



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

February 27, 2012

A Word from Mrs. Miles!



Shepherd Families,

I hope this message finds you well as we prepare for another exciting week and bring the month of February to a close. Shepherd continues to remain a

busy place surrounded by a lot of learning experiences for our students. Please continue connecting with your child's teacher frequently so that you will know your students' strengths, areas for growth and how you can support learning at home.

Check In At the Front Desk

I would like to express another sincere thank you to everyone for adapting to our visitor policy. Please be reminded that everyone must check in at the first desk before proceeding throughout the building. This means parents should not go beyond the gymnasium or the cafeteria during drop-off in the morning.

You May Be Asked to Show ID

As mentioned in the last edition of the Mustang, it is difficult to remember every face of every

family member that comes through our doors. In addition, the people at the front desk may not always be the same. Therefore, please continue to show patience if we ask for ID, check our student's registration form, or even call to confirm things before we release a student into your care or the care of a person you have authorized to pick up your student. We are not trying to inconvenience anyone. We are simply striving to keep our students safe. Please look for an Authorization for Pick-Up form coming home with your student this week. Please complete and return this form no later than Thursday.

Read Across America Day (March 2, 2012)

Friday, March 2, is Read Across America Day. This is also a uniform a free day for students. On this day, students may wear their PJs to school, dress up as their favorite story book character or wear their Dr. Seuss hat to school. In addition, all students are required to bring a copy of their favorite book to school so that they may participate in a "Drop Everything and Read" drill. At some undisclosed time during the day, an announcement will be made and everyone in the building is expected to stop wherever they are and read silently for 10 minutes.

(see MILES, p.10)



- ♦ Monday, Feb. 27: Pre-K and out-of-boundary lottery application deadline
- ♦ Wednesday, Feb. 29: School Improvement Team meeting, 5:30 p.m., library
- ♦ Friday, March 2: Jazz Night, 6:30-9:30 p.m., auditorium

Consult the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, for a full array of events and happenings throughout the school year!



Dear Fellow Mustangs,

On February 8, Mr. Giles, the music teacher, held the "Songs of Freedom and Justice" concert at Shepherd Elementary. It is a performance he has been doing for over 12 years. It was a success and everybody had fun! The most important song for me is "We Shall Overcome" because the United States and African-Americans had lots of confidence. Three fourth-grade students commented, "Now, this is a concert worth coming to!" I think parents liked the concert very much, too.

We want to give a BIG thank you to Mr. Kenneth Giles for making this concert happen. He works so hard to make everything a success. When you see Mr. Giles, please give him praise. This concert is a good memory to have when you will be in college. When you will think back about elementary school, you will say "Wow! I remember Mr. Giles and all the concerts that we participated in."

Well, fellow Mustangs, I will see you around the school. Bye!

I encourage you to share cool news tips and comments with me. Please contact me at snherisse@yahoo.com

--Sophia-Rose Herisse, 4th Grade



**Deadline for Next
Mustang Issue**

**Fri, Mar. 9,
at 5 p.m.**

Send all contributions to:
sesmustang@gmail.com

STRING OF SUCCESSES CONTINUE AT SHEPHERD FAMILY DINNER NIGHTS

With a continuous stream of Shepherd customers last Tuesday going to the Outback Steakhouse at PG Plaza, it's time to keep looking east.

Our next Family Dinner Night is set for Tuesday, March 27, at Franklins, 5121 Baltimore Ave. (Route 1) in Hyattsville.

For one thing, it won't just be a "Night." The promotion is good for all day. Franklins opens at 11 a.m. for lunch, and doesn't close its doors for dinner until 10 p.m.

For another thing, it's good for both dine-in and carry-out. Call Franklins at [301-927-2740](tel:301-927-2740) with your order (or send a fax at [301-927-2738](tel:301-927-2738)).

And best of all, the 20 percent rebate the PTA gets applies to your purchases not only at the restaurant but also at the general store next door! There are all sorts of fun things for adults and children, plus an armload of nostalgia and fistfuls of blasts from the past.

But you MUST have with you the flyer in this issue of the Mustang to qualify the PTA for its rebate.

Franklins is classic American cooking, with a brewery on site!



