



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

December 5, 2011

- ♦ Monday, Dec. 5: Auction Gala committee meeting, 6:30 p.m., library
- ♦ Tuesday, Dec. 6: Family Dinner Night, 5-10 p.m., Fire Station 1 restaurant, 8131 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
- ♦ Wednesday, Dec. 7: Local School Advisory Team meeting, 4 p.m. library
- ♦ Wednesday, Dec. 7: Holiday Concert, 6:45 p.m., auditorium
- ♦ Tuesday, Dec. 13: PTA Town Hall meeting, 6:30 p.m., auditorium
- ♦ Friday, Dec. 16: First day of Holiday Store, 3:15 p.m., library
- ♦ Friday, Dec. 16: Family Movie Night, 6:45 p.m., auditorium (movie starts at 7)



Consult the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, for a full array of events and happenings throughout the school year!

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

Dear Shepherd Parents,

The Shepherd Town Hall - A "Whole-listic" Approach - is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. This meeting will be in place of the monthly PTA meeting. Topics for discussion include:



- General Shepherd and PTA Questions
- Academic Questions - grades PK-2
- Academic Questions - grades 3-5
- LSAT Questions
- Special Education Questions
- IB/PACE Learning Questions
- Discipline/Bullying/etc. Questions

(see PTA Pres, page 7)

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Shepherd Family,



The month of December brings with it the wonder of the holiday season. As we start to experience more winter-like weather, excitement grows and students sometimes find it hard to focus. Please continue to reinforce behavior expectations at home with your student(s) and let them know you expect for them to give more than their best every single day. We are committed to enjoying this time with our students as we continue to hold them to high academic and behavior expectations.

News-Spanish Teacher Update!

Ms. Moore, our new Spanish teacher is scheduled to begin Tuesday, Dec. 6. Yay!!! We are very excited. Again, a special thank you to Ms. Johnson for her dedication to our students.

Welcome to Shepherd

Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members to Shepherd.

Ms. Akilalh Moore (Spanish teacher)
Ms. Pamela Adams (Custodian)
Ms. Simms-Conyers (2nd Grade Teacher and Reading Support)

We would also like to welcome Ms. Noel back. She is serving as a long-term substitute for Ms. M. James while she is out on maternity leave.

Progress Reports

It is hard to believe we are at the halfway point of the second advisory. This means progress reports will be coming home on Wednesday, December 14, 2011.

These reports are meant to inform you of your child's progress. If you review your child's report

(see MILES, page 9)

Request for Volunteers

Have you been bitten by the holiday bug? If so, then you must be interested in serving as a volunteer for movie night or the Secret Santa Shop. (Please say YES!)

The movie night is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 16, and we need help setting up as well as managing the event. Remember: The PTA executive committee is quite small, so the more help we get the easier the event is on those who volunteer.

If movie night is not your thing, then what about the Secret Santa Shop? The shop will open on Friday, Dec. 16, as well and will reopen between the hours of 3:15-6 p.m. every school day until winter break.

So be it movie night or the Secret Santa Shop, we are in great need of help. Seriously we need your help!

If the holiday spirit takes you, then I hope that you will send an email with your name and phone number and volunteer interest to info@shepherd-elementary.org. Upon receipt either Alicia Anderson or Lisa Deane will contact you.

Thank you for your staying engaged!

--Bianca Bostic-PTA President

*We
Need
Your
Help!*

TV Turn-Off Update

Students had the chance to strike a pose for their TV-Video Game Turn-Off pictures last week, and also received a welcome card and token of appreciation for their efforts. The Shepherd TV-VG Club will be posting pictures of all the students who signed up on the purple bulletin board next to the library soon. Stop by to see who is NOT watching lots of TV or Video Games during the school week!

And since our first list was published in the Mustang, even more students have joined Shepherd's TV-VG Club!

Lillian Beach
Amber Brown
Mehley Ghermay
Sean Justin Holmes

Awa Kanta
Naeem Scott
Kamden Smith



Special thanks to our second parent librarian, Mr. Ed Underwood!! Mr. Underwood is a grandparent to Preston Underwood, of Ms.

Pethtel's class. He is also a retired DCPS librarian, so he knows his way around the book stacks. We are especially pleased to have someone who will stay involved in Shepherd for a while!



Please stop in and visit the art projects on display in the library. We have "communities" designed by several students on display.

