



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

February 19, 2013



► **Wednesday, Feb. 20:** PTA Town Hall, 6:35 p.m., auditorium

► **Friday, Feb. 22:** Jazz Night, 6:30-9:30 p.m., auditorium

► **Monday, Feb. 25:** Parent-teacher conferences; no classes
Pre-K lottery deadline

► **Thursday, Feb. 28:** Family Dinner Night, The Daily Dish, 5-9 p.m.

► **Thursday, March 7:** Spring pictures (no uniform requirement)

► **Saturday, May 18:** Annual Gala, "Feria de Sevilla," Wilson High School



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

Parent-Teacher Conferences Next Monday

Parent-teacher conferences will be held all day next Monday, Feb. 25, starting as early as 8 a.m. Your teacher, if it hasn't happened already, should be circulating a list via email asking parents for their scheduling preferences. Often it's first-come, first-serve, so get your bids in early. While you're at school to talk to your child's homeroom teacher, consider looking up their "specials" teachers to get a good fix on student progress in all subjects.

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings, Shepherd Families!

A Day On, Not a Day Off

Friday was a Professional Development Day for Shepherd staff. Special area teachers and Pre-K teachers spent the day off site increasing their knowledge in their content areas. Kindergarten through fifth-grade teachers spent the day at Shepherd learning and reflecting. The first session teachers attended was called: Application Real World and Interdisciplinary Connections. Teacher reflected on their math practices and learned how to better align their instruction with the type of instruction required with the adoption of the Common Core Math standards. On page 9 is a summary of what Math Application is -- and what it is not. During the second session teachers had an opportunity to look at their math standards and discuss how they can use manipulatives to increase student understanding. The third session focused on Reading. During this session teachers discussed "thick and thin" questions and how to integrate these questions when reading with their students. The final session focused on data. Teachers looked at students' most recent assessment data and planned next steps. It was a busy day of learning for all.



Health Concerns and Medication

At the start of the year each of you completed a student health form. Thank you. You successfully completed the first step to helping us keep your child safe. However, if your child has any type of medical concern that we need to be aware of, or if your child requires medication, you must take an additional step and speak directly with the school nurse. During your meetings she will check your paperwork, listen to your concerns and provide you with additional

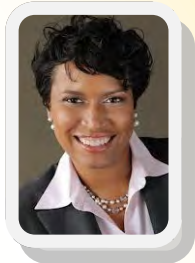
(see **PRINCIPAL**, p. 10)

Bowser to Address PTA Town Hall Wednesday

Ward 4 Councilmember Muriel Bowser will lead off a PTA Town Hall meeting this Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 6:35 p.m. in the school auditorium. She'll address the issue that's been on the minds of plenty of Shepherd parents: whether D.C. Public Schools' school boundary re-drawing task force will keep Shepherd students in a feeder pattern that keeps our kids going to Deal Middle School and Wilson High School, or whether we'll be ignored and disrespected with some other feeder pattern.

Councilmember Bowser has been in touch with members of a PTA task force set up last fall that has tracked the school boundary re-drawing discussion ever since hearings were scheduled on a now-dead bill to conduct such a redrawing.

Other PTA business will be conducted after Councilmember Bowser's presentation. But don't you dare miss the start of this very important meeting!



Once again this year, Shepherd will be offering the convenient services of SchoolKidz and its "teacher-tailored" back-to-school supply kit program. Why fight long lines trying to find every single requested item on your child's supply list? Let us do the shopping for you!

SchoolKidz offers brand name items, such as Crayola, Fiskars, Elmer's and Staples. Each item has been chosen by Shepherd's teachers and is exactly what is on your child's supply list. Furthermore, the prices are as good or better than what you'll find in the store.

Please watch for more information in future issues of the Mustang. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Trimble at kctrimble@mac.com.

STAR ACHIEVERS NEWS

Hello from the Star Achievers before- and aftercare program at Shepherd!

For those families with children in aftercare, please take a look at the events coming up in the next few weeks:



Friday, Feb. 22, 4-5 p.m.:

Instrument "Petting Zoo" - part of the Jazz Night celebration. The D.C. Youth Orchestra will bring all types of instruments to the cafeteria for our students to explore.

