Happy Fall! As the days grow shorter and the air turns colder, the Family Alliance has many fun and exciting events coming up in the Woodinville Montessori Community.

**Upcoming Family Alliance Events**

**Gingerbread Festival**
**December 14th – 10:00am – 12:00pm**

Family Alliance invites your family to come and get festive at the Winter Gingerbread Festival - all families are invited and welcome! In addition to decorating gingerbread houses (all house kits must be pre-ordered during registration), there will be holiday card-making, a holiday photo booth, a gift bazaar featuring small business owners and artists from the WMS community, warm drinks and treats, and maybe a few additional surprises designed to get your family in the holiday spirit.

Please follow the link for [Gingerbread House Purchases](#) (a gluten free option is available as well)

For more information or to volunteer for the event, please contact Event Chair: [Christina Bernal](#)

**December All School Family Alliance Meeting**
**December 9th – 3:30pm – 4:30pm – North Creek Campus**

Want to learn more about the Family Alliance and all it has to offer? Come to our periodic all-school meetings to discuss upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, leadership opportunities, social ideas, and much more.

**Lunar New Year Celebration**
**February 1st**

Join us for the Lunar New Celebration at the North Creek campus club house. Activities include calligraphy, traditional art work, tea culture, traditional instrumental performance, and a photo booth.

For more information, please contact co-chairs: [Yingying Du or Kaige Zhang-Gantz](#)
Community Reminders

Share your culture with the WMS community!

WMS Family Alliance would like to invite all families to share their culture and traditions with the community! If you are interested, pick a month from the list at this link to set up a display for two weeks at each campus. Ideas and content are to be discussed with the school administration. Additionally, if there is a theme already chosen for a month, we are welcoming additional content from other families.

For interest, please contact the FAC executive committee.

* For interest with assisting in February for Black History Month, please contact Labiba Khan
* For interest with assisting in April for Passover, please contact Jessica Felt

Family Alliance 2020-21 Committee Chairs/Leadership Members Needed

Looking to be more involved at WMS in a fun and exciting manner? Consider joining the Family Alliance Leadership team. Family Alliance is the link connecting all families so that we may also feel the joined synergy and community of WMS.

* There are a number of open positions for the 2020-21 school year including the executive committee, event specific leads and topic chairs

To learn more information or discuss interest, please email: FAC Leadership Interest

Logging Volunteer Hours

Every volunteer hour you put in helps our school

Directions: Now log service hours in ParentsWeb

1. Sign into ParentsWeb
2. On your account, find Family on the left sidebar, expand the arrow to Family Home and click on Family Home.
3. On the Family Home screen, the service hours module will be the center top panel on your screen.
   a. You may see a dropdown above the module to select your name or your partner’s name, if you wish to specifically credit the service hours.
4. Click “Add+” on the upper right of the module.
5. Choose a description of your service from the dropdown. (If you are unsure, choose “Other.”)
   a. “Verified by” can be the person in charge of the task, or Laureen Ng, development director or leave it blank. Then save the entry.
   b. 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.
6. Contact Claire with any issues or questions about recording your volunteer hours this way.

If you have any feedback regarding the logging system, please let Laureen Ng know.

Please don’t forget to also find out if your company has volunteer match!

Woodinville Montessori School Family Facebook Page

Looking for a way to connect with other WMS Families? Come join the WMS Family Facebook group to plan outings, share upcoming events, and promote our sense of community.

To access the group, Woodinville Montessori Families Facebook Group
**Reflections**

**Fall Festival**
In October, the FAC hosted the Fall Festival at Swan’s Trail, the first major event of the year. The event saw record attendance of 450+ from the WMS community. “It was wonderful seeing so many families and staff from both campuses enjoy many activities for all ages on a beautiful fall day,” Laureen said.

Events like this could not happen without the wonderful support of our families. Angela and Laureen expressed their deep gratitude for the countless number of volunteers and staff members who helped make the event happen. Last but not least, a very big thank you to Fall Festival Chair, Angela Kugler, who has expertly led and executed this event over the last three years, putting in countless hours and thoughtful effort. Her idea to bring it to the Farm this year was an exciting change of pace, and WMS is grateful for her tireless work to ensure the success of such a significant event to bring our WMS community closer together and have fun!

**Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunch**
In October, the Family Alliance held its first of three Teacher and Staff Appreciation [TSA] luncheons across the facilities. This is our time as a community to stop and say thank you to the many wonderful faculty and staff that work so hard every day improving the lives of our children. Parent volunteers worked hard to put together a festive fall themed luncheon for both campuses and the event was a success! The next TSA luncheon will be held at the end of January.

**Family Alliance Committee All School Meeting**
On a beautiful fall day October 14th, we held our first all school FA executive meeting. We had several families attend and learn more about the goals of the FA. Many interesting questions, social ideas and communication challenges were raised in the discussion. We thank those who took time to attend and look forward to seeing more at the next meeting in December.