



MSA Weekly News

April 1, 2010

Volume 3, Number 31

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

-Twee L. Moore, Founder

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[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

The Magic of the 8-Ball



If you have been in the Administration office anytime lately you may have noticed the Magic 8 Ball I have. It strikes up conversations regularly. Teachers and students alike use it (I probably should wipe it down with Purell - yikes). I can't tell you who the participants were to protect their identity, but the other day two Lower School boys were in here trying to find out the answer to their secret questions. After the Boy 1 got his answer Boy 2 quizzed the 8-Ball.

Boy 1: What did it say?

Boy 2 (with a huge smile): It said "yes".

Me: What did you ask it?

Boy 2: If I would be rich.

Boy 1 (quietly to me, as Boy 2 shushes him): He asked if he would marry Carly someday.

The Magic 8 Ball was put down quickly before anyone could verify the answer. They both leave the office giggling while Boy 2 denies his 'real' question. They will tell you everything if you just ask, it's magic.

Feature Teacher – Meet Taniah Jones, CommArts



I love the color orange, Jamaican food and I can do a mean Michael Jackson imitation (or at least Kay thinks so).

Taniah, or "T" as we frequently call her, teaches Language Arts, World and British Lit and even Georgia History. She has been teaching here for 9 years after a year in the public school environment. She is very active outside of school, ushering at church and teaching Sunday School to 7th & 8th graders. She volunteers a couple times a month at The Samaritan House with her oldest daughter and even does Hosea's Feed the Hungry at Thanksgiving. She is also an active member of the PTA at her daughters school. She has two daughters, that she loves to spend time with, Amber is 9 and Amari is 3. Just for fun she loves to read, listen to jazz music, hang out with friends and family, play basketball and board games, roller skating and walking around Stone Mountain.

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Mill Springs Academy

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

Taniah feels that teaching is the most effective and enjoyable way to make the world a better place. She says that "Teaching allows me to work on hearts and minds, to guide people in becoming empowered, literate, engaged, creative, liberated human beings who want to join in this effort to change the world." Kay tells me that, "even though she has the highest expectations of the students, she is loved by all of them. She has a unique talent to be tough, yet kind and understanding. She gives everything her all."

"I believe that education is not only academic; it is emotional, social, and physical. I also believe that a teacher should be a facilitator or a guide to learning (hands-on learning), not just the knowledge giver [and] that teaching is developing life-long learners." That is Taniah's Philosophy of Education!

Taniah we are glad you are here – thank you for what you do every day, here and outside of school.

The Georgia Tech GHOST Program

Thursday two students from Georgia Tech (GT) presented the GHOST Program to some 7-12th graders. GHOST stands for Georgia High School Outreach for Science and Technology. It is run by undergrad and graduate students in the Materials Science and Engineering program at GT.



Pictured: **Jon Mark Brasher** and **Bailey Monette** watching a plasma experiment

The Tech students explained how materials science affects various parts of our lives and the future of our country, by manipulating materials to bring out desirable qualities and reduce non-desired ones. To demonstrate how the properties of materials can be changed, a squash ball was bounced repeatedly and then put in some liquid nitrogen, which is at a temperature of about -400°F. Moments later the ball was bounced again shattering with a loud explosion, sending shards of the frozen plastic across the floor. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and they asked many! Our speakers sparked the curiosity of our students that may lead them to the field of science as a career! (Martha Muir, PreUpper Science)

Call for Volunteers on PVA Board

The PVA is call for board nominees for the 2010-11 school year. If you would like to nominate someone for a position or nominate yourself please contact **Jacki Gass**. Nominations must be in by April 23rd or you may also self-nominate at the next PVA meeting which will be held on April 26 at 1:30in the CommArts Great Room. Voting for the 2010-11 PVA board will take place on this date.



Volunteers Needed! The PVA depends on participation from our parents and families. This is a great way to be involved in your child's education, meet other parents, and have fun too! If you would like to volunteer to help with a single event, multiple events, on a committee or as a committee chair, please let us know. The more people that are involved, the more we can do to support MSA and their continued efforts to provide the best possible learning environment for our children,

Please contact Jacki Gass to get involved!
jackig@bellsouth.net or 678-438-7183.

Heard Around the Bases

Tuesday the Mill Springs Mustangs went down in defeat to Chrysalis 6 – 5 in 8 innings. MSA had 7 hits and 5 errors. Chrysalis had 7 hits and 2 errors. The Mustangs could never get the big hit when men were on base. Although the defense had 5 errors, they pulled off two big double plays.

Then Wednesday, after a dismal hitting performance the day before the big bats broke out igniting a late inning rally, catching and then passing a tough Cottage team. The visiting Cougars had rolled to a 10 – 7 advantage before the thundering metal sounds crushed their hopes of victory. MSA belted out seven extra base hits including two doubles each by **Jake Kamrass** and **Mike Kline**. **Jared Sherman** and **Tim Broadwell** each added triples and **Shane Marks** sped to an inside the park homerun in his three hit performance. Led by Michael Kline's four hits the Mills Springs Nine laced out fourteen hits. **Addison Reed's** zipping fastball took down 12 Cottage hitters by strikeout before Shane Marks won the game in relief sending eight more Cougars back to the bench swinging at air. The two pitchers combined for an astounding 20 strikeouts.



