



"Together, We Are Better"

THE MANATEE MESSENGER

McMullen Booth Elementary Newsletter
October 3, 2008



Kathy Wickett, Principal

Sherry Aemisegger, Asst. Principal

Principal's Corner

Even though the weather is still warm, it is obvious throughout the school that fall has arrived at school. Classrooms have fall poetry displayed; fall decorations and themes throughout their rooms and the children have



become familiar with their daily routines. All classrooms have received their October Book of the Month, which is "Pumpkin Soup" written by Helen Cooper. It is an engaging book about friends who learn the meaning of cooperation to make their favorite food.

October is a busy month for us at MBES. We are working hard on the final touches for the Fall Festival (October 24) and scheduling first semester conferences. Your child's teacher will be contacting you regarding a conference so they can share with you your child's progress. MBES will be hosting a Meet Your Legislator Event on October 14 at 7:00 p.m. Please feel free to invite other community members to meet Senator Charlie Justice.

We will also be recognizing our students for displaying good character at our C2C assemblies on October 22! Thank you to our parents who help reinforce our core values of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Motivation at home.

Kathy Wickett, Principal

Important News

Hurricane Makeup Day – February 16, 2009

February 16, 2009, has been changed from a Pro Ed Day to an Early Dismissal Day. School will be in session on February 16 from 7:45 am – 11:45 am.

Last Chance to Buy School T-Shirts!

The last day to order school t-shirts is Wednesday, October 8.

Homework Helpline

Homework Helpline hours are from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday. The numbers are: 547-7223 or 442-3226. If you call and get a busy signal, keep trying! Some nights are busier than others.

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

Please remember our "School's Best Friend" program when you subscribe or renew your St. Pete Times subscription. Our school earns money for every new or renewed subscription that is submitted with payment through the school office. Order/renewal forms will be sent home with every student and additional copies are available in the main office.

*Please note: We cannot accept subscriptions which are paid by the "EZ Pay" Option.

Good News from the Cafeteria!

You can now manage your student's cafeteria account online! Please refer to the informational flyer that was included in your first day packet or go to www.mealpayplus.com or call 800-961-2103 for more information.

www.mbes.com

Community Happenings

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

*Clearwater Soccer Club Registration – Visit www.cysa.us for upcoming registration dates and locations.

*Dance & Cheerleading Classes, City of Clearwater Parks and Recreation Dept. For more information, call (813)885-2292 or www.AllAmericanYouth.org

*Holiday Nature & Science Camp for ages 6 – 11 at Moccasin Lake Nature Park, 8 days during Winter Holiday Break, call 462-6024 for more information.

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



FAMILY & COMMUNITY RELATIONS



The **Progress Energy Great American Teach In** is coming on **Wednesday, Nov.19!** This is your opportunity to go back to school to read a story, share your hobby, or teach us about your profession. Help us celebrate American Education Week by sharing the day with our students. A registration form was sent home with your child this week. Please complete it and return it to the office by **October 24**. Additional forms are available in the main office. I am also in need of several volunteers to photograph the day's activities. Please call me if you can help.

We are still in need of tutors, especially in math, in many of our classrooms. If you can help us out, please let me know.

Our team of Mentors continues to grow! Several of our volunteers are registered to take the Mentor training over the next few weeks. The list of students in need of a Mentor continues to grow, and we are always in need of additional volunteers. Please call me if you are interested in more information.

Thanks to all of you who have become Room Parents! We now have a room parent for every classroom in need of one. Your willingness to help is greatly appreciated by all of us.

Barbara Hajko, Family & Community Liaison

"It's not what you gather, but what you scatter, that tells what kind of life you have lived."

Commitment To Character



Respect, Honesty, Responsibility, Self-Motivation

Most parents (and educators) would say these are important qualities for children to display. McMullen Booth Elementary's Commitment to Character program discusses and educates students about these qualities and how to use them to become good citizens. Parents are encouraged to reinforce these qualities by using the same concepts at home.

The Commitment to Character program is designed around a common vocabulary that helps drive home the key concepts with repetition and generalization. The four key concepts of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Self-Motivation clearly describe the elements necessary for all of us to get along in a social situation, no matter what the religious, ethnic or racial background.

But what about the role of parents in encouraging their children to have commitment to character? When parents use the same language and concepts at home, it can help students learn how to know what behavior is right or wrong by asking themselves: Is this behavior Responsible? Honest? Respectful? Well-Motivated?

