

# April 27, 2006

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We are beginning our last quarter in our new school. It has been an exciting first year at the new School! We will be celebrating some of this excitement at our upcoming Awards Program. Please be sure to mark your calendars for this event. The dates are:

Preschool and Elementary: May 11 at 12:15 PM  
Middle and High: May 10 at 12:15 PM

We will not only be celebrating the accomplishments that our students have made this year that took place in their classrooms, our school, and in community settings, but we will also be celebrating their efforts and friendships that have developed with their typically developing peers. I have invited the peers who have been involved with our students, teachers from the general education settings, and the principals to attend our awards program. I am not sure that their schedules will allow everyone to attend, but the hope is that they will. They also need to be celebrated for helping our students to "grow" because of the interest and involvements that they have had with our students. It will be a different Awards Program...one that I hope will capture the community efforts that have helped with the growth of our students.

Our major fundraiser, "Walk for our Stars," is quickly approaching. The date is April 29. This year, the event will be at Cedar Lane School. Our PTA is aggressively working to raise funds to allow our school to have a school sign at the entrance on route 216, similar to those in place for Fulton Elementary, and Lime Kiln Middle schools. I hope that all of our parents and extended families will be able to support this effort. The "walk" will not be difficult.

We are looking forward to a strong fourth quarter with our students, as we prepare for the end of what has been an outstanding school year. I thank my staff for all that they are doing to help your children with their accomplishments.

**Nicholas P. Girardi**  
Principal

## Alternate Maryland School Assessment (ALT-MSA) Testing

**Mary Beth Yelen**

There was a lot of joy as the portfolios were picked up by the State as another year of ALT – MSA came to a close. We had 33 students who were identified for ALT-MSA testing. The grades tested were Grades 3-8 and Grade 10. These are the grades that correspond to the MSA completed by typical peers who are diploma bound. This is a huge undertaking for the staff and they deserve kudos

for the energy and effort that go into this endeavor. We as a staff owe a HUGE thanks to Paul Owens who provided us with much appreciated assistance to be certain that we were following the "rules of the road" to ALT-MSA proficiency. Nick and the Staff Development committee provided a very nice lunch to celebrate staff for their diligence.

## From the Desk of Dr. Lois Pommer School Psychologist

Boeing Company was honored at a reception on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, for their nomination for the Friends of Education Award. At the School Board meeting that followed the reception, Boeing was acknowledged publicly for their major impact at Cedar Lane School in providing a \$15,000 grant for professional development. Dr. Lois T. Pommer accepted a certificate of recognition in honor of Boeing's contribution.

Mary Beth Yelen (pictured below, left), Assistant Principal of Cedar Lane and Virginia Ober (pictured below, right), Assistant Principal of Lime Kiln Middle School, hosted a group of educators from Africa. Seven individuals from the/ Ministry of Education in Guinea and their interpreter visited all of the schools on the Fulton campus on Wednesday, April 19.

## HEALTH ROOM

**Lynn Doughty, Barbara Parco,  
Leslie Crosswhite**

The health room staff continues to enjoy our wonderful new environment here at Cedar Lane School. As we continue to support our SIP goals, we look forward to providing a safe and nurturing environment to all students' participating in out-of-building activities. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parent/caregivers for their support in assisting the nurses with their children's health related concerns.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

**Melissa Preston, Chair**

Due to the spring break, we did not hold our April SIP meeting. Our May meeting will include a report and review of April and May's progress. In May we will also start discussing setting milestones for the 2006-2007 school year.



## SHARED EXPERIENCES

### Mission Statement

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## **PRESCHOOL TEAM**

### **PS Room 1**

**Michelle White, Mary Fernandes, Regina Rice**

### **PS Room 2**

**Sue Bell, Debbie DeVers, Brandi Hunley**

The Preschool team is really enjoying our beautiful early spring weather. Everyone has had many opportunities to join our friends across the hall for integration. Together we have almost covered the entire alphabet with only a few more letters remaining (L, U, J & X). Our remaining units this year will be related to enjoying warmer weather and having outdoor fun. We will learn about insects, ocean animals and some interesting facts about jungle life. Don't be surprised if your children come home with some very creepy artwork.

