

McNeil Canyon Elementary

Magpie

September 4, 2020

Volunteer Opportunities

- Serve as a Room Representative
- Help in your student's classroom
- Coast Walk Clean-up Field Trip

No School Monday – Labor Day

There is no school Monday, September 7th. Enjoy your 3-day weekend!

Harvest Fair and Virtual Open House By: Corise and Ashley

This year our annual Open House will occur virtually on Thursday, September 10th. Classroom teachers will be communicating their open house details to their classroom parents soon. All blogs/videos will be posted to our school website within the Events page.

Students are invited to bring fruits, vegetables and flowers to this year's Harvest Fair. Bring your entry to display at school on the morning of **Thursday, Sept. 10th**. Consider which category suits your entry best:

- Largest . . . vegetable, fruit, grain, leaves, and flowers
- Smallest . . . vegetable, fruit, grain, leaves and flowers
- Unusual Looking. . . vegetable, fruit, grain and flowers
- Harvest Hat . . . Decorate one or make one with fruits, vegetables or flowers
- Tiniest flower arrangement
- Most colorful flower arrangement
- Smelliest – good or bad
- Creations: (children attempt to create characters or objects with vegetables i.e. stick a carrot on a potato face for a nose)
 - Funniest
 - Dragons
 - Unique Setting or Scene
 - Camouflage Creatures
- Family Project (any category)
- People's Choice (students will vote for the entry they consider most outstanding)

Entries will be viewed and voted on during the day by students. We will be posting results along with pictures on our school Facebook page.

Scholastic News

Scholastic News is a publication that many teachers find very informative for students. Due to budget cuts, we are asking parents to please pay \$5.00 (for students in Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 only), so we can continue to receive this publication. This fee was included on the supply list and many students have paid. We would like to remind those who have not had a chance to pay yet to please do so. Thank you.

Beach Coast Walk – Parent Helpers Needed

Our Annual Beach Coast Walk and School Ground Clean-Up Day will be held on Thursday, Sept. 17th. Please turn in your child's permission slip as soon as possible. Students will need a sack lunch (or order one from the school kitchen), rubber boots, warm coat and rain gear.

All students will travel by bus into Homer and clean up beaches as part of the Coast Walk organized by the Center for Alaska Coastal Studies. They will be returning to McNeil before the end of the school day. With the help of students, parents and staff, our goal is to collect 1,000 pounds of garbage on Thursday, September 17th.

In combination with this all-school project, we will be collecting pledges from our friends and families to help fund field trips and special classroom needs this year. Collection envelopes are being sent home today. All envelopes **MUST BE RETURNED** by Monday, September 28th whether you collect any pledges or not.

Parent helpers are needed to help with this event to: accompany classes to town to help watch the students as they do their clean up, take gathered bags of trash to the landfill to get them weighed and make hot chocolate & apple cider for the students when they return. Contact Joy in the office or your child's teacher if you can help. Thank you.

Newsletter by e-mail?

Some families have opted to receive our weekly school newsletters by e-mail. If you would prefer to get newsletters by e-mail instead of a paper copy, contact Joy in the office.

Symptom Free School Protocol: How Does This Affect You and Your Child

The vast majority of students sent home for symptoms of illness will not have COVID-19. Adherence to the Symptom Free Schools Protocol keeps our schools open and safe. If your child stays home with symptoms of illness or is sent home by the school, they may continue to learn remotely. Talk to your teacher and your school nurse. Set yourself and your student up to win before you get the call from your school nurse. Create a transportation plan. Your school nurse can guide you through your choices of staying home, being tested and understanding when your child can return to in-person learning. The symptom-free protocol along with wearing masks, keeping physical distancing when possible and frequent hand washing will help keep us healthier. Have questions? Challenges? Call Nurse Sherrie at 235-8181. Together we can get through this.

Soggy Kids

We are most definitely in our rainy wet season! Kids will be going outside for recess to enjoy the season change and to get fresh air. Please make sure your child comes to school prepared with rain boots, rain jacket, warm clothes and an extra set of clothes in case the puddle splashing gets a little crazy!

This Space Reserved for Student Comics:

Student Comics Wanted for the 2020-21 School Year!

Submit yours in the green box at the front desk. Templates available upon request.