

STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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COMING UP

- 2/26-3/5..... Spring Book Fair
- 3/5..... Family Night 5:30pm-7:00pm
- 3/13..... No School
Act 80 Day
- 3/19..... Ned Show
- 3/24..... MCHS Jazz Band
Performance
- 3/25..... Last day of 2nd & 3rd grade's
3rd marking period
- 3/27..... 1st grade PSU Poison
Prevention Lessons
- 3/30 & 3/31..... 3rd grade STEM Rover

MCHS JAZZ BAND

We are excited to announce a special musical event coming to our school on March 24th!

This year we are thrilled to welcome the talented MCHS Jazz Band for a live performance for our students.

Much like Mrs. Fensterbusch's memorable Cantare World Tour in December, this special visit will bring the joy of live music directly to our school community. Under the direction of Mr. Kahley, the jazz band will showcase their musical talents and share the excitement of jazz with our students.

We are so grateful to Mr. Kahley and the MCHS Jazz Band for sharing their time and talents with us!

READ ACROSS AMERICA

We are excited to celebrate Read Across America Week and Dr. Seuss's birthday with a SPIRIT WEEK! Each day will have a fun theme to show our school spirit and share our loved for reading.

- M, 3/2** The Cat in the Hat
Wear white, red, black, and a hat to celebrate the birthday of The Cat!
- Tu, 3/3** Oh, the Places You Will Go
Wear something with a place you'd like to see Or dress like something you would like to be!
- W, 3/4** Wacky Wednesday
Wear'em backwards or mix'em up. Wackiest clothes are in the lineup
- Th, 3/5** Fox in Socks
Polkadots, plaid, one red, one blue, Any fun or funky socks will do!
- F, 3/6** I Am Not Going to Get Up Today
We don't want to get out of bed!
So, don't wear clothes, wear pajamas instead!
(school appropriate, please!)

FAMILY NIGHT

Join us for Family Night on March 5th from 5:30-7pm as we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, Read Across America Week, and the completion of our One Book One School book, The Water Horse!

This year we will be hosting game night featuring game stations throughout the school, space to bring your own games, and book fair shopping hours. Don't forget to enjoy dinner from local food trucks while you explore student projects and have fun with the whole family!

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 MCS D Medication Policy.



REMINDERS:

- School Physical will take place at SMES on 3/30 only for students who have not submitted the requirement yet.

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

SPRING HEALTH TIPS

- **Allergy Awareness** - monitor for pollen allergies, which can mimic cold symptoms. Keep necessary medication on hand and administer prior to school if necessary.
- **Bug Bite Safety** – as kids spend more time outside, use repellent to protect against biting insects & ticks.
- **Sun & Outdoor Safety** – encourage outdoor play & sports to boost physical activity after winter- don't forget sunscreen.
- **Spring Cleaning** – clean & disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, such as doorknobs and phones. Open windows to allow fresh air to circulate, reducing the concentration of indoor allergens & germs.

PBIS



During the month of February, students continued turning in their paw tickets for bucket prizes OR they could use 50 paw tickets for the paw wall prize of milkshakes with Mr. Miller! This prize was a huge success! We're proud to announce that a record **93 students** earned this prize! Mr. Miller will be putting his blender to work and "drowning" in milkshakes as part of the fun.

Coming up for March, the first 24 students who turn in **50 paw tickets** will win an extra special prize of participating in the BUNNY HOP PARTY!

Is It a Cold or Allergies?

Is it a cold or allergies causing your cough, sniffles and sore throat? Although their symptoms may be similar, here's how to tell which is which and choose the right treatment.

Symptom	Cold	Allergy
Fever	Sometimes	Never
Body aches and pains	Sometimes	Never
Headache	Often	Sometimes
Cough	Often	Sometimes
Fatigue	Often	Sometimes
Itchy, watery eyes	Rarely	Often
Itchy throat	Rarely	Often
Runny/stuffy nose	Often	Often
Sore throat	Often	Sometimes
Duration	Less than 2 weeks	Varies

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration is finally here- happening in just two weeks, on March 16th & 17th! We are excited to welcome our newest students and families for this exciting event.

If you haven't registered your child yet, contact the office as soon as possible. It will be a fun and memorable time filled with picture opportunities, meeting the teachers, and playing with new friends, plus a brief academic screening and vision screening. We can't wait to meet our incoming kindergarten class!

NATIONAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK WEEK

March 2-6 we celebrate National School Social Work Week & recognize the incredible support, care, & dedication our school social workers provide every day. From connecting families with resources to serving as MCSD Homeless Liaisons, they play an essential role in helping our school community thrive.