We are also excited to participate in our first and only fieldtrip this year to Toby's Youth Theatre to see an adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's, *Wind in the Willows*, called "Frog And Toad". Our trip is planned for May 26<sup>th</sup>. Permission forms will be going out by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Please return them as soon as possible so that we can reserve the correct amount of seats. Toby's staff has always provided us with superior performances and accommodations.

Also as a reminder, our preschool awards program is May 11 @ 12:15. We are looking forward to seeing all of our preschool families on this special day of recognition for all of your child's accomplishments this year. We are very proud of all of our children and the progress they have made thus far this year.

Finally, we would like to remind parents that summer school/ESY paperwork needs to be turned in as soon as possible after you receive it. The preschool team thanks each one of you for all of your support this school year. Have a peaceful and pleasant last quarter.

## **ELEMENTARY TEAM**

### **ES Room 3**

**Lisa Miller, Katie Libera, Cindy Thompson**

I hope all our Cedar Lane Families are enjoying this great spring time weather. Tino has been loving the opportunity to get back out on the playground once again. Skylah has been working hard on her walking skills. She is getting ready for the big move to middle school next year. We have been looking for and talking about our spring bugs. Our butterflies will arrive very soon and we will be watching them grow and change. Scott continues to enjoy his time in the sensory area and is looking forward to the great new sensory room that they are putting in down the hall. Everyone should come in and see it when it's done. Our friend Daniel has been out of school lately and we wish him a quick and speedy recovery. We miss him and hope he hurries back to school real soon. In room 3 we have the pleasure of welcoming a new friend to the Cedar Lane family. His name is Bryan . He comes to us all the

way from San Diego, CA. All of us in room 3 are excited to get to know him and look forward to working with him and his family. A birdie told me he is going to be a big brother soon. I'm sure he'll make a good one. We in room 3 would like to wish everyone a "HAPPY SPRING".

### **ES Room 4**

**Susan Kaufman, Fikre Desta, Fran Miller**

I hope everyone had a joyful and restful spring break. It is hard to believe it is the beginning of the last marking period of the school year! We have participated in numerous community trips to local stores, Target, dollar stores. The students have made purchases for classroom supplies, materials for family gifts, and for art projects. Inclusion opportunities are in progress for our class. Currently Zach is participating in a fourth grade physical education class on Wednesday after lunch. The Fulton students take turns assisting Zach in the class activities. Zach really enjoys the interaction with his peers more than the physical activities. Academic inclusion classes are planned for Kacie, and soon for Lauren and DeAngelo. We continue to have visits from our Fulton Pen Pal Club. The students read to our class or participate in our class art project.

### **ES Room 5**

**Ann Farmer, Bertha Davis, Pat Richardson**

This quarter, our class has been trying out some new and exciting ways to communicate, and to participate in activities. Tiffany began using a communication system called a Dynavox. She accesses it through two switches, and it gives her the ability to choose from several pages of subjects, with eight messages on each page! Dominique has been using her two and four cell device to communicate with her friends at Fulton, and to participate in the literacy activities. Christopher has become our lunch-time DJ...he continues to activate music with a switch on his own! Joy and Regina are both exploring new ways to communicate when they are finished with an activity, or in need of help.

As spring approaches, we have been participating in activities to celebrate March, such as the weather ("in like a lion, out like a lamb), and wind (kites).

### **ES Room 6**

**Dore Anne Karnegis, Benita Adeoye, Melanie Colson**

Well who can believe we're almost at the end of the school year??? ESY is right around the corner!

Although Room 6 is sad to see winter go (but silently happy it's still chilly outside) we anticipate the warmer temperatures and the delights of Spring; which is now our current theme for the next couple of months. Room 6 has fun and exciting activities that are planned and our students can hardly wait!

