



MSA Weekly News

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Web Links of Interest

[Play IT Safe Seminar](#)

If you missed the seminars on campus here are off-campus offerings

[MSA Home Page](#)

Find everything you need to find about MSA is here

[MSA PVA Web Site](#)

Learn what is going on with your PVA

[MSA Winter Sports Schedule](#)

At-a-Glance sports calendar

[MSA January Calendar](#)

Current School Calendar on the MSA website

Contact Us

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Welcome Back!!

As parents you are probably excited that your kids went back to school. Even though my kids are grown, I recall that there were times when it was a LONG two weeks. Any way we are not totally back to normal here at Mill Springs, as this week and next will be Winter Learning, which effects all but Lower and Middle. So it is a little hectic here with everyone coming and going. I am certain we will have some additional highlights for those activities in next weeks' Weekly News. I trust everyone had a terrific holiday and that your new years' resolutions are in full swing, or not, as the case may be!

Open Tennis Play Time



You know Spring is on the horizon when tennis begins to sneak into conversations. We will be **having tennis try outs** for students in **Middle through Upper schools**. Students interested in playing on the Mustang **Varsity** Tennis team are invited to come out for a hit-around from **3:30 -5:00p on January 23rd and 30th**. Just send them to school with their tennis racquet. Our regular season practice will begin February 19th. The must have their registration form, physical and payments all in before they will be allowed to participate in regular season practice. All forms are located **HERE** on our website for your convenience. If you have any questions, contact **James Sampson**.

Michael's Café @ Winter Learning (WL)

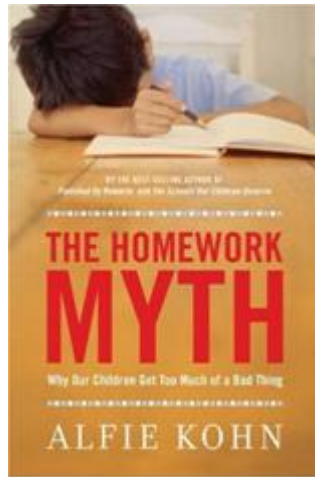


The first week of the PreUpper School's WL cooking school or "Michael's Café", led by PU math teacher Michael Adams and science teacher Judy Martin, filled the campus air with the savory fragrances of gourmet chicken noodle soup to fresh-baked cakes to cheesy burritos and fresh salsa. In the school, the young chefs learn how to follow complicated recipes, how to understand the value of measurements, as well as how kitchens work (loading the dishwasher!). The new PU kitchen worked like a machine as students washed dishes while others assembled ingredients and began mixing, chopping, slicing, and stirring. The students also visited the DeKalb Farmers Market where they took an extensive "behind the scenes" tour of the market kitchens. Over 36 countries and 65 languages are represented in the Market, thus

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providing a mini “United Nations” atmosphere. Each day Michael’s Café has prepared breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snacks from recipes they researched and developed. The chefs even offered the delicious results to other students and the faculty who enjoyed a special MSA lunch program that we are sad to see end! Pictured is **Philip Early** preparing salsa. (from Todd Sentell)

The Stress of Homework



What if homework turned out to be all pain (frustration, exhaustion, family conflict) and no gain? What if claims that after-school assignments promote higher achievement or better work habits were contradicted by research and experience? Alfie Kohn explains why homework persists despite the lack of benefit and invites us to rethink our broader assumptions about children and education. On Thursday, **January 24th** at 7:30pm **Alfie Kohn** will be presenting in the McCain Chapel of Pressly Hall at **The Westminster Schools** (1424 West Paces Ferry Rd, Atlanta, GA 30327). This event is open to all parents, teachers and any other interested individual. Alfie Kohn writes and speaks widely on human behavior, education, and parenting. Please contact The Westminster Schools at **404-355-8673** if you have any questions or www.alfiekohn.org.

Mill Springs Players Present . . . TONIGHT!



The Winter Learning production of ***How to Eat Like a Child and Other Lessons in not being a Grownup*** will be presented on **January 11th at 7:00pm** in the **Twetie Lewis Moore Auditorium**. If you are an Art Alliance member, or Student, tickets are \$6.00, if not then tickets are \$8.00. As with all productions here in our Auditorium, I am sure you will be incredibly entertained. We have a very talented group of actors and stage hands, not to mention directors, who have all worked very hard! This production will not let you down.

Play IT Safe Seminar

Play IT Safe

What are kids really doing online today? What are the lasting effects of some Internet activities, like pornography? The media report regularly on the dangers of Internet predators who want to harm our kids. Others also clamor for our children's attention, without regard for whether their values represent those we work so hard to impart in our families.

HERE is another opportunity to attend the **Play IT Safe** seminar. It will be held at **Alpharetta First UMC** on **January 27th from 6pm – 8pm**. You won't want to miss this terrific opportunity to get and share information and best of all it is free! (from Paul Barkley)

ADHD Research Study Reminder



Before the winter holiday a package was sent home with your student with some information about an ADHD Research Study being done by an outside organization. The research represents a landmark study in ADHD, which we are participating in as a host school. You still have time to complete these simple packet forms and return them to the researcher via the addressed, stamped envelope enclosed in your research packet. **The new deadline for return is now January 31, 2008.** Note also that this comparison study is accepting both non-ADHD and ADHD children. You are encouraged to include each child in your household as subjects for this ground breaking study. Thanks for your willingness to participate in this scientific effort to better understand ADHD.

Things & Dates to Remember



Don't Miss

Don't forget that there is **no late bus until Tuesday 1/22** due to Winter Learning.

Mill Springs Academy will be **CLOSED** on Monday, **January 21st** for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Donuts for Dads for the **Lower and Middle** will be held at **8:00am on Friday, January 25th** in your respective school. Join your student at this well attended activity.

Homecoming Week will begin on **January 28th**. Watch for more information on that week-long event.

January 2 – 31st is the **20% off** all merchandise sale at the **Uniform Depot** which is located on Main



Street in Alpharetta, North Cobb Parkway in
Kennesaw and West Pike Street in Lawrenceville.

See the entire calendar by clicking [HERE](#).