Don't forget the library in your holiday giving plans! Trying to decide what to get the Grandparent who needs nothing new? Donate some books to Shepherd in his/her name! All grandparents support education, and it keeps you from getting them yet another scarf set! Simply go to www.amazon.com, and search for 'Shepherd PTA' in the wish list box in the upper right corner.

Last, please remind your students to return their library books! We like our collection, and want to give every kid every chance to read.

—Stephanie Scott

LOOSE CHANGE

Congratulations to all change-conscious boys and girls (and their families) at Shepherd! We collected more than \$1,000 in the annual "Loose Change" drive that concluded last month. To be exact, we raised \$1,012.52. Mrs. Miles split the proceeds among five Shepherd families who have been faced with hard times lately, with each family receiving \$200 – and in time for Thanksgiving, so that their holiday could be a bit cheerier.



The winning classroom this year was Ms. LaPen-na's kindergarten class, bringing in around \$197. That's a terrific amount, and her students will receive a no-uniform day as their prize, courtesy of the principal.



Dear Fellow Mustangs,

During the past weeks, Shepherd Elementary student council candidates have started campaigning. There are four council positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Our 4th and 5th grade student candidates are Chandler Mabry, Julianna Ingram, Sankessha Meskhinetin, Tiffany Missembe, Naomi Schuster, Margret Goletiani, Kwniyah Tuffour, Saige Ballard and Noah White.

The candidates will be presenting their speeches this month to encourage votes. They are all excited about the upcoming elections. Fellow Mustangs, let's wish each candidate good luck!

I encourage you to share cool news tips and comments with me. Please contact me at snherisse@yahoo.com for news tips or comments.

--Sophia-Rose Herisse, 4th grader

Trick or Treat for UNICEF Report

As promised, here is the wrap-up on this year's Trick or Treat for UNICEF collection. This year, we collected \$4.90. We understand that most students were not given a chance to get a box this year, and that those students who were offered a box only got one just minutes before they were going out trick-or-treating that evening. We'll make sure in 2012 that every Shepherd students gets a chance to participate in this worthwhile effort.



After the Holiday Concert (December 7, 6:45 pm), we will turn our attention to the "Songs of Freedom and Justice" concert (February 8, 6:45 pm). All students are welcome to sing the 25 songs, and we will hear more than 60 students with "lead roles" speaking from the microphones. Students will portray important people from American history (such as Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Duke Ellington, and Bernice Johnson Reagon). We will make a video recording and will give a free edited DVD with excerpts from the concert to all students.

"Songs of Freedom and Justice" is a unique music history program. The songs and narratives tell about mass social movements in American history, from the anti-slavery movement to the union movement, from blues and jazz to rock and gospel, and finally to the civil rights movement. The D.C. Labor Chorus, which rehearses at Shepherd Elementary School every Monday night, will sing with our students. The 60 students who have "lead roles" are invited to rehearse with the D.C. Labor Chorus on January 9, 23, and 30, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. The final rehearsal will be Monday, February 6, at 6:45 pm in the auditorium. The concert will be February 8.

Auction Gala Committee To Meet Monday Night



Here's your chance to get in on the ground floor of this spring's Auction Gala! The event committee is meeting this Monday, Dec. 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. This is your opportunity to make this year's gala bigger and better than you've ever seen it before. All you have to do is show up with enthusiasm and ideas – and a willingness to work! (There had to be a catch, right?). If you're interested in pitching in but can't make Monday's meeting, get in touch with PTA president Bianca Bostic at bianca.bostic@noaa.gov.

Next Family Dinner Night Is At the Fire Station 1 Restaurant!

We got a request from one parent to see if we could schedule a Family Dinner Night at the Fire Station 1 restaurant in downtown Silver Spring. So we asked, and they said yes! We're holding it Tuesday, Dec. 6, 5-10 p.m. The restaurant is located at 8131 Georgia Ave. at Silver Spring Ave. in downtown Silver Spring. Hint: It looks like a fire station, because that's what it used to be!



The Fire Station 1 has a children's menu, tasty burgers, vegetarian and vegan fare, fine craft brews among the beverages offered for sale, big-screen TV to let the sports fan in you keep tabs on your favorite sport.

The one twist to this Family Dinner Night is that, if you want the PTA to get its rebate, you **MUST** bring a flyer with you and give it to your server. That's how the restaurant will know to credit your bill to Shepherd. There's a copy of the flyer in this issue of the Mustang, and extra flyers in the rack outside the school office.