Support Shepherd PTA's



We're On YouTube

Here is the video of our "Songs of Freedom and Justice" concert on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPUBrqknVM&feature=youtu.be>

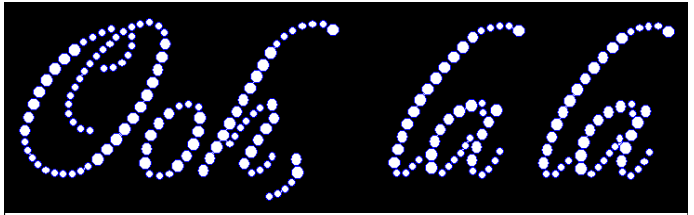
Shepherd Elementary School students, assisted by the D.C. Labor Chorus, sang a concert of songs from American History. Students portrayed characters such as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, and Duke Ellington. Songs covered the anti-slavery movement, the union movement, the eras of blues, jazz, rock, and gospel, and the civil rights movement.

Brief student interviews in the video include: Zoe McCullough, Sophia-Rose Herisse, Kelci Barnette, Layla Brent, Agyeman Nyanteh, Ashford Connor, Masai Jenkins, Benjamin White, Nia Carroll, Justin Williams, Noah White, Steven Adams, Jocelyn Bostic, Lillian Beach, Goodness Ukaegbu, and Savannah Waymer. DVDs of this video will be available soon. Thanks to all (D.C. Labor Chorus, students, parents, our video/audio crew, Shepherd Elementary School staff members, and others) who helped make this possible.

--Mr. Ken Giles, music teacher

SIT Update

Shepherd's School Improvement Team will meet this Wednesday, Feb. 29, 5:30-6:30 p.m., starting in the library. Our agenda will consist largely of a walk-through of the school itself to help identify areas and situations that need physical improvement. If you want to keep informed on the School Improvement Team's activities, please contact its chair, Mark Pattison, at 829-9289 or pattison_mark@hotmail.com.



First call for Paris!

The PTA's annual Gala has taken on a Paris theme – *"An Evening in Paris: The Romance of Giving."*

The amazing thing is that our Paris will be just a block away from Shepherd, at the Washington Ethical Society at 16th and Kalmia. Once you get your mind set on the City of Lights, there's no going back.

What's even more amazing is that, at \$45 a ticket, it costs less to go to the Gala than it does to take a taxi from Charles de Gaulle Airport to the Left Bank (not to mention the flight to Paris and the jet lag).

So think Josephine Baker ... Jacques Brel ... the Hot Club of Paris ... Yves Montand ... the Moulin Rouge ... the Eiffel Tower ... the Arc de Triomphe ... and get ready to have the best time ever!

You will be able to sign your name to an RSVP (repondez s'il vous plait – that's French for "please reply") at Jazz Night (le Nuit du Jazz) on March 2.

This is your notice to look for more exciting Gala news in your child's backpacks and in succeeding issues of the Mustang.

Like the song says, "I love Paris in the springtime." Don't we all!

Wilson High Asks for Our Help --But in a Fun Way, Of Course

Shop at Politics & Prose bookstore the weekend of March 3-4 and raise money for Wilson High School. Dine at nearby Comet Ping Pong or Terasol to raise more money for Wilson!

Come shop at Politics & Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW, Saturday-Sunday, March 3-4 to help raise important revenue for the Wilson PTSA. Politics & Prose will donate 20 percent of all book sales revenue to the PTSA if you tell the cashier that you're a Wilson supporter. In addition, teacher and library "wish lists" will be available at the Wilson table at Politics & Prose, across from the children's section. Support our local public high school by buying books from the wish list to donate to the school.

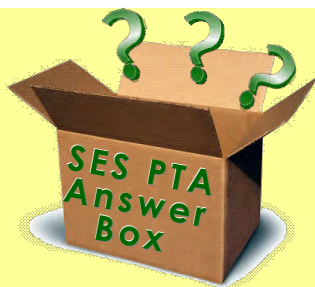


Afterward, dine at nearby Comet Ping Pong or Terasol restaurants, identify yourself as a Wilson supporter, and the restaurant will donate a portion of your tab to the school.

Please urge your friends and neighbors to do their book shopping at Politics & Prose and then eat at Terasol or Comet Pizza March 3-4 to help support Wilson!

Return of the Answer Box

If you've got questions, we'll get answers. Even though we gave answers to dozens of questions submitted at last week's PTA Town Hall – not to mention a teacher-led discussion on testing at Shepherd – whenever a question arises, we'll endeavor to get it answered. Look for an answer or two next issue!



