



## Shepherd Elementary School

# THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

December 18, 2009

### Mark Your Calendars!

Dec 21-Jan 3: Winter Break-NO SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 21: First Day of Winter

Friday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day

Saturday, Dec. 26: Kwanzaa Begins

Thursday, Dec. 31: New Year's Eve

**Monday, Jan 4, 2010: BACK TO SCHOOL**

Monday, Jan 4, 2010: Auction Committee, 6:30 p.m.,  
Ledo Pizza

Tuesday, Jan 5: Terrific Kid/B.U.G. Awards

Monday, Jan 11: Pep Rally

### A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings!

#### Holiday Concert

On Wednesday, Dec. 9, Shepherd students along with students from the DC Youth Orchestra filled our hearts with joy and helped us to get into the holiday spirit with their violin and musical performance. The gym was beautifully decorated and there were no vacant seats in the building. Thank you, Mr. Giles, for the tremendous work you do with our students. Thank you Ms. Michaud, Señor Velera, Señora Menchen, Madame Gadie and students for the beautiful artwork displayed around the room. Your artwork was the perfect final touch to a wonderful evening!

#### Holiday Wishes

During the holiday season, we can sometimes become stressed out by the hustle and bustle of the busy holiday activities (i.e. shopping, parties...) and when we do we sometimes forget the true reason for the season. Therefore I am challenging all of you to do the following:

#### Reflect

As a candidate IB school, it is important for our students to participate in service-learning projects that focus on community sharing. Therefore, this season and beyond I encourage everyone to reflect on their many blessings and take time to share some of what we have with those that are less fortunate.

#### Celebrate

Holidays are also a great time to celebrate our rich heritages. Family traditions can be especially enriching and are great for family bonding. Talk to your children about those traditions that you love most. Talk about the traditions of other families and perhaps add a new tradition to yours. Holiday traditions are a meaningful gift that you can pass on to your children.

### FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT...

Dear Parents,

The holiday is a time to be especially thankful for the personalities and talents of our children, families, teachers, administrators and staff. Each person in the Shepherd Community is a gift of joy, and I wish all of you whatever brings the most happiness to your hearts and homes.

Happy Holidays!

*Charisse Brassard*

## ART SMARTS

Dear Shepherd Parents and Caregivers,

This has been a wonderful beginning to the holiday season in Shepherd's art room. First we were one of two D.C. schools chosen to decorate a Winter Wonderland Tree at Dulles Airport. Inbound international travelers will be greeted by our colorfully-decorated foam snowmen, snow hats and gloves! Ms. Thomas's students now know many surprising facts about the airport and its architecture - just ask them!

Next, a collaboration between Mr. Giles and me led to the wonderful Winter Holiday Symbol Panels that currently line the walls of the auditorium-gymnasium. Wasn't that concert great? The artwork consisted of students' choices of holiday symbols. Students in grades 2 through 5 working in table-groups produced each watercolor panel, and fifth-grade curators arranged and hung the works for the concert. Fabulous job wouldn't you say? Kudos to all artists and musicians!

This week in some classes we will be completing ornaments for students to take home. In other classes, we will be creating Nutcracker Soldier drawings while we listen to Tchaikovsky's ballet music. Wish I had been able to see the ballet with the students who saw it last week!

Here are some housekeeping items to remember. To reach the art room Web site, Ms. Michaud's Art Room, just go to <http://teacherweb.com/DC/Shepherd/Art/> and click any of the buttons shown to get where you need to go. Announcements change every week or two and are usually the same as the Mustang Art Smarts. Homework for grades 3 through 5 is listed weekly, and the current assignment has a bolded due date at the end. (Yes there is homework over the holiday! See the Homework page on my Web site.) Primary and intermediate vocabulary lists are listed under FAQ's (frequently asked questions), as requested by parents on conference day.

OK. This is where I say farewell for two weeks. Have the happiest holiday season ever! See you in the New Year!

