

Shepherd Elementary School

WIII MUSHANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

September 30, 2013



- ▶ Mon., Sept. 30—Sat., Oct. 5: Book Fair
- ▶ Tues., Oct. 1: Family Dinner Night, The Daily Dish Restaurant 8301-A Grubb Rd., Silver Spring 5-9p.m.
- ▶ Wed, Oct. 2: School

Improvement Team meeting, 5 p.m.

- Fri., Oct. 4: Fitness Friday, 7-8 a.m.
- Fri., Oct. 4: Attendance Audit
- ▶ Sat., Oct. 5: Fall Fest, noon—5 p.m.
- ▶ Tues., Oct. 8: LSAT meeting, 4 p.m.
- ▶ Wed., Oct. 9: Walk to School Day
- ▶ Sat., Oct. 12: Fall Fest rain date
- ▶ Mon., Oct. 14: Columbus Day, no school

(Go to http://www.shepherd-elementary.ort/ses-calendar/ for a month-by-month listing of dates and events)

Fall Fest Is Saturday!

The biggest and happiest Fall Fest yet is going to rock your world this Saturday outside Shepherd!

The big date is Saturday, October 5. The PTA, which sponsors Fall Fest, will have rides and games, including an inflatable obstacle course. We'll also have face painting, spin art,



moon bounces (including the Ultimate Bounce), face painting, mask decorating, the ever-popular Cupcake Walk, pizza from Ledo's, burgers, hot dogs,

cotton candy, popcorn, drinks and even a donut decorating (and eating!) booth. Fall Fest will also feature the ride-all-day wristband. Why, we will even have an ice cream truck parked alongside Shepherd — and, in the spirit of our

(see Fall Fest, page 6)

A Word from Mrs.

Greetings Everyone,

Lockdown

Last week we had one of three lockdown drills for the school year. The reason for the drill is to make sure our students and staff know what to



do if there every an active shooter in the building. While we do not anticipate such happening we still have to prepare. In the event of a lockdown, students and staff are to move to a secure area away from windows and doors and hide quietly. In some classrooms students hide in closets, while others huddle in the corner. Our students did well during their first drill; however, regardless of the conversations the teachers had prior to the drill to help them to prepare, it still made some of our young scholars a little nervous. Ms. Liggins, our counselor, has been supporting teachers and students in this area; however, please you will find some tips on how to talk to your children about shooting. In addition, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school counselor, psychologist or social worker for support.

Talking to Children about the Shooting

• Start the conversation. Talk about the shooting with your child. Not talking about it can make the event even more threatening in your child's mind. Silence suggests that what has occurred is too horrible even to speak about or that you do not know what has happened. With social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, text messages, newsbreaks on favorite radio and TV stations, and others), it is highly unlikely that children and

(see Miles, page 6)



So far this year has been really exciting. I've joined Safety Patrol and it is very fun — I like that I can help people.

Another exciting thing that has happened this year is that our principal, Ms. Miles, had a baby girl named Karsyn.

Lots of the school has already started on their first classroom project. For example, in my class we have a project on the Solar System. My classmates Kurt, Leela and I are making a poster and travel brochure (!) with facts about Mars.

I'm looking forward to Shepherd's Family Dinner Night next Tuesday at the Daily Dish in Silver Spring. It has been a great year so far. Bye!

--Henry Trimble, fourth-grader

(Look for Shepherd's Student Scoop contribution each Wednesday in the "Spotlight on Schools" pages of the Northwest Current!)



Fitness Fridays Start!

Kids: Get with Mr. Burgess this Friday and every First Friday of the month for Fitness Fridays. It's an early start, meaning Mr. Burgess starts at 7 a.m., so get your parents to roust you out of bed. It's a full hour of fun exercises, activities and drills to energize you and carry you through the whole month.

The first Fitness Friday start on Friday, Oct. 4, from 7 to 8 a.m. Depending on weather, he'll have activities planned for outdoors or indoors. So let's get active and stay active!

