

SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL
334 SUNSET AVE.
WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795
April 2010

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #77
WILLIAMSPORT, MD



Eighth Grade Celebration - Save the Date!!

The Eighth Grade Celebration will be held on Friday, May 28th at 7:00 P.M. in the Williamsport High School Gymnasium. Formal invitations with RSVPs will be sent home with students on Monday, May 3rd. Due to the fire code for the high school gymnasium and the overwhelming support from families, we will again this year be distributing up to 4 tickets to each family who RSVPs. We are asking that any extra tickets be returned to the guidance office. We will do our best to honor requests for extra tickets while still staying in compliance with the fire code.

All attire must comply with the Board of Education dress code policy. No casual wear is permitted such as sneakers, jeans, or shorts. No floor length gowns or tuxedos are permitted. Dresses may not be strapless, backless, or have a bare midriff. A sweater, shawl, or wrap must be worn with spaghetti strap dresses throughout the evening. A dance will follow the celebration. The dance is only for SPMS 8th grade students. No guests are permitted.

For more information or to volunteer to help, please contact Shellie Hoffman at shoffman@coffmannursinghome.com or 301-223-6924. The Springfield PTA is still looking for Parents from all grades to join with the 8th grade celebration committee.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK.....



The Maryland State Reading and Math Assessments are completed for this school year. We will anxiously await the results of those assessments. The eighth graders are now preparing for the Maryland Science Assessment which will occur in May. This year also our sixth and seventh graders will take a Mock Maryland Science Assessment which will occur the same days that our eighth graders are tested.

The PTA's fall fundraiser was a success and no fundraiser will be held in the spring. Another contributing factor to not needing a spring fundraiser is that the planners provided for students next year will be produced by the school and will save \$3000 dollars in the PTA budget. Thank you for supporting our PTA. All of the funds earned purchase materials and supplies for students.

Please mark your calendars to join us for the Spring Celebration on Thursday, May 13, 2010. I encourage you to look at the listing of other scheduled events in this newsletter to be sure you don't miss anything upcoming here at school.

Mrs. Jennifer Ruppenthal, Principal

End of Year Field Trips

To be eligible for the end of year trip you must meet the following criteria:

- *Be referral free between March 8th and the date of your field trip
- *Have a 95% attendance rate between March 8th and the date of your field trip



REMINDER!

Parents should not park in the fire lane when picking up their children from after school activities. Parents should park to the left in the driveway where it is not painted red. Thank you for your cooperation.

Springfield Middle School
Honor Roll Marking Period 3 January 15, 2010

Distinguished Honor Roll

Grade 6

William Andrews, Amelia Baker, Taylor Baker, Olivia Barton, Morgan Barton, Evan Bowman, Dalton Cool, Edward Cunningham, Sarah Eskstine, Hadley Giles, Nicholas Green, Alex Gregg, Emily Gross, Karsyn Gutteridge, Derik Harper, Odali Hernandez Fabia, Tori Hollingshead, Samual Hudson, Kaila Johnson, Akhil Jonnalagadda, Nicholas Keller, Whitney Kisalita, Mason Kreps, Alexis Lewis, Matthew Line, Elizabeth Lunsford, Natalie McHale, Erica Mohn, Alexander Nichols, Tatiana O'Brien, Arron Ostrum, Joshua Reese, Meena Richards, Bryce Ruppenthal, Gabriella Schianodicola, Alan Seredich, Tyler Sierzega, Aaron Slifer, Elizabeth Slyconish, Bethany Starliper, Charlotte Strite, Zachary Toth, Jordyn Truax, Kate Wade, Joseph Wolfensberger, Jennifer Yaraghi

