

Spring Hill Elementary School



The Bi-Line

No. 20

Website: <http://www.fcps.edu/SpringHillES/>

January 4, 2012

Office Hours 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Absent? Tardy? Sick? 24-hour attendance line at (703) 506-3434

Bi Line Submissions: Deadline Tuesdays at noon; Please submit to Susan.Chait@fcps.edu



Join us for Breakfast Each Morning Starting This Week!

Breakfast will be served at 8:10 AM, daily, beginning January 3. If your child decides to join us, the price of the breakfast is \$1.50. Children enrolled in the free and reduced meals program will receive a free breakfast. The breakfast menu repeats each week and is available on the reverse side of the printed lunch menus, or at this link: http://www.fcps.edu/fs/food/food_at_school/lunchmenus.shtml If you wish to read more about the importance of breakfast for school success click here: <http://www.fcps.edu/fs/food/breakfast.shtml>

PTO Meeting Wednesday January 4

Mark your new year calendar for the next PTO meeting in the big pod on Wednesday, January 4th at 9:15 a.m. The speaker will be our school board representative Janie Strauss. We hope you can attend!

McLean Connection Children's Issue

Spring Hill's current and alumni writers and students were featured in this year's Children's issue of the McLean Connection newspaper:

<http://files.connectionnewspapers.com/PDF/current/McLean.pdf>

Plan Ahead:

Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day Holiday, No School

Monday and Tuesday, January 30 & 31: No School for Students, Teacher Workdays

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Calendar

See a full school calendar at our website:

http://www.fcps.edu/SpringHillIES/calendar/WebsiteCalendar9_2010.htm

Please schedule your family vacations during FCPS designated holidays / breaks, which you can see at this link: <http://www.fcps.edu/about/11-12cal.htm>

Be aware that missing school for extended periods of time negatively impacts your child and your child's teacher.

Plan Ahead:

Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day Holiday, No School

Monday and Tuesday, January 30 & 31: No School for Students, Teacher Workdays

Week of January 2, A Week:

Wednesday January 4: PTO Meeting, 9:15-11:00 a.m., big pod

Thursday, January 5:

- 4th grade science visitor, 1-1:45 p.m., big pod.
- AAP Parent Meeting, 6:30-8:00 p.m., cafeteria

Week of January 9, B Week:

Monday, January 9:

- Area Orchestra Rehearsal, 12:50-2:30 p.m., cafeteria
- 6th Gr. County Chorus Rehearsal, 12:50-2 p.m., music room

Wednesday January 11: Picture Day for Groups, Teams, Clubs, Candidos and 6th Grade Panorama (class group photos in April)

Friday January 13: Geography Bee, 2:00 p.m., cafeteria

Week of January 16: A Week:

Monday January 16: Martin Luther King Day Holiday, No School

Tuesday January 17: 5th & 6th Grade Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m., gym

Wednesday January 18: 4th, 5th & 6th Gr. Orchestra Concert, 9:15 a.m., gym

Week of January 23, B Week:

Monday January 23:

- Area Orchestra Rehearsal, 12:50-2:30 p.m., cafeteria
- 6th Gr. County Chorus Rehearsal, 12:50-2 p.m., music room

Tuesday, January 24: Mrs. Nichols' Class Play, 9 a.m. big pod

Wednesday January 25: Community Coffee and Parent University, 8:30 a.m., cafeteria

Friday January 27:

- 2nd Grading period Ends
- SCA Spirit Day, Jersey Day

Safe & Drug-Free Bookmark Contest

The annual Safe & Drug-Free Bookmark Contest is underway at Spring Hill! This year's theme is "Making My School and Community Drug and Bully Free." Students' bookmark designs must promote this theme and convey a zero-tolerance message against violence, alcohol, and other drug use. Rules and an entry form are included in today's Bi-Line. This information is also available on the Spring Hill Art Blackboard Site; click on the "Contests" button.

All entries must be submitted to Mrs. Ashe or Ms. Moon by **Monday, January 23, 2012**, for judging at our school. We are providing 6" x 18" paper in the art rooms for this contest. A Spring Hill winner will be selected from grades K-3 and grades 4-6. The winning students will re-do their designs on 7" x 22" poster board for final submission to the county contest. We will submit the winning designs to the county on Friday, January 27, 2012.