Meanwhile help your child keep art close to the heart.

Ms. Joele Michaud, art teacher

Continued from Principal pg. 1

### Give Thanks

Finally, be grateful. Express your gratitude, even in the face of hardship. When you look at your child, know that you have been very blessed and there is no better time than the holidays to show it.

I wish you peace and joy during this holiday season and I look forward to seeing you in 2010!

*Warmest Regards,*

*Jamie Miles*

Jamie B. Miles  
Principal, Shepherd Elementary

### Which Language Is Best for My Child? Part I

Many parents approach their children's language learning with a very specific reason and goal in mind. For these families, selecting a second language may be a clear choice. For many, however, the answer isn't quite as obvious. Many simply recognize what an incredible benefit knowledge of a foreign language can be in a career or in the college admissions process. But do you know what field your child will be most interested in as an adult? Probably not yet. Maybe you learned a language in your youth and want to share your love and knowledge of that language with your child, but aren't quite sure that the language that was right for you in high school is right for your child today. All of these scenarios can lead to conflicting answers.

Our advice? Focus more on the benefits and pleasure that another language—any language—will give your child. Opening a new window to the world for your child through language is the most important step. **When it comes to choosing a language to start, there are no wrong answers.**

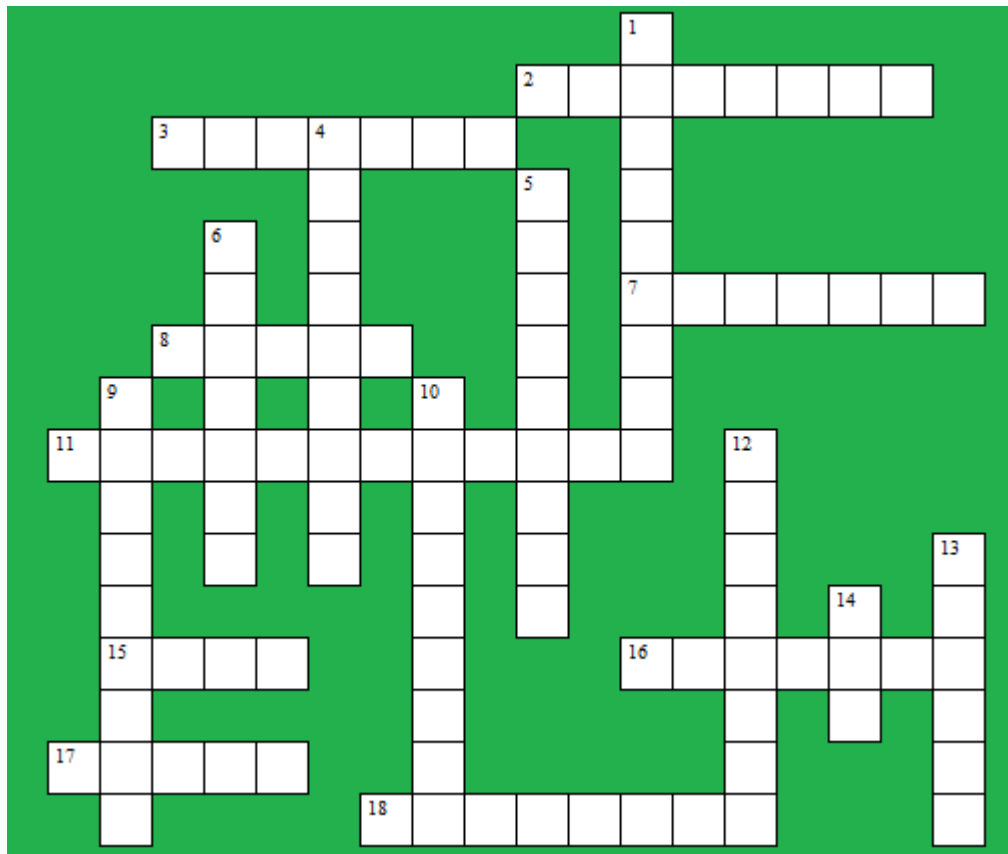
- Mme. Gadié, Ms. Ainhua & Mr. Valera  
Shepherd language teachers