Respect means treating everyone and everything as valuable and not to be used for selfish purposes. Respect includes the character traits of kindness, empathy, sympathy and trust.

Responsibility means accepting that you control your own behavior and act in the best interest of all those involved. Responsibility includes character traits such as leadership, dependability, integrity and diligence.

Honesty means acting toward oneself and others according to what is true. Honesty includes the character traits of truthfulness, trustworthiness, integrity, honor and fairness.

Self-Motivation means having the drive to achieve one's best in practical goals and ideals. Self-Motivation includes the character traits of initiative, independence, discipline, courage and dedication.



HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

On Wednesday, October 15 and Thursday, October 16, students in grades PreK (as required), Kindergarten, 1st, and 3rd grades will have their hearing and vision checked by a county screening team here at school. Also any students new to Pinellas County will be included in the screening. It is important that students who wear eyeglasses have them available for the screening. If you would not like for your children to be screened, please send a written note to school indicating your wishes.

Annual School Report



The annual school report summarizing our school's results for last school year 2007-08 is now available at the school. This report is referred to as the No Child Left Behind School Public Accountability Report and is based on information provided by the Florida Department of Education. Please contact the school if you would like to review the report or receive a copy.



Fall Festival

Mark your calendar!!

We are having a Fall Festival on October 24 from 4:30 to 8:00 pm. We will have a rock wall, giant slide, giant castle, bungee run, Pit Stop racecar, many other game booths, a petting zoo,

pony rides, airbrush tattoo artist, golf station, pitching/batting station, a live DJ, and more! Our vendors include: Chick-Fil-A, Smoothie King, and Bernie's Coffee. Cotton Candy and popcorn will be on sale. We will hold raffles and have a cakewalk. Next week a flyer will be sent home with each student with information on purchasing arm bands for this event.

If you are interested in advertising your business or product(s) and would like to have a booth at this festival, or you would like to make a donation to be used in our raffle, please contact Laura Pohl at lauralpohl@yahoo.com



Congratulations to Mrs. Crawley, MBES Art Teacher! Her student entries received the highest scores in the 2008 FAEA K-12 Student Digital Exhibition. Mrs. Crawley will be honored at the FAEA Awards Reception in Orlando this month. Mrs. Crawley would like to thank the MBES PTA for their support in providing the entry fee for each child's artwork. This award would not have happened if not for the PTA's generous support. The following students' artwork was submitted:

**Michael Corey
Ashley Crawford,
Brittany Crawford
Hunter Cwiklinski
William Guerrera
Donald Halpin
Shannon Keelin
Amy Kemerer
Alexia Moreau
Julia Negron
Megan O'Malley
Wesley Penhallegon
Mia Radovanic
Bejadin Redzepe
Veronica Rivera
Sydney Samuels
Logan Shultz
Jenny Stalas
Johny Stryker**

Memory Book News

Our 2008-2009 Memory Book is currently on sale. The cost is \$25. Please purchase your Memory Book before the October 31 deadline. We do not order extra books to be sold at the end of the year, so please do not wait. If you have purchased a memory book, a receipt was sent home through you child. If you did not receive a receipt, please contact Laura Pohl at lauralpohl@yahoo.com or call 799-9368.

If you have pictures that you would like to submit for use in the Memory Book, place them on a CD and send them to the front office in an envelope marked "Memory Book."

Memory Book Committee



Nurse Notes

We are asking for your continued cooperation in assisting us to control the spread of communicable diseases at school. Our goal is to make our school a healthy, safe place for both students and staff.

We will continue to call you immediately if your child becomes ill during school hours. You are expected to arrange for your child to be picked up as quickly as possible after receiving our call. Our school clinic is not equipped nor staffed to handle ill children for long periods of time.

Please notify us immediately if telephone numbers or other information on your child's emergency card changes. The information on this card is vital for the safety and well being of your child. Please fill out this card and return it promptly to the office.

We ask you not to send your child to school if any of the signs/symptoms listed below are present:

- *Vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- *Fever within the past 24 hours
- *Sore/red throat
- *Persistent coughing or sneezing
- *Red, watery eyes
- *Rash
- *Earache or drainage from ears
- *Excessive or greenish-yellow mucus from nose

Your child should return to school as soon as the signs/symptoms are gone or when your physician provides a written statement indicating your child may return to school. If your child has a communicable disease, please call and notify us of the nature of the illness and when we can expect his/her return to school.

