

# STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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## COMING UP

- 2/12..... Valentine's Day Class Parties
- 2/13..... No School  
Act 80 Day
- 2/16..... School in Session  
Makeup for 1/26 Snow Day
- 2/18..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip  
MCHS Play Preview
- 2/26-3/5..... Spring Book Fair
- 3/5..... Family Night 5:30pm-7:00pm
- 3/13..... No School  
Act 80 Day
- 4/3..... No School  
Good Friday

## THE ADDAMS FAMILY, THE MUSICAL

The highly anticipated Annual MCHS Drama Club play is almost here! This year's production, **The Addam's Family**, is set to be performed by our talented high school students, and will bring the comical and wacky story to life.

In a special sneak peek, our second graders will go to MCHS to attend a **preview performance on 2/18**. This unique field trip will give our younger students a glimpse into the incredible talent of their high school peers while introducing them to the magic of live theater. It's sure to be an inspiring experience for everyone involved!

There will be 3 public showings on 2/20 @ 6:30pm, 2/21 @ 6:30pm, and 2/22 @ 1:00pm. Tickets cost \$10.

Don't miss the chance to support the incredible Drama Club who has worked so hard to bring this show to life!

## THE WATER HORSE

We are excited to begin this year's One Book, One School read along on February 2<sup>nd</sup>! Each night we will read one chapter at home with our families, then participate in trivia the next day for a chance to win a prize.

This year, we will be reading *The Water Horse* by Dick King-Smith. We are excited to meet siblings Kirstie and Angus who discover a mysterious egg on the coasts of Scotland. We will follow along as they try to figure out exactly what this unusual creature is and whether they can keep it a secret. Happy reading!

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30pm – 7:00pm, we will host a Game Night to celebrate the completion of the book as well as Dr.

Seuss Week. There will be games, book fair evening shopping hours, and light refreshments. Food trucks will be on site with a percentage of each purchase being donated to PSA.

**M, 2/2** ..... Chapter 1- An Old Fish's Egg

**Tu, 2/3** ..... Chapter 2- It's a Monster

**W, 2/4** ..... Chapter 3- Crusoe

**Th, 2/5** ..... Chapter 4- The Last Sardine

**M, 2/9** ..... Chapter 5- In the Midst of Foes

**Tu, 2/10** ..... Chapter 6- Home is the Sailor

**W, 2/11** ..... Chapter 7- A Bit Too Tame

**Tu, 2/17** ..... Chapter 8- First Birthday

**W, 2/18** ..... Chapter 9- Postie

**Th, 2/19** ..... Chapter 10- A Hairbrained Plan

**M, 2/23** ..... Chapter 11- A Ride in a Truck

**Tu, 2/24** ..... Chapter 12- From a Local Newspaper



# NURSE NOTICES



Over-the-Counter Medication forms were distributed on the first day of school. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian in order for students to receive medication from the school nurse. **If your child has not submitted the Over-the-Counter Medication form to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school.** Forms are available online and in the nurse's office.

As a reminder, students are NOT permitted to carry any medications on their person during school hours. This includes cough drops, medicated creams, eye drops or anything used for medicinal purposes. **ANY MEDICATION THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE TAKEN AT SCHOOL MUST BE TRANSPORTED TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN OR DESIGNATED ADULT AND ACCOMPANIED WITH A PHYSICIAN'S ORDER.** Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCSD Medication Policy.



## REMINDERS:

- Please work with your child to be able to use the restroom independently.
- Keep a change of clothes in your child's backpack in case of spills or accidents.

Questions? Reach out to our nurses: Nurse Yoder ([jsy43@mcsdk12.org](mailto:jsy43@mcsdk12.org)) & Nurse Ritchey ([alr17@mcsdk12.org](mailto:alr17@mcsdk12.org))

## PBIS

During the month of January, students continued turning in their paw tickets for bucket prizes OR they could use 50 paw tickets for the paw wall prize of pj's & pizza party! We're proud to announce that **48 students** earned this prize!

In addition to the bucket and paw wall prizes, January also featured a **mega prize of a snow scooter**. Congratulations to our 2 winners!



Coming up for February, students can turn in **50 paw tickets** to earn the **Milkshakes with Mr. Miller** prize!

