



# White Mountain Montessori School

[www.whitemountainmontessori.org](http://www.whitemountainmontessori.org)

Learning for a Lifetime

Hooray for the first day of school!

Welcome back to another fun filled year of learning at WMMS.

Several students were asked, "What's your favorite thing about the first day of school?"

Here are their responses, along with photos taken on the first day of the 2010-2011 school year.

Enjoy!

*"It's fun!"*  
-Tyler

*"Meeting new people."*  
-Jennalin

*"Probably learning about stuff."*  
-Arius

*"More space in our school."*  
- Amber

*"Going across those monkey bars."*  
-Nathan

*"I could use new pencils and I could use new stuff."*  
-Carrie



Steve and Adam Nolan, brothers & team teachers in the elementary class



Amber, elementary student



Sam & Marisa playing on new play structure



Lois, parent & daughter Anneliese



Miss Joey & Miss Jan, 3-6 class teachers



MacKenzie & Miss Kelly, Kinder teacher



New friends, Makenna & McKenzie



Nathan, Seth, & Jocelyn



School friends Marisa, Kelsey, Carrie, & Mary

## Our School Board

Chairperson- Anna Atencio

Treasurer- Gregor Randall

### Directors

Adam Nolan      Jan Krening

Joey Valichnac      Beth Alwin

Mike Mahoney      Jana Towne

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTE :

### WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING FAMILIES

Welcome back to school! We hope everyone had a safe and relaxing summer break. First and foremost, thank you to those families that took time out of their Saturday to help us on Parent Work Day. Many things were accomplished such as the installation of the new swing set, installation of the donated wooden play structure, removal of weeds, spreading new woodchips, as well as classroom cleaning, and general preparation for the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school. Once again, we appreciate the level of commitment and dedication that those parents displayed by spending a long afternoon both inside and outside helping to improve our school building.

As many of you already know, many things around our building and playground have received an upgrade/improvement. This includes the driveway, parking lot, swing sets, elementary classroom, frontage signs on Woodland and the front entrance, vinyl tile within the 3-6 bathroom, and lastly the creation of more space for the kinder class, music and art programs. The PTO fundraisers and the commitment of our school board have helped make these improvements a reality. We have also seen an increased level of pride for our newly remodeled campus from students, teachers, and parents. We realize that each family makes daily sacrifices to have your children here at WMMS and we thank you for your patience with many of these improvements.

As we all settle into the school routine again, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of a very important event that is coming up quickly. **On Saturday Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, White Mountain Montessori School will be hosting our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Gear Swap Fundraiser.** Starting Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> we will begin accepting both kids and adult used winter gear (skis, boots, snowboards, jackets, etc.) to sell on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This event will take place the same weekend that Sunrise offers it's Free Junior Ski Pass promotion. All you have to do is drop off your gear, fill in some quick paperwork, and price your gear to sell. If it sells the school will keep a 25% commission while you keep 75%. If the gear doesn't sell, we will simply call to let you know and you can pick it up. Local ski shops will also be selling their used rental gear and providing personnel for technical questions. This is a great opportunity for the entire local community to buy and sell used gear as their families grow, so start getting that used winter gear ready! We're hoping this event will grow over the years and we need the entire WMMS family to begin spreading the word. We will need volunteers for this fundraiser and we welcome your involvement. If this sounds like something you'd be interested in helping with, please let me know.

Finally, we extend a warm welcome to our new families as we get to know them and welcome back our returning families. We invite returning parents (and grandparents) to take time to introduce yourself and meet our new families this year. We understand how unfamiliar a new school environment and routine can be, and we sincerely hope that the transition is smooth for everyone involved. I'd also like to let parents know that your feedback and involvement in our school is a crucial element to a well run organization. Please don't hesitate to let myself or the staff know if you have any questions involving your child or the programs we offer. Lastly, as the school routine sets in, keep an eye out within the next few weeks for the newly posted office hours for both our office manager, Mary Jane, and myself. Once again, thank you for choosing White Mountain Montessori School and we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and growth!

Thank you,  
Adam Nolan

September  
Studies & Class Info.

### 3-6 and Kinder

Introduction of classroom  
Grace and courtesy  
Solar System  
Earth  
Seven continents  
Living/non-Living  
Calendar Introduction  
Concrete Math Concepts

Also - Parents can check school calendar, website and parent boxes for additional information.

### Elementary

- The Universe
- On the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, starting September 15th from 1-3pm, students will travel to the Aquatic Center in Show Low as part of the P.E. program to receive a swimming lesson and enjoy free swim.
- On the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month students will be walking to Mountain Meadow Park for P.E. games and activities using the Big Springs Trailhead path.
- A variety of other field trips are in the planning process, including a trip to the Show Low Historical Museum and the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff. Permission slips will be given out in the Friday Folders well in advance of these trips and drivers will be needed please.

