

Fernwood Montessori

2015-2016

Parent Newsletter #3

September 15, 2015



Upcoming Events

Annual Title 1 Meeting

Thursday, September 17th, 6:00-6:15pm
Fernwood Auditorium

Open House

Thursday, September 17th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Third Friday

Friday, September 18th
Please be sure your child is in attendance today!

Walk and Bike to School Day

Wednesday, October 7th

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Adolescents Only: Monday, October 5th, 3:30-5:30pm
All Students: Thursday, October 8th, 3:30-7:15pm
All Students: Wednesday, October 14th 3:30-7:15pm

No School

Friday, October 9th

School Governance Council

Monday, October 12th, 5:30pm
Fernwood Library

Fernwood Fund

Monday, October 12th, 7:30pm
Fernwood Library

Picture Day

Thursday, October 15th

Assessment Windows

PALS Assessment

September 14th – October 9th (1st- 2nd Grade)
October 12th – November 6th (K4-K5)

Universal Screener (Star360) Assessment (K5-8th)

September 14th – October 9th

CogAT Assessment Window

November 2-20th



Thank you volunteers for helping with the picnic it would not have been possible without everyone's help.

Thank you to Mr. Sanchez, Ms. Burns, Sean Lynch and others who volunteered to sit under the dunk tank on the chilly fall day. We raised just over \$200.

Even with a new location, East side of the building, everything went smoothly. We even had Dr. Darienne Driver, superintendent for MPS, stop by our picnic to visit and greet parents.

Thank you for providing food and drink for the event. If you brought your food in a plastic container, it is available in the Office Annex. Please pick it up before the end of the week.

A Big Thank You to our business Partners for their donations:

Tenuta's Italian Restaurant

Bird Ladder

Books Are Fun

Milwaukee Fire Department

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

After tabulating survey results from families and teachers, the chosen dates and times for conferences are as follows:

Monday, October 5th, 3:30-5:50pm (Adolescents Only)

Thursday, October 8th, 3:30-7:15pm (All Grade Levels)

Wednesday, October 14th, 3:30-7:15pm (All Grade Levels)

Fernwood is excited to introduce *online scheduling* for parent-teacher conferences. Follow the links below to sign- up!

Click
here →

[Primary Conference Sign-Up](#)

[Lower Elementary Conference Sign-Up](#)

[Upper Elementary Conference Sign-Up](#)

[Adolescent Conferences- first come, first serve](#)

Online conference scheduling **closes** on Monday, September 28th.

K3 and K4 Early Dismissal Update

Due to construction

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All K3 and K4 students MUST be ready to go out to the East Playground between 10:30am and 10:45am.

If you pick up your child at dismissal, please arrive on the East Playground by 10:45am.

Children taking the bus will board by 10:45 so that buses can pull out by 11:00am.

Thank you for your cooperation during this exciting time!

End of the Day Dismissal

Due to construction, we are utilizing 2 doors for end of the day dismissal. In order to reduce congestion, we are staggering dismissal.

2:25 Camp Fernwood

2:30 Primary/ Lower Elementary

2:35 Upper Elementary/ Adolescents



Drop Off & Pick Up



Please be aware of where you park during drop off and pickup. Be diligent of making sure you are not parking in a "NO PARKING" area. Also, do not block driveways, even for just a moment, as this disrupts Fernwood's neighbors. We suggest parking a block or two away from the school and walking. This eases congestion and provides a bit of morning exercise.

Camp Fernwood

Currently Full

Now Hiring

Camp Fernwood's after-school program is currently ***full***. There are a limited amount of spaces available for before-school care. Once additional staff members are hired, applications will once again be accepted.

Camp Fernwood is looking to ***hire*** individuals with experience in child care. Please inquire with Mrs. Ceballos, Camp Director, at ceballsl@milwaukee.k12.wi.us or call (414) 254-8339.

Lost and Found

The lost and found is located on the ground level across from Rooms 3 and 5. If you are missing anything, please be sure to check the lost and found frequently, as it is regularly emptied and given to charity.



Wow, what an incredible response we had for music lessons this year! The response was so overwhelming that we are going to secure more hours for our music teachers to come to Fernwood, and we will be working very hard on trying to get everyone who signed up for piano lessons by the due date added to the schedule. After 3rd Friday, the schedule should begin to fall into place. Please be patient while we work on getting all our ducks in a row!

Piano lessons will be on Mondays and Tuesdays, while violin/string lessons will be on Thursdays.

