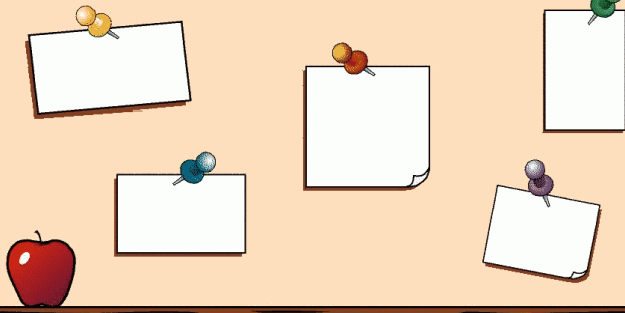


**NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER 2019**



**Strodes Mills  
Elementary School**

185 Chestnut Ridge Road  
McVeytown, PA 17044

717-248-7154 • (Fax) 717-242-5839

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Julie Yoder, Building Leader – [jap36@mcsdk12.org](mailto:jap36@mcsdk12.org)



**PBIS CELEBRATION!! EVERYONE HAD SO MUCH FUN!**

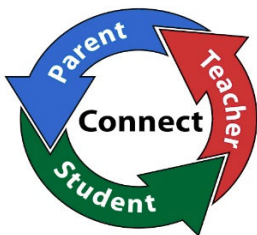


*As we near our Thanksgiving holiday, we would like to share some things that we are thankful for at Strodes Mills Elementary School:*

- We are thankful for students who eagerly come to school to learn as much as possible each day.*
- We are thankful for a beautiful school where students can learn and grow.*
- We are thankful for teachers and staff who give many hours of their day to provide students with quality instruction and guidance to help students succeed.*
- We are thankful for parents who support the efforts of our school.*

*Thanks for all that you do to help Strodes Mills be the best school it can be.*

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### **Parent Conferences**

Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 7:30 PM and Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 – 11:30 AM

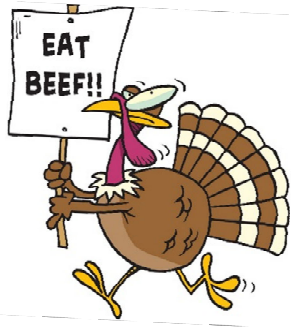
- Conferences will be scheduled into 15 minute blocks of time and will be followed closely. Issues or concerns requiring more time can be scheduled for another date and time.
- Please be punctual so that teachers may maintain the integrity of their Parent Conference schedule.

### **Hey Families!**

The **Kid Zone!** is a place where your child can build literacy skills in a fun and interactive way. Children can read and listen to books or play educational games all for FREE! We encourage you to check out the website:

<https://improvingliteracy.org/kid-zone>

Interested in seeing pictures from our PBIS celebrations and other PBIS related activities? Then check out our school's website! Go to the school's website and scroll to the bottom. Click on SMES PBIS. Check out the SMES Parent Engagement link also for forms and flyers.



### PSA Officers

President      Natasha Wynn  
Vice Pres.     Natali Wise-Foltz  
Treasurer     Melinda Sunderland  
Secretary     Brianne Andrews

The PSA meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00. Please plan to come and become involved in your child's school. **Together we can make positive things happen for our children. You may contact the PSA by emailing them at [strokesmillselementary.psa@gmail.com](mailto:strokesmillselementary.psa@gmail.com).**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

### ATTENDANCE

If your child is absent, an excuse must be sent in to school within **3 days** or they will be marked as unexcused. **After three unexcused absences a referral to Children and Youth can be made. Good attendance is so important for learning.**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

11/1    Fall Festival Parade 1:15 PM  
11-1 – 11/7 Santa's Bookbag Collections  
11/7    Parent Conferences – 4:30 – 7:30 PM  
          **Report cards** will be given out at Parent Conferences  
11/8    Parent Conferences 8:00 – 11:30 AM – No school  
11/11 Veterans Day – No School  
11/18 PSA meeting at 6:00  
11/19 Picture Retakes  
11/27 Students dismissed at 1:15 PM  
11/28 – 12/3 Thanksgiving Vacation – No school for Students  
12/6    Kindergarten to the Ice Festival  
12/9    Ornament Making Day  
12/16 Santa's Workshop  
12/17 Christmas Concert at 9:00 for Grades K and 3rd  
          10:00 for Grades 1st and 2nd – Family and Friends are  
          welcome to attend.  
12/21 thru 1/3 – Christmas Vacation



### REMINDER TO PARENTS:

Children **MAY NOT** be dropped off at school before **7:45** in the morning and **9:45** on Two Hour Delays. We **do not** have a teacher on duty until that time. **Breakfast is not served on 2 or 3 hour Delay days.**

### HOMEWORK

If your child is ill and you would like to pick up their homework, either email the teacher or call the office **before** 11:00 AM if you want to pick it up that afternoon at 3:00 – 3:30 PM



**Strodes Mills** will be having Kindergarten registration for the 2020 – 2021 school year on March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms will be made available in the next few months. Please make sure if you have a child or know of a neighbor, family member or friend who has a child that will be starting Kindergarten in the fall that they register at SMES in March.

