



The Salamander's Tale

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

March 20, 2009

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- 3/24 K Field Trip - U.S. Capitol
- 3/25 FI Gr. 1 Field Trip - Woodlawn Manor
- 3/26 Academy Gr. 1 to Woodlawn Manor
- 3/27 End of 3rd Marking Period
- 3/30 Professional Day - **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

Our Academy Program open house will take place on **April 21st, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.** No appointment necessary. If you have neighbors or friends whose children will be of age to attend kindergarten in the fall, please make them aware of this date.

SPRING BEAUTIFICATION DAY

SPRING BEAUTIFICATION DAY will be held on Saturday, April 4th, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This PTA sponsored semiannual event is where parent and student volunteers show our school pride by cleaning up trash and graffiti, weeding and planting flowers all around the outside of our school. Everyone is welcome; we'll have jobs for all ages! Snacks and drinks provided. If you have any questions, please contact Tori Hall (301-

652-2969, citori8a.tori.hall@gmail.com or Tim Abrahams (301-585-6695).

RACE AND ETHNICITY IDENTIFICATION FORMS

Race and Ethnicity Identification Forms were sent out on February 24th to all students with incomplete data. If you have not returned your form to our office, please do so as soon as possible. For any students without a recorded response by June 1, 2009, schools will have to designate race/ethnicity by observation. Your assistance with this important compliance requirement is greatly appreciated.

IMMERSION APPLICATION PROCEDURE

This year, parents/students interested in a foreign language immersion program 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. To download the form and learn more about elementary foreign language immersion programs, visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/admissions/immersion_news.shtm

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**. Parents of incoming kindergarteners, who have children already in an immersion program, **MUST** fill out this form as well, and submit it by the deadline. These siblings have preference in the lottery, but the form must be submitted for the preference to be granted.

FRENCH SUMMER CAMPS

Sligo Creek Immersion parents should have received a notice about our two summer camp sessions - June 22 - July 2 and July 6- July 17. Please contact Mme Gouin or Ms. Alonzo if you need another letter and registration form. All forms and deposits are due by March 28, at the latest. Thank you.

CELEBRATION OF THE MONTH OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Montgomery County will recognize April as the Month of the Young Child (MOYC) to demonstrate the vital importance of the early learning years. This effort will focus attention on young children and their families by sponsoring major events highlighting the theme, "*Children Bring Communities Together*." Montgomery County will conduct two family festivals to celebrate the MOYC:

Saturday, March 28, 2009, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Lakeforest Mall, Gaithersburg, Maryland

Saturday, April 25, 2009, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Westfield Shoppingtown, Wheaton, MD
These collaborative events will feature entertainment, hands-on activities,

community resource information, reading corner activities, and door prizes.

EARTH HOUR

Vote Earth! Your light switch is your vote. This year, Earth Hour has been transformed into the world's first global election, between Earth and global warming. Pledge your support to Vote Earth during this Earth Hour by simply switching off your lights one hour, Saturday, **March 28@8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.** For more information, visit <http://www.earthhour.org>.

HEALTH FAIR

On Friday, April 17th, a health fair, sponsored by Silver Spring International Middle School, Sligo Creek and Highland View Elementary schools will be held in the SSI cafeteria from 6-8 pm. Parents from all three schools have been planning this event, focusing on healthy nutrition and exercise since last May. Our partners, Holy Cross Hospital, Silver Spring YMCA, Proyecto Salud and MCPS Food and Nutrition services are joining us in presenting what we think will be a fun and educational event for our students and their families. We will be conducting blood pressure and Diabetes screening. Mr. Brinson has agreed to participate and we are looking forward to his hula hoop contest. We will have food demonstrations and information on portion control, healthy alternatives for food/menu preparation, games and activities related to healthy nutrition and exercise, a healthy bake sale sponsored by Highland View PTSA and a bike raffle. We have invited local sports celebrities to attend and are also looking for contacts for local college athletes. Additionally, we will be selling a healthy, low cost dinner for families. We are currently looking for parent volunteers to join us on April 17th. Questions can be addressed to Emily Sudbrink or Christine Cheson, RN, School Community Health Nurse.