



## FROM THE MIDDLE

### IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 11	MS Community Service for Flex
Jan 12	Chess Club 3:30 PM
Jan 13	MS Dress Down Day (\$1) MS Dance in the Commons; 7:30 – 10 PM
Jan 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; School Closed
Jan 18	MS PAC meeting; 8:30 AM Kids-to-Kids during Flex
Jan 19	MS Art Exhibit in the Sayre Library Chess Club; 3:30 PM
Jan 23-27	Freedom from Chemical Dependence Educator on campus
Jan 23	Dr. Niquette meets with TIP students taking the SAT; 8AM
Jan 25	MS Community Service during Flex
Jan 26	FCD Parent Meeting at 8:00 AM Chess Club; 3:30 PM
Jan 27	MS Dress Down Day (\$1) FCD Parent Meeting at Noon

**SAYRE'S MIDDLE SCHOOL IS LOCKED AND THE ALARM SET EVERY WEEKEND! As announced, students are asked NOT to try to gain access to Sayre's Middle School building on the weekends. Rattling or opening the door sets off a silent alarm in the Middle School that automatically calls the Lexington Police. Students are reminded to take all necessary items home on Friday after class. Otherwise, we ask that students wait until 7:30 Monday morning when the school doors are open.**

### COME JOIN SAYRE DURING THE ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY MARCH

Sayre School will once again participate in Lexington's Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day March. Members of the Sayre community will meet as a group at 9:40 at Heritage Hall in the basement near the bottom of the escalators (at one of the tables by the food court). Sayre has traditionally had a nice large group join the March; we hope to make this year's group the biggest yet!

The March begins at 10:00 a.m. and lasts about forty minutes. Come dressed for the weather! When the March is completed, some families choose to stay and participate in the activities at Heritage Hall; others go off for breakfast or lunch together.

Please join us. See the link for more information: <http://www.uky.edu/MLK/participate.html>

### SAYRE'S MIDDLE SCHOOL QUICK RECALL TEAM HAS LAID DOWN THE GAUNTLET!

That's correct. The members of the Middle School's Quick Recall team have challenged the Middle School faculty to a Faculty/Student Quick Recall competition. The event will take place at 12:35 PM on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, in the Middle School Commons. Quick Recall sponsor John Klus will moderate the proceedings. Let the questions begin!



## **SAYRE'S MIDDLE SCHOOLERS DO WORK FOR THE COMMUNITY**

Over the next four weeks, Sayre Middle School students will be focusing the majority of their Wednesday Flex times on chosen community service projects. Some of those projects are:

**Feeding Our Local Community:** Students are designing the menus, drawing up the ingredient lists, organizing the shopping, and preparing to “hit” the Buttery kitchen. Once the meals are prepared, students will deliver the food to various shelters, and offer to serve at the shelters. A letter went home from a few of the students involved in this community service project

asking for volunteers to bring specific foods and help them make a difference in our school and community. Both Amy Sheehan and John Klus are the faculty sponsors.

**Knitting for the Community:** Students are both knitting items for the local community centers and collecting used t-shirts for the *Knitiative*, a group supporting women in Uganda who are making scarves using recycled t shirt material. This particular community service group is sponsoring an advisory competition to see which advisory group can bring in the most used shirts. The size does not matter, and colors are encouraged. The winning advisory gets a special lunch. If you would like to find out more information regarding the *Knitiative*, please check out the website: <http://theafricaninknitiative.blogspot.com>. Faculty sponsors are Kim Blackey and Leslie Isaacs.

**Parents Evening Out:** Students are making preparations to offer Lower School parents an opportunity to get “out and about” while their children are involved in activities on Sayre’s campus with a group of Middle School students under the auspices of faculty sponsors Alison Brown, Melanie Bishop, and Katie Creighton. The date will be published in an upcoming Lower School Notes. The money raised from the Parents Evening Out will go to *Promise Kids a Future – Orphan Relief*.

**Humane Society Extravaganza:** Students are planning an extraordinary Middle School event to raise money for a humane society in central Kentucky. The specific agency will be determined by the organizing group. The event will be held during our Flex period on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, and it will be filled with activities and competitions. Students will purchase tickets to participate in the various activities. Last year, the HSE group raised \$705 for the Scott County Humane Society. Coach Sutton is the faculty sponsor.

