



Shepherd Elementary School

# THE MUSTANG



Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

October 29, 2012

- ▶ **Monday, Oct. 29:** Spirit Days — Pink Out Day for Cancer Awareness Month
- ▶ **Tuesday, Oct. 30:** Spirit Days — Dress Your Best
- ▶ **Wednesday, Oct. 31:** Spirit Days — Book Character Dress-Up Day  
Halloween Parade, Shepherd Field, 6 p.m.
- ▶ **Thursday, Nov. 1:** School Enrollment Audit, 9:15 a.m.
- ▶ **Friday, Nov. 2:** Walk for the Homeless  
Half-day — out at 12:15 p.m.
- ▶ **Monday, Nov. 5:** Chat and Chew With the Principal, 9-10:30 a.m.  
Loose Change Collection Starts (through Nov. 16)  
BWL Band tryouts (through Nov. 8)
- ▶ **Tuesday, Nov. 6:** Election Day; student council elections, too!
- ▶ **Thursday, Nov. 8:** Curriculum Night, 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ **Friday, Nov. 9:** Reading Pep Rally

Consult the school website, [www.shepherd-elementary.org](http://www.shepherd-elementary.org), for a full array of events and happenings throughout the school year!



## A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Shepherd Families!

### Get Caught Reading

Every parent who attended their child's parent-teacher conference should know their child's reading level, their child's reading goal, and at least one thing you can do at home to help your child meet or exceed their reading goal. If not, please email your teacher today and be sure to copy me on the email. Every parent and student is expected to know where they are, where they are going and have a plan to get there.



How many books did your student read last week? While reading to your student or listening to your student read, what reading strategies did you apply? Did you encourage your student to make connections, did you ask them questions, did you have them make predictions or inferences or did you have them retell? Remember the key to being a good reader is more than calling words. Good readers also know how to ask and answer questions about what they have read or heard.

### Lost and Found

Please be reminded that the Lost and Found is currently located in the main office. Items collected will be held for one week before they are donated to a local shelter.

### Dismissal

Thank you for adhering to arrival and dismissal procedures. Please be reminded that we do

(see MILES, p. 10)

## Mustang Changing to Every Other Week

Effective with next week's issue, dated Nov. 5, the Mustang will publish every other week. There will be no Mustang for the week of Nov. 12. The next issue would be dated Nov. 19. It will still be chock full of news and happenings around school.



## Extra! Extra! READ All About It! Family Literacy Night Is Tuesday

Shepherd Elementary has begun a push to get 90 percent of its students reading at "proficient" or "advanced" levels.



If you want your child to be part of the 90 percent -- and part of the 90 percent -- then make your way to the auditorium on Tuesday for Family Literacy Night. It starts at 6:45 p.m. Shepherd teachers and staff will go over strategies for parents to use in boosting their child's love for reading, increasing their reading proficiency levels and other helpful ways to make every Shepherd household a household that loves to read.

Once we learn to read, then we read to learn. Now that you've learned about Family Literacy Night, make plans to attend!

## Loose Change Collection Will Start Next Week

It's been a Shepherd mainstay: the Loose Change Collection. It helps teach our students about generosity and being helpful to the poor in our midst.



Each year, half of the Loose Change Collection (and it all doesn't have to be change) is donated to the principal, who in turns gives it to Shepherd Elementary families she knows are having a tough time making ends meet. The other half of the collection is reserved for Shepherd Elementary's own needs.

It's a great way, also, to teach your student some basic math addition before toting those coins to the canister that will be placed in each classroom.

The Loose Change Collection will take place for two weeks, ending Friday, Nov. 16.

## Election Day and Early Voting News

If you were a Shepherd parent four years ago, you may remember the long lines outside Shepherd Elementary as residents patiently waited in lines for two-and-a-half hours to cast ballots in a historic election.



Shepherd Elementary once again will be a polling place on Tuesday, Nov. 6, Election Day, for Precinct 62 in Ward 4, which includes just about all of the Shepherd in-boundary attendance area. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day. Will there be huge lines like we saw in 2008? Or just the 40-minute lines we experienced just before the lunch period in the 2004 presidential election?

One hint: Lines are shorter in the late afternoon and evening, but you may want to factor in enough time to vote first before you pick up your child from Star Achievers Aftercare. Or, you can take your child to the polls to witness your participation in democracy.

Another hint: Take part in early voting. There is one early-voting site in each ward. Ward 4's site is the Takoma Recreation Center, 300 Van Buren St. NW. Hours are 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29-Saturday, Nov. 3.