Please remember that NO medications, prescription or over-the-counter, may be brought to school without proper medical authorization and documentation. Please call the school office if you have any questions.

As always, I will be happy to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. I am available during school hours on Thursdays. Thank you for working with us.

Priscilla Wilson,
School Nurse

Counselor's Corner

When You Need Help

Help your child cope with the loss of a loved one. Sooner or later, someone your child loves will die. Since your child's loved one is also someone you care for, it may be hard for you to talk about what has happened.

Here are some ideas that may help you help your child:

*Be honest. Clearly, you will tell a sixth-grader more than a first-grader. Your child needs to know she can count on you for the truth.

*Be sensitive to her fears. If the person died in a hospital, your child may be afraid of going to the hospital. Talk with her about the good care people receive from doctors and nurses.

*Talk with your child about your family's beliefs. Your values will comfort you and your child.

*Make a photo album. Gather pictures of the person you lost. Talk about what happened when each picture was taken. These stories will help your child remember her loved one.

*Plant a tree. A tree is a living message that life does go on.

*Make a family donation to a charity in memory of someone you lost.

Source: William C. Kroen, *Helping Children Cope with the Loss of a Loved One*



Sweetbay Supports Schools

Visit Sweetbay 2519 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, from September 4, 2008 through December 4, 2008 and earn school dollars when you shop. Your qualifying purchases will help support our school!

www.mbes.com



GOOD MORNING!

McMullen's Cafe



Week of 10/6—10/10

Mon 10/6 Peanut Butter Graham Cereal Poptart

Tue 10/7 Max Stick Cereal Grits

Wed 10/8 Breakfast Pizza Cereal Oatmeal

Thu 10/9 Breakfast Turnover Cereal Grits

Fri 10/10 Cheese Toast Cereal Oatmeal

Week of 10/13—10/17

Mon 10/13 Honey Bun Cereal Grits

Tue 10/14 Egg Patty/Sausage Cereal Oatmeal

Wed 10/15 Breakfast Burrito Cereal Grits

Thu 10/16 Waffle Stick Cereal Oatmeal

Fri 10/17 Pro Ed Day No School for Students

Week of 10/6—10/10

10/6 Monday #1 Beef Dippers #2 Lasagna Roll-up #3 None #4 Chicken Caesar Salad #5 Ham & Cheese Sandwich

10/7 Tuesday #1 Roasted Chicken #2 Pork Choppette #3 Veggie Burger #4 Chicken BLT Salad #5 Bologna & Cheese Sandwich

10/8 Wednesday #1 Cheeseburger #2 Hamburger #3 Bean Burrito #4 Mandarin Chicken Salad #5 Turkey Sandwich

10/9 Thursday #1 Breakfast for Lunch #2 Rib-B-Que #3 None #4 Farmer's Salad #5 Tuna Salad Sandwich

10/10 Friday #1 Pepperoni Pizza #2 Fish Sandwich #3 Cheese Pizza #4 Shrimp Salad #5 P B & J Sandwich

Week of 10/13—10/17

10/13 Monday #1 Chicken Nuggets #2 Pasta w/Marinara Sauce #3 None #4 Chicken Caesar Salad #5 Ham & Cheese Sandwich

10/14 Tuesday #1 Meatball Sub #2 Mexican Lunchable #3 None #4 Chicken BLT Salad #5 Bologna & Cheese Sandwich

10/15 Wednesday #1 Shepherd's Pie #2 Hotdog #3 None #4 Mandarin Chicken Salad #5 Turkey Sandwich

10/16 Thursday #1 Sloppy Joe #2 Pizzatas #3 Yogurt Parfait #4 Mandarin Chicken Salad #5 Egg Salad Sandwich

10/17 Friday Pro Ed Day No School for Students

OCT-FEB Dates To Remember

Oct. 8 Last Day to Order School T-Shirts
Oct. 13 SAC Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center
Oct. 15 & 16 Vision & Hearing Screening – Grades PreK/Kdg/1st/3rd
Oct. 17 Pro Ed Day, No School for Students
Oct. 24 Fall Festival, 4:30 – 8:00 pm
Oct. 31 Deadline to Purchase Memory Book
Nov. 10 SAC Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center
Feb. 16 *Important Change!* Hurricane Makeup Day This day is no longer a Pro Ed Day. It is now an Early Dismissal Day. Dismissal will be 11:45 am.

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.