

Shepherd Elementory School THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Awards Day, 9 a.m. (PK-2) and 9:50 a.m. (3-5), auditorium

- Fifth Grade Exhibition parent meeting, 6 p.m
- Deal Middle School info session, 6:30
- Wednesday, Feb. 5: Family Dinner Day, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Chocolate Crust, 5830 Georgia Ave. NW
- Thursday, Feb. 6:
 - ▶ Healthy Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., gym
- Friday, Feb. 7:
 - Report cards issued
 - Ski Club trip
- Wednesday, Feb. 12: Parent Night, 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 14: Professional development day, no school
- Monday, Feb. 17: Presidents Day, no school
- Wednesday, Feb. 19:
 - "Getting to the Core" and "Shepherd's Successful Readers" sessions, 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
 - Local School Advisory Team meeting, 4 p.m.
 - Renovations open house, 5:30 p.m., library
 - PTA meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 20: Mathletes Club, 6 p.m., cafeteria
- Monday, Feb. 24: Parent-teacher conferences, no school
- Friday, Feb. 28: Jazz Night, 6-9 p.m., auditorium
- Saturday, March 15: Annual Gala, 6 p.m., Wilson High School atrium

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

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greeting Shepherd families,

Another month has come to an end at Shepherd and I continue to be amazed at how quickly time is passing us by. Our students continue to work hard and are making great progress. Please



continue to support our efforts by asking questions if you have them, contacting your child's teacher if you have a concern, making sure your student completes his/her homework each night, reading with your students, reviewing math facts or number recognition with your student and reminding students to be respectful, responsible and safe at all times.

Weather Closing and Delays

If the event of inclement weather please be sure to check the DCPS website before sending your student to school. There will be an announcement at the top if there is a delay or school closing. On the DCPS website you can also sign up to receive email and text alerts. Finally, I will also send a robo call if the announcement is made at a reasonable time. I will not call your house after 11:30 or before 5 am. Therefore, it is important that you remember to check the DCPS website.

Principal's Book of the Month

Last month students read, *Henry's Freedom Box*. The book was about a slave who mailed himself to freedom. Kudos to the following students who participated in this month's book discussion: **Catherine Foss, Nivel Afrika and Kennedy Mack.** Each of the students completed the activity with their parents and joined me for cupcakes as we discussed the book. Each student was presented

February 3, 2014



Greetings fellow Mustangs! Zoe here with some interesting news.

Due to the snowstorm, we've had two extra days off from school. Me and my mom were hoping for that, too. We had a half-day on Friday and I went over to a friend's house and chilled. This weekend, all I'm gonna do is sleep, do homework and sleep some more.

Our science fair projects have been turned in and we were

presenting them last Wednesday, the 29th. Make your presentations the best. I hope everyone did a good job and gets a good grade.

Congratulations to the girls' and boys' basketball teams. We're 4-0 and 5-0, respectively, and so far we are having a fantabulous season. Thank you coaches Ms. Hamer, Ms. Moorefield, Mr. Wolcott and Mr. Page. Also, thank you cheerleaders for your wonderful cheers and your motivation. GO MUSTANGS!

The ski trip is coming up on Friday, the 7th of February, so bundle up cause it's gonna be cold, don't get hurt and have a great time. Thank you Mr. Velez and chaperones (including my mom, who I hope isn't going to embarrass me) for making this possible.

I hope everyone is having a good school year so far, because the end is approaching swiftly. TTYL!

--Zoe McCullough, fifth-grader

Hey Mustangs! I have some news! Last week we were out of school for three days because of the Martin Luther King holiday plus the snowstorm, and I bet all of you were happy about that. The cheerleaders also got their uniforms, so now we are officially a team! The Valentine's dance is coming up, so make sure your parents know so that you can come to the dance and ... dance!

--Lauren Curtis, fourth-grader

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



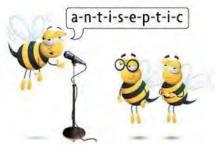
Deal Comes To Shepherd

Attention parents of fourth and fifth graders: Principal Albright from Deal Middle School will be at Shepherd this Tuesday, Feb. 4, to talk to you about Deal and address your questions about the school your children are likely to go to in a year or two.

