

M A R C H 2 0 1 5

Washington University Nursery School Director's Newsletter



Trivia Night and Silent Auction Outcome

Many parents, teachers and friends enjoyed a night of fun at the WUNS bi-annual Trivia Night and Silent Auction on Saturday, February 21. Suzie and Eric Vanderhoef's table came away with first place in Trivia as well as the table decorations! The teachers' table was a strong contender in the early rounds, but stumbled on the Superhero category and couldn't regain the lead. **WUNS came away as the biggest winner – with over \$4500 raised!** We are excited to use a portion of this money to purchase the S.T.E.M. Magnetic wall (giant marble works for our Movement room) Many parents were critical to the success of our event. Your support is greatly appreciated. We hope you enjoyed the night and look forward to future gatherings with parents. Thank you for your generous donations.



“Speak no evil, hear no evil, see no evil!”

Summer Camp Registration is Open

Warm weather is hopefully just around the corner and before you know it summer break will be here too. Our annual 3-Bear Summer camp program will run for two 3-week sessions in June and July. Children enjoy camp because it is filled with fun, friends and lots of outdoor water play. Our experienced staff loves to see current WUNS children, and also welcomes children from other preschools. You can download a camp form on our website, or email and we will send you one home. Camp dates are Session I: June 8-26 and Session II: June 29-July 17 (no camp on July 3).

Mark Your Calendars...

Spring Break

March 16-20

Enjoy your break!
Let's hope for
some warm spring-
like weather!

No School

April 3

Staff Professional
Development Day

Family Playdate

April 8

Join us from 3:15 –
5pm on the WUNS
playground.
Siblings welcome.

My Sci-Investigation Station Visit



The Investigation Station is a roving vehicle of innovative, hands-on exhibits and specimens that makes learning fun as kids climb and crawl through and explore three zones in the 37-foot custom-built trailer. The Investigation Station is scheduled to visit the Nursery School on Wednesday, April 8. Each class will take a guided, interactive tour through the three zones of the station. The trailer will also be open to families during the afternoon WUNS playdate from 3:15 – 5 pm on the same day.

The trailer was designed by past WUNS parent Heather Corcoran, the director of Washington University's College & Graduate School of Art. The trailer is divided into three zones.

Zone 1 is the Missouri woodland area, anchored by a floor-to-ceiling sculpted tree and mural. Students can explore flora and fauna of a typical woodland scene by matching the corresponding magnet animals to their habitat. Also in Zone 1 is a mural of what's underground in Missouri complete with attachable animals. Younger students can interact with a vast assortment of naturalistic puppets, learning about physical and behavioral characteristics of animals.

Zone 2 is the laboratory room in which students can study live and preserved plant, rock and animal specimens. This room includes projected microscopes, computer programs and DVD presentations, as well as several display cases filled with engaging materials. Students can sit on crafted tree stumps at wooden tables for their investigations.

Zone 3 is a replica of a Missouri limestone cave. Students can crawl through and examine the stalactites, stalagmites, animals, insects and rocks that make up a limestone cave. The students also look through a spelunker's backpack to further understand cave exploration and



Parent-Child Therapy Study Open to Families

The Early Emotional Development Program (EEDP) at Washington University School of Medicine has openings in a treatment study for 3-7 year old children and their parents to help them regulate their moods and feelings. Dr. Joan Luby, Director of the EEDP has been studying emotional regulation in children since 1998. For those that are eligible and agree to participate, you and your child will work with a therapist in program designed to improve your relationship with your child, learn safe and effective disciplinary techniques, as well as both learn strategies to manage a range of emotions. Parents will learn to positively engage their child by focusing on positive communications, building self-esteem and parent and child cooperation. Parents will learn and practice safe and effective disciplinary techniques, such as: giving clear, effective commands and using consistent methods for handling non-compliance. Parents and children will learn strategies to identify and manage a broad range of emotions. Sessions are devoted to exploring: variety of emotions –happiness, sadness, guilt, anger and frustration, relaxation techniques and parenting stressors. Participants will receive up to \$400 for participation in assessments throughout the 36-week study. For more information or to complete the eligibility checklist, please contact Caroline Fullerton at the EEDP at 314-286-1888 or pcited@psychiatry.wustl.edu.