



Strodes Mills elementary

185 Chestnut Ridge Road, McVeytown, PA 17051

November, 2023

Coming up...

- November 8th + 9th- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- November 10th- No School (Veteran's Day)
- November 14th- PSA Meeting @6pm
- November 17th- Homelessness Awareness Day- wear red!
- November 22nd- Early Dismissal @12:15pm
- November 23rd-27th- No School (Thanksgiving break)
- December 14th- Christmas Concert for Families
9am- KG + 2nd grades perform
10am- 1st + 3rd grades perform
- December 15th- Santa's Workshop
- December 19th- Harshbarger's Fundraiser Night
- December 23rd-January 2nd- No School (Christmas + New Year's break)
- January 15th- No School (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- January 26th- No School (Act 80 Day)

Winter Weather YOUR TEXT HERE

Winter weather is quickly approaching! As it becomes colder outside, please be sure to send your student with appropriate outerwear for outdoor recess- winter coats, hats, and gloves.
Please reach out to Miss Marker if you need any of these items for your student.

Contact Us

Phone: 717-248-7154 • Fax: 717-242-5839

Frank Miller, Principal
fwm28@mcsdk12.org

Julie Yoder, Building Leader
jap36@mcsdk12.org

Conferences

Parent teacher conferences will be held on November 8th and 9th. If you are interested in having a conference, please reach out to your child's teacher to schedule one.

Title I teachers will be available in the gym for conferences if needed.

Mrs. Peterson, school secretary, will be available in the office. This would be a great time to stop by for your Skyward username and password if you don't already have yours or if you need your password reset.

Attendance Facts & Tips

FACT: Chronic tardiness can have a negative effect on a student's educational success. Any tardiness- even just a few minutes- can impact a student's school day and success.

Morning arrival is an important part of each student's day. Classroom morning tasks such as morning meeting, announcements, centers, interventions, services, and other key learning opportunities are missed when a student arrives late. Studies show that chronically tardy students do not perform as well as prompt students.

TIP: Establish a consistent morning routine

- Allow plenty of time for unforeseen delays
- Set an earlier bedtime and wakeup time
- Prepare pickup notes, sick excuses, lunch boxes, and backpacks the night before
- Have the day's outfit picked and laid out
 - Create a backup plan

*We are one school,
one team, one family.
#oneSMES*

Golden Ticket Winners

Each month, students who consistently display Respectful, Responsible, Ready, and Safe behaviors can be selected as Golden Paw Ticket winners. Each winner receives a golden coin to use in our book vending machine and a chance to win a new Golden Paw t-shirt!



Subaru Loves Learning

Thank you to Jason Renno and his team at Blaise Alexander Subaru of Lewistown for supporting our school. SMES received a donation of \$5,000 for teachers to purchase additional supplies and resources to support their students and classrooms!



Thank you, MCHS!

A huge THANK YOU goes out to MCHS staff and students for their various collaborations with SMES!

Mrs. Conner Miller and the MCHS STEM Interns spent a morning at SMES organizing the STEM materials and lego cart.

Mr. Reigle and the MCHS Wood Technology class took our vision of a paw ticket collection box and made it a reality.

At the end of the month, all paw tickets are dumped into the collection box so students can watch their paw tickets grow towards a celebration.



PSA Post

Meeting- The next meeting will be held on November 14th at 6pm in the cafeteria. Meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday of each month.

Spirit Sale Fundraiser- The spirit sale order has been placed. There is no update at this time for a pickup date. When that is scheduled, families will be notified.

Harshbarger's Family Night- Harshbarger's Sub + Malt will be hosting a fundraiser night benefitting SMES PSA on Tuesday, December 19th. Let Harshbarger's do the cooking (or scooping) for you! Just let your server know and a portion of your purchase will be donated.

Carnival Fun



SMES students earned their first PBIS celebration and were treated to Carnival fun. The carnival fun included games, crafts, a clown, and balloon animals. We completed with a fantastic magic show from Richard the Magician!



Spooky SMES Fun!



Homelessness Awareness

Schools and communities across the nation set aside the week before Thanksgiving to recognize the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness. Under federal law, children are considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence. Many people associate being homeless with living on the street, but homelessness is often hidden, especially in rural communities.

An average of 100 students are identified as homeless in MCSD each year. To assist those in need, MCSD staff will be raising money for the district's student homelessness fund. In exchange for a \$5 donation, staff will be able to dress down on Friday, November 17th and are encouraged to wear a red shirt to spread awareness.

If you or your child would like to join in the effort, monetary donations can be sent to the Administration Building, located at 201 8th Street in Lewistown to the attention of Michelle Siruc, the district's homeless liaison. Checks can be made out to Mifflin County School District. Funds are used to purchase clothing, toiletries, and school supplies for displaced students. You can also show your support by wearing a **red** shirt on Friday, November 17th.

If you are experiencing homelessness, please know that help is available. Please reach out to your child's teacher, principal, secretary, nurse, or counselor. They will connect you with one of the district's social workers, who can assist you with securing necessary resources.

Fire Prevention



Students enjoyed a fire prevention assembly from West Granville and McVeytown fire companies. Students learned about fire prevention, saw a firefighter in full gear, and got to see fire apparatus. Each kindergarten student also got to take home a smoke detector.



Sick Excuses

As the colder weather begins to settle in, so do sicknesses requiring students to be absent. Remember, that excuses are due back within 3 days. You can send a written note or submit excuses through Skyward Family Access.

Absence Note

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Date Absent: _____

Reason: _____



Signed _____

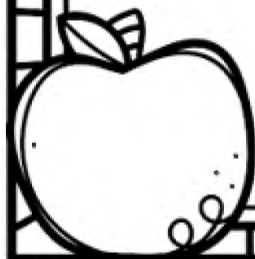
Absence Note

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Date Absent: _____

Reason: _____



Signed _____

Bus Expectations

We are continuing to receive a number of bus referrals regarding student misbehavior. Student behavior should be no different on the bus than in school. We expect our SMES students to continue respectful, responsible, ready, and safe behaviors on the bus. If your student is a bus rider, please talk with them about the importance of safe behavior on the bus.

Expectations:

- Stay seated at all times. Students should not be getting up from their seat, laying/crawling on the floor, or be in the aisle.
- Be kind and keep your hands to yourself. Students should be using kind words to other students. Also, students should NEVER hurt another student- push, hit, bite, etc.
- Talk quietly- never yell or shout.
- Do not damage the bus- students should not be drawing on bus seats, or poking holes in the with pencils, etc.

When students are not following these expectations, the driver can become distracted. It's important that all students comply in order for the bus ride to be a safe one.

Repeated bus referrals can result in loss of recess or removal from the bus.

A note from the nurse...

Cold and flu season is here. Please remember, if your student presents with any of the symptoms below, they should **NOT** come to school:

- Fever of 100° or higher + fever free for 24 hours without medication before returning
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Rash- persistent itching over the body
 - Severe earache
- Eyes- red, itchy, or with drainage
 - Persistent cough
 - Thick nasal drainage

Parent Pickups

REMINDER- If your student will be a parent pickup at dismissal, please send a note to school with them. This way, the teacher sees it first and makes note of the dismissal plan, then sends the note to the office to be added to the parent pickup list.

If your student will be a pickup everyday, or certain days of the week, simply send one note indicating such- every day or every ____ (ex. every Friday).

This process greatly reduces confusion at the end of the day and ensures a safe dismissal.

Parent pickup begins at 2:35 pm.

Bernie the Bat

Mrs. Bender's kindergarten class has spirit- Halloween spirit. Their Halloween celebrations included a parent performance of Bernie the Bat.

