



“Together, We Are Better”

THE MANATEE MESSENGER

McMullen Booth Elementary Newsletter

February 27, 2009



Kathy Wickett, Principal

Sherry Aemisegger, Asst. Principal

Principal's Corner

I want to give a very special thank you to all of our volunteers and mentors!! Your dedication to our students is incredible and because of you we can help our students achieve at higher levels. I also want to recognize the work that Barbara Hajko does every year to support our volunteers. Thank you so much for going over and above to make every volunteer and mentor an integral part of our school!

All year our students have been working hard on applying the learning strategies they have been working on in reading, writing, math, science and social studies. Now our 3rd – 5th graders will have the opportunity to shine as they show off all that they have been learning. These students will be taking the FCAT tests for reading and math (and science for 5th grade only) from March 10 – 19. I know that they will rise to the challenge of putting into practice all of the skills and strategies that they know. I am so proud of all of our students and encourage them to put their best foot forward during these assessments.

Included in this newsletter is important information about registration for the 2009-2010 school year. Please refer to the Parent Update section of the newsletter for these details. If your child is currently enrolled at McMullen Booth and you want them to stay here next year you will want to be sure to read the registration information so you don't miss any deadlines.

~ Kathy Wickett, Principal

Next School Year Registration

Please see the attached “Parent Update” for important registration information!

Dates To Remember

- Feb. 27 Report Cards Distributed, Grades 1st-5th
- Mar. 9 SAC Meeting, 7:15 am, Conference Room
- Mar. 10-19 FCAT Testing, Grades 3rd-5th
- Mar. 12 Market Day Pickup, 2:00-3:00 pm, Cafeteria
- Mar. 24 Field Day, Kdg & 1st
- Mar. 25 Field Day, 4th & 5th
- Mar. 26 Field Day, 2nd & 3rd
- Mar. 30- Apr. 3 Spring Break, No School
- Apr. 17 Earth Day Celebration (during PE class)
- May 9 Family Fun Day, 11 am – 2 pm
(details to follow)

Thank You Community Partner!

Thanks to Sharon Micek of Sam's Books at the Oldsmar Flea Market! Sharon came to school to purchase some of the leftover books from our Reading Under the Stars Used Book sale. This added \$75 to our Media Assistant fund. Please support this school partner!

2009-2010 Student Planners

We are ordering our student planners for the 2009-2010 school year, and thanks to the contributions of many business owners, our school will save thousands of dollars!

If you are a business owner who would like to participate, or you would like to nominate your favorite business, medical office or service, please contact our business partner: American Fundraising Services at (813)888-9824 or email NancyD@fundsrus.net

This is a wonderful opportunity to place a business advertisement or personal message that will be seen daily by several thousand customers for 10 months at one low price! Ask for Nancy or Jenn at American Fundraising for more information.

Community Happenings

The following flyers are located in the school office, and you are welcome to stop by and pick up any papers that interest you.

*Flag Football-Soccer-Cheerleading Spring Season Registration;
for more information call (813)982-9583 or visit their website at www.i9sports.com

* Science & Nature Explorers Safari Spring Camp, Ages 6 – 11, March 30 – April 3, 2009, Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 2750 Park Trail Lane, Clearwater, FL 33759. Call for registration and program information (727) 462-6024.

*ITZ Thunder Basketball Tryouts -U16 Girls, Open House for Zone Elite for Girls 1:00-3:00pm
Saturday, February 28, 2009, Long Center, Clearwater

*ITZ Spring Break Camp, April 1, 2009 & April 2, 2009, Long Center, Clearwater

*ITZ Basketball League, Highland Recreation Center, Largo, April 11-June 6, 2009
Please call (727) 460-1904 for additional information for ITZ activities.

The school is neither endorsing nor sponsoring the events nor approving or endorsing the views of the organization sponsoring the activity.



FAMILY & COMMUNITY RELATIONS



Thanks to all who attended our "Garden of Volunteers" Appreciation Breakfast this morning. We had a great turnout! McMullen Booth volunteers are very special and we hope we were able to convey that message to each of you today!

A special thank you to the 5th grade Honors Chorus for starting the morning off so beautifully, to the staff who provided the tasty treats for the buffet and many of our door prizes, and to Mrs. Butler and the 1st grade team and students for the great entertainment. We were able to enjoy the highlights of our volunteer activities thanks to the efforts of Mark & Paula Keyser who put together the DVD shown during breakfast today. Thanks to the Student Council members who assisted with door prizes and table cleanup. They did a great job! I would also like to thank Peggy, our cafeteria manager, Tim, our HPO and his crew, and the folks who stayed late and came in extra early to help me set up. The special events are only possible with the efforts of many and I greatly appreciate your help.

