



MSA Weekly News

January 16, 2009

Volume 2, Number 21

In This Issue

- Winter Learning Program
- Career Explorations
- Canned Food Drive Results!
- Wrestling gets a Silver
- Mom's on a Mission
- Where Does our Water Go?
- Financial Aid
- Guess Who??
- T-Shirt Recall
- WLP Picture Gallery
- The Bulletin Board
- Cares and Concerns
- Character Quote of the Week

Web Links of Interest

Mustang Awards

Check out the list of Silver and Gold Mustang Awards for Fall Semester!

Sheryl Pruitt Bio

Executive Dysfunction Workshop Leader

Atlanta Community Food Bank

See where your canned goods will go

Kickin It Magazine

See the latest issue of the Upper School Student-Produced Magazine

MSA Sports Calendar

The most current information when it comes to MSA Sports

Winter Learning Program (WLP)

Those of you with students in either PreUpper, CommArts or Upper School know what the WLP is all about. So for Lower and Middle parents who might have questions I thought I would give a little explanation. In most cases, WLP is an opportunity to learn some new information or take an existing lesson out into the world – so to speak – and use it. You know how they always ask you “Why do I need to learn Fill in any subject here? I’ll never use that after school!” This is where the rubber meets the road and they learn how they will apply what they have learned to real life! These experiential learning opportunities give the students a chance to learn a little bit about themselves, develop their self confidence, build social skills and potentially help them see how they fit into the world in which they live. WLP takes place during the first two weeks of the year upon return after the winter holiday.

Beyond WLP there were many great activities this week. Several of our parents came to meet the Speech/Language Therapist, Suzanne Van De Mark on Wednesday, lots of basketball games (sorry, this is being put together early so I don’t have scores, I’ll give you a full run down next week), and Middle School spent the night at the Georgia Aquarium. We’ve had a busy week, but very fun and productive. The following stories are some of the highlights. Don’t forget that we have no school on Monday in observance of Martin Luther King Day, the school will be closed.

Career Explorations - WLP

Thirteen Upper School students participated in this year’s Career Explorations led by Anne Holland and Diane Lewis. In December, each student completed an interest questionnaire. Vocational site visits were selected to represent some of the various careers options. On the first day of Winter Learning, each student took the Myers-Briggs Personality Inventory, determined which personality type they were and selected career options which fit their personality. They, then, researched on several websites the occupations that matched their personalities. Students spent four days visiting various sites (Emory Law and Theology Schools, Dr. Lee Padove’s office, Georgia Bureau of Investigation Office and the Hawks and Thrashers at Phillips Arena) and having speakers talk on campus about mortuary science and computer engineering. (from Diane Lewis, Upper



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

Contact Us

<http://www.millsprings.org>
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Teacher)

We wish to give our special thanks to parents, Dr. Lee Padove and Mark Jackson, for providing us tours and showing their passion for the work they do.

Remember When . . . ?



Remember when you sent in that bag of canned goods with your student for the Atlanta Community Food Bank? Well all of our bags of canned goods together weigh **11, 780 pounds!** This year we filled 42 barrels beating last year's "poundage" by more than 100 pounds – Way to Go MSA!

Thank you Mill Springs for once again so generously giving back to our Community. Thank you everyone for participating – students, staff and faculty! (from Susan Sanders)

*“Small schools can do big things.”
Robert Moore*

Wrestling Grabs the Silver!

If you see Zack Skinner, be sure to congratulate him on his Silver Medal from the Trinity Invitational Tournament last weekend in Dublin, GA!

This weekend the wrestling team travels to the GISA A/AA Tournament at David Emanuel Academy in Stilesboro, GA. Let's wish the team lots of luck!! (from Coach Burnes)



*Pictured: Bronze winner, Gold Winner,
Silver Winner – **Zack Skinner***



Pictured: Close up of Zack's Silver Medal

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.



WLP - Where Does Our Water Go?



Pictured: Someone's legs inside the Raccoon Mountain Caverns

Teachers Victoria Jones and Greg Bodeep took thirteen PreUpper students to explore several different watersheds that impact the metro-Atlanta area. They studied the human impact on the water supply, where the water originates and where it goes. They spent time focusing on drought conditions, water conservation and the impact of pollution on water sources and aquatic life. They did water testing at Lake Lanier (in case you were wondering, it is not very polluted), learned about the Tennessee River Watershed and biodiversity at the TN Aquarium, then at the Raccoon Mountain Caverns they covered how pollution above affects the water below (not necessarily in that order).

Applying for Scholarship/Financial Aid?



Financial aid is available for *enrolled* students. You can find the Application for Financial Aid on our website [HERE](#). The deadline for applying is April 17. If you have any questions feel free to contact **Sheila FitzGerald** our Admissions Director.

Guess Who is Behind that Gala Mask????



The **winner** of the final Mask contest was Peg Allen! She guessed correctly that behind the mask was Cheri Harwood. All the correct answers were put into a hat and one name was drawn. She will receive 5 Gala Bucks toward her Gala Tickets. Congratulations to all of our winners!

Be sure to get your ticket orders in to the PVA for the Gala soon, as tickets are limited! It will prove to be a wonderful event! Email **Your PVA President** with any questions! (from Michelle Bergeson)

T-Shirt Recall



Anyone who purchased a t-shirt from the Fine Arts t-shirt fundraiser: If your shirt design has washed off, please return it to be reprinted. Last year, EVERY t-shirt design was washable. This year, many of the designs have washed out. We used a different ink mixture, and obviously are not happy with the results. Please let me know if your design has washed off and we will be happy to reprint your shirt. (from **Janet Ford**)

Winter Learning Pictures



Your PVA has been busy taking pictures of the Winter Learning activities here on campus.

Check out this year's **Winter Learning photos** on the MSA PVA website. Just go to the PVA portion of the MSA website and click on photos. If you have any photos you would like posted on this site, please email them in .jpg form to Lisa Hardin at llhrnc@yahoo.com.

The Bulletin Board

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

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, Feb. 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 Hawksworth-Farrell 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



Be great in little things.

- St. Francis Xavier



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