Parents of piano students: since we have a new piano teacher this year, she will need to schedule classes into students with similar experience. Please have your child locate the last page number which they studied with Mr. Kaston last Spring, and bring their book to school. The first day of lessons will be an organizational/assessment day to determine the level of each students. We will try to organize students the weeks of September 21st and September 28th.



Fernwood Fund

The Fernwood Fund is excited to work with the construction and planning team for our school's new addition.

The Fund is helping design and sponsor components of the courtyard and landscape around the school.

If you are ***landscaper***, you could be a great asset to the team. Please contact Jason Parry at jasjpar@gmail.com.

Meet the Piano Teacher

Dear families and staff of Fernwood Montessori,

My name is Emily Rohde-Terrien and I am very excited to be teaching at Fernwood this year, as I have heard such wonderful things about this school. I have a BFA in Music and Musicology from U.W.M., and I am now working on my Master's in music education from Wisconsin Lutheran College. I have been teaching class piano lessons with M.P.S for 14 years, taught privately through the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, and work as a choir director and director of music at a church in Wauwatosa. I have two small boys ages two and five who keep me very busy and a guitar-playing husband.

I look forward to meeting you all this year!





STAR™
Assessments

Students will participate in the universal screening process using STAR™ Assessments from Renaissance Learning to help schools determine whether each student is likely to meet, not meet, or exceed academic benchmarks in reading and math. STAR™ assessments can also be used to monitor student growth throughout the year, to estimate students' understanding of state standards, and predict students' performance on the state test.

In addition, STAR can help teachers determine appropriate instructional levels and skills that students are ready to learn. STAR Reading Spanish assessments help educators working in bilingual and dual-language programs to inform instruction, match students to books, and monitor Spanish reading growth. In English-only programs, educators can use STAR Reading Spanish to determine the Spanish reading level of incoming English language learner students to help inform instruction. STAR™ Assessments are computer-adaptive tests and on average take 20 minutes to complete.

To view the PARENTS GUIDE, please click the appropriate link below.

[STAR Assessment Parent Guide- English](#)

[STAR Assessment Parent Guide- Spanish](#)

Soccer

Please note, the fee for soccer is \$20.

If you have already submitted your soccer forms, please send \$20 in an enveloped labeled "soccer fee" along with your child's name.



PTO Fundraiser Dutch Mill Bulbs

Fall is a great time to prepare for an easy, beautiful spring in your garden with Dutch Mills Bulbs!

Paper order forms will be sent home with students this week. We also offer the option to order online:

<http://groups.dutchmillbulbs.com/fernwoodmontessori.php>.

50% of the profits from bulbs come back to Fernwood students!

Fernwood's Dutch Mills Bulb sale continues until Friday, September 25th.

Cross Country

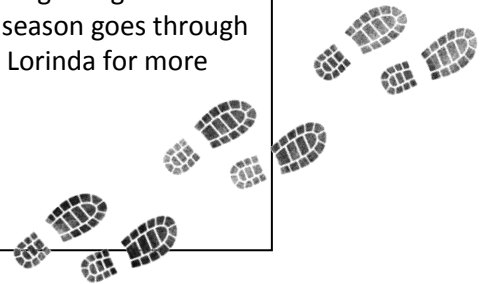
Congratulations to our Fernwood runners who raced at our first cross country meet this past Thursday at Jackson Park. Four of our athletes received medals finishing in the top 10.

Boys: Aiden Bree (2nd place) and Ben Liebl (4th place)
Girls: Findlay Drabant (4th place) and Lucia Flores (6th place)

There were 161 athletes racing, from seven different Milwaukee area schools. Our team took third place. Visit the link to see this week's stats:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16ymGBPOjaeEDSPQ3ALAhCuKESZFXcHzsyRCaO939Vc4/e/dit#gid=0>

Is your child interested in joining the team? We are accepting all runners 5th through 8th grade at any time in the season. We practice Monday-Thursday, from 3:50-5:00pm. Our season goes through the end of October. We race at least once per week. Interested? Contact Coach Lorinda for more information at LFour@live.com.



STAY CONNECTED

Like us on Facebook



Fernwood Montessori has a NEW, *official* Facebook page. "Like" the Fernwood Montessori School page to stay up-to-date on school happenings and get additional information.