So far, the PTA has raised \$895 from Family Dinner Nights so far this year, and we're well on our way to setting a new record. So come hungry!

Holiday Concert Wednesday!

Remember to come back to Shepherd Wednesday evening for the music program's annual Holiday Concert! The date is Dec. 7. The starting time is 6:45 p.m. You'll get to see the school's violinists and recorder players in action on some selections. And you'll get to hear Shepherd students sing as one with members of the D.C. Labor Chorus, who practice Monday evenings at Shepherd and are partners in the concerts designed by Mr. Giles, the music teacher. It's **FREE**, and it shouldn't last so long that it will put bedtimes for our youngest students hopelessly out of whack.



Meet Shepherd's Recycling Team!

Shepherd Elementary has an eager group of students in grades 3-5 who are helping Mr. King on the Recycling Team. They help the school's custodial staff keep Shepherd "green." One of the chief ways they do so is by going to classrooms throughout the school and collecting the recycling bins. The bins are emptied – properly, of course! – and returned to the classrooms for students to practice green habits anew. These students are all volunteers, and they deserve our thanks. They are:



Saige Ballard
Kelci Barnette
Malik Belmar
Kamryn Bowman
Kayla Boyde
Jamary Calhoun
Nia Carroll
Miles Davis
London Downing
Carlita Garrett
Jasmine Greene
Milke Hailu
Godloves Tata
Cydni Taylor
Adam Thomas
Kwaniniah Tuffour

Goodness Ukubeke
Bryan Wilson
Sophia-Rose Herisse
Mia Heyward
Denija Hudgens
Camille Jones
Ernestine Lwangu
Tiffany Messembe
Taye Moss-Suggs
Taylor Paraless
Cynthia Pattison
Catherine Serrano
Aishah Shabazz
Kerod Shiferah
Madison Swanson



Deadline for Next
Mustang Issue

**Fri, Dec 16,
at 5 p.m.**

Send all contributions to:
sesmustang@gmail.com

No 'Screen Time' for Kids Under 2, Says Pediatricians' Association

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends no screen time for children under 2 and less than two hours per day for older children.

Excessive screen time puts young children at risk.



- ◆ Forty percent of 3-month-old infants are regular viewers of screen media, and 19 percent of babies 1 year old and under have a TV in their bedroom.
- ◆ Screen time can be habit-forming: the more time children engage with screens, the harder time they have turning them off as older children.
- ◆ Screen time for children under 3 is linked to irregular sleep patterns and delayed language acquisition.
- ◆ The more time preschool children and babies spend with screens, the less time they spend interacting with their parents. Even when parents co-view, they spend less time talking to their children than when they're engaged in other activities.
- ◆ Toddler screen time is also associated with problems in later childhood, including lower math and school achievement, reduced physical activity, victimization by classmates, and increased body-mass index numbers – an indicator of obesity.
- ◆ Direct exposure to TV and overall household viewing are associated with increased early childhood aggression.
- ◆ The more time preschool children spend with screens, the less time they spend engaged in creative play - the foundation of learning, constructive problem solving, and creativity.
- ◆ On average, preschool children see nearly 25,000 television commercials, a figure that does not include product placement.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that parents create an electronic-media-free environment in children's bedrooms.

Mustangs Basketball News

Here is your 2011-12 Shepherd Mustangs boys' basketball team!

- * Quentin Anderson-Watson
- * Chase Cook
- * Jamal Deane
- * Lyndon Downing
- * Devon Dunn
- * Anthony Harrison
- * Jaden Inniss
- * Jordan Johnson
- * Jerrod Nolan
- * Alexander Leonard
- * Colin Powell
- * Christian Watkins

And, ladies and gentlemen, here are the names of your Shepherd Mustangs girls' basketball team!

- * Mecca Camille
- * Aries Askew
- * Saige Ballard
- * Kaitlyn Hunter
- * Margaret Golefiani
- * Tiffany Greene
- * Savannah Waymer
- * Damia Basil
- * Alicia Dawson
- * Kwaniyah Tuffour
- * Nmesomachuku Ukaegbu

Look to the website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, for a schedule of games, with start times and locations included.