Grade 7

Thivijan Arivalahan, Kayla Brice, Alexis Cline, Courtney Copenhaver, Sheldon Crossland, Kelly Decker, Andrew Dobrzanski, Ariel Hoffmaster, Lauren Hubbard, Alexander Jakob, Andrew Jamison, Madison Knode, Faith Kretzer, Jordin Miller, Bradley Muhlen, Lucas Nakano, Jonah Notarianni Stephens, Eric Poffenberger, Ionel Popescul, Carley Robinson, Tiffany Ross, Rebekah Russo, Sinjin Shoop, Ainsley Sierzega, Alexander Snouffer, Emma Starkey, Brent Sweitzer, Ayse Yilmaz, Lane Yutzy, Estefany Zambrano

Grade 8

Riley Arnone, Julianne Baker, Sarah Browning, Donald Churchey, Kathleen Davis, Tiago Desouza, Helen Domsy, Connie Leung, Lindsay Litten, Wornden Ly, Katelyn Mumma, Meghan Murray, Renee Poffenberger, Chelsey Scott, Joseph Shoop, Robin Shoop, Elizabeth Stains, Brett Weaver, Hope Wolford

Honor Roll

Grade 6

Grant Adams, Dylan Alexander, Amber Anderson, Courtney Baker, Dylan Barkdoll, Jaclyn Barnes, Cameron Bell, Joshual Blank, Samantha Brining, Megan Budnicki, Tanner Canfield, Madison Cavanaugh, Alissa Clark, Olivia Coleman, Karly Condo, Marco Criollo, John Davies, John Day, Celensia Dickson, Cierra Eyler, Kylee Eyler, Peace Ezidinma, Hannah Fittry, Kyleigh Flook, Alexis Fraley, Willow Fraley, Emily Green, Brijjit Gundy, Kaci Gutteridge, Marrassa Harne, Laura Harris, Sydney Hockensmith, Michael Houser, Kiana Jackson, Joshua Jamison, Jayden Johnson, Caden Keplinger, Quincy Knable, Lindsey Line, Matthew Malphurs, Brenden Martinez, Richard McPherson, David Miller, Victoria Morris, Jerry Moschel, Cassandra Muir, Michael Myers, Kiah Oree, Carlie Palmer, Alicia Rafter, Samantha Raidt, Shakiah Rideout, Michael Riley, Brandon Romsburg, Olivia Rowland, Julie Schnurr, Reid Siefker, Collin Smigelski, Wendy Smith, Michael Snyder, Sean Stanley, Jessica Sweitzer, Anthony Tadeo, Tatyana Terry, Tierah Thomas, Logan Toms, Morgan Tosten, Wade Turner, Carissa Watson, Michael Werder, Autumn Weyant, Jordan Wood, Emily Young

Grade 7

Elizabeth Anderson, Zachary Andrews, Dionie Archiga Ruiz, Victoria Asper, Kimberly Bailey, Justin Bertrand, Logan Bishop, Clay Bittner, Hayleigh Brown, Michelle Callejas, Alec Cantner, Tristan Clopper, Sarah Cohen, Kiana Cotledge, Cecelia Culy, Benjamin Curry, Brianna Dieter, Luke Draper, Hamza Fellah, Emily Fitzgerald, Samuel Garling, Taylor Gibney, Carley Godsey, Haley Groesbeck, Kasandra Harne, Taylor Hassler, Katelynn Heavner, Tiffany Hoffman, Savannah Holder, Sean Houck, Bryan Hout, John Hudson, Michelle Hull, Khadijah Imes, Kiah Jassani, Aiden Jensen, Robert Jones, Emily Jordan, Michael, Kelbaugh, Alexis Keller, Travis Kendle, Caitlin Kennedy, Brandon Keplinger, Sarah Kiley, Sarah Kindle, Anton Larsson, Peyton Lavin, Taylor Line, Breanna Long, Zacharie Loveless, Kylie Magnis, Josephine Makanjuola, Luis Maldonadado, Coleman McHose, Marie Mies, Monica Miller, Lakya Mills, Savannah Minnick, Anna Myers, Emma Leigh Nally, Lindsay O'Brien, Colin Osborne, Brett Oxendine, Christopher Pike, Joseph Pike, Nicolae Popescul, Samantha