## Newsletter DEADLINE

The deadline for the next issue of the Mustang is Friday, Nov. 2, at 5 p.m. Please have your material cover the next TWO weeks, as the Mustang shifts to an every-other-week schedule. Send your items to [sesmustang@gmail.com](mailto:sesmustang@gmail.com).

Send submissions no later than  
5 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 2, to  
[sesmustang@gmail.com](mailto:sesmustang@gmail.com)



## GET READY FOR AFFINITY WEEK!

The week of Nov. 12, Shepherd families will be able to take part in three different rebate programs to help the PTA.

The first is at Ledo Pizza on Monday, Nov. 12. Yes, even though it's an off-day from school due to Veterans Day, everybody knows how to get to Ledo Pizza on Georgia Avenue. This Family Dinner Night will run 4-10 p.m. and will be good for both dine-in and carry-out options (call 202-726-5336). We'll get 20 percent back from your pre-tax tab. Just say, "I'm with Shepherd!"



The second is Friday, Nov. 16, at Nando's Peri-Peri in downtown Silver Spring. Nando's specializes in South African chicken from down Johannesburg way with its select blend of Portuguese spices and seasonings. The address is 924 Ellsworth Dr. If you park in the Wayne Avenue garage off Georgia Avenue, make your way to Ellsworth and then head LEFT. Nando's is practically right there. And with every kids' meal ordered, there's free frozen yogurt. The hours of this Family Dinner Night are 5-11 p.m. and if you say "I'm With Shepherd" to the person who seats you, the PTA will get 20 percent back on your tab — and adult beverages are on the menu!



We chose Nov. 16 for the Family Dinner Night at Nando's because that's the same evening we're doing our annual "Fun-Raiser" at Color Me Mine, just a block away at 823 Ellsworth Dr. The PTA will get 25 percent of all sales at Color Me Mine between 6-10 p.m. It costs \$20 to reserve a table to paint your pottery choices, and you can seat four at a table. Call 301-565-5105 to make your table reservation. So bring a playmate and make it a play date. Have some dinner at Nando's before, or after, your visit to Color Me Mine, and do your part to help the school in a BIG way!



By Ken Giles, Music Teacher

Kenneth.Giles@dc.gov

### Music Class Songs

In the next couple of weeks, music students will hear and sing several types of songs that show "dynamics" (loud and soft) or International Baccalaureate topics. For example, students will hear excerpts from Haydn's "Surprise Symphony" and from Grieg's "Hall of the Mountain King." These dramatic classical pieces tell stories with loud/soft sounds and faster tempos.



Our second graders will watch Michael Jackson's "Earthsong" and think about animals and plants in the rainforest and how we can help save them. Third graders will learn about adaptation by three musicians who overcame disabilities: Evelyn Glennie (deaf percussionist), Ray Charles (blind singer/songwriter), and Stevie Wonder (blind composer/pianist/singer). Our fourth graders will hear the coal-mining saga of "John Henry" as they consider how rocks and minerals affect our lives. And fifth graders will listen to songs about the experiences of Native Americans during the era of westward expansion.



In a future column, I'll give a preview of our holiday concert, scheduled for Wednesday evening, Dec. 5.

## Spirit Days Continue

We've got three more Spirit Days on the calendar this week.



**Monday, Oct. 29**, is "Pink Out Day." Even with no school, wear something pink in solidarity with Cancer Awareness Month.



**Tuesday, Oct. 30**, is "Dress Your Best Day." You know the sharp clothes you've got in the closet. Put 'em on! Coincidentally, it's also Awards Day, so your students will look their best when they pick up their awards.



**Wednesday, Oct. 31**, is "Book Character Dress-Up Day." Choose a book character and dress up as that character. BUT .... you've got to bring the book you base your wardrobe choice on. So, say, if you dress up like Eloise, you'd better have an "Eloise" title in your backpack. Or, if you want to dress up like that bundled-up lad in "The Snowy Day," bring that book instead.



## First Chat and Chew With Principal Is Next Monday

Mrs. Miles will have a pair of "Chat and Chew With the Principal" sessions

*Principal's*  
**Chat and Chew**

next month, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The morning session will take place Monday, Nov. 5, at 9 a.m., If you can't make it, the afternoon session will take place two weeks later, on Monday, Nov. 19, at 5 p.m. Both sessions should last about an hour and a half. Learn the latest on the school's instructional and discipline plans while engaging in lively conversation and tasty treats.

