

The Grapevine



Toddler, Early Childhood, Elementary and Junior High

also online at www.woodinvillemontessori.org

Volume 29:5

"Learn. Grow. Become."

Wednesday, September 28, 2011

September

- 30 Early Bird Deadline for Oct 14 Camp
- 30 All-School Fall Festival, 6-8pm, NC
- 30 JH Book Fair, 6-8pm, NC

October

- 4 High School Info Mtg for 9th Grade Parents, 3:45pm, NC
- 5 Upper El Parent Orientation, 7-8:30pm, NC
- 6 Volunteer Training, 9:15am, NC
- 12 BOT Exec Cmte Mtg, 4:30pm, NC
- 12 EC Parent Ed Night, 6:30pm, WV

- 13 PA Exec Meeting, 9am, NC
- 14 NO SCHOOL – In-service Day (Fig Open)**
Day camp available for full day students by reservation.
- 18 Toddler New Parent Ed Series I, 6-7:30pm, NC
- 18 EL/JH 'Families are Talking' Workshop, 6:30-9pm, NC
- 19 BOT Mtg, 7pm, NC
- 20 Toddler New Parent Ed Series I, 6pm, NC
- 21 JH Business Event: Kids' Night Out, 6-10pm, NC
- 24 JH Cycle I Finals Begin
- 25 Toddler New Parent Ed Series I, 6-7:30pm, NC
- 26 Volunteer Training, 7pm, WV
- 27 Early Bird Deadline for Nov 10 Day Camp
- 27 Toddler New Parent Ed Series I, 6-7:30pm, NC
- 31 JH Immersion Days Begin



Fun, Food and Philanthropy

by Fiona Haynes, Fund Development Committee

We are anticipating a great turnout for our 3rd Annual Fall Festival on Friday, where you will not only enjoy fabulous food and take part in our wildly popular cake walk, but you can also make your pledge to our Annual Giving Program. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our community spirit, so please pledge what you can. Every gift, large or small, will be recognized with your family's name on our beautiful giving tree and with an acknowledgment in *The Grapevine*.

So pre-order your food and game tickets [here](#), and bring your pledge forms (we'll have plenty more available), and let's have another Fall Festival to remember.

For more Fall Festival info, see the PA Corner on page 2.

October 14 Day Camp

Day Camps will be available for both Early Childhood and Elementary students on Friday, October 14. Both camps will be held at North Creek and will be based on a theme of "Pine Cones and Pumpkins."

Early Bird registration is available through September 30. To register, complete the appropriate WebForm on [ParentsWeb](#) and remit payment to the office. You may also download the registration form from the Woodinville Montessori School website. From www.woodinvillemontessori.org, click on "PARENTS" and select "After-School Programs & Camps" on the left.

October 18, 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Families Are Talking

Reprinted from Ginkgo Class News

Teens rank parents as the #1 influence on their sexual decisions. Do your children know what your values are? They need your guidance, whether they are asking for it or not.

Families Are Talking is a program specifically designed to help you start these conversations—which can be awkward and embarrassing on both sides! Come to a workshop at WMS on October 18 to learn when and how to talk with teens and tweens about sexuality and how to answer their questions.

Activities include a discussion of childhood sexual development, deciding which values to share, and learning how to communicate and answer questions in a way that is both helpful for your child and comfortable for you. Parents, guardians, and grandparents of children in 6th – 9th grade are invited to attend.

To Do:

- ☑ **Don't miss the All-School Fall Festival on Sept 30. Preorder your tickets TODAY** so we can plan accordingly.
- ☑ **Sign-up now for Day Camp** if you need child care on Oct 14, our in-service Day.
- ☑ **Send in your donation for this year's Annual Giving Program** and help us reach our goal of 100% participation.
- ☑ **Take volunteer training** if you plan to volunteer in your child's classroom.



WMS Sweatshirts for Sale

Stay tuned for info and order forms in the coming weeks.

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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www.woodinvillemontessori.org



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.

RSVP to volunteer@woodinvillemontessori.org if you plan to attend an upcoming Volunteer Training Session.

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.



Scenes from Fall Festival 2010-11

Fall into some Fun at the Fall Festival!

by Stephany Schneider & Janet Snyder, Social Committee Chairs

It is finally here - the annual All-School Fall Festival is this Friday, September 30 from 6-8pm at the North Creek campus!

Eat dinner at the famous MAXimus/miniMUS pigmobile. This is one of your last chances to eat this amazing food since they are closing for the season after this weekend. Choose from a Pulled Pork Sandwich, Grilled Chicken Sandwich, or a Veggie Sandwich each paired with Slaw, Kettle Chips, and a drink (\$12 each), with some "Hurt" or not. A special kid sized meal of Beechers Mac & Cheese is also available (\$10 each).

