

The Jaguar International

Silver Spring International Middle School

PTSA Newsletter



Volume 4, Issue 4



April 2009

Letter from the Principal

We are on our way to the 4th and final marking period of this school year! Our students did a wonderful job on the MSAs. They worked hard, focused and did their best to GO BLUE. I want to recognize our staff for their continued support and dedication during testing, and our amazing PTSA who provided breakfast treats every morning of testing for our testing staff...THANK YOU!

I am excited about all of the plans as we create our schedule for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year. We are fortunate to be able to continue to offer our 8-period schedule to provide the support and enrichment that all students need.

Your children have registered for their courses, and we are busy preparing for another school year. Before school is over, we will mail your child's course selection for next year. Please review this information with your child, and contact our guidance office if you have any questions.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the numerous events scheduled (please see enclosed school calendar) in the next couple of months.

Vicky Parcan

From the PTSA Co-Presidents

Spring is in the air and with this "mini-newsletter" from the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) we are trying something new. The school web site and PTSA listserve are great sources of information that you should visit often. If you haven't already joined the listserve, see the back page of the newsletter.

This newsletter does not attempt to duplicate those great resources but to provide essential information to help you stay connected with the school and PTSA and support your students' successes.

In these pages you will find:

- Update from Ms. Parcan
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Donation Needs
- Your PTSA at work: Spring Shakespeare Residencies, International Night, Year-End Events
- Pull-out calendar for April and May 2009

Let us know how we are doing. And please join us in finding new ways to make our school a community and place we are proud to send our students.

Jeanne Atkinson
Lisa Gabriel

Volunteer Opportunities

- Major **PTSA positions** need to be filled for 2009-2010: CO-PRESIDENT, TREASURER, SECRETARY, INCOMING 6TH GRADE VP. Contact Jeanne Atkinson at (301) 588-1474 or Lisa Gabriel at (301) 593-4358 for more information.
- **Spring musical:** Make some magic from wood, nails, fabric, and paint and construct the set, collect costumes and props, sell ads for the program book, or other fundraising. Contact Drama teacher Ms. Brobby at [Anne M Brobby@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Anne_M_Brobby@mcpsmd.org)
- The SSI **Media Center** is looking for a volunteer(s) to help organize, shelve books and more on a regular basis. Media Center hours are 7:30 - 3pm, and volunteer schedules are very flexible. Contact Francoise at [Francoise I Domaas@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Francoise_I_Domaas@mcpsmd.org) or 301-650-6544.

Donations Needed

- Food contributions for the **Staff Appreciation** lunch on Tuesday, **May 5:** Contact Crystal Willis at crystalkwillis@msn.com
- Your donations to help equip **literacy corners** in every classroom will promote active/ recreational reading across content areas. Bring your lightly used lamps, throw rugs, bean bag chairs, throw pillows, magazine racks, books and magazines to room 127. Topics include: math, science, literature, arts, and physical fitness. Contact Literacy Coach [Aisha K Artis@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Aisha_K_Artis@mcpsmd.org) or (301) 650-6544 with any questions.
- Support this year's PTSA programs: **donate \$15**, toward what we spend for every student for in-school enrichment, teacher mini-grants, etc. Mail your contribution to SSI PTSA, 313 Wayne Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910

Your PTSA Contributions at Work:

Shakespeare Residencies in April and May

Collaborating with our English department, the PTSA is supporting outside teaching artists to work with every English class this spring in connection with the Shakespeare unit. The PTSA identified the opportunities, applied for outside grant support, and funded the balance with your donations.

Be sure to ask your child about the engaging enrichment activities including:

- **Shakespeare Theatre:** Returning for a 4th year at Silver Spring International, teaching artists from the nationally known theater will meet with every 7th and 8th grade English class April 14-24.
 - **Grade 8** – three workshops: Themes/Shakespeare's World, Scene Work - Internal Stage Direction, and Scene Presentation.
 - **Grade 7** – Fun with Shakespeare: iambic pentameter workshop
- **Grade 6** – Visual artist Sue Fierston will work with all classes in late May to create their own vision of a Shakespearean sonnet. They will combine their study of Shakespearean language with instruction in reading visual symbols, color and line. Students will investigate these concepts using watercolor crayons on paper.

Save the Dates: Final PTSA Meeting and Events

Please join us in the final PTSA events of the year and help plan for next year:

- Friday, **May 1, International Night**, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Please return the enclosed flyer or contact Chris White at white_dottavi@hotmail.com if you are able to help
- Tuesday, **May 12**, the final **PTSA meeting** of the year starts at 7 pm. Elect new officers and hear about ways you can support your students success
- Monday, **June 8**, 7 pm to 8pm, year-end **Ice Cream Party**

Silver Spring International Middle School Calendar

April 2009

Community events are shown in **bold**.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	March 30 • Professional day for teachers. No school for students.	March 31 • EVEN • MSA Make-ups - All Grades • No Afterschool Activities	April 1 • ODD • No Afterschool Activities • Orchestra Festival • 8am 8th Gr Cultural Arts Assembly	2 • EVEN • Band Festival • No Afterschool Activities	3 • ODD	4
5	6 • Spring break	7 • Spring break	8 • Spring break	9 • Spring break	10 • Holiday - Easter	11
12	13 • Holiday - Easter	14 • EVEN	15 • ODD • Gayle Danley - 7th grade Cultural Arts Assembly	16 • EVEN • Report cards distributed	17 • ODD • 8 am Principal's Coffee • 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Health Fair	18
19	20 • EVEN	21 • ODD • 6:30 pm Counselor's Chat: PBIS/School Climate	22 • EVEN • 8th Gr Science MSA - Testing Window	23 • ODD • 8th Gr Science MSA - Testing Window	24 • EVEN • 8th Gr Science MSA - Testing Window	25
26	27 • ODD • 8th Gr Science MSA - Testing Window	28 • EVEN • 8th Gr Science MSA - Testing Window	29 • ODD • 8th Gr Science MSA - Testing Window	30 • EVEN	May 1 • ODD • 6:30 pm PTSA International Night	

May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
3	4 • EVEN	5 • ODD • PTSA Staff Appreciation Lunch	6 • EVEN	7 • ODD	8 • EVEN • Spring Fashion/Talent Show	9
10	11 • ODD • Vision & Hearing Screening	12 • EVEN • Vision & Hearing Screening • 7 pm PTSA Meeting	13 • ODD	14 • EVEN • 8th Grade Passion Project Presentations	15 • ODD • 8th Grade Passion Project Presentations	16
17	18 • EVEN • HSA Algebra	19 • ODD	20 • EVEN	21 • ODD	22 • EVEN	23
24	25 • Holiday - Memorial Day	26 • ODD	27 • EVEN • 7 pm Spring Musical Production "Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka" Junior	28 • ODD • Last Day for Afterschool Activities • 7 pm Spring Musical Production "Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Jr."	29 • EVEN	30



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SSIMS PTSA Newsletter

*Silver Spring International Middle School 313
Wayne Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910*

**Get the Latest News
Join the PTSA Listserve!**

The Silver Spring International PTSA utilizes an online listserve to distribute information quickly to parents. To subscribe to this group, send an e-mail to SSImptsa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please include your full name and the names and grades of your children attending the school.

Posting to the PTSA list serve: If you have an announcement or school-related post, send a note to: SSImptsa@yahoogroups.com

View current or past messages online at the group's web site:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SSImptsa/>
Need help? E-mail the moderator at
SSImptsa-owner@yahoogroups.com or contact Suzanne Morgan at 301-589-3333.



***Silver Spring International
Middle School***

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