

DRAGON TALES

New Year Off to a Good Start

29 Jan 16

It appears that the two weeks of vacation that we just returned from, were very good for all of us. Almost everyone came back healthy and while they may have not physically rested, they seem to have been rejuvenated by the break.

It is important to remember that our mid-year Parent/Teacher conferences happen this coming Thursday and Friday, 4&5 Feb 16.

Teachers at McNeil have a lot of great teaching planned for that second half of the year so it is important for students to stay healthy and rested so that they can be fully engaged

in the learning process.

While you are helping your child to be fully engaged, I would like to encourage you to stay connected with what is happening not only at McNeil but also with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. Funding, or actually lack of it, is going to be the driving force behind lots of decisions this year that will effect what McNeil and other local schools will be able to offer to students in the near future.

Please stay tuned to all the information and get involved. It is your voice that is heard by our legislators.

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Special points of interest:

- P/T Conferences
- Love of Reading
- Spelling Bee
- Talent Show

Dates to Note:

Early Release	03 Feb
No School for Students & P/T	4&5 Feb
Spelling Bee	19 Feb
Movie Night	19 Feb
Talent Show	26 Feb

Space Night TONIGHT!

All of the fun begins at 6 pm. The Star Lab from the Anchorage Museum is set up in the library and there will be telescopes set up on the soccer field. The 6th grade class will be selling concessions. Come check it out.

If it is cloudy, we will have an art activity and computers set up instead of the telescopes. There will be a table at the entrance of the school with star shaped tickets for Star Lab shows. You will pick up a ticket for the show you would like to attend. Shows are 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, & 7:45 pm. There are limited tickets for each show so the early birds get the tickets.

One ticket includes a parent and their child.



Early Release


The next early release day will occur on Wednesday, February 3, 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.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conference notices were sent home last week with the date and time of your child's Parent/Teacher Conference. If you are unable to attend at the scheduled time, please call the school office by Monday, Feb. 1st to reschedule.

Conferences are an important communication tool. We really appreciate your efforts to attend so we can visit about your child's progress in school. There is NO SCHOOL for students on these days. We hope to see you here!

Reading Challenge




February is LOVE of READING month at McNeil Canyon Elementary. This year instead of just celebrating once on Dr. Seuss's birthday, we are going to spend the entire month celebrating reading. Instead of counting minutes, we are going to spend our time sharing, talking and writing about books we enjoy. Each week we will have a school wide activity which will involve cross grade activities centered around our love of reading. Students will also have an opportunity to share what books they are reading by filling out dragon scales that will then hang in the hallway on Lor, our Love Of Reading dragon. Look for a booklet coming home with your child on February 8th with more information. Happy Reading!!

Spelling Bee

Interested students in 4, 5 & 6 Grade will participate in our annual Spelling Bee on Friday, February 19th at 12:30 pm. Good luck spellers!

Presidential Youth Fitness Program



McNeil Canyon Elementary has been awarded funding to implement the Presidential Youth Fitness Program (PYFP) through the program's funding opportunity. This is the third round of funding that has been offered. Selected schools will be supported for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018 academic years. The PYFP is a model for fitness education that emphasizes improved fitness and sustained physical activity in youth. The PYFP launched in September 2012 by First Lady Michelle Obama. To date, the program has funded over 1,000 schools nationwide.




Geography Bee News

Congratulations to Matfey Reutov, the winner of our 2016 Geography Bee! Thank you to those students who participated: Carly Nelson, Makary Reutov, Karma Wilcox, Hannah Stonorov, Jenna Lapp, Coleman Stephens, Bristol Johnson, and Kira Milne. Great job everyone!

Talent Show Only 4 Weeks Away!

The McNeil Canyon Family Talent Show will be held on Friday, Feb. 26th at 6:30 pm here at McNeil. Are you working up a skit with your friends or your Dad? Are you brushing up on a piano piece or your ukulele? How about a favorite poem to recite for us? The silent auction, sponsored by Community Council, will include delicious pies and cakes along with other items to bid on. The Community Council has already received a few generous donations to auction off and we are looking for a few more. If you have an item or a service you are willing to donate let Amy 235-0172, Britt 235-9024, or Laura know! Thank you.



There will be an orientation meeting for all students interested in participating in the Talent Show next Tuesday, February 3rd at 12:00 Noon. Permission slips and additional information will be handed out at the meeting.


Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run will be starting the week of February 22nd and practicing twice a week. There will be an informational meeting for any interested 3rd thru 6th grade girls and their parents on February 2nd after school in Joanna's room

KPBSD Budget Meeting

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District will hold a Public Budget Meetings in Homer on Tuesday, February 23 at 5:30 pm in the HHS Library. Everyone is encouraged to attend. If there are questions, please contact Lassie Nelson at 714-8838.

School Board Recognition Month



February is School Board Recognition Month. Take a moment to let them know we appreciate what they do. A list of all school board members and their contact information can be found on the district website: <http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/board.aspx>



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Next

Site Council Meeting

11 Feb 16

3:30 p.m.

McNeil Canyon Elementary Library

Agenda:

- Bussing
- Budget
- McNeil Site News

Spotlight Students

The following students have been selected as Spotlight Students for the month of February: Leya Johnson, Alexandra Jones, Gryffyn Linder, Glenn Casey, Liam McHenry, Zafina O'Phelan, Efrosinia Kuzmin, Daisy Walker, Olivia Wilkens, Kyeson Johnson, Faith Latham, Hudson Loboy, Carly Nelson, Anthony Basargin, Bethany Engebretsen and Karma Wilcox. Parents are invited to join their child and the principal for lunch on Thursday, February 25th 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!!

Band News

Band Students will have the opportunity to work with Mrs. Johnson, the HMS and HHS band director, after school on Thursday, Feb. 11th.

Please mark you calendar and plan on attending the Band Concert on March 8th that will feature bands from all Homer area schools.

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