


# FEBRUARY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 3:30PM - 1st & 2nd Grade Art 3:45PM - Taekwondo	3 3:05PM - Choir 3:15PM - Hippy Hop 3:15PM - Spanish 3:30PM - Jump Bunch 6PM - CRC	4 8:45AM - Janice/Gwen/Shari/Jill/Pam Tiny Tots Concert 3PM - DI-Sebring 3:15PM - DI-MacNicholas 3:15PM - Taekwondo 6:15PM - Cub Scout Planning Mtg	5 3PM - DI-Bush 3:05PM - Guitar 3:15PM - 5th & 6th Grade Art 3:15PM - Hippy Hop Dance 3:15PM - Beg & Adv Spanish	6 3:10PM - Kidstage 3:15PM - Taekwondo 3:15PM - Ballet	7 4PM - CRC Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
8	9 3:10PM - Kidstage 3:15PM - Taekwondo 3:15PM - Arts/Cultural Mtg 3:30PM - 1st & 2nd Grade Art	10 3:05PM - Choir 3:15PM - 3rd & 4th Grade Art 3:15PM - 3rd & 4th Art 3:15PM - Beg & Adv Spanish 3:15PM - Hippy Hop 3:30PM - Jump Bunch	11 3PM - DI-MacNicholas 3PM - DI-Sebring 3:15PM - Taekwondo 3:15PM - Webelos 5:45PM - PTA meeting 5:45PM - PTA Mtg 6PM - Wolf Cubs	12 8:45AM - Dave Boettcher Hall CO Symphony 3PM - DI Bush/Guitar 3:15PM - Hip Hop 3:15PM - Spanish 3:15PM - 5th & 6th Grade Art	13 <b>NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service</b>	14 St. Valentine's Day 
15	16 <b>NO SCHOOL Presidents Day</b>	17 3:05PM - Choir 3:15PM - 3rd & 4th Grade Art 3:15PM - Beg & Adv Spanish 3:15PM - Hippy Hop 3:30PM - Jump Bunch	18 8AM - CSAP 3rd Grade Reading 3PM - DI - Sebring 3PM - DI-MacNicholas 3:15PM - Taekwondo	19 8AM - CSAP 3rd Grade Reading 3PM - DI-Bush 3PM - 5th & 6th Grade Art 3:05PM - Guitar 3:15PM - Hip Hop 3:15PM - Beg & Adv Spanish	20 3:10PM - Kidstage 3:15PM - Taekwondo 3:15PM - Ballet	21
22	23 3:10PM - Kidstage 3:15PM - Taekwondo 3:30PM - 1st & 2nd Grade Art	24 9AM - 3rd grade moving up observation 3:05PM - Choir 3:15PM - 3rd & 4th Grade Art 3:15PM - Beg & Adv Spanish 3:30PM - Jump Bunch 6PM - Board Mtg	25 4th Grade NAEP Testing 3PM - DI-MacNicholas 3:15PM - Taekwondo 3:30PM - DI-Sebring 6:15PM - Boy Scouts Pack Mtg	26 9AM - K's moving up observation 3PM - DI - Bush 3:05PM - Guitar 3:15PM - Hip Hop 3:15PM - 5th & 6th Grade Art 3:15PM - Beg & Adv Spanish	27	



Valentine's Day is next week




## Montessori Peaks Academy - Peek at the Peaks

### CSAP TIME IS STARTING

For students and teachers in the third through sixth grades at MPA, the CSAP season has started. CSAP, the Colorado Student Assessment Program, is given yearly to all students in Colorado from third through tenth grades. The tests are given in February and March.. Then the tests are boxed and sent to Indiana for scoring and data analysis. Jefferson County School District receives the test scores for reading for third graders before the end of the school year, and the remainder of the scores during the summer, just before the opening of school.

Our district strives to show high achievement on CSAP tests. As in previous years, Jeffco requires all teachers administering the tests, principals, and testing coordinators to attend training or review sessions. All schools are also required to give the tests on the same day to further standardize our District. Test scores are the major focus of school accreditation goal setting and School Accountability Reports from the Colorado Department of Education.

The staff at MPA regards the CSAPs as a snapshot of a child's achievement—one indicator of many assessment tools of teachers. To prepare our students we use practice materials from Jeffco, as well as materials purchased from teacher stores. The point of using the practice materials is to give students the opportunity to experience the format of CSAP and practice responding in the style CSAP requires. The emphasis is on the practical aspects of taking tests—a life skill for anyone pursuing educational and employment goals.

