

August

31 Lower Elementary Parent Orientation, 7-9pm, NC

September

2 NO SCHOOL – In-service Day (Fig Open)

Day camp available for full day students by reservation.

5 NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

7 PA Exec Kick-off Mtg, 9am, NC

7 Volunteer Training, 2:30pm, WV

8 Volunteer Training, 9:15am, NC

8 Maple Class Potluck, 5:30-7pm, WV

9 D. Fir Class Potluck, 5:30-7pm, NC

9 Oak Class Potluck, 5:30-7pm, WV

9 Apple Class Potluck, 6-7:30pm, WV

9 Elm Class Potluck, 6-7:30pm, WV

9 Upper El Potluck, 6-8pm, Blythe Park, Bothell

12 Semester I Electives Begin

13 Auction Kick-off Mtg, 6-7pm, NC

14 BOT Exec Committee Mtg, 4:30pm, NC

14 Volunteer Training, 5:30pm, NC

14 All-School PA Potluck & Meeting, 6-8pm, NC

15 Pine Class Potluck, 5:30-7pm, NC

16 Lower El Potluck, 6-8pm, Wilmot Park, Woodinville

20 School Picture Day, NC

21 School Picture Day, WV

21 BOT Mtg, 7pm, NC

22 PA Exec Meeting, 9am, NC

23 Fig Class Potluck, 5:30-7pm, NC

23 JH Potluck, 6-8pm, NC

24 JH Business Event: Kids' Night Out, 6-10pm, NC

29 BOT Mtg, 7pm, NC

30 Early Bird Deadline for Oct 14 Camp

30 All-School Fall Festival, 6-8pm

30 JH Book Fair, 6-8pm



The Luck of the Pot!

By Lori Poliski, PA Communications Chair

Back to school at WMS means there is a chance you will be eating one or many dinners at a potluck in September enjoying good company and varied food. *The word pot-luck appears in 16th century England, in the work of Thomas Nashe, and was used to mean "food provided for an unexpected or uninvited guest, the luck of the pot". The sense "communal meal, where guests bring their own food", appears to have originated in the late 19th century or early 20th century US, particularly in the Western United States, either by influence from the Pacific Native American tradition of the gift giving festival, potlatch, or possibly by extension of traditional sense of "luck of the pot". (From Wikipedia)*

There are many opportunities to gather. There is an ALL SCHOOL Potluck and Meeting on September 14 hosted by the Parent Association at the North Creek campus at 6pm followed by a 6:30pm presentation including Q&A. Childcare is provided. If you find it challenging to bring a dish, please stop by the meeting anyway. It will be a great way to learn how parents can add value to the WMS community. And if you need volunteer training, come early at 5:30pm to meet with Dara.

In addition, each class holds its own potluck. See the Grapevine calendar above for the schedule for your child's class and check your classroom newsletter for all the details. Please check the calendar for specific times and location as they vary from either the North Creek or Woodinville campuses to local parks. Teachers will let you know which items you should bring to share. Typically each family provides its own non-disposable plates, utensils, and cups in an effort to reduce waste and brings a picnic blanket. We hope you and your family can attend and enjoy!



PA Welcome Coffee

It was a cool back to school Monday morning this week, which made the Parent Association Back to School Welcome with hot coffee even more of a success at both the North Creek and Woodinville campuses. It gave parents time to reconnect, share some summer stories, and sign up for either the Auction or Parent Association committees. Many thanks to the PA volunteers who hosted. Welcome Back to School!

 **To Do:**

- ☑ **Sign up now for Day Camp** if you need child care on Sept 2, our in-service day.
- ☑ To help ensure a smooth morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, **review the procedures in your Parent Handbook**. Remember to be safe. And, until our teachers learn to recognize you and your car from a distance, it helps to **hold up a small sign printed with your child's name and class**.
- ☑ If you haven't already, **make sure your registration and health forms are completed ASAP**.
- ☑ **Let us know of any address, phone or email changes** by submitting a change of info form via ParentsWeb.
- ☑ **Let us know of any updates this summer to your child's immunization record**.
- ☑ **Be sure your child brings in an emergency kit**. Download a list of what to include from the WMS website: Parents -> Forms & Handouts.

Got News?

