



WMS FAMILY ALLIANCE

TOGETHER...We Build a Community

## WMS Family Alliance Newsletter – June 2022



Happy Summer! The Family Alliance thanks you for your participation this past year and hopes that you have a wonderful summer! We look forward to welcoming you back to campus in the fall and continuing to connect families and strengthen our wonderful Woodinville Montessori community.

### About Family Alliance

Family Alliance is the link connecting all families so that we may feel the joined synergy and community of WMS. Please visit the [FA web page](#) to learn more about FA, its committees, and its leadership team.

### Community Appreciations

Thank you for joining WMS and FA as we celebrated community and culture! We had a busy first half of 2022 and truly appreciated everyone who volunteered and/or participated in school-based and our community events. Our fingers are crossed that next year will allow us to gather together in person and reinforce our connections.

#### Quick Links

- [FA Webpage](#)
- [FA Contact](#)
- [School Calendar](#)
- [Volunteer Signup Form](#)
- [WMS Family Facebook](#)

#### Lunar New Year

Family Alliance hosted an online **Lunar New Year Celebration**. Students made Lunar New Year paper art and crafts and a “dumpling craft”, listened to Lunar New Year stories, and learned about Lunar New Year traditions.

#### Lantern Festival

The **Lantern Festival**, also online, highlighted the celebration of Eid and Ramadan around the world. Students made crafts, learned about the month of Ramadan and the Festival of Eid, and enjoyed story time.

## Friends of North Creek Forest Volunteer Work Party

WMS volunteers (parents and kids) joined with Friends of North Creek Forest for a **day of service** in our local community. We moved A LOT of mulch to help protect a steep trail from eroding. Many hands made light work, and there were some innovative bucket brigades formed!

## Teacher Staff Appreciation

Our WMS community (both the TSA committee and everyone who contributed) held a few appreciation events for teachers and staff! The treats, snacks, and beverages were appreciated!

## WMS Spring Gala

Our **Spring Gala** was held in-person with a virtual option. We came together under the 'Big Top' to celebrate and support WMS. The Gala Committee orchestrated a wonderfully fun evening!

## All-School Picnic

Our Family Alliance events concluded with the All-School Picnic at Cottage Lake Park. Parents and kids braved the rain to come together as the school year ended. It was heart-warming to see kids playing and adults connecting. We appreciated the secondary businesses and the work of the Orienteering Club to create a course at the park.

# Ways to Get Involved

FA is hard at work reimagining current traditions and building new ones! We would love to have your help.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Family Alliance is looking for motivated volunteers to join our leadership team as well as assist with all-school events next year. We will be posting opportunities online in the fall, but if you would like to find out more about the possibilities, please contact the [FA executive committee](#).

In-person volunteer opportunities are beginning to return! Fall will bring another round of opportunities to get clearance to work directly with students (field trip chaperones, reading parents, etc.). We hope to be able to facilitate the return of volunteers to both campuses.

## Share your ideas for community building!

Do you have a cool idea for a community event? FA would love to hear your ideas for any fun, safe, family-focused ideas. For interest, please contact the [FA executive committee](#).

## Share your culture with the WMS community!

Family Alliance invites families to share their culture and traditions with the community! If you are interested, contact the [FA executive committee](#) about creating a short video on cooking a dish, dance performance, art making, or any tradition from your culture!

## Woodinville Montessori School Family Facebook Page

Looking for a way to connect with other WMS Families? Come join the [Woodinville Montessori Families Facebook Group](#) to plan outings, share upcoming events, and promote our sense of community.

## Family Alliance Communications

Family Alliance shares information about events and volunteer requests through Room Parents, direct emails, [The Grapevine](#), and Facebook. We would love to hear from you if you have ideas or would like to find a way to help. [Contact us!](#)

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# Supporting WMS

## Logging Volunteer Hours

*Please record your hours contributed this school year. Every volunteer hour you put in helps our school!* Did you know that many companies will match your volunteer time as well as funds?

### Directions to log service hours in Family Portal

1. Sign into [Family Portal](#)
2. In your account, find Family on the left sidebar, expand the arrow and click on Family Home.
3. On the Family Home screen, the service hours module will be the **center top** panel on your screen.
4. You may see a dropdown above the module to select your name or another family member's name if you wish to specifically credit the service hours.
5. Click "Add+" on the upper right of the module.
6. Choose a description of your service from the dropdown. (If unsure, choose "Other.")
7. Add a brief note to add detail (if desired).
8. "Verified by" can be the person in charge of the task or leave it blank.
9. Save the entry.
10. A tip: to record more than one occasion of service hours, save and return to the previous "enter volunteer hours" page. Otherwise, you will be editing—and over-writing—the current entry.
11. Contact [Laureen Ng](#) with any issues or questions about recording your volunteer hours.

## Support WMS through AmazonSmile

Did you know Amazon has a feature which allows you to support our school while shopping at Amazon? The site will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to WMS every time you use it. Simply shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/91-1212740](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-1212740) or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon shopping app!

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