



# Wilmington Montessori School



## WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

### Mom's Night Out Speakers Series Workshop

"Building Courage, Confidence, and Self-Esteem in Our Children"

Wednesday, January 12, 2011; 6 p.m.

Presented by Yvonne Nass, Certified Parent Educator

Sponsored by Wilmington Montessori School

This workshop will cover the stages of self-esteem development. Parents will learn to use the tools of encouragement to build on their child's strengths, to focus on the positive and to communicate acceptance. Bring your friends, your questions and join the discussion.



Delaware Children's Museum  
550 Justison Street, Wilmington DE  
\$15 for DCM members \* \$20 for non-members

Light refreshments will be provided thanks to Moore Brothers and Union City Grille.

Purchase tickets online at [delawarechildrensmuseum.org](http://delawarechildrensmuseum.org) or call (302) 442-6862

### WMS Financial Aid

While the deadline has passed for the first round of Financial Aid applications in 2011, please contact Mark Murray, Director of Finance & Operations ([mark\\_murray@wmsde.org](mailto:mark_murray@wmsde.org)) at any point in the year to learn about financial assistance options. WMS's need-based financial aid program strives to accommodate as many families as possible. Every family with a demonstrated financial need is encouraged to apply.

Receive live updates from WMS on your computer or mobile device by subscribing to our Twitter feed.



Visit [www.twitter.com/wmsde](http://www.twitter.com/wmsde) or text "follow wmsde" to 40404 to receive live updates from WMS on your phone.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Jan. 12 "Building Courage, Confidence and Self Esteem in Our Children" presented by Yvonne Nass, sponsored by WMS Delaware Children's Museum, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 12 Auction Meet & Greet Great Room, 9:00 a.m. Come one, Come All!
- Jan. 13 Registration Due: After-school Specials Register with [cass\\_winner@wmsde.org](mailto:cass_winner@wmsde.org).
- Jan. 14 All Staff Professional Day No Classes; Childcare Available Register with [cass\\_winner@wmsde.org](mailto:cass_winner@wmsde.org).
- Jan. 17 Martin Luther King Holiday No Classes; Childcare Available Register with [cass\\_winner@wmsde.org](mailto:cass_winner@wmsde.org).
- Jan. 19 Admissions Open House Library, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan. 19 & 20 *Transition to Preschool Mornings* 9am, Meet in Lobby
- Jan. 27 Dads Day/WMS 47<sup>th</sup> Birthday *activities begin at 8:30am*
- Jan. 28 & 31 Preschool/Elementary Conferences - [These classes are closed.](#) Childcare available – [cass\\_winner@wmsde.org](mailto:cass_winner@wmsde.org)
- Jan. 31 Childcare Pool Party – K-6<sup>th</sup> grade 10:20 a.m. – 1:15 a.m. Bus departs from and returns to WMS. Greater Newark Boys' and Girls' Club
- Feb. 2 *Transition to Elementary Morning* 9-10 a.m., Meet in the Lobby
- Feb. 5 The Journey 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Register with [Denise\\_Knoff@wmsde.org](mailto:Denise_Knoff@wmsde.org).
- Feb. 8-10 *Transition to Elementary Mornings* 9 a.m., Meet in the Lobby
- Feb. 9 Admissions Open House Library, 9:30 a.m.

### Inclement Weather

As we can see by the hats and gloves adorning students' heads and hands, winter is upon us, making it necessary to occasionally close school. Even when closed, childcare is often available unless there is a statewide or area closing due to extreme weather conditions.



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.

### WMS Transition Mornings

Want to know what happens at the next program level for your child at WMS? Come in and see for yourself.

Visit and observe the next level classroom so you know first-hand what the future holds for your child.

#### Preschool Classroom Visits

Wednesday, 1/19 & Thursday, 1/20

#### Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Classroom Visits

Wednesday, 2/2 & Tuesday, 2/8

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Classroom Visits

Wednesday, 2/2 & Wednesday 2/9

#### 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Visits

Wednesday, 2/9 & Thursday, 2/10

All visits are from 9:15 – 9:45 a.m.

Meet in the lobby at 9 a.m.

Sign up with your current teacher or email [theresa\\_conaty@wmsde.org](mailto:theresa_conaty@wmsde.org) to RSVP.

### CONFERENCE DAY CHILDCARE FIELD TRIP



K-6<sup>th</sup> childcare classes will head to the Greater Newark Boys' & Girls' Club on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:cass_winner@wmsde.org).

### 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](mailto: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 6, 2010; 8:15 – 3:15 p.m.

Claim 5 co-op hours for participation!

Childcare provided, no fee to participate. Contact Denise Knoff ([denise\\_knoff@wmsde.org](mailto:denise_knoff@wmsde.org)) to reserve your space.

### 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](mailto:theresa_conaty@wmsde.org).**

## WMS Welcomes Guest Educator



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) and an in-service teachers' conference (February 18). 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."

### Parent Workshop

February 17<sup>th</sup>  
7 – 9 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

Have something for the Wednesday Weekly? Send an e-mail to [Wednesday-Weekly@wmsde.org](mailto:Wednesday-Weekly@wmsde.org) by COB Friday each week for publication the following week. Note: Submissions may be modified for space constraints and/or content clarity.

## \* NEW WORKSHOP OFFERING \*

### Learning Together Starting in February!

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 ½ years – and the adults who care for them.

**Learning Together** consists of two hour-long 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 welcomes families from outside WMS, will be repeated throughout the school year; the younger sessions begin Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Find a brochure, schedule and registration forms at the information center off the main lobby, at [www.wmsde.org](http://www.wmsde.org) or leave a friend's address at the front desk and we will mail them a flyer.

## AFTER-SCHOOL SPECIALS Register NOW!

After-school Specials are open to all students in the specified age/grade ranges, regardless of whether they are registered for the Extended Day program (or attend WMS). Students may attend the regular Extended Day rooms on the day of their Special (at no charge) and have a supervised snack before the Special begins. Staff members will ensure that they get safely to their special programs.

Make sure to register **by January 13th**. You can obtain a form online, or visit Cass Winner's office ([cass\\_winner@wmsde.org](mailto:cass_winner@wmsde.org) or 302/475-0555) for more information.

### 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.

## Alumni Pizza Party

Nearly 100 alumni and other friends returned to WMS last Friday to see friends, teachers and share their stories with our graduating 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We asked, "what did you learn at WMS that still helps you today?" Here are some of their answers:

"Work hard and learn more than they'll teach you" • "Respect and responsibility" • "the value of academics" • "to be a good person" • "EVERYTHING"