### *Shepherd Elementary School Mission*

All stakeholders are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social, and physical well-being within a supportive, creative and flexible environment in which children learn to think compassionately and learn globally.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Merry Christmas Crossword



**ACROSS**

- 2 Giant socks that might get filled with presents
- 3 Santa gets in your house through this
- 7 The only reindeer whose name begins with the letter p
- 8 Deck the halls with boughs of this
- 11 The night before Christmas
- 15 What's in Santa's bag?
- 16 Reindeer with the red nose
- 17 Person who brings gifts to good children
- 18 Christmas falls in this month

**DOWN**

- 1 Where Santa lives
- 4 If you stand under this, you might get kissed.
- 5 Things you hang on a Christmas tree
- 6 A snack you leave out for Santa
- 9 December 25th
- 10 Yummy red and white candy
- 12 Eight of these pull Santa's sleigh
- 13 Santa says this
- 14 A helper who makes toys

**Word Box**-(You will not use all of the words.)

Christmas Christmas Eve stocking Santa Rudolph Prancer Dancer Dasher Comet Cupid North Pole South Pole  
 Elf ornaments Ho ho ho! candy cane cookies chimney December holly mistletoe reindeer toys Claus Mrs. Claus

# HANUKKAH WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

F T H E M A L G R C C A B E T  
 E E A S E N A I I T E R E H O  
 S D L T H E T H G M O L E Y I  
 T C H A N U K A H H M I T E N  
 I M A U P L E E T T T E O F A  
 V I N N H D S T E H A S L T G  
 A T I H A E D O O F D E I R F  
 L G S R K E C O U H S Y R I U  
 A L S N K S H E S A A D D E S  
 F E I I U L E D L T H L E O I  
 L D M E N O R A H C T E L H A  
 T I W A A S S U S E A A D E F  
 O E I G H T D A Y S R R T H L  
 E R T I E M P L E S M S I E N  
 O D N R A O L I V E O I L M H

## HANUKKAH WORD LIST

AL HANISSIM	ISRAEL
CHANUKAH	LATKES
DREIDEL	LIGHTS
EIGHT DAYS	MENORAH
FESTIVAL	MIRACLE
FRIED FOOD	NUN
GIMMEL	OLIVE OIL
HALLEL	RIGHTEOUS
HANUKKAH	SHIN
HEI	SUFGANIOT

# Kwanzaa Word Search <sup>2</sup>



UJIMA is  
Collective Work  
and Responsibility



IMANI  
is  
Faith



UJAMAA  
is  
Cooperative Economics



NIA  
is  
Purpose



KUJICHAGULIA  
is  
Self-determination



KUUMBA  
is  
Creativity



UMOJA  
is  
Unity

L U N T H G U R O U Z C H J D N T  
D D Y C E A J J J J P F P E J O V  
X Z L U R N I A B O Y O T P Y A R  
C A I L I E M E K D R T I N K Z U  
U H M T T A A R H O H G X E P A Q  
A P A U A B S T O G K I K T J M V  
G B F R G X Y T I N U M M O C T A  
R G R E E N S L U V J A M A Y U H  
F A I T H D E R K K I U I W N I E  
J L C M M X N W U W C T O D A I D  
O F A N I S J E S Q A A Y A C Y Z  
J T R N N H M D B J G N L V Z X F  
C A N D L E S O P R U P Z B A H M  
J V E M U H I N D I L I H A W S X  
I W V I A B M U U K I N A R A D J  
V W E Q Z T W W M N A R V W D L C  
N A S K I V S Y F L N F R U I T T

