



# Heads Up

January 10, 2014

**Happy New Year** from all of us at Chesapeake Academy! As you talk with your children at the beginning of the new year, encourage them to reflect on the previous year and make goals for the new year. The new year is a great time for reflection. Encourage children to dig deep within and discover what they would like to have happen in their lives this year. What are their goals? What would they like to accomplish – big things and little things? Goals give us and our lives direction. How would they like to grow in their peer relationships? How can they more positively contribute to family, school and community life? These discussions help them do their part to take responsibility for the quality of the year they hope to have and the person they wish to become.

**Non-fiction in Third Grade:** The third grade class has begun a class biography about the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. It is their first non-fiction novel as a class and weekly vocabulary and writing tasks will be tied to this important man and his role in history. The novel is *I Have a Dream: The Story of Martin Luther King* by Margaret Davidson.

**Lower School and Early Childhood partnerships!** The third grade class has also been busy with a joint project together with their friends in Kindergarten. This project has allowed third grade students to develop their research skills while the kindergarteners focus on learning more about hibernating animals. The third grade students spent time exploring various web sites while searching for information about animals that hibernate. They then worked with their kindergarten partners to review the web sites, copy the research information (facts about the animal, where they live, what they eat, etc.). This project provided a fun and educational collaboration between the grades targeted at enhancing knowledge about hibernating animals (kindergarten) and practicing/developing research skills (third graders).

**Fun and games in 7th grade PreAlgebra:** (By Eliza Carr Schmidt and Millie Tompkins) In Pre-Algebra, we have been using games to study probability. Before Christmas, we predicted outcomes of a horse race on the SmartBoard and outcomes with various dice games. This week, we have investigated Rock, Paper, Scissors to figure out if it is mathematically fair. That helped us understand probability better because we used it in a way that we were all familiar with. We also then had to figure out how to make it a fair game with 3 players. Pre-Algebra this week was a blast because we got to explore a game, even if it turned out to be the most mathematical game that we have ever played.

**WASHINGTON, DC TRIP:** We are busy planning the 7th and 8th grade trip to Washington, DC from Tuesday, April 8 - Friday, April 11. This trip helps students make sense of overarching concepts related to the ideals of freedom: How do we as Americans define freedom? What is the cost of freedom and is it worth the cost? How has our definition of freedom and to whom it applies changed over time? The students will have tours of the US Capitol and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, spend time at the Newseum and Smithsonian museums, visit monuments, and complete a geographical scavenger hunt. Finally, the group will participate in community service. More details will be sent to parents via email.

**ERBs:** On Tuesday, January 21, we will begin Educational Record Bureau testing for students in grades 3-6. The testing sessions will extend Tuesday – Monday, January 27 (1 to 1 ½ hours per day), with the majority of the test sessions in the morning. Students have a ½ day on Friday, January 24 for the end of the semester. Core subject and co-curricular classes will continue to meet during the week and regular academic work will continue. However, teachers will reduce homework load and there will be no other tests or projects due that week. Seventh and 8th grade students will complete their ERBs the following week of January 27th. Please make sure that students are well rested, well nourished, and on time to school. Additional details about how we use the ERB results went home in a letter to parents.

**SSATs:** Chesapeake Academy is a national test site for the Secondary School Admission Test given on February 1. Rising 9th graders considering independent schools need to take the SSAT, and rising 8th graders may take it as a practice round. Registration closes on January 12 at [www.ssat.org](http://www.ssat.org). If your child is registering for the test and has an action plan at Chesapeake Academy, please submit the forms for accommodations for the SSAT.

**Reminder:** Bring a Buddy Day at CA is on Monday, January 20 from 8:30-12:30. Does your Osprey have a community friend in 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th grade that he or she would like to bring to school for a fun-filled morning and special lunch? If yes, complete the attached registration form and submit to Hilary Scott by Wednesday, January 15!

**Midnight in Paris Auction 2014:** Adrienne Bugg, Auction Chair, wishes to send a big THANK YOU to everyone who attended the Auction Meeting on Wednesday. We have people signed up to speak with local businesses and friends of CA to procure silent and live auction items. However, we still need more help. Contact Adrienne at 804.306.3275 or [a@pillarandpacock.com](mailto:a@pillarandpacock.com) or Development Associate, Catherine Emry, 804.438.5575 or [cemry@chesapeakeacademy.org](mailto:cemry@chesapeakeacademy.org) to sign up to help. Our letter to donors and sponsors is scheduled to go out soon so stay tuned to hear progress reports as well as information about the next meeting. Again, thanks to everyone and GO GET 'EM!

**Piano lessons at CA:** Did you know that Chesapeake Academy offers private piano lessons for students right at the school? For many years, students have been able to take piano lessons from qualified pianists. Dennis Tucker, our piano teacher, reports that although he has a busy schedule, he does have a few openings available now for new students. Dennis Tucker has twelve years' private piano teaching experience. Studies have shown that the study of music can help improve academic performance and even social skills now and in future years. The discipline learned through playing the piano has a direct correlation with the discipline needed for success in school. You may call Mr. Tucker directly at (804) 925-5368 for further information.

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Friday, January 10:** Dodgeball night (7:00 - 9:00 pm)

**Tuesday, January 14:** 7th grade field trip to LMS (*Steadfast and Spirited* performance)

**Wednesday, January 15:** PreK - 3rd grade field trip to LMS (*In a Kingdom* performance); CAPP meeting (8:30 am)

**Thursday, January 16:** JV Basketball vs. Aylett (home)

**Friday, January 17:** End of 2nd marking period

**Tuesday, January 21:** ERBs begin for 3rd-6th grades

**Wednesday, January 22:** PALS performance (*Magical Math Tour*)

**Friday, January 24:** Early dismissal (12:00 pm)