



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY



TODAY: DELAWARE

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND:

THE WORLD!

Wilmington Montessori School congratulates the members of its 2011 Odyssey of the Mind team for their **FIRST PLACE FINISH** in Delaware's "Good as Goldberg" competition.

Good luck in the World Finals at the University of Maryland!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May

Toddler conferences will be held throughout the month during classes.

- 27 **Elementary Field Day**, 9:15 a.m.
- 28 No front desk coverage due to holiday weekend
- 30 **Memorial Day**
BUILDING CLOSED
NO CLASSES, NO CHILDCARE

June

- 1 **End of the Year Assembly**
9:30 a.m., Gym
- 2 **Preschool Field Day**, 9:30 a.m.
- 3 **Last Day of School**
Graduation, 10 a.m., Gym
- 8 **Progress reports mailed to families**
(ALL levels)
- 6-10 **Childcare Week**
Pre-register with
cass_winner@wmsde.org
- 13 **Camp Montessori Begins!**
(Week 1 includes Tee Ball specialty camp)
- 20 **Camp Montessori Week 2**
(Including Storybook Drama specialty camp)

Visit www.wmsde.org/camp for details about traditional and specialty camps, as well as online registration!

*From the desk of
Linda Zankowsky*

It is hard to believe that already another school year is drawing to a close. And what an amazing year this has been – starting with our annual peace festival and Halloween parade, followed by our holiday concerts and amazing experiences with our Artist in Residence Tony Vacca; mixed with Grandfriends’, Moms’ and Dads’ days in between; and ending with last week’s 9-12 concert, our upcoming field days, the Odyssey of the Mind team’s trip to the World Finals this weekend, and finally, Graduation Day.

No doubt you’ve seen incredible growth and change in your children when reflecting back to the beginning of the year. On Graduation Day, we celebrate the culmination of this growth throughout the years as we recognize our graduates, many of whom have spent most of their lives at WMS. I would like to personally invite you to join us on Friday, June 3 at 10 a.m. to be a part of this memorable day when we celebrate our sixth graders as they transition to the next chapter in their lives.

Just as our sixth graders move on to the next stage in their lives, we have staff members who will move on to new adventures and we will see new faces (and familiar faces in new places!) in the fall. I’d like to take this opportunity to share some changes to the Education Team for the 2011-12 school year.

After four years at WMS, we say goodbye to **Leanne Alexandrini**, Director of Educational Programs. Leanne will return to her native Brooklyn where she will take on a new position as Head of School at Montessori Day School of Brooklyn. Not only was Leanne born in Brooklyn; she also started her career as a Montessorian at a small school in Mill Basin, Brooklyn in 1989. Leanne came to WMS in the role of Early Childhood Education Director and took the position of Director of Educational Programs in 2008. Under her leadership, our Education Team has made great strides in providing instructional support and curricula to the teaching staff, which has strengthened our ability to meet the individual needs of children in each of our classrooms. The WMS community will miss Leanne’s many talents and positive energy, and wish her the best of luck on her new endeavor!

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**WMS Presents
“WMKR: The Journey of Jazz”**



Education Team Transitions for the 2011-12 School Year

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Barbara Marchese, our Early Childhood Learning Director, will also move on to an opportunity at Westtown School, where students and staff in the Lower School will have the privilege of having her as their interim principal. Barbara developed the role of Early Childhood Learning Director at WMS, providing caring support and guidance to both teachers and families of our youngest students during the past three years. I would like to express gratitude on behalf of the WMS community for the gifts she has shared with us in this important role.

Stacey Hogan-Tietze has agreed to take on the Early Childhood Learning Director position on an interim basis for the 2011-12 school year. Stacey's knowledge of and experience with children and families make her very well qualified for her new role at WMS. Stacey, who received her Montessori training at the Montessori Training Center in the San Francisco Bay area, has served as a lead teacher in WMS's preschool program and 5-7 program. As a lead teacher, Stacey has developed lesson plans and curricula appropriate to developmental levels and learning styles of all students. She also has experience teaching preschool and kindergarten in public schools and has served as a mentor for Montessori intern teachers and first-year teachers. Stacey is a leader in the WMS

community, serving as an active member of the Steering Committee. As the Early Childhood Learning Director, she will work with the rest of the Education Team and teaching staff to support children and their families throughout our infant, toddler and preschool programs.

