessori School celebrated its 48th birthday at a fun school-wide assembly. The children gathered in the gym to sing songs including "This School Is Your School" and "Happy Birthday," along with the debut of Music Teacher Kelly Rhodunda's newest hit—"Happy, Happy, Happy Birthday, WMS!" (Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WilmingtonMontessoriDE for a short video of this world premier performance.)

The sixth-grade class, pictured above, enjoyed the first slices of birthday cake following their final WMS birthday celebration before graduating.



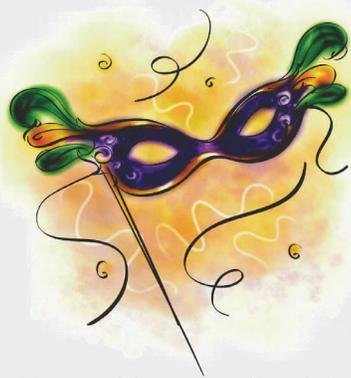
Preschoolers reach for the sky during after-school "book-a-thon"

This year, preschoolers in Room 17's after-care challenged themselves to read as many books as possible for what they named the "Book-a-thon." In this photo, they pose next to the "pile" outside their classroom soon after reaching book 100. Now, just over a week later, they're at book 135 and their pile touches the ceiling! Check out the wall outside Room 17 to track their progress.

Mark Your Calendar

February 2012

- 1 **Parent Education: The Birds & the Bees**
Part 2 of 2, 7-9 p.m.
- 2 **5-7 Transition Morning**
9 a.m., Lobby
See page 2 for details.
- 3 **5-7 & 7-9 Transition Morning**
9 a.m., Lobby
- 6 **Montessori Monday**
9:30 a.m., Lobby
Tell a friend! Visit page 4 to find out how you can earn co-op hours or tuition credit by recommending WMS to a friend.
- 7 **Leadership Coffee**
9 a.m., Great Room
- 7 & 8 **Classroom Pictures**
Stay tuned for details from your classroom teacher!
- 8 **Parent Education—Positive Parenting**
Part 1 of 5—See page 3 for details.
- 9 **7-9 & 9-12 Transition Morning**
9 a.m., Lobby
- 13 **Montessori Monday**
9:30 a.m., Lobby
Tell a friend! Visit page 4 to find out how you can earn co-op hours or tuition credit by recommending WMS to a friend.
- 14 **Leadership Coffee**
8:30 a.m., Great Room
- 15 **Parent Education—Positive Parenting**
Part 2 of 5—See page 3 for details.
- 16 **MTAD Parent Workshop—Dr. Joyce Pickering**
7 p.m. *See page 3 for details!*
- 17 **All Staff Professional Day**
No classes and no childcare.
- 20 **Mid-Winter Break**
No classes.
Pre-registered childcare only—e-mail Cass_Winner@wmsde.org to sign up.



WMS's Masquerade Ball— Gala and Auction Friday, April 13

Waterfall Banquet Center
on Philadelphia Pike

Doors open at 8 p.m.

*Make April's Friday the 13th your
luckiest one yet!*

Along with saving the date for the auction, there are many ways you can support WMS through this lively event:

Give a gift—Have season tickets to a local sports franchise and want to offer a single game to be auctioned off? Are your artistic talents noteworthy? Get a great holiday gift that's just not your style? Want to host a wine or dinner party? Do you frequent a local establishment who would be happy to donate to our school auction?

Be a sponsor or find WMS a sponsorship — Support an amazing school and receive leadership benefits.

Advertise in the Auction catalog—The Auction provides low cost, high visibility advertising for your business, along with the opportunity to celebrate through tribute ads.

Visit www.wmsde.org/auction for related forms and information and stay tuned for weekly updates on this year's Auction and Gala!

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 for your child. Observe a class in session where children are working and teachers are giving lessons; ask questions about your child's transition to the next program level.

RSVP to theresa_conaty@wmsde.org. All visits are from 9–9:45 a.m. and will begin in the lobby.

Transition to 5-7 program
(for preschool parents)
Thursday, 2/2 & Friday, 2/3

Transition to 7-9 program
(for 5-7 parents)
Friday, 2/3 & Thursday, 2/9

Transition to 9-12 program
(for 7-9 parents)
Thursday, 2/9



Re-enrollment Contracts Due 3/1

Yes, it's time to start planning for the 2012-13 school year. We're looking forward to another great year of Montessori education!