Submit articles, ideas or comments for *The Grapevine*, our school newsletter, to Ellen Wastell via grapevine@woodinvillemontessori.org. Deadline for submissions is 9:00am on Monday. *The Grapevine* accepts advertising. Run your business-card-size ad for \$25/week. Your ad also goes online, and stays in our newsletter archives.

Woodinville Montessori School

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**PA
CORNER**

If you have any ideas or questions for the Parent Association, please contact Dagny Cook at dagnycook@gmail.com.

To find out how you can volunteer to help (there are plenty of jobs, big and small), you can email Cathy Mithel at cmithel@aol.com.

To record your volunteer service hours, logon to **Parents Web**, click on the Family Information tab and then select the family member whose volunteer hours you will be entering. Click on the Service Hours tab, then Add Service Hours and then Save to submit.

**Volunteer Training**

by Dara Darlington, PA Volunteer Training Coordinator

Greetings and Salutations, WMS Families! Welcome to the new school year. Woodinville Montessori School is a vibrant community thanks to its wonderful teachers, staff and enthusiastic parent volunteers.

In order to be able to volunteer in the classroom or in any capacity working directly with the students, you must attend a volunteer training class and pass a background check. The volunteer training class schedule for September is listed below. The complete schedule is posted on the [WMS website](#) and also on the ParentsWeb [online calendar](#). **Please RSVP to attend a class by sending an email to Dara at volunteer@woodinvillemontessori.org.**

Once you have registered for a class, a reminder email will be sent the day before. If only one person is signed up for a class, it will be canceled for that session and an email will be sent out from the school announcing the cancellation. Any changes to the schedule will also be noted on the school white boards, located outside the buildings at both campuses.

You only need to attend the class once. Class typically lasts about 30 minutes. Once you have taken the class, your background check will be processed. When the background check is approved, the teachers, staff and you will be notified that you are ready to volunteer!!!

If you find that you are unable to attend one of the scheduled classes, individual training can be arranged. Please email Dara with individual requests and you will be contacted to set up a time.

Thank you very much! We look forward to a great year.

Volunteer Training Class Schedule for September

Wed., Sept. 7 at 2:30pm (WV)

Thu., Sept. 8 at 9:15am (NC)

Wed., Sept. 14 at 5:30pm (NC)

**Handbooks Now Posted on ParentsWeb**

Parent Handbook 2011-12 and *Junior High Handbook 2011-12* are now available in electronic format via Parents Web. See the *Resource Documents* tab for a downloadable version.

Volunteer Opportunities

We need YMCA chaperones on Monday and Wednesday (Lower Elementary) and Thursday (Upper Elementary) from 12:40 – 3:10pm. Parents can volunteer for weekly or biweekly sessions one of the three afternoons. Parents must have completed volunteer training and the background clearance before beginning chaperoning duties. Contact Nancy Kestek at nkestek@woodinvillemontessori.org if you can help. We need you!



- Thanks to all of our **Parent Association** and **Board of Trustee** volunteers who worked all summer to further our school's mission and prepare for the start of another school year.
- Thanks to the following parent, student and alumni volunteers who helped with a multitude of tasks in support of our NC expansion this summer including moving furniture, helping in the library, assembling tables, labeling classroom materials, cleaning tables and chairs, classroom support in Juniper and Cedar/Cypress, and more!
Dara, Rylie & Kaden Darlington; Jeff, Dena, Lauren & Jeffrey Wilson; Wolfgang Weber and Sabine, Yola & Yula Stehling; Jerrod Burright; Paul Simpson; Aaron Davis; Erika, Ryan & Stephen Price; Brett, Vanessa, & Dathan Ault-McCoy; Natalie Harris; Aubrey Bordyn; Barb & Olivia Barry and Niko; Jennifer Johnson; Elizabeth, Marcella & Patrick Corwin; KD Jones; Eileen, Ryan & Kelsey Breseman; Nicole & Kail Wastell; Samantha Olson; Michael & Daisy Held; Janet, Kevin & Bradley Snyder; Lying Wong and Tyler & Liam Chu; Kristin & Brooke Welter; Carolyn Norton; Seema Harlalka; and Charlotte & Louis Ziob.
- Thanks to **Cheri Sibthorp** for working in the Woodinville gardens.
- Thanks to **Kail W.** for labeling and distributing staff calendars and to **Audrey A.** for labeling and sorting parent handbooks and calendars.
- Thanks to **Mari Bercaw** and **Sabine Stehling** for helping with our welcome mailing to new families.
- Thanks to **Julie Young** and **Lorraine Gjerde** for assembling our alumni photographs with new mats, frames and labels. And to **Jennifer Johnson** for her photo hanging expertise!
- Thanks to **Lizzy Nelson** for working on Maria.
- Thanks to **Heike Koriath, Jamie Simpson, and Fiona Haynes** for their work on communications in support of Annual Giving.