## BWL Band Tryouts Next Week

Tryouts for the BWL Band will be held for third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students the week of Nov. 5-8 at 12:30 p.m. Come prepared! All audition sessions will be in the auditorium except for the Nov. 6 tryouts on account of the auditorium being used for Election Day voting.

- ▶ Percussion tryouts will be Monday, Nov. 5.
- ▶ Guitar tryouts will be Tuesday, Nov. 6.
- ▶ Piano tryouts will be Wednesday, Nov. 7.
- ▶ Dancer tryouts will be Thursday, Nov. 8.



If you are interested, please arrive promptly at 12:30 p.m. and be ready to shine!

## Awards Day Tuesday

See which students in your child's class are winning awards for their work in language arts, math, science, foreign languages, International Baccalaureate learner profiles; who's been bringing up their grades; who's been a Terrific Kid – and more.



There are two Awards Day programs, back to back on Tuesday, Oct. 30. Students from pre-K through second grade will have a ceremony at 9 a.m., and students in third through fifth grades will have a ceremony starting at 9:50 a.m. It's also Dress Your Best Day, so if your scholar wins an award, he or she is going to be tailor-made for a photograph or three!

## Halloween Happenings in the Neighborhood

Remember, there's a Halloween Parade on Halloween night at Shepherd Field. The parade starts at 6 p.m. sharp to allow trick-or-treaters and their parents to arrive safely to the field, and depart before dark settles in to begin their trick-or-treating rounds. Glow sticks will be distributed to the first lucky kids who arrive at the field, and trick-or-treaters will get a head start on their treat collection when they walk the one lap around the blue oval track of the field. For parents and other grown-ups accompanying the trick-or-treaters, there will be an address list handed out with the addresses of more than 100 homes in the neighborhood – on both sides of 16th Street – that are giving out treats. The sheet will also contain the addresses of the houses that participated in this year's neighborhood house and pumpkin decorating contest.



By now, all students should have received a flattened Trick or Treat for UNICEF box in their backpacks. If not, there should be extra boxes in the office. We're asking parents and students to bring the boxes back to school ASAP after Halloween so that their collection can be sent to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF.



Happy Halloween, Mustangs!

It's hard to believe it's that time of year again. What are you going to dress up as? The Shepherd Halloween Parade will be on the lower field at 6 p.m. on the 31st (and I cannot wait!).

In other news, the Shepherd cross-country team ran our first meet on Oct. 20. We all had so much fun (even though we were really tired in the end). The track is 2 miles long through the woods. There was a point where all the runners had to go single file.

Also, there is going to be a concert on Wednesday, Dec. 5. The free concert is at 6:45 p.m. Recorder players and violinists will play some familiar holiday tunes. Then Christylez Bacon will join our violinists to perform "Pachelbel's Canon." The concert will end with several songs from the holiday season.

--Colyar Trimble, fifth-grader

## Enrollment Audit Thursday

Did you know that Shepherd has about 335 students registered this year?

Did you now that on Thursday morning, the first of November, we've got to account for them all – and that we're at risk of losing funding for students we can't physically track?

That's what's at stake in the annual Enrollment Audit run by D.C. Public Schools. Shepherd's audit will begin at 9:15 a.m. To make sure we get every dollar that's coming to us, make sure the students in your household are in school, on time, and where they're supposed to be.

**Important  
Notice**



## *The Handbook Says:* **More on The International Baccalaureate**

### **IB Learner Profiles**



The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

IB learners strive to be:

- **Inquirers** - They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.
- **Knowledgeable** - They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.
- **Thinkers** - They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.
- **Communicators** - They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.
- **Principled** - They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.
- **Open-minded** - They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal

histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

- **Caring** - They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.
- **Risk-takers** - They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.
- **Balanced** - They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.
- **Reflective** - They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

### **What is different about the PYP?**

The goals of the PYP are consistent with the philosophy and goals of Shepherd in providing an international education. Its framework and emphasis on inquiry learning allows us to achieve these effectively. It demands a true partnership between students, teachers and parents in the school community.

- ▶ Children are actively engaged in in-depth exploration of issues and themes of universal significance.
- ▶ The curriculum is designed to develop students who reflect a learner profile of attitudes and learning which will allow them to

(see PYP, p. 7)

**PYP** from p. 6\_\_\_\_\_

participate to better advantage in the world they will enter as adults.

- ▶ The PYP classroom is student-centered, while teacher-directed. Students are encouraged and developed to be active learners and critical thinkers.
- ▶ Students are encouraged to initiate socially responsible action based on their learning.

