



# HEARTWOOD

## MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Quality Montessori education in the heart of Cary for ages 18 months to 18 years

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### March 20: Teacher Luncheon

Hosted by the Toddler House  
[Playground Volunteers needed!](#)

#### March 23: HALF DAY!

Noon dismissal for all classes:  
 Parent-teacher conferences in the afternoon

#### March 26: NO SCHOOL

Parent-teacher conferences all day



#### April 2-6: Spring Break

Classes resume on Monday, April 9

#### April 11-12: Spring Portraits

Stay tuned for class-specific info

#### April 16-20: Testing Week

(Grades 3 and up only)

#### April 21: HW Day of Service

Help beautify Heartwood inside and out! Mark your calendar now and look out for volunteer sign-ups in the next newsletter. Coffee and snacks will be provided! (8:00am - 1:00pm)

## Conference Time

Spring Conferences are right around the corner! It's likely your teacher has already been in touch to schedule a time to talk about your child, but if not, that information should be coming very soon.

Your conference slot is a special time where you can talk one-on-one with your child's teachers. Childcare will not be available at school during this time; please make arrangements accordingly.

Friday, March 23rd, will be a half-day, with **all classes dismissing at noon.**

Please allow extra time for pick-up since carpool will be busier than usual.



**There are no classes on Monday, March 26.**

## Important: Testing Week

If your child is in third grade or higher, the week of April 16-20 will be an important one. **Please do not plan any vacations during this week!**

We will be conducting the Iowa Test to give us a snapshot of what your child knows compared to other children in the nation who are taking the same test.

To prepare for the test, focus on getting plenty of sleep, being on time, and giving good nutrition in the morning. All this will help us make the experience stress-free (fun!) not stressful (pass/fail).



## LOOKING AHEAD

### May 5: Spring Fling (2-5pm)

Volunteers will be needed! Sign-ups to come in April. Rain date: May 6

### May 25: HALF DAY

Noon dismissal for all classes!

### May 28: NO SCHOOL

Memorial Day holiday

### June 2: Talent Show - HALF DAY

Last day of school! Talent show begins at 10:30 am and all classes dismiss by noon. Join us!



## SUMMER CAMPS

### Heartwood Camps

A Montessori experience for ages 3-5! Our popular summer program is filling fast, so make sure you reserve your spot!

[Click for more information](#)

### Plunge Into Reading

Tamara Hoxie, Heartwood's reading tutor, offers a variety of camps for ages 5 and up, combining reading fun with swim lessons and pool time. See the attached brochure for more info.

# What is the Heartwood Day of Service, Anyway?

We always say that Heartwood is a family, and the day of service is when our families help out with projects all over campus, from landscaping to washing windows.

This year, the day of service is Saturday, April 21, from 8:00am to 1:00pm. Whether you've got a green thumb or a black one, are good with a hammer or have been banned from Lowe's, there will definitely be ways to help!

Keep an eye out for a sign-up sheet and list of projects in the April newsletter, and come join us as we spend a morning making Heartwood beautiful. (Psst...we'll have coffee.)



## Two Ways to Learn GO

Sponsors Elizabeth Hieronymus and Staysee Teague are excited to announce a [fourth session](#) of Go Club at Heartwood. It will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 3:10-4:10 pm, beginning March 21st.

In addition to the Wednesday Club, Staysee will now also be offering private one-on-one Go lessons for students ages 5 and up at all levels of interest: from never having played up to

single digit kyu ranking (which is Staysee's approximate rank in the American Go Association.)

"I have noticed that some of my students thus far have a real passion for the game in club and a desire to learn more," Staysee says. "Others could use more individualized instruction to get to their next level of play, increasing their confidence in the game (and themselves) and their ability to think critically."

Lessons will be offered after school at Heartwood or, possibly in home if need be, with exact scheduling to be determined with each parent/student. Email Staysee directly to learn more ([Staysee.Yod@gmail.com](mailto:Staysee.Yod@gmail.com)).



## BULLETIN BOARD

### Rally for Ranny

Our beloved LE1 assistant teacher, Ranny Mast, is battling cancer for the second time. If you'd like to help in her fight, please consider donating to her [GoFundMe](#), and thank you.



## OFFICE NOTES

### Lunchboxes: Size it Down

When it comes to lunchboxes, bigger isn't better! "Personal coolers" take up a lot of space when we're packing 75 lunches into our fridge -- please try to use a standard-sized lunchbox instead. Thank you!

