

**STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

185 Chestnut Ridge Road

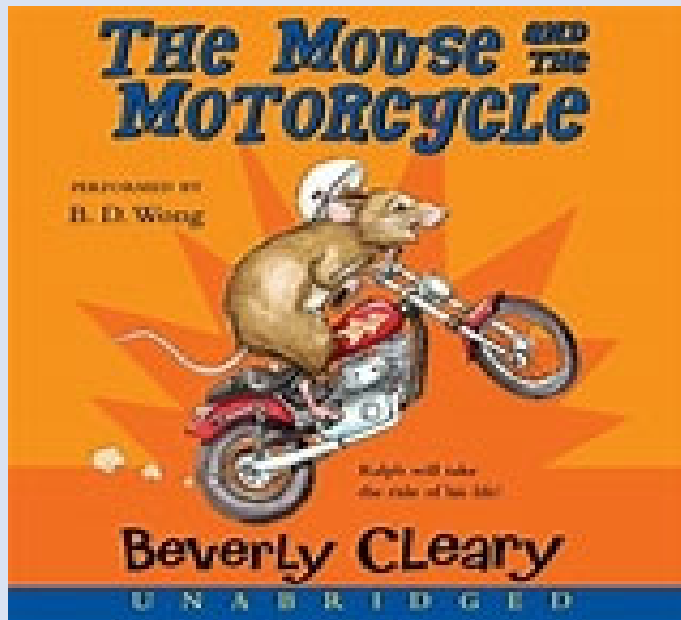
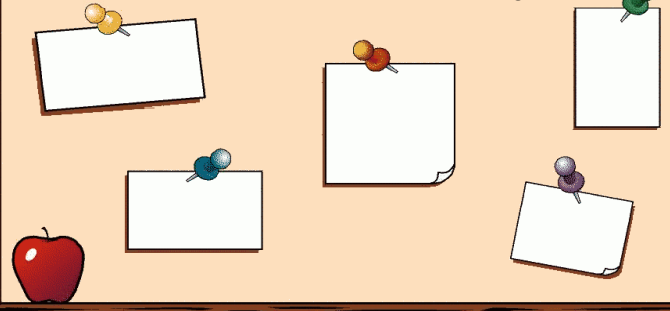
McVeytown, PA 17051

School 717-248-7154 * FAX 717-242-5839

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NEWSLETTER: February 2020



January has been filled with The Mouse and the Motorcycle activities. Students read through the book or listened to it on line being read to them by a staff member at Strodes Mills. Each day students would answer a trivia question. If their name was drawn with the correct answer, they would win a prize.

The **Family Celebration Night** will be Thursday, February 6th from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Come and see what project each class is working on.

Each SMES student will get a “free” book just for coming!

Bring your camera or cell phone to take a picture at the Motorcycle Photo Booth!!

Enjoy Ralph snacks!

Raffle winners will be drawn every 30 minutes!



SMES is celebrating Kindness Month!

Students will be encouraged to do random acts of kindness here at school and at home. If you would like to participate at home, download the free app,

The Great Kindness Challenge for acts of kindness you can do as a family. Be sure to ask your student if they have been caught at school for being kind.

Students who are caught being kind will receive kindness tickets to win a special PBIS bucket prize!

REMINDER TO PARENTS FROM THE PSA:

Just a reminder that as parents, **you must have all three of your clearances, in order for you to be able to volunteer for Field Day.** A Volunteer packet of information was sent home earlier this year to all parents explaining what clearances you must have. (Child Abuse, Criminal History and FBI Fingerprints or an Affidavit). If you have any questions concerning clearances, please call the school office at 717-248-7154.

The PSA will be sending home the Volunteer sign-up papers in March. The date for **Field Day is Thursday, May 28th.** The rain date is **Friday, May 29th.** If you **do not have your clearances,** you will not be able to help with Field Day.

The next PSA meeting is on Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00 in the library. Hope to see you there!

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If you see a police car parked outside of Strodes at some point every day, it is Eric Ettinger, our **Student Resource Officer (SRO)** at SMES. Your child may have told you that a policeman ate lunch with them or played at recess or made a bouncy ball at our PBIS celebration!! It was Officer Ettinger getting to know our students. We want him to know we appreciate him and let him know how important he is to our Strodes Mills School Family.



