



The New School, Inc.
A Montessori Center for Children

Events and Activities for the 2015/2016 Academic Year

The following is an overview of the year's main events and activities with brief descriptions. Dates, times, and other details are on our website's Calendar of Events page under the Community menu. You can also find this information on your MemberHub calendar.

Details of each activity will be emailed closer to each event. If a date or time must be changed due to unforeseen circumstances, we will email you in advance. We will provide information on the allocation of funds from our fundraising events separately.

Parent Information Sessions

These presentations cover topics related to the Montessori philosophy and curriculum, and also to child development. Free childcare may be provided based on availability. Please visit the website for more information on the topics being presented.

Dates: Sept 21, Dec 1, Jan 28, & March 23 [6:00 to 7:30]

Open Houses

Our Open Houses are held periodically throughout the year, enabling the public to learn more about the school. Current parents with students transitioning to a new level within the school can also attend an Open House to learn more about the program into which their child will be graduating.

Dates: Nov 8, Jan 10, & April 24 [2:00 to 4:00]

Spirit Nights

We invite parents to join us at a local restaurant to enjoy a family meal. Participating restaurants include Bass Lake Ale House, Sip, and Zaxby's in Holly Springs. Please refer to our online calendar to find out which restaurants will be hosting each month. Your support during Spirit Night is very important as a portion of the restaurant's proceeds is given to the school.

Dates: Aug 24, Oct 21, Nov 16, Dec 8, Jan 11, Feb 23, Mar 15, & April 11

Scripps Orders

This program is an easy and very convenient fundraiser for parents to benefit the school. Each month you will receive a form to order prepaid store cards. There are hundreds of stores to choose from, including many you regularly shop at anyway. There is no fee for the card and the school receives a percentage of what you spend! The orders for the cards are typically due during the third week of the month.

Applebee's Pancake Breakfast

Bring your friends and family to join us for a breakfast hosted by our Upper Elementary and Middle School students at the Fuquay-Varina Applebee's. Our students really enjoy this experience and use the breakfast proceeds to help fund extended field trips.

Date: Jan 23 [8am to 10am]

School Pictures

School pictures are offered in the fall and spring. Sibling pictures are offered only in the fall. The spring session will include a class photograph. You will receive an email with your child's specific picture date closer to the time.

Dates: Fall Session – Week of Sep 28 Spring Session – Week of Mar 1

Lunch Deals

Feedback from parents tell us that school lunches, whether it's pizza day or a special event, is a welcome break from having to pack a lunch every day! This year, we have created a monthly lunch option for all of our students and teachers to enjoy. Check out our online calendar for the menu each month.

Dates: Sept 25, Oct 23, Nov 13, Dec 11, Jan 15, Feb 19, & Mar 18

Fall Festival

This is one of our most significant events of the year. It even has its own page on our website! The event is open to the public and includes rides, games, food, and much more. Each year we center the festival on a theme to promote an important cause. The theme for this year's festival is "**Save the Rainforest**". Please invite your neighbors and friends so that everyone can share in this fun and enjoyable occasion.

Date: Oct 10 [2:30pm to 6:30pm]

Parent-Child Nights

During this evening, the children become guides for their parent, showing classroom materials and sharing accomplishments. This is a good opportunity for parents to ask specific questions about the curriculum and to find out more about the Montessori materials and environment. Please check our online calendar for your classroom's specific date.

Dates: Fall Event: Nov 18 or 19 Spring Event: Feb 17 or 18

Fictitious Friends

Be sure to bring your cameras for our annual Fictitious Friends Parade! It is one of the most photogenic events of the year. Our infants, toddlers, Children's House students, and even some of the teachers will dress as a favorite fictitious character or some other imaginative creation.

Date: Oct 30 [10:45am to 11:15am]

Catalog Drive

During November, the school will send home select catalogs that have previously been very popular with parents. When you shop from the catalog, the school receives a percentage of the profit, or store credit with which to purchase classroom materials.

Date: November

Parent Teacher Conferences

Teachers hold two conferences per academic year. Parents are given a written conference report and are invited to attend an in-person conference with their child's teacher(s).

