

McNeil Canyon Elementary

Magpie

May 6, 2016

Volunteer Opportunities

- Help in your child's classroom
- Chaperone Field Trips
- Help on Beach Day
- Help on Play Day

Library Book are ALL DUE MONDAY

Please return all library books to school on Monday. Thank you.

Beach Day - All School Field Trip

We will have an All School Field Trip on Monday, May 9, 2016. Parents are welcome to join us for this fun day at the beach. Students will travel by bus to and from the beach. They will leave school at 8:45 am and be picked up at 1:30 pm. Students will be returned to school and then sent home on their normal after school buses. Parents may pick up their child(ren) at the beach but must arrive by 1:30 pm and check them out with their teacher.

Students need to bring the following gear for the field trip: their own sack lunch (or have ordered one from the school lunch program), extra clothes, socks, warm coat (it's often windy), gloves, hat and wear rubber boots! Raingear should be brought if the day looks iffy.

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!

Learning Lab News

Tuesday, May 10, 2016 will be the last day for Learning Lab this year.

Student Council Elections

Here are the results of last week's Student Council Elections for next year:

President – Bristol Johnson

Vice-President – Lucas Story

Secretary – Hannah Stonorov

Treasurer – Nathan Overson

Representatives – Willem Hakala, Hudson Loboy, Halen Nordstrom, Rebecca Trowbridge and Zephaniah Weisser.

Site Council Election Results

Congratulations to Matt Hakala and Eric Engebretsen for being voted in by McNeil Parents to serve on our Site Council.

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 .

Homer Bus Information Meeting

KPBSD south peninsula bus information meetings related to 2017-2018 school year

Please attend an informational meeting about southern peninsula school bus transportation to learn more about the options being considered as a result of the new proposals KPBSD received for bus transportation beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

- **Tuesday, May 10, 2016, Homer High School library, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Thursday, May 12, 2016, Ninilchik School library, 6:30 p.m.**

Everyone is welcome to attend. You'll learn about the busing request for proposal (RFP) process, the funding and costs associated with busing, and information about educational aspects related to student transportation.

Your participation, engagement, and understanding challenges related to student transportation is important. Please attend one of these information meetings taking place in the southern peninsula.*

*The Board of Education sought two options in the RFP for pupil transportation, which included both single and double tier transportation options for the southern peninsula. Schools in the southern peninsula—Ninilchik School, Nikolaevsk School, Anchor Point and the Homer area—are served by buses which are on single-tier routes. This means that one bus serves one school start and end time each day. Schools in the central peninsula and eastern peninsula schools are scheduled on a double or two-tier route system, which means that the same bus serves schools which have different start and end times, and can serve multiple routes each day. Therefore, *if* a change were proposed to move to a double-tier system in the southern peninsula, elementary and secondary schools could also need to change school start and end times to accommodate a two-tier transportation system which requires fewer buses. If any changes were to be made in the southern peninsula, they would not take place until August, 2017. Additional meetings may take place in the Fall of 2016.

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.

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!

As part of Play Day, there will be a Bike Rodeo. Permission slips will be sent home next Friday with those students who are interested in participating in the Bike Rodeo. They must have a helmet on and have returned this permission slip in order to participate in the Bike Rodeo.

Spotlight Lunch

May Spotlight students and their parents are invited to join Mr. Swanson and their child for lunch on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 11:50 am. Lunch will be provided.

6th Grade Graduation and Step-Up Day

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 12:45 pm all students will assemble in the gym for Step-Up Day and the 6th Grade Graduation Ceremony. Parents are welcome to join us. There will be a reception for the 6th grade graduates and their families in the library following the ceremony.