## SICK - WHEN TO STAY HOME

- **Fever** (100° +) within the last 24 hours. Must be fever free for 24 hours without medication to return
- **Vomiting** and/or **diarrhea** in the last 24 hours
  - **Upper respiratory symptoms** (*persistent coughing, thick nasal drainage, severe congestion that is affecting their ability to function*)
- **Pink eye** (*must be on treatment for 24 hours and discharge resolving prior to returning to school*)
- **Impetigo** (*must be on treatment for 24 hours prior to returning to school*)
- **Strep throat** (*must be on treatment for 24 hours prior to returning to school*)
- **Hand, foot, mouth disease** (*must be fever free for 24 hours, sores no longer open and draining, and feeling well enough to participate in normal school activities*)

## VALENTINES PARTIES

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day with class parties on **Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**. Details will be shared by classroom teachers.



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We're excited to welcome our newest learners! Kindergarten registration will take place next month on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>!



If you have a child who will be attending kindergarten next school year, scan the QR code or complete the form on the last page of this newsletter. Once submitted, your child will be added to our list and we will mail a registration packet with your appointment information.

If you've already completed the form- thank you! No further action is needed at this time. We'll see you and your future kindergartener in March!

We also ask for your help in spreading the word. Please share this information with friends, family members, and neighbors who may have an incoming kindergartener and might not be aware of the registration process.

We look forward to meeting our future kindergarten families!

## PBIS SPONSORS

Our PBIS program is made stronger thanks to the generosity of our community partners! Their donations help us celebrate positive behavior and reward our amazing students. We are truly grateful for their commitment to our students' success and for making a lasting difference in our school community.

### THANK YOU:

At the Barnyard

Carousel Skating Rink

Cora's Creekside Tavern

Discovery Space

Harshbarger's Sub & Malt

Hartley's Potato Chips

Lewistown Lanes

Pizza Hut

Shear Desire

YMCA



## GOLDEN PAW WINNERS

The Golden Paw Award is presented at the end of each month to students who have done an EXCEPTIONAL job at showing Respectful, Responsible, Ready and Safe behaviors in the classroom all month long. Teachers can nominate any student(s) who they feel deserve extra recognition for their excellence in the classroom.

Winners get a Golden Paw Award, a golden coin to be used in the book vending machine, their picture on the Golden Paw Wall of Fame, to participate in a special pizza party at the end of the marking period, and are recognized in a post on Class Dojo school story the month they win.

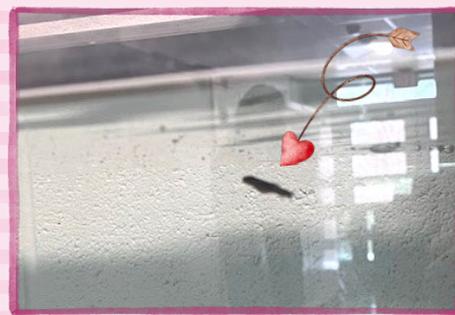


# RAISING TROUT

We're thrilled to continue our partnership with the PA Fish & Wildlife Commission for a third year, bringing a hands-on learning experience to our students! This continued partnership offers students a unique opportunity to witness the life cycle of trout firsthand and learn about the important role conservation efforts play in protecting our wildlife.

The eggs arrived on January 14<sup>th</sup> and have already begun their incredible journey! Most eggs reached the next stage in development, sac-fry, and a few have even reached the following stage, fingerlings. Their tank is equipped to prepare the fingerlings to swim and grow into full-fledged fish.

Over the coming weeks, students will closely observe this transformation and deepen their understanding of aquatic ecosystems. They will watch as the fingerlings learn to swim in a current and continue to grow. We look forward to keeping you updated as the trout grow and, in the Spring, are released into their natural habitat.



## ATTENDANCE & TIMELINESS

Regular school attendance plays an important role in student success. Being at school every day helps students stay engaged, build routines, and keep up with learning.

We encourage families to have students attend school every day unless they truly are sick (refer to page 2, When to Stay Home). Every day counts!

Let's work together to help every student build strong habits for a bright future!

### REMEMBER:

- School starts at 8:20am. Students arriving after are tardy.
- Students arriving or leaving between 9:30 & 2pm will receive a 1/2 day's absence.
- Excuses must be submitted within 3 days of an absence. They can be sent in your child's folder, emailed to Mrs. Peterson at [alp35@mcsdk12.org](mailto:alp35@mcsdk12.org), or entered in Family Access.

Reach out if you need support—we're here to help! Every day counts, and every student matters!

## Absence Note

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_



Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATIONAL TRIPS

Don't forget a few important steps if you are planning a vacation before the end of the school year. Students are allowed 5 education trip days each school year.

