



The Lion's Roar

'Recognize the Roar'

Autrey Mill Middle School

November 9, 2009

Student Achievements

Calendar of Events

Nov. 11 5:00 p.m.
Volleyball vs.
HBMS
(HOME)

Nov. 13 5:00 p.m.
Volleyball vs.
WBMS
(HOME)

Nov. 18 Career Day

**Early Release
Day**
Students
Dismissed at
12:55 p.m.

Nov. 23 7:00 p.m.
Fall Play

Nov. 25—27
Thanksgiving
Break

Dec. 10 PTA Lunch

Dec. 10
6:00 p.m.
& 7:30 p.m.
Winter
Concert
Shows

The **2009—2010 Reflections** winners were announced at a breakfast held in the media center on November 3rd. Thank you to all the students who came for breakfast (they did enjoy those Chick-fil-A® biscuits and fruit.) but more importantly, thank you to all students who entered the Reflections competition. We had a record number of 215 entries this year. Many thanks Reflections Chair, Susan Stiles, and parents Elynn Carbone, Debbie Dargis and Shannon McMahon who were on hand to help with the event.

Dr. Ferrell announced the winners, and principal for a day, Brett Goldfine, assisted with the presentations. Congratulations to our winners and good luck to those students representing AMMS at the next level of competition.

Visual Arts

Grade 6

Lauren H.
Tracy D.
Honorable Mention: Catherine L.

Grade 7

Kate K.
Katrina C.

Grade 8

Emily S.
Whitney L.
Honorable Mention:
Jayne W. and Ji Soo N.

Literature

Grade 6

Rachel C.
Renee C.
Honorable Mention: Megan D.

Grade 7

Diana C.
Morgan S.
Honorable Mention: Kelsey L.

Grade 8

Quinn A.
Brooke A.
Honorable Mention: Mica B.

Photography

Grade 7

Caroline R.

Grade 8

Clair O.

Film and Video

Grade 7

Hailey L.

Musical Composition

Grade 7

Kelsey L.

Grade 8

Brooke A.

Catherine L. was the winner of the \$50 gift card.

What Drama!

The Autrey Mill Middle School (AMMS) Drama Club and 8th Grade Drama Class will be presenting three one act plays under the billing, ***A Night of One Acts*** on Monday, November 23rd at 7:00 p.m. on the AMMS stage. All productions are under the direction of Mrs. Amy Creamer, AMMS Drama teacher and Drama Club sponsor.

The Audition, presented by the AMMS Drama Club, recently won a **superior rating** at the **2009 Kotler Memorial One-Act Competition** in Monroe, GA. The play deals with the funny and sometimes serious behind-the-scenes moments of students at a high school auditioning for the school play. The talented cast is made up of 6th, 7th and 8th graders and features monologues, song and dance. **Rachel E., Caroline C., Lauren G., Walker S. and Sage W.** were awarded certificates for their performances at the competition. Ms. Liz Goodwin choreographed the show.

The 8th grade Drama Class will be presenting two contrasting plays. The first, ***School Daze***, takes a light-hearted look into the first day of middle school for both new and returning students. The play asks the questions that run through every middle-schooler's head: Is middle school going to be scary? Will the teachers be nice? Will I make it to class on time? Who will I sit with at lunch?

The Tale That Wagged the Dog, the second play presented by the 8th grade Drama Class, takes place in a Boston hotel in the 1870's and depicts the story of Rudolph, the valet of the famous waltz king, Johann Strauss, who has made a side business selling off locks of his employer's hair to adoring female fans. Rudolph's no-nonsense, hardworking wife Trudi has other ideas on how her husband should spend his time.

All three plays are backed by the solid work of the students who work backstage crew, and are under the direction of 8th grader Maggie Smith, Technical Director.

To find out who makes the school play, how the students survive their first day of middle school and how Rudolph's business is doing, attend the one and only performance of ***A Night of One Acts***. Tickets can be purchased in the front rotunda before school the week before the show as well as at the door. General admission price is \$5. All proceeds go the Drama Club.



Walkathon is Tomorrow!

Our school will be raising money for the **Red Cross** to support Georgia flood victims. Flyers were sent home with progress reports several weeks ago about this event. Students who have raised at least \$10 can participate in tomorrow's walkathon around the track.

