



# Maiden Voyage

Maiden Choice School Newsletter  
4901 Shelbourne Road  
Baltimore, MD 21227  
410-887-1431

Nancy Briganti  
Principal  
nbriganti@bcps.org

Yanina Giller  
Assistant Principal  
ygiller@bcps.org



March  
2009



## March

- March 10(T)- Board of Education Mtg. ESS Bldg. Greenwood
- March 17(T)- Lifetouch Class picture Day
- March 20(F)- Joe Corbi Pizza Fundraiser begins
- March 24(T)- Board of Education Mtg. ESS Bldg. Greenwood
- March 26 (Th)- Chick Fil-A Night 4pm—7pm, Proceeds go to the Maiden Choice Miracles Booster Club

## Upcoming Events:

- April 3(F)- Easter/Spring Break begins at end of school day
- April 14(T)- School reopens
- April 17(F)- Joe Corbi Pizza Fundraiser orders due



MAIDEN CHOICE SCHOOL  
“Navigating Together from Success to  
Success”



# Principal's Message

The winter doldrums may have set in, but Maiden Choice has been anything but cold and dull! Many classes have been studying about transportation. As part of this unit, they have visited Thurgood Marshall Airport, the B & O Railroad Museum, and the Street Car Museum. Our oldest students have been getting a taste of life beyond Maiden Choice by visiting adult agencies such as Chimes and Athelas. These students have spent the mornings at these agencies engaged in activities similar to those they will participate upon graduation. This gives students and families the opportunity to "try out" agencies and find the best fit before committing to them during their graduation year. Some classes have been studying community helpers/resources. They have taken their quest for knowledge off campus to the local Petsmart, post office, and library. In adapted P.E., students have been learning skills such as eye-hand coordination, loco-motor, and balancing while working their way through an obstacle course. The course challenges all students to increase their skills in mobility.

We have much to look forward to in the coming months. Star Lab, Baltimore County's mobile planetarium will be visiting Maiden Choice for about 8 days in March. Each class will have at least two opportunities to visit Star Lab. All students will have the opportunity to experience the night sky in all its glories.

Please keep a look out for the flyers for our next fundraiser. We will be selling Joe Corbi's pizza kits and cookies in late March. The money raised from this endeavor goes to support student programs such as CBI trips. It also provides needed materials for instruction such as new mats and scooters for adapted P.E. Thank you for your continued participation!



# ATTENDANCE SUPERSTARS

## January PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Demoi Abraham  
David Baboolal  
Tyler Barber  
Abigail Blair  
Aidan Blair  
Shy Kim Branch  
Brandon Brown

Foryste Bryant  
Shamia Colbert  
Shanquille Drayton  
Stephen Geisler  
Maia Hammett-Aron  
Octavian Harris  
Tyra Hughes

Muhammah Khan  
Coreena Kilson  
Jamar McGee-Randall  
Jahwanza Neptune  
Darrius Wesley  
Toren Shifflett  
Ryan Zopp

## Good Attendance (absent not more than 2 days)

Kwabena Ampomamensah  
Kyle Arbogast  
Tykel Armstrong  
Joshua Badie  
Dani-Lynn Barklow  
Braxton Blake  
Amia Brown  
Dominic Byrd  
Zachary Byrd  
Kennadi Camphor  
Byron Carter  
Terry Coleman  
Justin Dale  
Ebony Evans  
Rodney Garwood  
Asher Gay

Peter Gellerman  
Tevor Geyer  
Ryan Gittere  
Clayton Hamilton  
Reginal Hanner  
Faith Hoffman  
Sophia Jauquet  
Mackenzie Jenkins  
Bryan Kelly  
Shawn Koehler  
Lashe Land  
David Lepire  
Jonathan Mack  
Joshua Maultsby  
Devin Montague  
Tyrell Montague