### 3-6 CLASS REMINDERS

1. Please do not send backpacks.
2. Please send a change of clothes (labeled) for your child, including shirt, pants, socks and underwear. (If you have any clothing that your child has outgrown, we are able to use donations.)
3. Due to storage restraints, please use small-sized lunch containers. All students need lunch daily. We are unable to heat items, but food may be sent in a thermos.
4. "Show and Tell" items are shared only on your child's snack day. (Limited to 1 item. No war toys please.) Toys brought to school at any other time are a distraction and can be lost or broken.
5. Snack calendars will be posted in front lobby, on the bulletin board outside the office and on our website - [whitemountainmontessori.org](http://whitemountainmontessori.org)
6. Parent boxes are in the front lobby.
7. Open communication is key to our success. Please read newsletters, notes, dry-erase boards, etc. If you need to speak with staff, please call the office for an appointment.
8. Cubbies should be cleaned out once per week.
9. Please call school in case of absence. We post incidences of contagious illnesses such as strep throat and pink eye. Our policy is to allow students to return after they have been free of spiked fever (without medication), diarrhea and/or vomit for 24 hours.
10. New full day students will need a small pillow and blanket.



### ELEMENTARY CLASS REMINDERS

1. Both drop-off and pick-up will be at the main campus. At 9 am the students will be escorted with a teacher to the elementary classroom across the parking lot. At 3 pm they will be escorted back to the main campus for pick-up and aftercare starting at 3:00.
2. No backpacks please due to our limited storage space, unless it is needed for swimming or a field trip. All students will utilize a binder system for homework and assignments. New students will be provided with their own new binder.
3. Please avoid lunches that require reheating since access to a microwave is limited. As the year progresses the students will be introduced to a solar oven and at that time food can be reheated.
4. The elementary class does not have a student snack schedule. Please provide your child with a healthy snack each day.
5. Please check the lobby area for important paperwork in parent boxes and for elementary announcements including a calendar of upcoming events.
6. Show and Tell will take place every Thursday afternoon for all students interested in "sharing." Great share items include homemade crafts, photos, or other meaningful items. No toys please.
7. Please call the school if your child will be absent or if arriving late. We will post incidences of contagious illnesses.



## **WELCOME !**

As many of you may have heard, Miss Lisa will not be returning as the school's office manager this year. She was a great addition to the office and worked so well with parents, teachers, and students. WMMS is sad to lose her, but glad for her new job opportunity. Best wishes Miss Lisa!

On that note, WMMS happily welcomes our new Office Manager! Here's an introduction note from her:

*Hello everybody! My name is Mary Jane Hogg (I also go by MJ). I am married and have two stepsons. My husband and I moved to the White Mountains five years ago. I enjoy living close to my nephews and niece. I am an Arizona native. I graduated with an AA from Cottey College and a BA from University of Arizona. I belong to the Emblem Club which is dedicated to charitable acts. I am happy to be working at WMMS. I am looking forward to meeting all the students, parents and guardians.*

## **IMPORTANT BILLING REMINDER !!!**

WMMS is going paperless for our invoices. The first invoice will be printed, but future invoices will be emailed. To achieve this environmentally friendly goal we need updated emails from all parents/guardians. You can stop by the office and give the information to Mary Jane or you can email to [wmms@frontiernet.net](mailto:wmms@frontiernet.net). Please include your child's name in the email. Thank you.

## **Note From the BOARD**

Welcome back WMMS families and welcome to our new families. For those of you that are new, WMMS is governed by a School Board elected by you, the members. This year, WMMS has a fabulous School Director, Adam Nolan, who with the help of the staff, oversees the day to day operations of the school.

The School Board mostly handles the business aspect of the school. I would like to invite you to be involved in the School Board. As a parent or guardian of a student, you are encouraged to attend school board meetings. Board meetings are held once a month, the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM at the school. Board elections are in October.

Each family will have one vote per child enrolled at the school. Please stop by a board meeting. You don't have to stay for the whole meeting. If you are interested in being a board member, please submit your name in the nomination process. If you would like to address the Board on an issue, please contact a board member or Mr. Adam Nolan, so that you may be placed on the agenda. If you have a comment and don't want to address the board, you may leave your comment in the "comment box" in the main campus entry. We look forward to another great year and I hope you choose to be involved with the school board.

Here's to a wonderful 2010-2011 school year!

Anna Atencio  
Board Chairperson

## **PTSO**

The Pinetop Tuition Support Organization ("PTSO") is a non-profit corporation set up to receive and distribute the Arizona Private School Tax Credit. The Arizona Private School Tax Credit allows a dollar for dollar tax credit of up to \$1,000 for married couples filing jointly or \$500 for a individual. For example, a couple making a \$1,000 donation will be able to claim a \$1,000 tax credit. If the couple's donation is in excess of their tax liability they may either carry the credit over to the next year or receive a refund. The Arizona Private School Tax Credit allows you to direct where your taxes will go.

PTSO is associated with WMMS, but is a separate non-profit corporation. We have been providing tuition scholarships to students at WMMS for four years. Last year we received less donations and more tuition assistance requests. Please consider making a donation, and help spread the word to anyone paying taxes in Arizona. PTSO will not allow designation of donations.

Scholarships are generally awarded in the Spring. Students eligible are in or will be in kindergarten or the elementary class. The maximum award is half the tuition. Scholarship request forms are available in the office.

If you have any further questions, please contact Anna at 242-8864.