Please contact Mrs. Ashe (cgoreashe@fcps.edu) or Ms. Moon (dhmoon@fcps.edu) if you have any questions. Start designing!!



ADVANCED ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES Parent Information Meeting YOU ARE INVITED!

The session will be held in the cafeteria:
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2012 • 6:30-7:30 PM.
Barbara Ross—Advanced Academics Resource Teacher

This meeting will present an overview of the testing and screening procedures for AAP Center/ Level IV placement in Fairfax County Public Schools.

The information will include:

- Testing
- Screening
- Identification Procedures
- Timelines
- Opportunities for questions and discussion

SHARE Thanks Spring Hill School for November Food Drive

The school received a letter from SHARE Inc. of McLean, thanking us for the food and hygiene products drive that was held in November. The items helped our neighbors in need in this community.

Help us Move Mrs. Rice's Garden!

We need to move the garden that honors our former principal and current grandparent, Betsy Rice. The garden will be replaced with a larger cafeteria and we need to transplant the patio, trees and plants. If you are willing to help us in the effort, please contact Alison Bauer at albauer@fcps.edu or Jen Trainor at hattrick4jen@verizon.net or Teri Bennett at teribennett@verizon.net



Click here for news about outdoor classrooms:

<https://sites.google.com/site/springhillecoschool/home>



Rising 7th Grade Families Attending Cooper MS Next Year

Please make note of the following events:

- February 15:** Curriculum meeting (morning) for parents, at Cooper MS, 9:30am in room 130.
- February 16:** Elective Fair for rising 7th grade students and their parents, 7pm, Cooper MS. (snow date: March 1)
- February 23:** Curriculum meeting (evening) for parents, at Cooper MS, 7pm in room 130.

PARENT UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

UNDERSTANDING FEMALE ADOLESCENCE, OR WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH MY DAUGHTER?



Please join Parent University on January 25, 2012 for a seminar covering developmental progression in pre-adolescent girls. This timely and important topic will be led by Dr. Andrea Williams Kingslow, a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist, professor at Georgetown University, and a Spring Hill parent. Among the topics that Dr. Williams Kingslow will be addressing are physical changes that occur during puberty, what to expect physically and emotionally with the onset of bodily changes and how to prepare your daughter for these changes. Other concerns to be addressed will be mood swings and behavioral problems that often accompany these changes, as well as strategies to manage these issues.

This program will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria, immediately following a Community Coffee beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please plan to join us for a cup of coffee and an interesting and informative discussion. Parents with young children are welcome to attend – activities and snacks will be provided. This is a Spring Hill PTO sponsored event. If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Fox (pamela.fox@cox.net) or Susan Poliquin (sbpoliquin@cox.net).



Spring Hill—First in the Nation! WordMasters Gold Division Winners

Mrs. Bulford's fifth graders placed first in the nation among 285 competing teams in the WordMasters Challenge, competing in the very difficult Gold Division, which is separate from the less difficult Blue Division. Mr. Mosher's fourth graders tied for fifth in the nation among 264 school teams competing at this grade level and in this division. Congratulations!

WordMasters is an exercise in critical thinking that challenges students to use words considerably above grade level.

Several students won highest honors for individual achievement by earning perfect scores in the meet:

Third grader Katie Emma Kim,

fourth graders Parsa Abedi, Casey Schoff, and Mikayla Schoff,

fifth graders Adam Ardeishar, Jack Beckner, David DiMeglio, Alexandra Driscoll, Matthew Kang, Griffith Nguyen, Dylan Scott, Alex Surratt, Marina Terry and Zain Zahir

sixth graders David Kim and Lauren Nazarian .

