



Lancer Times

January 7, 2011
Volume 1 Issue 19

Longfellow Middle School, 2000 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church, VA 22043
<http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS> (703)533-2600

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Jennifer Wang, 8th grader, for her performance at the Alden Theatre last weekend!

Jennifer Wang, a young piano soloist, played Liszt, Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev at Music Friends Concert at the Alden for the Premier Showcase for Great Chamber Music in Northern Virginia on Jan 2, 2011.



THANKS!

Red Cross club would like to thank all the parents and students who donated food to our Thanksgiving/Winter Holiday food drive. It was very successful, and 784 items were donated to SHARE of McLean, a non-profit organization that collects food for the less fortunate in our area.

Thank you to our Red Cross Club president, Paris Mitzelfeld, who organized our students for the drive.



ELECTIVE CHANGES

Second semester begins February 2nd. At the time of registration for elective courses, the Student Services Department emphasized that elective courses would be chosen from the six course choices students had before them on the registration sheet. Student Services has honored, as best we could, student choice. In some instances there may have been a conflict with the placement of core classes and an elective was selected to fill a period. Students will have ample opportunity to take electives in middle school and high school. Many of the same elective offerings will be available at the high school level. **There will be no elective changes.**

DECEMBER STAR STUDENTS

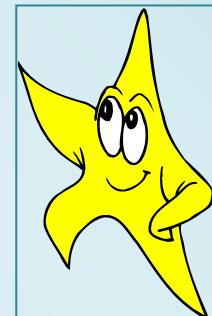
Each month we recognize our Star Students who have exhibited specific, positive character traits. For December each team and the ESOL department nominated students who exhibited the characteristic of Caring. These students will have their picture taken so they may be recognized on our “Star wall” in the front hall of the building. Caring was defined as:

- Is responsive to the concerns and needs of others
- Treats others with kindness, concern, and generosity
- Is charitable
- Gives of self for the benefit of others
- Is not mean, cruel, or insensitive



7TH GRADE:

- POLARIS- Lindsay Hart and Steven Penn
- EXPLORERS – Ashley Estrada and Christophe Jelinski
- SIRIUS - Kevin Tully and Rebecca Leidenheimer
- LIONS - Noushon Fatemi and Adilson Siteo
- EAGLES - Cannon Johnson and Natalie Hankey



8TH GRADE:

- SPARTANS - Omar Almousa and Erin Atak
- BEARS - Hannah Menchel and Hugo Kessler
- PIRATES - Allison Chung and Matthew Grocock
- DRAGONS- Rose Castle and Clark Baranoski
- YAGOTTAWANNAS – Maddie Zug and Juan Esteban Baus
- ESOL- Kimberly Romero and Thanatip Tangmeesang

RISING 9TH GRADE ORIENTATION NIGHT AT LANGLEY

Wednesday, Jan 26 at 7p.m. in the Langley Auditorium

The program will include presentations by all instructional department chairs (or reps) about their 9th grade course offerings; we also plan to include a panel of current 9th graders who attended your schools who will talk about things they wish they had known before coming to Langley.

http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/2011LHS_FreshmenOrientation.pdf



GREETINGS 8TH GRADE LONGFELLOW PARENTS!

We would like to take a moment to provide you a timeline of the key events that will prepare your family for a smooth transition to McLean High School this September. Our goal is to ease the stress of the transition by providing this timeline and relevant information at the beginning of the process. Following is an overview of key events for the next several months. Please mark specific dates on your calendar and save this email for future reference.

January 2011: The 2011-2012 McLean High School course selection guide is posted on our website and can be accessed by using this link:

<http://www.fcps.edu/McLeanHS/guidance/guidance.htm>

February 10, 2011: Rising Ninth Grade Orientation to be held at McLean HS in the auditorium at 7pm. This is a curriculum evening that is intended for parents only. During the evening parents will have an opportunity to hear from all McLean HS department chairs and ask individual questions about your child's selection of 9th grade classes. The Rising Ninth Grade Orientation parent program guide is posted on the McLean High School website and can be accessed using the following link:

<http://www.fcps.edu/McLeanHS/guidance/guidance.htm> we strongly encourage parents to attend this very informative event.

