



MSA Weekly News

April 16, 2010

Volume 3, Number 32

"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

[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

Excuse Me? Are you Following Me?



Yes, I am talking to YOU! I'm talking about [FaceBook](#) (Mill Springs Academy) and [Twitter](#) (@millspringsacad). Join Mill Springs as we meet on the social networking scene. If you are already there then get on the band wagon and follow me. If you aren't ready to be there yet, let me tell you what you might be missing – reminders of Sports activity, fun stuff, important news, days off, etc.

We have had a busy week with lots of sports activity – more than is reviewed below. We also held our monthly fire drill, successfully I might add. There is even more activity to follow, Family Movie Night tonight and tomorrow is Prom. Oh my, it won't be long before this zips right by. In the words of Elaine Miles (Upper Parent) "Time will speed up from now till end of school. Then Summer.....yay!" via [FaceBook](#).

Feature Teacher – Meet Ed Little, Middle School

Ed Little has been teaching 6th Grade Geography and World Cult since he came to Mill Springs at the start of this school year. Before he came to us he taught for two years at Sophia Academy. Prior to that he was a copywriter at J. Walter Thompson Advertising where he wrote and produced TV and radio commercials for Orkin Pest Control, Maxfli Golf, Mrs. Smith's Pies, and the US Marines.



Favorite food: Filet Mignon

His hobbies include golfing, mountain biking, hiking, kayaking. He loves to travel to the beaches of Georgia and the mountains in North Carolina. Mostly he spends time chasing his 3 year old son and 6 year old daughter around. His favorite color? Ed states that he bleeds Clemson Orange. A couple interesting facts about Ed include that he grew up in a family of seven boys and he has shrapnel in his back from the Olympic Park bombing.

Ed's teaching philosophy is that he tries "to be the kind of teacher that I would want my own children to have. I want to make the subject matter relevant to my students' lives and help them understand current events. I also strive to make learning a fun process for all students through the use of learning games, skits, projects and technology." Middle School Principal, Margaret Brito tells me th

[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



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charwood@millsprings.org

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

“Ed’s calmness lends to his wonderful ability to be a strong Middle School team member. He has many fun and interactive ways to help them learn as he takes them on a trip around the world.”

Margaret said, “The Middle School and MSA are fortunate to have Ed as part of our team!” Thanks for what you do for our students:

“It’s all about the students, and the privilege of impacting and witnessing their growth and success. I can’t imagine a better place to teach than MSA.” –Ed Little

What I Did on my Spring Break



Andrew Smith
(Middle) holding the fins of two dolphins as they pull him through the water.

You may recall that I had a request for information regarding what I did on your Spring Break a couple weeks ago. Well I got this response from the Smith Family:

The Smith Family made our annual trip to Grand Cayman and that was special because we found a new adventure park called Disc Cove where the kids had a chance to encounter Dolphins as never before. Andrew got to be pulled, ride, kiss, hug and do everything he wanted to take one home. (Joe Smith, Middle parent)

Look at that smile on his face! Thanks for sharing with us and I hope the Smith Family had a terrific time. I hope the rest of our families had a terrific time as well.

Golf Tournament Coming Soon



**12th Annual
“Tee-Off for Technology” Golf Tournament
April 26, 2010
Atlanta National Golf Club**

Don’t miss out....we only have a few spots left!!!
Register now!

jkramer@millsprings.org or 678.893.7791

Please send in any Raffle items or Cash donations you would like to donate.

Thanks for supporting the MSA Technology Department.

PreUpper's Big Trip for WLP 2011 – Kenya!

The PreUpper School will be travelling to Kenya, with a 6 day adventure in London, during the 2011 Winter Learning Program!! The trip is scheduled for January 5-14, 2011 (subject to change). Students and Parents - come learn more about this exciting opportunity:



Informational Meeting
PreUpper Great Room
April 29th @ 6 PM

This trip is open to future and current Level R/L students who are rising 7th and 8th graders. This trip will also be open to select (with Bruce Brownlow and Kay Morrison's permission) rising 9th graders who are level R/L's.

This incredible opportunity is limited to 14 students so don't miss out!

Please contact **Karen Bradley** or **Victoria Jones** if you have additional questions about the meeting on April 29th.

Art Exhibit Next Week



In conjunction with the Masquerade, the Art Exhibit will be taking place April 23rd and 24th. The exhibit opens at 6:30pm. Come see colorful works of art produced by all of our artists. Some pieces of art are even FOR SALE! The exhibit is going to be featuring and hosting a small addition of work from the Teen Write's class. Teen Write is a class that focuses on giving teenagers an opportunity to explore the world, develop opinions and then to develop a voice which to express those opinions. We invite you to come and take a look at what the 2010 Teen Writes class has to say!

Come Friday night, Saturday night (or both) and enjoy. You will have a great time while supporting your MSA Fine Arts Department! (Janet Ford, Fine Arts)

Latest Issue of Kickin' It is Available – No Fooling!



Your April Issue of Kickin' It comes in two parts! The first launched on April 1 – and the second was added on April 1 One part is real and the other part...isn't. Can you figure out which is which?

Read about the MSA football team [here](#) and see a report on Senior Presentations [here](#).