Traffic Safety Tip



Here's this week's traffic safety tip: Use your turn blinker!

Pedestrians using the crosswalk are not mind-readers. Neither are the Safety Patrol students at Shepherd, who took a

pledge to keep students safe as they cross the street.

If they cannot see your turn blinker, they will not know you want to turn. This can lead to bruised feelings, bruised bodies, or worse.

Also, if you find yourself in a spot on the street where you have to take more time to discharge your young passengers, please use your four-way flashers. (That includes, you, Mr. White YMCA Bus!)

The best way to avoid accidents is to prevent them.

Signal your intentions!

It's good practice for next week's Walk to School Day, set for Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Attendance Audit Is Friday

We live in a world where we need money. This includes Shepherd. The amount of money Shepherd gets from DCPS headquarters depends on how many students are in school. Not enrolled, but actually in school.

Friday, Oct. 4, is the date of the next attendance audit. Make absolutely sure your children are at Shepherd on that date. DCPS head-counters will be counting our heads on that date!

Bowser to Appear for Walk to School Day!

Ward 4 Councilmember Muriel Bowser has accepted the school's invitation to participate in Walk to School Day at Shepherd. The date is Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Councilmember Bowser will look at our traffic situation, along with D.C. Department of Transportation officials who also have been invited. School officials have asked the District's traffic safety engineers to consider the following to make it safer for children to get to school, whether it be by car, by bicycle, or on foot. The list includes:

New bike racks

Striping to reinforce the "No Standing or Parking Anytime" zones

"Sticks" to enforce those zones

If need be, curb "bump-outs" that remove the zones from vehicular use entirely – including legal uses

But on Walk to School Day, every student who lives within walking distance of school should make the trek on foot, with or without parental accompaniment. It's good exercise to start the day!

Meet Our New Classroom Parents!

Shepherd now has a classroom parent for every classroom. If your child has one of these teachers, get in touch with your classroom parent ASAP (meaning NOW) so they can have an accurate list of parents – especially with big events like Fall Fest coming up.

Ms. Arrington (fourth grade): Alesha Dominique, aleshadominique@gmail.com

Ms. Charles (fourth grade): Katherine Trimble, kctrimble@icloud.com, and Sandhya Mehta-Harwitz, sandhyamehtajkl@yahoo.com

Ms. Hill-Dyal (first grade): Tracy Green, tgreen@4protectingyourfuture.com



Book Fair Runs All Week

Who doesn't like to curl up with a good book? That includes children, too! This fall's Scholastic Book Fair will have hundreds of choices for students, from the newest readers to the most experienced.

This week, each classroom will get a chance to examine the books and other items on display at the book fair. They can prepare a "wish list" with the total cost, including tax, included. They can give their wish list to parents, who can then send a check payable to Shepherd Elementary for the book fair. As a bonus, the book fair will be open throughout the Fall Fest as well. To help with the book fair either during the week or at Fall Fest, please contact the business manager, Ms. Hebron, at delores.hebron@dc.gov.



Let the news about Shepherd come to you via the PTA listserv. Get the latest reminders, appeals and updates at the speed of cyberspace. To join, send an email with your name and your child's name, grade and teacher to:

Shepherd elementary pta-subscribe@vahoogroups.com

To send a message to the listsery, use this address:

Shepherd elementary pta@yahoogroups.com

If you put in a request to join and don't see any messages within 24 hours of your request, send an email to:

sesmustang@gmail.com

... and we'll look for a way to get you signed up anyway!

Music Teacher September 2015 Music Teacher 2015 Music Teach

Dear Shepherd Families,

It was truly a pleasure to meet so many of you during our recent Back to School Night. I appreciate your taking time to visit the music room on that night, and I look forward to maintaining communication with you throughout the school year.

Your children and I have been hard at work during music class. We've been learning a variety of songs, including Broadway, rock 'n' roll, patriotic, and folk. We also have worked hard to integrate music instruction with the International Baccalaureate central idea concepts.