February 15, 2011: Snow Date for the Rising Ninth Grade Orientation, to be used only in the case that the February 10 program is canceled.

February 17, 2011: McLean HS School Counselors visit Longfellow to begin the registration process. 8th grade students will watch an MHS student-produced registration video and will hear from the McLean counselors regarding course selection. Students will bring home a hard copy of the McLean HS Course Selection Guide and a Course Selection Sheet on that day.

March 4, 2011: Course Selection Sheets due to Longfellow MS School Counselors. During the course selection process, students wishing to take honors level courses at McLean HS should have their current teachers initial their Course Selection Sheets indicating a positive recommendation for that course. Any questions as to whether your child should take an honors course, or the quantity of honors courses your child should take, are best directed to their current teachers and Longfellow MS counselors, as those are the individuals who know your child best. McLean HS department chairs and school counselors can field curriculum related questions, but we cannot meaningfully advise your 8th grade child until they matriculate at McLean. (Continued on page 3)

BOOK TALK PODCASTS!!

The Longfellow Library Blackboard Course has several enticing Book Talk Podcasts featuring short readings from popular titles. You can check them out by logging into Blackboard (FCPS 24/7) and then going to the Library Blackboard Course. The Book Talks are accessed by clicking on the blue menu button that says "Book talk Podcasts."



GREETINGS 8TH GRADE LONGFELLOW PARENTS!

(Continued)

April 2011: McLean HS students visit Longfellow to advertise athletics, clubs, and other extracurricular activities through the annual Activities Fair. This is an opportunity for rising ninth graders to learn about the variety of activities offered at McLean High School, and to ask current McLean students about their experiences. The activities fair is a valuable experience for rising ninth graders to learn of the multitude of ways to become involved at McLean.

Late May 2011: Registration verifications are mailed home by McLean HS. These verifications are simply to confirm the classes for which your child has selected. Confirmation of registration does not guarantee placement in the course, with a specific teacher, or in a specific period.

August 2011: MHS Prep Summer Institute is likely to occur the week of August 23, 2011. McLean teachers will be working with students in August to jump-start the year with fun and engaging sessions designed to help rising ninth-graders at McLean succeed in high school. Students will become acclimated to a new level of learning through sessions on topics like note-taking and study skills, time management, organization and high school life. While the goal is to learn how to be successful at McLean High School, there will also be many ice-breaker activities to meet other students. All rising ninth-grade students are invited to register for this institute. Information regarding the 2011 Summer Institute and registration for it will be available in June 2011.

August 2011: Letter goes home from McLean's principal welcoming students to McLean and providing instructions for schedule pick-up. Pre-printed emergency care cards will accompany this mailing.

August 30 & 31, 2011: Students report to McLean HS to turn in emergency care cards and pick up class schedules.

September 6, 2011: First day of school – freshman year begins!

Once again, we look forward to working with our rising 9th grade families to facilitate a smooth transition into McLean, and we will send out periodic announcements reminding you of upcoming events.

Regards,
Crissie Ricketts, Ph.D.
Director of Student Services
McLean High School

WORLD LANGUAGES SURVEY

We are considering the possibility of implementing an additional High School language offering in the 8th grade to our offerings of Spanish and French. Please take the survey from the following link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K6LKJXK>



LONGFELLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL TO HOLD SPELLING BEE

What

On **February 2, 2011**, Longfellow Middle School will hold a Spelling Bee during 2nd and 3rd periods (8:41 to 10:18). The winner of the Longfellow Bee will participate in the Fairfax County Spelling Bee, to be held on **March 20, 2011** at **Hayfield Secondary School**. The winner of the FCPS Bee Spelling Bee will be eligible to participate in the Virginia State Spelling Bee and possibly even the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Where

Longfellow Library

When

February 2, 2011 during 2nd & 3rd periods. The snow makeup date is **Friday, February 4, 2011**.

How Do Students Sign Up for the Bee?

