



MSA Weekly News

January 9, 2009

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Web Links of Interest

[Current Issue of Kickin' It](#)
See the latest Upper School Student-produced magazine

[MSA Sports Calendar](#)
The most current information when it comes to MSA Sports Schedules

[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 Weekly News Archives](#)
Catch up on past news

[MSA Current Calendar](#)
School Calendar on the MSA website

Winter Home

Winter is upon us! And this winter, like many in the past, our household has had a visiting family join us for a few months. Almost every morning I am greeted by a fly by as our little feathered friends await the opening of the garage door so one of them can go out into the day and look for food to feed their growing family. This event has been happening for at least 10 years. At some point in the fall they begin to build a nest – usually on a small shelf between the spray paint cans – in our garage. Then spring time will come and we will find a new young friend scampering across the garage floor as he learns to use his wings for the first time (after he got shoved out of the nest by mom or dad of course) under the careful watch of one of his parents. And then once again our winter friends will leave for their summer home.

I don't know how long these birds live, but it seems like it must be the same bird family. I am not advertising in Bird Weekly that I have a winter home for rent – maybe I should because these guys are freeloaders – how do they know we have a space on that spray can shelf just the right size for a nest? I don't think it works like a time share, this bird can't use their months in the Garage-Mahal so they swap with the Wren Family that usually stay at the Tree Lodge in much warmer Florida. Do you think there is a little Chick-a-dee with the name "Tweetie" engraved on a very small Coldwell Banker name badge sporting a gold blazer and hawking my garage shelf???? Ahhh...these are the things that keep me up at night. Happy Winter!

Silver & Gold Mustang Awards



Every semester the Upper, CommArts and PreUpper award Silver and Gold Mustang Awards. This is the MSA version of the Honor Roll. If one is designated with a Silver Mustang that means they have all A's and B's and that at least one of their A's is in a core subject. If they have a Gold Mustang designation that is because they have received all A's. So without further ado, [HERE](#) is the listing for the Gold and Silver Mustang Awards for the Fall 2008 semester!

Congratulations to everyone.

Garden Construction – Winter Learning Seminar

Contact Us

<http://www.millsprings.org>
charwood@millsprings.org

Mill Springs Academy
13660 New Providence Rd
Alpharetta, GA 30004
770-360-1336

Our Garden Construction Winter Learning Seminar has proven to be a smashing success under the capable leadership of Michael Adams and Judy Martin, PreUpper Mathematics and Science instructors. Our students are learning not only how to build and construct, but also the math and problem solving skills needed for such projects.



Pythagoras' Rock!

There are plans to complete two arbors, five raised gardens, two picnic tables, a tool and garden shed and laying mulch down around it all for beautification of the area. The students have enjoyed learning valuable math applications, such as the **Pythagorean theorem**, that is needed for squaring, and geometry for cutting many different angles needed for support. They have learned the correct use of tools and safety. It's been a really dirty job, but our Crew has produced amazing results. *Pictured from left to right: Michael Adams giving lesson to **Alex Weinberg, Nick O'Shea, Peyton Lockwood, Henry Wilson, Anthony DeSantis, Jonathan Seavey, Philip Early and Michael Mitropoulos**. The other students participating are **Stephen Sharp, Logan Singleton, Doug Marcotte, West Connor, Spencer Murphy, and Josh Moore**. (from Michael Adams and Judy Martin)*

Free Money!!



Got Gift Cards??? Need to redeem them??? Purchase from major stores online and our school receives a percentage of all purchases. Go to www.onecause.com and click JOIN. Choose our school to receive the contributions from your purchases. It's absolutely free! Up to 20% of each purchase goes right back to Mill Springs! Remember to use your Publix or Kroger partner cards, clip your cereal box tops and soup labels. These are all great ways to help raise money for our school. Publix and Kroger cards will be sent home via your student or snail mail this week. Or stop by the Admin office to pick one up. Questions? Contact Susan Cohen @ 770-998-7213 or via email [HERE](#).

College Acceptance



We need to share with you that **Cameron Macintosh** has been accepted to Savannah College of Art and Design. He has also received a scholarship for SCAD.