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Aside from that, Room 6 continues to make excellent progress in all areas. Ali has done great with walking without her walker and can actually walk one-half of the way to "long distance" specials with support only needed under her arms, Yippee! Kevin has made progress with switch activation and walking on various uneven terrains such as grass, play mats, etc., WOW! Timmy has done very well lately with initially opening his mouth to accept tastes of food and walking in the gait trainer....Wahoooo. William has done an excellent job with vocalizing/expressing his wants and needs. He'd rather vocalize than use his pal pad now....Way to go!!! Abby has made great progress with tolerating adaptive equipment for longer periods of time with smiles/giggles to prove it...Yeah!

Again, a big thank you to Benita & Mel who make coming to work a fun, happy experience.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **MS Room 16**

**Cindy Hubbard, Pat Sherrill, Michelle Slade**

MS-16 has been busy exploring the wonders of spring. We cut and rooted spider plants and are planting flower seeds. We have been using sign language throughout the day, which has sparked more speech for some of the students. We are considering an outdoor field trip for May and are hoping that our ALS pals from Lime Kiln will be able to join us!!!!

### **MS Room 17**

**Anne Dudrow, Tiwana Nicholson, Lori Solberg**

We really worked hard this quarter! Alt-MSA Reading and Math goals were the main focus of our studies. We also learned how to make videos of what we learned with our new I-Sight camera, which was very exciting! For Emily's birthday we made a video (the old-fashioned kind) of the class making a birthday card for her. Sam sang Happy Birthday to her, which we also got on tape. Ms. Anne delivered it to her and learned that she is thoroughly enjoying the Harry Potter books, read to her by her home teacher Ms. Dore' Anne. Min Jae left with his family to return to Korea. We had a big farewell party for him in the Middle School hallway area and all his classmates from his Lime Kiln reading class came to say good-bye. We miss him and wish him well. Joanna's birthday was celebrated in the cafeteria by the entire Middle School at lunchtime. Then we continued the celebration during our community trip to Pizza Hut where we had a snack. What an exciting day! It was our turn to participate in the Magical Experience this quarter and we enjoyed it as much as ever. Briana was particularly fascinated with the "fairy dust" sprinkled on her by one of the performers. She seemed to really like the music and dancing, too. Joanna and Sam worked very hard one afternoon during our trip to the greenhouse to help transplant plants in preparation for the big plant sale. In addition to all that, Sam is making nice progress on

writing the "S" in his name. Joanna is learning to shop for items using a picture list. And Briana is using her switch to let us know when to turn the page during story time.

### **MS Room 18**

**Jerry Platt, Michele Miser, Kathy Protokowicz**

Brrr! Ahhhh! Brrr! Ahhh! These certainly describe the unusual weather we have experienced during the third marking period! Fortunately, we didn't miss too much class due to inclement weather and were able to spend a few days outside. During the latter part of January we met our new peer buddies from Lime Kiln Middle School (LKMS) and continued sharing and learning together. In February, our class made several craft projects and read many stories regarding wildlife. We held a Valentine's Day party and sampled many different treats--most of which were red and pink! Community Based Instruction (CBI) trips included visits to the Columbia Mall, K-Mart, Wal-Mart, and even BJ's. With the gusty winds of March, came time to celebrate two birthdays--George and Jessica's. Our friends from neighboring classrooms joined us for more fun and treats. We especially enjoyed our trip to help Ms. Amy at the Greenhouses as she prepares for the annual Spring Plant sale. Everyone got into the act and although some of us left with more "soil" on our clothes than in the pots, we had a great time!

Ben has continued to don his LKMS physical education uniform and attend classes there. Don't look now, but we think he is attracting some girlfriends in class! Look out Mom and Dad! This quarter has also seen a few "firsts" with Jessica. She is now riding the adapted trikes with little effort and has been dubbed the "Middle School Marauder!" When she is not speeding through the Cedar Lane School hallways, she visits a Reading class with Ms. Mel at LKMS once a week. Using her VOCA and her smile, she certainly fits right in! George too, has continued working at the LKMS store. Stop by any Tuesday morning for a smile and a pencil--he'll be more than happy to take your money! Christopher improved his self-care skills so much that now he inserts a toothbrush into his mouth with little hesitation. Watch out for those pearly whites!

