

October 13, 2009



McCoy News

Sign up for the McCoy E-news bulletins!

www.georgetownisd.org/mccoy/

Be the first on your block to know what is going on at McCoy. We send out periodic information via this e-news bulletin.

October 30: Please remember that we have our Halloween parade on Friday October 30, at 9:30. It's a great time to make a good memory for your child's elementary school experience.

Please do not send candy and sweets, to share, with your scholar on October 30. The dates for allowing non-nutritional food in our classrooms this year are December 18, February 12 and June 1. Campuses are only allowed three non-nutritional food days per year.

From the Principal's Desk

I have learned many things from the students whom I have taught and for whom I have been a principal. One factor that I have learned from my students is that most all kids are gifted in something....academics, communication, kines-
thetics, athletics, art, music, leadership, etc. When we show students and acknowledge to them that we know they are gifted, we can help them gain confidence, positive self-identity and personal self worth. It is a process....we can't just tell them once and have them internalize it; we need to remind them often and constructively. The facts we teach our students everyday are immensely valuable, but along with teaching them we can do some-

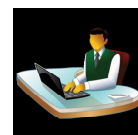
thing else that is very valuable, and that is to care for our students and let them know that they are gifted.

The one thing I would like everyone to know is that the giftedness that our scholars have is unique to the individual. I had a young 4th grader tell me recently that she had found 3 little kittens that seemed to have been abandoned, and she took it upon herself to feed and care for the kittens. In my point of view, having the heart and inclination to do something like that is an indication of giftedness. I've seen another scholar, 4th grader, be very eloquent in his speaking style, articulation, and confidence. I had to do a double take

and remember that he was only a 4th grader; clearly this young man was a gifted communicator. Then there are the two scholars who have artwork posted on our campus website; it's fabulous art, good enough to promote and frame....clearly these two are gifted.

Giftedness comes in many ways, shapes and forms, and it's important that we all help our students identify and build upon their gifts and talents. I for one will do my best to make that happen at McCoy Elementary.

*Tony
Dominguez,
Principal*



From Your Assistant Principal

McCoy scholars are very self-disciplined. They know the rules and follow directions well. This is an indication of fabulous teaching from their parents/guardians and from previous schools. Each scholar is expected to be respectful to all those around him or her. Actions and words are the focus of our positive approach.

There are two areas that some students need to improve: completion of homework and treating others with respect and kindness. These behaviors are expected at McCoy. The teacher and administration will communicate with you when scholars are acting negatively or not in their own best interest.

Brenda Jirasek, Assistant Principal

Attendance

It's great to have perfect attendance, but the realities of this school year are such that perfect attendance may not be possible for all students. The flu bug, in all its varieties, has hit all the campuses in Georgetown, and we need to be aware that being sick, having a fever and just plain feeling bad is a good reason to stay home. Keeping a child home can help a child recuperate better and keep other students from getting ill as well.

Other reasons for an absence must also be noted. Absences due to students leaving on va-

cation or other planned absences should be reconsidered in light of the possibility that a prolonged illness may put a student in danger of missing credit due to excessive absences.

Current education law indicates that a student who misses more than 10% of the school year (for any reason) may have credit denied for that school year. An attendance committee will meet toward the end of the year to review students with excessive absences and determine if the absences were unforeseen (illness, injury, grave family issue) or planned (vacations, leaving school

early). It is possible that some students will be denied credit due to excessive absences and will be required to make up the absences in summer school or other ways.

All district attendance policies are posted on the district website; if you'd like additional guidance on attendance issues please call for an appointment with Mrs. Jirasek or Mr. Dominguez.



Thursday – October 15 FOGGS Concert – GHS PAC

McCoy Elementary 4th and 5th graders have been invited to attend the FOGGS Concert at the Georgetown High School Performance Center. The FOGGS Concert is an instructional opportunity to expose students to classical music and to teach them a little about the history and technique. The concert will center on the playing of the piano.

- 5th – Load Buses @ 9:30
- 4th – Load Buses @ 12:00

From the Counselor's Office

In the coming weeks all parents will have the opportunity to refer their scholar for screening to the GISD Gifted and Talented Program. Information will be sent home with students in their Tuesday folder and will outline the requirements for referring a student for Gifted and Talented testing. The GISD Gifted and Talented focus for elementary schools is academic based. The target score to qualify for the Gifted and Talented Program is the 96th percentile. If parents have any questions, please contact Mrs. Doerfler, McCoy Elementary counselor, at 943-5032.

Library News

Thanks to everyone for saving your Sonic tabs for the McCoy library! We were chosen to receive funds for our project, "Books for Backpacks". Thanks to Sonic and you, we received 66 new books for our literacy library!

