



DRAGON TALES

State Testing on Horizon

01 April 16

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The Alaska State Test for education, Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP) is just around the corner. This week, beginning on Monday, 29 Mar 16, the State testing began across the state. The test provider, located in Kansas, had an unfortunate event happen where their fiber optic cable was damaged by construction equipment. This has put testing across the state on hold for now. All of our 3rd-6th grade students will be participating in the tests that cover Language Arts and Math over the next four weeks and any students who miss tests will be able to make them up until the test window closes 29 Apr 16.

online. This necessitates them taking the test on a computer or approved device. Students and teachers have been practicing using the new format of testing and those efforts are indicating that students are ready for this new style of testing. Last year was our first experience with this new test and as expected our students scores were lower than their previous testing. This is a normal pattern in these kind of test changes. You will be receiving your students results in the mail sometime in Summer of this year.

As before, the test results are closely analyzed and it is important that students do their very best on these tests. It is also important your child is fed and well rested over these next few weeks.

The content has been aligned to the new Alaska State Standards and students will be taking the test entirely

Special points of interest:

- Testing
- Kindergarten & New Student Registration
- Spotlight Lunch
- Science Fair

Dates to Note:

Kindergarten & New Student Registration	14 Apr
Dress Like A Teacher Day	22 Apr
Science Fair	27 Apr
Volunteer Lunch	05 May

Volunteer Lunch

In honor of our many dedicated volunteers, we will be having a luncheon on Thursday, May 5th, at 11:50 am. We truly appreciate and depend on all of the help our school receives on a daily basis. We hope our volunteers can join us for this special event in their honor.

Jubilee News

Jubilee! A Celebration of Children's Art is a delightful way our community honors the arts for children. We will be having an exhibit of students' art here at school starting on April 14th. Meanwhile, the Community's Jubilee Celebration begins with two First Friday exhibits this Friday, April 1 from 5-7 p.m. at the Pratt Museum and Homer Council on the Arts. Both venues will include art works created by McNeil students alongside that of other students from other area schools.

Author & Illustrator Visit

Erin Mckittrick and Valisa Higman, author and illustrator of a book named "My Coyote Nose and Ptarmigan Toes: An Almost-True Alaskan Adventure" will visit our school on April 7th. If you wish to purchase a copy of their book, paperback is \$11 and Hardcover is \$18. Make checks out to Ground Truth Trekking.

Kindergarten/New Student Registration

It's time to register for the 2016-2017 school year. New kindergartners must be five years old on or before September 1, 2016. **Immunization records and birth certificate are required at registration.** Registration will be held on April 14th from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Kindergarten students are invited to visit the classroom from 10:20 – 11:20 am and stay for recess (accompanied by an adult) and lunch from 11:20 am – 12:20 pm. You can either bring your own lunch or purchase a school lunch for \$2.85 (children) and \$4.25 (adults.) It is important for us to know how many Kindergarten and New Students we are going to have next year for staffing purposes. **If you are unable to register your child on the dates indicated, please call the school office and let us know your child plans on attending McNeil Canyon this Fall.**

Child Find Preschool Screenings

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Child Find Program will be offering free screenings for children not yet in Kindergarten (3 to 5 years old). The screening will be held in Homer at the McNeil Canyon School on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We will screen your child's motor skills, speech, early learning concepts, vision & hearing. Children will be seen by appointment only. To make an appointment, please call the McNeil Canyon School @ 235-8181. For more information contact Robin @ 714-8930.

Science Fair

We will be having a Science Fair on Wednesday, April 27th. There are a lot of science fair project websites to help you with ideas. Here are some:

www.sciencebuddies.org or www.sciencebob.com or [http://](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/)

school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/ Do some research! Make a Collection! Do a Demonstration! Perform an Experiment! Display boards are available for purchase in the office for \$4.00. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Ware, aware@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

Community Council Meeting

Community Council will meet on Thursday, March 14th at 1 pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

Spotlight Students

The following students have been selected as Spotlight Students for the month of April: Sydney Abell, Cohen Boyd, Liam Dooley, Ben Engebretsen, Kiernyn Huffman, Shania Jones, Tilea Lockwood, Willow Rutter, Kiprian Reutov, Riley Huffman, Kavindra Johnson, Elsa Milne, Lucas Story, Bristol Johnson, Josh Latham and Jakob Murphy.

Parents are invited to join their child and the principal for lunch on Thursday, April 28th at 11:15 am. Spotlight Student forms are being sent home with these children today. Please return them as soon as possible so they can be placed on our Spotlight Student bulletin board. Thank you!!

Tennis Balls Needed

Mrs. Swanson is looking for several dozen used, clean tennis balls for music and P.E. They can be dropped off at the school office or with Mrs. Swanson. Thank you.

Y-Ties on Sale Friday

As a fundraiser, Student Council will be selling Y-ties next Friday, April 8 during lunch. They cost \$5 per pair.

Dates to Remember

April 14	Kindergarten Registration and Open House Community Council Meeting 1 pm
April 19	Child Find Screenings
April 22	Dress Like A Teacher Day
April 27	Science Fair
April 28	Spotlight Lunch Site Council Meeting 3:30 pm
April 29	Student Council Elections
May 4	Early Release
May 5	Volunteer Lunch Spring Program 6:30 pm Site Council Elections
May 9	All School Field Trip—Beach Day
May 9-13	Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week
May 17	6th Grade Spotlight at 11:50 am 6th Grade Graduation 12:45 pm
May 18	Last day of school for students—Play Day



Kenai Peninsula
Borough School District

**McNeil Canyon
Elementary
52188 East End Road,
Homer, AK 99603
(907) 235-8181**

Phone: 907-235-8181
Fax: 907-235-8183
Email: pswanson@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

We're on the Web!!
www.mcneilcanyon.org

Next
Site Council Meeting
28 Apr 16
3:30 p.m.

McNeil Canyon Elementary Library

Agenda:

- Review Pupil Activity Funds
- McNeil Site News
- District Budget Impact

Site Council Nominations

Nominations for parent representatives to the McNeil Canyon Site Council are being accepted until April 10, 2016. There are openings for a one-year term and a two-year term. Elections will be held the evening of our Spring Concert, May 5th. Please contact the office if you have any questions, are interested in serving on the Site Council or would like to nominate someone.

Art Note Cards for Sale

We will be making notecards as a fundraiser for our art program.

Please consider supporting our art program by purchasing art notecards. These notecards will have artwork created by your child specially selected and printed as a set of 12 cards. Sets with envelopes can be preordered for \$10 each. Contact Laura or Debbie if you have questions or fill out and return the order form below.

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I would like to purchase _____ (student's name) art on note cards.

Parent's name _____ Number of sets (12 cards per set) _____