

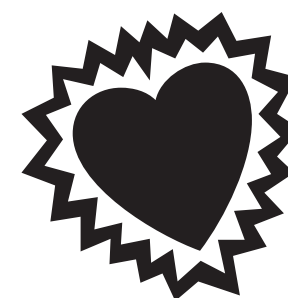
# February 2007



# Peek at The Peaks

February 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 CE Parent Night 6:30pm	7	8 Observations 9-10:30	9	10
11	12 Arts and Culture Committee 3:30pm Book Nook	13 3rd Grade Reading CSAP 8:30-10:00	14 3rd Grade Reading CSAP 8:30-10:00 Karen Field Trip	15	16 No School Teacher In-Service	17
18	19 No School Presidents Day	20 Board Meeting 6:00pm Communittee Communication Meeting 5:30pm	21 Patty/Shari/ Gwen/Dianne Field Trip 12:30-2:45	22 Observations 9-10:30am Pam/Janice Field Trip	23	24
25	26	27	28			



## Highlights of **WHAT'S INSIDE**

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- Last Ski Trip Set
- PTA Corner
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- 3 • Volunteer Opportunity
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Monthly Newsletter of  
Montessori Peaks Academy  
9904 W. Capri Avenue  
Littleton, CO 80123  
Main Line: 303.972.2627  
Website: www.mpeaks.net

Deadline for Peek contributions is the first Monday of the month by 3:00pm. Please email article text in the message section of an email to: [escobedo5832@msn.com](mailto:escobedo5832@msn.com). Please avoid attaching files to your email message. Please deliver photos and other contributions to the office.

## Love Your School—A Valentine Message

When people think of Valentine's Day, they often think of romance and flowery expressions of love and affection. In schools, Valentine's Day is an opportunity to show others an appreciation for their friendship. Classes celebrate with goodies, cards, acknowledgements of positive behavior, and even trips to celebrate with other people who might need a lift.

Kids and parents say that they love Montessori Peaks. This could be an opportunity to give a valentine to the school in the form of a helpful act. Here are some ideas:

- Help Ms. Shannon with serving lunch. She even doubles your volunteer hours!
- Participate in your child's classroom celebration by sending goodies or helping with a party or field trip.
- Acknowledge you child's teacher and assistant with a card or handwritten note letting them know how much you appreciate their participation in your child's life.
- Offer your help in the classroom on another day. Cover lunch or recess to allow the staff a break.
- Ask your child's teacher about ways to help in the room, such as reading with students or making materials.
- Ask Char or Donna about ways to help the school with needs during the building of our expansion. We are looking for help building a sidewalk along Kipling, help with packing up the art, P.E., and aftercare programs at the end of the year, and help with organizing the new library space renovated from the Commons Room.

Montessori Peaks Academy sends out our Valentine to our parents and students. We love you and appreciate all that you do for our school.

Here are some facts about the history and practices of Valentine's Day:

- Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated in Europe in the seventeenth century.
- By the eighteenth century, it was common for friends and lovers to exchange small tokens of affection and written notes.
- In the 1840's, Esther A. Howland began to sell the first mass-produced valentine cards in America. She is known as the Mother of the Valentine, making elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons, and colorful pictures.
- According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year.
- Approximately 85 per cent of all cards are purchased by women.
- Cupid, the child-like winged deity often associated with Valentine's day is the son of Venus, the Roman goddess of love.



# Happy Valentines!



## MPA SEARCH ENGINE

I wanted to let you know that MPA is on file at the Internet Search site, GoodSearch (www.good-search.com). It uses the Yahoo! Search engine.

Every time someone searches the internet using GoodSearch with MPA as their designated school, MPA receives one cent. This is not a lot by itself, but adds up. From their site:

CHARITY OR SCHOOL SIZE	NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS	AVERAGE SEARCHES PER DAY	ESTIMATED REVENUE/YEAR
Small	100	2	\$730
Medium	1,000	2	\$7,300
Large	10,000	2	\$73,000

The user should just enter "Montessori Peaks" into the "Who do you GoodSearch for?" and hit the verify button. So, spread the word. David Bolt | MMA Realty Capital | P: 303-325-1018 | F: 303-325-1029

## KING SOOPER GIFT CERTIFICATES

King Sooper gift certificates are back, they are available in quantities of \$25 and are available to be purchased in the office by Veronica, she has them on hand and you can also place monthly orders if you would like and can pick them up at your convenience or all at once, King Soopers also give you the cash back if you only buy a small item instead of another certificate.