The PSSA 2020 Testing Dates

The Math and Language Arts PSSA tests will be given to the 3rd graders from
April 20th – 24th for Language Arts
April 27th – 30th for Math
It is important for students to be in school during this time. **Please try not to schedule appointments or vacations on these dates.**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2/6 Ralph Mouse Family Celebration
- 2/7 PBIS Celebration
- 2/11 PSA meeting 6:00 PM
- 2/13 Valentine's Day Parties
- 2/14 ACT 80 Day – No school for students
- 2/17 President's Day – No school
- 2/18 SMES to see Mary Poppins
- 3/4-5 Kindergarten Registration at SMES
- 3/10 3rd Grade to Shaver's Creek
- 3/13 ACT 80 Day – No school for students

Kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year will be held at SMES on **March 4th and 5th**. Packets of information will be sent out, to those families that registered their child. If you know of anyone who has not registered their child, please have them call (717-248-7154) or stop by the office to get them registered **as soon as possible**.



REMINDER TO PARENTS:

You must send in an excuse each time your child is absent. If an excuse is not sent in within three days after a child returns to school, it will be marked unexcused. After three unexcused absences, you will be sent a letter. After six unexcused absences, Children and Youth will be notified. So, it is **very important** that you do not forget to send in an excuse. Also, anytime your child goes to the doctor, please ask for a doctor's excuse.

TWO OR THREE HOUR DELAYS

Students **will not** be served breakfast on school days that we have a 2 or 3 hour delay. School does not start until 10:20 AM or 11:20 AM (3 hr. delay) and the first group of students go to lunch shortly after their arrival. So, please remember to give your child breakfast before they come to school on those days.

LUNCH MONEY

If you write a check for your child's lunch, please remember to put your child's name on the memo line of your check. The cashier does not always know parent names.

A Note from the School Nurse: Abbie Ritchey RN

When to Keep Your Child Home from School:

- ★ Temperature of 100 degrees or higher (Temperature should be normal for 24 hours WITHOUT medication before returning to school. Please do not medicate your child at home in the morning and then send them to school.)
- ★ Vomiting or diarrhea
- ★ Persistent cough or thick nasal discharge
- ★ Eyes - red, itchy, or with a discharge
- ★ Earache
- ★ Persistent itching of the scalp
- ★ Rash or persistent itching over the body

Your child should remain at home until these symptoms are resolved or medically cleared by a physician!

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 bedtime routine.

Remember, it's flu season. Let's all work together to stay healthy!

Dropping Students Off

Please pull up as far as you can when dropping off your children in the morning in order to allow drivers behind you to pull off of the street. Also, for student safety, please have students wait to get out of your vehicle, until you are parked next to the sidewalk. Thank you!

Pick-up time at the End of the Day

Students that are being picked up at the end of the day, will be called down to the front hall area at 2:37 PM to meet up with their parents.

Help for the Homeless

Homelessness is a sensitive subject; therefore, we are asking that those who may need assistance reach out to Miss Didomenico, our guidance counselor. She can make sure the needs of the students and family are met. She also may know of other resources through the community that would be of help to the family. If you know of someone who is homeless but does not attend SMES, please encourage him or her to reach out to the guidance counselor at their child's school. Our goal is to make an unfortunate situation tolerable for the family.

Special Reminder

The MCSD elementary school principals have all agreed to use the real feel temperature (factoring in wind with the regular temperature) of 28 degrees or higher to determine if students go out or stay in for recess during the winter months. Please dress your child appropriately each day with hats and gloves so they can be warm while playing outside.

Discount Cards can still be purchased for \$10.00 from the Office. They have many good "deals" on them. A few trips to Arby's for a "free" Classic Roast Beef and you will have your money back! Buy a DQ sundae and get one free. Buy a Whopper at Burger King and get one free. All proceeds go to help fund Field Trips and Field Day. Thank you for your help! If you have any questions, please call the office at 717-248-7154.

Kindergarten and 3rd Grade Families:

Kindergarten students need to have a Dental and a Physical exam. Please note that your child needs to have a dental exam as a 3rd grader. Mrs. Ritchey school nurse, will be sending home the forms by the end of March. Please be aware of the need to update your child's school health record each year.

Morning If your child's bus is running late, please check out the MCSD website. At the top of the site in the righthand corner, will be info about any busses that are running so many minutes late. Also, students need to be in their classroom at 8:20. The front doors are locked and the "Star Spangled Banner" is played at 8:20 each morning.