Jackson Moore  
Kurtis Newkirk  
Amanda Palm  
Hope Perry  
Jazzmin Potrzebowski  
Taavon Rose  
Adil Shaikh  
Raymond Shaw  
Asha Spence  
William Spencer  
Bradley Spruell  
Hannah Suter  
Brandon Thomas  
Nirel Vaday  
Aaron Wilson  
Ariel Wilson-Gray



# ATTENDANCE SUPERSTARS

## February PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Demoi Abraham  
David Baboolal  
Tyler Barber  
Dani-Lynn Barklow  
Braxton Blake  
Dominic Byrd  
Kennadi Camphor  
Shamia Colbert  
Terry Coleman  
Shanquille Drayton

Maia Hammett-Aron  
Reginal Hanner  
Mackenzie Jenkins  
Coreena Kilson  
Shawn Koehler  
Lashe Land  
David Lepire  
Devin Montague  
Zaire Moore  
Kurtis Newkirk

Amanda Palm  
Darius Pulley  
Toren Shifflett  
Asha Spence  
William Spencer  
Bradley Spruell  
Buchi Umegbolu  
Dwayne Wood

## Good Attendance (absent not more than 2 days)

Sana Ali  
Coby Ampomamensah  
Abigail Blair  
Aidan Blair  
Amia Brown  
Zachary Byrd  
Byron Carter  
Evan Casey  
Keva Crum  
Justin Dale  
Ashley Dingle  
Ebony Evans  
Asher Gay  
Stephen Geisler

Peter Gellerman  
Clayton Hamilton  
Jaywuan Harris  
Faith Hoffman  
Tyra Hughes  
John Jackson  
Sophia Jauquet  
Bryan Kelly  
Aania Kemp  
Muhammad Khan  
Tauris Lassiter  
Jonathan Mack  
Jamar McGee-Randall  
Tyrell Montague

Brandon Moultrie  
Jahwanza Nepture  
Hope Perry  
Musa Rodriguez  
Adil Shaikh  
Raymond Shaw  
Josiah Small  
Hannah Suter  
Nirel Vaday  
Darius Wesley  
Dayvon Wilson  
Ariel Wilson-Gray  
Ryan Zopp



**Parents and Guardians,**

**There are positions still open in the Maiden Choice After School Program for parents who can pick up their child. We have one spot that is now open on the bus for a student who needs transportation home on a daily basis. The program runs most days-Monday through Thursday- from 3:30PM to 5:30PM. Please contact Stephen Levin at 410-887-1431 for further details.**

Unfortunately, we cannot accept any non handicapped peers at this time due to program regulations. We will place your name on a waiting list and contact you as soon as a position opens.

Sincere Thanks,  
Stephen Lee Levin

# 2009 Annual Camp Fair

Hello Everyone!

The Arc of Baltimore has sponsored a camp fair for many years and this will be the 3rd year we are combining our efforts with Baltimore's Child. The 2009 camp fair will be part of one Camp Fair to be held 3/8/09. Please come and find out about available recreation and camp resources and respite for children and adults with disabilities. This is an entirely different approach this year and we anticipate a great success! So please remember that the camp fair, formerly held at Ridge

Ruxton School,  
will be held on

Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
12pm - 3:00pm  
Crowne Plaza (formerly Holiday Inn)  
2004 Greenspring Drive  
Timonium, MD 21093  
410-252-7373

# Nurse's News



## Understanding Common Cold - Basics

Sneezing, scratchy throat, runny nose -- everyone knows the first miserable signs of a [common cold](#). But what is a common cold really? What causes you to catch colds frequently while your best friend stays well? And more importantly, how can you prevent getting a cold this season? Here are some common cold basics to help you protect yourself and your family from getting sick.

### What Is a Common Cold?

The common cold is a group of [symptoms](#) in the upper respiratory tract caused by a large number of different viruses. Although more than 200 viruses can cause the common cold, the perpetrator is usually the rhinovirus, which is to blame for causing 10% to 40% of colds. Also, the coronaviruses cause about 20% of colds and the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) causes 10% of colds.

