

IT'S A NEW WORLD AT WSYC DECEMBER 2020

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN
KATHY STICKLEY, DIRECTOR



School Happenings

The holiday season has arrived at Westminster ...

– and what a special time it always is! We miss having our parents and friends coming in and out of the building. We miss making plans to dress up and sing beautifully for you in the Sanctuary. We can rest easy in these different times, knowing that many of our old traditions will come back when we say good-bye to the pandemic. If we're lucky, there may still be a "Santa Sighting" on our campus on December 15 and 16!!

As we rush headlong into all of our December activities, remember to take the time to reflect on the true meaning of the season.

From our Westminster family to yours, we want to wish each and every family a happy, healthy, and joyous Holiday season

**REMEMBER...YOUR DECEMBER TUITION
IS DUE BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
TO AVOID THE \$25 LATE FEE.**

Registration for the 2020-2021 School Year

We are now registering our youngest children for next fall. These are children who are not currently at Westminster, but will be entering our Toddler program in the fall.

If your child is attending Westminster in our twos, threes, or Pre-K program this year, you will not register until after our January Parent-Teacher Conferences. You will be given a registration form at your conference enabling you to register then.

We anticipate some spaces to be available for other children. Please tell your friends with preschoolers to call the school office about going onto our future enrollment list.

A Look at December & January

December 7- December 16

"Megan's Wish"

(Megan's Wish info can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.)

Tuesday, December 15

Last Day of School before Winter Break

For Bear Cubs & Bumblebees

These 2 classes will be dismissed at 11:15AM

Wednesday, December 16

Last Day of School before Winter Break

For Fish, Awesome Owls, Squirrels, Turtles, Ducks,
Cool Cats, & Pony Pals

All classes dismissed 1 hour early.

Pre-K - 10:45 AM

Threes - 11:00 AM

Twos - 11:15 AM

December 17 through January 4

No School - Winter Break

Monday, January 4

Return to School

Monday, January 18

No School - Martin Luther King Day

Thursday & Friday, January 28 & 29

No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences

Week of February 1

Registration for present children
for Fall 2021

Financial Aid Requests

Financial Aid is available through Westminster School's **Carol Van Hise Scholarship Fund**. If you would like to apply for tuition assistance, or if you know of another family who would benefit from this, please come by our office for more information.

Applications for financial aid for the 2021-2022 school year must be received by our committee in January.

Please remember the Carol Van Hise Scholarship Fund when making your year-end donations.

Parent Scoop **News to Use From the Westminster Advisory Board**

As 2020 draws to a close and we wait for a new year of hope, health and togetherness. This year has certainly given us more pause to reflect on all that we have to be grateful for.

Thank you for the huge outpouring of donations made to the school's "un-fundraiser!" We have currently collected, \$5,375! WOW! We will continue collecting checks in the office if you would still like to participate. This generosity will support our school, staff and students in many ways.

Thank you to our families and the community that supports us with Spirit Nights and Events. These events solely fund our scholarship program which gets depleted each year.

So as you begin your holiday shopping please consider the following ways to make your gifts double:

Westminster is partnering with two amazing companies to make your holiday shopping a little easier with the added bonus of giving back to the preschool we love!

Boon Supply and Chapel Hill Toffee have graciously offered to donate a portion of sales to Westminster! They have each provided us with a unique shopping link. Gifts that give twice, what's not to love?!

To make things even easier, we have combined all these links on one page - Find all these links in the attached email for your One Stop Holiday Shop!! Here you'll find more information and direct links. Feel free to share the links with family and friends!

Also, please remember to link your Amazon Smile account to Westminster Presbyterian Church so we can get credit for your purchases! Amazon also recently created a way to do this through the app, too. Every little bit makes a difference!

Thank you WSYC families and Happy Holidays!