### How will my child be assessed?

All assessment of student work in the PYP is carried out by your child's teachers. There are no externally set examinations or externally moderated work. Your child will be assessed in many ways. Shepherd uses a variety of school-based assessments, including student/teacher/parent conferences, writing samples, structured observations and performance tasks, tests and formal assessments. Most importantly, your child will be involved in developing the criteria of assessment with the teacher and will understand how he/she will be assessed before many assessments take place. This partnership will engender a much greater understanding of assessment, develop better self-assessment, and raise personal achievement expectations. This is part of the PYP goal to increase students' awareness of their own learning.

### Why has Shepherd adopted the PYP?

- The PYP curriculum is a framework that fits the mission, philosophy and goals of our school.
- The curriculum is based on sound knowledge and understanding about how children learn and how the brain works.
- It allows us to have considerable flexibility in the choice of content and topics that our children will study as appropriate to our school.
- It engages our children in the kind of learning that they will continue throughout their lives.

## More Students Joining the TV/Video Game Turnoff Club

More students, with the encouragement of their parents, are joining the TV/Video Game Turnoff Club. It's no wonder why. With the school's concerted effort to have students learn to read and love to read, who has time for a video game or a TV show when there are books just waiting to be read and explored?



Here's the latest batch of Club members, and what they say they're going to do with their newfound free time:

*"I am going to read and draw pictures."* – Carlisse Agee, third grade

*"Studying, reading and playing with my little brother."* – Micah Stovall, second grade

*"Sports, board games, and play with my brother."* – Masai Jenkins, third grade

*"Read, homework, swim practice."* – Frank Sheffield, fifth grade

*"Read and write stories, do homework, work on puzzles, visit the library."* – Chyna Holloway, first grade

*"Read, practice handwriting, take a walk two days a week, and help my mom around the house."* – Malchiah Marable, first grade

- It connects our school to a wider international school network and an internationally respected educational organization, thus stimulating and facilitating continuous school improvement.
- It allows for easier transfer of students to and from the ever-increasing number of schools offering PYP or similar programmes.

(Parents: To see the entire handbook, go to <http://www.shepherd-elementary.org/parents/studentparent-handbook/>)

## Walk for the Homeless Is Friday

Shepherd Elementary and Hope and a Home invite you to participate in an important event about children and homelessness. On Friday, Nov. 2, Hope and a Home will partner with Shepherd Elementary in the annual Walk for the Homeless event. Shepherd has been our wonderful partner in this event for more than 15 years. This year our goal is to raise a total of 1,000 walkers through our partnerships with Shepherd Elementary and other groups. As an award, when we reach our goal, Hope and a Home will receive a \$10,000 donation from Fannie Mae, the organizer of the Walk events.



Hope and A Home program offers housing to homeless families and works with parents to help them complete their education, improve their job skills, and learn to manage family finances.

In partnership with the Fannie Mae Foundation's Help the Homeless program, this event will help Hope and a Home raise funds that are greatly needed to carry on their work with families.



Your child should have already received their free registration form, but we are asking if any parent would like to donate and become a registered walker for this event, we encourage you, your relatives, even your pets to join the team. Again we are striving to reach our goal of 1,000 walkers which will earn us the \$10,000 to go towards all of our programs and families. If you would like to donate and participate, the suggested amount is \$30 for adults, \$20 for students, and \$35 to be a virtual walker (for those that choose to be sponsor and not walk). Please follow the instructions below:

- ▶ Click the following link to be directed to the Shepherd Walk Team Page:  
[http://www.hthwalks.org/site/TR/Walk/General?team\\_id=19021&pg=team&fr\\_id=1746](http://www.hthwalks.org/site/TR/Walk/General?team_id=19021&pg=team&fr_id=1746)
- ▶ Select "Join this Team" and complete registration process

For details contact Mary Jo Schumacher at [mschumacher@hopeandahome.org](mailto:mschumacher@hopeandahome.org).



Dear Shepherd Parents and Caregivers,

It occurs to me that many parents do not know I am part time and that the time I spend on conference days is my own and unpaid. This is not a complaint by any means. I just want the school community to know how much I value communication with parents. It is for the same reason that I welcome your emails -- any day, any time.

Art activities for the first IB thematic units have drawn to a close and it is so great to share with you how our work turned out. Art work is made to be seen. Working as a half-time teacher with a loaded schedule prevents me from being as timely as I would like in displaying your children's artworks. It is thanks to parents like Nadine Kearns and Sabine Nérée Hérisse, who volunteered last week to help me mount student artwork, that made it possible to put all grade levels of student art on display. Come on up to art room to see it. It looks great!