The rhinovirus (or other cold virus) enters your body through your nose or mouth and is easily spread when you touch someone or touch common objects (the computer keyboard or mouse, the telephone receiver, a doorknob, or eating utensils). If you aren't cautious about hand washing, you can spread the common cold to family, friends, co-workers, and people you've never met at a restaurant or the super-market.

### What Causes a Common Cold?

While getting chilled or wet is not a cause of common colds, there are factors that make you more susceptible to catching a cold virus. For example, you are more likely to catch a common cold if you are excessively fatigued, have emotional distress, or have [allergies](#) with nose and throat symptoms.

For more detail, see WebMD's article on [Common Cold Causes](#).

### How a Common Cold Starts

With a common cold, you catch the virus from another person who is infected with the virus. This usually happens by touching a surface contaminated with cold germs and then touching your nose or mouth. You can also catch a cold by encountering secretions someone has sneezed into the air.

A cold begins when a cold virus attaches to the lining of your nose or throat. Your immune system sends white blood cells out to attack this germ. Unless you've encountered that exact strain of the virus before, the initial attack fails and your body sends in reinforcements. Your nose and throat get inflamed and produce a lot of mucus. With so much of your body's energy directed at fighting the cold virus, you're left feeling tired and miserable.

Although the common cold is usually mild, it is a leading cause of doctor visits and missed days from school and work. According to the CDC, 22 million school days are lost annually in the U.S. because of the common cold. Some estimates state that Americans suffer 1 billion colds annually.

**WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY!**

# Minnow's Moment

January was a great month for the Minnows. We had lots of fun with our friends! We went bowling, exploring at the mall, and riding the rails at the B & O Railroad Museum. While we didn't get to go on an actual train ride, we did enjoy seeing all the trains. As always, we thank all of our parent volunteers who help make our trips a big success!



# Starfish News

On February 25, the starfish instructional group visited the Baltimore Streetcar Museum. Students got to experience two authentic streetcar rides complete with a rail operator and conductor. Everyone enjoyed sitting in the old cars and riding (or bouncing) down some of the tracks that were once major thoroughfares in Baltimore! Streetcars were a popular and affordable means of transportation in the early part of the twentieth century. Today's modern light rail is an evolution of these extraordinary vehicles.



**What I Wish for My Child** is Volunteers for Medical Engineering (VME) campaign that will help realize the dreams of parents of disabled children in Central Maryland. VME is dedicated to increasing independence for people with disabilities through its unique volunteer services. For over 25 years VME has recruited and prepared professional engineers to design and develop customized devices to increase independence and enjoyment for people with disabilities.

Parents of children with disabilities, ages 2 to 21, should submit a wish they have for their child to the VME What I Wish for My Child campaign for consideration. VME staff and volunteers will select winning applications and volunteers will design solutions to help each winning family. VME volunteers are skilled engineers supported by volunteer physical therapists, retired nurses, machinists, carpenters and students studying engineering. Up to one hundred engineers volunteer their time each year to design solutions that include assistive technology, unique devices, computer configurations and equipment modifications that make life better for people with disabilities.

What I Wish for My Child requests will be taken from now until March 31, 2009; five (or more) requests will be selected and announced on or before May 1st. Those requests that are accepted will become projects for VME volunteers to complete over the next year. Additional projects may be considered for completion as time allows.

Applications are available on-line at [www.vmesolutions.org](http://www.vmesolutions.org) or by calling **410-554-9134**. Applications must be received at VME no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2009.

VME has completed many projects for children with disabilities over its 27 year history, including

- \* An electric car for an elementary school child born with abnormal legs and arms.
- \* A customized computer mouse for a young man with CP in Columbia, MD - so he can still communicate with others using email and learn about the world on the Internet.
- \* A special transfer arm that allows a child to transfer from her wheel chair to another chair all by herself.

Children want to do things that others can do, all by themselves! And parents also benefit when a child can help him or herself sometimes.