



The Salamander's Tale

Bi-Weekly Newsletter of Sligo Creek Elementary School, Silver Spring, Maryland

January 23, 2009

Diantha Swift, Principal

Chrystal Brown, Assistant Principal

301-562-2722

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1/26 Professional Day -No School
- 1/30 Gr. 4 Indian Museum - Parents Invited (10:45 a.m.)
- 2/2 Opera Performance - Grades K & 1 (2:00 p.m.) - Parents Invited
- 2/3 Gr. 2 Field Trip - Brookside Center
PTA Meeting
- 2/4 **OPERA PERFORMANCE** 6:00 -8:00 p.m.

GEORGE B. THOMAS, SR. LEARNING ACADEMY, INC.

This tutoring and mentoring program can help your child reach his/her potential through individualized assistance with school work, study skills and test-taking. Students can still enroll in the program. Please contact the school for additional information.

NEW PROCESS FOR FAMILIES INTERESTED IN ELEMENTARY FOREIGN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS

This year, parents/students interested in a foreign language immersion program at one of the seven elementary schools can participate in a lottery for one of the seats by completing

an *Immersion Interest Form* for the 2009-2010 school year. This form takes the place of using the Change of School Assignment form (COSA) that has been used in the past. The *Immersion Interest Form* will be available on January 16, 2009. To download the form and learn more about elementary foreign language immersion programs, visit the website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/admissions/immersion_news.shtml

Completed forms should be faxed, mailed, or delivered directly to:

Division of Consortia Choice and Application
Program Services (DCCAPS)
Spring Mill Field Office
11721 Kemp Mill Road
Silver Spring, MD 20902
Fax: 301-649-8155

The **deadline** for submitting an *Immersion Interest Form* for the 2009-2010 school year is **Wednesday, April 1, 2009.**

WINTER WEATHER EMERGENCIES

Winter weather emergencies, such as snow and ice may cause disruptions in school operations, including the closure of schools, a delayed opening, or an early dismissal. Please make sure to update your emergency information, including additional phone numbers of persons to be contacted in case a parent cannot be contacted. Make sure you have a plan for emergency early dismissal, especially for young students. Please listen to the radio and TV, county Cable Channel 6 or Cable Channel 34 - MCPS TV or on a taped

telephone message service at 301-279-3673 for such announcements.

PARKING REMINDERS

Please be reminded not to park in the spaces closest to the school in the SSIMS lot. These spaces are for our teachers. Some teachers leave after hours in the dark and for safety need to be parked closer to the school.

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Montgomery College Continuing Education YOUTH PROGRAMS is pleased to present KIDS' COLLEGE program for spring 2009. Enrichment courses for students in Grades K-12 will begin February 1ST. For more information please visit their website at www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth, or you can call Sharon Wolfgang at 240-567-7264 for assistance.

MRS. PONESS KINDERGARTEN CLASS

In mid November, during a class meeting, the children decided they wanted to help those who are less fortunate and "Project F, G, H, M, S, and S" was launched. "Project F, G, H, M, S, and S" (Project Food, Gloves, Hats, Mittens, Scarves and Socks) is a clothes and food drive. By December 19th, the children had collected 46 cans and 8 boxes of food, 15 pairs of gloves, 18 hats, 2 pairs of mittens, 2 scarves, and 45 pairs of socks (and thermal underwear). Some of the students earned money to buy the items by doing jobs at home for their parents. Other students requested that parents provide gifts for the project instead of buying things for themselves. Students brought the items to school where we used them to support our math instructional program (counting, tally marks, sorting, etc.) On Friday, January 23rd, we will give the items to Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring, Maryland. Needless to say, Mrs. Poness is extremely proud of her students. A special thank you to Mrs. Poness and all of the parents for making this possible☺

REMINDER TO ALL 3RD GRADE STUDENTS WHO APPLIED TO THE CENTER FOR HIGHLY GIFTED

Testing will take place at school on Tuesday, January 27, 2009 beginning at 9:30 am. Confirmation of this test date and time should have been mailed to the homes of students that applied to the HGC. Students should get a good night's rest and have a healthy breakfast before testing. For any questions or concerns, contact Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services at (301) 592-2040.

A+ BONUS BUCKS

A+ BonusBucksSM are points that accrue with each purchase using the Giant Card. At the end of each month, the A+ BonusBucksSM are used in a calculation to determine your school's cash total, which, then, is automatically credited to your school's account. Customers can support a school(s) (up to three) to benefit from the A+ BonusBucksSM that accrue. Please take the time to register if you have not done so already. To register, please visit their website at: <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus>

SOC HOP

Volunteers are needed for the upcoming SOC HOP, scheduled for Friday, February 6th from 6:30 - 8:00. Please contact Susan Dahiya at susandahiya@verizon.net if you are interested in volunteering.

PARENT SURVEY REMINDER

Please take the time to respond to the school climate surveys.