



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

June 4, 2010

Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ **Friday, June 4:** LSRT nomination deadline
- ◆ **Friday, June 4:** Recipe submission deadline for school cookbook
- ◆ **Friday, June 4:** Family Fun Day, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- ◆ **Monday-Friday, June 7-11:** Spirit Week
- ◆ **Thursday, June 10:** Cookbook cover art submission deadline
- ◆ **Thursday, June 10:** Lunch With the Principal, noon
- ◆ **Thursday, June 10:** LSRT meeting, 3:55 p.m.
- ◆ **Thursday, June 10:** Principal's Forum, 6-8 p.m., auditorium
- ◆ **Friday, June 11:** LSRT elections
- ◆ **Friday, June 11:** Honor Roll Banquet
- ◆ **Tuesday, June 15:** 5thGrade graduation ceremony, 9:30 am
- ◆ **Wednesday, June 16:** Awards Day, 9:15 a.m. for pre-K through first grade; 10:15 a.m. for second through fourth grade.

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT...

Dear Shepherd Parents,

I hope everyone had a restful Memorial Day weekend. I know we are winding down the school year, but you have now had the DCPS enrollment information for six weeks. It is time to complete the packet and turn it in with the exception of the medical forms.

The school records show only 120 families have returned their enrollment packet, which only constitutes 37 percent of the school's population. The school needs to receive these forms by June 14.

Delaying the receipt of these forms severely impacts our budget numbers! We will have no one to blame but ourselves if we lose aides or teachers because our enrollment numbers are low!

Charisse Brassard

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings!

▶ Lost Items and Unpaid Balances

Now is the time to begin checking under beds and in car trunks and the back of closets for missing textbooks and library books. Students who do not return their missing items will be charged. Report cards will not be released and records will not be transferred if your student has unpaid aftercare fees, lunch fees and/or lost textbook or library fees. You will receive a notice of any outstanding balances.

▶ June 10th – Lunch with the Principal

You are cordially invited to Lunch with Principal Miles at noon on June 10 in the school library. This will be an informal dialogue to discuss where we are as a school and where we are going. Please RSVP Principal Miles at Jamie.miles@dc.gov no later than June 8 if you plan to attend. If you are unable to join us at noon, please join me from 6-8 p.m. in the school's auditorium. During both meeting attendees will hear more about the school's budget for the upcoming school year, review school data, hear about upcoming goals and initiatives and have an opportunity give input.

▶ Recipes

Last week, a Healthy Eating Challenge was publicized in the Mustang. We at Shepherd are on the move with first lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative. The first phase of the initiative is a "Let's Move" cookbook. This cookbook will be filled with healthy recipes submitted by Shepherd students, parents and staff members. In order to have this publication ready for the start of the year, all recipes are due no later than June 4. If you missed the deadline, please submit no later than Monday, June 7.

We are also having a Cookbook cover design contest. Please see last week's edition of the Mustang for more information.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Jamie Miles

Principal, Shepherd Elementary

From the PTA President-to-Be

I'm really gratified by all of the congratulations parents have given me for taking on the job of PTA president next year. But what REALLY gratifies me is that parents have already stepped up and committed to a lot of tasks that make Shepherd such an effective school.

For instance, we already have parents who are willing to head-up important school projects and take on a variety of roles such as the Fall Fest, Pre-K Play Date, liaison with classroom parents, the Loose Change program, the PTA's fundraising initiatives, the Auction, the QSP fall fundraiser, coordination of used uniform clothing sales, grant-writing, creation of a parent volunteer database, academic affairs, public relations, building and grounds, newsletter printing, the school directory, and the Communications Committee, which I've chaired for the past two years.

That kind of early commitment is like gold!

Why not put your Parent Power to work at your child's school? Here's what else the PTA will need for the next school year:

- One to three editors for the Mustang on rotating weekly shifts to spread out the work;
- One to two parents willing to design and lay out the Mustang, again on a rotating basis;
- Someone to change the signboard outside of school on a regular basis;
- A Box Tops for Education coordinator;
- A school photographer/historian;
- A Jazz Night coordinator; and
- Listserv moderation and maintenance.

If you're interested, contact me at 829-9289 or pattison_mark@hotmail.com. If you commit before school's out for summer, there could be some Mexican food in it for you - and a chance to break bread with your fellow PTA leaders and activists.