If the Mustangs, currently tied for second place in the AAC, can shore up the defense and come up with a solution to the catching inexperience they will be in the hunt for a

sixth straight title! (Coach Jack Withrow)

CommArts & Seven Habits



Pictured: **Mitch Norris, Zach Harmon,** Becky Jarrell, and **Max Martens**

The CommArts high school students are participating in a seven-week workshop for Sean Covey's *Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens* this spring. The students will meet each Wednesday during the Values class. We started last Wednesday with an introduction to the Seven Habits. This week we focused on the Personal Bank Account and Habit 1: Be Proactive. Habit 1 stresses being proactive rather than reactive. Proactive means taking charge of your own life. Make sure you ask your CommArts Student what they learned, the concept of a Personal Bank Account is something that everyone can use.

This Weeks Tennis Matches



Please congratulate the Mustang Tennis Teams on playing fantastic matches this week against Chrysalis and King's Ridge. The Boys Team beat Chrysalis and suffered a difficult loss against King's Ridge. The Girls Team overwhelmed King's Ridge with an outstanding victory.

Wednesday the Varsity Boys and Girls Tennis Teams had a home match against Oak Mountain Academy. The Boys Team encountered challenging opponents in every line of singles and doubles. Although the Mustangs competed with a great deal of heart and had several close matches, the boys from Oak Mountain ended the day with the overall win. The Girls Team also went out on the courts with much determination and enthusiasm. The Lady Mustangs were victorious in the #2 singles spot and both lines of doubles.

We are proud of both teams and look forward to our next match on April 13th. (Coaches Anne, Brian, James)

Class of 2010 Updates



The following students have been accepted at the indicated colleges:

Cassie Kanelos – **American Musical and Dramatic Academy** this is the school Cassie plans to attend

Alex Kaplan – The **University of Georgia** and **Oxford College of Emory**

Congratulations to both of you!

Track Team Takes First!!



The Mustangs took first place in Tuesday's track meet against 10 schools in a mixed GISA and AAC competition! Everyone did fantastic with 8 new personal records set and first place in 7 events!

First Place

Jake Lipsitz – 110m hurdles AND 300m hurdles

Hanna Bowler – 400m

Payton Lockwood – 3200m AND 1600m

Chris Thorne – high jump

4x400m relay team A

CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!

Family Movie Night



Time to dig out your 3-D glasses!

Family Movie Night

April 16, 2010

7:00-9:00pm

Student Activity Center – Gym

Concessions will be available

Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D

***Bring a blanket or pillow to sit on ***

Admission: \$3/person or \$10/family of four
(kids under 5 are free)

Lower/Middle Students should bring their parents to enjoy the show. PreUpper/CommArts/Upper students

should be dropped off at 7pm and picked up at 9pm
(parents are definitely welcome to stay).

Golf Team News



MSA's golf team was narrowly beaten by The Howard School at our match at Charlie Yates golf course Wednesday. We lost by six strokes in a four on four match on an unfamiliar golf course. All of our players played well, with **Austin Coleman** leading the scoring with a 37 for nine holes.

We have three matches the week that we return from Spring break, so thank you all for continuing to support us. (Coach Matthew McConnell)

The History of April Fool's Day

You may think that April Fool's has been only celebrated more recently, but that is not true. In fact, April Fool's Day has a longer history than some other holidays celebrated, such as Mother's Day and even Valentine's Day.



While the origin of April Fool's Day is not exactly known, it is clear that this day of pranks has been observed since around 1582 in France. When Charles IX ruled, the Gregorian calendar was introduced and New Year's Day was moved from April 1 to January 1. People continued to celebrate on April 1, either not knowing the calendar had been changed or not caring. Those people were often referred to as "fools" for celebrating day that no longer existed. Still, they set a trend known around the world and April Fool's became commonplace in many households.

Read more [HERE!](#)

Georgia GOAL Update



From Twitter:

Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program: Tax Credit Availability Update: The Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) informed GOAL that \$49,512,922 of the \$50 million annual cap on Qualified Education Expense Credits is still available to taxpayers. (3/30/10 7:37am)

Follow MSA on Twitter [HERE](#) and you can get up to the moment news on all things Mill Springs each day.

The Bulletin Board

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

Thur, Apr 1 – **Early Dismissal** – Spring Break Begins!!

12:15 – *Lower/Middle* Carpool

12:30 – *PreUpper/CommArts/Upper* Carpool

12:45 – Buses Depart

Fri, Apr 2 – your submissions to ***The Horseshoe Review*** are due to – Submit [HERE](#)

Fri, April 2 thru 9 – **Spring Break** – School CLOSED and Office Closed

Wed, Apr 14 – 9:00am – **Public Open House** – if you know of someone that might benefit from the services that MSA offers make sure to invite them to this last open house of the year.

Fri, Apr 16 – 7:00pm – **Family Movie Night** – SAC – Movie will be Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D.

Sat, Apr 17 – **Prom** – 7:30pm – Capital City Club House



Cares and Concerns of our Community

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

The Baloh Family

The Coady Family

Jobless Families

Nancy and Family

The Pritchard Family

The Windsor 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



**Life is like a ten-speed bike.
Most of us have gears we
never use.**

- Charles Schultz

To: All Mill Springs Parents, Board of Trustees, Newsletter Friends, Newsletter Family,
New 2010-11 Families, Newsletter Professionals, Newsletter Foundations and All Staff/Faculty

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