



# HAWK TALK



## Principal's Pen

Dear Parents,

In the last *Hawk Talk*, we had a few concerned parents give valuable information regarding Myspace.com. Out of concern for our students, I have been browsing this site and have found several of our students using this site to meet others and chat with friends. If you have not visited this site, I encourage you to see what our students are placing in their profiles and what their friends are saying in response. It's worth your time.

Our next consignment sale for school clothing will be in April, so get those outgrown clothes ready for resale. It should be a big one!

If you are interested in your child receiving free dental care for a year, please call the front office. A local dentist has offered a dental scholarship for an elementary student who does not have dental insurance. This treatment is limited to preventive and restorative care and does not include orthodontics.

Thanks to all who have volunteered for MHMS. We always appreciate your help.

Sincerely,  
Brad Schreiner

## Spotlight on MHMS Staff

### Linda Murphy

Linda Murphy is teaching business technology (Keyboarding, Document Creation, Spreadsheets) and business classes (Marketing, Financial Planning, and others as they are added). She has a BS in Finance from the University of Alabama and a Masters in Education from Cumberland. She is a Certified Financial Planner with eleven years of experience before changing careers to education four years ago in order to spend time with her daughter, Kaitlyn, born in 2003. She is married to Rick Murphy of Gallatin. Her hobbies include golf and gardening. She does encourage students to enroll in the Financial Planning class as she will be sharing eleven years of experience with the students and covering valuable life skills (money management, retirement planning, insurance, and investments).

### Help MHMS get free supplies!

When parents and teachers provide the MHMS 5% "Back to Schools" ID number while shopping at Office Depot, our school receives credits equal to 5% to use for FREE SUPPLIES! The MHMS ID number is: **70203608**

## PTO General Membership Meeting

Monday, Feb. 6th, 6:30 p.m.

Featuring the Elementary  
Music & Art Performance



### Elementary Book Fair a Huge Success!

Thanks to all MHMS students, families and friends who made the Elementary Book Fair our best ever! Based on our sales, we will be able to purchase a "truckload" of new volumes for our library, and it's all thanks to your support! Thanks also to MHMS staff, teachers, Book Fair volunteers, and the Elementary Library Committee for countless hours worked and awesome decorations!

Congratulations to Parent Night Costume Contest Grand Prize winners: the Stinson Family; Best Student Costume winner Kara Garrett; Best Adult Costume winner Kendel Bennett; Honorable Mention Family Costume the Hall Family; and "Dragon Breath Mint Jar" winner Keith Hargis, who came closest to guessing the correct total of 423 mints!

Come visit the library in the coming weeks to discover the new books we'll feature on our shelves!

### Mark Your Calendar

- ⇒ **Wed. Feb. 1** Writing Assessment for 5th, 8th, and 11th grades
- ⇒ **Tues. Feb. 21** School Pictures
- ⇒ **Sat. Feb. 25** High School Snowball Dance @ Bluegrass Country Club
- ⇒ **Tues. Feb. 28** Career Fair (MS & HS)
- ⇒ **Tues. March 7** PTO General Meeting  
Kindergarteners sing the "President's Song" and Community wide seminar
- ⇒ **Sat. March 11** "Night of Stars" Coffee House - featuring the talents of MHMS students. Audition announcements will be made soon.
- ⇒ **Thur. March 16** Renaissance Festival  
School-wide coached project
- ⇒ **Fri. Mar. 17** Middle School  
St. Patrick's Day Dance @ MHMS
- ⇒ **March 27-31** Spring Break

### And the winner is...

#### Class with Highest Percentage of PTO Family Donation Participation:

- ◆ Kindergarten was the elementary grade winner and enjoyed family movie night in the gym on Jan. 20th.
- ◆ 8<sup>th</sup> grade was the middle/high school winner and won a trip to Laser Quest.

#### Country Fair and Barbeque Proceeds:

- ◆ PTO = \$8,625.65
- ◆ ABC = \$8,625.65
- ◆ Principal's Fund = \$4,312.83

#### December Scrip Gift Card Contest:

- ◆ Raven Bentley, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade won a \$50 Toys R Us gift card.
- ◆ Timmy Eisenbraun, 8th grade won an iPod shuffle.

**Thanks to all who made the PTO Fall fundraisers so successful!!!**

### Scrip Gift Cards Available

For a complete list of Scrip Card Retailers visit [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com)



For info. call Beth Welch @ 822-9360  
Use Kroger cards to purchase groceries and gas! Use the Amazon.com link on the MHMS web site when you shop at Amazon.

### ACT Testing

All 10th and 11th graders interested in Dual Enrollment classes for next year (2006-07) need to take the ACT and send the scores to Vol. State. The next testing dates are: Feb. 11, April 8, and June 10

Merrol Hyde will be participating in the Mid-State Latin Tournament on February 7th, 2006.  
We look forward to success!

### New Merrol Hyde Guitar Club

Leader Rob Kolp and sponsor Mike Marsh. The club is open to 7th through 12th graders. The beginning class has around 10 students with another 15 in the intermediate-advanced class. Students have worked on 12 bar blues progression, basic chords, and playing scales. The club is for both acoustic and electric guitars. They are working on getting guest speakers who work instructing other guitarists, member of a band, or studio musician. This semester the club is planning a *Fridays on Stage* performance and a tour of Gibson's factory.