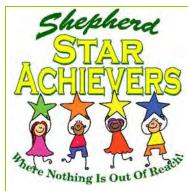
Kindergarten students have enjoyed learning about the percussion family, and playing the various percussion instruments. First-grade students have focused on music notation and music symbols, and second-grade students have been learning about the plant life cycle through songs and rhythmic activities. Our central idea for third grade was communities, and how music can bring people together and form community connections. Fourth-graders integrated music with their IB central idea by learning a solar system rap, and fifth-graders completed a musical invention research project. Throughout these past six weeks, we have also used a variety of small-group activities and co-operative learning strategies.

I look forward to the second phase of incorporating music into the IB central themes. We will also be working on various language pieces, instrumentations and dance to implement into the Dec. 18 IB program. More information on this program will be forthcoming.

So, as you can see, we've been busy! As always, please feel free to contact me at Julia.bryant@dc.gov if you have any questions about your child's musical education.

Musically yours,

Ms. Julia Bryant



Star Achievers News

Happy October, Shepherd community!

We have finally begun our "specials" classes! Each grade will have a lot of fun activities -- and, the classes they do not have

this semester they will switch and have next semester.

Please see this week's issue of the Star Achievers Newsletter for detailed schedules for each grade. If you do not receive it, please email sesstarachievers@gmail.com and we will get you on the list.

We are pleased to bring back Spanish and French, as well as martial arts, PE, dance and arts 'n' crafts. PE will include kickball, hockey and personal fitness/aerobics.

We are adding this year: yoga, poetry, and sign language.

Rock Band will be for fourth- and fifthgraders and we are working on details of a chess/ literacy Program for third grade sponsored by a nonprofit organization in D.C. called Chess Challenge.

Pre-K will have three specials a week, including science and folk art.

The Knitting Club meets on Fridays and we will begin a Chess Club open to all grades once the Chess Challenge program is up and running.

Don't forget: If you would like your student to attend the upcoming Halloween Party, you must sign a permission slip and purchase a ticket from the Shepherd group/teacher sponsoring the dance. Without a slip and a ticket your child will watch a movie and eat pizza in aftercare.

Enjoy the fall weather!

--Ms. Claire Riley, coordinator

TV-Video Game Turnoff Club Gets Its First New Members



Turn off TV. Turn on life Here are the charter members of the 2013-14 version of the TV-Video Game Turnoff Club. Have your child join these students right away! Have them fill out the Club application and put it in the PTA mailbox in the school office. Copies of the Club

membership application can be found in the rack outside the office, in past issues of the Mustang, and also linked online on the homepage of the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org.

Here are our members, and what they say they'll do with the time they'll spend away from the screen:

Gold Members (no TV or video games at all!)

Nelson Alston, second grade: "Reading, playing with my little brother, homework, riding my bike and walking my dogs."

Weldon Genies Jr, fourth grade: "Read, practice basketball, practice work, and extra studying."

Ana Kanta, second grade: "Read books, play games with my sister, cook dinner with my parents."

Asanaton Kanta, kindergarten: "Play games with my sister, cook dinner with my parents."

Coruan Nunn, kindergarten: "Reading, letter/sound recognition and counting."

Silver Members (30 minutes max on school nights)

Emma Laudadio, second grade: "Read and play board games with my family. And do homework."

Bronze Members (one hour tops on school night)

Marshall Lewis, third grade: "Playing with toys and reading books."

Sarah Rice, second grade: "ST Math, reading, soccer."

Cydni Taylor, fifth grade: "Read."

Fall Fest______cont'd from page 1

Family Dinner Nights, the operators has said he will give 20 percent of his proceeds to the PTA.

The Scholastic Book Fair will also run ALL DAY inside school so you can combine fun outside at school during Fall Fest with fun at home for weeks and months to come.