AFRICA  
BENDERA  
BLACK  
CANDLES  
COMMUNITY  
CREATIVITY  
CULTURE  
FAITH  
FAMILY  
FLAG  
FRUIT

GREEN  
HERITAGE  
IMANI  
KINARA  
KUJICHAGULIA  
KUUMBA  
KWANZAA  
LIGHT  
MAZAO  
MKEKA  
MUHINDI

NIA  
PURPOSE  
RED  
ROOTS  
SEVEN  
SWAHILI  
UJAMAA  
UJIMA  
UMOJA  
UNITY  
ZAWADI

## Students-Eye View

On Wednesday, Dec. 9, Shepherd Elementary School hosted its annual Holiday Concert at 6:45 p.m. Students from all grades participated.

Some Shepherd students played the violin. Members of the Washington D.C. Youth Orchestra came and played as well. Then it came time for Shepherd students to sing. We sang holiday songs in different languages including "Sleigh Ride," commonly known as "Jingle Bells," in French or "Vive Le Vent."

Everyone enjoyed the concert. One parent, Keisha Grant said, "It's nice to see a program where the children are not only learning a different language, but all can participate."

A surprise guest also came to the concert: Santa Claus! Children were able to tell him what they wanted for Christmas. In return, he gave each a Santa hat and a candy cane.

Throughout the holiday season, and all year through, all of us at Shepherd wish you and yours ~ peace and blessings.

To submit news tips, comment or contact the Mustang reporter, send an e-mail to: [Emahni5@gmail.com](mailto:Emahni5@gmail.com).

--Compiled by Emahni Grant, 4<sup>th</sup> grade

Keep the



Coming

Happy Holidays! Don't forget to keep clipping those Box Tops while enjoying the winter break. Our next collection drive, "Hooray for Snow Days!" will end on Wednesday, Jan. 13. You can find the collection sheet at [www.boxtops4education.com/Image.aspx?Id=35](http://www.boxtops4education.com/Image.aspx?Id=35) or outside the school office. Thanks to your efforts, we've already collected \$283 toward our annual goal of \$500.

## The Mustang Round-Up

### Join the PTA Listserv Today –

To subscribe, send an email (**include your name, your child's name and his/her teacher/class**) to: [Shepherd\\_Elementary\\_PTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Shepherd_Elementary_PTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Once signed up, you will be able to receive listserv updates directly to your email inbox. If you prefer to not receive emails for each listserv posting, simply select "no email" under the message delivery option in your listserv user setup.

### Past Issues of The Mustang are Online –

Would you like to read *The Mustang* electronically? Need to refer back to a past issue? Each week, *The Mustang* is uploaded to the files area of the PTA listserv. Join the listserv and click to read.

*The Mustang* is also available on the Shepherd Elementary School website at [www.shepherd-elementary.org](http://www.shepherd-elementary.org).

## Mustang on Haitus

Next issue of the Mustang will be distributed January 8. The deadline to submit articles for the Mustang will be 5 p.m. Tuesday of that week. Please send your submissions to [sesmustang@gmail.com](mailto:sesmustang@gmail.com).



### Shepherd Elementary School

7800 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20012  
Office Telephone: 202-576-6140  
Office Fax: 202-576-7578

Mrs. Jamie Miles, Principal – [jamie.miles@dc.gov](mailto:jamie.miles@dc.gov)  
Ms. Robyn Brooks, Admin. Assistant – [robyna.brooks@dc.gov](mailto:robyna.brooks@dc.gov)  
Ms. Charisse Brossard, PTA President – [cbrossard65@gmail.com](mailto:cbrossard65@gmail.com)

*The Mustang* Newsletter Editors: Fred Lewis and Mark Pattison  
Layout/Design: Nayada Cowherd and Rose Dawson  
Production and distribution: Angela Anderson and Marcie Bane

Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to: [SESmustang@gmail.com](mailto:SESmustang@gmail.com).