MSA Weekly News

December 4, 2009 Volume 3, Number 16

"If a student can't learn the way we teach … we should teach the way a student can learn.

-Tweetie L. Moore, Founder

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Web Links of Interest

Georgia GOAL Program
Learn more if you just can't wait

MSA Sports Calendar
The most current information when it comes to MSA Sports

It Makes Me Dizzy

Here we are already in December. Every store in town is playing carols and the holiday decorations have become familiar – since they have been out since October in some stores. Outside around town there is evidence of more decorating on the buildings and homes. Inside at home it is another story, we are making plans for the vacation time (which by the way is only two weeks away – not that I'm counting). There is last minute shopping (most of it is last minute shopping this year) to be done with 4 million of our closest friends for that one special thing we haven't found yet, stuffing, signing, & mailing cards, the Christmas day gathering and then the drive to spend a few days away from the hub-bub of home. Just talking about it makes me dizzy.

Around here at school is just as dizzying. This week we have had a Holiday Market sponsored by your PVA, basketball, wrestling, a trip to India compliments of CommArts, a college fair sponsored by Counseling, more basketball tonight and more wrestling tomorrow. There is so much to come before the holidays that I bet the next two weeks will just zip by so fast we will be spinning from the breeze!

Oh one more thing, we had another college acceptance – **Chris Thorne** has been accepted to **Bethune-Cookman University** in Daytona Beach, FL. Congratulations Chris.

Don't Forget to RSVP

Parent Breakfast for Rising 9th Graders

Tue, December 15th

8:30am

Upper School Great Room

RSVP HERE

College Day is a Success!

If you have a student that is in search of the perfect college – College Day is THE

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

DONATE ONLINE Click Here

Donate to the Annual Fund TODAY!

Contact Us

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

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

store for YOU! Over 25 colleges from not only Georgia, but connecting states as well, come to Mill Springs Academy. They share information about their admissions process, requirements, programs and answer any other questions about college life either the students or parents have. I only popped my head into the Upper Great Room for a few minutes, but there were college representatives, students, parents, even students from other local schools all milling about and gathering the coveted brochures from schools of interest. This terrific event is hosted by the MSA Counseling department. If you were not able to attend, but have questions make sure to talk with **Susan Day**.

MSA Annual Fund Update

Check out this **GREAT VIDEO** about the Mill Springs Annual Fund and click on the link to **donate today**!

Remember … "Participation" means a gift of any size!

Currently the Annual Fund Stats are as follows:

SUCCESS in School... SUCCESS in Life

	Financial	**Participation**
GOALS	$250,000	100% -Parents 100% - Board 100% - Staff/Faculty
ACTUALS	$154,243	60% -Parents 100% - Board 100% - Staff/Faculty

WANTED

Parent Volunteers to coach/manage PreUpper Lacrosse Team for the 2010 spring season.

See or email **James Sampson** or **Jennifer Kramer** if interested.

GO MUSTANGS!

National Geography Bee

Pictured: **Craig Tillison** with Karen Bradley on left

During the week of November 30th, the National Geography Bee was held in PreUpper and it was a huge success! Guided by sponsor and PreUpper World Cultures teacher Karen Bradley, 50 students from grades six through eight participated in this year's competition. The 2010 National Geographic Bee MSA Champion is eighth grader **Craig Tillison**!! Craig will now take a qualifying test to see if he will advance to the state level bee. The state level bee will be held on April 9th. This year's second place finalist was 8th grader **Jonathan Seavey**. There was a battle for third place between seventh grader **Matthew Noronen** and sixth grade **Neil Jensen**. After 5 rounds of questions, Neil Jensen was named the third place finalist. Congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's Bee. It was a lot of fun and everyone did a great job.

CommArts Receives Grant

The Communication Arts department is a 2009 recipient of **Sawnee EMC's Bright Ideas Grant**. This grant is awarded each year by the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation to schools for innovative classroom projects which feature students and compliment the current curriculum. The grant will assist CommArts in funding its yearly festival. The award in the amount of $1500 will help pay for the dancers, artists and supplies which are needed for this

year's India Festival.

Check out **Twitter.com** (@millspringsacad) for early pictures of the India Festival and watch next week's issue of MSA Weekly News for a full write up.

Transportation Note

PU/CA/U Exam Bus @ 10:45am

There will be a bus following the late bus route (Bus #3 route plus a stop at the Goodwill on Johnson Ferry in Sandy Springs). The charge is $15 per rider. Contact **William Turner** for more details or reservations.

