

September 2007

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
& Amigos Schools

Library Newsletter  
Sarah Novogrodsky  
snovogrodsky@cpsd.us

# Between the Lines



- The library needs volunteers. If you are interested in assisting half an hour or more, on a regular basis, please contact Sarah.
- Save the dates Oct. 10-12 for our **Scholastic Book Fair**. Books in English and Spanish. Volunteers needed.

## Current Library Hours

Monday 8:30-2:30  
Tuesday 9-3  
Wednesday 9-3  
Thursday 9-3  
Friday 9-3

Please check out our website and blog <http://www.cpsd.us/MLK/library.cfm>

## New Library is Open for Business

What a joy to begin the new year with a new library! Last year the library suffered the effects of a burst water pipe the day before Halloween. City custodians worked all night to clean up the five inches of water, soaked carpeting, and ruined books and computers. The silver lining in this disaster was that the school department agreed to fund the renovations for the library.

After the excitement of having our blueprints approved, the harsh reality of living without a library set in. We went through many phases (see photo to right) and eventually the students and staff became accustomed to living with large orange Rent-a-Crates full of our books. By May, the new floor and new furniture were in place. We are still waiting for a few finishing touches, but the library is looking very inviting. The read-aloud area is cozy with a

colorful new rug—a gift from Friends of Amigos. New books in English, Spanish and Chinese are on display. Classes have begun. It's a new year in the King/Amigos Library!



New Rug September 2007



## Your Brain on Books

Tufts University Professor Ms. Maryanne Wolf describes what happens in our brains when we read. Her new book *Proust and The Squid: The Story of the Science of the Reading Brain* explains what our brain does as it learns to

read and how it grows with us as we grow as readers. The act of reading gives us the opportunity “to try on, identify with, and even enter for a brief time the wholly different perspective of someone else.” (M. Wolf, Tufts Maga-

zine, p. 19) The library will have a copy available soon. You can also download an interview with Wolf from WBUR-On Point -Sept. 7.



## Connecting with the Public Library

Help your child remember to return school library books. Ask him/her what day of the week borrowed books are due back at school. Thanks!



At the end of the 2006-2007 school year, our friends from the Cambridge Public Library spoke to the students about the summer reading program. If you were around this summer, we hope you took advantage of some of the free programs and air-conditioned libraries with



New library cards.

great books. This Fall the public librarians will visit us again to promote their **Library Card Campaign**. The campaign is directed at kindergarteners, but we keep applications in the library for anyone who needs a card. In October the public librarians help us to promote **Teen Read Week** with booktalks of great new books for teens.

Our relationship with the public libraries provides us with many online databases for our students and staff to use in school and at home. All you need is a library card with a patron number.



**Our mission is to provide a library program & environment which nurtures students' intellectual & social growth.  
King/Amigos Library**

## Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2008

Every year the 4th, 5th and 6th graders of Massachusetts are invited to read books from a list of 25 titles. In February they vote on their favorite book and that title is awarded the Massachusetts Children's Book award. For the authors who receive the award, it is an honor to have been selected by their young readers. The

librarian presents a Power Point to the 4-6 graders to introduce the titles and then we are off and reading.

Students may also have the titles read aloud to them. Some of the teachers are going to read books out loud to jump start the program. This year's selection is wonderful. One of the exciting

things is that several titles are the first in trilogies, so if a reader is really hooked by a story, there's more waiting for them on the shelf.

See <http://www.salemstate.edu/education/mcba.com> to access the complete list of titles.

## Lit Bits

Quick, get a copy of *The Dark is Rising* by Susan Cooper or *The Golden Compass* by Philip Pullman. They'll soon be in the movie theaters and you'll want to read them before they are on the big screen.

Author Susan Cooper will be in Cambridge on November 14 and 15 as a guest of the Public Library.

### New Titles in the Library

*The Legend of the First Marathon* by Susan Reynolds  
*King Midas and The Golden Touch* by Demi  
*Pandora* by Robert Burleigh  
*The Hero and the Minotaur* by Robert Byrd  
*Nightsong - The Legend of Orpheus and Eurydice* by Michael Cadnum

*Corydon & the Island of Monsters* by Tobias Druitt

*Roman Mythology: Romulus and Remus* by Tom Daning