There are still many exciting events scheduled for the remainder of this school year. Please plan to join us and have some fun!

~ **Barbara Hajko, Family & Community Liaison**

*"Do your little bit of good wherever you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."
Archbishop Desmond Tutu*

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR HELP!

Enterprise Village at the Stavros Institute is in desperate need of volunteer help for school visits that are scheduled through the end of the year. This would be a wonderful way for us to share our McMullen Booth spirit of giving outside our own school community. I will be happy to discuss all the details and dates with you if you are interested. Please consider helping so deserving students are able to participate in this exciting educational experience! Call me at school if you are able to help!

Thanks for all you do!

~ **Barbara Hajko, Family & Community Liaison**

CAN YOU HELP?

We are in need of volunteers to help in the Media Center on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If you have a few hours to spare each week on one of these days please call Barbara Hajko, Family & Community Liaison in the school office. Thanks for helping us provide our students with the wonderful services our Media Center has to offer!



Commitment to Character

Commitment to Character teaches life skills that empower students to solve their own problems through improved communication, problem solving, and critical thinking. When positive principles are learned early, students are more likely to follow them throughout their lives. Here are this week’s parent tips:

- * Use situations that occur (an incident at school, a television news report, a movie) to spark family discussions on important issues. Capitalize on the “teachable moment”.
- * Allow your children to solve their own day-to-day problems. Discuss options and offer encouragement but avoid “taking over” unless it is necessary.
- * Assign home responsibilities (taking out the trash, washing dishes) for all family members. Even very young children can be responsible for simple tasks. As children mature, allow them to experience more and more opportunities to be responsible.
- * Set clear expectations for your children and consistently hold them accountable for their actions. Make sure they know the rules and consequences. When they break the rules, be sure they experience appropriate consequences.
- * Look for opportunities to reward wise decisions and desirable behavior, rather than focusing on the negative.

Adopt-A-Class Update

On behalf of all the children, teachers, and staff at McMullen Booth, we wish to sincerely thank the following Adopt-A-Class Partners in Education!

Tiffany & Robert Shinn

Again, thanks very much! Below is a list of classes/programs that could still use help finding adopters. Please stop by the office for a membership form or call 669-1800.

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Tara Thompson – 1st Grd | Bus Driver Recognition Program | Clinic |
| Barbara Babler – PE | Cooney/Miller – Speech | Linda Crawley - Art |
| Sandra Everett – PE | Tina Wallace – Kdg | Plant Operations |
| Susan Fisher – PE | Nancy Frederick – 1st Grade | Pat Whittaker – PreK |
| Donna Unger - Kdg | Evelyn Moldal – 3rd Grade | Carol Nelson – Autistic |
| Lora Polgar – Media Center | Barbara Reder – 2nd Grd | Penny Taub – VE Res. |
| Liz Robles – 2nd Grade | Cynthia Dennis – Speech | Cafeteria |
| Stacy Peters – Behavior Spec. | Melody Martin – PreK | Laura Shawley – Autistic |
| Disadvantaged Student Fund | Marilyn Taylor – Marvelous Manatees | Barbara Hajko-Family & Community Involvement |



Safety Harbor Middle School PTSA
Volunteer Opportunities

Anyone who will be entering SHMS next year and might like to either be a part of the PTSA Board or just become involved in a committee please contact GiGi Rahman 727-434-4147 or e-mail at ggspt3@aol.com

Financial Help

In these trying times, if your economic status has changed since the beginning of school, please request a lunch program application from the school office. All information is confidential.



Earth Day Celebration – April 17th

The Earth Day Celebration will be Friday, April 17th during PE. So please mark your calendars and offer to volunteer to help out this day. Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets are located by the Volunteer computer. Each year our Earth Day Celebration grows and expands and we will need more volunteers to be successful.

~ **Carrol Steakley** - steakleyn@pcsb.org

Smencils Update

Smencils are all the rage at MBES this year! Unfortunately, we have had some problems with students using Smencils inappropriately at school. You should use your Smencil as you would any regular pencil. If inappropriate use continues, teachers will take Smencils away and return them at the end of the day and ask you to only use your Smencils at home. Please do your part so you can use your Smencil at school.