To ensure a seamless transition, I will work closely with the Education Team throughout the upcoming year. **Liz Madden** will continue her role as Elementary Learning Director and **Lisa Lalama** will continue to lead our oldest students as 9-12 Coordinator.

I am confident that we will continue to provide our students with an exceptional Montessori education – one that not only meets the high standards for we have set for ourselves in previous years, but also exceeds them as we grow and look forward to the future.

Please take the opportunity to thank Leanne and Barbara for the many gifts they have shared with our children and families throughout their time at WMS, and congratulate Stacey on her new position. As always, I am available to answer any questions you might have.

— **Linda Zankowsky**

Goal—
\$80,000

Today—
\$71,496
(89%)



Support the 2010-2011 Annual Fund

**What does the Annual Fund support?
Reading, writing, teaching, exploring,
experiencing, understanding, growing,
learning—CHILDREN.**

Make your contribution online:

Visit www.wmsde.org/giving and click "How to Give."

WMS is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization and contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

For more information, contact Jennifer Burns, Director of Advancement, at 302-475-0555 or jennifer_burns@wmsde.org.

Thank you for supporting our Mission!



Donate Your Toiletries to Westside Family Healthcare

Helping Hands is collecting toiletries for the patients of Westside Family Healthcare. It would be much appreciated if you put items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant and foot powder in the marked bins by the front desk.

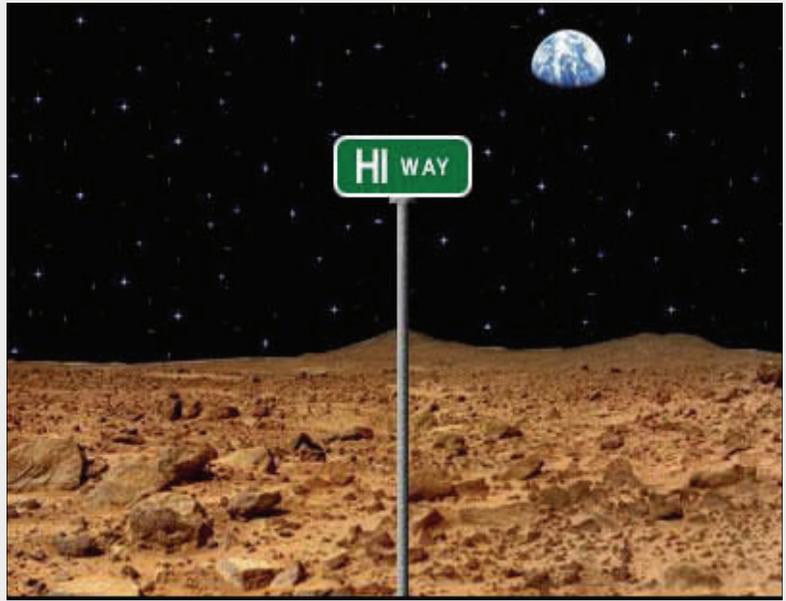
For more information, please contact Amanda Lewis at aamlewis@hotmail.com. We will be accepting donations through the last day of school.

Thanks so much for your generosity!

And the winner is....

The votes have been counted, and WMS's street will be named "HI WAY" next year!

Thanks to everyone who voted, and to the Odyssey of the Mind team for giving us four great names to choose from!



Scheduled Flushing of Arden's Water Lines

We've recently learned that Arden's water lines are scheduled to be flushed Tuesday through Thursday of next week (May 31-June 2), which could result in some temporary water discoloration and fluctuations in water pressure in the building during those days.

In addition, we anticipate that some of the drained water may be diverted into our retention area at the back of the building. Our maintenance team is working closely with United Water to minimize disruption here.

We have been assured that the water is safe to drink, but some may prefer to wait until it runs clear before drinking or washing clothes or dishes. For this reason, you may want to include extra drinks in your child's lunch on those days.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please direct any questions/concerns to [Mark Murray@wmsde.org](mailto:Mark_Murray@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.

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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.