The IB curriculum is one that demands in-depth, arts-integrated teaching and thereby much planning and design. This framework also requires us to teach character-building and caring. So I ask that you show "caring" to the art program if at all possible with your busy schedules. Volunteer an hour to help in the art room. You need no arts skills and it might be fun! If you can give some time to art, "e" me at [joele.michaud@dc.gov](mailto:joele.michaud@dc.gov).

Homework is important for practice and for art grades for students in third, fourth and fifth grades. It is vital that kids have a sketchbook to use for these assignments. Remember <http://teacherweb.com/DC/Shepherd/Art> for assignments.

Remember that you can email me with questions, comments, and concerns anytime at [joele.michaud@dc.gov](mailto:joele.michaud@dc.gov).

Here's to an artful week. Remember, you gotta have art!

--Ms. Joele Michaud, art teacher



## A+ School Rewards for Shepherd

If you haven't registered your Giant card for the A+ School Rewards Program yet, then you've missed out on rewards for Shepherd. Each school year you must register your Giant card to earn points for Shepherd from the A+ School Rewards Program. This year's program began Oct. 5. Don't miss out any longer! Register your Giant Card today at [https://www.giantfood.com/our\\_stores/bonus\\_bucks/designate\\_school.htm?execution=e4s1](https://www.giantfood.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/designate_school.htm?execution=e4s1). It's really easy and doesn't take much time. You'll have to supply your Giant card number and Shepherd's School ID, which is 00154. If you do not know your number, you will need to call the Giant hotline at 1-877-366-2668, option 2.



Just a little bit of your time can mean big rewards for our school.

## Are You An Online Shopper?

Make your online purchases go farther by shopping at the [Box Tops for Education Marketplace](#). Over 175 retailers will give eBox Tops to Shepherd when you shop online at the [Box Tops for Education Marketplace](#). Some of the participating program retailers include Aeropostale, Best Buy, Gap, Justice, Macy's, Old Navy, PetSmart, Sears, The Children's Place, Toys R Us, and Walmart. Simply register at [Box Tops For Education](#) and navigate to the Marketplace section.



Any purchases made from this page will result in Box Tops for Shepherd! If you are shopping online, take advantage of this great opportunity to earn more rewards for our school!

Shop at the [Box Tops for Education Marketplace](#) today!

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT



### Ledo Pizza

7435 Georgia Ave, NW  
(next to McDonald's  
between Geranium and Hemlock Streets)

**Monday, November 12**  
**4-10 p.m.**

→ **SAY "I'M WITH SHEPHERD!"** ←  
The PTA gets 20% of your pre-tax bill!

Check out their new menu items!

[www.ledopizza.com/menu.cfm](http://www.ledopizza.com/menu.cfm)



Good for Dine-In and Carryout (PH: 202-726-5336) [www.ledopizza.com/menu.cfm](http://www.ledopizza.com/menu.cfm)

**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!

**PRINCIPAL** from p. 1\_\_\_\_\_

not dismiss students from the main office between 3 and 3:30 p.m. If a circumstance presents itself and you need for your student to be dismissed early, please arrive before 3 p.m. The following are our dismissal locations: carpool -- hallway by the library; aftercare -- cafeteria; pick-up by parent -- gymnasium. In addition, please do not call the office and request for your student to report to the office because you are on your way. There have been several cases where students have sat and waited in the office for more than 30 minutes. This is time our students can be in the classroom engaged in instruction. Please plan accordingly and allow yourself time for your student to be called when you arrive, pack, and get escorted to the main office.

Have a great week!

Warmest regards,  
*Jamie B. 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.

**SAFETY PATROL TRAFFIC TIPS**

This Wednesday is Halloween. Every neighborhood will have lots of kids trick-or-treating. This means adults on the road must exercise great caution when driving. Please: No speeding! When you come to a stop sign, come to a FULL STOP – no rolling stops. If you see trick-or-treaters trying to cross a street, give THEM the right of way.



Next week, remember to set your clocks BACK an hour as America goes back to Standard Time. While this means everyone gets an extra hour of sleep Saturday night, it will change the dynamics of driving and walking to school. It will be brighter earlier in the morning, which means the sun will come at you from a different angle when you drive. This means the sun will set an hour earlier, too, making a majority of Shepherd students being picked up from aftercare in darkness. Please practice traffic safety to and from school, and in-between, too.

**Shepherd Elementary School**

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