After dinner, take a turn at games such as the Cake Walk, Fish Pond or the new Fruit Toss. Everyone wins at these games and tickets are \$1 each. And **if you pre-order dinner, you get 1 game ticket free!** To pre-order, log into **ParentsWeb**, go to 'Web Forms' and complete and submit the Fall Festival form. Please remit payment to the front desk at either campus by September 29. Pre-order forms are also available at the front desk.

This is the 3rd year for the Fall Festival and it has proved to be a great way to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. We hope to see you there!





- Thanks to **Lauri Cook** for creating the Fall Festival image for the WMS website home page.
- Thanks again to **Scott Fell** for creating our new Grapevine logo.
- Thanks to **Cheri Sibthorp** for all of her help with swimming at the YMCA.
- Thanks to **Jon Polzin, Thom Bergen, Dan Lewis, Ron Yabut & Lorraine Gjerde, Joseph Mallott and Dan Marshall** for helping **Gary Davis and Lea Aemisegger** with the playground project at North Creek campus. And thanks to **Cheri Sibthorp and Julie Young** for their work at the Woodinville campus.
- Thanks to the following donors for their very generous in-kind donations providing supplies and materials which greatly benefit our school:
 - Aubrey Bordyn** for books;
 - Seema Harlalka** for puzzles and games;
 - Lorien Clemens** for curriculum supplies;
 - Beth Bazley** for the computer armoire and media center.



Review School Closure Info

Now is the perfect time to review the school closure procedures outlined in your Parent Handbook. You can also sign up to get email notification about emergency closures at www.schoolreport.org (see attached flyer). Sign up now before a weather event heads our way since they disable subscription capability during regional weather events.

In order to implement system improvements, **SchoolReport.org has purged their subscriber database so all subscribers will need to go through the sign-up process again.**

Club House Q & A

Excerpts reprinted from *Parent Handbook 2011-12*, pg 19 - 20

Thank you for your continued patience and flexibility as the Club House process and location has been in flux during the North Creek expansion. We hope to be in our new space very soon!

What is Club House?

Before and after school Club House (child care) is provided by WMS at both campuses as a convenience and a service for our families. Club House consists of time to play indoors and outdoors, and sometimes to work in the classroom. All elementary students third grade and older will participate in study hall beginning at 4:30pm, Monday – Thursday, so that their evenings can be devoted to family activities. A snack is served in Club House. The end of the Club House period is devoted to cleaning up and getting ready for the next day. Children always participate in these activities.

Junior High students have a homework period in their classroom until their teachers leave at 4:30pm and then work in the elementary study hall room until pickup.

How does my child get signed in to Club House?

To utilize Club House in the morning, park, come into the building, and sign in your child. Your access code will not work before 8:00am or after 4:30pm so you will need to knock on the door to get into the building.

For afternoon Club House, your child will be signed into Club House by the Club House staff at the end of the school day and will remain in their care until you come to pick up your child and sign him/her out of Club House. Please remember that there is a \$2.00/minute charge for pick-ups after 6 pm!

How do I sign-up and pay for Club House?

There are two different options for Club House billing:

- (1) Drop-in Club House – Drop-in child care is available and shall be billed at the end of each month, posted to your ParentsWeb account. Payments are due by the 15th of the following month. We ask that you notify the school if your child is to go to after-school Club House so that he/she does not wait for you in the pickup line.
- (2) Unlimited Prepaid Club House – To participate in the prepaid method, turn in a prepayment slip and payment, one for each child and each month, by the last day of the prior month. Copies are available on the front desk and on the website. We are working to offer an online option for this but it is not currently available.

See *Parent Handbook 2011-12* for all the details about Club House schedules, procedures and billing.

Montessori Thoughts

Reprinted from Juniper Class News

“An inclusive learning community says in many ways, ‘Here everybody belongs, plays, and helps each other learn in her or his own time and way.’ All children feel nurtured, encouraged, and respected for their “whole” selves.” - Anti-Bias Education for Young Children and Ourselves by Louise Derman-Sparks and Julie Olsen Edwards

At WMS, we aspire to cultivate a peaceful, inclusive learning environment. One of the ways we foster these values in our classroom community is by helping the children understand, value, and embrace our differing needs and abilities. We encourage each child to celebrate ways in which they are unique, and to appreciate that every person is an individual with inimitable strengths and challenges.

Maria Montessori wrote, “We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity.” As our children acquire the skills to interact respectfully, justly, and thoughtfully with each other, no matter what their differences or differing abilities are, they work together as a community to create awareness, compassion, and empathy. This, we believe, is precisely what Dr. Montessori envisioned.