Poplin, Yasmine Rodriguez, Jennifer Rowan, Kristy Rumball, Mandi Saum, Megan Saunders, Austin Sigler, Alexis Smith, Tatian Smith, Charles Spitzer, Bryanna Taffo, Evan Torres, Zoe Vogt, Mikayla Weese, Taryn Whitmore, Stephen Wincovitch, Cory Woodhams, Caitlyn Woodring, Kassidy Wykoff

Grade 8

Jodeci Albertson, Seth Bailey, Tristan Baker, Lindsey Beckley, Alexandra Bowers, Rebecca Breeden, Haley Carter, Sterling Christy, Samantha Cline, Matthew Clopper, Cameron Cross, Kimberly Cunningham, Kyra Detrick, Jade Eichelberger, Corey Ellis, Alexis Evans, Tobin Frevert, Melvin Gossard, Karli Grimes, Hannah Hamsher, Carly Hanna, Kaitlyn Harsh, Karlee Head, Amber Jacobus, Jack Kelly, Carol Leung, Cole Levine, Christopher Lunsford, Kelsie Malott, Owen Marx, Paige McKinney, Cheyenne Miller, Megan Miller, Miranda Mills, Ashley Minnick, Holly Nalley, Madison Nordyke, Jason O'Haver, Amber Olson, Erin Palmer, Neerav Patel, Dawn Pine, Mary Beth Raidt, Christian Rudisill, Benjamin Schaefer, Carly Shaw, Geraghty Showe, Samantha Sluger, Paige Slusarz, Cole Smith, Abigail Socks, Alisha Stevenson, Autumn Stotler, Regan Stout, Krystle Stoy, Rebecca Sullivan, Micah Tate, Alexander Vanslyke, Shirley Weaver, Brooklyn Welch, Kendall Werner, Erik Winger, Dominic Yonkers, Sarah Young



MARKING PERIOD 3 PERFECT ATTENDANCE WINNERS

(\$15 gift card for Walmart)

Gr 8

Connor Yonkers

Gr 7

Elizabeth Anderson

Gr 6

Matayia Miller

"Techniques: Expressions of the Young Visual Artist" Art Show

Fourteen art students recently represented Springfield Middle School at this show. The students were: Lindsay Bradfield, Lindsey Long, Jordan Shoemaker, Steve Tyler, Ronni VanMetre, Marzy Werdebaugh, Autumn Weyant, Tristan Clopper, Lauren Hubbard, Austin Kelley, Andy McEwen, Anna Myers, Austin Sigler, and Rachel Walters. The show was held at the University Systems Library at 32 W. Washington Street, Hagerstown. The exhibit ran from February 15 - March 31. Congratulations to Tristan Clopper, Lauren Hubbard, Austin Kelley, Anna Myers, and Austin Sigler received 3rd place in the middle school 3-D category. Great job!



From the Media Center:

Read Across America was held on Tuesday, March 2 to celebrate Reading and the birthday of Dr. Seuss. Thank you to our guests who visited Springfield to promote the importance of Reading:

Mrs. Donna Hanlin - Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education

Dr. David Reeder - Director for Middle School Education

Mr. Marty Potash - Supervisor for Secondary English Language Arts

Ms. Carroll Sager - Curriculum and Instruction Specialist, Secondary English Language Arts

Ms. Pam Ours - Curriculum and Instruction Specialist, Secondary English Language Arts

Mr. Randy Longnecker - Guidance Counselor and Head Football Coach, Williamsport High School

It's nice to show the students that we all have a variety of interests in Reading. Thank you to Mrs. Truax for spending some time reading at the front of our school.