Fernwood Montessori Website

Check out our *updated* schools website at



[http://www5.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/school/fernwood/.](http://www5.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/school/fernwood/)

This is a great resource to find staff contact information, learn about upcoming events, download newsletters and documents, and see highlights of our school.



Please be sure Fernwood has your UP-TO-DATE EMAIL ADDRESS so we can send you the weekly newsletter.

ALL newsletters are being sent home electronically, no more paper copies.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Fernwood Parent Newsletter Delivery

We have a weekly Parent Newsletter; in order for us to save on the cost of paper we would like to send all our parents the newsletter electronically. Please provide us with your email (please print legibly):

Parent's name: _____ Email: _____

Parent's name: _____ Email: _____

Child's name: _____ Room: _____

Note: The newsletter will also be found on our website:

<http://www5.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/school/fernwood/>

Return this form to Ms. Burns in the office.



September 4, 2015

Dear Fernwood Families,

As many of you know the construction project for the new addition is starting soon. Following a pre-construction meeting yesterday, the timeline has been pushed forward slightly and the safety fence for the project will be going up on Tuesday morning, September 8th. For this reason we will need to adjust the drop-off and pick-up procedures for the school.

The two entrances off the West playground (Doors 3 and 4) will no longer be accessible after Tuesday morning for entry or exit from the building. **All** students and staff will enter the building through Door 1 and Door 2.

Please use the following routines when dropping off and picking up your child(ren).

ENTRY PROCEDURES – Students will be allowed to enter the building at 7:30 to reduce congestion

- Door 2 (main door) is for **primary students** only (K3-K5)
 - Siblings who escort a primary aged brother or sister may continue to use Door 2 until routines are established.
- Door 1 is for **lower elementary, upper elementary and adolescent students**.
 - Please use Stairwell 1 to go to the basement or up to the 2nd or 3rd floors. **DO NOT** cut across the 1st floor.

EXIT PROCEDURES - **Primary and lower elementary** students will be exiting with their teachers at 2:30
Upper elementary and adolescent students will be exiting with their teachers at 2:35

Parents who pick up their children are asked to:

- **Not** enter the building. Over 700 children will be exiting from Door 1 and Door 2 in a 10-minute time frame. Therefore, we need to keep corridors and stairwells clear for safety reasons.
- Stand near the tot-lot (play structure) away from the stairs.
- Greet your child as his/her class exits the building and comes down the stairs onto the playground

The class will then proceed to the busses, beginning on Pennsylvania Ave. and then going around the corner to the busses on Falling Heath Pl. If you did not see your child as they exited, the class will come around to the playground again for you to pick them up. It is important that only teachers and students be on the sidewalk to avoid confusion.

PARKING

Parents are asked **NOT** to park on the school side of Pennsylvania Ave. or Falling Heath Pl. as it is reserved for bus/van pick-up.

Thank you for adhering to these procedures as we begin the journey into the construction of the new Fernwood Montessori School.

Sincerely,

John Sanchez, Principal

Sara Hmielewski, Assistant Principal

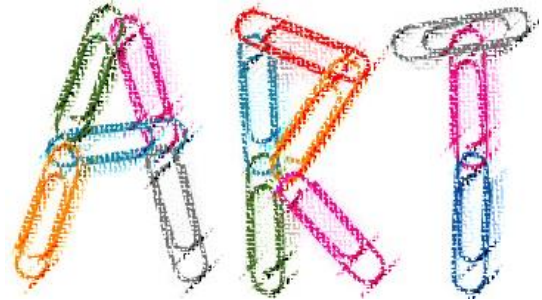
Dear Fernwood Families,

Welcome! I am thrilled to be the art teacher at Fernwood Montessori School again, and am looking forward to a year full of learning about artists, art techniques, creating, and making connections through art. I believe all students are artists, and I chose projects that are success-driven both in process and end product.

This year is my second year teaching full-time at Fernwood, and since 2007, my sixth year total at our school. Although I have been at other places within the district, Fernwood feels most like home to me.

As I welcome my students into this new school year, here are some of my general expectations:

- Be quiet and ready to work when art class begins
- Bring a positive attitude
- Respect ourselves, our fellow students, & the art materials
- Leave the art space clean and orderly



Behavior expectations in the art space:

- Students will complete projects in a timely manner
- In order for students to succeed, there may be verbal reminders, changing the student's location, allowing the student to take a break, or offering an alternative project.
- If needed, a phone call home will be made so that we can come up with a positive solution for the student's success

Art projects are introduced with a book, artifact and/or activity that hooks students' attention into the project. With every project, I aim to tie the lesson to an artist and art technique, and integrate other subject content areas, as well.

