



# DRAGON TALES

## Winding Down/Speeding Up

29 Apr 16

We are down to the last 13 days of school for this wonderful year. Just like the year we are ending, this final stretch will be very busy, filled with many activities and learning opportunities.

It always seems that when we get to this point in the year that it has just flown by and we certainly could not be so close to finishing another year of school. Yet, here we are and the days are full.

Our 6th grade students have three more field trips to complete with an overnight trip just two weeks away. All of our students will be participating in the Spring Concert next Thursday, 5 May.

We will be making our annual visit to the beach on Tuesday, 9 May 16. Beach Day is a great tradition and we welcome families to join us for a

great time of enjoying, interacting and eating at Bishop's Beach.

The last two days of school are really busy with Graduation/Step Up Day on Tuesday, 17 May 16 and then the End of the Year BBQ and Play Day on Wednesday, 18 May 16.

Please make sure to read the rest of this newsletter and have your calendar nearby to mark down important events and programs and Thank You for having your child at McNeil.

### Side note:

If you had not heard, the AMP testing scheduled to occur during this month was cancelled and so we will not have any statewide assessment results to report for this school year.

Vol. 32, Issue 8

### Special points of interest:

- Spring Program
- Staff Appreciation
- Beach Day
- 6th Grade Graduation & Step-Up Ceremony
- Play Day

### Dates to Note:

Spring Program & Bake Sale	05 May
Beach Day	09 May
Hawaii Day	16 May
6th Grade Graduation	17 May
Last Day of School	18 May

## Spring Concert May 5th & Bake Sale

Our Spring Concert will be held in the gym on Thursday, May 5th at 6:30 pm. We hope you can join us for this great event. All students are asked to wear dressy clothes (think church, parties, weddings). Student Council will have a Bake Sale after the concert.

## Dates to Remember

May 4	Early Release
May 5	Spring Program 6:30 pm Site Council Elections No Learning Lab
May 9	All School Field Trip—Beach Day All Library Books Due
May 9-13	Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week
May 10	Learning Lab Last Day
May 11	Bus Driver Appreciation
May 16	Hawaii Day
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

## Early Release

Our last early release day for this year will occur on Wed., May 4th, 2016. McNeil Students will be released at 12:50 pm and buses will leave at 1:00 pm. Your child will arrive home 1.5 hrs. earlier than usual.

## Memory Garden

We have a lovely Memory Garden at the front entrance to our school. It was planted in 1993 in memory of Judy Tietjen by her McNeil classmates. This garden has been lovingly tended all these years by Judy Flora and we owe her a big thank you. However, she would like to pass on the caretaking of this garden to others. Please contact the office if you are interested .

## Learning Lab News

There will be NO LEARNING LAB on Thursday, May 5, 2016 due to the Spring Program being held that evening. The last day of this year for Learning Lab will be May 10, 2016.

## All Library Books Due Soon

All library books are due Monday, May 9, 2016. Please get them turned in as soon as possible. Thanks.

## All School Field Trip—Beach Day

We will have an All School Field Trip on Monday, May 9, 2016. Permissions slips are being sent home with students today. Parents are welcome to join us for this fun day at the beach. Please contact your child's teacher or the school office if you can help.

## Science Fair Results

The 2016 McNeil Canyon Elementary Science Fair was a huge success!

Special thanks to the wonderful judges who make this such a great learning opportunity for all the kids.

Congratulations to the following students:

K—3 Experiment: Honorable Mention:

The Magnet Makers—Willem Hakala, Ulita Anfilofev and Olivia Wilkens

The Floating Four—Seamus Hatton, Braedan Pilant Einar Pederson, and Wolfgang O’Phelan

K-3 Research: 1st Place: Ellen Barrett and Kallan Johnson

4-6 Research: Tie for 1st: Hannah Stonorov and Eryn Field

2nd Place: Bristol Johnson

3rd Place: Mylan Johnson

4-6 Experiment: Tie for 1st: Sailey Rhodes  
Mariah McGuire & Neviya Reed

Tie for 2nd: Kappa Reutov

Sam Banks & Matfey Reutov

Tie for 3rd: Hudson Loboy

Nathan Overson & Blaise Banks

Honorable Mention:

Seamus Donovan

Skye Evans

Great job everyone!

