



THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

Friday, May 7, 2010

Mark Your Calendars

Friday, May 7: Concert - Civil Rights Songs and BWL/Band, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 13: LSRT meeting, 3:55 p.m.

Saturday, May 15: School Beautification Day, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Monday, May 17: FULL DAY OF SCHOOL (no parent-teacher conference day)

Wednesday, May 19: PTA meeting, 6:45 p.m.

From the PTA President

Dear Shepherd Parents:

Kudos to auction co-chairs Bianca Bostic and Alicia Anderson for a highly successful "Caribbean Carnival: The Carnival for Giving." It was attended by 200 people who clearly enjoyed themselves while supporting Shepherd Elementary School. Proceeds will be used to enhance the school's academic and technological resources.

I would also like to thank all the teachers for their attendance at the auction and their wonderful classroom donations.

Thanks to the Auction Committee members who helped make the evening possible: Mark Pattison, Nayada Cowherd, Marnie Keller, Stephanie Scott Melnyk, Patsy-Ann Rasmussen, Rose Dawson, Shawn Jenkins and Marcus Hall.

Warmest regards,

Charisse Brossard, Shepherd PTA president

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Auction Update

Did you attend last week's auction? If not, you missed out a wonderful event. It was great seeing so many current, former and future members of the Shepherd family together for such a purposeful event. A sincere thank you goes to the auction chairs, their committee, the PTA executive board and anyone who helped in any way. You are appreciated!!!!!!

End of Year

This week begins the last full month of school. How exciting. However, the learning is far from over and there is still work to be done. Please strive to have your students in school on time every day. Before they leave your home, please remind them of behavior expectations. Please encourage them to make good decisions and use their words instead of their hands.

Late Arrivals

If your child arrives late, please check in at the front office before proceeding to class so Mrs. Brooks can correct attendance information in the system.

Teacher Appreciation Week

This week we celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you to everyone who took a little time to say thank you to a teacher.

Field Day

June 4 is Family Fun Day and your presence is requested. Please mark your calendars now - for this is an event you will not want to miss. More information will be coming from Mr. Burgess!!! Psst. ... I HEARD there may be a kickball challenge between parents and teachers and if this is true, parents you may want to start practicing now.

The challenge is on!!

Registration

Finally, I need all Shepherd families to come in and register your child for the 2010-2011 school year as soon as you can. We are beginning to place teachers for next school year and it is imperative we know the number of students who will be attending Shepherd in the fall.

Thank you, and have a fabulous weekend.

- *Mrs. Jamie Miles,*
Shepherd Principal

Give Those Reading Skills a Workout This Summer

American University is offering a summer reading skills program for children age 4 to 11th grade at its campus on Massachusetts Avenue NW. All programs meet once a week.

There are separate programs for **4-year-olds and entering kindergartners** (Wednesdays, June 23-July 21, 10-11:15 a.m.; Saturdays, July 31-Aug. 28, 10:30-11:45 a.m.)

Entering first grade (Wednesdays, June 23-July 21, noon-2 p.m.; Saturdays, July 31-Aug. 28, 12:30-2:30 p.m.)

Entering second grade (Wednesdays, June 23-July 21, 3-5 p.m.; Saturdays, July 31-Aug. 28, 3-5 p.m.)

Entering third grade (Fridays, June 25-July 23, 9-11 a.m.; Sundays, Aug. 1-29, 10 a.m.-noon)

Entering fourth and fifth grade (Fridays, June 25-July 23, noon-2:15 p.m.; Sundays, Aug. 1-29, 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)

Entering sixth through eighth grade (Fridays, June 25-July 23, 3-5:30 p.m.; Sundays, Aug. 1-29, 1-3:30 p.m.)

Entering ninth through

11th grade (Mondays, June 21-July 26, 4-6:30 p.m.; Sundays, Aug. 1-29, 1-3:30 p.m.)

There is also a program for adults, college students and entering high school seniors that meets Mondays, June 21-July 26, 7-9:30 p.m., or Sundays, Aug. 1-29, 4-6:30 p.m.

Areas covered include phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, study skills, speed reading and love reading. For details or to register, visit www.americanreadingprograms.org, or call 800-470-3728.

Stay tuned for contest results

Thanks to all who participated in the Space Age Box Tops contest! Please watch for the results and information on how to claim your prize in next week's issue of the Mustang. In the meantime ... keep clipping because we'll also announce the end-of-year collection effort!

