



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

WMS Odyssey of the Mind Team Places First in State Competition— Now on to the World Finals!

Congratulations to the members of WMS's Odyssey of the Mind team for their first place finish at the Delaware State Tournament this past weekend at the University of Delaware. ([Read more about the state tournament in the News Journal.](#))



Odyssey of the Mind is a creative problem-solving competition involving students from kindergarten through college. Team members work together at length to solve a predefined problem and present their solution to the problem at a competition.

Team Montessori competed in the "Good as Goldberg" category where they were challenged to create a complex Rube Goldberg machine. The team received third place at northern Delaware regional competition, but was able to fine tune their performance to achieve a win at the state tournament.

Now, Team Montessori will join students from around the world to compete in the 32nd Odyssey of the Mind World Finals, held May 27-30 at the University of Maryland.

Congratulations to Rachel Aussprung, Ben Connor, Margot Elkins, Grant Farabaugh, Brandon Karpinski, Ben Snyder and Isabel Snyder, and thank you to coaches Anna Quisel and Daniele Elkins. We wish you the best of luck at the World Finals! Go Meerkats!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April

- 4-8 9-12 miniatures on display
Great Room
- 8 Last day of hallway auction ticket sales. Get your tickets today!
- 11 Montessori Monday—*Tell a friend!*
Lobby, 9:30 a.m.
- 12 Cyber auction closes at 9 p.m.
Get your bids in today!
- 11-15 ERB Testing
- 15 April in Paris Auction & Gala
Brandywine Country Club, 7 p.m.
- 18-22 TV Turn-off Week!
- 18 Montessori Monday—*Tell a friend!*
Lobby, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 The Journey
Lobby, 8:30 a.m.- noon
- 20 3-Day Preschool Spring Concert
Gym, 9:30 a.m.
- 21 Earth Day Celebration
- 22 Good Friday—NO CLASSES
NO CHILDCARE
- 25 Easter Monday—NO CLASSES
Pre-registered childcare only
Contact cass_winner@wmsde.org
- 27 Camp Demo Day
Great Room, 3 p.m.
- 28 Infant/Toddler Spring Sing Fling
11 a.m.
- 29 Arbor Day Tree Planting
Outside WMS, 11 a.m.

May

- (Toddler conferences throughout the month during classes)*
- 2 Montessori Monday—*Tell a friend!*
Lobby, 9:30 a.m.
 - 3 Moms Day—Details TBA

2011 WMS Auction & Gala: April in Paris

Brandywine Country Club
Friday, April 15, at 7 p.m.

The invitations have been sent and the big night is less than two weeks away, so don't forget to send in your RSVP! Tickets are also available in the lobby this week or you can reserve your spot by emailing jennifer_burns@wmsde.org. Remember, ticket prices increase at the door!

The amazing gifts keep coming in, and there's something for everyone—no matter what your interests are.

FUN—We have a Harry Potter basket, Delaware Children's Museum tickets, arts and crafts kits, a tour of the Wilmington Police central facility, police car and fire engine rides, and a plethora of other fun games, toys and experiences for you and your family

SPORTS—We have Flyers tickets, Phillies tickets, tickets to a Penn State game, an autographed football from Eagles hotshot DeSean Jackson, golf equipment, and a once-in-a-lifetime day of golf on the legendary (and exclusive) Bidermann golf course with former Eagles William "Willie T" Thomas and Mike Quick.