Aftercare Committee Forming

SEEKING PARENTS, TEACHERS AND STAFF FOR AFTERCARE COMMITTEE

We are looking to form an active committee of approximately 8-10 members. This group will provide ideas and oversight about the content and management of the Shepherd aftercare program. This is especially important right now! As most of you know, Ms. Confer currently manages the aftercare program but will be retiring from this part of her position later in the year. Plans are in place to continue aftercare in its present format this school year. However, the structure and content of the aftercare program needs to be determined for next year and beyond. If you are interested in being part of this process, please contact me.

--Jennifer Pauk jpauk@hotmail.com



On Monday, March 12, our fifth graders will hear excerpts of Mozart's opera "Cosi Fan Tutte" at the Kennedy Center. This is made possible through a partnership with the Kennedy Center National Opera. As part of the partnership, Kennedy Center teaching artists visit schools to help students compose, rehearse and perform their own "student operas." Our teaching artist, Nikia Glass, has been working with fifth-grade music classes to help develop performance pieces on three topics: graffiti (urban art), dress codes (school uniforms), and pollution. Our fifth graders will perform their student productions for our fourth graders on March 27 and 29.

Next year, we will continue our partnership with the Kennedy Center so we can take next year's fifth graders to hear excerpts from an opera.

Free Neighborhood Tutoring Still Available on Sundays

The Shepherd-TI Tutoring program is going strong this year, and has space for additional students. Now in its 14th year, the program is having its best year ever, providing free weekly tutoring to up to 30 elementary school students. If you are interested in signing up your child for this very helpful program, please contact the organizer at the information below.



The program meets every Sunday (except holiday weekends) at Tifereth Israel, the local synagogue at the corner of 16th and Juniper Streets. The tutors are adults and teens from the community, including members of the synagogue. We pair up each student with the same tutor for the entire year, and they form a very good relationship that helps fuel the learning. Every week the tutors work with their students on math, reading, vocabulary, current homework, or anything that the child's parent or teacher thinks would be helpful. With standardized testing coming up, the program provides a good opportunity to prepare for those tests. We have a long list of successful alumni of the program, and many parents send their children back year after year for the program, because they find that it does encourage the students in their learning.

The program has additional tutors available, and we would like to put them to work, so please consider the program right away. The program is open to any student whose parents would like them to participate; even if your child is doing well in school, the additional enrichment on the weekend is always helpful. The program is run by Shepherd Park neighbor Dan Nathan, whose two daughters attended Shepherd Elementary, and who works closely with the school in coordinating the program. In the past, some of the program's tutors have come from the families of Shepherd students, such as their parents or older siblings;

Support Jazz Night

Jazz Night is scheduled for:...

Date: Friday, March 2nd

Time: 6:30-9:30pm

Location: Shepherd Elementary School Auditorium

Performing:

- ♦ A blues group from the Archie Edwards Blues Society
- ♦ The Coolidge Jazz Ensemble
- ♦ And a special surprise headliner!

To support Jazz Night, each student is being asked to contribute food or beverage item(s) for the potluck. Meat will be provided by the PTA. To assure a sufficient amount and a variety of selections, each grade is being assigned particular items. Look below for your child's grade and items. We look forward to seeing you at Jazz Night and thank you for your support!



- ♦ Pre-K and K: Appetizers
- ♦ 1st Grade: Drinks
- ♦ 2nd Grade: Side Dishes
- ♦ 3rd Grade: Salads/Vegetables
- ♦ 4th Grade: Dessert
- ♦ 5th Grade: Main Dishes

volunteering in the program is a good source of community service credits. If you know someone who would like to tutor, please put them in touch with Dan. For more information about the program, or to sign up your child, please call Dan at [\(202\) 746-2680](tel:(202)746-2680), or e-mail him at shepherd tutoring@verizon.net.

French Immersion Camp During Spring Break



French Immersion Camp at Alliance Française, 2142 Wyoming Ave. NW, Monday-Friday, April 2-6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for children ages 5-11.

Children will explore French in fun and entertaining ways. All activities and tasks are performed in French with themes that appeal to the participants' age group. They involve songs, mime, tales, games, crafts, films and much more! With learning activities in and outside the classroom, the camp provides a balance of fun activities and relaxing moments with more studious ones.

Participants will bring their lunch. Snack will be provided by the Alliance.

Morning and afternoon day-care are offered 8:30-9 a.m. and 3:30-5:30 p.m. all week long.