Friday, March 1, 4-5 p.m.: *Martial Arts Exhibition* - Mr. Thornton, our Marital Arts instructor, will showcase the talents of students from pre-K through fifth grade who have been learning martial-arts moves this year.

Friday, March 16: *St. Patrick's Day party*. Special treats and a movie!

Tuesday, May 14: *Jali-D* raps about math, reading, science, video games, the brain, and more. A top musician, drummer and educator will return to Shepherd for an amazing show.

Coming soon – dates to be determined in March, April and May!

Audubon Naturalist Society: James Robey and friends will return to Shepherd with several hands-on presentations on worms, gardens and composting, and we will begin a Science Club each Friday where we create our own worm/composting habitat and begin gardening this spring.

Mad Science: The leading science enrichment provider in the metro area will be at Shepherd for three dynamic presentations on science concepts made fun and accessible.

Imagination Stage: students from pre-K through fifth grade will enjoy eight classes of improv, drama and fun team-building activities from this premiere children's theatre group.

Please look for more details about these and other special events in the Mustang this semester!

--Ms. Claire Riley, Star Achievers coordinator



Hello, Shepherd Mustangs!

This is London Downing and I want you all to know that we are at the end of our basketball season. Shepherd's girls' basketball team recently ended their season with a record of 1-7. The girls fought hard and never gave up. We are hoping to be better next year and go further. The girls' last game was played at Lafayette against Key. Shepherd lost but we were very aggressive.

The boys' basketball team's season is over but they got into the playoffs. The boys' record was 7-1. They ended their regular season yesterday with a win over Janney. They won by two points, the score was 27-25. Good job on the win, Mustangs! They were seeded #2 in the North and played their playoff game last Monday. But they lost by just one point to Lafayette Elementary. We should support the boys!

Thanks for reading this article and see you in two weeks.

--London Downing, fourth grader

WE NEED YOU!

Do you want to help but don't know how?
Do you want to help but only have a limited amount of time?

Please join us at the next

Spring Gala Meeting

Thursday, March 14 @ 6:30 p.m.

Committees include:

- Business Administration
- Event Coordination
- Communication
- Procurement

Join us to find out how **YOU** can help our largest fundraiser of the year a huge success!



Jazz Night Salutes... JIMMY SMITH



Jimmy Smith was a jazz musician whose performances on the Hammond B-3 electric organ helped to popularize the instrument. In 2005, Smith was awarded the NEA Jazz Masters Award from the National Endowment for the Arts, the highest honor that the United States bestows upon jazz musicians.

He purchased his first Hammond organ, rented a warehouse to practice in and emerged after little more than a year. Upon hearing him playing in a Philadelphia club, Blue Note's Alfred Lion immediately signed him to the label and his second album, "The Champ," quickly established Smith as a new star on the jazz scene. He was a prolific recording artist and, as a leader, dubbed The Incredible Jimmy Smith, he recorded around 40 sessions for Blue Note in just eight years beginning in 1956.

While the electric organ had been used in jazz by Fats Waller, Count Basie, Wild Bill Davis and others, Smith's virtuoso improvisation technique on the Hammond helped to popularize the electric organ as a jazz and blues instrument.

Smith influenced a constellation of jazz organists, including Jimmy McGriff, Brother Jack McDuff, Richard "Groove" Holmes, Joey DeFrancesco and Larry Goldings, as well as rock keyboardists such as Jon Lord, Brian Auger and Keith Emerson. More recently, Smith influenced bands such as Medeski, Martin & Wood, the Hayden-Eckert Ensemble, and the Beastie Boys, who sampled the bass line from "Root Down (and Get It)" from Smith's 1972 LP "Root Down" — and saluted Smith in the lyrics in their own hit, also called "Root Down." Often called the father of acid jazz, Smith lived to see that movement come to reflect Smith's organ style.

Another of Smith's protégés was Jackie Hairston, who headlines this year's Jazz Night — this Friday, Feb. 22, at the Shepherd auditorium. It's a potluck, so bring your family and enough food to feed them and others! More details elsewhere in the Mustang.



