One More Week to Order a Yearbook

Yearbook Orders due February 29

Yearbook order forms came home in late January. If you would like to order, place your order by Wednesday, February 29. This 72-page full-color yearbook sells out every year, so it is wise to reserve your copy in advance. Make checks payable to Splendid Portraits for $20 and please order one yearbook per envelope only. Yearbooks arrive in June.

See Inside this Issue:

Page 2: Calendar; Korean Coffee; March 7 PTO Meeting; Fun Run May 20

Page 3: Nationals Baseball; Skate Night; Summer Quest

Page 4 & 5: Fun Fair Pages

Page 6: Middle School Events for Rising 7th Graders; Turf Langley;

Page 7: Astronomy this Friday;

Page 8: Valentine’s Lunch; Snakes of the World

Page 9 & 10: Snakes of the World pictures

Page 11: Fun Fair T-shirt order form
Calendar

See a full school calendar at our website:
http://www.fcps.edu/SpringHillES/calendar/WebsiteCalendar9_2010.htm

Please schedule your family vacations during FCPS designated holidays / breaks, which you can see at this link: http://www.fcps.edu/about/11-12cal.htm  Be aware that missing school for extended periods of time negatively impacts your child and your child's teacher.

Plan Ahead:
April 2-6: Spring Break, No School
April 9: Teacher Work Day, No School
Tuesday, June 19: Last Day of School

Week of February 20, B Week:
Wednesday, February 22: 6th Grade Field Trip, Ethics Day, Temple Rodef Shalom, 9:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.
Thursday, February 23: Cooper MS Evening Curriculum Meeting, 7-8 p.m., at Cooper MS
Friday, February 24: SCA Spirit Day, Pajama Day

Week of February 27, A Week:
Monday February 27: 6th Gr. County Chorus rehearsal, music room, 12:50-2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 28: 4th Gr. Field Trip, Kennedy Center, 9:15 a.m.-11:45 p.m.
Wednesday, February 29: 6th Grade Kids’ Inquiry Conference, 7-8 p.m., big pod (snow date March 14)
Friday, March 2:
- SCA Spirit Day, Book Character/Dr. Seuss Day; dress as your favorite book character or wear red and white
- Community Coffee & Parent University, 8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m., cafeteria

Saturday March 3: Skate Night

Week of March 5, B Week:
Wednesday March 7: PTO Meeting, 9:15 a.m. big pod
Thursday, March 8: 1st Grade Field Trip to Mt. Vernon, 9:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Korean Coffee
Spring Hill Korean parents are invited!

Please join us for conversation over coffee and refreshments.
When: Friday, February 24th, 9:30a.m.
Where: SACC room (room 129)

For questions, please contact Aejin Lee (aejin.lee1@fcps.edu).

Next PTO Meeting
Please join us for the next PTO meeting on Wednesday, March 7th at 9:15. Our speaker will be Tom Ours, the FCPS construction manager for our addition at Spring Hill. We hope to see you there!

Save the Date : Sunday, May 20 - Fun Run
Would Your Business Like to Sponsor This Year’s 3K Fun Run?
The PTO is looking for local businesses to sponsor Spring Hill’s 3K Fun Run (May 20.) Sponsors have:
- Their logo on the back of the Fun Run T-Shirts (550+)
- Inclusion of their marketing materials (e.g., samples, brochures) in the registration bags
- The opportunity to showcase/sample their services at the post Fun Run breakfast/reception

We would love to hear from you!
Save the Date – Spring Hill Nationals Day

Join your Spring Hill friends for an afternoon of fun as the Washington Nationals take on the Cincinnati Reds at Nationals Park.

Sunday, April 15, Game Time: 1:35 p.m.
Cost: $14 per ticket ($18 value)

More information about purchasing tickets will be coming soon. If you have any questions. Contact Cindy Sullivan at cindy_sullivan@verizon.net or Kathy Swenson at kathyswenson@verizon.net

SPRING HILL SKATE NIGHT!
Saturday, March 3, 2012!

Come join us for an evening of fun with friends at Spring Hill’s annual Skate Night on Saturday, March 3, 2012 from 6:10 – 8:00 p.m. Once again, we will skate the night away at SkateQuest in Reston! We are now selling tickets on-line at www.springhillpto.org. Plan to buy your tickets early, because this event always sells out! No tickets will be issued in advance of March 3. You will pick up your tickets at the door based on our list of paid attendees. If you have any questions, please e-mail Kathy Swenson at kathyswenson@verizon.net or Cindy Sullivan at cindy_sullivan@verizon.net

Summer Quest Classes
Registration Opens February 23 at 7pm

Summer Quest is Chesterbrook Elementary School’s day camp for rising K to 7th grade students at any school held over 4 week-long sessions in July and August. For more details and to browse the class offerings by week click on the link below. Registration will open February 23 at 7 pm. Deb Rudd, Spring Hill music teacher, will be teaching the choral classes. Click here for information: http://www.fcps.edu/ChesterbrookES/SQ12.html
**Place a Pre-Order to be Sure of Your Shirt...**

This year’s Fun Fair T-Shirt is a fun multi-colored tie-dye shirt inspired by the ‘70s feeling groovy theme. 100% cotton and just $15. See the attached order form to pre-order this year's Fun Fair T-Shirt. Questions? Contact: Amelia Steiner at 703-847-2564 ameliateiner@gmail.com

**The Fun Fair *RAFFLE* is back!**

We need your donations!

