Children of elementary school age have a remarkable ability to imagine. The Montessori Method engages these powerful imaginations to introduce a framework for understanding all parts of our universe, past and present. Stories from the “Cosmic Curriculum” cover the formation of the universe, the story of life on Earth, and human history to present, crossing curriculum areas and speaking to the interconnectedness and interrelationship of all things. They provide context for a child’s exploration of the world around him.

Through studies and guided group interaction, students also develop a sense of their place and responsibilities as members of their classroom, their family, and of their local, national and global communities. Respect for human diversity, the environment and community are reinforced by constant modeling and encouragement. Students move at their own pace in a multi-age classroom.

Early childhood is a critical time for learning. The 3 - 6 year old child goes about soaking up information and forming impressions and habits that become the basis for all future learning and behavior.

The Early Childhood Program at WMS is adapted to the developmentally unique learning abilities of the young child. Environments rich in “hands on” materials, multi-age classrooms, and freedom to follow one’s interests allow the child to develop the fundamental skills that build a solid foundation for life and learning.

Montessori accredited teachers work with each child to develop a sense of independence, concentration, coordination and organization. Children are given ample time to work in learning areas of their choosing, including practical life, sensorial, language, reading, math, geography, history, botany, zoology and physical science. Music, movement and art are integrated throughout.

The adolescent years are an exciting time of cognitive, emotional, social and physical change as young people begin to define what it means to be an adult. Students of this age are increasingly able to engage in abstract reasoning, plan and complete sophisticated projects, and meet intellectual challenges across the curriculum. The adolescent’s goal at this stage of development is explore his or her identity as a learner, friend, and member of a community.

The secondary program at WMS takes into account these unique developmental needs, while continuing its mission to prepare young people for lives that are centered, informed, enriched and inspired. In addition to vigorous and engaging academics, time for community building and social development are a part of each day. Opportunities to gain practical hands-on experience are incorporated into the program through interactions with the greater community, internships and travel. High school level students have opportunities for independent study, blended learning, off-campus coursework and a flexible schedule.
Guiding Principles of Woodinville Montessori School

Founded in 1983, Woodinville Montessori School is a community of lifelong learners dedicated to facilitating the optimal intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of children using Montessori and contemporary educational methods. We believe:

1. The child is born with innate potential to learn everything necessary to lead a full, happy and productive life. This potential will develop depending on the quality of the environment and nurturing he receives.

2. Individuals are by nature diverse in their learning styles, interests, preferences, and definitions of happiness and success. Instructional methods must be varied accordingly. At times individual learning styles may mean that the Montessori environment is not the best place for a child.

3. The first six years of a child’s development are critical to the development of many lifetime skills, attitudes and beliefs.

4. Children who are encouraged to follow their own interests and are given the belief that they are capable of anything they choose, have better coping skills, self-esteem, and higher levels of confidence.

5. School must prepare students as well as possible for any path they choose in life. Students should be well grounded in the basic academic disciplines, encouraged to develop their physical, creative and artistic qualities, and develop strong personal identities and self-awareness.

6. Self-esteem, human dignity and emotional well-being, as well as the ability to communicate and cooperate effectively with others, can be cultivated, and must be valued at least as highly as academic and material success.

7. All children seek to understand their place within the web of life and the human family; therefore, their educational experience should be universal and global.

8. All constituents of the school — children, parents, faculty, administrators, the governing body and friends — must function with a common vision and cooperative spirit in order to provide an environment and experiences which allow children to fully develop their own unique skills and abilities.

9. Multi-age grouping of children at all levels take advantage of the inclination of younger children to imitate older children. Older children, in turn, develop higher levels of mastery and confidence as they teach others. They experience what it feels like to be a leader, and how to nurture and encourage someone who is less skilled than they have become.

10. Children respond to learning environments that are rich, beautiful, orderly and child-centered.

Learn...
self-respect, respect for others, integrity, responsibility, compassion, kindness, peacefulness, and commitment to service to community.

Grow...
in academic excellence, and develop positive and productive social, emotional, intellectual and physical abilities and skills.

Become...
a lifelong learner with a global perspective, an understanding of the interrelatedness of all people and all life, and a commitment to caring for self, others, humanity and the environment.