

## McNeil Canyon Elementary

# Magpie

December 21, 2016

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

- Help in your child's classroom
- Help in the Art Room
- Help with After School Skiing
- Help with After School Skating – on the ice or serving hot chocolate & snack

### **Happy Holidays!**

Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> is an Inservice Day for staff and marks the end of Second Quarter. There will be NO SCHOOL for students from Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> through Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> due to the Christmas Holiday. Classes will resume on Monday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We hope you and your family have a peaceful, restful, joyous holiday!

### **Helping Others**

Thank you to everyone who helped us help others by donating food, socks, hats, and gloves that will be passed on to those in need. Our students assembled soup mixes that will be delivered to the Homer Food Pantry today.

### **Skiing**

After School Skiing will begin on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017. Students must have turned in a signed permission slip to participate. There is currently a waiting list of kids who want to ski but we have reached the maximum number of skiers we can have based on the number of parent volunteers there are. If your child has signed up to ski but has changed their mind, please let Laura in the office know so we can put another child in that slot. Skiers always appreciate a snack and some hot chocolate when they return. Donations of snacks would be welcome.

### **Skating**

After School Skating will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017. Students must have turned in a signed permission slip to participate. Skaters always appreciate a snack and some hot chocolate when they return. Donations of snacks would be welcome.

### **Geography Bee and Spelling Bee – Dates have changed**

Students in 4th through 6th grade are invited to participate in both the Spelling Bee and the Geography Bee. The Geography Bee will be held on Friday, January 13, 2017. You can go to [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com) for information to help you study. There are several web sites you can access from there. Here are some that might be particularly helpful:

[www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee), and [www.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine).

You can also download their app at [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee/apps](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee/apps).

The Spelling Bee will be held on Friday, Jan. 27, 2017. You can go to <http://spellingbee.com/parents-and-students> for study tips or [www.myspellit.com](http://www.myspellit.com) for free online access to 2017 Spell It! Thank you to Tanya Lee for helping kids study during lunch on Mondays.

### **Talent Show – Plan your Family Act**

It's not too early to think about the McNeil Family Talent Show in February. Some of the most memorable skits in the past were family productions and the Christmas holiday may be a good time for the family to work on a skit.

### **BP Teachers of Excellence Program**

Nominations for exceptional teachers are now open. Nominate your favorite teacher at [BPTeachers.com](http://BPTeachers.com) by Feb. 1, 2017.

New this year is the Educational Allies Award that celebrates a person who makes a positive impact in their school or community. Nominate anyone from a principal, to a school nurse or a teacher's assistant. Share their story with us at [BPTeachers.com](http://BPTeachers.com).

### **Reapplying for Meal Benefits**

Due to the reduced 2016 PFD, KPBSD Student Nutrition Services would like to encourage families that may have applied and were denied for Free lunches or qualified for reduced lunches but think they may qualify for free lunches to reapply after January 1, 2017.

If you have not applied for Free or reduced meal benefits for this school year and would like to know if you qualify, please fill out the application and submit.

Meal benefits applications may be applied for online at [kpbsd.k12.ak.us](http://kpbsd.k12.ak.us) the application is located on the Students/Parents page then scroll down to **online meal application** or you may pick up an application at any of the KPBSD schools or the Student Nutrition office at 139 E. Park Ave. Soldotna.