**Kindergarten Readiness Workshops** will be held:

- January 11, 2020 at Strodes Mills Elementary
- January 25, 2020 at Indian Valley Elementary
- February 8, 2020 at East Derry Elementary
- February 22, 2020 at Lewistown Elementary

You may choose one of these workshops to attend. They are full of good ideas to prepare your child for Kindergarten.

**Camp on your way to K** will be Monday thru Thursday, June 8 – 11, 2020 from 9:00 –

11:30 AM. Children will ride the school bus, meet the kindergarten teachers, make new friends, learn important skills to help make them be successful in kindergarten and have fun!!!

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### **CLEARANCES**

If you want to help with classroom parties, field trips, read a story to the class, help with the Book Fair, Field Day, celebrations, etc., you must have your Child Abuse Clearance Act 151, Criminal History Clearance Act 34 and Federal Criminal History and Fingerprinting Act 114 or if you have been a resident of Pennsylvania for **ten consecutive years**, you may fill out the affidavit. These clearances will be good for **five years**.

You **must read and sign** the Volunteer Acknowledgement Form, Reportable Offense Obligation Form and the Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement form **each year**.

Child Abuse Clearance Act 151 can be obtained by going to <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home> You will be able to print out your Child Abuse Clearance when you complete the information online.

Pennsylvania Criminal History Clearance Act 34 can be obtained by going to: <https://epatch.state.pa.us> You will be able to print out your Criminal History Clearance when you complete the information online.

Act 151 and Act 34 will be “free” to all Volunteers. If you have to get the FBI Fingerprinting Clearance Act 114, you will pay a fee for that.



## **SHOULD I SEND MY CHILD TO SCHOOL?**

Keep your child home if they have any of these symptoms:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher. Temperature should be normal without medication for 24 hours before child returns to school.
- Vomiting and diarrhea
- Persistent Cough or Thick Nasal Discharge
- Eyes: Red, Itchy or with a discharge
- Earache
- Persistent Itching of the Scalp: If you suspect your child may have head lice, call your school's nurse to have your child checked before he/she goes to the classroom. \*\*\*If positive for head lice, the child must be cleared by the school nurse before riding the bus or re-entering school.
- Rash: Persistent Itching over the body. Your child should remain at home until these symptoms are resolved or medically treated.

## **SIMPLE TIPS TO HELP KEEP YOUR CHILDREN HEALTHY:**

- Remind your child to cover their mouth when sneezing or coughing
- Encourage your children to keep their hands away from eyes, nose, and mouth
- Don't share water bottles or food
- WASH HANDS or use hand sanitizer!
- Encourage play. Exercise helps to keep the body healthy.
- Eat healthy
- Get plenty of sleep. Encourage an early bed time routine.

# Homelessness Awareness Week – November 18-22, 2019

One week prior to Thanksgiving, schools and communities across the nation work to bring a greater awareness to student homelessness. According to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, students who lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence are considered homeless and are entitled to assistance including: free school meals, immediate enrollment in school without supporting documentation, enrollment in their district of origin, and clothing/supplies to support their academic needs and/or participation in extra-curricular activities.

Homelessness can occur due to a variety of situations, including: fire, eviction, domestic violence, natural disaster, parental job loss/loss of income, parent divorce/separation, or the hospitalization, incarceration, or death of a parent. Families who are homeless are often sharing the housing of others or are living in shelters, hotels, abandoned buildings, campsites, or cars. The number of homeless children and youth is growing in school districts across the country, including Mifflin County School District. Last year, 106 students in the district were identified as being homeless.

To help support students who are experiencing homelessness, a district supply pantry was created last year with donations from staff, students, and the community. Please join Mifflin County School District and the Association of Mifflin County Educators in their efforts to continue to support the pantry by participating in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Supply Drive. Donations of shaving cream, body wash, loofas, winter hats, gloves, toilet paper, and laundry detergent are currently needed. Monetary donations and gift cards are also welcome.

The district will also be collecting donations for the Weekend Power Pack program at East Derry and Strodes Mills. Each weekend, children in need are sent home with a bag of food. The following nonperishable food items are needed: cereal bars, granola bars, pop tarts, muffins, Chef Boyardee microwavable containers, canned soup, Cup of Noodles/Ramen Noodles, Easy Mac N Cheese, Snack Packs, chips/crackers/cookies, fruit snacks, drink pouches, and fruit cups.

Donations are also requested to support the local domestic violence shelter. The Shelter needs cleaning supplies like Mr. Clean, Clorox wipes, trash bags, and paper towels, as well as personal care items like soap, bodywash, wipes, pull-ups and diapers of all sizes.

All donations can be dropped off at your child's school building.

In addition to, or in lieu of a donation, you can show your support by wearing a **RED** shirt on Friday, November 22 and spreading awareness to those around you. If you know of a family who has school-aged children and is currently homeless or in need, please let them know that there is help available. Families that need assistance should reach out to their child's school counselor.