Katherine Trimble, Shepherd Box Tops Coordinator

School Beautification Day Comes to Shepherd May 15

The school beautification day originally scheduled for last Saturday has been moved to Saturday, May 15.

Things will get underway at 9 a.m. and will continue to 1 p.m.

The school has wheelbarrows and some gardening implements. However, if you feel more comfortable using your own tools, you're welcome to bring them.

A list is being developed of the tasks that can get done if we have a few green thumbs and many eager hands.

Look to the Mustang or the PTA listserv for the list once it becomes available.

Mustang Help Wanted

Can you help us with the layout and design of the Mustang?

We're hoping you could take turns with our other design and layout parents through the end of the school year next month. It would serve as a great introduction to doing this kind of service for 2010-11, though!

If you can offer your talents, please get in touch with Communications Committee Chairman Mark Pattison at 829-9289 or at pattison_mark@hotmail.com.

Students'-Eye View

About 15 Shepherd Elementary students and chaperones visited Howard University recently to view portions of the Paul Robeson archives.

Students descended into the university's library building basement to view Robeson's passport, many pictures, fan letters, articles, hate mail, articles and boxes of other items.

"Everything was so cool," said Sandra Stevenson, who went on the tour.

Robeson's collection is one of 700 at the college. Howard's library has lots of information and pictures about other famous African-Americans, too — such as people from the Civil Rights Movement. In the 1970s, a Howard librarian made phone calls to many notable African-Americans and African-American groups asking that they send important documents to the university for safe storage. They did.

The history lesson was planned by Shepherd's music instructor Kenneth Giles who recently led students in a successful campaign to have a unit on Robeson added to the D.C. Public School system's music curriculum for elementary students.

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

Compiled by Emahni Grant, fourth grade

Trick Play!

2's Trick

Step 1: Think of a number.

Step 2: Multiply it by 3.

Step 3: Add 6 with getting result.

Step 4: Divide it by 3.

Step 5: Subtract it from the first number used.

Answer: 2

Try it again with a different number!

- *Crystal Moorefield and Christina Bush, instructional coaches*

Remember to Register Your Child for 2010-11

Mrs. Miles said she hopes to get 100 percent registration from current Shepherd families for their children. But we're not there yet.

Registrations must be done by the adults in person at the school so that school personnel can verify the family's D.C. residency. That means: Don't return completed forms in a child's backpack because it'll just be returned to you.

Why is registration important? There is currently a wait list for ALL grades. All siblings of current Shepherd students are guaranteed entry, but not all neighborhood children. If parents don't register their children, then children on the wait list will get these coveted spots. But if we get the registrations we expect to regardless of source, then the numbers give us a shot at having an aide per grade for grades 1-5.

With more success comes more students. With more students comes more opportunities for success. And success builds upon itself.

Register now!

Help an Adult in Need of Information: Mentor an Incoming Shepherd Parent

We need to welcome new families to the Shepherd Elementary experience and be ready to answer their questions - not to mention getting them into the swing of thing. Many

parents have already volunteered to be mentors. But we're expecting close to 50 new families for the 2010-11 school year. Most of the incoming students would be in pre-K, all grade levels will

experience growth. If you can give incoming families the benefit of your wisdom and experience, sign up with Ms. Brooks in the school office, or send her an e-mail at robyn.a.brooks@dc.gov.

Don't Miss the Shepherd Family Field Day June 4

The customary "field day" at Shepherd is going to get a little tweaking this year. The school has declared Friday, June 4, as Family Fun Day. There will be many of the kind of activities that have marked field days of years past, but we are aiming for a real, honest-to-goodness family component this

time out. See if you can get the day off from work to enjoy Family Fun Day with your child and his or her classmates. If you can help in any way to prep for Family Fun Day or during Family Fun Day itself, call the school at 576-6140 and give your name!

Join the Effort: It's School Improvement Time

At last month's PTA meeting, Principal Miles noted that Shepherd Elementary is not high on D.C. Public Schools' list for renovations. While it is true that Shepherd benefited from the "blitz" campaign of three years ago, the installation of new windows two years ago after

what seems like forever, and a lot of elbow grease from parents, there are issues that both parents and staff need to consider to upgrade the facilities. After all, some parts of Shepherd were built and in use before the Great Depression.

If you would like to help Mrs. Miles identify items inside and outside the school that deserve quicker consideration, as well as items that merit inclusion in a longer-term renovation plan, please call the school at 576-6140, or e-mail Mrs. Miles at Jamie.miles@dc.gov to offer your services.