Shepherd IB PYP Corner

February

The month has been very busy thus far. Students begin every day with a Black History Trivia question and answer. On February 2, our French students in fifth grade and our kindergarten students celebrated "La Chandeleur," also known as Crepes Day. As part of the IB unit for Kindergarten "Traditions Around the World," we discussed and shared traditions in France. As a closure activity, Kindergarten French parents were invited to celebrate the tradition of La Chandeleur. Students recited a poem and sang, as well as introduced their family members to their classmates in French. Parents assisted their children making crepes, enjoyed eating them and participated in the traditional flipping of crepes. Indeed, it is traditional to hold a coin in one hand and a crêpe pan in the other, and flip the crêpe into the air. If you manage to catch the crêpe in the pan, your family will be prosperous for the rest of the year.

As part of the Embassy Adoption Program, the fifth grade students' worked with Mr. Guillot Angelo from the cultural service of the French Embassy. He shared with students the origins and the traditions of this celebration. Afterward, in respect of the tradition, students made and enjoyed eating some crepes.



The Concert

The February Concert this year presented a sampling of Ragtime, Blues, Jazz, Rhythm and Blues and Message Songs. It was held on Feb. 6. Mr. Giles worked with Elise Bryant from the D.C. Labor Chorus, Ms. Joele Michaud, our art teacher, and our students in making this concert educational and enjoyable.

Our Black History Celebration Assembly will take place on Thursday, February 21 in the afternoon. We will begin with our Primary classes (Pre K – 1st) at 1:15 p.m., followed by our Intermediate classes (2nd – 5th) at 2 p.m. Please join us for an afternoon of singing, poetry, dancing, and instrumental music. The programming will be as follows:

Mrs. Holt and Mrs. Gibbs (Pre K): Singing a song about Important African Americans

Ms. Pethel and Ms. Guldin (K): Creating art work that will be hung up in the auditorium

Ms. Hill (1st): Singing "We Are Much the Same"

Ms. Goldman (1st): Reciting the poem "Harriet Tubman" by Eloise Greenfield

Ms. Ulba (2nd): Performing a skit "The Life of Jackie Robinson"

Ms. Whren (3rd): Third Grade Instrumentalists will perform We Shall Overcome

Ms. McKenzie/Ms. Whren (3rd): Dance

Ms. Charles (4th): Singing "Back of the Bus"

Mrs. Miranda Mulligan (4th): Reciting "I Have a Dream" speech and "Black is Beauty" poem by Mrs. Miranda Mulligan

Awards Day Perfect Attendance Recipients:

Pre Kindergarten: Corinne Glover, Amaya Stallworth, Coruan Nunn, and Aminata Sissoko

Kindergarten: Roxana Galvez-Rodas, Alexandre Ritter, Joyce Kao, Aaron Curtis, Adrian Cook, Jaylon Newby, Taylor Joiner, and Payton Jones

1st Grade: Malchiah Marable, Aaron Smith, Kristian Swanson, Sean Reece, Kayla Powell, Lee Bruner, Aidan Alston, Kayla Bathea, Yasmina Konate, Kennedy Mack, Edward Underwood, and Joia Glover

(see IB Corner , p. 5)

THE SIT-uation ROOM

Good news and bad news:

First the good news. The architects are finding ways to create more space where there appears to be limited space at Shepherd. Even though we're increasing the available square footage in the plans by nearly 25 percent, it's amazing how quickly that space can be gobbled up. Kudos to Lance Bailey Architects for their steadfast work.

Now the bad news. D.C. Public Schools believes the renovated plan executed by the architects would cost at least \$2.5 million more than they're willing to spend. While DCPS suggests that certain elements of the renovation are going to take up large chunks of the available money, we don't have a cost-estimate breakdown yet for the different parts of the renovation.

Nevertheless, we forge ahead. The next School Improvement Team meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 5 p.m. in the school library. If you have any questions about renovations, call me at 202-829-9289.