**The Diversity Initiative:** Middle School students will be preparing for this year’s Fifth Annual Kentucky Association of Independent Schools (KAIS) Students of Color and Diversity Conference on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. For the second year in a row, Sayre is the host for this conference which brings Middle School students from independent schools across the state.

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Conference participants will enjoy a variety of workshops, affinity group meetings, performances by local entertainers, excellent food, and most importantly, time for making and strengthening relationships with peers. The goal of the conference is to address the unique needs, experiences, and issues students of color encounter in independent schools so that when they return to their home schools, they are empowered to become shaping members of those institutions. The students in the Diversity Initiative will also be spending time and doing activities with children in a downtown neighborhood day care center. Both Linda Chambers and Kristin Seymour are faculty sponsors for the Diversity Initiative.

**Music for Seniors:** Sayre's Middle School Choral Director, Todd Terry, will be accompany his student singers as they entertain residents of local nursing homes and an adult day center. Last week, our choral group performed for the residents at Ashland Terrace. In the upcoming weeks, our students will be performing at the University of Kentucky's Senior Citizen Center, Richmond Place and the Christian Care Community Adult Day Center.



**The Drama of Reading:** Ryan Briggs and a host of talented Middle School actors have chosen to share their talents with the High Street Neighborhood Center. Students are reading to the children who are at the center.

**Providing Sustenance for People in Need:** Middle School students along with Anne Allen are offering their time and assistance to prepare and package meals for *Movable Feast Lexington*, an agency that delivers hot, freshly cooked meals, five days a week, to people living with AIDS/HIV-related illnesses as well as individuals who are patients of Hospice of the Bluegrass. Clients also receive nutritional counseling, and menus are modified to address specific nutritional needs. *The Moveable Feast* services residents of Fayette County.

**Book Drive:** Students, along with their faculty sponsor Aaron Ferral, are working with *Books As Bridges*, a non-profit group that collects books to send to underprivileged schools overseas. Our Middle Schoolers will be organizing a book drive to collect gently used books for donation to *Books As Bridges*.

**Can Drive and Community Labor:** A number of Middle School students are joining Tim Corkran in offering both manual labor and their organizational skills. Students have spent one session doing chores in need of completion by the staff at *Living Arts and Sciences*, and next week these same members of the Middle School will be completing a checklist of jobs for Steve Guynn and the Sayre Maintenance staff. Then in February, the group will be organizing our division's efforts in the Can Drive, an annual Sayre Middle School event to provide dry and canned goods for *God's Pantry*, a local agency whose mission is to reduce hunger in Kentucky through community cooperation making the best possible use of all available resources.

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## REPRESENTATIVES FROM FCD WILL BE ON SAYRE'S CAMPUS IN JANUARY

We are pleased to welcome David Sherrell, Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD) educator, to our campus to teach classes to 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders the week of January 23<sup>rd</sup>. He will teach the four-day course on alcohol and drug education to the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. The other grade levels will have one or two sessions of age appropriate topics. Parents are invited to a meeting with him on **Thursday morning, January 26<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00 to 9:00 AM in the Jasko Room of the BATTERY or a lunch meeting in the Jasko room from Noon to 1:00 PM on **Friday afternoon, January 27<sup>th</sup>**. At both meetings, David will talk about his classes with the students, the power of perceptions and the importance of parent-teen communication. There will be time for questions and discussion as well. We encourage all parents to come and take advantage of David's expertise in this important area of our children's lives.

The schedule will be as follows:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:05-8:50 8A	8:05-9:05 8A	8:05-9:05 10A	8:05-9:05 Parents	8:05-8:50 12th
8:55-9:40 10A	9:10-10:10 10A	9:10-10:10 8B	9:10-10:10 8A	8:55-9:40 11B
9:55-10:40 8B	10:40-11:40 8B	12:20-1:20 8A	10:40-11:40 10B	Noon-1:00 Parents
10:45-11:30 10B	11:45-12:45 10B	1:25-2:25 10B	1:25-2:25 9B	1:05-1:50 10A
2:45-3:30 All 9 <sup>th</sup>	1:25-2:25 9A	2:30-3:30 11A	2:25-3:22 7 <sup>th</sup>	1:55-2:37 8B

## SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS GO TO MASON HILL, CLASS OF 2013

Mason has earned quite an outstanding honor. By virtue of a test Mason completed in the fall, he was chosen as one of only two Kentucky students (junior/senior eligibility) for participation in the United States Senate Youth Program. The description of the program follows:

"The United States Senate Youth Program brings the highest level officials from each branch of government together with an outstanding group of high school students---two high school juniors or seniors from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity---during an intensive week-long educational program held in Washington, DC. The program is merit based and highly competitive. In addition, each student receives a one-time \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to pursue course work in history and political science."