Ms. Mathena is busy bar-coding many new books that have recently arrived. Books in the Fiction section are being labeled with colored dots by lexile levels, to make it easier for students to find a book on their reading level. We will have another reading celebration during *National Library Week*, April 11-17, celebrated with the theme, "Communities thrive @ your Library."

We hope to have guest readers from our Williamsport Community visit during that week. Our Spring Book Fair will be held May 10-14, and Thursday, May 13 as our Open Night, with many exciting activities planned in our building.



We have an excellent collection of fiction, nonfiction, biographies, and graphic novels in our Media Center. Books can be

reserved and also borrowed from other school in the county. Students should make their requests

with Ms. Mathena in the Media Center. Thank you for encouraging your child to read.

Our school website can be easily accessed at <http://www.springfieldmiddle.org>

Check out our website for the latest news and pictures, as well as a link to our Springfield calendar of events and activities.

We will begin linking this newsletter on the front of the website as well. If you have any suggestions for our website, please contact Ms. Mathena at matheann@wcboe.k12.md.us



Online References:

Many online resources for students to use are linked at: <http://www.youseemore.com/wcps/> This serves as our online catalog for library books in all of the county schools. To find online resources go to the References tab on the left. You will find subscription databases and web sites for students to use. The User name and password for all databases, except Teachingbooks.net, is wctys32 (user name) and sprim (password.) For Teachingbooks.net, click on Sign In listed in red at the top right. Use wcps1 for the password, with the user name left blank. These are many great resources available for our students to use at home and school.

Orchestra News:

The first Annual Chamber Music Coffee Hour and Festival Preview Concert is being given by the



Springfield and Williamsport Orchestras on Thursday, March 18th. The event will be held at Williamsport High in the cafeteria starting at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 and provide you with hot drinks, sweets and plenty of music.

From the Desk of the Physical



Education Department:
Mrs. Lea Michael, Mr.
John Bailey, Mr.
Zachary Swisher

Our classes will be going on the annual bowling and skating field trips to Virginia Ave. Bowl and Skate Center on the following dates:

6th Grade: Friday, April 30, 2010

7th Grade: Friday, May 7, 2010

8th Grade: Friday, May 14, 2010

To be eligible for our field trip, all students must not accumulate five or more non dressed grades or tardies. If a student receives a referral from one of PE teachers, then they automatically cannot attend the field trip. Disrespectful behavior will be looked at on a case by case basis for eligibility for the field trip. Permission slips will be passed out approximately two and a half weeks before the due date. Any questions can be directed to Mrs. Michael, Mr. Bailey, or Mr. Swisher.

We are seeing an increasing number of students not changing for Physical Education class. A reminder to all parents and students: When a student accumulates three non dressed grades then they are assigned lunch detention with their PE teacher. After the third non dressing, students will continue to receive lunch detention for each time they are not dressed for PE. Every student has 20 points daily in Physical Education class. If a student

is not changed for the day, this results in a loss of 10 points.

All classes will be beginning our bowling unit on Monday, March 22nd. The bowling skills that we learn during the bowling unit will be further extended when our classes take the bowling and skating field trip in April and May.



The end of the year is upon us and many students like to take their gym clothes home and get them washed. Please make sure that your student has some type of bag to transport their clothes from school to home. Many kids are trying to carry 5 or more items and that becomes quite a load. THANKS!

Nurse's  **Corner**
Mrs. Lewis (RN) and Mrs. Lescalleet LPN

**STUDENTS MAY NOT CARRY ANY
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION WITH THEM
DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.**

The medication must be in its original container accompanied by a medication form from the doctor and must be turned in to the health office as soon as it enters the building.

Asthma Please check the dates on inhalers and medications as the seasons change. As temperatures vary greatly during the day we want to be prepared for any emergency.

Prescription Medication Please consult your child's doctor before discontinuing or changing any prescription medication. An adolescent's body changes during the middle school years as much as a newborn changes in its first year of life. We recommend consulting an expert about the changes and effects of prescription medication.