--Mark Pattison

IB Corner from p. 4_____

2nd Grade: Grace Kao, Casey Ross, Layla Brent, Micah Stovall, Savannah Robinson, Dina Johannes, Dylan Santiago and Maya Glover

3rd Grade: Briana Knight-Rodriguez, Jean-Pierre Roberts, Nana Sissoko, Tiara Dupee, Benjamin White, Marie-Therese Tata, and Lauren Curtis

4th Grade: Miles Davis, Chimauchem Ukaegbu, London Downing, Madison Swanson, Ethan Reece, Kamryn Bowman, Gregory Kennison, Catherine Serrano, Jay Matthews II, Ernestine Lwangu, Taylor Paraless, Cydni Taylor, Spencer Fridle, Kemani Cash-Taylor, Kayla Boyde, Genesis Glover, Allison Holmes, Joyce Chirambo, Mia Heyward, Godloves Tata and Joy Chibandika

5th Grade: Obed Johannes, Destiny McPherson,

It's FAMILY DINNER NIGHT NEXT WEEK!

Any parent who was at last year's Family Dinner Night at The Daily Dish can tell you what a great time both they and their children had. So we're going back to the Daily Dish for some fine American cuisine and one of the best children's menus either side of the Potomac.



The date is Thursday, Feb.

28. Hours are 5-9 p.m. All you have to do is say "We're with Shepherd!" and the PTA gets 20 percent of your pre-tax tab. The Daily Dish has some of the best mac and cheese to come out of a restaurant and not out of a box. And, if you like, you can do a carry-out of your order, too, by calling 301-588-6300.

And circle the date for the two Family Dinner Nights we've got cookin' in March:

Monday, March 11: Fire Station 1 in Silver Spring, 5-9 p.m. (15% back)

Tuesday, March 26: Franklin's in Hyattsville, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. (20% back)

We're lining up some great Family Dinner Nights for the spring, too. Look to the Mustang and the Calendar page of www.shepherd-elementary.org for details as they happen.

Lyndon Downing, Luke Jennings, Omari Clarke, Gregory Jones Jr., Alexander Kennison, Tyler Thomas, Frank Sheffield, Gavin Rasmussen, and Chandler Mabry

Suggested Reading and Activities...

Get engaged in conversations, ask questions such as, "Why do you think that is an important thing to know about?" or, "Can you think of anything happening in the world today that might be similar to that aspect of History?"

Have a super duper week!

Sandra Hart

IB Coordinator



"Songs of Freedom and Justice" video has 900 hits on YouTube!

Shepherd Elementary School's "Songs of Freedom and Justice" video has received 900 hits on YouTube. Here is the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cPUBrqknVM>

Additional viewings for the same video have happened at Shepherd's web site.

This 15-minute video features our students from last school year singing anti-slavery songs, union songs, and civil rights songs. Some brief

student interviews are included between the songs. The D.C. Labor Chorus sings along with our students. It's history through songs. It's music with a message. And it shows the roots of much of the music we have today.

We still have free copies of the DVD of this "Songs of Freedom and Justice" video. If you want a free DVD, send me a message: Kenneth.giles@dc.gov

STEM Night Moves

The Feb. 27 STEM Night (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) has been postponed.

It will be re-scheduled to a date in March to be announced.



STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

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FAMILY DINNER NIGHT



The Daily Dish

8301-A Grubb Rd, Silver Spring
(just south of East-West Highway,
in the Rock Creek Shopping Center)

Thursday, Feb. 28
5-9 p.m.

➔ **SAY, "I'M WITH SHEPHERD"** ➔

The PTA gets 20% of your pre-tax tab!



*Serving "comfort food with a twist"
that's locally sourced and made from
farm fresh ingredients*



Good for Dine-In and Carryout (PH: 301-588-6300) • thedailydishrestaurant.com

LSAT REPORT

Shepherd's Local School Advisory Team met Feb. 12, focusing much of its work on following up and following through on the ambitious agenda it established in earlier meetings.

Confirmed is an Earth Day event for Saturday, April 20 that will feature a Bike Rodeo featuring the Washington Area Bicyclists Association, plus a registration fair, a moon bounce and school beautification.

Also confirmed is the Book Fair on Saturday, March 23, at Politics and Prose bookstore on Connecticut Avenue.

Another confirmation: Two more "celebrity readers" in the ongoing series of lunchtime story reading on Wednesdays.

Traffic safety remains an ongoing concern of the LSAT, with more talk about the proper placement of the crossing guard now and into the future, and the new cone-setting activity at the intersection of 14th and Jonquil.