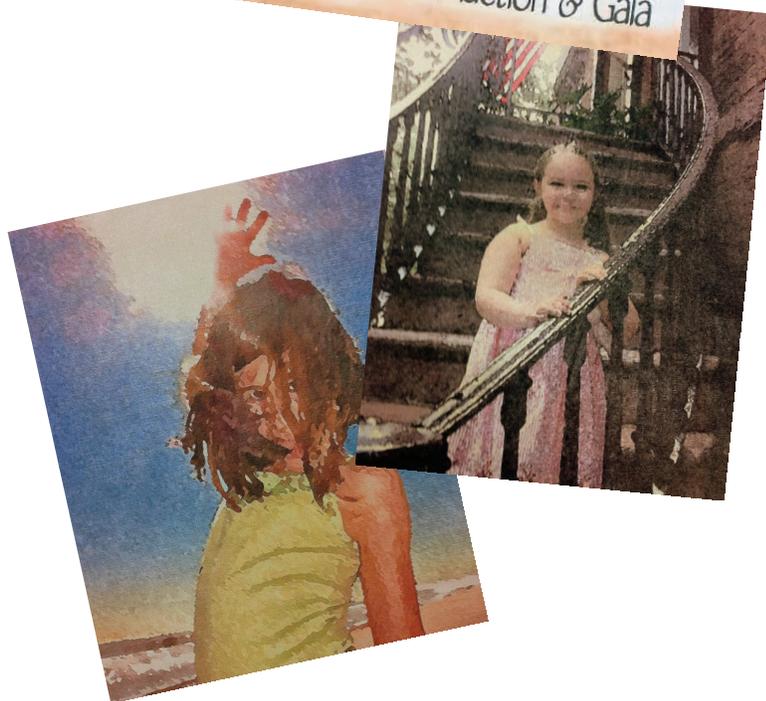
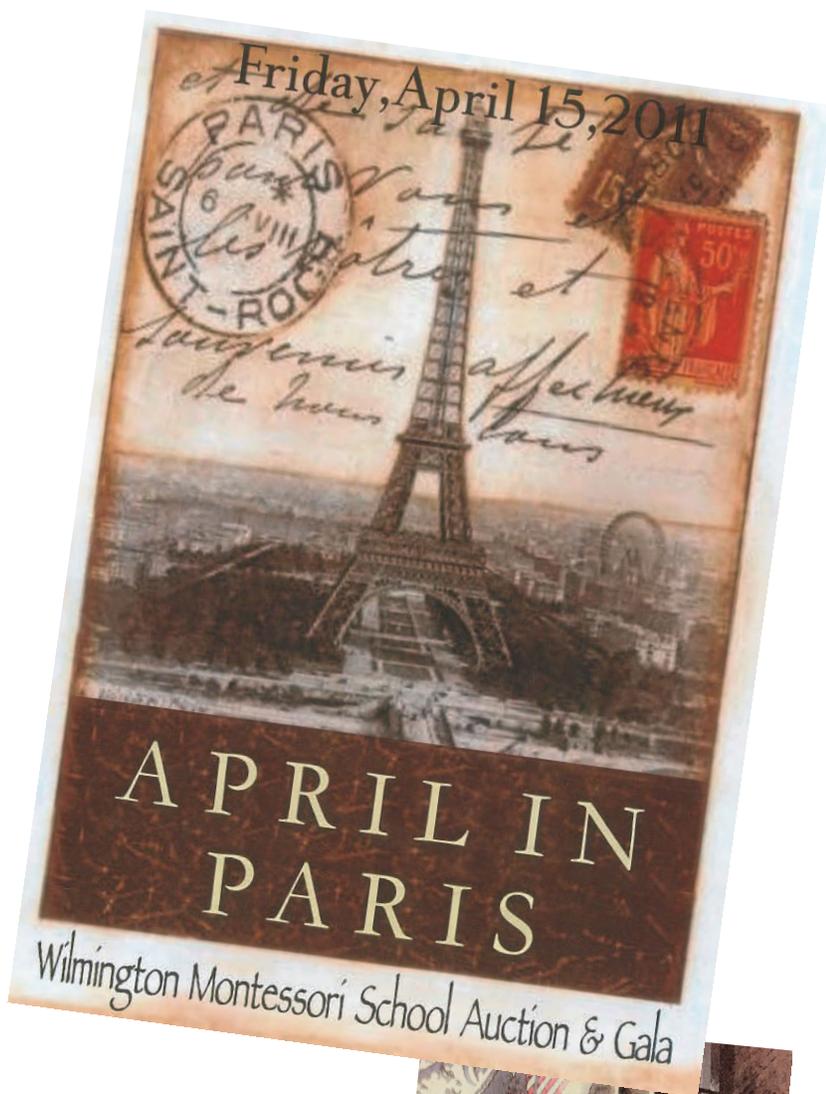
ART—Still planning to submit a photo to be turned into a digital watercolor and displayed in our "Louvre"? There are only a few canvasses left, so don't forget to reserve yours today. E-mail your commitment and high-resolution image to auction@wmsde.org and get a keepsake that will last a lifetime (see examples in this article). Cost is \$75.

If you're interested in art, we'll also be auctioning off the opportunity to receive a watercolor portrait of your favorite pet as well as a print by artist Eunice LaFate, whose work is currently part of the White House Collection.

FOOD—You and Chef Dan Butler can plan a custom menu to be served to you and seven friends at the Artisan Kitchen of Boss Enterprises. We also will be auctioning off restaurant gift certificates, wine, chocolate, cookbooks and more!

Also, don't forget about our Cyber Sale, which is LIVE at www.biddingforgood.com/wmsauction/paris2011. This year's sale will be only a week long (ending on April 12), so jump on in and get ready for some fast and furious bidding!

Want to get involved? There's lots to do! Check the co-op board for information.



Are you ready to go on **The Journey?**

What is The Journey?

The purpose of The Journey is to provide parents with an understanding of WHY and HOW Montessori works by enabling them to see the classroom, first as an observer, then as a participant with the materials and lessons. During this experience, you will discover, much as a child does, the beauty of Montessori.

When and where is The Journey?

For your convenience, The Journey is now being held on Mondays!