If you missed the Feb. 1 open house at Deal, then this is a great chance to play catch-up with the principal himself. This Deal information session is a make-good from the session canceled two weeks earlier due to the inclement weather.

More Spelling Bee Winners

In the spelling bee finals for Shepherd students in grades 4-5, Julien Kearns brought home the gold by correctly spelling "vivacious." Julien



goes on to compete in the citywide finals. The citywide winner then moves on the national championship round. Good luck, Julien! Imani Thomas, in fifth grade, finished second, and fourth-grader Leela Mehta-Harwitz took third place. Congratulations to all!



Fifth Grade Exhibition Meeting Set

For students in the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, the Fifth Grade Exhibition serves as a capstone that covers as much as possible of what they've learned in

the program. Students select the themes, then create an exhibition to illustrate it.

Parents of fifth-graders are needed to assist in the preparation process. To that end, Ms. Hart will hold a meeting for interested parents at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4. The meeting will last just a half-hour, as the Deal principal chat session follows at 6:30 p.m.



HEALTHY THURSDAYS IS BACK!

IT'S BEEN A COLD, SNOWY WINTER, BUT YOU CAN'T EXPECT TO COUNT ON SNOW SHOVELING AND ICE-

AWARD

SCRAPING ALL YEAR LONG AS PHYSICAL EXERCISE!

LET SHEPHERD'S OWN PHYSICAL FITNESS TEACHER, MR. BURGESS, SHOW YOU HOW TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF WITH HIS NEXT STEP IN A SERIES OF ONE-HOUR EXERCISE SESSIONS.

The NEXT HEALTHY THURSDAYS SESSION IS THIS THURSDAY, FEB. 6, STARTING AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE SCHOOL GYM. FLAB OR FAB: THE CHOICE IS UP TO YOU!



Four-Day Weekend Starts Valentine's Day

There's a four-day weekend in store for Shepherd students – and this time, it's a PLANNED four-day weekend.

The long weekend starts on Friday, Feb. 14 (what most of us will still recognize as Valentine's Day). It's a professional development day for teachers and staff, who still have to go to school. The last offday is Monday, Feb. 17, which is this year's date for the annual Presidents Day holiday. School resumes on Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Awards Day Tuesday

This Tuesday, Feb. 4, is the date of the quarterly Awards Day ceremonies for Shepherd students. Kids from pre-K to second grade go first, at 9 a.m., then students in grades 3-5 share the stage at 9:50 a.m.

Not only will there be International Baccalaureate Awards and recognition for great work on tests, but the Science Fair winners' names will be unveiled for the first time at Awards Day!

Shepherd IB Calling All Experts! PYP Corner

The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme at Shepherd is one of the school's big draws for parents. But what parents may not realize is that they may be able to take an active, in-person hand in enhancing Shepherd's IB efforts!

Every grade level has a variety of themes, around which learning is centered, and units to help emphasize the theme. The "plus" parents can lend is from being a community resource,

Do you work in an embassy? There's a place for you in IB to talk about your life and career. Are you a grocery store clerk? There's a place for you as well!

Look at the occupations where parents and community members can bolster IB efforts at Shepherd. And, if you were wondering, "volunteer" is also an occupation!

If you fit in one of these occupations, or have a friend, relative or neighbors serving in one of these ways, get in touch with Ms. Hart at <u>Sandra.hart@dc.gov</u>.

- Performers
- Storytellers
- Firefighters
- Police officers
- Bankers
- Grocery clerks (told ya!)
- ▶ Grandparents
- Meteorologists
- Scientists
- Politicians
- People of interest (but not in a police way)
- Nurses
- Doctors
- Artists

- Musicians
- Dancers
- Construction workers
- Architects
- Community helpers
- Government officials
- Embassy workers
- Actors/actresses
- Singers
- Professional athletes
- War veterans
- Lawyers
- Authors
- Judgess

Traffic Safety Tip

The long arm of the law came to Shepherd last month, as a Metropolitan Police Department officer stationed himself and his vehicle at the northwest corner of 14th and Jonquil and pulled over drivers heading southbound on 14th who did not come to a complete stop at the four-way stop. The officer said he was going to come back and keep writing tickets because Shepherd is a school in a residential neighborhood.