The 2012 Spring Hill Fun Fair is approaching fast! Each year, the Fun Fair Raffle is one of the most popular events, thanks to the generosity of Spring Hill parents. Your children will have the opportunity to win prizes the day of the Fun Fair. In the past, prizes have included electronics, game consoles, American Girl dolls, Barbie dolls and accessories, Skateboards, Vera Bradley items, stuffed animals, DVDs, Wii-Xbox-PSP-DS games and much, much more. All raffle prizes are purchased with monetary donations made by Spring Hill parents and the community.

Please consider making a donation to this year’s Fun Fair Raffle.

To make a donation, please send in a check made payable to Spring Hill PTO in an envelope marked “Raffle”. Or you may donate a prize of your choice! Feel free to “re-gift” any items to the Raffle (unopened and new). A “Wish List” of items will be coming home in your child’s Thursday Folder. **All donations must be received by Friday, March 2nd.**

Thank you for your support! Questions? Contact Laura Miller lauraschinkmiller@verizon.net or 703-356-1204

**WHO WILL HAVE THE GROOVIEST CAKE?**

It's time to start thinking about how you are going to decorate your groovy cake for this year’s Fun Fair Cake Decorating Contest! The theme of Fun Fair is *Grooving to the 70's.* Prizes will be awarded in each grade, plus the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders will enjoy an awards assembly hosted by Mr. Vanderhye, Mr. Casey and Mr. Tritle.

Bring your cake (in a box, please) to the stage on the morning of Friday, March 23rd. (Any clean box is fine, but we suggest actual cake boxes with see-through covers, which are available at stores like Michael's for just a few dollars.) Please be sure to clearly note your name, grade, teacher AND if the cake includes any common food allergens, like nuts or chocolate.

The next day, the cakes will be used as prizes for the Cake Walk at the Fun Fair.

To help the volunteers get an idea of how many cakes we will have, or if you have any questions, please email Jung Chun at jayilchun@yahoo.com or Karen DeFilipps at kudofilipps@msn.com. It's not required that you email us to participate, but it would help us out if you would.

Start designing!
If you have an 8th grader in need of volunteer hours, The Spring Hill Fun Fair needs your child’s help with games and activities.

Shift Times:
9:45 am – 11:35 am
11:25 am – 1:15 pm
1:05 pm – 3:00 pm
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm (clean up)

Please check your availability and if interested e-mail us at: shfunfairvolunteers@gmail.com
Please provide your name, school, grade, contact info (home phone number and e-mail address so you can receive future updates from us), and the shift times that you are available.

We will send you an acknowledgement that we received your request and can participate.

Come join us on this fun day! Please call or email if you have any questions.

Thanks for your help!
Chrissie Lavin (703) 626-8029

Fun Fair Committee Meeting
Friday February 24
After School in the big pod
Questions? Christina.nazarian@gmail.com
Rising 7th Grade News
Also available at:

Cooper MS

February 23: Curriculum meeting for parents, in the evening at Cooper MS, 7pm in room 130.

Longfellow MS

Longfellow 2012-13 Course Catalog, click below:
(no printed catalogs ; on-line only)
http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/Info/2012-2013LMSCourseCatalog.pdf

Longfellow MS Rising 7th Grade Information Pamphlet, Click here:
http://www.fcps.edu/LongfellowMS/pages/Info/Rising7thGradeInformationPamphlet-2012-2013.pdf

Turf Langley

Please consider attending "Let's Toast to Turf!" at the Riverbend Country Club on Saturday, March 24, 2012. It's an opportunity for parents to be together as a collective group in support of our local public high school. Langley desperately needs a turf field. Fairfax County won't fund it. Many of the other FCPS high schools have already purchased their fields with parent and corporate donations. PE classes, band, sports teams, and the student body as a whole (carnival, pep rallies, etc.) will all use the field. No longer would students and families have to cancel events because our fields have been flooded (a continuous problem on our fields).

HOW CAN YOU HELP
1) Attending the Turf Field event at Riverbend Country Club. It is an expensive, but very worthy cause and it will also be great fun! http://www.langleyturf.org/

2) Purchasing a family brick with your family name on it - something that will be there for many years to come. See Donor Wall http://www.langleyturf.org/Donor_Wall.html

3) Donating any amount of funds directly to the Turf Field initiative http://shop.langleyturf.org/

4) Contacting a corporation that you believe would benefit by advertising/naming the LHS field, etc. The Turf Committee can give you the literature for this. email: info@langleyturf.org

5) All of the above!

Go Saxons!
Astronomy Adventures this Week!

News from Ms. Bauer, Spring Hill Science Resource Teacher

Come join Spring Hill parent, Erik Swenson and the Analemma Society this Friday night from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Turner Farm for our monthly star gazing adventure. Telescopes will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Binoculars are also great tools for viewing stars. Spring Hill will supply a few binoculars. As always, if you can’t see the stars before heading out, the event will be cancelled.