Our Fall Fest leaders need parents to volunteer to work at a ride, a booth, a tent, or a concession. If you can trust your kid to have enough fun on his own without being told by Mom or Dad how to have fun, then sign up for a shift. Get in touch with Tabatha McNeill at tabatha.c.mcneill@gmail.com.

The PTA is also looking for parents to contribute hot dogs, burgers, buns, water and other drinks for the concessions. Let your room parent know what you can bring. If you don't know who your room parent is, then declare what you'll volunteer to Yasmin Lewis-White at yaslewis@aol.com.

Get ready to have fun!

Family Dinner Night Tuesday!



Remember to leave the saucepans behind, pack up the family and head to the Daily Dish on Tuesday for Family Dinner Night.

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 1

Hours: 5-9 p.m.

Address: 8301-A Grubb Rd., Silver Spring

What's at stake: 15 percent of your pre-tax tab

goes to the PTA.

Why: Not only do you help the PTA, but the food tastes great! Get your mouth watering by visiting www.thedailydishrestaurant.com to sneak a peek at the menu.

The Daily Dish features American cuisine from locally sourced ingredients.

If you can't stay for dinner, call ahead and ask for takeout. The phone number is 301-588-6300.

In any case, tell them, "I'm with Shepherd!" That way, the PTA qualifies for the rebate.

See you at suppertime!

Miles_____

_cont'd from page 1

teenagers have not heard about this. Chances are your child has heard about it, too.

- What does your child already know? Start by asking what your child already has heard about the events from the media and from friends. Listen carefully; try to figure out what he or she knows or believes. As your child explains, listen for misinformation, misconceptions, and underlying fears or concerns. Understand that this information will change as more facts about the shooting are known.
- Gently correct inaccurate information. If your child/teen has inaccurate information or misconceptions, take time to provide the correct information in simple, clear, age-appropriate language.
- Encourage your child to ask questions, and answer those questions directly. Your child may have some difficult questions about the incident. For example, she may ask if it is possible that it could happen at your workplace; she is probably really asking whether it is "likely." The concern about re-occurrence will be an issue for caregivers and children/teens alike. While it is important to discuss the likelihood of this risk, she is also asking if she is safe. This may be a time to review plans your family has for keeping safe in the event of any crisis situation. Do give any information you have on the help and support the victims and their families are receiving. Like adults, children/teens are better able to cope with a difficult situation when they have the facts about it. Having question -and-answer talks gives your child ongoing support as he or she begins to cope with the range of emotions stirred up by this tragedy.
- Limit media exposure. Limit your child's exposure to media images and sounds of the shooting, and do not allow your very young children to see or hear any TV/radio shooting-related messages. Even if they appear to be engrossed in play, children often are aware of what you are watching on TV or listening to on the radio. What may not be upsetting to an adult may be very upsetting and confusing for a child. Limit your own exposure as well. Adults may become more distressed with nonstop exposure to media coverage of this shooting.

Shepherd IB PYP Corner

"Back to School With the History Makers" took place on Friday. In that one day, 500 History Makers visited approximately 230 schools in 30 states across the U.S.A. This is a day where African-American leaders get a chance to see firsthand what is happening in local schools and students learn about the achievements of these leaders from their local community.

Civic Maker Leola "Roscoe" Dellums visited Shepherd and shared her own educational background, her accomplishments, and emphasized the need for students to commit to their education. We learned that Ms. Dullums was married to California congressman Ronald Dellums and has three children who attended Shepherd in 1973. While in attendance, her son Erik Dellums wrote a School Song for Shepherd which she shared with the students. Ms. Dellums is a retired Washington attorney, born in Berkeley, California, on December 12, 1941. Earlier in her career she taught English as a Second Language, published poetry, wrote songs and wrote the script for a Disney Channel movie about her family called The Color of Friendship.

Hispanic Heritage Month

Sept. 15-Oct. 15 is the celebration of histories, cultures and contributions of Hispanics whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. On Oct. 10 a Hispanic Heritage Celebration will take place at Shepherd. Please stay tuned for more information in the next issue of the Mustang.