As we enter our final quarter for this year, we look forward to spending more time outdoors walking or wheeling around the campus, visiting new places on our CBI trips, and perhaps sneaking in a field trip sometime in May---shhh! Don't tell Ms. Barbara!

### **MS Room 19**

**Marilyn Gold, Judy Selassie, Lillie Thrower**

Winter is over, Alt-MSA is over--birds are arriving with the flowers. We have taken down most of our SNOW. We are enjoying talking about spring and making our flowers and other spring decorations. We welcome Lori Solberg to room 19 and hope our friend Lillie Thrower has fun working in her new class in high school.

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Our students are getting spring fever-- Mike loves riding the bike all around the school so he can visit his old friends and make new ones. Molly is our weather girl, learning to choose the weather from her two talkers on her tray. She likes to try to fool us, laughing when she picks the wrong one. Noor has been working on using a side swipe switch to greet the members of the class. Chris loves the air mattress in APE, and lifts his head high smiling while on his stomach. Noor enjoys the air mattress, Mike loves to stretch out on it, Molly appears to like the "Cloud Nine" mattress best.

We have also been traveling around the community on our Monday community trips and buying things for our class to use. We have found many Dollar Stores and love a bargain. Grocery stores have lots of different smells but the big stores have more toys for us to look at.

We are looking forward to spring break and hope it will stay spring when we return to school. With warm weather coming our class is looking forward to walking around our new school. We are looking forward to seeing our neighbor cows and turkeys. It will be summer before we know it.

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

### **HS Room 7**

**Robin Close, Fred Boddie, Toni Vollmerhausen, Hannah Tien**

Spring is here, everything outside is starting anew, and we have a couple new additions inside as well. Recently joining our class is Zavie Boggs, who has been making friends everywhere she goes, and has been a great help with everything from making deliveries to improving staff computer skills. Also joining us is Ms. Hannah Tien, who has nicely rounded out our classroom team. Linda has become a regular on the morning walks with Mr. Fred and Ms. Toni, and comes back awake and ready to talk to us about her schedule. Daschawn is as active as ever, and has especially had fun in our new afternoon periods in the activity room, especially when he's sending bowling pins flying. Meech has also had fun in the activity room, but has had an even better time critiquing Mr. Robin's drawings while reviewing the alphabet. Everyone has an opinion! We all look forward to returning from spring break rested and refreshed, and ready to start the last couple months with all of our new friends.

### **HS Room 8**

**Beth Campe, Michelle Geyer, Brooke Paugh, Jennifer Raines**

We have had a busy winter. We have been working on our IEP objectives, making crafts, and hitting the road. We have made several trips to WalMart and other stores getting supplies for the classroom and our crafts. Chang enjoys talking with his talker and looking around the stores. Bobby carries the basket and helps put items on the belt for check out. Pam is the greeter and makes sure

to say hi to everyone. Kevin and Kurt enjoyed flirting with the waitress when we went to Pizza Hut. We are all looking forward to the warmer weather.

### **HS Room 9**

**Susan Shambeau, Margaret Delia, Robert Jackson, Marcia Rose**

The third semester had some exciting events for the students of Cedar Lane School. Sue Shambeau's class continues to have lunch once a week at Reservoir High School. The students really enjoy their lunch and the students at Reservoir. Each student has had the opportunity to attend a class or planned event at Reservoir as well. We try to keep busy around our school by assisting with the "Produce Day" program, attendance collecting for the school, preparing books for our library, and light cleaning duties in the media center. Everyone participated in the Enclave Program and in community outings. Our outings have been to Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, Hunan House, Egg-Spectations and Pasta Blitz. Within the classroom, we studied Black History month, St. Patrick's Day, and read several short novels.