Students come to the library and request a registration form. The form must be signed by both the student and the student's English teacher before they give it back to the library, at which point they are officially contestants. The sign up deadline is **Wednesday, January 26th, 2011**.

Is There a Limit on Spelling Bee Participation?

Yes. We know from prior experience not to exceed **55** participants, and this is crowding it.

What is the Sign Up Deadline for Students?

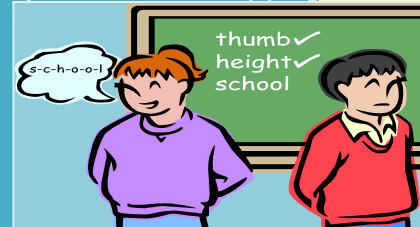
Wednesday, January 26th, 2011

Where to get Study Help for the Bee

Merriam-Webster's Spell It! Site offers Spelling Bee preparation:
<http://www.myspellit.com/>

Spelling Bee Rules

The Spelling Bee Rules will be posted on the Longfellow Library Blackboard site ASAP. As of January 4 we are attempting to obtain the most recent version.





HOMework CLUB

Homework club hours: 2:45-5:45pm
Monday through Friday. Please remember to pick up your students by 5:45 each evening. If a student is picked up late more than three times they will no longer be allowed to attend. Questions, please contact Kevin Webb: Kevin.Webb@fcps.edu. Thank you for your cooperation.



FAIRFAX COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR THE GIFTED PRESENTS:

SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND ENRICHMENT CAMP FAIR

Oakton High School – 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA

Wednesday, January 19th 7:00-9:00pm

Admission is free and open to the Public

- Meet representatives from summer enrichment programs
- Visit the exhibits, ask questions, and network with others
- See what your children (K-12) can explore next summer

Camps to be represented include: TIC (Tech is Cool), Fairfax Collegiate, Math Enrichment Services by Vern Williams, Traveling Players Ensemble, Camp Shavuon, FCPS Institute for the Arts, congressional Day Camp, iD Tech Camp, Potomac School, Concordia Language Villages, Russian Music Academy, Madeira School Summer Camps, Interlochen Arts Camp, A Class Act, Acting for Kids, and many more!

In case of inclement weather, check: <http://FCAG.org> **for snow date**

Join FCAG's Yahoo discussion group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FCAG>

Contact: 703.922.1977 | secretary@fcag.org

FAIRFAX SYMPHONY - STUDENT PROGRAMS TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR!

To kick off 2011, the Fairfax Symphony invites students ages 6-18 to join the **Student Passport Club**, and attend our performance on **Saturday, January 15, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax**. This is a program not to be missed, featuring Bernstein's Overture to *Candide*, Dvorak's *New World Symphony*, and violinist Chee-Yun performing the Walton Violin Concerto.

Students who ***join the club*** will receive a free gift from one of our merchant sponsors while we stamp their personal passports each time they attend a Fairfax Symphony concert. We will hold a special reception in May for all students in the Club where they will meet our musicians, try different instruments, and earn a chance to win some prizes.



FSO CONCERT INFORMATION:

- **Date and Time:** Saturday, January 15, 2011, 8:00 p.m.
- **Location:** George Mason University's Center for the Arts.
- **Cost:** STUDENT TICKETS ARE ONLY \$5 and adult tickets begin at \$25.
- **Soloist:** Violinist Chee-Yun - "*Chee-Yun has not only extraordinary talent, but the poise and natural self-confidence of a seasoned veteran and born performer.*" --Strings Magazine
- **Parking:** Free in Lot K; event parking fee in garage
- **No Reservations Required!** Students may join the club any time. Tickets will be available beginning at 6:00 p.m., and should be picked up by 7:30 p.m. to avoid last minute rush lines. ***Students must be present to purchase the \$5 student tickets.*** *All ticket-holders are invited to a free, pre-concert discussion at 7:00 p.m.*
- **Orchestras Feeding America:** Help the Fairfax Symphony and US Foodservice collect canned goods to benefit SERVE and Northern Virginia Family Services at this concert.