Fancy Meeting You …

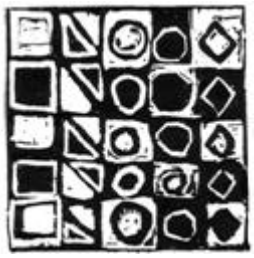
Upper School students **Catherine Simpson** (12th grade) and **Jesse Rhodes** (11th grade) ran into each other Thursday night at Westminster Presbyterian Church unexpectedly. Catherine showed up with her parents to practice for Sunday's Lessons and Carols service and spotted Jesse in the balcony practicing with the Georgia Boy Choir for the same service. How did they notice each other from so far away? They both still had on their basketball practice gear, complete with Mustangs sweatshirts! (submitted by Jeanne Simpson, Upper Parent)

New Opportunity for Parents

Along with 80 other schools (more than half of which are GISA schools), Mill Springs Academy has forged a relationship with the **Georgia GOAL Scholarship**

Program (**G**reater **O**pportunities for **A**ccess to **L**earning).
Watch for more exciting information to come in a separate message.

T-Shirts, Get Your T-Shirts Here!



Design by **Chandler Holt**, PreUpper Student

For the third glorious year, MSA Fine Arts will be selling custom printed t-shirts designed by our fabulous art students! You choose the design(s) you like, the color of your design to be printed on your shirt, and if you would like the artist to sign your shirt. Short sleeve are $10 and long sleeve are $15. Great gift ideas for family and friends! And you can say you know the artist and/or that the artist attends your awesome school!

T-Shirt Order Form

Please have each order on a separate form --- it is not very 'green' but it ensures that the t-shirts are created EXACTLY how you want them to be created! Please note that these shirts are NOT a uniform item. Questions **contact Janet Ford.**

Oh the Weather Outside is Frightful …

Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow

When there is bad weather, do you know how to find out if there is no school?

The MSA Handbook says (p.12), "In case severe winter weather forces us to close the school, such notices will be given on the school voicemail system, via your homeroom advisor and on the following radio/TV stations:

Star 94 FM (WQXI 94.1)	WSB Channel 2
95.5 FM	WXIA TV Channel 11 Alive
97.1 FM	Fox 5 Atlanta
98.5 FM	WGST 640 AM
104.1 FM	WSB 750 AM

The Scoreboard

Basketball –Boys
Tue, Dec 1 – **MSA (43)** @ American Heritage (37)
Fri, Dec 4 – MSA @ Howard 6:00pm
Tue, Dec 8 – MSA @ Cottage 6:00pm
Fri, Dec 11 – MSA vs. Brandon Hall 5:00pm
Mon, Dec 14 – MSA vs. North GA Falcons 5:00pm

Basketball –Girls
Tue, Dec 1 – MSA @ American Heritage
Fri, Dec 4 – MSA @ Howard 4:00pm
Tue, Dec 8 – MSA @ Cottage 4:30pm

Wrestling
Tue, Dec 1 – MSA @ Weber School
Sat, Dec 5 – Takedown Tournament @ George Walton, Monroe, GA
Tue, Dec 8 – Dual Meet @ MSA vs. Mt. Vernon Presbyterian, Weber, Unity Christian
Sat, Dec 12 – Battle of the Boro Tournament @ Bulloch (JV/V), Statesboro, GA
Sat, Dec 19 – Quad Meet @ Unity Christian, Rome, GA

The Bulletin Board

Here are the things we have on our bulletin board:

Sat, Dec 5 – 8:15am – **SAT Test**

Tue, Dec 8 – 1:15pm – **Band/Chorus Concert** for Lower & Middle

Fri, Dec 11 – **1st Period Final Exam** – PU/CA/U

Sat, Dec 12 – **ACT Test**

Mon, Dec 14 – **2nd Period Final Exam** – PU/CA/U

Tue, Dec 15 – **3rd Period Final Exam** – PU/CA/U

Tue, Dec 15 – 8:30am – **Parent Breakfast for Rising 9th Graders** – Upper School Great Room – **RSVP HERE**

Wed, Dec 16 – **4th Period Final Exam** – PU/CA/U

Thur, Dec 17 – **5th Period Final Exam** – PU/CA/U

Fri, Dec 18 – **6th Period Final Exam** – PU/CA/U

Fri, Dec 18 – **Early Dismissal**
12:15 – *Lower/Middle* Carpool

12:30 – *PreUpper/CommArts/Upper* Carpool
12:45 – Buses Depart

Dec 21 thru Jan 1 – **Winter Holiday** – SCHOOL CLOSED

Mon, Jan 4 – Classes Resume after holiday

Mon, Jan 4 – **Winter Learning Program** begins – PU/CA/U

Cares and Concerns of our Community

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

The Ashlock Family

The FitzGerald Family

Jobless Families

The McElliott Family

The Muma Family

The Starr Family

The Strothmann 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

We can do no great things – only small things with great love.

- **Mother Teresa**

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

Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter for up to the minute information.

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

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