### **HS Room 10**

**Dee Carroll, Erika Burlas, Judy Terry**

Third Quarter sped right by. This has been a fast-paced year. It feels like we just moved into the new school. This quarter Room 10 had several opportunities to participate in shared experiences with Reservoir High School. Tiffany Turner joined the choir: she goes to the school, eats lunch and then sings in the choir. Barbara Sheehi learned how to make greeting cards with the students at Reservoir. Earl got to each lunch and then sold flowers for Valentine's Day to the students. Kase and Ali went to Reservoir for a concert honoring Black History Month. We also have a student from Reservoir who comes daily to help volunteer in our classroom. The class also enjoyed an outing to Pizza Hut. Classroom 10 has been very busy this quarter. We also painted much of the barn for our school dance and are making flowers for spring.

I would also like to welcome our two newest members to our classroom, Amy Zgorski and Scott Csanady. Amy and Scott joined our classroom three weeks ago. We are quite happy that they have joined us. We are now moving into the fourth quarter which will be busier than ever. We are getting ready for Graduation and Challenge Day. There will be more news about challenge day to follow. We do have two graduates in our classroom, Allison Healey and Tiffany Turner. Congratulations to them and their families!

### **HS Room 11**

**Selina Wertman, Tammie Collins, Debbie Francis, Nicole Hebron**

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Well, we made it through ALT-MSA and not to toot our own horn, but we rocked!! We're very proud of the hard work that went into the test and the results that paid homage to that hard work. Way to go team!

We've been working equally hard on IEP goals and gotta say that their progress in this area is equally amazing. The boys continue to surprise us with their ability to learn quickly as well as their willingness to try new things. We've had phenomenal success with turning negative behaviors into positive communication, which is a huge plus! In fact, more often than not, the boys learn from one another the most appropriate, and therefore quickly reinforced, behavior. We are very proud of the progress the guys have made and look forward to seeing what they've got for us in these final months.

Spring is in the air and with that comes *spring fever*. We are spending more time outside and focusing on outdoor life and activities. Our community trips have started taking us to the park to collect items for science and craft activities and that just makes us want to be outside that much more. Not that we really need to be outside, our classroom is beginning to look like the great outdoors has come to us, but we love it! ☺

### **HS Room 12**

**Patricia Tyler, Doreen Fields, John Secco, Lillie Thrower**

Third Quarter has been very interesting and intriguing for our classroom. We have ventured out to our neighboring High School. Some of the students have been visiting Reservoir High School for different activities. Amanda Marton and Ms. Pat sold flowers on Valentine's Day at the High school during one of their lunch periods with another Cedar Lane student. Dana Richardson, Dena Greismann and Ms Pat went to a Black History Assembly given by the Reservoir High School students. It was an excellent program. Dena Greismann, Amanda Marton and Mr. John went to the high school during club advisory to listen to a guitar jam. It was an enlightening experience.

During the month of March, we had many changes within our classroom. We have had staff changes and a student addition. Amy Miser was moved to another High School class. The students and staff in our classroom definitely miss her very much. We did acquire two additional staff, Doreen Fields from High School and Lillie Thrower from Middle School. Mr. John, the students, and myself have all welcomed everyone into our classroom.

Stay tuned for the next quarter. March has marched on and Spring has sprung.

### **HS Room 13**

**Bonnie Trey, Wanda Johnson, Tom McErlean, Amy Miser**

Well this quarter has been interesting. We have worked on our Mathematics this quarter.

Classroom **13** has three adults and five students. One adult walks away. Two more adults walk into room **13**. Two students roll out of room **13**. While 1 more student walks in. How many adults and students are now in room **13**? We have had a lot of additions and subtractions again. Our first two additions began with Amy Miser and Tom McErlean. Amy came to us from Mrs. Pat's room and Tom came to us from the stars. They have been a wonderful addition. We thought we would throw a curve ball with one more addition, Dempsey Coates. Dempsey has been a pleasure to work with as well. He has adjusted well to his new room, schedule, teachers, and classmates. Welcome Dempsey! Now for our subtractions! Two of our favorite girls and one staff member have moved as well. Amie Johnston moved to Mrs. Pat's room with Ms. Doreen and Ashley has moved to Mr. Steve's room. We will miss all three of them. Now have you figured out the answer to the question? Well here's the answer. Room **13** has 4 adults and 4 students.

