



Julie Lennox,
Head of School

Feliz XV Años MIS

I hope you will all join me as we ‘Step Out’ with MIS and Celebrate our Quinceañera (15th Birthday) at the Salsa Ball! Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 26 at the Holiday Inn, Parkside. The plans are shaping up for an all-out celebration! Just as this milestone is celebrated in many Hispanic cultures as a time to honor the family and friends who have helped the fifteen year-old child to grow and mature, MIS is very grateful to all those who have been important to the School’s growth and development over the years. MIS moves confidently into “young adulthood,” thanks to your continued support and involvement. Look inside this newsletter for a glimpse at what to expect!

Poetry Month Inspires the best in 2/3 Multiage Students

My hair is as light as a candle
flickering in the night.
My eyes are blue and brown like
tornadoes in the brilliant water.
My smile is showing the gaps in
my mouth.

My body holds my strength.
My heart holds the love of my
family, the spirit of all love.
My imagination is wonderful
laughing ideas that make my
family laugh.

By Nina Erving



I love my awesome animal bear
named Red Paw and he loves
me too because I saved him
from a claw machine because
I could hear him saying,
"Help me, help me, please!"
and I could not stand
a stuffed animal in pain so
I gave the machine fifty cents
so I could get the stuffed animal
out of the prison that he was in.

By Bruce McCubbin

Agradecida

Ver a mi perro Buford marron y
brillante alli en la playa me llena
de felicidad.

Oir el viento del verano a la orilla
del lago me llena de calma.

Tocar el pelo sedoso de mi perro es
como tocar la alpaca.

Oler el aroma deliciosa de las flores
del jardin me recuerda cuando fui
al selva tropical en Costa Rica.

Mi mundo es grande y lleno de
aventuras pequeñas o grandes.

Y por eso estoy muy agradecida

Por Gillian Sherrill

Thankful

*To see my shiny brown dog, Buford, on
the beach makes me happy. To hear
the summer breeze on the shore of the
lake makes me feel calm. To touch the
sparkling and soft fur of a dog is like
the fur of a alpaca. To smell the
delicious aroma of the flowers in a
garden makes me remember the
rainforest in Costa Rica. My world is
big but filled with little and big
adventures and that makes me very
thankful!*

Árbol de invierno

Las ramas del árbol de invierno
son los tentáculos del pulpo
flotando en el mar

Son las raíces del aire
en el viento de febrero

Son los dedos de la madre tierra
que nos darán sombra del calor
y el aire de vida
el árbol duerme
las ramas duermen

Por la clase de Lynn



Salsa Ball

Silent Auction Sneak Peek

What is the XV Años?

Pronounced (keen-say ahn-yohs), and also known as the Quinceañera, the 15th birthday in Hispanic cultures is a big deal! This year MIS honors all the steps taken along its fifteen year path in the spirit of the Quinceañera.

Salsa Ball 2011 Menu

Fresh Salsa & Guacamole
Yellow Fin Tuna Ceviche & Avocado Canapés
Pork Belly Tamales w/ Chipotle Sour Cream

Dinner Salad with Mexican Buffet:
Braised Pork Carnitas with Green Chile Sauce

Vegetarian Enchiladas with corn, black beans, cotija cheese, and a chipotle pumpkin sauce

Chicken Fajitas with black beans, rice, and corn tortillas

Dessert

Compliments of Bernice's Bakery
Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaf and Hot Teas

Salsa Ball Entertainment:

- **Live Jazz/Blues Duo**
- **Hot Salsa Nights:** DJ Andre Hensen, band member with MIS parent Luke Schelvan, plays until Midnight. For more information, visit <http://www.hotsalsanights.info/>
- **Salsa dance lessons** with guest instructors: MIS teacher, Patty Cano and Adam Young, UM student teacher and Salsa dance instructor.
- **Games:**
 - “**So You Think You Know Me?**” Find a partner and join the game that turns friends, partners, fiancés and odd couples into complete strangers who know way too much!
 - “**Jeopardy!**” Back by popular demand, with your favorite host, Brad Chumrau, joined by celebrity guest teachers!



There is something for everyone in this year's silent and live auction. MIS families and local businesses generously give to help create a variety of items and services. Take a peek:



Hand painted ceramic pendant, made by MIS parent Kim West.



BREAD FOR A YEAR
Enjoy one loaf of bread each month and a lovely, French butter dish, donated by Le Petit Outre and Butterfly Herbs.