Parents can help with the testing process in several important ways. Being calm and supportive on the test days will help your child. Getting adequate rest and nutrition helps children concentrate on their work. A good protein breakfast (if your child is willing) gives the brain the food for focus and recall. Some classes invite parents to send a special nutritious snack on CSAP days—check with your child's teacher.

Since MPA is a Montessori school, we continue to follow the Montessori philosophy as the driving force behind our program. CSAPs are but one of the assessment tools which are part of our being a Jeffco charter.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF What's Inside?

- 2 • Volunteer News
- Carpool Help
- Library Lowdown
- 3 • Health Clinic News
- Yearbook Pictures Needed
- Pinewood Derby Results
- 4 • Calendar



**Deadline for Peek Articles\***  
contributions are due by the 1st Monday of the month by 5:00pm.

Please email article text in the message section of an email to:  
Char Weaver at  
[ceweaver@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:ceweaver@jeffco.k12.co.us)

Photos and Images should be in JPG Format, 300 dpi.

**Newsletter Layout and Design**  
Rick Escobedo  
[www.escobedodesigngroup.com](http://www.escobedodesigngroup.com)

Monthly Newsletter of  
Montessori Peaks Academy  
9904 W. Capri Avenue  
Littleton, CO 80123  
Main Line: 303.972.2627  
Website: [www.mpeaks.net](http://www.mpeaks.net)

## NEWS FROM THE CRC COMMITTEE

We just wanted to let you all know about some volunteer opportunities, donations needed and to remind everyone that Friday February 27 all volunteer hours will be pulled and tallied. Please make sure you fill out the Parent volunteer forms and have your kids fill out the student volunteer forms. Please make sure the volunteer forms are in your Friday Folders and turned in on time, this will insure that all volunteer hours are counted. The Tally will be coming out in mid March, 2009. Just a reminder if no volunteer sheet are turned in they can not be tallied so make sure you get them turned in on time. If you have any questions please email Janee Valduga at valdugas@comcast.net .

Gary Monaco Facilities Manager and Andrea the Art Teacher are looking for volunteers to help with the after school 6th grade workshops for the sculpture project. They meet twice a week from 3:00-5:30pm in the art room. You would not need to come every time. A schedule for February is listed below. We need adults that feel comfortable with hands-on construction using tools such as drills, metal sheers, wire cutters, etc. while assisting 6th graders. We need someone who can help facilitate and problem solve with the kids to keep this a student lead project.

### Meeting dates are as follows:

**Thurs. Feb. 5th, Thurs. Feb 19th, Mon. Feb. 9th  
Mon. Feb. 23rd, Thurs. Feb. 12th, Thurs. Feb. 26th  
Wed. Feb. 18th**

MPA's Silent Auctions is coming up fast and we need your help! - If you would like to donate items and or services you can take them as your volunteer hours for the cost of the items and or services. The silent auction will be held Sunday, May 17th during our Spring Fest Celebration and all funds raised will benefit the MPA children. If you are not interested in donating but would like to help with the Silent Auctions Please contact Kate Simpson at 303-907-9700.

Items needed are: Antiques, Artwork, Entertainment, Family Activities, Fitness Goods and Services, Gourmet Gifts, Handbags, Jewelry, Lodging, Paintings, Photographs, Quilts, Recreation Equipment, Restaurants Gift Cards, Sculptures, Shopping Certificates, Spas, Sporting Events, Travel, Vacation Rentals, Wine.

If you are interested please contact Kate Simpson, MPA Auction Chair at 303-907-9700 or simpsonkathleen@msn.com or Lisa Bush at 303-906-3200 or LisaBushSellsHomes@yahoo.com

## THE MPA LIBRARY LOWDOWN

Thanks so much for all the generous book donations we already received in the past couple of weeks! Your contributions will be used and appreciated by teachers and students alike. Our families rock!

Just a quick note about overdue books: while there is no fee associated with overdue books at the elementary school level, books which don't get returned to the MPA library may result in students not being able to check out other books until overdue books are returned or a book-replacement fee is paid. (Please see Heather Walter or Donna Kane about this.) Most students have one day of the week when their class visits the library, so be sure to ask your student when their library day is and have them figure out how they can best remember to return their library books on time. Students may return books any time during the week, but they can only check books out during their scheduled library time.