For more information contact me at koutouan.gadie@dc.gov.

--Madame Gadie

New on the Website

We've added a new dropdown to the Resources tab of www.shepherd-elementary.org – “Baby-Sitters”! Everybody needs a sitter sometime, and we're still accepting more names to add to our growing roster of sitters.

And on the homepage, we've got the “Songs of Freedom and Justice” video highlights ready for viewing, as well as (for hearing) the WPFW interview conducted with Mr. Giles, the music teacher, and four Shepherd students about the concert. You'll like what you see – and hear.



Girls Basketball Wrap-Up

The Shepherd girls' basketball team ended the season on high note. They went into the second round of the play-offs where they lost to Lafayette. The girls have had a wonderful season and have improved greatly as female athletes in the sport of basketball.



Ms. Moorefield and Ms. Christenberry are proud of all the girls on the team: Mecca Camille, Aries Askew, Saige Ballard, Damia Basil, Goodness Ukaegbu, Kaitlyn Hunter, Savannah Waymer and Margaret Goletiani.

--Ms. Laura Christenberry, co-coach

Shepherd Welcomes Daytime Tutors

The Early Readers program has produced some daytime tutors at our school. On Monday, Feb. 6, tutors participated in an orientation for our first Daytime Tutoring program. The program is being coordinated by Shepherd Elementary. Tutors will provide academic support to 20 students during the day. The program began Feb. 7 and will continue to the end of the school year.

Mrs. Jamie Miles, principal proclaimed, “Shepherd is delighted to have this addition to our school.”

Many of the tutors have years of experience in this area, which is a big advantage for our students. We are grateful for their presence and look forward to the academic gains for our students and school. Our volunteer tutors are Jackie Holt, Valerie Mann, Monroe Newman and Tamara Prince.

—Submitted by Concha Johnson
(Principal Intern)

From the French Room

“La table française” is a table where students and I have lunch once a week in my room from 11:40 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. At this table, students share their regular meal from the cafeteria but, and more importantly, we speak only in French and share a special treat from France or a French-speaking country.

Our first table was Feb. 15. We had a great time eating and having conversation in French. Students shared la Madeleine (a French cake), and received one to take home.

I invite all the students who want to take a step forward using and practicing their French vocabulary or improve their fluency to participate in “la table française.” A sign-in sheet is in my room and students can sign to reserve a spot.

Any questions, please contact me at koutouan.gadie@dc.gov.



--Madame Gadie, French teacher

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

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Shepherd's
FAMILY
DINNER
NIGHT



5121 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD
[Baltimore Ave. (Route 1) at Gallatin St.
in the Heart of Historic Hyattsville]

Tuesday, Mar. 27
11 a.m-10 p.m.

→ **You MUST Bring This Flyer!** ←
The PTA gets 20% of your pre-tax tab!

Good for BOTH — the Restaurant
and the General Store Next Door!

Check out the menu at

<http://www.franklinbrewery.com/our-specials/>



Good for Dine-In and Carry Out (PH: 301.927.2740)

JAZZ MUSICIANS FACED HISTORIC ABUSE

Jazz musicians have been—and continue to be—among the most abused of professional performers, writes Todd Bryant Weeks in a Black History Month feature for the latest edition of *Allegro*, the magazine of American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada (AFM) Local 802 in New York.

From the days of traveling vaudeville and tent shows through to the civil rights movement and beyond, jazz musicians—especially black musicians—have been subjected to second-class citizenship, particularly in the Deep South.

“Jazz musicians have been—and continue to be—among the most abused of professional performers”

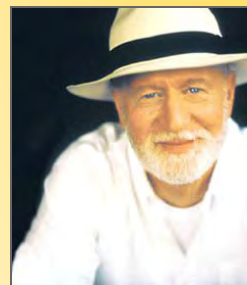
Some of the greatest figures of the past century were among the most exploited, or were effectively discarded when they grew old and could not earn a living.

Managers, promoters, agents, producers and club owners regularly stole from performers by claiming writing, arranging and other recording credits, shorting players on royalties and other payments, Weeks writes. In 1938, the legendary Joe “King” Oliver, “perhaps the most influential American jazz musician before Louis Armstrong, a renowned performer with an international reputation, was discovered in Atlanta, destitute and working as a street vendor.”

But even today, jazz musicians continue to face hardships. In New York City, jazz club owners, who are beneficiaries of a tax relief bill championed by Local 802 that was expected to be used to help fund musicians’ pensions and other benefits, have refused to put the money toward benefits.


