

# Mr. P's Note Home!

Volume 8 Issue 35

May 10, 2011

## TRACY BARRETT

Tracy Barrett, author of [Anna of Byzantium](#), will visit Meigs this Friday, May 13 at 8AM to sign books for our class. We are very excited that she has agreed to take time to drop in. Students, please bring copies of any of her books that you wish to get autographed. A complete list may be found on our class website.

## ASTRONOMY LESSONS

Dr. Erika is back again this year to teach our class about different astronomy topics that only a astrophysicist can! To that end, Dr. Erika is in need of 3 inch Styrofoam craft balls that can be purchased at any craft store or department store. It's short notice, but we definitely need some by no later than this Thursday, May 12! If you are able to help, please let Mr. P know! Just like last year, Dr. Erika will hold a star party at the top of the parking garage at Vanderbilt University this Friday, May 13. We will begin about 7:45PM. In case of clouds or rain, Dr. Erika will make a call to postpone until the following night. Information regarding this will be posted on the scrolling message bar at the top of [www.flyparsons.com](http://www.flyparsons.com). If indeed the star party is postponed, it will be rescheduled for the following night. The reschedule dates are: May 14, May 16, May 17, May 18, May 19, or May 20. An Evritys e-mail will be sent with directions to the event.

## FIELD DAY

Field Day is next Wednesday, May 18. Our class will represent the country of Ecuador. Students will need to purchase a yellow t-shirt to wear. Mrs. Parsons has purchased iron-on application paper on which to print our Ecuador Field Day shirt design. These will be given to students early next week to iron on. A donation of a \$2 would be greatly appreciated from each student to help pay for the application paper and ink.



## ROCKET DAY

Rocket Day is Friday, May 20. Next week, students will be building rockets in teams of two. These rockets will be launched on that day along with the other activities that teachers have planned. Please join us if you are able. Rocket Day is an annual day-long 6<sup>th</sup> grade event at Meigs!



## MR. P'S STUDENT OF THE WEEK...

• **MAY 9-13, 2011**

**Molly Kroeger**

Be sure to read about Molly on the electronic "Student of Week" board in Mr. Parsons' room and on the Student of the Week board.

Next week's student of the week. . . **Mystery**

## ITEMS TO BRING. . .

- Red Tuesday Folder Signature Chart & CORRECTED WORK...

## DATES TO REMEMBER...

- 05.09.11 Astronomy Week with Dr. Erika...
- 05.12.11 Planetarium (in gym)...
- 05.12.11 Civil Rights walking field trip (bring sack lunch) (permission note attached)
- 05.13.11 Algebra Placement Test...
- 05.13.11 Tracy Barrett Book Signing (in library at 8AM)...
- 05.13.11 Star Party at Vanderbilt (7:45PM) (rain dates each evening following)...
- 05.19.11 ENCORE field trip...
- 05.18.11 Field Day...
- 05.20.11 Rocket Day...
- 05.23.11 Middle Ages Museum...
- 05.27.11 Parthenon field trip (after school) (permission note attached)...
- 05.30.11 NO SCHOOL...
- 05.31.11 AWARDS DAY...
- 06.01.11 LAST DAY of SCHOOL & Mr. P's BIRTHDAY BASH...

**25PTS: SECRET WORD = • SEE THE WEBSITE...**

**FOR ADDITIONAL NEWS ITEMS & INFO CHECK:**

<http://www.flyparsons.org/notehome.html>

## ON THE WEBSITE ONLY:

## EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA...

It pays to check the website, too...

**This Week's SECRET WORD (May 10):**

**25MM: NOTE HOME SECRET WORD = "ASTRONOMY"**

**Mr. P's SECRET INFORMATION LEAK:**

**[WWW.FLYPARSONS.ORG/EVERYBODYSOMEBODY.HTML](http://WWW.FLYPARSONS.ORG/EVERYBODYSOMEBODY.HTML)**

## TEAM SHIRTS...

As always, please watch the website to know which days our class will wear our class shirts in the future! The next date to wear class t-shirts is Wednesday, May 11, and maroon class shirts is Friday, May 13.



## [GRADESPEED]: CHECK IT OUT...

**UPDATE!** Gradespeed.com will update again later this week. The updates will reflect the past week. Late work has been recorded as of May 10. Notice any missing assignments. Please submit them each week with the Tuesday Folder Sheet.

## A SPECIAL COUPON...

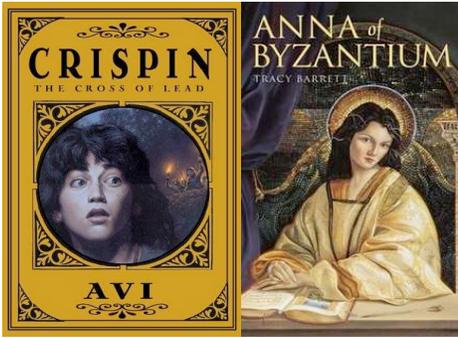
Print and clip this coupon below for a special **REWARD**. To get the reward, please obtain a parent's signature that states your parent has checked gradespeed.com.