Did You Know...

▶ Hispanics constitute 17 percent of the nation's total population. There are 53 million people of Hispanic heritage living in the United States, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or racial minority.

Five suggested children's biographies:

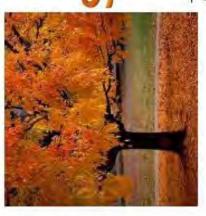
- "Tito Puente Mambo King/Rey del Mambo" by Monica Brown
- "Celia Cruz Queen of Salsa" by Veronica Chambers
- "Side by Side/Lado a Lado" by Monica Brown
- "The Storyteller's Candle" by Lucia Gonzalez
- "Good Night Captain Mama" by Graciela Tiscareno-Sato

Suggested reading for Hispanic Heritage Month:

Pre K-2

- "Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale" by Carmen Agra Deedy
- "Doña Flor" by Pat Mora
- "Juan Bobo Goes to Work" by Marisa Montes
- "From the Bellybutton of the Moon and Other Summer Poems" by Francisco X. Alarcon

(see IB Corner, page 10)



Shepherd Elementary School Attend and Support Fall Festival

7800 14th Street NW

Washington DC 20012

October 5, 2013

Noon to 5PM

Students and Staff bring your parents, friends and family out to enjoy:

Food

Games

Arts & Crafts



Prices for food and activities vary.

volunteer by emailing PTAPresident@shepherd-elementary.org. classroom parent. Community groups (ie. Boy/Girl Scouts) may This event is sponsored by Shepherd's PTA. Volunteers are needed. Shepherd parents please contact your respective



Give of Yourself to Shepherd



We're taking a break this week from our typical 180 Fund appeal. Money is needed — always. But so is your time.

This would be a great week to get into the swing of things and give some of your time to Shepherd. The Fall Fest needs parents to pitch in and help out. If you can help – especially grilling the hot dogs and burgers, but we'll find a job you can do — get in touch with Tabatha McNeill at

tabatha.c.mcneill@gmail.com.

Do you want to volunteer at school during the school day? Don't let rules and regulations scare you. If you want to be a field trip chaperone, and be in your child's classroom to help the teacher during the day, that's OK. If you want to participate in the life of the school on an ongoing basis through regular volunteer work, then you have to go through a series of steps to be a volunteer that involves a TB test, fingerprinting, and more. But don't let that throw you; our Early Readers volunteers in the neighborhood have gone through the process. And once you get certified, it's good for two years. Go to the school office and learn what you need to do to get started.

But dip you toe in the water by volunteering this Saturday at Fall Fest!



IB Corner _______cont'd from page 7

- ▶ "Pablo's Tree" by Pat Mora
- "Chato and the Party Animals" by Gary Soto
- "Mama & Papa Have a Store" by Amelia Lau Carling
- "In My Family" by Carmen Lomas Garza
- "Rainbow Tulip" by Pat Mora
- "Xochtil and the Flowers" by Jorge Argueta
- "Nacho and Lolita" by Pam Munoz Ryan
- ▶ "The Spirit of Tío Fernando" by Janice Levy
- "Hispanic Scientists: Ellen Ochoa, Carlos A. Ramirez, Eloy Rodriguez, Lydia Villa-Komaroff, Maria Elena Zavala" by Jetty St. John
- ▶ "Get Ready for Gabi: A Crazy Mixed Up Spanglish Day" by Marisa Montes and illustrated by Joe Cepeda

Grades 3-5

- "Under the Royal Palms: a Childhood in Cuba" by Alma Flor Ada
- "My Diary From Here to There" by Amanda Irma Perez
- "Magic Windows" by Carmen Lomas Garza
- ▶ "Hands-On Latin America: Art Activities For All Ages" by Yvonne Y. Merrill
- "Where the Flame Trees Bloom" by Alma Flor Ada
- "Amazing Hispanic American History" by George Ochoa
- "Family Pictures" by Carmen Lomas Garza
- ▶ "Famous Hispanic Americans" by Janet Morey
- "Charro: The Mexican Cowboy" by George Ancona
- "The Biographical Dictionary of Hispanic Americans" by Nicholas E. Meyer
- "Ellen Ochoa: The First Hispanic Woman Astronaut" by Romero Maritza
- "The Day It Snowed Tortillas: A Classic From the American Southwest" by Joe Hayes
- "Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez" by Kathleen Krull

During October, the Learner Profile we will focus on is Inquirer. Have a super week!