Westminster School
Helping Make "Megan's Wish" Come True

Tuesday, December 7
through
Wednesday, December 16



I'm Megan Brinkman, a Westminster graduate and daughter of Mrs. Brinkman who teaches in the Turtle class and works in the Westminster office. My biggest wish for the holidays is to help the homeless. For the past several years, with the generosity of friends and neighbors, I have been able to help many people at the Durham Rescue Mission. I would like to ask the entire Westminster community for their help this year to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

You can help by donating food or money to benefit the Durham Rescue Mission.

- **Cash or check donations of any size and amount are greatly appreciated. Checks should be made out directly to the Durham Rescue Mission as it is tax deductible (the Rescue Mission will send you a receipt) and may be given to any WSYC staff member from our car line.**
- **Food donations may be placed in the marked bin at our school drop-off circle. These items can also be passed to a WSYC staff member.**

My family and I plan to deliver all donations to the Rescue Mission the week before Christmas. All donations are greatly appreciated and I promise they WILL make a difference. Thank you to each Westminster family for your generosity and your willingness to once again help make my holiday wish come true.

Sincerely, Megan Brinkman

Getting to Know You!

This month we are highlighting the Awesome Owl Class teachers.

Robin Lalor

Tell us a little about yourself:

I grew up in NC, as did my husband and we have 3 amazing kids, from 9th grade to 4th grade. We also have 2 hilarious and energetic doggies in our house. This is my 7th year at Westminster and my first year teaching the 2's. I love exercising, cooking, reading, gardening and learning new things.

What do you love about WSYC?

I love being part of the Westminster community of staff, families and kids. My job allows me to cross paths and learn from folks I would not normally meet. I have met and gotten to know some wonderful families here.

What is your favorite children's book?

I am always a fan of Pete the Cat books and music!

What is your favorite color?

Blues and Greens



Sandy Taylor

Tell us a little about yourself.

My name is Sandy Taylor, I have lived in Durham for about 20 years. I grew up on a tobacco farm in Franklin County where my parents and grandmother still live. Farm life instilled a love of being outdoors. I spend a lot of time at Kerr Lake with my family swimming, boating, fishing and enjoying the sunshine. I went to college at NCSU and majored in Natural Resources: Soil and Water. I worked as an Environmental engineer after I graduated from college. I have two kids, Ava who is 15 and Blake who is 12. After Blake was born I became a stay at home Mom until I took the job in the Owl class.

What do you love about WSYC?

My two kids went through Westminster and we loved every minute of our time there. They were loved so very much by their teachers that we still talk about the lessons and stories from Westminster.

What is your favorite children's book?

My favorite children's book is I Love You Stinky Face.

What is your favorite color?

My favorite color is Red.

Keisha Barber

Tell us a little about yourself:

I was born and raised in NYC and moved to Durham shortly after getting married 21yrs ago to work in the ministry with women and teens. I'm a Norwex consultant and love empowering others by educating them on ways to make their homes safe havens. Being in nature is life giving for me. I have 2 amazing kids: Kyle, who graduated from high school this year, and Ryan, my daughter, who's a junior in high school

What do you love about WSYC

Westminster is a wonderful, caring community, I love who I work with and I love being with the sweet kids, watching them grow, discover and play. They are such a joy!

What is your favorite children's book?

Too many favorites! "You Are My Sunshine" & "Love you forever"

What is your favorite color?

My favorite color is Aqua.



Tonya Hutchins

Tell us a little about yourself:

I grew up right outside of Winston-Salem and went to school at UNC-Chapel Hill. My husband is from Durham and we have lived here for many years now. We have two kids, an 18 year old girl who is a Freshman at UNC-Chapel Hill and a 15 year old boy who is a Sophomore at Jordan High. I enjoy traveling and exercising and spending time with friends and family.

What do you love about WSYC?

I love the community at WSYC. It's a great place with great people!

What is your favorite children's book?

I have many favorite children's books! My kids and I always enjoyed reading Eric Carl's books, so those are some of my favorites.

What is your favorite color?

My favorite color is Purple.