Girl Scout Parent Information Night

Girl Scouts is for all girls ages K – 12. This information night is geared towards families in the Woodin and Woodmoor areas. Interested parents are encouraged to attend! Contact Laura Koch at ourbugaboos@gmail.com for more information.

Wednesday, September 28
7 – 8:30pm

Kingsgate Library
12315 N.E. 143rd St.
Kirkland, WA 98034

Sammamish Art Fair

This is a free community event, featuring local artists from the Eastside. Meet the artists and learn about their creative process. The highest quality and variety of fine art will be available for purchase including original paintings, jewelry, mixed media, encaustic art, various glass arts, ceramics, woodcarving, and textile art. This artist run fair is locally grown, pesticide free, and zero calories. There will be a full program of unique interactive family activities for artists and patrons of all ages, which includes performance, visual and hands on art encounters. With free admission & parking, a weatherproof inside venue, live music and light refreshments, you can't afford to stay home!

This community-wide cultural art experience is sponsored by the City of Sammamish, the Sammamish Arts Commission and 4Culture.

Saturday, October 8 and
Sunday October 9
10:00am - 5:00pm

Sammamish City Hall
801 228th Ave. SE
Sammamish, WA 98075

For more information, contact the Sammamish Arts Commission at 425-295-0500.

phi-lan-thro-py (noun)

*"I have found that among its other benefits,
giving liberates the soul of the giver."*

~ Maya Angelou

Welcome New Staff Members & Staff News

Welcome **Starina Libonati** who joined our Club House staff in North Creek. In Hawaii she worked for Habitat for Humanity and Allii's Hale in food, shelter and emergency services. She has also worked with special needs children and adults in Arizona and Colorado. Glad to be back home in Kirkland, she is currently going to school for an Associates Degree in Logics and Buddhism.

Welcome **Tricie Hunter** who joined our staff as Controller. Many of you may recognize Tricie who is a WMS alumni parent (1994 – 1997) and also served on our Board of Trustees. She attended Bellevue High School, Smith College, and has an MBA from the University of Washington. Tricie has been working as controller at Brooks Rand Labs in Fremont before joining the WMS Business Office.

Welcome **Marilou Carlson** who joined us this week as the new Early Childhood teacher in Elm Class for the afternoon session. Marilou came to Montessori over 20 years ago and received her primary certificate from Montessori Teacher College Northwest (MTCN). She has worked at Bellevue Montessori School and at Early World Montessori on Mercer Island. She also worked for a year as a Montessori toddler assistant and volunteered at a small Montessori school in Iceland.

We are excited to announce that **Laura Ascolese** (Juniper Co-teacher) is expecting her first child in early January. **Kristen Richter**, a former WMS Lower Elementary teacher who has a long-standing relationship with our school through her work as a substitute and MEIPN employee, will fill-in while Laura takes a six week leave. Congratulations Laura & Jeff!



Meeting the Special President Obama

by Ethan W., Maple Class

Last weekend, I got to see THE PRESIDENT in Seattle with my mom and the rest of my family. He shook my hand and he came out of his own airplane that had a house in it I think. He said to me "Hi there little man." President Obama is the President of the United States, Barack Obama. I was excited to meet him. When he came out of the airplane it was sunny, when he was flying in, it was rainy, that is all I can remember.

Ethan's mom works for the U.S. Secret Service, an agency in the Department of Homeland Security in the federal government. The Secret Service protects the President of the United States, the Vice President, and other important people in the federal government.



How do I get information about school closures due to weather or other emergencies?

Woodinville Montessori is now signed up with Schoolreport.org, a service that will notify all TV and radio stations about our school closures, and make them part of their announcements. This includes the scrolling information bars that appear across the bottom of the screen on some TV shows.

In addition, this service will send an e-mail alert to you, if you choose to sign up. It's FREE!!! Your e-mail address is not passed on to anyone else, and you can change your account or unsubscribe at any time. You can also be alerted to information from more than one school. It will only take 5 minutes to set up your account.

To sign up for the service, go to their website at: www.schoolreport.org. Click on the "Sign up for email alerts." At the next screen, enter the email address you want the alert to go to. Then click on the arrows next to the email box. This will bring you to the "My School Report" screen, where you can follow menus to add schools and make changes to your account.

If the Message says:	It means:
1 Hour Late	AM start times move ahead 1 hour, program end times remain the same. PM Club House unaffected. See table below.
NO A.M. Extended Care	No morning Club House.
CLOSED	No School and No Club House.

Sample Alert Messages

Program	Normal Start Hour <small>Note: End hour for each program remains the same.</small>	1 Hour Late Schedule
Club House	7:00	8:00
Preschool (AM)	8:45	9:45
Preschool (PM)	Afternoon sessions	No change to schedule
Lower and Upper Elementary	9:00	10:00
Junior High	8:30	9:30