Those who arrive early may be able to spot Mercury just before it sets to the west. It is a naked eye planet. We should certainly see Jupiter (with its moons and belts) and Venus (a dazzling, but featureless, gibbous disk – many of you should know what that means from studying the moon’s phases). Like Mercury, both will be in the west but much higher. You can easily tell Jupiter and Venus apart with binoculars. So give it a try. With luck we may also get a glimpse of Mars rising in the east and Uranus setting in the west. After the end of our session (around 10 p.m. or so), Saturn will be rising in the east. So, the intrepid may be able to spot seven of our eight planets in one evening! By the way, you’ll note that I have mentioned six by name. Can you figure out which is the seventh planet you’ll certainly be able to spot? For those who don’t stay up to see Saturn, don’t worry. It is rising earlier everyday now, though the coming shift to daylight savings time will set back its arrival time by an hour. By May we should have a shot at checking it out during our normal viewing hours.

If the weather is good and we have time, we also may spend some time exploring the colors of stars and checking out the Orion Nebula, where some new stars are in the process of being born.

Information for Turner Farm: Address: 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls, VA 22066. Directions to the viewing area: From Route 7 heading west, turn right on Springvale Road, look for tall silo (former Nike missile site). Find a detailed park map at this website: http://www.analemma.org/parkmap.html

Helpful details: After you pass through the park entrance please turn off your headlights and proceed with just parking lights on (if you feel you can do so safely) and proceed slowly to the paved parking area. Otherwise, your headlights will interfere with the night vision of those already there. Also, you should bring a flashlight, but please do not use it unless necessary. If you use your flashlight, it should remain pointed down. We hope to have a flashing red light near our telescope which may help people find us in the dark. Please do not drive through the narrow gate on the left as you enter the park driveway. This leads to the observing area at the top of the hill, which is to remain dark and has people milling about. It is not safe to drive in that area and even your parking lights will impair the night vision of those already there. (It takes 30 minutes or more to fully restore night vision.)

If you aren’t able to attend, here is some great information from Mr. Swenson to help you explore the night skies from your driveway!

First, if you have an ipad, ipod touch or an iphone, please consider downloading the free goskywatch planetarium application and then take it on outside on a clear night. This application will identify planets, stars and constellations as you raise your device to the heavens. Just make sure you put it in night mode to preserve your night vision. If you have an Android smart phone, all is not lost. You may wish to try PlanetariaX Pro –Free or Google Sky Map.

Even if you don’t own a telescope, you should be able to see Jupiter’s moons with a good pair of binoculars. (Tip: if you have a tripod, you should be able to attach the binoculars to them using the small socket on the bottom of the binoculars. You’ll be able to see a lot more with the steadier view.)

If you have any questions please contact ambauer@fcps.edu. Thank you again to Erik Swenson, Amelia, Andrew and Sarah’s dad, for guiding this dimension of Spring Hill Science!
Spring Hill Staff Thanks PTO for Valentine’s Lunch!
On Wednesday, the PTO hosted a Valentine's Lunch. The staff and faculty were treated to a wide selection of delicious sandwiches and crock pots full of different kinds of hot soup. Sweet treats and heart shaped cookies completed the menu.

Snakes of the World—Cultural Arts Brought to Your Children by PTO

Last week’s “Snakes of the World” shows were fascinating, reflected in many surprised faces in the audience. Leading reptile wildlife educator Michael Shwedick and his assistant presented eight amazing live snakes, bringing a bit of the outside world in. There was “Lipstick” the Mexican milksnake and her baby, “Tut” the California kingsnake, “Jade” the 10’ Brazilian Anaconda, a local venomous copperhead, a Florida diamond-back rattlesnake, an Indian cobra, and the grand finale that all could touch if they wished: a 12’ Indian rock albino python named “Banana Boy’s Brother.” So much was learned about snakes' features, behaviors and differences, why they are needed in the world, and what to do if one is encountered.

Thanks go to our administration for welcoming the show, to our physical education teachers for their help all day as well as generous gym access, to our teachers for rearranging their schedules, and to our PTO for funding this and all our other Cultural Arts shows.

Please enjoy the photos from the shows on the following pages.
Cultural Arts: Snakes of the World, February 15
B3 (Banana Boat's Brother) greets the children and staff
Snakes of the World, including a cobra, “Lipstick,” and “Mini Lipstick”
Make sure you get the fabulous…

—feeling groovy— Fun Fair T-Shirt!

100% heavyweight cotton, $15

Please complete the order form below and submit it, along with a check payable to “Spring Hill PTO,” to your child’s teacher in an envelope marked “FUN FAIR SHIRT.”

***Pre-orders must be received no later than Monday March 5.***

T-shirts will also be sold alongside ticket sales the week before the Fun Fair, and on the morning of the Fun Fair.

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STUDENT NAME ___________________________________________

TEACHER/GRADE ______________________________/___________

Questions?
Call or email Amelia Steiner @703-847-2564, ameliasteiner@gmail.com

*Place a pre order to be sure of your shirts!*