Counselor's Corner

Every parent knows that it is important to take time to listen and get to know one's children. But with today's busy schedules, how well are you doing? Try answering the following questions alone and then grade yourself by discussing them with your child. Scores of 11 to 15 show you talk with your child and know him/her well. Scores of 5 to 10 mean you know a lot about him/her but could improve. Scores under 5 show that you need to spend more time with him/her and listen more carefully.

- * Who is your child's best friend?
- * What is your child's greatest fear?
- * What are your child's favorite and least favorite subjects in school?
- * What is your child's favorite food and what is the most dreaded?
- * What is your child's most prized possession?
- * What does your child feel is his/her greatest talent?
- * What does your child like least about his/her looks?
- * What does your child want to be when he/she grows up?
- * What household chore does your child like least?
- * What is your child's favorite family occasion?
- * What is your child's biggest complaint about the family?
- * What sport does your child most enjoy playing?
- * What would your child like to change about him/herself?
- * What embarrasses your child the most?
- * What person outside the family has influenced your child the most?

I hope you enjoy taking this quiz and then conferring with your own "in-house" expert for the correct answers. It should be thought and conversation provoking. Your child will love answering these questions and seeing if YOU were wrong for a change!



GOOD MORNING!

McMullen's Cafe

Week of 3/2-3/6

- Mon 3/2** Omelet
Cereal
Breakfast Bar
- Tue 3/3** Pancake/Sausage Sandwich
Cereal
Grits
- Wed 3/4** Breakfast Pizza Pocket
Cereal
Oatmeal
- Thu 3/5** Chicken on a Biscuit
Cereal
Grits
- Fri 3/6** Cinnamon Roll
Cereal

Week of 3/9-3/13

- Mon 3/9** Honey Bun
Cereal
Oatmeal
- Tue 3/10** Ham & Egg on Muffin
Cereal
Grits
- Wed 3/11** Cheese Grits & Sausage
Cereal
Oatmeal
- Thu 3/12** Pancakes
Cereal
Grits
- Fri 3/13** Tastries
Cereal
Oatmeal

Week of 3/2-3/6

- Mon 3/2** #1 Popcorn Chicken
#2 Baked Potato w/Cheese
#3 None
#4 Chicken Caesar Salad
#5 Ham & Cheese Sandwich
- Tue 3/3** #1 Tacos
#2 Maxstick w/Sauce
#3 None
#4 Chicken BLT Salad
#5 Bologna & Cheese Sandwich
- Wed 3/4** #1 Cheeseburger
#2 Popcorn Chicken
#3 Ravioli
#4 Mandarin Chicken Salad
#5 Turkey Sandwich

- Thu 3/5** #1 Spaghetti
#2 Breaded Chicken
#3 None
#4 Farmer's Salad
#5 Tuna Salad Sandwich
- Fri 3/6** #1 Pepperoni Pizza
#2 Fish Sandwich
#3 Cheese Pizza
#4 Chef's Salad
#5 P B & J Sandwich

Week of 3/9-3/13

- Mon 3/9** #1 Chicken Patty on Bun
#2 Yogurt & Cheese
#3 None
#4 Chicken Caesar Salad
#5 Ham & Cheese Sandwich
- Tue 3/10** #1 Hot Turkey Sandwich
#2 Macaroni & Cheese
#3 None
#4 Chicken BLT Salad
#5 Bologna & Cheese Sandwich
- Wed 3/11** #1 Asian Chicken
#2 Chalupa
#3 Ravioli
#4 Mandarin Chicken Salad
#5 Turkey Sandwich
- Thu 3/12** #1 Cuban Pork
#2 Grilled Cheese
#3 None
#4 Farmer's Salad
#5 Egg Salad Sandwich
- Fri 3/13** #1 Pepperoni Pizza
#2 Fish Sticks
#3 Cheese Pizza
#4 Chef's Salad
#5 P B & J Sandwich

Cafeteria News

Have you wondered how much money is left on your child's lunch account? Well, now you can find out, and it's free! Go to www.mealpayplus.com. You will need your student's ID number (located on their negative balance letters). Enter the number as the ID and PIN number. You can check the status of the account, see what they have purchased and get e-mail alerts when the account falls below a certain amount (\$5.25 is a good number, that's 3 lunches left). All of this is available at no charge to you!

You can also, for a small fee, add money with a check, debit or credit card. When adding to the account, if there is a negative balance in the meals, make sure you add money to zero that out, as well as adding to the "general" account if your child is able to purchase ala carte items.

IMPORTANT

***** NOTICE *****
All Menus
Subject to Change

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, prohibits any and all forms of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, sex, religion, orientation or disability in any of its programs, services or activities.