Dip 'n Dots® and water will be sold, and music will be provided by our very own DJ Tim Anderson! Prizes will be awarded for most money raised and most laps walked.



PTA News—Lunch and Learn

Bring a lunch and join us!

The KidSafe Seminar

"How to Keep Your Kids Safe on the Internet"

Presented by AMMS PTA

November 11, 2009

11:30 a.m.—AMMS Media Center

Do your kids IM? Chat? Download Music? Use Email?

If they do, parents need to equip themselves with tools and techniques to help keep their kids safe. Even the most innocent computer activity can be exploited by companies and unscrupulous individuals. **The KidSafe Seminar** will bring step by step instruction on a variety of topics including:

- Parental Controls: How to really control effectively!
- Defeating 'Pop-Up' web advertising
- Saying 'No' to unwanted emails
- Activity Logging: How to investigate your kid's internet activity
- Detection and Removal: How to rid your computer of unwanted material

This seminar will be presented by **Neal Tomasin**, a 20-year veteran of high technology industries such as aerospace, telecommunications, and financial services. As a parent of children in high school and middle school, he has seen first hand the impact that the Internet has made on his own family. Knowing what your kids are doing when they surf the Internet is just as important as asking them when they'll be home or who they were with.

If you have any questions, please contact Shannon McMahon at shannonamcmahon@aol.com



From the Counselors' Corner

CRCT Reading preparation is underway at AMMS! During the month of November, students will practice with a variety of reading passages. They will focus on the following skills:

- Reading comprehension
- Strategies for effectively reading the given passage
- Strategies for effectively answering questions related to the passage
- How to eliminate answer choices
- Using vocabulary in context

To reinforce these skills at home, have students check out the Language Arts section of Brain Pop on the AMMS website- Student Resources page. If you have questions or concerns about the CRCT, please contact your grade level counselor.

6th grade- Sogol Zebarjadi

7th grade- Lyn Shiver

8th grade- Fran Meredith



Student Council News

SAVE LIDS TO SAVE LIVES

Now through December 18 Student Council representatives are collecting **pink Yoplait®** yogurt lids. The **Yoplait®** company donates ten cents to **Breast Cancer Research** for every lid. Please send clean, **pink Yoplait®** lids to school with your child – every lid gets us closer to the cure!



AMMS Spirit Days at Chick-fil-A—This Week!

Throughout November, **Chick-fil-A** will be partnering with Autrey Mill to reward and recognize students. The events begin this week with Autrey Mill Spirit Days, a school wide team competition to raise money for Autrey Mill. On November 10th, 11th, 12th take the family out for **Chick-fil-A** at Alpharetta Commons and Autrey Mill will get 10% of the total sales.

- **How do you participate?** By taking your flyer/card to the Chick-fil-A located on State Bridge road near the intersection of Kimball Bridge Road. Every student will be given a flyer/card Monday in homeroom.
- **When?** Tuesday November 10th, Wednesday November 11th, and Thursday November 12th. Pick the day that works for you and your family's busy schedule or go all three nights, there's no limit.
- **What's in it for me?** A great chicken sandwich and cash for Autrey Mill.
- **Which team will win?** The team with the highest attendance wins a chicken biscuit breakfast, courtesy of Chick-fil-A Alpharetta Commons.

Like the Cows say, **"Eat Mor Chikin"**, this week at Chick-fil-A, Alpharetta Commons. Located at 4285 State Bridge Road, Alpharetta GA. 30022.



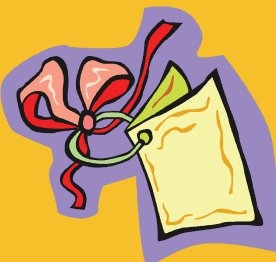
PTA News—We Need Your Help!

Each year the staff at AMMS is treated to a big holiday luncheon in early December. We like to show them how much we appreciate them and wish them **"Happy Holidays"** by giving each staff member a gift card. These are donated by our parents. This year, we are asking for gift cards in \$5 or \$10 increments, so each teacher will be able to have one. They can be to any store, restaurant, gas station, grocery...GET CREATIVE! Just have your child drop them off at the front office in an envelope to our attention. We hope this will give you plenty of time to get this done before the real holiday rush begins!

Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you so much!

Julie Abes julieabes@h2sr.com

Lorena Rothfarb lrothfarb@bellsouth.net

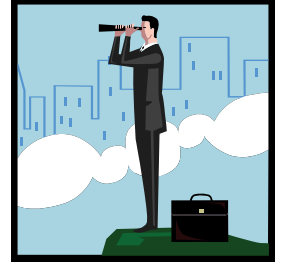


Future Focus Fair—November 14th at Georgia Tech

Fulton County Schools will be holding its first **Future Focus Fair** on **Saturday, November 14th, 2009**. All parents of 7th -12th grade students attending Fulton County schools are invited to come and hear advice on how to best prepare their children for a variety of post secondary options.

This event will take place at the Georgia Tech Student Center between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. The featured speaker will be **Nancy McDuff**, *Associate Vice President for Admissions and Enrollment Management* at The University of Georgia. Ms. McDuff will also be serving as the moderator for a panel of guest speakers representing the following higher education institutions: Georgia Tech, Georgia Perimeter College, Spelman College, SCAD and Argosy University.

The panel discussion will be followed by break-out sessions featuring confirmed representatives from the following: GA DOE (CTAE), College Board, Georgia College 411, GA Student Financial Commission (HOPE), KAPLAN and the ROTC. There is free parking on Saturdays, and we hope many families will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.



Writing Tips for Parents

As our students work to become more sophisticated writers, we try to help them improve the six traits of writing:

Ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. We talked about ideas in a previous edition. Today we will focus on ORGANIZATION.

Organization is the internal structure of the piece of writing, the thread of central meaning, the logical and sometimes intriguing pattern of the ideas. Organization gives direction to all writing by drawing the reader in. It enhances and showcases the central theme or storyline. Everything fits together like a puzzle, leaving the reader with something to think about.

As you work with your child on a piece of writing, you might suggest that he or she ask the following:

Does my paper have a good opening that captures the reader's attention?

Are my ideas in the best order?

Does my paper have a strong ending?

Encourage your child to spend time making sure the writing piece is well-organized and clear. Look for some tips on VOICE in a future edition of the Lion's Roar.



Fantastic Musicians!

Congratulations to the fantastic musicians of the Autrey Mill Orchestra, Band, and Choir!

All-State audition season is upon us, and we are pleased to announce that the AMMS Orchestra had 26 students audition in the first round, with 12 of them going on to the second round in January. The AMMS Chorus had 13 students go to the first audition and 6 who will go on to the second round in January. The first round of band auditions will not be until early December but we have high hopes and expectations for the 26 students going to the first audition. Keep an eye out for the results in late January, as we share the best of the Autrey Mill Music Department with the best of the state of Georgia.



Community News

***Parent Seminar
November 17, 2009
7:00 p.m.***

St. Martin's Episcopal School welcomes renowned psychologist and author, **Dr. Michael Thompson** for a Parent Seminar on **November 17th** at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Martin's gymnasium.

Dr. Thompson will present an hour-long program on two subject areas: ***"How to Raise Responsible Children"*** and ***"Best Friends/Worst Enemies: Friendship Development, Popularity and Social Cruelty in Childhood"*** A question & answer session will follow.

The program is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required.

St. Martin's is located at 3110 Ashford Dunwoody Road in the Brookhaven neighborhood, half a mile from Peachtree Road. For more information, please call Christina Mimms, Director of Communications, cmimms@stmartinschool.org, (404) 237-4260.



Do you like to play tennis?

Tennis players of all levels are welcome to join the ***Double Aces*** tennis program! Autrey Mill tennis players will have the opportunity to play matches against other North Fulton middle schools on Saturday mornings beginning November 14th and running through mid-December. For those players interested in lessons after school, join us at the AMMS courts on Tuesday afternoons from 4:15 - 5:15 p.m.

The Double Aces program is administered by **Tennis Kids and Teens, Inc.** with local merchants as sponsors. Applications are at the front office, or see Coach Buice. Call Melissa Anthony at 770-778-1715 with questions. Check out the website: www.tenniskidsandteens.com.