Fairfax Symphony's Feuer Competition! *Calling all advanced string players, grades 7-12, residing in the Northern Virginia area!* Now in its 48th year, the Dorothy Farnham Feuer Memorial Strings Competition provides an opportunity for students to audition for scholarship awards to be used towards advancement of their musical studies. ***APPLICATION & \$40 FEE DEADLINE: January 24, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.*** More information and a copy of the 2011 application can be found on the FSO website

Sign up in advance to join the Student Passport Club –

www.fairfaxsymphony.org

Pick up your passport at the box office before the concert.



JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR TALENTED YOUTH PROGRAM
SPECIAL TESTING DAY

SATURDAY
JANUARY 22, 2010
9:00 AM

LONGFELLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL



Longfellow Middle School Students interested in participating in the John Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Program are eligible to take one of the required admissions tests which are the Advanced SCAT or SAT Test at Longfellow Middle School on January 22, 2010.

Please complete the attached CTY Special Registration Form

(http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/JHU_CTY_RegistrationForm.pdf) for Testing and return it Mr. Walker, 7th Grade School Counselor with your payment before January 20th. You can also register for the CTY Program and pay the testing fee on the test day. If you plan to do that please complete a registration form and return it to Mr. Walker prior to the test day to reserve a seat for the test and to ensure a test can be ordered for your son or daughter.

Online Registration can be done at www.cty.jhu.edu.

Financial Aid is available for the students.

Longfellow Middle School CTY Code

2204317

Important Fees

Center for Talented Youth Registration - \$37

SCAT or Advanced SCAT Test - \$55

SAT Test - \$45

Financial Aid Recipient – Registration Fee Waived, Test Cost \$10

Testing Day Information

Please arrive at 8:30 AM for check in and registration.

Students should bring #2 pencils, eraser, and calculator

Students can bring snacks and drinks to have during breaks

Please go to the following link for additional information

(http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/JHU_CTY_STI.pdf) regarding testing or contact the following persons:

Niamah Adams, Talent Identification Coordinator

Nadams13@jhu.edu or 410-735-4664

Bruce Walker, 7th Grade School Counselor

Bruce.walker@fcps.edu or 703-533-2627

"RACE TO NOWHERE" FILM SCREENING

Followed by a panel discussion about the effects of stress on today's children and how we can help



Sponsored by the Safe Community Coalition

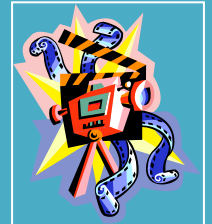
Panelists include:

Joan Tannenbaum, Counselor, Langley High School;

Beth Werfel, School Psychologist, McLean High School;

Cathy Colglazier, Teacher and Humanities Program Division Manager, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology;

and, Donald E. Fraser, Jr., Director of Education and Training, National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC).



Tuesday, January 11, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Langley High School Auditorium

6520 Georgetown Pike McLean, VA.



For tickets go to www.racetonowhere.com/screenings/langley-high-school-0

\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

Themes including depression, drug use, suicide and other stress-related illnesses are discussed.

Parental discretion is advised. Handouts with resources relating to these topics will be made available.

GET GROCERIES THAT GIVE BACK TO SCHOOLS!

It's as easy as...

- A.** Look for the School Bus Tags from January 2nd to January 25th, 2011.
- B.** Use your Card to buy participating items
- C.** Look for a message that prints on your receipt between January 29th through February 22nd, 2011



Note: eScrip supporters with any Club Card will earn automatically
 Visit backtoschools.escrip.com for more information
 View [this informative video](#) about the program.

To Date, You've Helped Donate Over \$17 Million to Schools Nationwide!

"We are so glad to have found out about the 10% Back to Schools promotion. It was a GREAT and fun way for us to earn \$14,167 much needed money." - Julie S., Librarian, Cherry Park Elementary, Portland, OR

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CALENDAR EVENTS

- January 7 & 8 - Jr. District 12 Orchestra @ Oakton HS
- January 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - No School

Longfellow MS

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