

**Middle School Newsletter**  
**Jan. 14-Jan. 18**

**Middle School Enrichment**

Beginning Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> we will be starting the enrichment classes. These classes run from 2:00-3:00 every Friday until April 25<sup>th</sup>. Each teacher will be leading an interesting class for the middle school students. BUT, we need some parents to volunteer to teach classes too. If you are interested, please contact Melissa Hatchett as soon as possible. We would love to hear your creative ideas, but here are a few examples of classes done in the past: yoga, baby-sitting, survival skills, sewing, knitting, technology, financial/budgeting, cooking, bowling, tennis, flower arranging, printmaking, hand drumming, sign language, etc. If you have special interests and would like to join us, we would LOVE to have you. Feel free to pair up with another parent or two to make it more fun! (720)424-4200.

**Please see attached auction document**

**Talent Show—5<sup>th</sup> graders only**

The Slavens Talent Show is just around the corner! The performance will be next Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We will be hosting **mandatory** practice sessions for the participants next week also. Pick a session: Tues, 1/22 at 3:00 **OR** Wed, 1/23 at 3:00.

Any donations collected at the talent show will go toward the benefit of Matthew Keil who is a quadriplegic after being shot in the neck in the Iraq War. You can see further information at the following website: [www.caringbridge.org/visit/matthewkeil](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/matthewkeil)

**Mathletics**

Congratulations to our Mathletes that participated in the 1/16/08 competition. The 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade team (Ben Brasch, Beth Gile, Tory Rowe, and Robin Bendiak) got 1<sup>st</sup> place! Ben and Tory also received Honorable Mention, Mitch Moore got 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and Robin earned a 1<sup>st</sup> place on the individual competition.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade team earned a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. The team consisted of Caitlin Barron, Kyla Sherap, Emily Bell, Parissa Rezaie-Khodabandelou, and Brian Winstanley. On an individual basis, Caitlin received Honorable Mention.

Way to go Mathletes!

**Basketball**

Girls' game 1/17 vs. Place at Place 3:45pm AND 1/18 vs. Grant at Grant 3:45

Boys' game 1/17 vs. Place at Place 4:45pm AND 1/18 vs. Grant at Grant 4:45

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' game 1/22 vs. Highline Academy

**Please note:** At Hamilton, Merrill and MLK, no students are allowed at the game without their parent. Students may NOT attend the games with someone else's parent. Plus there is no food or drink allowed. Thank you for showing these schools the respect Slavens' families have for others' property.

**Character Education**

Character Education and the development of an "intentional culture" of responsible, respectful and self-reliant students is an important aspect of education at Slavens. Everyday, students are taught the rights and responsibilities of good citizenship. Often these lessons are woven into the curriculum. Teachers emphasize fairness and compassion while encouraging students to think globally as productive members of a community. We would like to highlight the things teachers are currently doing that promote the development of these important character traits. We would also like to strengthen the collaboration between home and school by promoting a common, shared language of character education. If you are interested in participating on a committee to reinvigorate character education at Slavens please call Kary Cramer at 303.322.7645.

**Mark Your Calendars**

2/10—Hearts for the Arts at the Black Pearl

2/13—MSPA meeting @ 7:55 am

2/14—Middle School Valentine's Day Dance  
2/15—End of 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester  
2/18 and 2/19—No school for students  
3/4 – 3/13—CSAP testing  
3/12—MSPA meeting @ 7:55 am  
3/24-3/28—Spring Break  
4/9---MSPA meeting @ 7:55 am  
4/12—Auction @ DU Cable Center  
4/18—No school for students  
4/21-4/25—3<sup>rd</sup> round of Benchmark testing  
4/24—Career day 9:00-11:00am  
4/29—Day @ DU 10:30-1:30  
5/2—No school for students  
5/14—MSPA meeting @ 7:55 am  
5/14—Athletic Banquet 5:30-7:30 at Slavens  
5/26—No school for students  
5/28—8<sup>th</sup> Grade Last Day of school  
5/28—8<sup>th</sup> Grade Continuation 5:30 pm @ Embassy Suites  
5/29—Last Day of School for K-7<sup>th</sup> grades

### **March with the Peace Action Club in the Martin Luther King, Jr Parade**

Monday, January 21, 2008

Events start at 10:00 AM with the parade launching about 10:30 AM.

Start location: City Park MLK Statue (Steele Street at 17th Street).

We will march from City Park to Civic Center in downtown Denver! Be sure to dress warm, and wear comfortable walking shoes. The parade route is about 3 miles long. Cake will be provided at the end of march. Meet in the East High School parking lot at 10:15AM. We will have a Peace Action Club banner, and you can find us by looking for green helium balloons. Car pooling is highly suggested. Contact Meg Gehl (303.777.9326) and Donna Baker- Breningstall (303.331.0755) for additional information.

### **Mobile Art Collection now on display at Slavens**

The Mobile Art Collection (MAC) will be on display at Slavens from January 16 – January 29<sup>th</sup>. The MAC is an exhibit of original artworks created by Cherry Creek Arts Festival (CCAF) exhibiting artists. This spectacular show of fine art is made possible by the SCFD Alliance Grant. Select middle school students will be trained as docents by CCAF, and will lead tours for other students and the community. This show is not to be missed!

### **Celebrate Arts Community Night**

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6-8 p.m. Slavens will host a special evening to celebrate fine arts. This is an excellent opportunity to have a family art night! The Mobile Art Collection will be on display for your viewing pleasure. Ms. Barnett's middle school choir and 4<sup>th</sup> grade music classes will be performing in the auditorium. Select 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will play recorders throughout the art exhibit. Please join us this evening and feast your eyes and ears on magnificent art!

### **Tours and Shadowing**

If you know anyone interested in shadowing our middle school, please let them know the dates for January. Each Wednesday we will have shadowing for students from 8-12:00 and 12:45-3:00. Each shadowing student must make an appointment with the office, (720) 424-4150. Tours for grades K-6 will be on Thursdays in January. These will take place from 9:30-10:00 am. These tours are for any interested parents who would like to see the school.

As you may have heard, all of your efforts have paid off! Slavens has won \$5,000 in the "go green with 'all' contest! Thank you, Slavens community, for all your hard work! The grand prize winner has not been announced yet, and we are still in the running for the grand prize of \$50,000. We will keep you posted. Check us out on the web site: <http://www.gogreenwithall.com/finalists>

**Parent Portal**

Please don't forget to make use of the Parent Portal that is available to all middle school families. Within this website you will find detailed information about your student. If you have questions about accessing this helpful tool, please contact Melissa Hatchett (720)424-4150.

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