We are now collecting Sunny D UPC labels for free books. Send them to the library, please.

Mark your calendars for our 3rd annual "Lit Night" on Monday, October 26th. Come hear spooky stories from around the world and enjoy some fun activities.

It starts at 6:00 p.m. and the storyteller will speak at 7:00.

McCoy Bookfair: October 26th- October 30th

Monday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday - Thursday 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer for the bookfair, call Mrs. Pierce at 943-5033.

Girls' Book Club will begin in November! Watch for more info coming home.

PTA Information

Upcoming events:

- Tuesday, October 20, Muffins for Moms, in the cafeteria from 7:15 to 7:50!
- Tuesday, October 20, Cici's Pizza night, 6:30 to 8:30
- Tuesday, October 20, Cookie Dough pick up, in the gym
- Friday, October 30, Fall Cook-out, outside the cafeteria (weather permitting) @ your child's lunch period.
- Tuesday, November 3, McCoy PTA board meeting, 8:15, in the library.

The cookie dough fundraiser was a success. Quite a bit of money was raised for many of the extra school activities at McCoy. Mrs. Watson, our PTA president, wants to pass along many, many thank yous to all the parents and volunteers who helped organize the cookie dough sale. Without the help of all the parents and volunteers involved McCoy would not have had such a successful venture.

1.) Thank You to all our PTA Volunteers!

PTA had a lot of activities this past month and lots of great help from parents! This includes mentors & everyone behind the scenes who help to brighten everyone's day! Thank You!

2.) Thanks to Kathy Litos for donating all the homemade breakfast treats & coffee for last week's PTA Board mtg.

3.) Thanks to 5th grade parents for sponsoring our Fall Staff Appreciation Luncheon which was a very delicious Hawaiian Delight lunch catered by Down the Alley Bistro!

4.) Breast Cancer Awareness Month:

McCoy Elementary is collecting the Pink YoPlait yogurt lids in the front office.

5.) Box Tops - keep them coming!

The September class winner was Mrs. Pernicka's 3rd grade class with just over 1,100 box tops! All of Mrs. Pernicka's students were awarded an ice cream coupon.

Whose class is going to win for October?

6.) We need YOU!

If you have 30 minutes to give, come be a mentor & make a difference in a scholar's life today! Contact Mrs. Doerfler or PIE.

7.) Thank you to our McCoy Dads & scholars for attending our "Donuts for Dads" on Oct. 13th! It was very exciting to see all of you come in for Breakfast with your scholars!! Due to the large turnout, we did run out of breakfast early and we apologize for that, but we now know an approximate number to prepare for our spring "Donuts for Dads". Thank you again for your attendance...it means lots to your scholars to spend that time with them. Thank you for taking that time out of your busy schedules!

McCoy PTA

Dyslexia Happenings

Community Forum Dates for 2009-2010

The forum sessions include different parent networks, i.e., Special Education, Dyslexia, ADD/ADHD, and Gifted and Talented. You can check out the G.I.S.D. web page for other educational topics that are of interest to you as well. The

forum sessions are scheduled for Tuesday nights this year instead of Thursday night. Pizza will be served from 6:30 to 6:50 p.m. Translators are available for all sessions with advanced notice. Additionally, childcare and/or a homework area is available during the networking sessions from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The location for the forum is the Georgetown High School Annex. The dates for the G.I.S.D. Community Forum

are as follows:

- Tuesday, Oct 20, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 19, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 16, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 23, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

From the Nurse's Office



Seasonal Flu Shots/Flu Mist

Forbes Middle School Nurse, Lindsey Love, RN, has received a shipment of the *Seasonal* Flu vaccine for children ages 2-18 years. She has 500 doses of the Flu-Mist and 100 doses of the flu shot (for those who can not get the mist, such as children with asthma).

These vaccines are provided through the Texas Vaccine for Children Program and will be free if the family is on a) Medicaid; b) CHIPS; c) has no insurance; or d) can not afford the co-pay.

Family must call in advance to make an appointment with the Forbes School Nurse, call Lindsey Love, RN, at 943-5159.

3rd Grade Field Trip

Third grade scholars will be traveling to Sweet Berry Farms in Marble Falls on Friday, October 16. This field trip will allow the students to review science and social studies material. The science material instruction will include identifying different landforms. The social studies instruction will include direction identification and map use.

Other opportunities include visiting a pumpkin patch, hayride, corn shucking, hayfield maze, stuffing a scarecrow, and seeing farm animals. We will end our visit with homemade ice cream.



Report Cards

The first report card will be sent home in the Tuesday folder on October 27. Please be on the lookout for it!