The funding MPA gets back from the certificates goes to our volunteer software program. Using PTO Manager you can view the program at [www.mpa.ptomanager.com](http://www.mpa.ptomanager.com), the hours will be posted to the site soon. It is not fully up and running yet, but you can view the program and see what the fuss is all about. We will send out more information when the program is fully operational.

Thanks for your time and support of the Volunteer program! MPA Community Relations Committee

## LAST SKI TRIP



MPA's last ski and snowboard trip will be on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23** to Winter Park. Forms can be downloaded at [www.coloradoskiacademy.com](http://www.coloradoskiacademy.com). Your child can turn in the form by faxing it in to the Colorado Ski Academy. (DO Not bring to school—the Ski Academy will have already picked up forms). If your child has a credit you have up to one year to use that credit.

## Valentine's Day Skating Party

The sixth grade fundraising committee is sponsoring a school-wide roller skating party at Skate City on February 14th from 6-8 P.M. Admission is \$4 per person with \$1 for skate rental. The classroom with the highest attendance rate at the party gets a check for \$75. Free Hershey kisses for all paid skaters!

## PTA CORNER

The PTA has assorted styles and sizes of sweatshirts for a bargain—2 shirts for \$10. They will be on display in the showcase. Purchase at the office or call Liz Hughes at 303-988-0250.

## Drawing with Gwen



Gwen Alexander invites Kindergarten students to participate in weekly art classes. Classes will be held on either Tuesdays or Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:45 P.M. The first session will begin on either Tuesday, February 20 or Thursday, February 22 and run consecutively for four weeks. Classes will be for Kindergarten students only, and will be limited to six students. Information and sign-up sheets will be sent home in Friday folders. The tuition for this after-school activity is \$75.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are offering the Presidential Service Award this year to all kids who work up to 50 hours in community service. This can include Student Council, volunteering for the haunted house that took place in October, and other volunteer hours done around school. Also, any volunteering done outside of school, for example, if you rake the neighbors leaves for free, pick up trash on the road or in the park, or volunteer at events, etc. It does not include any household chores you may do for your parents or grandparents, but rather in the community.

The President award is only available for kids. They will receive a metal, certificate, and letter from the President of the U.S., if they meet a total of 50 hours of community service. We have made an hour sheet that was sent home in the Friday Folders when the first set of parent hours were pulled. We are asking that parents help their kids keep track of their volunteer hours and keep them in the back of the Friday Folders.

Also, we as a committee and office staff of MPA are excited to announce a new volunteer software program that will allow all parents to view their own hours and events going on at the school with opportunities to volunteer for. The software will be viewable online and is in the process of being updated. Watch the Peak and emails for further information announcing when the website will be available for viewing.

If you know any one that is not receiving my emails and would like to receive them please pass along my email address and have them contact me, I will be happy to put them on my list.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEBRUARY,

Penny Currier the special needs teacher is in need of some one to clean and sort the toy box you can do it on your own time and contact Penny for any further information.

Recess parent helpers are needed to watch kids and bring back to class when recess time is over. Many teachers are in needs of this at different times, please ask your teacher and what time they will need you.

Judy Faulder needs Pizza pick up on Fridays at 11:25 am, and she needs spelling helpers on Mondays.

### VOLUNTEER LIST

Reading to children in class- all primary and lower elementary classes. Taking dictation from kids in class- all primary and lower elementary classes. Listen to readers - all primary and lower elementary classes. Washing windows for teachers. Pizza pick up on Fridays for lunch hour, Help with PE on Fridays for Judi Miller, Hot lunch help with Shannon, Curbside carpool, Sign changing for out door sign in center of island. Shovel Snow during snowy days

### DONATIONS NEEDED

CD Players for the new reading program. Any thing donated can be put towards your volunteer hours, every \$10 = 1 hour of volunteer time.

Share your green thumb--Volunteer needed to water plants in the Book Nook area. No previous experience necessary...we will train. See Donna in the office if interested.

If you can help out with this I would appreciate it and please let me know as soon as possible. Thanks so much for your hard work and dedication. Jen Skinner – Volunteer Coordinator: [jlskinner11@msn.com](mailto:jlskinner11@msn.com)

### DO YOU HAVE METALWORKING KNOWLEDGE?? TRAINING IN MATERIALS ENGINEERING??

We're looking for someone with expertise in metalworking to help us with the 6th grade permanent artwork project for this year. Andrea is thinking about a mobile, or other 3-D free floating sculpture to suspend over the stairwell. We'd like to know if any parent in the school has this kind of expertise for consulting. The students are going to do the work, but we need some advice on what kinds of lightweight metals might function well for large art projects like mobiles. Please consult by contacting Andrea Rollins in the art room.