COMMUNITY = MCCS
Most mornings, in Ms. Wood’s class, Michael, the class Wordsmith, listens to announcements for the Word of the Day. After that, he asks his classmates for synonyms and antonyms for each word. I would like to suggest that if the ‘Word of the Day on December 6th was “community”, the first synonym out of my mouth would be MCCS! The preparations for Breakfast with Santa began on Friday with the team of Mark and Nicole Pomeroy leading the way. We took a break from the action to listen to our Singing Club perform under the stars and candle lights of Middleburg; it was close to midnight when the final volunteers were ushered out the doors. The next day, the stirrings of pancake makers, auction bidders and final touch float designers filled our halls and rooms with good cheer and oodles of wonderful comradeship! The icing on the cake came at the end day when I had a chance to join our students, Ms. Morgan, Mr. Pilarski and PTO president, Richa Badami on one of the only floats that shared a generous serving of good cheer!

“When I say HAPPY, you say HOLIDAY!”. It was awesome to see all the “thumbs up” in the crowd. There are so many people who believe in MCCS and I’m proud to be one of them!

MCCS WINS COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD
Speaking of pride, I was moved to discover that the community of Middleburg has awarded our school the Community Spirit Award – a testimony to the persistence and hard work of the organizing committee who put in hundreds of volunteer hours to convince the Loudoun County Board of Education that MCCS will be worth supporting!
VISION QUEST...of the Leobred Kind

Saturday, December 13, 2014, we tried, in true Leo style, something completely different! In August, I began keeping a list of 2000 websites and articles about innovative schools and programs around the world. We narrowed ideas down to 45! Kevin Hazard, MCCS Vision Coordinator on our School Management Team welcomed staff and community members interested in having input into next year and beyond. Students from Ms. Skelly and Ms. Wood’s classes also had a chance to view ideas presented on laptop or article form.

VISION QUEST TRIP – Contact Kelly Dillon for details (March 13-15)
kellydillon@verizon.net

NEXT LEO TALK!!!
Tuesday, January, 2014 - 6-7:30pm
“VISION QUEST ENCORE”

CLASRSSROOM SERVICE PROJECT

1. Ms. Morgan’s Green Frogs (Bring in non-perishable foods for Seven Loaves)
2. Ms. Skelly’s Golden Eagles – Heifer Gift Project (Dec. 2 at Assembly for Gr. 3-5)
5. Ms. Wood’s Golden Retrievers (Middleburg Humane Foundation in Feb.)
On December 6th, the MCCS PTO hosted its first ever Breakfast With Santa! Despite the weather and the fact that it was our first time hosting the event, it turned out to be a huge success, raising over $18,000 and we are so grateful to each and every person that played a part, big or small in making this happen!

Breakfast with Santa is a 100% volunteer led event. Without our volunteers we would never have been able to accomplish and surpass our goal! A BIG thank you to our fearless BWS Chairs Mark & Nicol Pomeroy who stepped in to take the event on! Mike Millard, Amy & Jeff Swartz, Kim & Colleen Basinger, Megan Conroy, Bob & Suzanne Liscouski, the Sierra, Dohrman and Mohrman families, Deedee Reed, Larisa & John Erwin, the Dillon family, Kami Cleary, Yvette Jacobs, Britt Cooper, our teachers – Karah Morgan, Diane Wood, Amy Lutter & Nico Pilarski!!! 😊 And so, so, so many more volunteers and hands on deck!

I have to take a moment and acknowledge our MCCS Float in the parade! Karah Morgan – thank you for being such a terrific leader for our float, so we could all show off our MCCS spirit! You and our student council did an amazing job designing our Leonardo / Green & Gold Float! Thank you to Diane Wood, Amy Lutter, Yvette Jacobs, Nico Pilarski, Dave Quanbeck and Dr. Smith who put some serious elbow grease into building it with the kids.

A special shout out to our MCCS Office Staff – Susan McGroddy and Caryn Humphrey, for guiding us along the way throughout the event! And finally, thank you to all the parents who contributed items for our silent auction, decorations.

The success of Breakfast With Santa, being the biggest fundraiser of the year, now enables the PTO to provide supplemental enrichment and educational programs and field trips for our students. The first action we took after the event was to begin fulfilling our teacher’s wish lists for their classrooms! We are currently working with the MCCS office and teachers on upcoming field trips. The PTO will also host two assemblies in the New Year on April 15 and May 5.

The PTO Gratitude Committee hosted a “Staff Appreciation Luncheon” on December 15th. Thank you Teresa Weis, Gratitude Committee chair for doing such a fabulous job and to all the parents for supporting and contributing to the event.

What’s coming up:

- We will have our next PTO General Meeting on 1/13/15 from 6:30-7:30 in the MCCS Cafegymatorium. We really appreciate all the support and involvement we have from our membership. It would be great to have everyone attend this meeting in January so we can plan our next set of programming with your input. Please mark your calendars to join us as committee chairs present their updates and we plan the remainder of the year’s events. If you have any questions, please email Kami Cleary at Secretary@MiddleburgPTO.org.
- Our next Leo Talk is being moved from 1/27 to most likely February. Our speaker will be Mike Foosaner, Board Member of The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the topic, “Parenting in the Digital Age”. Babysitting will provided for $5.
- And finally, we now have PTO E-News - “Leobred Between the Lines”, delivered to your inbox bi-weekly.

On behalf of the PTO Board, I’d like to wish all our families and teachers the happiest of holidays! See everyone on Leo Night and then back in the New Year! Once again, thank you to all the parents for their support and contribution. Remember YOU ARE THE PTO! Contact us at: President@MiddleburgPTO.org, VicePresident@MiddleburgPTO.org, Treasurer@MiddleburgPTO.org or Secretary@MiddleburgPTO.org. We are here to help support you - our families, teachers and above all the children at MCCS have a wonderful school year!
LEO NIGHT! Thursday, December 18th, 2014

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!
Leo Night will be extended to 2 hours on December 18th. The schedule for the evening is as follows:

- 6 to 6:30 – Viewing of classroom work and Family Projects
- 6:30 - 7:30PM -
  1) Strings Performance (Grades 3-5)
  2) K-2 Singing Performance
  3) 3-5 Singing Performance
- 7:30PM - Dance Performances
- 8:00 - End of Program

Please bring in Family Projects on the morning of December 18th. Classroom Contacts will be there to display them on tables.

Si tiene preguntas que quiere hacer en Espanol, por favor llame a Susana Calley (702-297-7899)
## December
- 15 Teacher Holiday Luncheon **(Thank you families!!!!!)**
- 18 Leo Night 6-8pm
- 22 No School, Grade Preparation Day
- 23-Jan4 No school, Happy Holidays!!!