

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 6

Washington University Nursery School Director's Newsletter



Night at the Magic House

Please join us for an exciting night of play and discovery at the Magic House in Kirkwood next **Wednesday, February 10 from 6 to 8 pm**. Through generous donations, our school is able to rent the early-childhood side of the Magic House exclusively for our children. It makes a usual crowded outing to the Magic House so much more enjoyable for all! It's another opportunity to see your child interacting with their friends and for parents to meet one another. The whole family is invited.



Enrollment for 2016-2017 & Summer Camp

The nursery school is making plans for the **2016 - 2017 school year**. The school calendar is close to completion and enrollment forms for the next school year have been collected. We are mailing enrollment letters out to new families and will make class rosters for next school year's classes. We have had many wonderful families visit our school during the past year, many will be a part of WUNS next fall. Also, Summer Camp enrollment forms will be available and will be sent home soon. Summer Camp dates are June 13 – July 1 and July 5 – July 22 (no camp July 4). Daily camp hours are 9 am to 12:30 pm (children bring their lunch). Bear Tracks (extended hours) are available M-Th until 2:30 pm. Swim lessons are also available for an additional fee. Camp is open to the community; so if you have a friend that wants to come and play this summer, please spread the word!

Save the Date!

Valentine's Party

Thursday, Feb. 11

Don't forget to bring your Valentine cards to the class party!

No School

Friday, Feb. 12

Professional development day for staff

No School

Monday, Feb 15

Presidents' Day
Enjoy the day off!



Visit with Sergeant Bob

On Tuesday, February 16, Sergeant Bob Wayne from the Washington University Police Department will visit each class to talk about his job as police officer on campus. He will share his “safety talk” with us and show us all of the tools he uses on the job! I am sure you will hear all about it that night!

Composting with Brody

Some of the best ideas come from children. I discovered this first hand late last fall when Brody (Sun Bear) helped tend to a small evergreen tree on the playground. We talked about what the tree needs to grow and survive. Brody offered to bring in compost from his compost pile at home to help nourish the small tree. Not knowing a lot about composting, I asked Brody to tell me how the compost process works. After his elaborate and thorough description, he looked at me perplexed and asked, “Why doesn’t the Nursery School compost?” I thought about it for a second and replied, “Great question, Brody. We should start composting!” That afternoon I reached out to the University’s Sustainability Department to ask for their support in starting a composting program at the Nursery School. With their help, we ordered and recently received our, “Backporch Compost Tumbler”. I have contacted Earthways, a sustainability/environmental group

affiliated with the Missouri Botanical Gardens to learn more about starting our composting program and the early childhood education component. We have ordered several children’s books about composting, as well as small compost buckets for each classroom to collect biodegradable items for our compost tumbler. We are just in the development stage of this new initiative, so if you have experience in composting and/or want to share your knowledge, I am open to learning. I feel lucky that my good friend Brody inspired our school community!



Health Reminder

The flu and cold season has arrived. The **WUNS Health Policy**, located on our website states, “If a child becomes ill at school, they will be cared for in the office until a parent can pick them up. If a child is sick, they will be allowed to return to school when free of symptoms (fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, etc.) and has not required medication for a minimum of 24 hours.” Thank you for respecting this policy. We hate to see the children sick and want to prevent the spread of germs.



Save the date – April 9

Our annual WUNS Trivia Night has been scheduled for Saturday, April 9. This parent event is always a great time to socialize with parents, test your trivia knowledge and raise money for the Nursery School. Mark your calendars and start thinking about getting a table of 8 people together.

Welcome Baby Avery

Big Bear teacher, Alicia and her husband, Peter welcomed their baby girl, Avery Noelle, to the world on December 28! Baby Avery is a healthy and happy baby. Alicia has visited several times with Avery and we are so happy she is part of the WUNS family. Alicia will be back to her class at the end of the month!



Thank You

Thank you for your prompt replies to the NAEYC family survey. This data will be compiled and shared with NAEYC, as well as staff members to address areas for program improvement and development. We welcome feedback from parents at all times and appreciate your input.