## COUPON

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Secret Word: \_\_\_\_\_



## NOVELS ...

Our latest class novel is Crispin: Cross of Lead by Avi. In this book, our focus is on literary devices. Our April Monthly book is Anna of Byzantium by Tracey Barrett. This book follows the life of a princess that struggles with her place in her royal family. A local author wrote the book, and she plans to make a visit to Meigs in May!

## STOCK MARKET GAME...

Part two of the Stock Market Game continues. Here are some reminders about the game. The website is: [www.stockmarketgame.org](http://www.stockmarketgame.org)

### Goals:

Team has \$10,000 starting balance...

Team must make at least 5 stock purchases of \$5000 value...

No mutual funds - only stocks...

No selling - only purchasing...

No penny stocks...

No limit on purchases per week...

All transactions are recorded at end of business (3PM CST) - stock values based on closing terms.

## FROM MR. P...

- MAY EVENTS: Mark your calendars for many fun events! We will have Rocket Day on Wednesday, May 18. Field Day will be on Friday, May 20, and a sixth grade picnic will be held on Friday, May 27. More details to follow in the coming weeks.
- Our field trip to the East Community Center is Thursday, May 12. Students will be escorted by Officer Murrell to visit with the seniors starting at 9:15AM. We will visit with them until 10:45AM, at which time we will have a picnic lunch. We will return to Meigs about noon.
- Any student that has a "MIS" or "INC" on GradeSpeed MUST take care of those before Field Day. No student that owes work will be allowed to participate in Field Day or Rocket Day.

## STAR PARTY INFO...

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 13. Dr. Erika Grundstrum from Vanderbilt will be hosting us at a Star Party atop the Vanderbilt 25th Ave. Garage. Dr. Erika is leading some astronomy lessons, helping us with galileoscopes, setting up a portable star lab at school Thursday and then... letting us use the Vanderbilt telescopes Friday night - weather permitting. You may bring your family, a lawn chair, snacks, and a flashlight covered with red cellophane (or a red balloon or a brown lunch bag.) See the link on

my webpage about star parties. Students may decide to practice ahead of time with a star finder and bring it to the star party.

The garage is diagonally across from the baseball stadium. We would park on whatever floor we come in on and take the elevator to the 11th floor. The start time should be 8:15 or 8:30 (sunset won't be until 7:45 p.m., and it needs to be dark enough). We'd be able to see the Moon, Saturn, Mars, Venus, and various stars and such. (They think we shouldn't have to pay to park since the baseball games start at 6 p.m.) Park in the "Zone 3" spaces.

In case of clouds or rain, Dr. Erika will make a call to postpone until the following night. Information regarding this will be posted on the scrolling message bar at the top of [www.flyparsons.com](http://www.flyparsons.com). If indeed the star party is postponed, it will be rescheduled for the following night. The reschedule dates are: May 14, May 16, May 17, May 18, May 19, or May 20.

## FIELD TRIP IDEAS...

Our class will be taking a trip to the Adventure Science Center and the Parthenon after spring break. Due to lost time from snow, we will take these field trips after school. The plan will be for kids to be picked up at dismissal time and then meet at the field trip destination shortly thereafter. None of these trips are required, but a sincere attempt at making it to each would be greatly appreciated! A note detailing dates and times will be sent home. We will also possibly go to the Renaissance Festival on one Saturday in May. Lastly, Mrs. Lange is planning a gathering at the end of the year for our wonderful class community. Anyone with other suggestions is invited to send an e-mail to Mr. P.

## GRADESPEED ACCOUNTS...

Mr. P is requiring that each student log in to: <http://gradespeed.mnps.org> every Tuesday to review his/her grades and then inform mom/dad about the week's progress. The back of the Tuesday Signature Sheet will have a spot for any adjustments that need to be made (i.e.: late work, absent work, incomplete work, and low grades). Mr. P will give a participation grade for the completed Tuesday Folder Sheet. Student grade checking is the expectation in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, so let's get a jump on it now!

## CLASSROOM REMINDERS...



- 1). Click on the button labeled "[GRADE 6](#)" for links to our on-line textbooks!
- 2). Check the HOMEWORK webpage nightly!
- 3). Link to the blog at <http://www.flyparsons.com/blog>
- 4). Go online to order books at [www.scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs) Use our class code GLW2M. May orders due soon.
- 5). Bring running shoes and water to drink on Fridays for Move and Groove in the gym!
- 6). Weather Project coming soon...
- 7). Middle Ages Museum due before Rocket Day on May 20...
- 8). Crispin MENU due May 24...
- 9). Our class is studying probability, geometry, and algebra...