Sharing leadership, collaborating in leadership, and Parent Power. That's what makes us succeed!

**Mark Pattison,
PTA president-elect**

LSRT Nominations Due Friday!

Today - Friday, June 4 - is the last day to submit nominations for the Local School Restructuring Team election. Four parents will be elected to the LSRT. The election will be Friday, June 11.

Candidates should submit their names and a candidate statement to Nominations Committee Chairwoman Leonie Stephenson at leoniestephenon86@yahoo.com.

Put This Paper Down!

Why are you reading the Mustang - and not having tons of fun at Family Fun Day? Put this paper down RIGHT NOW, get over to Shepherd and take part in the teachers vs. parents kickball game. Do your part to help grill (and eat!) 500 hot dogs supplied by the PTA! Help supervise children's games and activities. The sign-up sheet is in the office. Talk with physical education teacher Mr. Burgess, if you want to learn more.

Cookbook Time!

We are creating a Shepherd Elementary Healthy Foods Cookbook and we need your help! Our goal is for each student at Shepherd to bring in one or two of their favorite "healthy" recipe(s) by Friday, June 4.

Students who submit their recipe(s) by the 4th will receive a small prize (prizes are limited, so submit as soon as possible). Students, please be sure to write your name and class on the recipe and submit it to your teacher.

Does your child like to draw or sketch? Do they have a great idea for a Healthy Foods Cookbook? We are currently seeking a student from any grade level at Shepherd to design a front cover for our Healthy Foods Cookbook. Students are asked to submit one regular size (8.5-by-11-inch) design. Students may use crayons, markers or pencils to complete their design.

Entries will be judged for their creativity and how well the artist captures the theme "Let's Move," the name of first lady Michelle Obama's child fitness initiative. Entries are due Thursday, June 10. The judging will take place on June 11, and the winner will be announced at the school's Awards Day ceremonies. On the back of each submission, please include the following: student name, grade and class.



Help Us Buy New Books

Shepherd Elementary would like to raise \$2,500 to purchase approximately 200 new books for use with reading groups and in classrooms and the library. The books will provide students and teachers with the resources they need for reading, research and curriculum supplements.

Shepherd is looking to parents, community members and businesses for help in raising the needed funds. They are participating in a new online fundraising program called Funds4Books, sponsored by Mackin Educational Resources, a school library and classroom vendor with 26 years of experience. For every \$15 donated, the school can purchase a new book that is ready to be shelved and checked out. Most importantly, 100 percent of every donation goes toward the purchase of books. Unlike other fundraising programs and book fairs, this fundraiser doesn't require staff or volunteer time, and all the books are labeled and shipped for free.

To participate, donors go to www.funds4books.com, then login to Shepherd Elementary's personal fundraising page with the code e170. From there, they can donate using a credit card.

GOT SCOOPS?

OUR NEWSLETTER IS

YOUR NEWSLETTER!

The Mustang is an informative newsletter issued weekly on behalf of the whole school community. If you'd like to contribute to it, all you have to do is submit something by e-mail to the newsletter's e-mail address:

sesmustang@gmail.com

and our editing team will get right to work on it.

Used School Uniforms: Start from Scratch

We are starting from scratch with our used uniform clothing. We have donated four laundry-bags worth of used clothing to a church that a Shepherd parent attends. This means that we need used clothing of ALL SIZES for next year's students.

Please wash the clothing before turning it in at the school office. Once turned in, it will be sorted and prepped for sale once the 2010-11 school year gets under way.

Library Corner Reading Challenge Goal Reached!

Last Friday (May 28), we finally topped our year-long, schoolwide goal of 5,000 books read. Congratulations to all the students who participated! Four classes will receive a party to celebrate the fact that they had 100 percent participation: Mrs. Holt's, Mr. Byers', Mrs. Crockett's, and Ms. Laughinghouse's. In addition, four classes will receive special prizes for having the highest total numbers of books read at their respective reading levels: Mrs. Holt's class will receive tickets to a Takoma Thunderbolts baseball game, Mrs. Crockett's class will receive medals, and students in Mrs. Thurber's and Mrs. Valentine-Nelson's classes will each receive a copy of *The Battle of the Labyrinth* (Book 4 in the *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series). The overall winner, who will receive a Borders gift card, is first-grade student Ernestine Lwangu.