Grace Periods Reminder

So long as your child is on campus he or she is in our care. To assist with arrival and dismissal processes, we offer a grace period to all students. See page 21 of your Parent Handbook for details about these grace periods. Any student in the building before this time in the morning, or after it in the afternoon, must be signed into Club House. These are not new policies; increased student enrollment requires that we enforce these policies more diligently this year.

Club House at North Creek

Thanks so much for your patience with all the adjustments to location this week. Cypress and Cedar (Upper Elementary) are utilizing the Club House space at North Creek until the Cypress classroom is finished (sometime next week we hope). We have made some temporary revisions to the morning Club House location schedule to facilitate the use of this space as a classroom. Watch for a revised process near the end of the month when our new, larger Club House space opens in the new section of the building. ☺

- All Club House attendees take their coats and lunch boxes to their own classroom when they arrive.
- Club House for Early Childhood and Elementary is in the usual Club House space until 8:15am.
- Early Childhood students move to the Pine class/playground classroom at 8:15am. Their sign in sheet will be at the front desk after this time - please walk them into the Pine classroom via the front door after signing in.
- Elementary students move to their classrooms for Club House between 8:15 - 8:30am. Deliver them to Club House via the front door after 8:15am. The sign-in sheets will be available to you in the hallway outside of the front conference room after 8:15am.
- REMINDER
 - All Early Childhood students must be signed in daily; this happens at the front desk after 8:15am.
 - All Elementary students who arrive more than 10 minutes before class must be signed into Club House. Please do not wait with your child outside their classroom door during Club House hours. Any elementary children dropped off at the front door prior to 8:50am will be signed into Club House by staff if you forget to come in and do so.
 - Billing for Club House follows the process described in your Parent Handbook on pages 20 – 23. Remember that children who are being delivered at their sibling's start time won't be charged for Club House, but must be signed in so we know they are in the building.
- After school Club House will follow the same schedule and location as last year. The students typically stay on the playground longer in these early days of school.

Ask Me!

By Beth Bazley, Associate Director of Development

Woodinville Montessori School is off to a blazing start this year. Welcome back to our returning families. A special 'hello' to our many new students and their families and some new staff as well. That includes me! I am **Beth Bazley**, WMS's new Associate Director of Development. This year I will be focusing on building our community of families and volunteers and supporting the Auction team and the Annual Giving Program. I come to WMS with more than 15 years of Development experience as a volunteer, but most importantly as a Montessori Mom myself. I'm looking forward to meeting all of our families at the orientations and potlucks this fall. Our Annual Giving Program and Board of Trustee volunteers will be there as well wearing badges that say 'Ask Me.' If you have a question, please ask! We hope to answer them all and bring the excitement of the new school year to all of the parents too. Look forward to hearing from me again as we launch our Annual Giving Program. The AGP provides all of the fabulous depth and breadth to our programs funding arts, science, music and more. It is the core of the WMS philanthropy programs. Welcome to this exciting school year.

Welcome to

The Grapevine

By Ellen Wastell, Editor and WMS
Director of Communications

Welcome to our first 2011-12 edition of *The Grapevine*, the school newsletter. We will be publishing the newsletter once a week on Wednesdays until the end of November, and then we'll move to every other week.

Immediately after *The Grapevine* is published, it gets posted on our school website at www.woodinvillemontessori.org where it can be found by simply clicking on "QUICKLINKS." If we have to make corrections or changes, we update the web version.

If you'd like to write for *The Grapevine*, contact Ellen Wastell at ewastell@woodinvillemontessori.org.