Monday, April 18, 2011
8:30 a.m.—noon

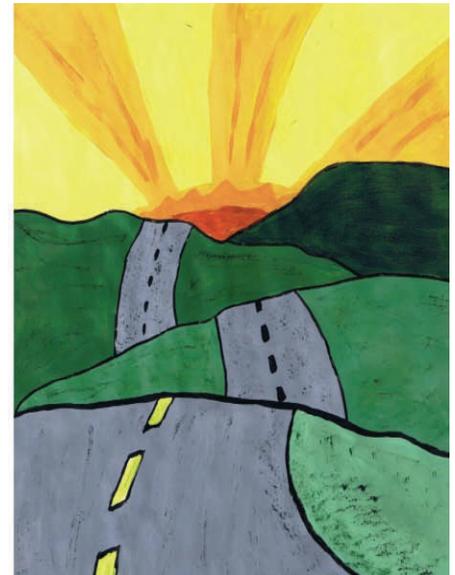
The Journey will begin in the lobby and then we will travel throughout WMS.

Who should participate in The Journey?

When parents understand why and how Montessori works, you are better able to support teachers' efforts, provide consistency at home, and enable your children to get the most out of their Montessori education. WMS strongly encourages ALL parents, especially those new to the school, to experience The Journey.

How do I register for The Journey?

Call or e-mail Theresa Conaty to reserve your spot. You can reach Theresa at 302-475-0555 or theresa_conaty@wmsde.org.



Registration is free and you receive **five co-op** hours per family. Childcare is available by registering with cass_winner@wmsde.org.



During Spring Break, selected students from WMS's 9-12 program displayed their creations at the **First State Mini Club's 34th Annual Miniatures Show and Sale**. Come see all of the 9-12's miniatures in the Great Room this week!



Coming Soon: Earth Day & Arbor Day

This year, WMS will celebrate Earth Day on Thursday, April 21. Leading up to our school-wide celebration, students will have the opportunity to submit a declaration of what they do for our Planet Earth. In exchange, they will receive an iron-on transfer of a special edition WMS Earth Day logo designed by our own Mark Bomgardner.

On the 21st, we invite all of our classrooms to join us for a spring cleaning of our campus. Then, on the 29th, we will continue the festivities with an Arbor Day celebration. We will be accepting donations for the purchase of a lovely, native tree (or trees) to be planted by the WMS community on Arbor Day.

We encourage everyone to join us at 11 a.m. on April 29 at the Preschool Playground and to wear shirts displaying the Earth Day logo they received during the previous week.

More details will follow!

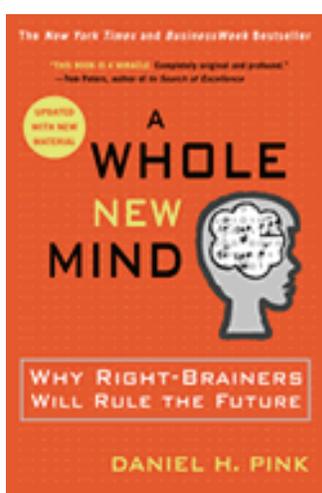
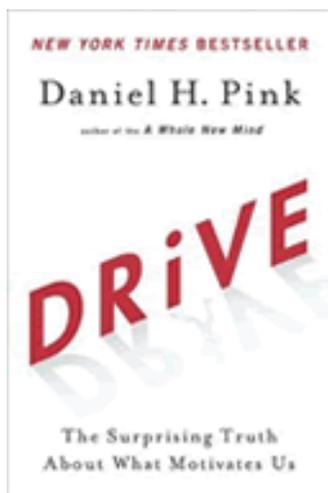
-The Grounds Committee



We need your yogurt cups!

The Elementary after-school group is beginning a gardening project. We would welcome the donation of (washed) **6-8 ounce yogurt cups** in which to start seeds! Donations can be dropped off in Room 26.

Thank you!



What motivates us: Schools and workplaces that encourage imagination, creativity and innovation

Presented by bestselling author, analyst, commentator and lecturer Daniel Pink

Daniel Pink, a great proponent of Montessori education, will be speaking at the Benchmark School in Media, Pa., on April 7 at 7 p.m. Mr. Pink has written several interesting books that further our understanding of how the brain works.

Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us and *A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future* both explore topics that might be of interest to parents.

If you would like to attend, follow the link below. There is no charge, but seating is limited and the reservations may go quickly.

http://www.benchmarkschool.org/speaker_series_registration.html

Montessori Mondays

Know a great family looking for a school for their 1-4 year old? Invite them to attend one of our Montessori Mondays.

At a Montessori Monday, parents have the opportunity to spend a morning at WMS watching their child explore a Montessori classroom and its materials and will also have the chance to speak to a WMS teacher.

Upcoming dates (All at 9:30 a.m.):

April 11 & 18, May 2

For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Theresa Conaty at 302-475-0555 or theresa_conaty@wmsde.org.

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.

follow us on
twitter



www.twitter.com/wmsde



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.