MIS greatly appreciates the generous support of businesses and individuals, helping MIS reach its goal to raise \$30, 000 for financial aid!

Salsa Ball Sponsors to Date

American Mortgage
Bernice's Bakery
Boyle, Deveny, Meyer
Nancy and William Chumrau
D.A. Davidson & Co.
Missoula Downtown Association
Missoula Veterinary Clinic
Good Food Store
Laura Perkovic, Attorney at Law
Merrill Lynch
Michelle and Carl Thornblade
Twin Cranes Dental

RSVP before February 22nd to receive your tickets to a great night out at Salsa Ball 2011!! For more information or to sponsor a table, contact: boconnell@mismt.org

MIS Explores Movement

The long winters in Montana can be a challenge for those of us trying to remain active. The students at MIS beat the winter doldrums in PE class by exploring many different ways of moving. The kindergarten through third grade students started four weeks of ice skating in January. The students showed patience and a commitment to work through the challenges of moving on ice. The fourth through eighth graders have just begun their five weeks of skiing.

In January, we had two guests who introduced us to martial arts. Mr. James Corbin, from Championship Training, came in to many of the classes to teach an introduction to the Korean martial art Taekwondo. We learned about the history of the sport, proper etiquette, as well as some basic moves. Our middle school students were also introduced to the Brazilian dance/martial art of Capoeira. Chris Mathers has received informal training in Capoeira and spent time with each middle school class,

teaching about the history of Capoeira, showing us some video clips, and introducing a few of the basic steps. Two more guests will join the middle school classes this February: Susan and Scott Locken, leaders of the Mud-dogs, will give an introduction to Rugby and Béa Rodriguez will teach an introductory Hip Hop dance class. We are so grateful to be able to learn the many ways around the world to stay active and healthy.

We have a student teacher in PE class this winter. Jessica Stewart is a UM student majoring in Health and Human Performance (HHP) and minoring in Spanish. She is with us until mid March and will be spending her mornings with Patty's class and her afternoons with me in the gym.

I also want to say a big thank you to all the parents who have volunteered their time to chaperone for our winter fieldtrips. We appreciate all of your help in making this a successful and adventurous winter.





By Jessica Eirkson
PE Teacher



We believe our community of learners will **impact the world** in positive ways as we **embrace international friendships**, share information and ideas in **multiple languages** and forge **creative solutions** through **cross-cultural dialogue**.

☺☺ Looking ahead...

February 2011		March 2011	
14	Valentine's Day 	13	Daylight Savings Time begins
21 NO SCHOOL	President's Day	14 NO SCHOOL	Professional Development Day
18 11:30—12:45 P.M. <i>Presented at MCPS Lewis & Clark School</i>	PA Council Brown Bag Series: Helping Siblings Live Harmoniously Join parents and educators during the lunch hour for FREE pizza and helpful discussion. This is a Families First workshop.	17	St. Patty's Day 
26	SALSA BALL 2011	25	PA Council Brown Bag Series TBA
COMING UP... Friday, April 1—Parent/Teacher Conferences—NO SCHOOL			

MIS Middle School Begins Global Collaboration for Challenge 20/20 Program

The MIS middle school is excited to be participating in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) *Challenge 20/20* program. According to the NAIS website, “Challenge 20/20 brings together schools in the United States with schools in other countries. Together they identify local solutions to a global problem. The global economy, technological advances, and increased mobility and networking have led to an increasingly interdependent world. Schools have the opportunity to educate students to become leaders in this new global environment. Challenge 20/20 students form authentic bonds with students from around the globe. They learn first-hand about cross-cultural communication. Together the teams tackle a real problem and their interaction opens up new perspectives and networks.”



MIS is collaborating with the Gillispie School in La Jolla, California and Elyon School in Nairobi, Kenya. NAIS has challenged our schools to work on the global problems facing fisheries.

The middle school students began researching problems facing fisheries as part of their work in their current events journals. Students are also creating a short video about MIS and Missoula to share with our new friends around the world.

To read about past Challenge 20/20 projects, visit www.nais.org/go/challenge2020

Jeffrey Kessler
Assistant Head of School

DID YOU KNOW?



MIS has its very own digital photo album where you can download or order gifts of your favorite moments at MIS. It's easy! Simply visit www.mismt.org and click on the digital photo album. Password: mismt