-Sandra Hart

IB Coordinator

Miles______cont'd from page 6

• Common reactions. Children may have reactions to this tragedy. In the immediate aftermath of the shooting, they may have more problems paying attention and concentrating.

Source: Talking to Children about the Shooting National Child Traumatic Stress Network

www.NCTSN.org

Dismissal

Please be reminded that school dismisses at 3:15 p.m. Therefore, it is expected that all our students (unless they are enrolled in aftercare or they are participating in an afterschool event) are picked up no later than 3:30. We give you an extra 15 minutes because we know how challenging commuting and parking can be in the area around this time. However, we cannot continue to keep students until 3:45, 4:00 and 4:15 each day. My staff has work to do and they too would like to get home to their families. Please arrive on time. If you are unable to arrive on time, enroll your student in aftercare or arrange for a friend or neighbor to pick up your student. Unfortunately, for some if the pattern of late pick-up does not change, we will be forced to seek outside intervention. Finally, emergencies happen, things happen, and when they do we will work with you.

Lunch Room Composting and Recycling

Shepherd is now a recycling and composting school. This is a requirement by law and a requirement slowly being implemented into schools. This year DCPS selected schools to pilot the composting program and Shepherd was selected. Students have improved each day. However, please review these lunchroom procedures with your students at home. The procedures are as follows: after students finish their lunch they should sit and separate. If they purchased lunch from the cafeteria all of their food should be emptied onto their lunch tray. Their napkin should be placed onto the tray along with their food. This tray of food and napkins should be placed in the yellow composting can. Students' milk, water or juice containers should be placed on the edge of their tables. A select helper will empty the beverage containers and place them in the blue recycling containers. All others items should be placed in the gray trash cans. If a student brings their lunch from home, they should empty all of their food into the yellow container, place their beverage containers at the edge of the table, and put all other items in the gray trash cans. As our students become more efficient we will continue to expand the sorting.

Summary

Yellow Container	Blue Containers	Gray Containers
Lunch Trays Food Napkins	Milk Containers Water Bottles Juice Pounces	Everything Else

90/80/90/90

We continue to work towards our school goals. Please be sure to review next week edition of the Mustang to learn more about the reading strategies we have been focusing on each week and what our students are doing in the area of math.

Have a great week!

Jamie Miles

Principal

Kids' Book Club at the Neighborhood Library



On Monday, Oct. 7, at 6 p.m. join us for a very special kids' choice edition of the Juanita E. Thornton-Shepherd Park Kids' Book Club. Choose your book from a large number of "challenged" children's ti-

tles, currently displayed in the Shepherd Park Library lobby in observance of Banned Books Week.

Children's series' titles which have come under fire in schools and libraries include: Captain Underpants, Goosebumps, Junie B. Jones, The Popularity Papers, and Harry Potter. Come to the library to learn what other surprising award-winning books such as "Hatchet," "Harriet the Spy," and "The Bridge to Terabithia" have made this list. Select one of these titles to take home and enjoy, then celebrate your freedom to read by dressing as a favorite "challenged book" character. Meeting will include pizza, games and discussion.

The book club program is best for ages 5-12. The library is at 7420 Georgia Ave. NW. Come to Meeting Room A.

--Elaine Pelton, children's librarian

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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!

Deadline for Next Mustang Issue

Fri, October. 4, at 5 p.m. Send all contributions to: sesmustang@gmail.com

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 Elementary School

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