We're especially grateful for our very own social workers, Nicole Frasier & Kaitlin Marshall who make a tremendous impact by building strong relationships and ensuring our families have the tools and support they need to succeed.



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
Holy Crepe
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.



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

February 4th brought the 100th day of school & it was celebrated in BIG ways!

Students took part in creative "100" activities & many dressed up as if they were 100 years old- complete with gray hair & walking sticks!



101ST DAY OF SCHOOL

February 5th brought the 101st day of school & 1st grade celebrated dalmatian style, complete with a visit from a real life dalmatian, Kindle!



RAISING TROUT

Our young trout are continuing to grow and thrive!

All eggs have hatched and developed into fingerlings. They are now about an inch long and have developed the classic trout markings.

Students loved following this transformation and watching the little fish grow. It's been an exciting hand-on learning experience for everyone!



MAINTENANCE WORKER APPRECIATION DAY

March 6th is National Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day! This day celebrates the skilled professionals who keep our schools and facilities in top shape.

We are so thankful for our very own custodians, Mr. Conner and Mrs. Fox. They are here every day keeping classrooms, hallways, and common spaces clean, safe, and welcoming. Their dedication makes a big difference in maintaining a healthy environment for everyone.

Our maintenance team may not be here at SMES every day, but they handle critical repairs, equipment upkeep, and larger projects that ensure our school operates safely and efficiently. Their behind-the-scenes work has a big impact on everyone in MCSD.

Together, these teams help create a healthy, functional, and positive environment for students and staff alike.

ATTENDANCE & TIMELINESS

March is here and spring is right around the corner! As the weather warms up and we all look forward to sunshine and outdoor activities, let's stay focused on strong attendance. Every school day matters, and consistent attendance helps students stay connected, confident, and successful.

Keeping up with healthy habits like handwashing and good rest can help students feel their best.

Let's spring forward together with healthy habits and great attendance!

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, 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

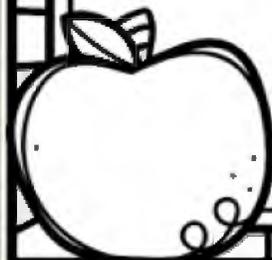
Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Date Absent: _____

Reason: _____

Signed _____



STEM ROVER MOBILE FAB LAB

The **TIU STEM Rover Mobile Fab Lab** will be visiting SMES for the first time on March 30th & 31st! The STEM Rover brings hands-on STEM activities and technology directly to our school, and we are thrilled that each 3rd grade class will have the opportunity to participate in this unique experience. Students will explore, create, and problem-solve through engaging, interactive experiences.

We are proud to bring this opportunity to our third graders and can't wait to see our students in action during this exciting STEM adventure.

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.

RAFFLE CALENDAR

Students are selling raffle calendars for \$10 each (due 3/24)! Winners will be drawn daily, with Two Prize Tuesdays receiving an additional prize. There are lots of great prizes from generous local supporters!

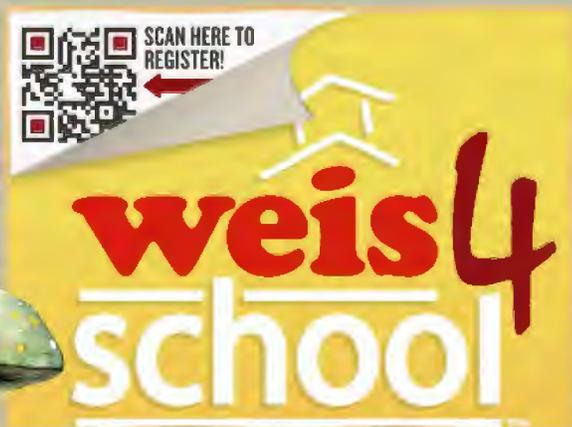
FAMILY NIGHT

In addition to a fun evening together, guests can purchase tickets for a chance to win raffle baskets full of fantastic prizes.

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!



SPECIAL GYM REQUEST!

Our gym teacher, Mr. McClure, has a special request! His bean bag supply has dwindled, and he needs help rebuilding his collection for gym class.

If you're able to make any to donate, Mr. McClure would be thrilled to accept them and keep the fun rolling in the gym! Standard size and filling are preferred, but the look is up to you- get creative!

VALENTINE'S FUN

Classrooms were filled with kindness and friendship as students celebrated Valentine's Day on February 12th.



SPRING PREPAREDNESS

With the unpredictable nature of spring weather, wearing layers becomes the norm. To help ensure lost items find their way back to your child, **please label sweatshirts, jackets, and coats with their name.**

Our Lost and Found grows throughout the year, and all unclaimed items are cleared out at the end of the school year.

Help us help you- putting your child's name in their belongings makes it much easier to return them!