Congratulations Cameron!

Clueless – Executive Dysfunction Workshop

Executive Dysfunction and its Impact on Memory, Academics, Behavior, Socialization, and Independent Functioning workshop to be held:

Tuesday, February 24

8:30 – 11:30am

PreUpper Great Room

Park in lot past Administration Building

Light breakfast and coffee will be served



Sheryl K. Pruitt M.Ed., ET/P

Executive Dysfunction (ED) is an often-overlooked contributor to the problems experienced by children and adolescents with neurological conditions. In this session, there will be an explanation of ED and its impact on many of the regulatory disorders including ADHA. Attendees will get an explanation of ED's impact on memory, academics, behavior and socialization. Practical strategies will be presented that minimize the impact of ED on children's performance and their ability to transition into independent living.

Sheryl K. Pruitt from Parkaire Consultants will present this workshop for our parents. You can get further biographical information [HERE](#). Please RSVP [HERE](#) by February 20th.

MSA Moms on a Mission!

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 21st at 8:30am in the CommArts Great Room

Special Guests: MSA Counselors, Anne Holland and Susan Day

Yes, that's right! Our counselors will join our next meeting to share their responsibilities and opportunities for them to help us and for us to help them. This will be an exciting time to meet other MSA moms and get to know our counselors in a relaxed, fun environment. Mark your calendar for January 21st!

The MSA MOMs group is an informal, confidential group for mothers of students at MSA with learning



challenges created to share experiences and resources, enhance the lives of ourselves, our children and our families, and support the mission of MSA. We meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 8:30am in the CommArts Great Room. For more information, contact **Paulette Solis** (PU Mom) at 678-267-0362 or **Sheree Crowe** (M Mom) at 770-354-3657. Send us your email to receive information about fun events scheduled throughout the month.

LAST ONE-Guess Who is Behind that Gala Mask????



The **winner** of the last Mask contest was Middle School Mom Deborah Goodelman! She guessed correctly that behind the mask was none other than PU Principal Susan Sanders.

This is the **last week** for Guess Who? So get your entry in to get your chance to be the lucky winner to receive \$5.00 in Gala Bucks which can be used towards the purchase of a Gala ticket! All parents are eligible. All the correct answers will be put into a hat and one name drawn. Email **Your PVA President** with your guess today! (from Michelle Bergeson) *Pictured: GUESS WHO?*

The Scoreboard



Basketball – Varsity Boys

1/6 MSA – **37** American Heritage – 22

Basketball – JV Boys

1/8 MSA – **43** Eagle Woods – 18

The Bulletin Board

If the school had a bulletin board, here is what you would find on it:

Wed, Jan. 14 – **Meet & Greet** – 8:30am
Susan Van De Mark
Speech and Language Pathologist

Mon, Jan. 19 – **SCHOOL CLOSED**
Martin Luther King Day

Wed, Jan. 21 – **Public Open House** – This is a great opportunity for anyone you know to get information on Mill Springs Academy for their student.

Fri, Jan. 23 – **Donuts for Dads** (Lower & Middle) – 8:00am

Mon, Jan. 26 – **PVA Meeting** – 8:15am

Mon/Tue, Feb. 9-10 – Parent Conferences
Lower/Middle ONLY
NO CLASSES

Thu/Fri, Jan. 12-13 – Student Conferences
PreUpper/CommArts/Upper ONLY
NO CLASSES



Cares and Concerns of our Community

Please keep the following from our Community in your thoughts and prayers.



The Ramirez Family

Please **email me** at any time with individuals you would like to include on our list as their needs arise. For privacy, I will only list names and claim ignorance if you ask me for details.

Character Quote of the Week



A wise man will make more opportunity than he finds.

- Francis Bacon



Please consider the environment before printing.

If at any time you wish to not receive further MSA Weekly News editions please just 'reply' with that information in the email to charwood@millsprings.org

To: Board of Trustees, All Mill Springs Parents, Newsletter Friends, Newsletter Family,
Newsletter Professionals and All Staff/Faculty