**Shepherd Elementary PTA
Invites You to Our First Annual
Family Movie Night**

Friday, December 16th

Time: 6:45

Location: Auditorium

Movie: TBD (based on school vote)

Cost: \$3 per person

(cost includes popcorn)

Brought to you by FunFlicks

**Hot & Cold drink items will be available for purchase &
Secret Santa Shop Open for Business**

Family Movie Night Things to Know

- ★ All children must be accompanied by an adult
- ★ Bring a blanket for seating
- ★ Kids, remember that every silenced voice allows for an ear to hear 😊
- ★ ENJOY THE MOVIE!!

180 Fund Extra!

And, by the way, if you were wondering, we got more than 10 new families to join the 180 Fund in the past month, meaning that Sam Collins will turn in an extra \$180 himself in appreciation for his fellow parents' generosity.

These families, and YOUR family, have the power to push up the fundraising thermometer to the PTA's goal of \$75,000 this year from all sources. Your contributions to the PTA are tax-deductible. It's the equivalent of a dollar a day for each day of the school year. Think of \$180 multiplied by 240 families; those dollars put together add up to a lot. And together we can do it!

How can you do it? Support the vision of the PTA. Go to the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org. Click on the "180 Fund" link in the center column of the homepage. You'll be directed to a page that lets you contribute online, or print a form you can fill out. Either way, you win – and so do our children! No amount that you give is too small, and you can make your payments monthly, bimonthly, quarterly, or in one fell swoop.



SPECTRUM

Youth Enrichment Program

A Free Comprehensive Youth Development Program

Saturdays With SPECTRUM

Weekly Saturday sessions are held now through May, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at Peoples Congregational Church, 4704 Thirteenth Street, N.W.

Weekly activities include:

- Community Service
- Art & Craft Projects
- Games
- Guest Speakers
- Discussions
- Field Trips
- Workshops

A nutritional lunch is served at each session. Parents and guardians are always welcome to participate in SPECTRUM activities.

SPECTRUM stands for Spiritual, Physical, Educational & Economic, Cultural, Talent, Relationships, Unity, Motivation

For more details, call SPECTRUM at 202-405-4321.

PTA Pres from p. 1

We are encouraging parents to send their questions ahead of time to info@shepherd-elementary.org or drop them in the Town Hall Box which is in the main office now through Wednesday, Dec. 7. All questions will be answered during the meeting.

We'll have spaghetti for the kids. There's no charge, but donations are requested!

Best wishes!

Bianca Bostic

PTA President

202-821-8076

bianca.bostic@noaa.gov

Shepherd Elementary Logo Merchandise

Consider getting....

- ★ the aluminum water bottle to reduce your use of plastic bottles,
- ★ a T-shirt to let everyone know that you are a proud Mustang; or
- ★ a lightweight backpack for the kids to carry over the weekend....



Available Items.....

- ★ **Adult and Children T-Shirts**
(assorted colors and sizes)
- ★ **Aluminum Water Bottles**
- ★ **Drawstring Backpack**

.....All items are **\$10** each

Available for sale at the December 16th Holiday Movie Night or email info@shepherd-elementary.org to arrange for purchasing.

MILES from p. 1 _____

and you are not pleased with what you see, please schedule a conference with your child's teacher. During this conference, an improvement plan should be developed. This plan should outline what the teacher will do, what you (the parent) will do and what the student needs to do to make improvements.

Student Council

Student Council elections have been rescheduled for Friday, Dec. 9, 2011. The candidates will begin delivering their speeches at 9 a.m., voting will take place immediately afterward, and the winners will be announced at the end of the day. Feel free to support our candidates by listening to them deliver their speeches to the student body.

Winter Weather Outside Policy

Please dress your students appropriately for the approaching winter weather. We will go outside when the temperature (accounting for wind chill) is above 25 degrees. Getting fresh air helps to stimulate our bodies and minds. Students must have appropriate attire (jackets, hats and gloves). In the event of snow, students must have boots in order to play in the snow (on the days we allow them to play). Otherwise, students will not be permitted outside. If you are unable to secure the appropriate outside attire for your student due to financial reasons, please contact Ms. Liggins, our school counselor.

Olive Garden's 16th Annual Pasta Tales Essay Writing Contest

Shepherd Elementary and Olive Garden are asking writers in first through 12th grade in the U.S. and Canada to submit an essay of 50 to 250 words answering the question:

"If you were given \$5,000 to support education in your local community, how would you use it and why?"