Shawn Baynes is quite popular in the hallways now. He independently takes the attendance and lunch count to Ms. Pennie every morning. Awesome job Shawn. Every morning you can see Ms. Wanda with Dempsey and Shawn getting in their daily exercise. Jamal and Brian hang with Ms. Bonnie, Ms. Amy, and Mr. Tom completing their morning routines and preparing for the day.

### **HS Room 15**

**Steve Kucey, Marilyn DeBolt, Kristie Dietrich**

The Home Stretch.... The Final Chapter...The Light At The End Of The... well you get the idea! Or as the little dog said when they cut off his tail...won't be long now!!! oy... Hard to believe that the '06 school year is soon to be history.

We extend a warm welcome to Ms. Ashley Goins. Ashley joins our classroom family as a transfer from one of our neighboring HS classrooms and is a nice addition to our sparsely female populated environment. Our special thanks to Ms. Wanda who continues to escort Ashley during her A.M. walking program. Ashley has transitioned remarkably well and has already adapted the ways, means, and merriment of room 15. Ada girl Ashley !!!!!

Our senior class "dude" Mr. Joe Kane, continues to do his thing in notable fashion during his weekly Enclave experience at the Green House. This is, of course, in addition to his excellent vocational skills exhibited in the classroom. It's a well known fact around here that, if Joe's is your classroom, it's never a dull moment. Ada boy Joe!!!

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On to our resident DJ...that's Danny Jung of course. If smiling and laughter were contagious, thanks to Dan, our room would be an epidemic. Dan has a unique way of interjecting one of his "contagious" smiles when you least expect it. Somehow he always manages to know just when we are in need of a good dose of smiling. Oh, he also has a definite way of letting us know his positioning preferences. We've got the pics to prove it too. Nice goin' Dan the Man.

Our once solo female, Ms. Doo Lee Cho, now shares her spotlight with Ashley and doesn't seem to mind in the least. Apparently Doo Lee is more focused on viewing herself in a rather large light-activated mirror, which she is able to control via her adapted switch. Word is, her activity has also caught the interest of a certain female administrator. Nice job Doo!!!

So what's left to say about Tony Lopez???? Well, if you knew Tony, like we know Tony, oh...oh...oh what a guy!!! Thanks to him and his favorite IA Kristie, they single-handedly perform most of the school's recycling of cans and/or plastic containers. Quite a feat considering that our staff consumes at least a million cans of beverages a day. Well maybe not quite that much but it is a lot and it all has to be collected and sorted. Tony makes it look easy and always throws in a little extra politeness during collection rounds. That's our Boy!!!

On a sad note...we all bid farewell to Matt Galli who passed suddenly in December and, needless to say, left a void in the hearts of many staff and friends who knew him. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Ms. Diane Fiala and the Galli family.

## RELATED ARTS

### Aquatics

#### Jenny Jacobs, Cindy Lloyd, Bob Tyson

We have just finished the third quarter. The students are loving the new pool. We continue to work on our goals from the IEP's. We have taken lots of pictures and written a book with Jenny, Gisele, Cindy and Bob, too. Please check out our swim book in the front lobby. It shows the things we are learning and how much fun we have while we are learning.

#### Career Skills Lab - Ellen Roper, Evelyn Jones

We have been kept busy this quarter with some of our regular jobs in the Career Skills Lab as well as additional requests.

✦Town Center Community Association - Newsletter - 800 pieces

Folding, labeling, taping, packaging

✦Howard County School System Work Study Program - Certificate Frames

250 frames...Remove cardboard and plastic from certificate frame in preparation for certificates.