Dates: November and April

Thanksgiving Feast

Parents are invited to bring a meal (nut-free, please) and join their child's class for a Thanksgiving lunch either on Monday or Tuesday (depending on the classroom) of Thanksgiving week.

Dates: Nov 23 or 24

Charity Drives

During the month of December, each classroom raises funds or in-kind donations for a cause or charity of their choice. Organizations such as the SPCA, Angel Tree, etc., have been previously selected for donations.

Date: December

Parent Shopping Days

This event is a perfect opportunity to do some last minute shopping without an extra pair of eyes checking out your purchases. The school will be offering a fun afternoon for children while their parents shop or simply enjoy some time relaxing. We will order pizza and snacks and offer fun activities, games or movies to keep the children entertained.

Date: November 7 & December 5 [4:00pm to 7:00pm]

Valentine's Parent's Night Out

Enjoy an early Valentine's Day dinner while your children enjoy their own Valentine's Day celebration. We will be offering pizza, movies, and crafts.

Date: Feb 13 [5:00pm to 8:00pm]

Art to Remember

This fundraiser activity has been very popular in the past. The children will create an original piece of artwork and have it memorialized on a variety of products such as magnets, mouse pads, mugs, aprons, and more.

Date: Order due Feb 8

International Night

International Night has been The New School's signature event for over 20 years. The purpose of this evening is to celebrate diversity among the world's cultures and to promote tolerance of individual differences. At the beginning of the year, each classroom selects a country to study. During International Night, classrooms are transformed by decorations, music, food, costumes, research, children's work, and shows to represent and celebrate the chosen country.

Date: March 10 [6:00pm to 8:00pm]

Ron's Barbecue Spring Event

Back by popular demand, the school will be hosting its spring BBQ lunch and dinner fundraiser. Not only is this BBQ a big hit, this event provides important funds for extension programs.

Date: April 29

“STEAM” Week

In collaboration with the NC Science and Engineering Festival, the school will organize several events, speakers, and activities throughout the week to celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM). The focus will be on introducing new ideas and experiences and to encourage our students to explore their own creativity and ingenuity. The UE and MAP classrooms will also be creating a science exhibition during this week.

Dates: April 18 through 22

IOWA Standardized Testing

All elementary and adolescent students will participate in the IOWA standardized testing during this week. We ask that parents avoid making appointments or travel dates during this week to avoid the school needing to schedule make-up tests.

Dates: May 2 through May 6

Teacher Appreciation Week

This is a time to show our teachers just how much we appreciate all they do. The committee members running this event may have suggestions on activities and will also plan a teacher luncheon or after-school event.

Dates: May 9 through May 13

School Picnics

Our picnics are a time for parents to socialize and meet some of our faculty. The events are typically pot-luck style. There may also be games for children to play on the field or other activities available.

Dates: Sep 12 & May 14 [11:00 am to 1:00 pm]

Field Day

This is a day of games, music, bouncy houses, free pizza, and fun for all classrooms! The festivities for our Toddlers and Children’s House classrooms will be held in the morning and end at 11:30am. Activities for the older students will be held in the afternoon.

Date: May 23 [Rain Date May 24]

These activities and events are possible only with your support. By participating, you not only help your child’s classroom, you also help strengthen our school spirit and sense of community.

Additionally, most of these events are a great way to satisfy your volunteer hours. Parents can elect to be a part of an event committee, sign up to assist during an event, or supply materials and other resources that support an activity.

One of the most helpful tools the school uses when organizing activities and coordinating volunteers is Sign-Up Genius. This service saves us time and makes planning very convenient and easy to manage. We ask that volunteers use this service in signing up to help with an event.

To ensure parents are aware of classroom and school activities, we use weekly folders to distribute flyers and other information sheets. However, not all information will be available via the folders as we continue to increase our reliance on more environmentally-friendly communications such as email, our website, and MemberHub. Please help us save time and resources by reading all school emails and by frequently visiting the Parent Resources page on our website and your MemberHub account.