## Bus Driver Appreciation

Wednesday, May 11th we will celebrate our Bus Drivers. Be sure to thank our bus drivers for the great job they do getting our children safely to and from school every day.

## Teacher and Staff Appreciation

May 2—6 is National Teacher Appreciation Week. We will celebrate all of the great work our entire staff does by recognizing all school employees during the week of May 9-13. Thanks for all you do!

## Hawaii Day

Student Council is sponsoring Hawaii Day on Monday, May 16, 2016. Join the fun!

## Play Day

Rain or shine, it's a celebration! Plan to join in the fun on the last day of school, Wednesday, May 18, 2016 as we celebrate the end of the school year with a lunchtime picnic and afternoon play day. We'll have hot dogs with all the trimmings served from 11:20 am until 12:20 pm. We will also have a cake to celebrate Debbie Piper's retirement. Parents are always welcome!

At 12:20 pm, The Dragons' Play Day begins with fun for all! Past favorite events include sidewalk art, marble games and fingernail painting. Parents are invited to participate in, or lead play day events. Come see the sign-up sheet in the office. Help with one of our event ideas or add your own! The more events that we have, both indoors and out, the bigger blast our play day will be. We are gathering event ideas so be sure to add yours to the list! Here is a list of the picnic contributions students in each class should bring:

Corise:	Chips
Deb:	Hot Dogs
Melon:	Hot Dogs
Kendall:	Veggies and Fruit
Bill:	Hot Dog buns
Joanna:	Hot Dog Buns

## Bike Helmets

Safe Kids of Homer is giving you the opportunity to buy bike helmets here at McNeil beginning May 5, 2016. The various styles will be on display in the main hallway. Melon will be available to fit all helmets to your child's head. Because proper fit is so important for safety, children will not be able to buy helmets for others. Helmets will be sold after school from 2:30-3:00 pm everyday. All Toddler, Child and Youth bike helmets are \$12.00. Multi-sport helmets are available for \$16.00 Please make checks to Homer Safe Kids—Haven House. There will be helmets available at our Bike Rodeo on Play Day, the last day of school. *Thanks for caring about your child's safety.*

If your child has outgrown his/her helmet, this will be an opportunity to recycle them. Please send old helmets to school so we can recycle them to smaller children. Melon will check to see that they are in good, safe condition and add new fitting supports before passing them on to another child.

Derek from Cycle Logical will be here again on play day to check over and tune up student's bikes. Thank you Derek!



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](http://www.mcneilcanyon.org)

Next  
Site Council Meeting  
Sept 2016  
3:30 p.m.  
McNeil Canyon Elementary Library

## Summer Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all of our students who will celebrate their birthdays over the summer: In **June** – Kiril B., Vonnie C., Alexandra C., Breyan C., Liam D., Braden H., Alexandra J., Jenna L., Hudson L., Isabella L., Jakob M., and Javan Weisser. In **July** – Ulita A., Anthony B., Briar B., Cadence C., Kaden D., Xandra D., Nico E., Skye E., Jack S. and Baron T. In **August** – Haley B., Kavindra J., Jayden L., Matfey R., Lucas S., Daisy W and Eli Weisser.

## Spotlight Students

The following students have been selected as Spotlight Students for the month of May: Lauren Allen, Sam Banks, Ethan Carroll, Vonnie Carson, Seamus Donovan, Aurora Greenstreet, Sam Hambrick, Fiona Hatton, Braden Huffman, Liam James, Kera Jones, Mariah McGuire, Hartley Miller, Kira Milne, Melanie Morris, Rainbow O'Phelan, Sean Pilant, Neviya Reed, Kappa Reutov, Matfey Reutov, Sailey Rhodes and Payton Tobin. Parents are invited to join their child and the principal for lunch on Tuesday, May 17, 2015 at **11:50 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!!