While LSAT community member Carl Bergman has volunteered to be the school's liaison with the Shepherd Park Citizens Association, the ideal situation would be for an in-boundary parent to represent the school. If you wish to do this, get in touch with LSAT chair Sherilyn Pruitt at spruitt@hrsa.gov.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the LSAT will be Tuesday, March 12, at 4 p.m. in the school. A special guest at the meeting will be Shepherd Park neighbor Dan Nathan, who originated the Shepherd-TI tutoring program at Congregation Tifereth Israel 14 years ago and has run it ever since. All parents are welcome to sit in on LSAT meetings. They may be asked to leave should confidential issues arise.

It is possible that the LSAT may have to meet before March 12 if school budget proposals are supplied and how the school can most wisely spend the funds it will be allocated.

"Celebrating Black History in Jazz"

Jazz NIGHT
Shepherd ES

Friday, February 22
6:30—9:30 p.m.
Shepherd Elementary School

Featuring the sounds of
The Coolidge High Jazz Ensemble and
The Jackie Hairston Trio

Featured Artists: Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday, Charlie "Bird" Parker, Miles Davis, Sonny Stitt, Billy Taylor, Sarah Vaughan, Dizzy Gillespie, John Coltrane.

"Traffic safety remains an ongoing concern..."

The Lowdown on Jazz Night

Jazz Night is a guaranteed good time for Shepherd families of all ages. It must be, or it wouldn't have lasted for 24 years! But because this is a family event, we want parents to know that they must:

- ▶ monitor their children
- ▶ prepare them to use indoor voices, respect the artists
- ▶ emphasize no playground behavior
- ▶ remain in the auditorium
- ▶ have a great time!

Jazz Night is also a POTLUCK. Bring something good to eat according to your last name:

- ▶ **A-F:** Bring Beverages/Water/Juice
- ▶ **G-M:** Bring Entrees/Meats/Casseroles
- ▶ **N-S:** Bring Side Dishes/Salads/Appetizers
- ▶ **T-Z:** Bring Desserts/Snacks

And, P.S., it's OK to buy something at the store and bring it. Just bring LOTS of it! It's also OK to go to a fast-food place and get a boatload of popcorn shrimp or chicken nuggets.

Also, Jazz Night is great entertainment, with the Jackie Hairston Trio and the Coolidge High Jazz Ensemble playing soulful, jazzy tunes.

Finally, Jazz Night is free. But we'll be passing the hat between acts to help the PTA defray its costs of mountain Jazz Night. All in all, it'll still cost less than the cover charge, two-drink minimum and babysitter you'd pay going to Blues Alley or Bohemian Caverns!



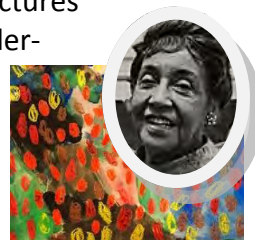
ART CORNER

Dear Shepherd Family,

As usual, students are busy in art.

Pre-K students have just finished their "Snowy Day" collages where each pictures a child and a snowman. Kinder-

gartners used the "spotty" style of the late, African American, Washington artist Alma Thomas to create painted "gardens" like hers.



First-graders designed fabulous reptiles in honor of the Chinese Year of the Snake. Second-graders are finishing illustrated Weather and Season Books which will have slip-out pages that landscape that shows specific type of weather or season. Third-graders are also finishing books that picture "Healthy Bodies" to show the poses and gestures of someone in good health. Fourth-graders are just beginning to examine the art of the Early Colonial Era in which portraits were the favorite genre of painting. Fifth-graders will be examining uniforms and contemporary dress of the Civil War era. They will also study figure drawing in order to create paintings that inform us about how people looked in that time.

Homework does continue weekly for third-, fourth- and fifth-graders. Check to see where your child's homework sketchbook is. I have some sketchbooks to sell for \$5 if you child is without one. So just send the money in to me on your child's art day. Check the web-site <http://teacherweb.com/DC/Shepherd/Art> for assignments.

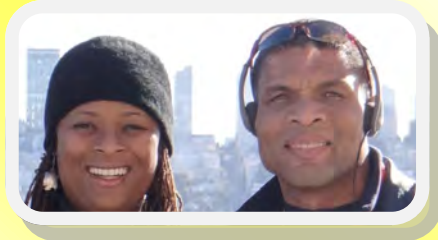
That's the news from the Art Corner. Remember, you gotta have ART!