**10).** STUDENT REMINDER: In order to be ready for 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students need to be sure that they are not repeatedly turning in late or incomplete work. Work should be neatly done with a correct heading. Teachers should not have to try to grade work that is hastily thrown together due to a lack of time management or disorganization. Teachers should not have to guess to whom work belongs because the correct heading is missing.

**11).** GRADES: any grades with a blank means no grade has been recorded as of yet for that assignment. Any assignment that receives a zero (0) this nine weeks will not be eligible to be re-done or corrected for credit. "re-do" "missing" or "incomplete" may be corrected.

**12).** Sounds Reading bases are due each Monday, March 29- April 18. Each Monday, students need their parent verification form and that week's portion of the reading log completed and signed.

## **STUDY PREP...**

TN SS Vocabulary

<http://quizlet.com/1856043/tn-academic-vocab-6th-flash-cards/>

TN Language Vocabulary

<http://quizlet.com/2947590/academic-vocabulary-tn-flash-cards/>

sixth grade math

<http://quizlet.com/1970101/sixth-grade-math-vocabulary-flash-cards/>

Latin Terms

<http://quizlet.com/2023296/latin-and-greek-sixth-grade-study-flash-cards/>

Check out many of the photos that are on the class website.

VIDEOS: <http://gallery.me.com/flyparsons#100088>

ALL PHOTOS WEBSITE: <http://www.flyparsons.info/MEIGS/213.html>

SCIENCE FAIR: <http://www.flyparsons.info/MEIGS/02.07.11.html>

MEIGS STRAIGHT As PEP RALLY: <http://www.flyparsons.info/MEIGS/02.04.11.html>

MATH ACTIVITIES: <http://www.flyparsons.info/MEIGS/02.02.11.html>

4-H POSTERS: <http://www.flyparsons.info/MEIGS/02.01.11.html>

A DAY in Mr. P's ROOM: <http://www.flyparsons.info/MEIGS/01.27.11.html>

## **CLASS WISH LIST...**

We are need of tissue for our classroom. Our guinea pigs are going through food and bedding quite quickly. Any help would be appreciated! We also need items for the general store and sports equipment for recess. If you are able to donate, please send those to school at your earliest convenience. Another way to donate is [www.digitalwish.com](http://www.digitalwish.com). The website has our class is registered complete with a wish list. Anyone may donate to the site to purchase electronic equipment for our class. Many of you ask from time to time, "what do we need." Here's a site to be able to do just that!

## [BLOG]: WEEKLY WORDS ON WEDNESDAY...

This school year, Mr. P will blog weekly educational tips, classroom congrats, and maybe a few humorous stories each Wednesday at this new blog address:

<http://weeklywordswelog.blogspot.com/>

## HTTPS://GRADESPEED.MNPS.ORG...

Grades are on-line at [gradespeed.mnps.org](http://gradespeed.mnps.org). Parents and students have a password to check each subject in order to view grades. This should be done each Tuesday.

## TWITTER/FACEBOOK...

Parents have another way of staying connected to our class. Log on to [www.twitter.com/meigsmagnet](http://www.twitter.com/meigsmagnet) on your computer or cell phone and follow our class. Mr. P posts daily updates about what's happening. You may also check out our class at [www.facebook.com/meigsmagnet](http://www.facebook.com/meigsmagnet). It is not necessary to sign up a twitter account to view our class tweets.

## TUESDAYS...

As always, Tuesdays are the day of the week for communication. Parents should receive corrected papers and a "Mr. P's Note Home" in the Red Tuesday Folder. Always look for those documents. If ever there is an exception to that weekly schedule, it will be noted on the website. To confirm that you've received everything, the "Tuesday Signature Sheet" will also be attached. Always fill this form out and return on Wednesday morning. Mr. P is requiring that each student log in to: <http://gradespeed.mnps.org> every Tuesday to review his/her grades and then inform mom/dad about the week's progress. The back of the Tuesday Signature Sheet will have a spot for any adjustments that need to be made (i.e.: late work, absent work, incomplete work, and low grades). Mr. P will give a participation grade for the completed Tuesday Folder Sheet. Attach any corrected work or missing assignments to the back of that sheet. Remember, students, making a low grade or a zero should never be acceptable!

# \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Red Tuesday Folder Signature Chart #213**

Tuesday, \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

	Student received	Parent's initials
Corrected papers		
Mr. P's Note Home		
Secret Word: [ _____ ]		
Meigs Memos (on-line)		
Mygradebook.com verification:		
Current Language Arts grade ▶		
Current Reading grade ▶		
Current Math grade ▶		
Current Social Studies grade ▶		
Current Science grade ▶		
Reminder #1:		
Reminder #2:		
Reminder #3:		
Reminder #4:		
Reminder #5:		
Absent or missing work attached (listed below):		
Parent signature: _____		
*Questions/Comments:		

## **MEIGS' MISSION STATEMENT...**

*We are an academic middle school for 5th to 8th grade students. Our mission is to provide a liberal arts curriculum that will allow our capable learners to perform at high standards of academic and social development.*

**BYE BYE...**