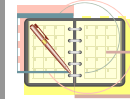


# The Powder Room Press...



## POINTS TO TAKE NOTE OF:

- \* Book Talk Wednesday December 3rd @ 3:15 in media center
- \* First semester finals: Thursday and Friday, December 17th and 18th
- \* There is School Friday, December 19th
- \* Winter Break- No School December 22nd- January 5th - Classes resume January 6th

## If We Abuse It, We Will Lose It...

By Krista Brakhage

As you have probably noticed by now, the Internet is a bit more accessible. Educational sites that were inexplicably blocked just two weeks ago are now open.

Several weeks ago, four representatives of Poudre High School met with district Instructional Technology personnel to discuss the impact of the new Internet filter, *WebWasher*. Our representatives included Principal Sandra Lundt, Building Technology Coordinator Roslyn Lang, and two students, Derek Barisas and Adrienne Craig. They were joined by

two students and two staff members from Rocky Mountain High School. At issue were student and staff concerns over the excessively restrictive nature of the district's new Internet filtering software. Ms. Craig and Mr. Barisas were especially effective and articulate in expressing their concerns. Mr. Barisas told district officials that he no longer even attempts to do research at school. With the filter in place, research becomes an exercise in futility. This seemed to have great impact on the district officials. What, after all, is the point of our investment in technology if the filtering software renders it useless?

Now that the filtering restrictions have been loosened, what are our responsibilities? Each and every one of us is duty bound to utilize school computers for educational purposes **only**. Our representatives argued that high school students need more open access for educational research and that they are mature and responsible enough to respect reasonable boundaries. So please, use the Internet and school computers to further your educational goals. Don't play games, search for inappropriate images, or access social networking sites. This is school. You know what is, and is not, appropriate.

**And remember, if we abuse it, we will lose it!**



## Toilet Trivia

**Question:** What word is said to be the longest non-scientific word in the English Language?

**Answer:** The first person to Mrs. Brakhage in the Media Center with the correct answer wins a prize.



**Fresh new smells...**

**enter the Media Center!** By Sara Johnson

New smells of what you may ask? If you are an avid book reader or just simply like books you will know what smell lurks throughout the bindings of a new book. It is a smell that can not possibly be described. It is the smell that runs throughout the book as you read each and every chapter. If you still do not know what smell lurks throughout new books, then go to the media center, go to the new book table, and pick up a new a book. After you have picked up a new book, open it up to discover the new book smell that you have been missing since you started reading! And do not feel weird for smelling a book, just try it!

**Check out our collection of New Books in the media Center!**



Also check out our new animated webpage... Just go to PHS homepage and click on media to see a short movie made from Voki.



Stamp of Approval