## Safety Online and Cyberlanguage

Do you know who your kids are talking to online and what they are saying? WiredSafety.org offers a large collection of resources on keeping kids safe online. Learn about cyber bullying, online scams, spyware, safe surfing, and good e-mail practices. You'll find parent's guides to understanding online safety issues, links to safe sites for kids of all ages, and tips to protect your family's privacy online.

Do you know what PAW means? How about LUWAMH? It's hard to keep an eye on your kids online when you don't speak the same language. Teenangels.org, a division of Wired-Safety.org, offers a downloadable chat lingo translator and an updated list of common acronyms used in instant messaging and text messaging. Netlingo.com is another source for the shorthand and acronyms used in online communication.

## MHMS Published Authors

Through a grant from Kids In Need, members of Mrs. Watts's 6th and 7th grades will become published authors. Their original character journals will be published by the end of the school year. As their coached project, the students' writings will be judged by officers of the North Central Reading Association, and winners will be dressed as their characters and read from their journals at the reading association banquet on April 11.

Their teacher, Mrs. Watts, will be featured at a book signing to sign copies of her book, *Diary of a Nashville Lady: Recollections and Recipes*. The book signing will take place at Dancin' To The Spirit of The Wood on Saturday, Feb. 11 from noon until 3 pm.

## Wanted

- A parent volunteer to help several Middle/High School girls put together a MHMS scrapbook. If you are not able to help, the scrapbookers also need supplies donated.
- The school has a preserved Swainson Hawk mascot that needs a Lucite or other display case.

Please contact Mrs. Schreiner if you can help with either of these school needs.

## Congratulations Middle School Cheerleaders

On Sunday, January 22 they competed in a state wide cheerleading competition and received 3rd place. The girls have been practicing for months on their routine and did an excellent job.

This competition was also a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity and over \$8,000 was raised.

Congratulations on a job well done!

## Youth Legislature Activities Planned

High School and Middle School students at MHMS are participating in the YMCA sponsored Youth Legislature program with Mrs. Howard as their sponsor. In March, High School Youth Legislature participants will attend a four day conference in downtown Nashville. The conference setting will be the Tennessee State Capitol building and Legislative Plaza offices during the day. The Sheraton Downtown Hotel will host the evening activities ranging from dances to banquets. Students will assume the roles of State Senators, Legislators, Lobbyist, Press Corps, and Attorneys. Several MHMS students will be in leadership positions as officers for the 2006 Conference.

MHMS 7th graders will all participate in a one day Middle School Youth Legislature Conference on April 28th. Each student will assume his/her role as state Senators and Legislators by writing a bill and debating their possible legislation. Sixth and eighth grade students will also be given the opportunity to write a bill as they prepare for Youth Legislature in a club created just for this purpose. This club will meet during 5th Period and after school in Mrs. Howard's room as the students learn the "ins and outs" of how our great state operates. High School Youth Legislature teams will run the after school practices and training sessions as their community service commitment for the High School conference.

## Busy December for Kindergarteners

Dads joined their kindergarten students in celebration of "Donuts with Dads" for letter "D" week. Our youngest Hawks also participated in a "Family-outing-Caroling" at Pennington Place in Hendersonville where they sang Christmas carols and placed a handmade bell on each resident's door to wish them a Merry Christmas.

Finally the children took a field trip to Cheekwood where they learned about holiday traditions around the world and saw beautifully decorated trees. While in the Botanic Hall, the kindergarteners were amazed to see a hawk watching them through the glass roof. The "MHMS Hawk" apparently enjoys field trips as well.

## Elementary Lost and Found

There are several crested sweaters in the elementary lost and found. None of them have names in them. Please check your child's sweaters to see if they have someone else's sweater. We have several students who have lost sweaters and their name is on the tag on the side. If your child has someone else's sweater, their sweater may be in the elementary lost and found. Please put your child's name in their outerwear so we can return lost items to the owner.



## Check your closet

If your student borrowed a belt from the office please be sure to return it. If you have outgrown belts the office would gladly accept your donation of gently used belts.

## Merrol Hyde Magnet School's Theatre Department

proudly presents their first full-length play **HARVEY**  
by Mary Chase



The classic play  
and his imaginary

about a man  
rabbit!

## Performances:

Thursday, February 23rd (2:00-4:00 PM)

For teachers and students

Friday, February 24th (7:00 PM)

For parents and public

TICKETS: \$5.00

## Technology Needs

The upper school library is in need of a USB keyboard for an iMac computer. It can be any kind of keyboard as long as it has a USB connection. Also, is anyone willing to donate a digital video camera for students to use in creating documentaries? Any help is deeply appreciated! --Jennifer Weedman



## Softball Season!!!

Softball practice begins February 14<sup>th</sup>. Practice will be at Veteran's Park next to Wessington Elementary.

Please bring a glove, cleats, and sliding shorts. Due to cold weather and early darkness, practice will end at 4:30 pm. Please be on time.

All girls grades 8-11 are welcomed. See Coach Bennett if you have questions.