### Lost & Found is Overflowing

All these changes in temperature lead to a lot of clothes in the Lost & Found! If you're missing something, please don't hesitate to poke your head in the lobby and take a look.

Also, remember to **LABEL** everything! We can't help lost items find their owners if they don't have a name in them. [Labels like these](#) work really well.

## Carpool Suggestions

Nobody likes a traffic jam at carpool! Here are a few suggestions to get you in and out safely and speedily.

### Afternoon Carpool:

Carpool starts at 2:50pm and goes until 3:10pm. The younger children may be out slightly sooner, but Elementary dismisses at 2:45pm and MS/HS doesn't dismiss from the classroom until 3:00pm.

If you are picking up Elementary or MS/HS students, **please do not line up at 2:30pm** because it causes long back ups.

As always, please remember to stay in your car, pull forward, and keep to the right. (If someone else, such as a grandparent, is picking up, please let them know as well.) The left lane is for passing and drive throughs.

Likewise, if you're pulling through to the Toddler House, please **GO SLOWLY!** Lots of parents are

walking their little ones through the area to parked cars.

### Noon Carpool:

If you see that there is only one staff member waiting for you at the 11:45 carpool, thank you for getting out of your car and coming forward to retrieve your children. That is HELPFUL at that time of day even if we are staffed with two teachers! It's the buckling-up part that delays this line, so thanks for helping us.

## Re-enrollment News

We've had a great re-enrollment response, and most of the classes are already full for the fall. Your new tuition contracts will be emailed to you next week, and will be due by March 27th. You will also receive a new emergency form for the 2018-19 school year, which also needs to be returned by March 27th.



## LEARN MORE

### [2018-2019 School Calendar](#)

Also available as a PDF on our website

### [Our Montessori Philosophy](#)

Or why we do what we do!

## LINK UP!

### [Link Your VIC Card](#)

Re-link your card each year for Harris Teeter's Together In Education program

## FIND US ONLINE

### [HeartwoodMontessori.com](#)

Our official school website

### [Heartwood on Facebook](#)

Our official page on Facebook

### [HW Families on Facebook](#)

The unofficial community group for Heartwood families

### [Heartwood on Twitter](#)

Heartwood's official account

## QUESTIONS?

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## CREDITS

### [Christina Rose Studios](#)

Newsletter Photography

# Familiar Faces, New Roles

2018 has seen several changes to our staff roster. A few of those absences are only temporary, while others in our community move on to new adventures.



*Bridget Dickerson*

Bridget Dickerson is returning to Heartwood to teach in the LE 1 classroom. She left in 2016, after teaching in LE 1 for 5 ½ years, to live in Kunming, China. After returning from that adventure, she homeschooled

her middle schooler, Luke, who attended Heartwood during his elementary years. Luke is now attending East Cary Middle School and Bridget is ready to come back to her Heartwood family.

Bridget studied Speech Science Communication and Disorders at the University of Texas in Austin. She worked in a Speech-Language Pathology Center in Austin, TX until her twins were born and later spent five years homeschooling them. During that time, she earned her American Montessori Society (AMS) certification in Lower Elementary Education. Recently, she finished her AMS certification in Upper Elementary Education, as well, and is excited to apply that knowledge base to her teaching.



*Lesley White with Gwynn and Gabby*

Bridget loves to spend time with her family, running outdoors and being with people who make her heart sing.

Vivien Lee's mom, Julia, will also be helping in LE1. Thank you, Julia, and welcome to the team!

Ginny McCollum and Lesley White have joined the front office as well. Lesley has been a part of the Heartwood family for over 3 years with daughters Gwynn (Becki/Lynda's class) and Gabby (Kathryn/Tanya's class).

With a graduate degree in Business from UNC Chapel Hill, Lesley is assisting Mary and Sue part-time with some of the main office operations including finances and bringing updated technologies to Heartwood.

Lesley owns and operates a dog walking business (Peak City Puppy) and volunteers

as a foster for Carolina Adopt-A-Bulls. Outside of working and mom duties, Lesley finds balance through hot yoga, walking her dog and listening to books on Audible (sometimes even in the car-pool line!)



*Ginny McCollum*

Ginny discovered Heartwood when her son, Alex (now in Jeny/Ellen's class), was not quite two years old, and it was love at first sight. In the five years since, she's also gotten to know the community as room parent and yearbook coordinator.

Ginny's background is in professional writing and print media, so she's particularly excited to take on the newsletter in addition to various other administrative duties. She'll also be around for carpool, so say hi (and bear with her while she puts names and faces together)!