Please return your pink re-enrollment form and contract by March 1 to ensure your child's seat for September. Even if you don't plan to return, we ask that you submit your pink form to inform planning for next year. Financial aid applications are still available and should be returned as soon as possible.

We look forward to another fantastic school year at Wilmington Montessori! Thank you for sharing your children with us and giving them the gift of a Montessori education!

Questions? Contact
Theresa_Conaty@wmsde.org.

WMS Leadership Coffees

Come chat with Linda and the Board

Have questions about Wilmington Montessori School?

Want to share a great idea with us?

Join Linda Zankowsky, Head of School, and members of the WMS Board for a relaxed and open conversation about WMS, the Center for Montessori Advancement (CMA) and any questions you might have.

While these sessions have been scheduled for particular program levels, parents are welcome to attend on any date.

If you're unable to attend any of these gatherings but have ques-

tions, please contact Linda at linda_zankowsky@wmsde.org to schedule a one-on-one meeting.

February 7, 9 a.m.—
Infants/Toddlers

February 14, 8:30 a.m.—
5-9 Program



Parent Education

Positive Parenting: So, how's this supposed to work anyway?

Five-week course starting February 8—Register today!

"I've been hearing about this course since I came to WMS, and it's as great as I heard! I have new strategies to work into our routines and new language... recommend to all parents I know!"

Positive Parenting participant

Learning the ropes of parenting and need some experienced insight? Been a parent for awhile and feel like you need some additional perspective? This is the course for you!

Join other families who have already registered for this five-week series. Taught by certified parent educator Yvonne Nass, this program will cover skills that will help parents and caregivers create a strong, respectful and

trusting relationship with their children. Join us in learning and sharing in a supportive and encouraging setting.

Topics include:

- Listening
- Inviting cooperation
- Encouraging self-sufficiency
- Discipline with respect
- Dealing with emotions, including anger.

For more on Positive Parenting, check out Yvonne's article in the Fall 2011 issue of the *Montessori Message*.

When: Wednesdays, beginning February 8, 7-9 p.m.

Cost: \$75 per person (includes all five sessions)

More info & online registration:

www.wmsde.org/positiveparenting

Please register as soon as possible to ensure your place in this workshop—seating is limited.



All Children Learn Differently

Exploring your child's unique approach to learning

Join Dr. Joyce Pickering for an interactive workshop that will help you identify and understand your child's unique academic strengths and challenges.

Find out how a strong connection between home and school can help your child reach his or her potential.

Dr. Pickering, a mother of five and grandmother of 12, is a 40-year Montessorian, speech and language pathologist, and learning disabilities specialist. She also serves as Executive Director Emeritus of Shelton School and Evaluation Center in

Dallas—the world's largest independent school for children with learning differences.



When: Thursday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m.
Where: Wilmington Montessori School
Price: \$10/person or \$15/couple. Please submit your check, written to MTAD, at the Front Desk.

Registration: Register online at www.wmsde.org/mtadevents, email events@wmsde.org or call 302-475-0555.

This workshop is presented by the **Montessori Teachers' Association of Delaware (MTAD)** and is open to the public, so please extend this invitation to friends!

Looking for co-op hours? How about tuition credit?

Check out our...

BUILDING COMMUNITY REFERRAL PROGRAM



New families come to learn about WMS every day. One of the questions we always ask is “How did you hear about us?” Most people answer, “from a friend.”

We’re thrilled that our current families recommend WMS to their friends and help our community to grow.

The “Building Community” referral program is a way for us to give back to the people who help build our community

in this way. Families who meet the requirements outlined at www.wmsde.org/buildingcommunity will receive a **\$750 tuition credit or 30 hours of co-op**.

Spread the word and invite friends to an upcoming **Montessori Monday** on February 6 or 13 or our next **Open House** on February 15; suggest they schedule a private tour by calling 302-475-0555 or emailing admissions@wmsde.org; or consider

hosting a Montessori event at your home.

As you spend time with your friends and family, we encourage you to explain the benefits that you see in and around WMS classrooms and share your personal WMS story with others.

For more information or to find out how you can help promote WMS, contact Theresa Conaty, Admissions Officer, at Theresa_Conaty@wmsde.org.



Receive live updates from WMS on your computer or mobile device: www.twitter.com/wmsde



Check out our Facebook page for WMS news, photos and event information: <http://www.facebook.com/WilmingtonMontessoriDE>

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.

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.