JUNE

7—11

SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEK

- ◆ **MONDAY**—Green and Gold Day
- ◆ **TUESDAY**—Imitation Day
- ◆ **WEDNESDAY**—Recycle Day
- ◆ **THURSDAY**—Mix and Match Day
- ◆ **FRIDAY**—Sports Day

Summer 'Work' Available

Filling School's Tree Bags

This spring has been nowhere near as wet as last spring, and even 30 inches of February snow can keep the ground saturated forever. We need families to volunteer for a week or two to fill up the tree bags around the school. The remaining available weeks are:

- July 12 (Mondays)
- July 19
- July 26
- Aug. 9

The task should take no more than an hour and you can do it just about any time that works for you. If you can help, send an e-mail to Mark Pattison at pattison_mark@hotmail.com or call him at 829-9289.

Dress Up Crazy! For Shepherd Spirit Week



Next week, all week, is Spirit Week at Shepherd - and here are some ways students can dress up each day:

- ◆ Monday: Green and Gold Day -- Show your school spirit. Spray your hair, paint your face, dress in school colors from head to toe.
- ◆ Tuesday: Imitation Day -- Dress up as your favorite actor, singer, superhero book character or favorite teacher. The choice is yours. YOU decide who you would like to be for the day.
- ◆ Wednesday: Recycle Day -- Design your own outfit from old newspapers, trash bags, egg cartons, etc. Wear a trash bag dress and milk carton shoes. Show your creativity.
- ◆ Thursday: Mix and Match Day -- Wear one yellow sock and one purple; an orange shirt and a blue and white polka-dot pair of pants. Your job is to make sure you are not matching. How mismatched can YOU be?
- ◆ Friday Sports Day -- Redskins, Cowboys, Lakers or Red Sox. Lions, Tigers and Bears - oh, my! Who's your favorite team? Wear your sports paraphernalia and show your team spirit.

You are Cordially Invited

2010 SHEPHERD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 5TH GRADE GRADUATION

Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 9:30 am

Location: Shepherd Auditorium

2010 SHEPHERD ELEMENTARY AWARDS DAY

Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2010

9:15am— PreK —1st grade

10:15am— 2nd grade—4th grade

Location: Shepherd Auditorium

Stop by Shepherd Saturday For Neighborhood Yard Sale



The annual Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale sponsored by the Shepherd Park Citizens Association takes place this weekend, June 5 and 6. About 50 houses have signed up for the yard sale.

The 14th Street side of Shepherd will be awash in sales, too. Check out the Friends of the Library used book sale table outside the school, with children's books selling for only 25 cents. The highest-priced book on the block goes for just \$1!

June 10th— a Busy Day at Shepherd

Thursday, June 10, will be a busy, busy day for Shepherd students and parents alike.

- First of all, it's Mix and Match Day during Spirit Week. Students are welcome to dress in clashing colors & styles.
- It's also the deadline for students to submit cover-art designs for Shepherd's Healthy Foods Cookbook.
- Then, at noon, it's time for Lunch With the Principal. You don't have to bring your lunch if you don't want to. But do come if you want to get the lowdown on school activities, or to pose questions about school life at Shepherd.
- Next, Local School Restructuring Team's last meeting of the year will be held at 3:55 p.m. The LSRT is a collaborative advisory body for parents, teachers, school staff, community members and the principal to forge a common direction for Shepherd.
- Finally, from 6 to 8 p.m., Mrs. Miles will conduct a Principal's Forum in the school auditorium. This is the time when the principal will reveal which teachers are slated to teach which grades for 2010-11, and other important information relative to the functioning of Shepherd in the days, weeks, months and year ahead.

'The Shepherd Way': Be a Mentor!

The call continues for Shepherd parents to serve as mentors to new parents for 2010. The best way for parents to learn what "The Shepherd Way" is with the guiding hands of parents who have already been there! Please offer your wisdom and your time to benefit new parents. Sign up with Ms. Brooks in the school office, or send an e-mail to her at robyn.a.brooks@dc.gov.

We Need Boxes!

Just like last year, when summer school came to Shepherd Elementary, the Shepherd teachers have to box up their teaching materials to make way for close to 200 summer school and enrichment students. We need boxes of virtually every size. Copy-paper boxes work quite well, but smaller boxes - if they're sturdy - work well for heavy things, and big boxes are ideal for light things. Please bring your boxes to the main office.