The grand prize winner of the Olive Garden's 16th Annual Pasta Tales essay writing contest will receive a three-day trip to New York City that includes dinner at the Olive Garden in Times Square and a \$2,500 savings bond. In addition, Olive Garden will provide a \$5,000 grant to support education in the winner's

local community, which will bring his/her essay to life. The winners in each grade category will be awarded a \$500 savings bond and a family dinner at their local Olive Garden restaurant.

Submissions will be judged based on creativity, adherence to theme, organization, grammar, punctuation and spelling by the Quill and Scroll Society of the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Iowa, with winners selected by Olive Garden. Parents may assist with typing; however, the work must be done by students.



At Shepherd, to encourage participation, we will have a local contest before submitting ALL entries to Olive Garden. To participate, all typed entries must be submitted to your child's teacher no later than Friday, Jan. 13, 2012. The entries will be judged and one winner will be selected from each grade level. Winners will receive a \$25 Toys R Us gift card. All students will receive a certificate of participation and all entries (even if it is not a local winner) will be entered into the Pasta Tales/Olive Garden contest. Good luck and happy writing!!!

A Day On, Not A Day Off

On Friday, Dec. 2, 2011, teachers participated in their second professional development day for the 2011-2012 school year. Pre-kindergarten through first grade teachers and special content teachers and staff members spent the morning or the full day at various locations across the District learning how to increase student achievement and/or new expectations in their content area. Second through 5th grade teachers spent the morning analyzing students misconceptions on their most recent Paced Interim Assessment (PIA) and developing "reteach" action plans. In the afternoon all teachers spent the afternoon discussing the importance of building students' "vocabulary size." Please see the Curriculum Matters section to learn more about how you can support our "vocabulary" efforts.

Curriculum Matters –Vocabulary

Did you know, according to Cunningham & Stanovich (1997) vocabulary size at the end of first grade is a significant predictor of reading comprehension 10 years later?

(see PRINCIPAL, page 12)

Hair Today...

If you're looking to do something with your "do" for the holidays, go right ahead -- and help Shepherd in the process!

Shepherd parent Mickey Bolek, owner of Michael Anthony Salon, is offering a 5 percent rebate to the PTA for anyone coming into the salon for hair, nail, or associated work. You could say the PTA gets a "cut" of the proceeds! This offer is good not just for one day, but for the whole school year!



If you were wondering, Michael Anthony Salon does women's, men's and children's hair — all hair lengths and textures, including extensions. The salon is located at 661 C St. SE at Seventh St.

Eastern Market stop on Metro's Blue and Orange-lines.

The phone number is 202-506-3609. Michael Anthony is open Tuesdays-Saturdays. To see more about its range of services and products, go to <http://www.michaelanthonysalondc.com/>.



LSAT Meets Wednesday

The Local School Advisory Team at Shepherd has rescheduled its postponed November meeting to this Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. in the school library. All parents are welcome to attend, although they may need to be dismissed should confidential issues arise.

Go to the school website and take your own look at the LSAT's activities, work and history at

<http://www.shepherd-elementary.org/parents/school-advisory-board/>.

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT FAMILY DINNER NIGHT FAMILY DINNER NIGHT



Fire Station 1 Restaurant

8131 Georgia Avenue

Downtown Silver Spring

Tuesday, December 6

5-9 p.m.



**→ BRING THIS FLYER ←
WITH YOU**

Attach It to the Check,
And Give It to Your Server
The PTA gets 15% of your bill!

SOUPS & SALADS

PIZZA

SANDWICHES

POP POP'S

BURGERS

VEGETARIAN

SEAFOOD

JR. FIREFIGHTERS

DESSERTS

Good for Dine-In and Carryout (PH: 301-585-1370) www.firestation-1.com



Shepherd IB PYP Corner

Last week, our fifth-grade teachers were involved in IB Training about Exhibition. Exhibition is a culminating experience for students in their final year of the Primary Years Programme. It gives students the opportunity to exhibit their learning of the essential elements of the PYP. The Exhibition represents a significant event in the life of an IB PYP school, the student and the whole school community. Our fifth-grade students will begin the planning of their exhibition around the theme of "How we express ourselves." The exhibition will be completed and displayed in May. More information about Exhibition will be provided in the upcoming weeks.

