

# FIRST ANNUAL WSMS ALUMNI COCKTAIL PARTY... *come back to the beginning*

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

An enthusiastic group of some 80 parents of alumni celebrated their first ever official gathering on a balmy April evening. Early arrivals were greeted warmly by Mimi, and directed up the stairs to what many remembered as a fairly unremarkable gym. Peeking in at the cheerful classrooms along the way, they experienced nostalgia—cylinder blocks, the pink tower, the brown stairs—and surprise: dishwashers?!

Round the last corner was the biggest surprise: a mundane play space had been transformed into an aesthetic multi-purpose room. And now it showed yet another adaptation as a great place for a party.

Enjoying wine, beer, and amazing appetizers catered by multi-talented receptionist Amy Stoney, parents from multiple generations re-connected with old (in time, not age!) friends from the past, reminisced about their children's experiences 5, 10, even 30 years before, and caught up on their accomplishments and adventures since then. Mimi wel-

comed the gathering with warmth and enthusiasm, and briefly described so much that has happened in her tenure, including the greening of the classrooms and the adoption of the Twos Program. She reminded parents to check out the Library on their way out—back in the day it was a scruffy place to grab a cup of coffee and house Second Hand Sue prior to the Spring Fair! Another highlight was the presence of familiar faces from the faculty and administration, including Joan Shisler, Windy Wellington, the Mack sisters, Barbara Grant, and (of course) Judy Lyons, herself the parent of two alumni and back for her second term as Director of Admissions. Special thanks to parent/former Board member, Nikki Chase-Levin, who oversaw the evening in her role as Events Coordinator.

On the way out, parents waxed nostalgic over the past and expressed their gratitude for this wonderful opportunity to stay connected to the place they happily call a "great beginning" for their children.



Left to right: Maggan Soderberg Daileader (Madeline '14, Declan '14), Jackie Ramsey (Cooper '14), Michelle Babu (Lily '12), Amy Tarr (Theodore '12, Penelope '12, Georgina '13), Aima Raza (Rafael '14, Mikhail '14)



Left to right: Melissa Mack, Josephine Phillips (Pearl '97, Edith '99, Stanley '02), Daphne Hicks (Standish '96), Judy Lyons (Ben '88, Hannah '93)



Left to right: Art and Mary Sachs (Andrew '80, Chris '83, Tim '86), Peter Demmer (Michael '78, Matthew '86)



Left to right: Myles Amend (Ashley '11), Iva Mills (Morgan and Dashiell 4Eam)



Left to right: Timothy Daileader (Madeline '14, Declan '14), Jeff Tarr (Theodore '12, Penelope '12, Georgina '13), Murtaza Haque (Rania '12, Amira '14)