Sincerely,
Your Amazing MSA Reporters & Staff-Member-People

Message from your PVA

MSA Parents & Students Love our Teachers!
MSA Teacher Appreciation Week
Sponsored by MSA PVA
~April 26-30, 2010~

To show our appreciation:



Monday **STUDENTS** bring a flower for EACH of your teachers. Each teacher will have a new vase to display their bouquets!
Tuesday Breakfast provided by PVA for all teachers
Wednesday Surprise Day!
Thursday Lunch provided by PVA for all teachers
Friday **PARENTS** send desserts for all teachers. **

Parents and students – This is a great time to send a personal note or card to anyone and everyone at MSA who teach, coach, support and encourage you and/or your student!

**Awesome MSA Parents:

We need your help to make this week GREAT. If you are sending a dessert on Friday 4/30, please email [Michele Baloh](#) or [Sheree Crowe](#) by Tuesday 4/27. We need to make sure we have plenty of sweets for everyone. Thank you!

Mill Springs Players Present “Masquerade”

Friday, April 23rd and Saturday, April 24th

7:00pm – Student Activity Center Theatre (but be there at 6:30p
for the Art Exhibit)

Rated PG



"Masquerade"

Masquerade is an exciting, contemporary musical that deals with the important subject of bullying. Have you ever felt out of place? Ever been in a new place and tried to fit in? The central characters in Masquerade are going through the very same thing. Corri & Jamie move to a new school in the middle of the year. They encounter the various 'cliques' and the class tough guy. The story explores their efforts to find their place. Join them on their zany, energetic and often touching journey!

Tickets @ Door: \$10 general admission, \$8 students and Alliance Members

Moms on a Mission

Wednesday, April 21st at 8:30am

CommArts Great Room

Come join us to discuss:

- Action plans to deal with specific situations
- Creative solutions with helpful and meaningful information
- Support and understanding needed to help with children who have special needs
- Ways to reduce stress!



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, children and our families, and support the mission of MSA.

For more information, contact **Paulette Solis** (PU Mom) at 267-0362 or **Sheree Crowe** (M Mom) at 770-354-3657.

School Uniform Stores

Where do I get school uniforms? Here are the options that are currently available to you:



1. www.schooluniformdepot.com – Uniform Depot now sells uniforms mainly online, they have closed their Alpharetta store.
2. **Buckhead Uniforms** is located at 940 Curie Drive, Alpharetta 30005, their phone number is 678-240-2024. They do have other locations as well, click on the link to find the list.
3. **Gently Used Uniform Shop** – this is located on campus in the Technology building. The store is manned during carpool on Tuesday and Wednesday from approximately 8:15 – 9:15am.

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 enter the show. PreUpper/CommArts/Upper students should be dropped off at 7pm and picked up at 9pm (parents are definitely welcome to stay).

Sports News this Week



Youth & JV Track – The Youth Area Championship athletes did not bring home a trophy on Wednesday, but they were awarded Third Place. They are preparing for the First Annual Middle School State Championship in Fairburn April 24th.

Golf Team – Even though **Austin Coleman** and **Robert Golden** led scoring 43 and 46 respectively Wednesday, we incurred a loss to Heritage School with a final score of 20

208 in Newnan. Then Thursday we had a second close loss Kings Ridge (191-203). Robert Golden was the top scorer for MSA with a 44 in the front nine at Rivermont. Today they are playing in Dalton vs. Christian Heritage School.

Baseball – Wednesday’s game vs. undefeated Brandon Hall is a terrific win for the Green Team with a final score of 14-0. **Addison Reed** had a triple and struck out 8 Panthers in 3 innings of pitching. **Shane Marks** finished pitching the final innings with stellar relief performance – the two pitchers only allowed 3 BH hits. **Andrew Smoltz** hit a double and single and drove in two runs. **Mike Kline** had a triple off the fence and another hit that brought in two runs. **Jake Kamrass** has two hits as did **Chandler Holt** (7th grader) who also had two runs batted in.

Well done **Green** Team!

Did You Know ...



The computer in your cell phone today is a **million** times cheaper and a **thousand** times more powerful and about a **hundred thousand** times smaller (than the one computer at MIT in 1965).

“So what used to fit in a building now fits in your pocket what fits in your pocket now will fit inside a blood cell in years.”

– Ray Kurzweil (of Kurzweil 3000 fame)

From Did You Know 4.0:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lLQrUie8&NR=1>

The Bulletin Board

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



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

Week of Apr 19 – **8th Grade Week** for CommArts

Thur, Apr 22 – **8th Grade Luncheon** – CommArts

Thur, Apr 22 – 7:00pm – **Year-end Accomplishments** – L/V
Lower – Student Activity Center
Middle – Upper Great Room

Fri, Apr 23 – 6:30pm – **Art Exhibit and Spring Musical Performance** – SAC (this performance is rated PG)

Sat, Apr 24 – 6:30pm – **Art Exhibit and Spring Musical Performance** – SAC (this performance is rated PG)

Mon, Apr 26 – 1:30pm – **PVA Meeting** – CommArts Great Room

Mon, Apr 26 – 9:30am – **Tee-Off for Technology** – Atlanta National Golf Club

Cares and Concerns of our Community

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



The Flax Family

The Holland Family

The Stallings 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 prudent person profits from personal experience, a wise one from the experience of others.”

- Joseph Colli