

.: **Principal's Corner**

Parents please remember to stop by to check the lost and found to see if any items belong to your child. We will give them to Salvation Army next Friday, January 24, 2003.

Thank you to PVO members and those parents who provided food for the staff luncheon on Wednesday, January 15, 2003.

Re-registration forms for currently enrolled students are due by March 14, 2003. Siblings of currently enrolled students need to be registered by March 14, 2003.

The applicants number for 2003-04 School Year as of Friday 17, 2003 is 21 students.

School is closed on Monday, January 20, 2003 due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Have a great Long weekend.

.: **A Message from the Board**

Parents, another school year is rapidly coming to a close and 5th grade parents are beginning to look for their child's middle school. We have the ability this year to speak about our wonderful school, and help prospective students and parents learn more about us. We would like to start a speaker's bureau, that could attend PTA meetings at the various elementary schools in the month of February. We are hoping those interested could present a brief explanation about FSA, answer any questions that might arise about our school and leave some applications.

Applications for FSA registration are due March 14th, so this would have to take place before then. If we can't speak at an event, we can ask if we can submit a brief article for the school's weekly newsletter with my name and number as the contact. Anyone interested in participating as a speaker, please contact Nancy Alterman, 770-410-0410 so we can arrange for schools and talk about the brief presentation. Thank you.

.: **From the Desk of Al Ozer**

There will be a GA MSWA (Middle School Writing Assessment) Test on Tuesday, January 21, 2003 during 3rd and 4th periods for all eighth graders.

Please make sure students have

- * "good night's sleep"
- * breakfast
- * a #2 pencil with eraser and pens (students are required to do part of test in pencil and part in pen)
- * Students, remember that you cannot leave the testing room for any reason during the test.

.: **From the Desk of Gina Holloman - Discipline**

First semester Comprehension Discipline Report was presented to the Board at the last meeting. A copy of the report has also been given to Mary Frericks, PVO President. This



report is available for viewing by any FSA parent. Contact Gina Holloman, VP of Discipline if you would like to review it.

.: News from the PVO

Knights of the Round Table Book Club will be meeting on January 29, 2003. Students if you haven't picked up your book from the media center, please do so.

Smita Panda is taking over duties as Treasurer. Welcome aboard Smita!

Justin Kriske was our mind bender puzzle winner of the week. Good Job Justin!

The school State Spelling Bee finalists are Vince DiCarlo, Miles DeLay, Katherine Addison, Corwin Craig, Paige Pierce, Josh Kustin, Alexandria Williams, Michael Nash, Joseph Delasalla, Enloe Lucas, James Meadows, Biplab Panda, Ryan Gilson, Daniel Lim, Joe Wimsatt, Eddy Ferreira, Brittany Nalls, Chase Smith, Atalanda Cameron, Katy Shirkov, Rebekah Morris, Kapri Kendricks, and Cameron Kea. The school spelling bee contest to select our representative for the regional contest will be held during the last week of January.

.: Reminders

If you haven't submitted your money for the GA Trip and/or Washington, D.C. trip, please do so as soon as possible.

Jan. 20 MLK Holiday NO SCHOOL

.: Buy your FSA Yearbook

Be sure and get your copy of the first yearbook of FSA. The cost is \$28. Checks should be made payable to FSA with yearbook written in the memo section of the check.



.: Science Olympiad

FSA Science Olympiad Team will attend an Invitational Science Olympiad Competition the 25th of January, 2003. Mr. Yaldiz, the coach of the team, says "It is the first competition we will be attending as a team. It is going to be very proficient to perform before the Regional Science Olympiad on the 1st of March at Oglethorpe University. I am very confident that my team will do the best. We will win this competition and go to Regional Science Olympiad with absolute confidence." The team consists of 15 students. 3 of them, Edan Segal, Brad Baker and Daniel Plemmons will not be able to compete in the Invitational Olympiad on the 25th of January due to their SAT exam. They will be able to compete in the Regional Science Olympiad. The name of the team members competing on the 25th of January are as follows;

Tara Deems with 4 categories,	J. W. Schultz with 3 categories,
Miles Delay with 4 categories,	Kelli Koenig with 4 categories,
Malika Halder with 4 categories,	Wil McCall with 2 categories,
Mykola Labach with 3 categories,	Matthew Paul with 2 categories,
Patrick Wylie with 3 categories,	Preston Ough with 4 categories,
Paul Gyori with 4 categories,	Benjamin Brisebois with 3 categories,

.: The Fulton County Technology Fair

The Fulton County Technology Fair will be held on Feb. 7-8, 2003 at Riverwood High School. The Technology Fair is open to Fulton County School students in grades 3-12. First place winners in the fair are eligible to compete in the GaETC State Technology Fair to be held at Macon State College on March 7 and 8, 2003 in Macon, Georgia. This is a great opportunity for students to share his/her knowledge with peers, teachers, and others. Please check the website www.fultonschools.org/technology/techfair for detailed information. Students from FSA who are interested should contact Mr. Sener. The deadline has been extended to January 22, 2003, the original deadline was January 16, 2003.



.: Summer Institute for the Gifted

The Summer Institute for the Gifted (SIG) 2003 Summer Program brochure is currently available.

SIG provides academically advanced students with an exciting and challenging summer experience. The program combines remarkable academic learning experiences with cultural, social, and recreational opportunities. For information about these programs or to receive a Summer Program brochure, please call (866) 303-4744 toll free, or visit their web site www.giftedstudy.com

.: Below is a copy of the article that appeared in the Roswell and Alpharetta Neighbor Newspapers on Wednesday, January 15, 2003:

School mixes curriculum, choice for winning combination

01/15/03

By Ben Johnson

North Fulton Neighbor Staff Writer

The clang of glass beakers is audible above 22 excited voices calling out instructions and recording temperatures.

The sixth-grade physical science class is learning about heat transfer at the Fulton Science Academy, a new charter school in Alpharetta.

"Hands-on is the best way to teach science. They learn the subject matter by observing it for themselves," said teacher Bill Yaldiz.

Now halfway through its first year, the middle school has an enrollment of 218 students from various districts across Fulton County. One result is a student body with an ethnic mixture uncommon in north Fulton - about half are white, 34 percent African American, 9 percent Asian and 1 percent Hispanic.

Students from the south end of the county board the bus at 5:30 a.m. to make the morning commute. The decision to enroll is based on the choice of parents and the children.

"They must have an interest in learning science and math. The curriculum is very heavy, and the enriched programs teach extra things on top of the minimum county requirements," said principal Selim Ozdemir, who directed two charter schools in Ohio before accepting his current position.

The school offers two computer labs, two science labs and a library furnished with 12 computers, but the curriculum is not limited to math and science.

Other subjects provided are language arts, social studies, music and Spanish. The average class size is about 17, compared to a county-wide average of 24 to 28.

"We are providing a private school environment within a public school entity where there is no charge for tuition," said Ozdemir.

Bradford Frericks, 10, said his parents encouraged him to make the change to a charter school.

"I like the hands-on work in the science lab. At my old school, it was just all books," he said.

Enrollment for the next school year opened this month and will continue through March 14. A lottery to select about 140 incoming students will be held March 28. Information is available online at www.fultonscience.org.

Fulton Science Academy is one of four charter schools in the county, including Math/Science High School in Roswell. The high school is in its second year, with about 210 freshmen and sophomores.