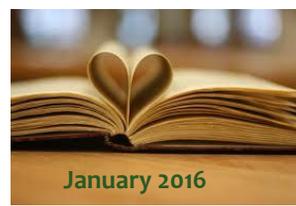




The Lion's Roar

Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About



January 2016



For the LOVE of Great Literature

This edition of *The Lion's Roar* focuses on the MCA library. With over 28,085 books lining our shelves (when they aren't in the hands of avid readers), our library serves twenty classes in lower school weekly plus schedules class time for upper school classes by teacher request. Several sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students are regulars in the library, stopping by every few days to grab a new adventure from its shelves. Check out the frequent displays in the library that are based on grade level projects and relating to American Indians, insects, human body, and many other topics.

Mrs. Lori Spencer serves our students as MCA's librarian and shares her love of a good story with all who enter. This year, her focus has been making sure every student understands and appreciates the criteria for quality literature so that their new knowledge will better guide their book selections. These same criteria have guided her purchase of new books for the school. Due to great success of the fall book fair (raising over \$2000), more than three hundred new titles were purchased. Being the only school that partners with Mount Airy's Pages Bookstore, Mrs. Spencer is thrilled with the MCA family's response to the emphasis on timeless literature during the fall book fair. Supporting our local community is important and gave greater freedom in purchasing library quality hard-cover books. The spring book fair is slated for March or April.

Another key contributor to the success of our school library is the work of Mrs. Betty Kay Vaughn. She covered over two thousand paperback books with a durable protective vinyl to extend their lifetime in the hands of excited readers. Her final work was delivered by her son just days after she passed away this December. She was a true friend to our library demonstrating her love of great literature of and our school through her tireless actions.



Mrs. Lori Spencer, MCA librarian and Challenge Center teacher, shares her passion about great literature with a group of students.



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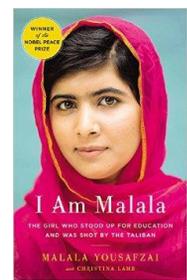
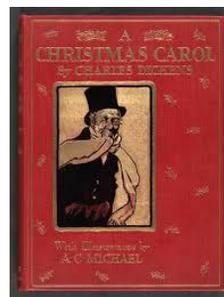
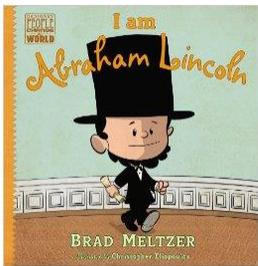
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SCHOLARSHIP * CHARACTER * COMMUNITY



Just Arrived in the Library!

Mrs. Spencer and Mrs. Tracy Wood (library assistant) are busily entering new information into our library check out system as purchases from the book fair await their new home on MCA's shelves and the hands of readers. Several sets of books were purchased allowing classes to study novels as a group plus many individual titles. Topping the class set list is Charles Dickens *A Christmas Carol*, Beverly Cleary's *Runaway Ralph* and Gary Paulson's *Brian's Winter*. Exciting individual copies purchased include several non fiction selections including "*I Am Abraham Lincoln*" and others from a series of biographies as well as *I am Malala* for older readers.. Historical fiction selections include the "*I Survived...*" series focusing on famous historical events such as the sinking of the Titanic or the Hidenburg disaster.



In addition her duties as librarian Mrs. Spencer also serves in the Challenge Center by coaching two academic competitive teams which meet in the library. Odyssey of the Mind is a competition that focuses on creative problem solving. Working in a five member team, groups of students are challenged to solve one long term problem which they work on weekly. In addition to this they solve spontaneous problems which require mental agility. Extra points are awarded for creativity and humor. An example would be naming MONKEY when asked to name different types of keys. MCA parent, Mary Beth Shaw, also serves this group of students as a volunteer. Another team which calls the library home is the Lower School Math Olympiad whose goals include fostering a love and enthusiasm for mathematics while building mathematical flexibility. Mrs. Mandy Dean joins Mrs. Spencer in the coaching of this academic team.



Teagan Golding, Charlotte Tucker, and Madeline Clifton enjoy books in the library.



The MCA Math Olympiad Team, front: Benjamin Hiatt, Dana Shaw, Preston Brinkley, Caleb Frazier, Braxton French; middle: Cora Branch, Christian Watson, Elisha Spencer, Grace Phillips, Belle Fain, Silas Cooper, Natalie Cockerham; back: Mrs. Dean and Mrs. Spencer