Register Your Child!

Following is an alphabetical list of all current Shepherd students who have been registered by their parents for the upcoming school year. If you do not see your child's name on the list, go ASAP to the school office and register them. The form is easy to fill out, and the only other thing you'll need is your proof of D.C. residency - which can be accomplished with a driver's license, voter's registration card, even a utility bill.

Felemon Abebu	Antonino Imbroscio	Casey Ross
Changamire Anderson	Dakota Innis	Charles Ross
Nia Anderson	Jaden Innis	Caleb Schuster
Aaries Askew	Kyle Jackson-Chang	Kelsea Saulny
Jenelle Bethea	Masai Jenkins	Hannah Schuster
Rashad Biddle	Luke Jennings	Naomi Schuster
Theo Biddle	Monique Johnson	Frank Scinto
Frank Borris	Andre Jones	Myra Shalaty
Logan Botvin	Camille Jones	Frank Sheffield
Kamryn Bowman	Grace Kao	Jumel Silver-Rhodes
Kyle Bowman	Everett Keller	Nina Sinkford
Chandler Brossard	Darius King	Nana Sissoko
Gabrielle Brown	Briana Knight	Fama Sissoko
Caleb Bush	Alexander Leonard	Amaya Smith
Samuel Bush	Robert Lewandowski	Priya Smith
Victoria Carter	Madeline Lewis	Madison Swanson
Kadija Cash-Taylor	Ricardo Lindo	Godloves Tata
Kemani Cash-Taylor	Lesly Maradiaga	Marie-Therece Tata
Omari Clarke	Gabrielle McKinley	Cydni Taylor
Ashford Connor	Mattie Melnyk	Efrata Tesfaye
Miles Davis	Zennon Melnyk	Kenneth Thomas
William Davis	Muai-Aakhu Meskheniten	Tyler Thomas
London Downing	SaAnkhezza Meskheniten	Savanna Toure'
Lyndon Downing	Renata Mills	Yonatan Tussa
Nixsovani Gladden	Quin Montgomery	Carson Wheeler
Margaret Goletiani	Taye Moss-Suggs	Micha White
Tiffany Greene	Kayla Muir	Rasheda White
Trinity Greene	David Nwankwo	Elijah Whittle
Wynton Hailey	Cyntia Pattison	Caleb Wilson
Milke Hailu	Zora Pauk	Zaria Wilson
Aniya Hamilton	Bianca Popa	Justin Williams
Kayla Harris-Diggs	Gavin Rasmussen	Sabrina Witter
Anthony Harrison	Deja Redd	Brandon Wright
Aanisha Hasan	Ethan Reece	Jordan Yates
Chanelle Haynes	Amani Richardson	
Romy Herisse	Jean-Pierre Roberts	
Sophia-Rose Herisse	Zoe Roberts	
Valery Hernandez-Gonzalez	Savannah Robinson	
Allison Holmes	Briana Rodriguez-Knight	
Sean Holmes		

School's Open this Summer --And So is the School Office

Even if you're not sending your child to Shepherd's summer school program, you can still conduct business at the school office. Ms. Brooks will be serving as the summer school secretary. If you have mail or forms to deliver or pick up, stop by the office before you head off to work (or come home from work), or while you're running other errands.

You can drop off used cell phones, too, in the purple box in the office. And you can deposit items for the PTA in the PTA box. You also can submit Box Tops for Education coupons in the Box Tops box in the office. Just make sure you include your child's name on a Box Tops Collection Sheet or a plastic baggie.

Neighborhood Library's Summer Reading Program Is Underway

Are your children ready to read for knowledge - and prizes? Then join the annual summer reading program sponsored by the D.C. Public Library. You can sign up at the children's desk. Library hours are 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays-Saturdays, and 1-9 p.m.

Mondays and Wednesdays—Young children mark off every 15-minute stretch that they read - and there's no limit to the number of prizes that can be won. Teen readers are asked to count the number of pages they read of books or magazines. By so doing, one of the later "Harry Potter" books carries a lot more weight than, say, "Temple Hills, Maryland: Vacation Capital of the Mid-Atlantic."

Ready, set, read!