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Mason will participate in Washington during the week of March 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10th. The Hearst Foundation covers all of the participants' expenses. Congratulations Mason! We are all so proud of you!

### **CALLING ALL PARENTS!**

The Sayre Parents Association will be meeting next week on **Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30 PM. There will be information shared about upcoming campus events such as the Sayre Spectacular, Teacher Appreciation Week, the Sayre Horse Show, and much more. Also information will be given as to the various ways to get involved with these campus wide opportunities. Everyone is welcome!

Although there will be no February meeting because of the Winter Break, the remaining monthly meetings for the 2011/2012 academic year will be:

March:           Wednesday, March 21  
April:            Wednesday, April 18  
May:             Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> (The SPA's Appreciation Luncheon)



### **THE MIDDLE SCHOOL'S FACULTY/ PARENT CONFERENCE DAY WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!**

Please set aside Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, as the Middle School Conference Day. There will be no Middle School classes on that day to afford faculty and parents/guardians an opportunity to meet regarding a student's progress in a given class. If you are interested in meeting with one or all of your child's teachers, all you need to do is go on-line, beginning on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, to set up the conferences. **The conference segment of the PCR portal will not be open until Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Please log on to PCR Educator. Click your child's name on the left

side, and then click "teacher conference." For each teacher, select the teacher, date and available time, and click the button, "Add to Schedule." You will do this for each teacher with whom you wish to conference. If you are having difficulty setting up the conferences, please call Sarah Leer at 254-7177 or 254-1361, extension 242, and she will help you navigate through the system. Please know that if the conference slots of a specific teacher are taken when you log on, you have other options: you can leave a message with Mrs. Leer to have the teacher give you a call regarding a phone conference or setting up another time to meet face-to-face. Also parents/guardians have the option of emailing a given faculty member (all email addresses are listed in the Sayre Directory and are also available on the Sayre website). Sessions are scheduled in ten-minute blocks with five minutes of passing time.

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## **ATTENTION 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TIP-MEISTERS WHO ARE TAKING THE SAT OR THE ACT!**

Dr. Garland Niquette will be offering an introduction to both the SAT and the ACT during January and February. The sessions will occur during A Hour on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> (for the SAT) and on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> (for the ACT). The 7<sup>th</sup> grade TIP students attending these sessions are to bring paper, a pencil, and their SAT or ACT Practice Test (this should have been mailed to you by Duke's TIP program with the other relevant material). Dr. Niquette's session is a fifty-minute overview of test and "guessing" strategies. It is still recommended that students and families review the material presented in the SAT or ACT booklets and go over the practice materials. Very special thanks go out to Dr. Niquette for volunteering her expertise; she is a noted resource for standardized test preparation not only here at Sayre but throughout the community!!

## **SAYRE'S MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PUT ON THEIR DANCING SHOES!**

On Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, Sayre's Middle School will be having a dance from 7:30 – 10 PM in the Middle School Commons. Since this is an evening during which there will be many events and people on campus (US boys and girls basketball games, US Homecoming Festivities, and an US dance), please be very careful as you come through the Front Circle to drop your child off at the Middle School dance. Admission to the dance is \$5, and students are required to wear Special Dress. Many thanks go to Todd Terry and the Dance Committee for making all the arrangements and decorating the Commons and to the Middle School's Student Council for sponsoring our four annual dances.



## **AND HERE IS SOME NEWS FROM THE SPARTAN SHOP**

To get the latest information on new merchandise and events at the Spartan Shop, "like us" on Facebook!

**January Blow-Out Sale:** Winter has barely begun, but we have to make room for new spring merchandise. During the month of January, we will be offering rock bottom prices on select close-out merchandise such as hoodies, crews, sweats, t-shirts, turtlenecks, pjs and more! Since sizes are limited, don't delay!!

**February Customer Appreciation Discount:** To thank our customers for their continued support, we are offering a 20% discount on any one regularly priced item during the month of February. No coupon required!! Not a Spartan Shop customer? No problem - now is a great time to check us out!

**OPEN Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11am-4pm, Buttery Lower Level**

Sheila McCoy and Lori Tenney, Spartan Shop Co-chairs

[Spartan.Shop@yahoo.com](mailto:Spartan.Shop@yahoo.com).

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