Big "thank-yous" to the continuous stream of library volunteers we have helping shelve, label, scan books, etc. If you are interested in volunteering some time in the library, please call Kathleen Nixon (303-730-2860) or Stephanie Oberg (303-948-0366) to talk about what you might be interested in doing and what times work best for you.



## LOOKING FOR MORNING CARPOOL HELP

One of our carpool dads had a schedule change and can't help with carpools any more. We are looking for someone who doesn't mind the cold, snow, rain, and wind. Someone who likes to see kids and can spare the time in the morning would be perfect for the job. Please see Char Weaver if you might be available a few days a week.

## NEWS FROM THE HEALTH CLINIC

We have encountered three cases of Fifth Disease in the Clinic during the last few weeks. Fifth Disease is a viral infection that begins with low grade fever, headache, and mild cold symptoms. Then these symptoms pass and a few days later a rash appears, first on the face as bright red cheeks, and then lighter blotches on the body. Fifth Disease is contagious and spreads from droplets from the coughs and sneezes of the infected person. Infection during a pregnancy may cause problems for the fetus, although about half of all pregnant women are immune because they had a previous infection. Because the disease is most contagious before the rash occurs, prevention is tricky. Proper handwashing and "cold" related hygiene are the most important prevention. If your child contracts Fifth Disease, the main treatment is to relieve fever and cold symptoms, and deal with any itching. If you have questions, see Fran in the Clinic.

## ANY PICTURES NEEDED FOR YEARBOOK!

The Yearbook committee needs your help taking pictures of kids in classrooms, outside or on field trips. We would like a parent from each classroom to volunteer as a photographer and contact us. Please email tina.dobbins@earthlink.net if you can take pictures of kids in your child's classroom. Also, anyone that has photos of events please contact me so we can incorporate them into this year's yearbook. We prefer jpeg files on cd, but we can scan pictures as well. Remember to send pictures with classroom info so we know where to place them.

## MAY INVOICES DUE EARLY

Due to a high number of unpaid invoices after school is out for summer break May invoices will be due early this year. Instead of the 20th of May all invoices will be due by May 12th, so please budget accordingly. The office will accept post dated checks, but we must have payment by the 12th for your child(ren) to continue using any of the fee based services offered by MPA. Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

## ATTENTION VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS



Judi Miller MPA's P.E. teacher will be teaching a "Volleyball" curriculum in April beginning on the 6th through the 24th. She would appreciate any parents who would like to volunteer their knowledge and skills of the game to come work with her and the children. If interested please contact Judi at 303-972-2627 ext134. This would be a great opportunity to get some volunteer hours and have fun all at the same time.

## CUB SCOUTS PINE WOOD DERBY A HUGE SUCCESS! And the Winners are ...

The Scouts of Pack 84 and their families enjoyed a night of high-speed thrills & spills in MPA's gym on January 28 at this year's Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. The boys hand-crafted and painted their own vehicles, and their hard work was evident in the wide variety of clever car designs. Detroit, take note! There's no shortage of creativity in these Scouts!

Craftsmanship was evident in the races, as well, with only approximately a half-second separating the first 13 finishers. First place winners by den are: Chandler DeSpirlet, 2nd Year Webelos; Nick Escobedo, 1st Year Webelos; Griffin Gottwald, Bears; Christian Ragain, Wolves; and Dylan Bolt, Tiger Cubs. Overall winners for the Pack were Dylan Bolt in 1st place with a combined time of 14.1870; Jordan Hicken in 2nd at 14.2910; and Christian Ragain in 3rd with 14.3500.

Congratulations to all the Cub Scout participants, who showed tremendous enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the event: Alex Berland, Jesse Berland, Dylan Bolt, Jason Bush, Dylan Carlson, Chandler DeSpirlet, Hansen DeSpirlet, Nick Escobedo, Devdan Godany, Griffin Gottwald, Porter Hawkins, Jordan Hicken, Jayden Kemp, Ben Law, Nick Law, Troy MacNicholas, Spencer Mickus, Christian Ragain, Michael Stepniowski, Tyler Stepniowski, Timothy Tyler, and Bode Weaver. Great work, Cubs!