



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

Remembering Joanne Waters

This August, Joanne Waters, a long-time member of the Wilmington Montessori School community, lost her battle with pancreatic cancer.

Joanne served in many roles during her nearly three decades at WMS, most recently as our Family Relations Officer.

Our community mourns her loss, not only as a talented and creative colleague, but also as a dear friend.

Yet, WMS will always be richer for what she has left us; from the current organization of our co-op system to the artwork throughout the school to the spirit of love and friendship that lives on in our community, Joanne remains a huge part of who we are and how we live our mission every day at WMS.



We know that many of you had special friendships with Joanne, and we hope that you will take a moment to share your memories of her on our tribute page at www.wmsde.org/joannewaters.

Mark Your Calendar

September

29 **Rosh Hashanah**—No Classes. Pre-registered childcare only. Email cass_winner@wmsde.org to register.

October

- 3 **Montessori Monday**, 9:30 a.m., Lobby
Invite a friend to explore a Montessori classroom!
- 5 **Student Portraits**
Teachers will provide more details.
- 6-7 **9-12 Overnight**
- 10-14 **Scholastic Book Fair**, Great Room
Open at drop-off and dismissal times, along with children's opportunities to shop with their classes during the day.
- 11 **Book Fair: Family Night**, 5-7 p.m., Gym
- 17 **Montessori Monday**, 9:30 a.m., Lobby
Invite a friend!
- 19 **Diversity Parent Movie**
TBA
- 21 **Parent Education—Building Strong Relationships Workshop with Dr. Lani Nelson-Zlupko**, 7 p.m., Great Room
Registration requested—see page 2.
- 23-26 **Sixth Grade GCAP trip**
- 27 **Halloween Parades**
- 28 & 31 **Preschool/Elementary Conferences**
No preschool/elementary classes. Pre-registered childcare only. Email cass_winner@wmsde.org to register.

Special Note: One of our toddlers is missing a bracelet of great sentimental value. If you find this bracelet, please return it to the front desk so we can return it to its owner. Thanks!

Camp Montessori's Meerkats Save Two Acres of Rainforest (and a Coral



The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.

This summer, Gerry McVey's group of 3rd and 4th grade campers (known as the Meerkats) collected saved their loose change and asked friends and family to help them collect money to be donated to the Nature Conservancy. In total, the group collected \$130 — enough to save an acre of rainforest in Africa, an acre of rainforest in Australia and a coral reef in the Dominican

Republic. Visit Room 28 to see the certificates each camper received from the Nature Conservancy in honor of their wonderful generosity in saving hundreds of species of plants and animals in Africa, Australia and the Dominican Republic. Go Meerkats!

Wilmington Montessori School's Board of Directors

Part 1: What is the Board of Directors?

Like all independent schools, Wilmington Montessori is governed by a Board of Directors whose primary role is to perpetuate the school's mission and sustainability for the long-term.

WMS's Vision states that *by 2020, Wilmington Montessori School is a recognized, innovative model of early childhood and elementary learning. It is a thriving, vibrantly diverse community that respects students, inspires teachers, supports families and enhances the community. Enriched by this model, our children are ready to take their place in the world. By sharing our ideals, we strive to change the face of education.*

This involves thinking beyond our current classrooms, teachers and children and looking ahead to the next generation – and the one beyond that! Board members are appointed to the Board and Board Committees based on recommendations from the Committee on Directors. There may be up to 13 members serving on the WMS

Board of Directors consisting of current parents and external community members. Membership is carefully balanced to ensure that the Board has the expertise and knowledge required to fulfill its fiduciary and strategic responsibilities.

How can I get involved?

Much of the work of the Board is accomplished by committees. These committees include, but are not limited to, Finance, Investment, Development, Committee on Directors (Governance and Nominations) and Marketing. Various task forces also meet to address particular focuses of the strategic plan. These committees meet regularly to accomplish their goals and report to the Board on their progress.

Committees often include staff and parents in addition to Board members. Committee membership gives participants the opportunity to work with the Board while serving WMS in a lasting way with their expertise and passion.

Want to know more?

To explore joining a Board Committee contact Linda Zankowsky at linda_zankowsky@wmsde.org who will present your interest to the Committee on Directors.



Watch for Part 2 in next week's issue - "Who is the Board of Directors?"

Montessori Mondays

Know a great family looking for a school for their child? Invite them to attend one of our upcoming Montessori Mondays.

At a Montessori Monday, parents have the opportunity to spend a morning at WMS as their child explores our Montessori classrooms and materials, and gain insight from our seasoned WMS teachers.

When: October 3 & 17, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Strong Relationships:



How to Make Your Relationship Last

What are the hallmarks of a successful relationship? Who stays connected for the long haul? Is it an "accident" or intentional? Find out who stays connected and what you can do today to begin increasing the strength of your primary relationship at 7 p.m. on October 21. Top tools for strong relationships will be provided, as well as major roadblocks to be avoided.

Come skill up! All individuals and couples are welcome at this inspiring, humor-filled and empowering event presented by WMS favorite Dr. Lani Nelson-Zlupko.

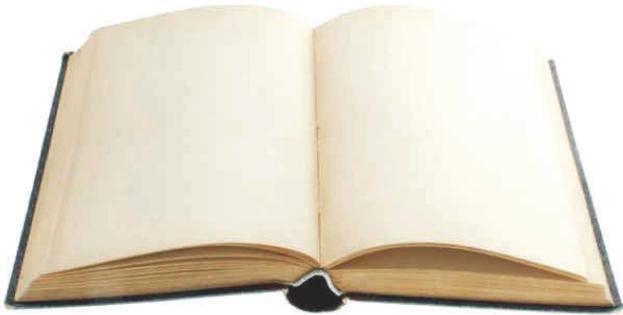
Advance registration is appreciated. Register online and learn more at www.wmsde.org/events.

Coming Soon... The WMS Scholastic Book Fair

Starting on October 10, WMS will hold its annual book fair. For the entire week, you and your children will have the opportunity to shop from our excellent selection of books before, after and during school.

Join us on October 11 at 5 p.m. for Family Night, which will include pizza, snacks and crafts—along with the excellent reading material. From October 12-22, WMS will also host its first online book fair with even more great selections.

For daily schedule details, visit our official book fair site at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/wmsde>.



Do you have a great story idea for next week's Wednesday Weekly?

Submit your information to Wednesday-Weekly@wmsde.org before 4:30 p.m. on the Friday prior to the issue in which you would like your suggested story to run.

Please note that articles may be edited for clarity or due to space constraints.

We look forward to your submissions!

Who's in charge here?



WMS students serve as Head of School for the day.

On June 2 and September 21, two lucky WMS students received the honor of serving as Head of School for the day.

Danny Cash (top) and Jackson Politis (bottom), whose parents won this honor for their children at April's Auction and Gala, appeared poised and confident as they spent the day shadowing Head of School Linda Zankowsky. During their special days, Danny and Jackson walked the halls with Linda; shook hands with staff and visitors; helped Linda with blogging, speech writing, and more; and even enjoyed a special lunch with the Head of School.



At the end of a hard day's work, the boys received WMS goodie bags and a camera full of memories of their day as Head of School.

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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.