

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 7

Washington University Nursery School

Director's Newsletter

At WUNS, we believe that children learn most effectively through play experiences that are designed to build communication, socialization, fine and gross motor, creative and collaborative skills. Our curriculum is aligned with best practices standardized by the National Association for the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC).



Ready, set, here we go!

The school year is off to a wonderful beginning. Your children are ready for the adventure of a new school year. They have settled into their classroom routines, looking forward to seeing their teachers and friends and engaging in their favorite activities in the classrooms and on the playground.

The warm weather the past few weeks has allowed the children time with the outdoor water trough – water and sand are fun combo with kids! Water play is fun and WET! The children love to create rivers and lakes with their friends, filling their buckets with water to water our plants and flowers or just dumping it out into the sand, fascinated as it disappears. Others, dip paintbrushes into the buckets filled with water to give our climber a “fresh coat of paint!” Often, their shoes and clothes get wet in the process. Be sure to keep a couple sets of extra clothes (shirts, pants, underwear and socks) in your child's cubby. You can switch out their shorts for warmer pants and long sleeve shirts as the cooler fall weather arrives.



Who's who?

The morning classes and their teachers are:

Chona Carson and Marbie Reap, in classroom 2 with the Teddy Bears.

Marsha Graeber and Katie Loynd in classroom 1, with the Bear Cubs.

Suzy Frillman and Heather Huewe, lead the Big Bears in classroom 3.

In the afternoon, the teachers are:
Chona Carson and Marsha Graeber

with the Panda Bears in classroom 2.

Colleen Corbett and Katie Loynd in classroom 3 with the Sun Bears.

Colleen Corbett and Suzy Frillman lead our morning and afternoon **Bear Tracks**, respectively.

Amber Ott works part-time in the office as the administrative coordinator.
Nikki Scheele is the Director.





Enrichment classes

Our **enrichment classes** have begun.

Suzy Frillman teaches an Art class monthly and met with a few classes the past weeks. The morning classes will enjoy singing with Laura Frank, our music specialist this week, while the afternoon classes will meet with Laura in two weeks. Colleen Corbett, our Spanish teacher, meets with each class for 10-15 minutes on Mondays or Fridays. Liz McCane will begin her Nature lessons with the classes on October 16. Parents can view their child's upcoming enrichment schedule, weekly announcements and current newsletter by visiting their child's classroom page on our school website. Monthly art lessons, song lyrics, Spanish lessons and Nature fun facts can be found on our website.



Playdate

Our first playdate of the year took place last Wednesday, September 27. It was a gorgeous fall day on the playground with many families and friends. Children were eager to show their parents the My Sci Investigation Trailer and explore its many environments. Thank you for joining the playdate. We will have more in the spring.

Open House

Open House is scheduled for Saturday, October 14 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. On this special day, your child can show you their classroom, demonstrate their skills on the playground and share a snack. WUNS t-shirts and sweatshirts will be available for purchase as well. The children love wearing their "bear" shirts to school. Adult sizes are available too.





Parent-Teacher Conferences, Oct 26 & 27

Parent-teacher conference scheduling will begin soon. Online sign-ups via Sign-Up Genius will go out in the coming week. On these conference days, children will not attend regular school. The teachers are looking forward to visiting with you about your child. You will be able to talk to your child's teachers in private and without interruption. If children accompany you, there will be WU college students providing childcare in Classroom 4.



Fire Prevention Week in October

On Tuesday, October 10, WUNS will enjoy a visit from the Clayton Fire Department to celebrate national **Fire Prevention week**. Classes will read stories and discuss what to do in case of a fire at home. The firefighters will talk with the children about fire safety and how to STOP, DROP and ROLL! We will learn when it's appropriate to call 911 and watch a firefighter put on all of his/her gear to see that he/she is not scary. If the weather cooperates, we'll also see their ladder and pumper trucks. If you haven't already done so, now is a good time to develop your family's fire safety plan and talk about it with your child. We practice fire, severe weather and campus lockdown drills monthly at school too.

School Photos

Individual and class portraits will be taken on **Monday, October 9** (date change). Lifetouch Preschool Portraits will photograph every child. Your child's proof photos will be sent home for you to view and then place an order. I can't wait to see their beautiful smiles. Photos will be taken outdoors if the weather permits.



What's coming up? What's new?

Professional Development Day, Oct 13

Teachers will spend the day on Friday, October 13 visiting other local preschools of their choice to learn about others teaching methods and best practices. It's always fun to learn from other educators and observe a new classroom environment. Please note that WUNS will be closed during this staff day. Enjoy the long weekend!



Parent resources added to WUNS website

WUNS recently added a new tab on our school website titled, Parent Resources. Our goal for this addition is to provide a place for parents to find current early childhood articles and topics that are relevant and beneficial to your child's development. We will also highlight community resources/events that families may want to explore.

Halloween Parade

The Halloween Parade and celebration will take place on Tuesday, October 31 at 10:45 am and 2:15 pm. Parents are invited to this school wide event. Teachers will be sending home invitations and details the week before. We try to keep the celebration low-key to not overwhelm the children.



School Handbook, Directory & Website

The Nursery School **parent handbook** (found online) is a great resource for school policies and procedures. Please take time to read through it. Our school directory will also be sent home electronically this week. Please visit your **child's classroom web page weekly**. Announcements, newsletters and class photos/videos will be posted to for you to view.