Children's Book Review Contest Deadline Today

The deadline is today (Friday, May 7) for entries to the 12010 Sheila Robertson Prize for Children's Book Reviews. Entrants can be from kindergarten through eighth grade.

The award is sponsored by the Friends of the Chevy Chase Neighborhood Library at 5625 Connecticut Ave. NW near Chevy Chase circle.

Prizes for best entries will be awarded Wednesday, May 26. Entries will be published on the Chevy Chase Friends' Web site and a

spring edition of the Friends of the Chevy Chase Library Review. You can get an entry form online at www.ccdclibraryfriends.org.

Duke Ellington Matinees For Spring Dance Concert

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts will have matinee performances each weekday next week for its annual spring dance concert. The performance is a

narrated show, appropriate for school-age children and lasts about one hour.

Students will learn audience appreciation skills as well as theater decorum.

Showtimes will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, May 10-14 at Ellington, 3500 R St. NW. Admission is \$5. Reservations are recommended, as last year's shows were sellouts. For details, call Treanna Alexander at 298-17877, ext. 2611.

Civil Rights Songs and BWL Concert is Tonight!

The school's final concert of the year will take place today (Friday, May 7) at 6:45 p.m. First, the advanced violinists and guitarists will play a medley of "Civil Rights Songs."

You can also expect some Shepherd Elementary graduates to perform alongside our current students on some of the numbers. Afterward, the music program's beginner violinists will play "Twinkles." Finally, the BWL rhythm-and-blues band will rock the house.

Performers for the "Civil Rights Song" medley need to be at school for a 6 p.m. rehearsal on performance day. Other performers need to be in the auditorium by 6:30 p.m. so the concert can begin at 6:45 p.m. sharp.

Audience members are also kindly asked to take their seats by 6:45 p.m. so you can enjoy the entire performance without interruptions or distractions.

Math Corner Week of: 5-3-10

Have fun with Math Facts. Try some of these interesting activities.

Primary Grades

kidZone.ws

Number Sentences

Name: _____

Write a plus (+) or a minus (-) sign in the circle to make the number sentence true.

$2 \bigcirc 6 = 8$

$4 \bigcirc 2 = 2$

$4 \bigcirc 3 = 1$

$3 \bigcirc 0 = 3$

$2 \bigcirc 1 = 1$

$3 \bigcirc 1 = 4$

$7 \bigcirc 9 = 16$

$10 \bigcirc 9 = 19$

$1 \bigcirc 1 = 0$



$2 \bigcirc 1 = 1$

$3 \bigcirc 2 = 1$

$1 \bigcirc 0 = 1$

$10 \bigcirc 3 = 7$

$2 \bigcirc 0 = 2$

$$7 \bigcirc 4 = 3$$

$$6 \bigcirc 4 = 2$$

$$4 \bigcirc 0 = 4$$

$$2 \bigcirc 0 = 2$$

$$6 \bigcirc 10 = 16$$

$$10 \bigcirc 3 = 13$$

Name: _____



There are **3** trees. There are **5** parrots.

Each parrot wants to visit each tree.

Draw a line from each parrot to each tree.

How many lines did you draw? _____

3 x **5** = _____

Math Trivia For Kids

Cool Math Stuff You Never Really Knew!

Math is way cool. And math trivia for kids will definitely inspire the most math resistant child to get a kick out of discovering some of the most interesting facts about math.

Here's a few to start with.

A 'jiffy' is an actual unit of time for $1/100$ th of a second.

'Forty' is the only number that has all its letters in alphabetical order.

Multiply 37,037 by any single number (1-9), then multiply that number by 3. Every digit in the answer will be the same as that first single number.

Try These Math Brain Teasers!

Every month we will give you a math/statistics brain teaser that lets you test your knowledge with a fun problem.



Challenge: A Snail's Pace

A snail creeps 3 ft up a wall during the daytime. After all the labor it does throughout the day, it stops to rest a while... but falls asleep!! The next morning it wakes up and discovers that it has slipped down 1 ft while sleeping.

If this happens every day, how many days will the snail take to reach the top of a wall 11 ft in height?

Challenge: Unknown Pattern

Is it a simple task? Find the missing numbers as fast as you can!

0, 6, 24, 60, 120, 210, _____, _____, _____

Instructional Coaches,

Crystal Moorefield and Christina Bush