✦Harper's Choice Middle School Fundraiser - Coin drive

for Luekemia and Lymphoma Society  
Count and wrap coins.

✦Walk For Our Stars Registration - 300 pieces...Fold, pack, count.

The students are able to accomplish all jobs given to us in the Career Skills Lab. Please keep us in mind for future jobs.

### Horticulture – Amy Woodard

Spring has arrived in the greenhouse! All classes are very busy with filling all container types with soil and transplanting seedlings, plugs and perennials. We will have hours for sale after Spring break both at Cedar Lane and the greenhouses at ARL on Rte 108. We have an amazing variety of plants for the shade and sun and we will have vegetable plants available. The students have participated to the best of their ability in all phases of the greenhouse operation. We are quite proud to present our plant materials we have grown this year.

### Activities of Daily Living – Kathy Wah

Please feel free to stop in and see the Activities for Daily Living classroom. We have recently finished furnishing the Rec/Leisure area with a rug and it really has begun to feel like home. We continue to encourage appropriate sitting, turn taking and choice making in this area as well as clean-up of items used during the class period. Communication continues to play an important role in Rec/Leisure as well as in the functional cooking. We have covered some simple foods used for lunch and dinner and are now concentrating on snack foods and their recipes. We will also be working on some crafts as Mother's and Father's Day approach.

### Art Studio - Gena Luoma

The Cedar Lane art studio has been filled with creative energy! Our artists have been responding to the signs of spring and produced many fine paintings and multi-media collages bringing on the colors and sights of foliage and flowers. Look for some exciting creations to come home in the next few weeks!

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual Student Art Exhibit for Howard County Schools is on display at the Columbia Mall April 17 thru April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to visit and view Cedar Lane's panel. Although all of our artists at Cedar Lane produce work worthy of display we are limited to the size of our display panel. Congratulations to ALL artists at Cedar Lane for continually creating works which display the beauty of simplicity and the power of the creative soul! The following artists had work displayed:  
PRESCHOOL: Nandini Shah and Payena Black

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ELEMENTARY: Kevin Zhou, William Seipel, Alison Hong, Daniel Miramontes, Skylah Lewis and DeAngelo Woodley.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Jessica Cass, Joanna Blatter, Andre' Connelly and Michael O'Reilly

HIGH SCHOOL: Bonnie Trey's Class, Joe Kane, Doo Lee Cho, Joe Mazzafro, Amy Zgorski, Tony Lopez, Ari Dash, Brian Goble and Josh Edwards.

The panel will be on display in our Media Center. If you didn't get to the mall, please feel free to view it soon!

Art activities have been a natural avenue to pursue inclusive opportunities. We have had many exciting things happen in the past quarter. Our preschoolers continue to meet once a week with peers from the Child Development Program in the art room. During this time we reinforce the Letter People Curriculum with an art lesson focusing on the letter of the week. Some of our older elementary students have been visiting Fulton Elementary and joining a 5<sup>th</sup> grade art class. Dore Ann Karnegis' class and Lisa Miller's class joined a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class visiting our art room from Fulton. We had a wonderful couple of visits and created beautiful clay mirrors. We hope to continue this kind of opportunity next year. Middle School just recently participated in a community art installation mosaic activity with Lime Kiln's Art Club. The club has been working all year on some underwater themed mosaics that will soon adorn our walls. They came over and assisted our middle school students in creating their own pieces to be included in the installation. Look for the mosaics on the wall near the aquatics wall before the end of the school year. Steve Kucey's High School class has been meeting regularly with the ALS class from Reservoir. We enjoy friendship and an art activity on Friday afternoons. Art continues to be a universal means to get friends of all ages together!