Art --Ms. Joelle Michaud, Art Teacher

<http://teacherweb.com/DC/Shepherd/Art>

Thanks to Two Marquee Parents!

Our continued thanks to Nicole and Andrew Reece, who have been changing the signboard in front of the school for the past year and a half.



They stepped in when nobody else seemed willing to do it, and have been faithful to the task ever since. Hats off to you two!

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Shepherd Elementary School's Annual Gala
At Wilson High School



MAKE PLANS NOW!

Application is...

- Real world
- Problems with context
- Students explaining their thinking
- Making meaning of the problem
- Students planning strategy or pathway and adjusting when necessary
- Connections to other content areas
- Using tools effectively and at appropriate times
- Making meaning of the problem
- Teacher modeling of thinking strategies
- Process rather than product
- Applying knowledge to *new* situations
- Multiple ways/methods to look at problems
- Student Centered
- Applying math across content areas
- Connecting classroom math to real-world usage
- Students knowing when/how to apply their background knowledge
- Looking for relationships
- Knowing and using math terms and vocabulary
- Accessing prior knowledge to unfamiliar situations
- Considering constraints until new information is provided
- Using a "math toolbox" (a variety of strategies) to solve the problem at hand
- Helping students understand "why math matters/why they have to learn this"
- Seeing math everywhere

Application is not...

- Teacher driven/directed
- Set of number sentences to solve
- Teaching standards/skills in isolation
- Following a step of prescribed steps
- Completing a sheet of problems
- Teaching key words
- Just applying a procedure
- Just getting the "right" answer
- A set way of doing math
- Forced/contrived connections
- Rather than Teacher modeling of specific method, procedure, algorithm or solution pathway to be carried out for solving the problem at hand
- "Naked" numbers/ a worksheet full of computation problems
- Only for older students
- Pre-teaching procedures that students plug into word problems

PRINCIPAL from p. 1 _____

paperwork as necessary. This extra step will help guarantee everyone (who needs to know) is aware of your child's medical concerns and they know what action steps to take in case of an emergency.

Reading Strategy for Home

When reading with your student at home, encourage them to make a prediction about the text. After making their prediction, encourage them to read/read with them to help them confirm or refute their prediction. You can even have your student justify their predictions, discuss or write their explanations, and make new predictions based specific evidence from the text. Your student can also determine whether predictions came from their own prior knowledge and which predictions were based on evidence from the text.

Before Reading

- ▶ What do you already know about this subject?
- ▶ Looking at the title, what do you think the story is about? Why?
- ▶ Looking at the pictures, what do you think the story will be about? Why?

During/After Reading

- ▶ What do you think now?
- ▶ Can you prove your predictions, or do you need to modify them?
- ▶ What do you think will happen next? Why?

After Reading

- ▶ What did you find in the text to prove your predictions?
- ▶ What did you find in the text that caused you to modify your predictions?

Arrival

Parents: Please be reminded that any student arriving after 9 a.m. must be escorted into the building by the person dropping them off and signed in. **STUDENTS MAY NOT ENTER THE BUILDING ALONE!**

Dismissal Reminders

Please attempt to schedule all appointments after school or on days when school is not in session. However, in the event that your student needs to be released early, please adhere to the following:

- Please send a note to your child's teacher.
- Arrive early to allow time for your student to pack their belongings and transition to the main office.

- Please do not call the office requesting that you child be called to the main office; students will be called when you arrive.
- Please arrive before 3 p.m. to pick up your student.
- Students will not be dismissed from the main office between 3 and 3:30 p.m. If you arrive between those times, you will find your student in one of the following locations: aftercare – cafeteria, carpool- library, everyone else – gymnasium.
- Students remaining at 3:30 are transitioned to the main hallway.


Have a great week,

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.

 <div data-bbox="865 1255 1052 1360" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Next Issue Mar. 4 </div>	<p>Deadline for Next Issue!</p> <p>Our next deadline is</p> <p>Friday, March 1, at 5 p.m.</p> <p>Send items to</p> <p>sesmustang@gmail.com</p>
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