Jazz Night Celebrates... Mose Allison

Mose John Allison Jr. (born Nov. 11, 1927, Tippecanoe, Miss.) is an American jazz blues pianist and singer.



Allison played piano in grammar school and trumpet in high school. He went to college at the University of Mississippi for a while, then enlisted in the Army for two years. Fresh out of the Army, he enrolled at Louisiana State University, from which he was graduated in 1952 with a BA in English with a minor in philosophy. It was at that point that he moved to New York City and launched his jazz career performing with artists such as Stan Getz, Gerry Mulligan, Al Cohn, Zoot Sims, and Phil Woods. His debut album, “Back Country Suite” was issued on the Prestige label in 1957. He has since issued more than 40 other albums, including compilations and concert recordings. Allison has also performed at Blues Alley in Georgetown over the Labor Day weekend for several years. His music has influenced many blues and rock artists, including Jimi Hendrix, the Rolling Stones, Tom Waits, the Yardbirds, John Mayall, J. J. Cale, and the Who (who made “Young Man Blues” a staple of their live performances and used it to open their original “Live at Leeds” album).

Jazz Night is this Friday, March 2, in the auditorium. Come by with the kids and a dish to pass. It’s all free, starting at 6:30 p.m. and ending at 9:30 p.m. Stay long enough, and you just might be in our own New Orleans-style second line!



Shepherd IB PYP Corner

Last week, Shepherd celebrated Carnival as they do in New Orleans. The carnival we celebrated was Mardi Gras. Mardi Gras, otherwise known as "Fat Tuesday," is the last day of the Carnival season. Mardi Gras this year fell on Tuesday, Feb. 21, and Shepherd staff and students ate "King Cake" as we observed a tradition and learned more about Carnival. Inside every King Cake is a tiny plastic baby. Sometimes the tiny baby might be made of porcelain or even gold. The tradition for eating King Cake on Fat Tuesday developed over time. The tradition states that the person who gets the slice of cake with the baby is asked to continue the festivities by hosting the next King Cake party. Congratulations to Mr. Giles, this year's king, and Ms. Ulba, this year's queen, who were the two individuals that got the baby in their slice of cake.

Madame Gadie and Senorita Moore taught the students about Carnival, and gave them the opportunity to make masks, flowers, and decorations throughout the week. We closed out the week with students in pre-K through first grade who paraded through the hallways visiting each of the second, third, fourth and fifth grade classes. At the end of the parade the students gathered in the cafeteria and enjoyed a snack.

Black History Month

This month, students became more knowledgeable about Black History through trivia during the morning announcements. Students won prizes daily as they participate in answering the daily trivia. The answers for Trivia Questions in the last issue of the Mustang are:

(see IB Corner, p. 12)

Dear Shepherd
Parents and
Caregivers,



I must admit that what I said in the last Mustang about prep for the upcoming Jazz Night didn't come about. Instead first graders had fabulous fun making paper airplanes to prove the existence of air; second graders are making animal puppets in order to bring their fable studies to life; and third graders are starting self-portraits that will characterize themselves as 'notable people.' In addition, there are kindergarten portraits of Lincoln and Washington, pre-K sun and moon paintings, and fifth grade "graffitied" names. Fourth graders are beginning "Weather Landscape Murals."

So with all that, jazz painting was put on hold. However, this week we will be jammin' with our brushes and paint, to the bebop-era music of saxophonist Sonny Stitt, whom this year's Jazz Night honors. Abstract painting has deep connections to jazz and our work will show you how. I will need lots of help mounting our jazz artwork from about 4 p.m. Friday onward. So come on down... and get down.

See ya on Jazz Night. Be there or be square!

Coolly yours,

Ms. Michaud, jazz fan

MILES from p. 1 _____

Parents, if you are in the building you will be expected to participate in the drill so make sure you are “armed” with your favorite book because you never know when the announcement will be made.

Curriculum Matters

Help us strengthen your students’ comprehension skills by trying one of the grade specific activities below with your students at home.

Pre-K and Kindergarten – Read Arnold Lobel’s *Owl at Home* and Edward Lear’s poem “The Owl and the Pussycat.” Help your student compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of the two owls.