Will the cops pull over if you just wave past the stop sign at any other part of the four-way-stop intersection? Why risk it?

D.C. is also introducing cameras that will, among other things, write up drivers for rolling through stop signs. So save our children and save your money. Come to a complete stop – and pledge to start now!





This being the Silver Anniversary of Jazz Night, this time we salute...

The Swan Silvertones

The Swan Silvertones were an American gospel music group that achieved popularity in the 1940s and '50s under the leadership of Claude Jeter. Jeter formed the group in 1938 as the Four Harmony Kings while he working as a coal miner in West Virginia. After moving to Knoxville, Tenn., and obtaining their own radio show, the group changed its name to the Silvertone Singers in order to avoid confusion with another ensemble known as the "Four

Kings of Harmony." They added the name Swan shortly thereafter, since Swan Bakeries sponsored their show. Their wide exposure through radio brought them a contract with King Records.

At this early stage, the Silvertones already embodied an amalgam of two styles: the close barbershop harmonies that they had featured when starting out in West Virginia, and virtuoso leads supplied by Jeter and Solomon Womack. The group later lost Womack, but added Paul Owens in 1952 and Louis Johnson in 1955. The three singers

with their sharply contrasting styles — Jeter a tenor who could sing falsetto without losing his lyric control, Owens a crooner, and Johnson a hard shouter — played off each other to great effect in songs such as "Mary Don't You Weep."

The group recorded for Specialty Records from 1951 to 1955, when it switched to Vee–Jay Records. They recorded one album with Hob Records after Vee–Jay shut down in 1965, at which point Jeter left the group for the ministry. When interviewed by Dick Cavett in 1970, Paul Simon credited the group with inspiring him to write the song "Bridge Over Troubled Water." The Swan Silvertones were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 2002.



AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!

Shepherd's Annual Gala and Auction event is coming up, Saturday, March 15, at 6 p.m. in the Wilson High School Atrium. To ensure that the evening is not only fun, but profitable, we need your help in securing auction donations.

Do you own or operate a business? Do you have friends that do, or are you a regular customer at a business where you might solicit a donation? Do you know a celebrity or civic leader? Donating or helping us obtain donations are ways for Shepherd families to support this event, whether or not you plan to attend (though we certainly hope you do!)

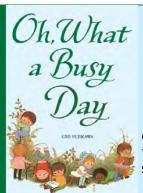
Two of our early donations are gift certificates for SkyZone Indoor Trampoline Park and The Still Point spa in Takoma Park. Here are some other ideas:

- Gift cards or set services for a salon, spa, car repair, home improvement, pet services, landscaping, tax preparation, etc.
- Gift cards or set items/packages from restaurants and stores.
- Activities and experiences for children, such as: day camps; music lessons, swimming lessons, all types of lessons; day care or babysitting; memberships, etc.
- Artwork, jewelry, appliances, technology, home décor items, books, novelty items. Any type of collectables—especially if autographed.
- Tickets to sporting events, shows, amusement parks, exhibits, etc. Box seats or any type of exclusive access are very popular.
- Behind the scenes tours (that aren't available to the public) or special access—a meeting, maybe lunch—with someone famous or influential.
- And, of course, big-ticket wish list items such as travel, computers, and big screen TVs.

If you have something you can donate, think you can solicit a donation, or just have further questions, please contact Gala/Auction co-chairs Kate Woods (<u>kateandmama@yahoo.com</u>) or Susan Laudadio (<u>serlaudadio@hotmail.com</u>).

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Wednesday, Feb. 19: A Very, Very Busy Day

But it's a good kind of busy. Let's break down the day and see what's in store for us.

There are concurrent

sessions on the Common Core curriculum, "Getting to the Core" and "Shepherd's Successful Readers." They will be presented at both 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Maybe this is a good time to drag the other parent to one session while you go to the other.