We began Unit 3 of our Programme of Inquiry. This unit will continue until Jan. 20, 2012. The themes for each grade level are as follows:

Pre Kindergarten & Fourth Grade – How We Organize Ourselves - An inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment.

Kindergarten – Where We Are in Place and Time - An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

First Grade – Who We Are - An inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights and responsibilities and what it means to be human.

Second Grade – How the World Works - An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

Third Grade and Fifth Grade – How We Express Ourselves - An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

This month, the Learner Profile trait is **Open-Minded**. An open-minded person is someone who understands and appreciates their own cultures and personal histories. They are open to perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience. An open minded person is comfortable with differences, and has a variety of lenses to view issues.

For the month of December, we plan to highlight Holidays Around the World. Some of these holidays include Diwali, Kwanza, Hanukah, and the Festival of Lights. Our Holiday Concert will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011 at 6:45 PM. I hope to see everyone there!

Have a wonderful week!

Sandra Hart, IB Coordinator

Shepherd School Pledge

Today is a new day!

I will respect the rights of others.

I will treat all property with respect.

I will take responsibility for my learning.

I will take responsibility for my actions.

I will act in a safe and healthy way.

Today I will be the best me I can be!



PRINCIPAL from p. 9 _____

At Shepherd we are striving to increase and build students' "vocabulary size." In addition to the work done by individual teachers in their classrooms, each day students will be introduced to a new vocabulary word also known as the "Word of the Day." During the morning announcements, we state the word, the part of speech and we use it in a sentence. We challenge students to find ways to use the words and when students are observed using the words, we recognize those students and praise them. The Word of the Day is posted on the Word Board which is located in the main hallway.

How Can Support You Learning at Home?

Following this paragraph you will find a list of the words we will introduce to students during the next two weeks. When your student arrives from school, ask them to tell you the "Word of the Day." Ask them questions to see if they can tell you the part of speech and encourage them to use the word in a sentence. Upon identifying the word, write the word, post the word and throughout the week, recognize your student when they use the word and encourage them to listen to see if they hear the word being used by you or others.

- **12/5 -Revelation:** sudden rush of understanding
- **12/6 -Sullen:** silent or brooding because of ill humor, anger, or resentment slow moving, sluggish
- **12/7 -Throttling:** a lever to control speed
- **12/8 -Valet:** an attendant who parks cars at a hotel
- **12/9- Amble:** to walk slowly or leisurely
- **12/12 -Devious:** roundabout, indirect, tricky, sly, artful
- **12/13- Antiquated:** obsolete, out of fashion, no longer usable
- **12/14- Bolster:** support and strengthen; prop up
- **12/15- Cryptic:** having a secret or hidden meaning; puzzling
- **12/16- Curtail:** to cut short

Curriculum Matters - Homework

There is a lot that you can do to show that you value education and homework. Finding a regular time for homework helps children finish assignments. A study area should have lots of light, supplies close by, and be fairly quiet. Turn off the television and discourage social telephone calls during homework time. Children are more likely to study if they see you reading, writing, and doing things that require thought and

effort on your part. Make time to take your child to the library. Talk about school and learning activities in family conversations. Read to your child every night.

A Message from the Nurse's Suite

Certain cases of communicable diseases require the DC Department of Health to be notified immediately. If your child has a confirmed case and or is suspected to have a case of the communicable diseases listed below, please notify the school nurse. This notification is imperative so that Ms. Roberts, the school nurse, may initiate control measures and make the applicable reports.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| • Food-borne Illnesses | • Mumps |
| • Hepatitis A Pertussis ("Whooping Cough") | • Measles |
| • Meningococcal meningitis | • Rubella |
| | • Tuberculosis |

In addition, please be sure to notify the main office if your child has a confirmed case of any of the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| • Chickenpox | • Acute Diarrhea (e.g., Salmonella, Shigella) |
| • Impetigo | • Meningitis |
| • Pediculosis (head lice) | • Pinworms |
| • Rubella (German measles) | • Strep infection (scarlet fever, strep throat) |
| • Conjunctivitis ("pink eye") | • Hepatitis |
| • Measles | • Mumps |
| • Pertussis ("whooping cough") | • Ringworm |
| • Scabies ("itch mite") | |

Have a great week!

Warmest regards,

Jamie Miles

Principal

Shepherd Elementary School

7800 14th Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20012
Office Telephone: 202-576-6140
Office Fax: 202-576-7578

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SESmustang@gmail.com