### **Music – Mary Lou Reynolds**

Our third quarter was filled with the sounds of winter celebrations of Valentine's Day, Black History Month, Irish music, and jazz. The preschool and elementary classes have been focusing on scraping, tapping, and shaking techniques to our jazz tunes, as well as exploring various African instruments such as the shekere and gathering drum. Preschool inclusion classes have been working on the "7 Jumps" folkdance and tapping tempo changes with our "Little Blue Truck" song. Cedar Lane students who have traveled to down to Fulton Elementary Music have enjoyed fun with recorders and exploring the African drum kit. Our Fulton friends joined us for a drum circle activity in the Cedar Lane music room at the end of the unit. Although our elementary inclusion classes have come to an end, our preschool inclusion continues into the fourth quarter.

Our middle and high school classes have had fun learning the Beatles' tune, "She Loves You" for our February sing alongs as well as practicing jazz improvisation on the

snare drum with Dave Brubek's "Take 5." Classes have especially enjoyed our Irish tune, "Pat Works on the Railway," encompassing singing, xylophone and "spoons" improvisation techniques, and dancing. Our listening selections have included the saxophone sounds of Antonio Hart and Copland's "Appalachian Spring" (in hopes of warm weather)!

All our classes have really enjoyed exploring our new digital piano with the special "concert music" feature. Programmed with 88 well known tunes from early childhood to patriotic to classical, it enables our students to make music for themselves at their own pace. The songs play chord by chord in response to the player's touch on the keys, with a wide selection of instrument sounds.

In our fourth quarter, classes will be exploring Latin percussion instruments such as the conga drums, agogo bells, claves, and cabasa; listening to Caribbean sounds as we dance the limbo; and enjoying various Sousa marches as we finish the year with patriotic holidays.

### **Tech Ed – Dennis Seibert**

The students have been very busy during the third quarter of the school year in the Tech Ed area. At the beginning of the quarter, Ms. Amy, the horticulture teacher, approached us with the idea of building wood trellises for plants such as the mandevilla and the clematis. When asked how many she needed, she indicated a hundred or so. A few weeks later she requested a couple of hundred of a slightly smaller version. To date we have made close to 400 of these trellises. The students sand the parts, place them in a specially designed jig, and with the help of a teacher or instructional assistant use an air powered staple gun to secure the parts together.

Another project that the students were working on is called the "Get a Grip". This is an adaptive holding device that is made from PVC pipe and fittings with a foam handle. It is capable of holding just about anything from a thin paintbrush up to a fat crayon or large marker. Many of our students have used them at Cedar Lane. Recently, Ms. Gena, the art teacher made a presentation to the art teachers in Howard County. The presentation focused on different techniques, strategies and materials one could use to work with students with disabilities. At the presentation, each teacher received a "Get a Grip" that our students had made. Approximately 70 were distributed. The students were involved in all aspects of the project. They cut the pipe, sanded the edges, used a drill press to make holes, pushed on the foam cushioning for the handle, inserted the thumb screws and completed the final assembly.

We have also begun to make parts for a variety of different sized footstools that will assist students in keeping their feet on the ground.

The Produce Co-op has expanded greatly. We offer more items than ever. The students are busy in a variety of

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activities every Thursday. Some unload the truck, others count, bag and twist tie, and a few distribute and inventory. Every week, we have seen our volume and amount of preparation time increase. We sell fresh veggies and fruit and a whole lot more between 1:30 and 4:30 in the horticulture area. Stop by any Thursday!



## Updated Calendar of Events April-June 2006

### April

- 10-17<sup>th</sup> Spring Break (schools closed)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Walk for Our Stars (8:30 AM)

### May

- 4<sup>th</sup> PTA Executive Board (7:00 PM)
- 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Staff Appreciation Week
- 12<sup>th</sup> Professional Work Day-Schools closed for students
- 10<sup>th</sup> Awards Program (12:15-2:00 PM, MS/HS)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Awards Program (12:15-2:00 PM, PS/EL)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Challenge Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day (schools closed)

### June

- 1<sup>st</sup> Graduation, 10:00 AM
- 13<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal (3.0 hours...11:15AM dismissal)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal (3.0 hours...11:15 dismissal)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal (3.0 hours....11:15 dismissal)
- Last Student Day

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