At 4 p.m., the Local School Advisory Team meets. The discussions will almost certainly and exclusively resolve around the budget for 2014-15. All parents are invited to sit in.

At 5:30 p.m., we're inviting parents and the community to check out the renovations that have taken place in our school. For instance, bet you didn't know we have a "banana room!" We'll meet in the new library. We'll have treats, but NO FOOD is to be taken to the library, as per the principal's orders.

Then, at 6:30 p.m., the PTA will hold its monthly meeting. There will be childcare and refreshments.

With so much going on, start planning now how to use your time at Shepherd to its best advantage!

MUSTANG NEWSLETTER:

Deadline for Next Issue

Friday, Feb. 14, at 5 p.m.

Please send all items to sesmustang@gmail.com. Miles____

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with a certificate and a pin.



The purpose of the Principal's Book Club is to share my love for reading while encouraging and fostering a love of reading for pleasure in our students. The books are carefully selected so that all students can participate. Parents are encouraged to read and discuss the book with their students.

This Month's Book: *Listen to the Wind: The Story of Dr. Greg & Three Cups of Tea*

Description from Amazon: Greg Mortenson stumbled, lost and delirious, into a remote Himalayan village after a failed climb up K2. The villagers saved his life, and he vowed to return and build them a school. The remarkable story of his promise kept is now perfect for reading aloud. Told in the voice of Korphe's children, this story illuminates the humanity and culture of a relevant and distant part of the world in gorgeous collage, while sharing a riveting example of how one person can change thousands of lives.

Key Dates

February 9th - Book Club Activities Announced February 26th – Book Activity Due

Lost and Found Reminder

The month has come to an end. All items located in the Lost and Found will be donated on Wednesday. Lost and Found is located across from the main office.

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THE MUSTANG

Miles

Renovations Update

All the people on Shepherd's School Improvement Team seem pleased with the outcome of the renovation work done thus far. There are still a

few touch-ups to be done in the library, however. One will be doing a cut-out of the circulation desk so that Shepherd's smallest students can see who's on the other side. Another is the delayed installation of some specialized lighting due from Ohio, where the brutal winter weather has slowed not only deliveries, but production.

The outdoor renovations have now been pushed to fiscal year 2015, which starts in October. So if you're looking for a grand entrance, you'll have to wait a bit longer. On the good side, the entire school will be outfitted with a sprinkler system by the end of this summer.

Have you only heard about the renovations, but not seen them with your own eyes? Then you're especially invited to our renovations Open House set for Wednesday, Feb. 19. We'll start at 5:30 p.m. and keep on giving tours and showing before-and-after pictures of the school until the PTA meeting starts that night. If you're picking up your child from aftercare, take a peek at our new "ground floor" as well as the renovated classrooms in the original Shepherd building – built in 1931, but now ready to serve a new generation of students. There will be tasty treats, but NO FOOD ALLOWED in the new library.

Cafeteria Expectations

The cafeteria can sometimes be a "crazy place" the students are excited, they have a little more freedom and they are eager to play and talk with their friends. However, the cafeteria is also the place where we have to speak to our students more often than we should. Please help us by reminding students of lunchroom expectations: 1) talk in an inside voice, 2) talk to the person next to you or in front of you. 3) if you need assistance raise your hand 3) remain in your seat 4) clean up after yourself 5) when the quiet signals are given adhere to them 6) eat your food only and not your neighbor's food. WE DO NOT SHARE FOOD.

Key Date Changes – Please Mark Your Calendar

2/4/14 @ 6:30 - Deal Night at Shepherd (Targeted Audience 4th and 5th Grade Parents)

2/12/14 @ 5:30 - It is Never Too Late to Start Preparing for College (Targeted Audience 4th and 5th Grade Parents)

3/19/14 @ 6:00 - Curriculum Night (Targeted Audience All Students and Parents)

6/18/14 @ 9:30 - 5th Grade Promotion

Have a great week!

Jamie Miles

Principal

The Magic of Morocco Awaits...