First Grade: After reading Arnold Lobel’s *Frog and Toad Together*, have your student retell the story. During their retelling, they should be able to identify the key message or lesson of the story without prompting (e.g., how friends are able to solve problems together or how hard work pays off).

Second through Fifth Grade (Constructed Response): At Shepherd, students in grades 2-5 are provided with constructed response questions to answer. A constructed response is a type of open-ended essay question that demonstrates cognitive knowledge and reasoning. The answer must be provided using information that can be found in a particular text or other essay prompt (map, picture, graphic organizer, etc.), and is not meant to demonstrate opinion, but to show how you are able to extract information and use this as the basis for forming a complete answer. Students will encounter constructed response questions on standardized tests beginning in second grade all the way up to college placement exams such as the SAT or ACT. We teach our students how to answer constructed response questions by teaching them the RACE strategy. The acronym RACE stands for Restate, Answer, Cite and Explain. If you are able to restate a question, provide an answer using evidence cited from the prompt given, and then explain how that evidence does, in fact, support the answer, students will do well.

Due to limited space, sample text from each grade level is not provided here. However, as an example, below is a constructed response question from the story the *Three Little Pigs*. In the upcoming weeks we will provide you with more examples of questions and sample text.

Constructed Response Question: Based on what you have read from the story *The Three Little Pigs*, explain how the author shows the wolf was determined. Explain your answers using evidence from the text.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Jamie Miles

Principal

Shepherd Elementary School Mission:

At Shepherd, we are committed to the advancement of students’ academic, emotional, social and physical well being. We, as a community, will provide students with a safe, supportive, creative, and flexible environment in which children think and learn globally and act compassionately.

Shepherd School Pledge



Today is a new day!

I will respect the rights of others.

I will treat all property with respect.

I will take responsibility for my learning.

I will take responsibility for my actions.

I will act in a safe and healthy way.

Today I will be the best me I can be!

SHEPHERD CARNIVAL

Shepherd Elementary students and staff celebrated Carnival on Friday, February 24. The students represented three different areas. They threw flowers for France. They wore black and mourned the last day of Carnival for Spain. They also represented America with the three colors of Madi Gras: purple, green and gold.

The ceremony started at 2 p.m. Students gathered in the auditorium. They started the parade inside the building. They carried their floats for onlookers to see. The students gave candy and flowers.

As the students passed, the music was blasting and students and teachers in the classes danced, sang and partied in the hallway.

At the end, they all shared snacks and had a good time. Thank you to the parents, teachers and staff for your support and contributions. A fun time was had by all! See you next year!

-- The Language Team



IB Corner from p. 9 _____

1. Carter G. Woodson started Negro History Week in 1926 through this organization that he founded in 1915. What is the full name of the organization or its initials? *ASNLH or Association for the Study of Negro Life and History.*
2. Who was the first African woman in North America to be elected mayor? *Daurene Lewis, Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, Canada, 1984.*
3. This person campaigned for freedom and justice in South Africa and spent 20 years in jail for his opposition to apartheid. *Nelson Mandela.*
4. This person is known as the world's greatest footballer ever. *Pele (in the U.S. we call it "soccer," but in most other nations it is known as football or "futbol.")*
5. This person rose to become secretary general of the United Nations and won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2001. *Kofi Annan.*

Congratulations to Ms. Ulba's students for being the first class to turn in the correct answers for all five questions. They will enjoy their pizza party at the end of the month.

The Learner Profile for the month of March is Balanced. A balanced individual understands the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional equilibrium to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others. Parents please help and encourage your child to maintain a balanced lifestyle.

Have a super week!

Sandra Hart, IB Coordinator

Box Tops Are Tops!

Yes, Shepherd, we are still collecting Box Tops for Education!

You don't even have to wait to fill up a completed Box Tops Collection Sheet to contribute. Just put your clipped Box



Tops into a Ziploc-style sandwich-size bag and include your child's name, teacher and grade. The last step is to put them into the Box Tops Box in the school office!



Shepherd Elementary School



7800 14th Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20012
Office Telephone: 202-576-6140
Office Fax: 202-723-0011

Jamie Miles, Principal – jamie.miles@dc.gov
Robyn Brooks, Admin. Assistant – robyna.brooks@dc.gov
Bianca Bostic, PTA President

The Mustang Newsletter Editor: Mark Pattison

Layout/Design: Yolonda Walden

Production/Distribution: Angela Anderson

Student Contributor: Sophia-Rose Herisse

Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to:
SESmustang@gmail.com