Others who achieved outstanding results in the meet included

third graders Arul Nigam, Henry Swartz, Mikael Nguyen,

fourth graders Katie Ambrose, Daisy Chapin, Erin Connery, Joseph Dooley, Seth Eshraghi, Sophia Gilmore, Alicia Gonzalez, Emily Jackson, Caroline Lavin, Richard McGrail, Garrett Newsome, Armin Tal, and Franny Valdetaro;

fifth graders Alexander Anikeeff, Nicholas Annunziata, George Cao, Daniel Gan, Tori Lam, Alyssa Maynard, Julia McElligott, Alex Montano, Anna Nguyen, Jenny Pruitt, Anna Takis, and Jamie Wang, and

sixth graders Ben Goodson, Trevor Hazen, Megan Kilduff, Anne Poliquin, Bradley Kim, Owen Ricketts, Adam Yee, Davis Elder, Kelsey Gilchrist, Sophie Nichols, and Erin Villaronga.



McLean Highlanders 2012 Winter Cheer Clinic for Girls & Boys Grades 1-8: - Register Now!

The Mclean High School Cheerleaders will hold the annual Winter Cheer Clinic January 10, 11 and 13th at McLean High School. Clinic participants will train with MHS cheerleaders on Tuesday and Wednesday 4:30-6:30 p.m., then perform for McLean High School fans at the Boys Varsity Basketball Game against Fairfax at McLean HS on Friday evening January 13th. The fee of \$85 per participant includes two clinic sessions, bow, picture, admission to Friday's game for participant and one parent and a special T-shirt for the performance.

REGISTER BY January 8th - the registration form is available at
<http://www.mcleanactivities.org/index.cfm?action=main.teamcamps&id=3784>

Questions? Call 202-459-1185 or email jeanine.drake.elgin@gmail.com

First Lego Robotics Team Master Minds Wins Division 2 Regional Tournament ; Competed at State Tournament at JMU in December

The "Master Minds" First Lego Robotics Team from Cooper Middle and Spring Hill Elementary Schools in McLean today announced they won the Division 2 First Lego League "Food Factor" Regional Tournament held Sunday, November 20 at George Mason University. The Master Minds team, two eighth graders from Cooper MS and four sixth graders at Spring Hill ES, competed at the State Tournament held on December 3 - 4 at James Madison University. The team placed fourth in the Division 2 First Lego League state tournament. Division 2 is a middle school competition level. (<http://www.vadcfll.org>)

The Master Minds First Lego Robotics team won two Division 2 trophies at the VA-DC Regional Tournament. They won the *Division 2 First Place trophy for "Robot Performance"*, meaning the Master Mind's robot completed a set number of missions with the highest score within two and 1/2 minutes. The second trophy was for the *Division 2 Second Place "Champion's Award"* for overall performance in every category including Robot design and performance, teamwork, communication and project presentation.

The Master Minds were judged on four categories including: Robot Design, Robot Performance, Teamwork, Research development and presentation of a topic related to this year's food theme which was "Food Safety".

Master Minds Team coach and parent, Becky Corcoran said the team chose "*Organic Grains in Bulk Storage*" as the focus for their community research project and the presentation portion of the competition. "*The boys interviewed managers at MOM's Market in Rockville, Whole Foods and Potomac Vegetable Farm in Vienna and created a presentation for judges about what they learned*", said Corcoran.

The public school Master Minds Team includes Cooper Middle School eighth graders Brandon Arcari and Steven Corcoran and Spring Hill Elementary School sixth graders Brad Kim, David Corcoran, Michael Arcari and Thomas Corcoran. This is the third year the team has been invited to compete at the state tournament at JMU.





Robotics Team Pictures

Junior Great Books Grades K, 1 & 2

Junior Great Books (JGB) is a national program which challenges readers to improve analytical thinking and develop discussion skills. During this after-school activity, the younger children will be read various stories and types of literature which will then be discussed with them. Readers and non-readers are welcome!

WE SEEK PARENT VOLUNTEERS to help read and lead these discussions so they too can experience this wonderful program. To support the parent volunteers, questions and activities are included in the leader books and a training session will be scheduled.

Online registration will start January 3rd and run through the 11th. Please log into the PTO website www.springhillpto.org and click on the link that says "Click here to register for Junior Great Books". Classes will be every Wednesday from 3:20-4:15pm, from February 1st to March 21st. The cost for this program will be \$35.

If you have any questions about JGB or would like to VOLUNTEER please email Calliandra Harris at calliandra_h@yahoo.com or Jenny Brown at jennybrownva@gmail.com