Congratulations

Congratulations to **Jillian** (Administrative Assistant – NC) and Robert Dickson on the arrival of Theodore on August 1.

Congratulations to **Bill, Amanda and Alek Bielawski** (Pine – Early Childhood) on the arrival of Grace Elizabeth on August 23. She weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

Congratulations to **Kristen** (Administrative Assistant – NC) and Casey Lesoing on the birth of Landon on August 29 at 5:34pm. He weighed 5lbs 3 oz and was 20 inches long.



Green Tip of the Week

Bring your class potluck food in reusable containers or platters that you can take home afterwards. Bring reusable cups, flatware, plates and napkins too.

And a green tip from Cullen in the Fig class (Toddler): "Color the planet with a green pencil!" ☺ Go green!



Junior High Business Update

- Pizza Thursday's – starting on Sept 8! Order form attached.
- Kids' Night Out – our first event will take place on Saturday, Sept 24.
- Info coming soon about popcorn sales, book fair and more!

Let's Carpool!

Kirkland Park & Ride

Hi, my daughter, Ann, is new to WMS and we would like to carpool to school. If you live or drive by the Kirkland Park 'n Ride on 85th St. just west of the 405 freeway, please give me a call at 425-830-7333, my name is Mari Bercaw. We live in the Highland Neighborhood, just a few blocks from the Park & Ride.

Redmond/Sammamish

We are interested in finding other families who might like to carpool to and from school. We live in Redmond, though there might be Sammamish or Kirkland families who we could potentially carpool with. My son, Jitu Ray, is in first grade in the Madrona class. We live on Education Hill in Redmond, but we're open to finding a family that isn't necessarily right around the corner. We're also open to a variety of days for carpool -- basically, we'd love to do a bit less driving, whatever that might look like. Please contact me at kellykoffman@gmail.com if you are interested.

Radio, Radio

WMS Alumna Kamna Shastri was one of the area's high school students to obtain a summer internship at KUOW, the local NPR station, in connection with Steve Sher's *Weekday* program. Young people in the *Weekday High* program have an opportunity to work with professional journalists and to create complete programs on areas of high interest to high schoolers. Their work exposes them to all levels involved in crafting a modern broadcast, from developing the themes to identifying and contacting potential interviewees, to preparing the questions, to producing the on-air programs. Check out the work of these inspired young people.

The first link will lead you to the KUOW Weekday High web page, <http://www.kuow.org/weekdayhigh/>

The second will take you to a list of their programs, all available on podcast: <http://www.kuow.org/rss.php?program=high>

The third link will take you to the Weekday High program entitled, "Students Take on the School System", which includes a brief discussion of Montessori education by WMS Junior High teacher Sharon Dunn (Kamna conducted the interview and a team member edited the segment), along with interesting discussion about home schooling and whether high schoolers should be represented on the Seattle School Board:

<http://www.kuow.org/program.php?id=24189>

Check it out and support youth expressiveness.

phi-lan-thro-py (noun)

- 1 : a spirit of goodwill toward all people especially when expressed in active and generous efforts to help others
- 2 : a charitable act or gift
- 3 : an organization which distributes or is supported by charitable contributions

Source: Merriam-Webster

WMS Jr. High PIZZA TIME!

Dear Parents,

Thursdays the Jr. High will be ordering pizza for the Lower and Upper Elementary classes. To order, we need your child's name, their class name, and the number of lunches you would like to order. Please include your e-mail so we may contact you if necessary. Please check your child's calendar as we cannot credit for field trips or illnesses.

Lunch is \$5 per order, which includes two slices of pizza and fruit juice. You may fill out this form to pre-order or pick up an order form outside of your child's classroom and turn them in no later than Wednesday at 12:00.

Below is a list of dates that pizza will be available. Please circle the Thursday that you would like to order Pizza and turn it into the Jr. High with your payment (**checks only** made out to WMS please). Thank you!

Student Name: _____ Classroom: _____

e-mail address: _____

of lunches ordered: _____ Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Please check the box for your pizza selection.

	Cheese	Pepperoni	Veggie
Sept. 8th			
Sept. 15th			
Sept. 22nd			
Sept. 29th			
Oct. 6th			
Oct. 13th			
Oct. 20th			
Oct. 27th			
Nov. 3rd			
Nov. 17th			