I am blessed to have so many wonderful students, and look forward to a great start of the year. Due to the fact that I'm taking maternity leave in mid-October, I am in the process of finding an amazing art sub, who will fill in for me through mid-January when I look forward to returning.

Finally, if you would like to share your creative talents in the art room, by volunteering in any way, there are many opportunities to help. Please contact me at: 414-294-1300 or makulall@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to teach your artist child(ren). It is what I love to do.

Sincerely,
Laura Makula Zimmerman
(Ms. Makula)

FREE SUN SEPT 20TH 9AM FREE

kidical mass

MORE INFO on Facebook @

"Kidical Mass MKE"

A fun slow paced family bike ride in a 3 mile loop through Bay View!

Leaves from and returns to South Shore Park Playground.

Wisconsin

**FIRE
UP
YOUR
FEET!**

Fire Up Your Feet Rewards Active Families and Schools!

\$3,600 in awards for Wisconsin K-8 schools!

Fall Activity Challenge: October 1-31

Winning is as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1. Click it!** Register today at fireupyourfeet.org.
- 2. Track it!** Track your physical activity using our easy online Activity Tracker. Bicycling, walking, recess – all activity counts!
- 3. Earn It!** The more participants, the better your school's chances of winning awards that can be used for physical activity, wellness and Safe Routes to School programs!

Register Today!

www.fireupyourfeet.org



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ECWRPC

SafeRoutes



**SAFE ROUTES
to School**
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP



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everychild.onevoice.

fireupyourfeet.org



Wed, Oct, 7th

FERNWOOD MONTESSORI
is participating in Walk to School Day on
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th

Join children and adults around the world to celebrate
the benefits of walking and bicycling.

About our event:

Let's make it a goal to do better than our last year's number of 150 Bikers and 200 walkers!

Walk, Bike, Scooter, or Skate to school with friends and family this day and sign the banner and get a treat!

For those who live too far (over 2 miles!) meet us at Walgreens on KK/Oklahoma at 7:05 AM to walk in together!

Volunteers needed to make the event go smooth! Lead a Bike Train or Walking School Bus from your block! Questions or to volunteer Call Jake 255-0377 or Email: Jake.Newborn@WisconsinBikeFed.org

Learn more at

walkbiketoschool.org

Walk to School Day is coordinated in the U.S.A. by
the National Center for Safe Routes to School.



[STAR Assessment Parent Guide- English](#)
[STAR Assessment Parent Guide- Spanish](#)

[Parent Concussion and Head Injury Information](#)

[Alice @ Wonderland Auditions](#)

[Dare to Dream Café](#)

We want to know what you think we can do to help people with disabilities have more control over their lives and be more involved in their community.

[Parenting and the Angry Child-](#)

This class will help parents teach their children (from tots to teens) how to manage their own feelings. Parents will learn ways to help reduce their child's temper tantrums and restore calm.

[Cooperative Co-Parenting-](#)

Cooperative Co-Parenting is a 3 hour class that meets the requirements for parents of minor children in Milwaukee County who are going through a divorce, separation, or annulment.

Discussions will focus on: How to communicate ones values and feelings; Navigating differing views of discipline; Setting boundaries and creating new agreements

[Dads Matter 24/7-](#)

Every child has a place inside that only a dad can fill. Active dads are providers and role models. When dads have a positive influence, families thrive. Dad Matters is an ongoing group based on the 24/7 Dad curricula of the National Fatherhood Initiative. Be an all day, every day dad. Be a dad who matters. A certificate is awarded after 10 weeks of participation.

[Fireworks, an Anger Management Program-](#)

Understanding anger, managing anger, responding to anger

[HIPPY \(Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters\)-](#)

The time for learning is NOW! The HIPPY program can give your child all the right skills needed to succeed!

[Positive Parenting-](#)

Positive Parenting is an ongoing parenting class tailored to best serve you.

[Stewards of Children-](#)

Our purpose is to provide you with the tools to help prevent the sexual abuse of children.

[Triple P: Positive Parenting Program](#)

Triple P is an internationally acclaimed parenting program that offers practical strategies for behavior problems.

[Welcome Baby-](#)

A discussion group for parents of children under the age of 5. Moms, Dads and Caregivers warmly welcomed!

Additional Resources

Click the links to learn more!