Water & Spring Sports Please make sure active children are drinking plenty of fluids as their physical activity increases with warmer weather. Staying hydrated is very important!



Newsletter Information

The newsletter will be put on the school website beginning with the April 2010 newsletter. Get the newsletter information before it will be delivered by

going to www.springfieldmiddle.org.

We sincerely apologize for the lateness of the last newsletter. We ran into some issues with the bulk delivery system that we previously did not have. In an effort to go green and save paper for the coming school year parents will have an opportunity to elect to receive the PTA newsletter via email instead of through the mail. We hope you elect this choice if you have access to email.



News from the Student Achievement Specialists

Mrs. Siebert - Math SAS

Math Benchmark 4 All scores are in. If you have access to Performance Matters Parent Portal you will be able to see your child's scores.

Math Benchmark 5 All students, except those in Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry, will take benchmark 5 between May 20th and May 26th. This benchmark will test objectives from the entire school year.

Algebra I HSA All 8th grade math students will be focusing on Algebra and Data Analysis skills from now until the end of the year. All 8th grade Math and Algebra I students will be taking the Algebra I HSA this year on May 18th in the morning. This is a change for this year.

Algebra 7 & Geometry Final Exams All students in these courses are required to take the county final exam. These will be given on Tuesday, May 25th during your child's regular math class.

ELA Benchmark 3 This benchmark was cancelled due to the huge snow storm!

ELA Benchmark 4 All students will take this benchmark during the week of April 19th.

Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) Students will be taking the SRI during the last week of April to determine their new reading lexile score. Students should show growth of 50 to 100 points compared to their beginning of the school year score. This score will be used as one tool out of many in helping us schedule classes for next year.

BIG Kids After School Program Our BIG kids, Benchmark Improvement Gain kids; program is over for this year! Many thanks to the parents who supported us by providing transportation home from the program every week!

Reading Interventions If you have any questions about your child's progress in a reading intervention, please contact the intervention teacher, Mrs. Pingley.



MERIT ELA & Student-Led Conferences in May

Merit ELA students are required to prepare and facilitate a student-led conference. The process is starting now in January. Merit ELA teachers will have lessons and time planned to assist students in the preparation of a portfolio, interpretation of data and artifacts, and preparation of their portfolio presentation to adults. Students must start saving artifacts now. Artifacts are samples of mastering skills in any class. They could be quizzes, tests, graded assignments, art projects, science projects, fitness test, instrument playing test, etc. Students will be presenting their student-led conferences on **May 13th** at scheduled times during or after the school day. Teachers will send home request papers closer to May. Alternate times and/or dates will be available to accommodate tight sports and activity schedules.



Dates to remember:

- May 4/5 - MSA Science Grade 8
- May 4/5 - Gr. 6&7 MSA Science Practice
- May 6 - Challenge 24 Tournament @ HCC
4:00 P.M. Grades 6 & 7
- May 13 - Spring Open House & Student Led-Conferences
- May 18 - Algebra I High School Assessment for all Math 8 and Honors Algebra I eighth grade students in the A.M.
- Week of May 24th - Online Algebra HSA for grade 7 Honors Algebra I
- May 25 - Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry FINAL EXAMS

MATHCOUNTS

Our Math Counts team rocks! Congratulations to all our members and individual winners, Lucas and Anton! They participated in the Regional Competition on Saturday, February 27th at E. Russell Hicks Middle School. The first and second place teams qualify to compete Saturday, March 20, in the Math Counts state competition at Johns Hopkins University's Homewood Campus in Baltimore. Special thanks to coaches, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Snuffer for all the dedicated time and hard work!