Complete and submit an Education Trip Request Form at least 5 days in advance of the trip.

Within 3 days of returning from the trip, the student must submit a 1 page report on their experience. Missed assignments must also be turned in upon return.



## PSA

PSA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 2/10 at 6pm. **⊗ Children should NOT attend PSA meetings.** They often involve planning events that are meant to be surprises for students. Childcare is not provided.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Biographies

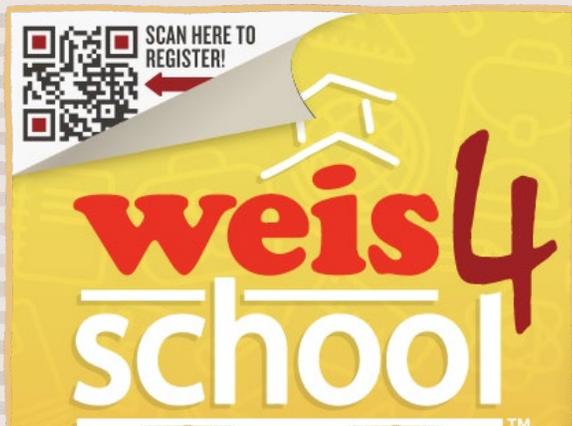
If your student is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, please remember to submit the Biography form **by 2/6** to ensure their information is included in this year's yearbook.

### Memory Book Ads

Create a lasting keepsake with a short personal message published in the yearbook. **For \$5**, your message will be included in the memory book of the yearbook. Messages and payment **due 2/6**.

### WEIS FOR KIDS

Link your Weis Rewards Card to help our school earn money just by grocery shopping! Scan the QR code below and follow the steps. Each time you shop, a portion of your purchase goes toward our school. It's a simple way to make a big difference!



## SKYLERT NOTIFICATIONS

Skylert is MCSD's primary communication tool for sharing a variety of important messages with families including:

- Weather related announcements
  - Act 80 day reminders
- Vacation and calendar updates

Please take a few minutes to log into your Family Access account and make sure your information is up to date including phone numbers, email addresses, and home address.

## NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

February 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating National School Counseling Week, a time to recognize the important role school counselors play in student social and emotional health.



We are so fortunate to have Miss Marker here each day. Whether working with a class, a small group, or one-on-one, Miss Marker helps students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn. Her patience, compassion, and dedication make a meaningful difference each day.

During School Counseling Week, we thank Miss Marker, for the work she does to support our students and school community!

## MCSD POLICY 906

MCSD School Board Policy 105.1 requires annual notification to parents/guardians & students that it welcomes inquiries, suggestions, and constructive criticism from parents/guardians, district residents or community groups regarding the districts programs, personnel, operations and facility. The Board adopted Policy 906 to establish procedures for general public complaints.

Dear Parent:

The Mifflin County School District is conducting registration for children who will be eligible for enrollment in a kindergarten class for the 2026-2027 school year. A child must be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2026. There are no exceptions or provisions made for early entrance to kindergarten.

Information gathered from this form will enable the district to properly plan for its new enrollees and will provide an opportunity for school officials to communicate directly with parents and guardians concerning enrollment requirements.

Proper enrollment for school includes: a physical examination performed within one year of the start of the 2026-2027 school year, verification of birth date, proper immunization, proof of residence, and custody agreements/court orders (if applicable). Once enrolled, a kindergarten assessment will be administered to each child to determine learning potential. While this assessment has no bearing on eligibility for enrollment, it does aid the school in structuring meaningful and appropriate educational programs for new students. Once your child is registered you will receive more information about the assessment program.

**Please complete the form below and return it to your child's school :**

**East Derry Elementary School - Mrs. Alesia Baumgardner - (717) 543-5615, alb50@mcsdk12.org**

**Indian Valley Elementary School - Ms. Rylie Kepner - (717) 667-2123, rek14@mcsdk12.org**

**Lewistown Elementary School - Mrs. Kaitlin Lorson - (717) 242-5823, kml29@mcsdk12.org**

**Strodes Mills Elementary School - Mrs. Amber Peterson - (717) 248-7154, alp35@mcsdk12.org**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: *Male or Female*  
Last First Middle Month / Date / Year

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable) Last First Middle

Child Resides with: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Mother/Guardian

Address where Child Resides \_\_\_\_\_  
Street / Box No. City

Name of a local friend or relative to contact if parents are not available.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Address Telephone Relationship