Thank You Corner

To all the administrators,
parents, teachers and stu-
dents that made Family Fun
Day a FUN DAY!!!
The Mustang staff is proud
to call you all family!

In the Thank You Corner, ANYBODY connected with Shepherd Elementary can thank ANYBODY ELSE connected with Shepherd. Just send in your thanks, whatever they are, to sesmus-tang@gmail.com.

If you prefer to stay anonymous, you can. Or, if you want everyone to know you're the one who appreciates someone's good deeds, you can do that, too!

Mustang



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 chair Mark Pattison at 829-9289 or at pattison_mark@hotmail.com.

The Parent Stop

Getting Kids to Love Chores



Are you tired of yelling, bribing and threatening your kids to get them to do their chores?

Many parents are just concerned about getting the job done. It is important that we shift our intent to one of wanting to shape our child's character. When we make this shift we then can be inspirational to our children instead of nags and drill sergeants. Here is how:

1. Stress internal rewards.

When you do a chore share with your child how it makes you feel to get it done. For example, "My room was getting so cluttered that I was starting to feel not good about myself." After he has heard you make several statements like this, start asking him questions that internally motivate him like, "How do you feel about your clean room?" Ask him questions that help him to look inside for the good feelings he has when he has done a job well. Versus saying "You are a good boy", external motivation.

Internal rewards have longer lasting effects than external rewards because he can draw on the good feelings he creates by doing "good works" for the rest of his life. External rewards on the other hand are shallow, fleeting and make your child dependent on the authority figure who dispenses rewards and punishments. External rewards create self-centered children who only do good works if there is something in it for him.

2. Emphasize the joy of doing.

Again you want to model first and then relate it back to them so you might say, "I love how I feel after I have put my all into a project. I feel like I have really accomplished something." Other words you could use are, "I feel like I really contributed or stretched myself or stuck through something that was not pleasant."

3. Point out how good it feels to give 100 %.

Sometimes children do just enough to get by or do a sloppy job. When this happens, don't do the job over for them or criticize their work, or give up on having them do chores. Instead, ask in a light tone of voice. "Did you give this project 100%?" If they say yes, challenge them to do one thing better in a light tone.

4. Teach the importance of being helpful.

Look for opportunities for your child to be helpful in their daily life. For example, if you see an elderly lady struggling with her groceries ask, "How could you be helpful?" When they have been helpful, make sure to ask them how they feel rather than simply praise them. Again, it is helpful to model the behavior several times before you expect them to demonstrate the concept.

Be sure to tell your child how valuable their work is to the whole family. For example, "Thank you for cleaning the family room. It is so much nicer to play games is neat a room."

Children often become compliant or defiant when there is an authority figure. We want them to become self-reliant.

Don't talk about having to do chores. Talk about having opportunities to contribute or "Household Operations!"

5. Accentuate teamwork.

A lot more can get done in a short time if everyone works together. Play a game where you set the timer on for 15 minutes, put on loud music that makes you want to dance and see how much you can get done as a family in 15 minutes. You may need to do this at several intervals a day in order to get everything done. Short segments where you make work fun makes children feel more cooperative.

6. Teach self-reliance.

When we give children chores to do, we teach them to become dependent on an authority figure. Instead, frequently ask, "What needs to be done?" Then follow their lead. This also helps them develop a sense of ownership in the care of the home. Children often become compliant or defiant when there is an authority figure. We want them to become self-reliant.

Another way children can feel self-reliant is to make their own list of what chores they need to do with a checklist for the week. (Younger children may need your help and draw pictures of their chores.) The chart then becomes their guide instead of you having to be the authority figure.

Children have a natural desire to want to help as long as they are not coerced. Make work fun by making a game of it, working together, and by accentuating internal rewards.



**Sending well
wishes to:**

Mrs. Chambliss

Ms. Kuawogai &

Ms. "Tutu" Pierce

**We hope you get
better soon!**

**(Parents can contact the school
office to send cards and flowers.)**

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.

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@yahoo.com](mailto:Shepherd_Elementary_PTA-subscribe@yahoo.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.

Deadline Looms!

for Next Mustang Issue

The deadline for the June 11 issue is Tuesday, June 8, at 5 p.m. Send all contributions to:

sesmustang@gmail.com

You'll be glad you did!

Shepherd Elementary School



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