Team Results

First - Boonsboro Middle School

Second place: Springfield Middle School

Third place: Braddock Middle School

Individual Results

First: Frank Liao, Boonsboro Middle School

Second: Richard Shin, Braddock Middle School

Third: Orin Kuehl, Boonsboro Middle School

Fourth: **Lucas Nakano, Springfield Middle School**

Countdown Competition

First: Richard Shin, Braddock Middle School

Second: Aaron George, Boonsboro Middle

Third: **Anton Larsson, Springfield Middle**



Springfield's 25 Book Challenge

Each student is challenged to read a minimum of 25 books at his reading level by the end of the school year.

Your child needs to be reading about 4 books each marking period. By the end of marking period 5, your child needs to have read 21 books in order to be on track.

Ask your child for his reading log and check up on his progress. Students need your signature on their reading log in order to earn prizes here at school. Please encourage your child to read independently at home!



Our sixth graders will be having a 24 Game tournament during the school day sometime in late April. Students will need to sign up with their math teacher to compete. The top eight students will compete in the county tournament. Alternates will only compete if one of our top eight students drops out.

Seventh grade students will be competing individually in the county competition. Each middle school may send a maximum of eight students to compete.

2009-2010 Springfield Middle School PTA



PTA Corner:

The Springfield PTA is still looking for parents from all grades to join with the 8th grade celebration committee. We need parents that can help with the planning as well as the set up/clean up on the day of the event, May 28th. Please contact Shellie Hoffman at shoffman@coffmannursinghome.com

or 301-223-6924, if you would like to help or if you would like more information.

PLEASE continue to turn in your box tops located on grocery items that you use every day. It is an easy way to make money. Instead of throwing the items in the trash, just cut the box top off and place it in an envelope. Your child can give the box tops to their homeroom teacher.



We are happy to announce that we will NOT have a Spring Fundraiser.

We cut costs by creating and printing our own planners for the students next year. Our first fundraiser for next year will begin in October.

The next PTA meeting will be April 6th at 6pm in the Media Center. If you have any questions or would like on the PTA news emails please call Shellie Hoffman at 301-223-6924 or email her at shoffman@coffmannursinghome.com



6th Grade Team News

Grade 6 Math Classes Observe "Pi DAY"

Mrs. Martz's magnet math students recently celebrated "PI DAY". Pi Day (March 14 or 3-14) is a day to celebrate the number 3.14159....Students sang songs to the tune of familiar carols, read aloud Sir Cumference and the Dragon of Pi, and measured the circumference and diameter of different sized circles to find "pi". Parents sent in a variety of delicious pies to share with the class...cherry, apple, pumpkin, pecan, chocolate, lemon, etc. Then, they voted on their favorite pie and recorded their results as fractions and per cents on a PIE GRAPH. The students had a great time investigating "PI"!

Grade 6 Magnet Math Students Participate in Stock Market Games

On March 15th Mr. Bob Budnicki, a financial investment advisor, will speak with Mrs. Martz's magnet math students about the principles behind the stock market and the importance of savings and investments. Beginning March 22nd, the magnet classes will participate in the Spring Session of the Maryland Stock Market Game. For eight weeks, students will use "real-world" math to create a performing portfolio using a live trading simulation. Starting with a virtual cash account of \$100,000, each team will work together practicing skills in leadership, organization, negotiation, and cooperation as they complete for the No. 1 position in the state. In building their portfolio, students will research and evaluate stocks and make decisions based on what they have learned. Teams will actually trade common stocks and mutual funds using the NYSE, Nasdaq and AMEX exchanges, earn interest on cash balances and pay a commission on all trades! In researching why certain stocks perform the way they do or why the market has moved up or down, students will begin to understand how our economic system works.



From the 8th Grade:

8th grade Science:
Grade level students have just finished a unit on Astronomy.

We will be starting Chemistry next week as well as reviewing for the Science MSA in early May.

Merit & Magnet students are studying the Periodic Table & getting ready to take the Science MSA on-line in late April.

Congratulations to House 8B Wolves! They won the 25 Book Challenge Competition for Marking Period 4. They will be rewarded with Game Time in their ELA class. Keep on Reading!