Shepherd's Annual Gala and Auction Saturday, March 15, 2014 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. Wilson High School Atrium

> Tickets: \$45 until March 1 \$50 thereafter

Make your reservation through the Shepherd website or e-mail: shepherd-elementary@maestroweb.com





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Next Family Dinner Night: Let's Descend on Chocolate Crust!

Our next Family Dinner Night is so big it couldn't be contained to the hours of darkness. As a result, we'll be enjoying not only dinner, but breakfast and/or lunch at Chocolate Crust, 5830 Georgia Ave.

The big day is this Wednesday, Feb. 5. Chocolate Crust opens at 7 a.m. and closes at 9 p.m. – which, coincidentally, are the exact same hours of the PTA's Family Dinner Night!

There are all sorts of pastries and bagels in the morning, plus some terrific simple breakfasts. Ditto for lunch. And Chocolate Crust is rolling out a new dinner menu which should tempt us all to try.

You can get all manner of breads and such — including pizzas -- with either the customary dough, or with chocolate-inflected dough. You'll be amazed at the zesty flavor when you add a few dashes of chocolate to a recipe!

Because both seating and parking are limited, you can call in your order in advance, pay with a credit card (remember to say "I'm with Shepherd!") and get curbside pickup. Legal parking is closer to the firehouse down the block, and at the Rite Aid at the corner.

Check out <u>www.chocolatecrust.com</u> for some delicious suggestions. To phone in an order, call 202-291-2595. Remember: The PTA gets 20 percent back from everything you order!

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

FAMILY DINNER



Good for Dine-In or Curb Side Pick Up (PH: 202-291 2595) www.chocolatecrust.com



TRAVEL TO MOROCCO WITHOUT LEAVING DC

THE SHEPHERD GALA AND AUCTION COMMITTEE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A MOROCCAN THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT ON **SATURDAY, MARCH 15, AT 6:00 p.m.** We will return, once again, to the beautiful atrium at Wilson High School—the high school that most of our Shepherd students will eventually attend.

GALA AND AUCTION CO-CHAIRS, SUSAN LAUDADIO AND KATE WOODS, HAVE KICKED THE PLANNING EFFORT INTO HIGH GEAR. HERE'S WHAT THEY NEED

FROM YOU:

Volunteers: Please e-mail Susan (<u>serlaudadio@hotmail.com</u>) or Kate (<u>kateandmama@yahoo.com</u>) to get involved. We especially need volunteers to help secure donations and sponsorships and to help teachers with the creative class projects that are often the auction's best sellers.

Auction Items: Do you operate or frequent a business that might donate a product or service to be auctioned? Restaurants, salon services, music lessons, camps—almost anything of general interest. Gift cards are particularly popular. Do you know a celebrity who might donate an autographed item or take the high bidder to lunch? Call Susan or Kate for other ideas.

Your Presence: Most importantly, we hope you will join us on March 15 to enjoy the Moroccan cuisine and ambiance, as well as the lively auction itself. The gala is Shepherd's premier adults-only social event and your opportunity to get better acquainted with fellow Shepherd parents and faculty. Tickets will go on sale February 3; details will be announced soon.

WATCH FOR FUTURE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MORE INFORMATION HERE IN THE *MUSTANG*, ON THE WEBSITE AND LISTSERV, AND IN YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK.

Auction Action!

We are going to Morocco! At least virtually!

Moroccan is our theme for the tenth annual Shepherd Gala to be held Saturday, March, 15, in the beautiful atrium of Wilson High School.

The Moroccan Embassy has been in contact with our Gala Committee to lend advice and assistance.

Speaking of assistance, we'll still need help until Gala Day itself with phone calls, publicity, and soliciting items for the auction, plus on the big day, for things like set-up and take-down. To offer your help, send a message to either Susan Laudadio at <u>serlaudadio@hotmail.com</u>, or Kate Wood at <u>kateandmama@yahoo.com</u>.

Tickets go on sale Feb. 1. Get that sitter now and plan to attend!

<u>Shepherd School Pledge</u>

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, February 14, 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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