

NEWS FROM WSYC

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN
KATHY STICKLEY, DIRECTOR



A Look at February and March

**Registration for Fall 2021
Forms and Fees are due now.**

February 1 - 3

Registration for
currently enrolled students
for Fall 2021

February 4

Community Registration Opens

February 15

One Month's Tuition Payment Due
(to be applied to May 2022)

Thursday & Friday

February 25 & 26

No School – Staff Workdays

Saturday, March 1

Summer Camp Registration Begins

Thursday, March 18 & Friday, March 19

Individual & Group Photos

Spring Break

Monday, March 29– Tuesday, April 6

School Happenings

The last half of the school year is off to a great start! Hopefully we won't have too many snow days this month, but who knows!? Should we need to close the school or open on a delay, you will receive an email from me, as well as one from your teacher. Also, be sure that you are receiving our REMIND (group texting) notifications. Let us know in the office if we need to resend the link to you.

Fall 2021 Registration

Registration for our Two-Year-Old, Three-Year-Old and Pre-K classes has begun. If your child will attend Westminster School next year as a two, three or four year old, your registration forms and non-refundable fees are due now. As of Thursday, February 4, we will open our enrollment to the community. Please call the school office if you have questions about this process (919-489-8432).

Toddler registration began in the fall and is on-going.

**Financial Aid is available
Please call our office for details.**

New WSYC Classes...

...Coming This Fall!

Last week I let you know that we would be adding two new configurations to our class roster for the 2021-2022 school year. One of our five day three-year-old classes will become a 4 hour class - meeting from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. The students eligible for this class must turn three years old by March 31. Similarly, one of our Pre-K classes will become a 4 hour class. Students must turn 4 years old by March 31. They will eat lunch together (lunchboxes brought from home) and enjoy a little more instructional time each day. We have space for 12 three year old students, and 18 Pre-K students in these new class configurations. Please turn your registration forms in early if you're interested in one of these options. FYI - the teaching staff has not yet been determined. Stay tuned for that!

Valentine's Day Parties



Please check your child's class newsletter for information about their Valentine party and any needs that the teachers may have. If you and your child choose to send in Valentine cards, please make sure to send a card for everyone in the class. We don't want any hurt feelings on such a FUN day. Many thanks for all you do to support our students and staff!



WSYC Summer Camp 2021

Westminster will hold four one-week summer camp sessions this year. The dates are listed below, so mark your calendars! Please note that we offer a week late in August after many other schools have started. That might interest you! The registration forms, and further details, will be available for you beginning Monday, March 1.

Summer Camp Sessions

June 7- 11

June 21 - 25

August 9 - 13

August 23 - 27



Parent Scoop

News to Use
from the WSYC Advisory Board

WSYC families, we are hoping you'll join us in supporting our year-long efforts to show our staff how much we appreciate them going above and beyond for our children during this challenging year of change.

Throughout the year, the WSYC Advisory Board has provided small gestures of appreciation to the teachers like flowers on their first day back to school, a boxed lunch during the holidays, and we'll be providing a pair of gloves and hot chocolate for Valentine's Day to let the staff know how much they "warm our hearts" on these chilly days outside! Thus far, Advisory Board parents and the school have covered the costs but we're hoping that each WSYC family may be willing to chip in \$5 or \$10 to show some love to our wonderful staff. As you can imagine, they have had to reinvent the wheel this year and find all new ways to teach our students. If you would like to help, please mail a check or cash contribution to WSYC or venmo me @christybgraves and put "Teacher Appreciation" in the memo. If all costs are covered and there is any remainder, we will put those funds toward our celebration of Kathy Stickley in her retirement. Thank you in advance for your help celebrating our wonderful staff!

-Christy Graves, WSYC Advisory Board

EXTRA, EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT!

GETTING TO KNOW...

Kathy Stickley

Well, I told you that you'd be hearing a lot from me in the next few months....



...SO
here
goes!

Tell us a little about your family and your time at Westminster:

Looking back...The Mid-80's

As many of you know, I have a husband (Gary), and two grown sons (Jonathan and Jeffrey). Today, they're known as Jon and Jeff! Jon began his educational career at Westminster when he was two years old. Two years later, Jeff and I joined him there! I'm, so grateful that Carol Van Hise and Susan Ketch gave me the opportunity to join the staff. I became Susan's assistant in the Monday, Wednesday, Friday Junior Kindergarten Class (now called Pre-K). How could I know that this little school would become such an important part of my life!

What are some of your favorite memories from your time as a WSYC teacher or as director?

Looking back...The 90's

My time at Westminster in the 90's was spent as a Pre-K teacher. I was the teacher of the Busy Bee Class. Over the years, I had five different assistants to work with, and they were all wonderful. I love thinking back on each one of them and the things we did together. At the end of each school year, the Busy Bee students performed a play for the parents. One year, they acted out the children's book Are You My Mother?, written by P. D. Eastman. The next year they performed The Grouchy Ladybug, by Eric Carle. The books that we acted out alternated from year to year. An original story, "Nighttime in the Rainforest" was always included. The story was based on the children's recent focus on the rainforest and it's creatures! It was so much fun to see the little actors shine, and the parents smile!

In 2000, I began my position in the school office. Working with my friend and mentor, Carol Van Hise, was wonderful. I learned so much from her! Having the chance to know and interact with every school family has been a joy. Serving as the school director has helped me to be a better listener (I hope), and has taught me to look at every situation from many different perspectives. I have loved my job and appreciate the way it has helped me grow as a person.

What have you loved about working at Westminster?

There are so many things that I've loved about this job. My favorite thing is the chance to have been surrounded every minute by interesting people. What can be more interesting than working with young children? They grow and change right before your eyes. I appreciate that I've had a chance to be creative as a teacher, to use that creativity to excite children, and hopefully, instill in them a love of learning about the world they live in! I have also loved sharing ideas and brainstorming with SO MANY colleagues over the years!!

What do you look forward to in your retirement?

My husband and I want to travel out west as soon as we have the chance. I look forward to spending time at Kure Beach, and Asheville, NC. Asheville is where my new little grandson, Callum, lives - so I hope to visit there every month. My son, Jon, is a professional musician and Jeff is a guitar player, also. When they can perform again, I'll be free to be the biggest fan in the audience!!



**Jon playing with his trio
at The Caverns in Tennessee.**



**Jeff plays guitar part-time with Big Fat Gap.
You might see him around Chapel Hill! We love Fridays on the Front Porch
at the Carolina Inn - and we'll be there often when live music and fun comes back!**

**Baby Callum
& his mom,
Julianne**



In 5 words or less how would you describe WSYC?

"WSYC: A Place for All to Wonder, Explore, Share, and Learn"

(Five words or less??? Impossible!)

These words are meant not just for young children, but for families and staff, as well!