

# STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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## COMING UP

- 5/2..... Elementary Art Show
- 5/13..... Spring concert @9:30
- 5/15..... Assembly- author visit
- 5/18-5/19..... Book Bingo
- 5/25..... No School  
Memorial Day
- 5/26..... Yearbooks & treat
- 5/27..... Field Day
- 5/28..... Field Day Rain Date
- 5/29..... LAST DAY OF SCHOOL  
Move up day

## FIELD DAY

Get ready for one of the most anticipated days of the school year- **Field Day is happening on Wednesday, 5/27!** (Rain Date- Thursday, 5/28). Our PSA has been hard at work planning a day full of games, laughter, and splash-worthy fun. Don't forget:

- Apply sunscreen before school so everyone stays safe in the sun.
- Send a towel to dry off after water activities!
- If you chose a packed lunch from home, remember to send it

**A viewing area will be established** between the field and the parking. Feel free to bring a lawn chair and watch the fun, but for the safety of our students, **please remember not to cross the viewing line.**

## 2025-26 WRAP UP

It's amazing how quickly the school year has flown by! As we move into our final month, we're reflecting on the incredible growth & achievements of our students. Since the first day of school, they've made meaningful progress academically, socially, & emotionally. Their resilience, curiosity, & enthusiasm for learning have made this year truly memorable.

With a month full of exciting activities ahead, we look forward to our remaining time with students. It has been a pleasure working together to support our students, & we're excited to celebrate all they've accomplished.

## LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The countdown is on! **The last day of school is Friday, 5/29.**

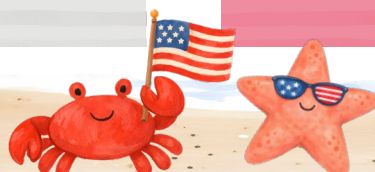
The morning will kick off with **move-up day activities** where students get a sneak peek at what's ahead! Students will find out who their teacher will be, visit their new classroom, & meet their future classmates. It's a great way to build excitement for the grade ahead.

**We will have an early dismissal at 12:15pm.**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ORIENTATION AT LIS

We're proud of our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders & all they've accomplished at SMES, and we look forward to seeing all they achieve in the next stage of their educational journey at LIS in 4<sup>th</sup> grade!

LIS will host orientation for incoming 4<sup>th</sup> graders on 8/13 at 10am and 5pm. We encourage all families to attend one of the sessions to ensure a smooth & successful transition.



# 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.

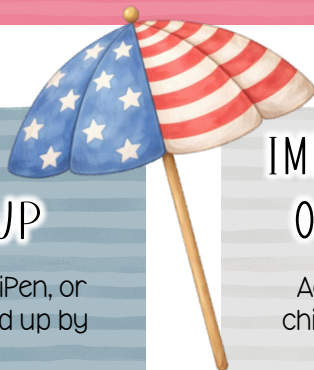
Questions? Reach out to our nurses: Nurse Yoder ([jsy43@mcsdk12.org](mailto:jsy43@mcsdk12.org)) & Nurse Ritchey ([air17@mcsdk12.org](mailto:air17@mcsdk12.org))

## IMPORTANT!! MEDICATION PICKUP

If your child has a medication, EpiPen, or inhaler at school, it must be picked up by **May 29, 2026.**

A parent, guardian, or designated adult **MUST** collect the medication- it will **NOT** be sent home with your student.

Any medications that remain unclaimed after **May 29, 2026**, will be disposed of properly.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS OF CURRENT SECOND GRADERS

According to the PA School Health Act, all school-aged children are required to have a dental examination upon initial school entry, as well as in 3rd & 7th grades.

If your child sees a private dentist, please ensure that the dental form previously sent home is completed & returned to the school nurse for the 2026-27 school year. Remember, the dental exam can be conducted up to one year before the start of the school year. Completed forms can be dropped off, sent in with students, or faxed to 717-242-5839.

## SPRING CONCERT

Our Spring Concert is right around the corner- **5/13 @9:30am!** Our 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students have been working hard to make this a performance to remember.

Parking may be limited- parking in the field will be dependent upon weather and field conditions.

Let's give Mrs. Mills a warm welcome as it will be her first concert here at SMES!

MCSD K-5  
**Elementary  
Art Show**

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND  
11 A - 2 P  
LEWISTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

East Derry Elementary  
Indian Valley Elementary Center  
Lewistown Elementary  
Lewistown Intermediate  
Strodes Mills Elementary

PRESENTED BY THE ELEMENTARY ART TEACHERS

## SPEECH PATHOLOGIST DAY

On 5/18, we celebrate Speech Pathologist Day and recognize Mrs. Schifano for her dedication, compassion, and the difference she makes in the lives of our students every day.

As she prepares to retire at the end of this school year, we thank her for all she has given to our school community and wish her the very best in this next chapter.

## RAISING TROUT

Our students have enjoyed observing the trout's lifecycle and taking part in this unique, hands-on learning experience. As the program comes to an end, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are excited to join Mr. Conner and Mr. Miller in wrapping it up by releasing them into Strodes Run!



## PBIS SPONSORS

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

### THANK YOU:

At the Barnyard | Carousel Skating Rink  
Cora's Creekside Tavern | Discovery Space  
Giant Stores | Harshbarger's Sub & Malt  
Hartley's Potato Chips | Holy Crepe  
Lewistown Florist | Lewistown Lanes  
Pizza Hut | Rec Park Pool | Rita's  
Shear Desire | Twin Kiss | Urban Air  
YMCA

## PBIS

During April, the first 20 students to turn in 50 paw tickets got to **CHALK THE WALK** with the MCHS STEM Interns!

After those spaces were filled, students who turned in 50 paw tickets earned **extra recess & popsicles!**

Coming up for May, **the first 16 students** who turn in **100 paw tickets** will win lunch with author Kevin Lovegreen and a signed book! Once those spots are filled, students can earn participating in a **kickball tournament** by turning in **50 paw tickets!**

There will be a final **END OF THE YEAR MEGA PRIZE** to end the year for 4 lucky winners- 2 slip & slides and 2 sprinklers!



## GOLDEN PAW WINNERS

The Golden Paw Award is presented each month to students who have done an **EXCEPTIONAL** job at showing Respectful, Responsible, Ready & Safe behaviors. 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 for the book vending machine, their picture on the Golden Paw Wall of Fame, a pizza party at the end of the marking period, & are recognized on Class Dojo.



## LUCKY LUKE

We are excited to welcome author Kevin Lovegreen to SMES on May 15<sup>th</sup> for a special Reading Frenzy assembly! Kevin is known for his Lucky Luke books- hunting & fishing themed children's books, many of which we have in our library!

During the assembly, he will talk about what it's like to be an author & how he comes up with ideas for his stories & share his enthusiasm for wildlife, hunting, & fishing.

We're excited to offer some exciting PBIS prizes related to Kevin's visit- lunch with the author & signed books!

## BOOK BINGO

We are excited to announce that Title I will host book bingo again this year!

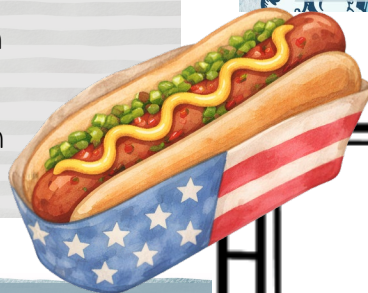
This always popular event gives students a fun and engaging way to explore new books while enjoying a little friendly competition!

Kindergarten- 5/18 @ 9am

First Grade- 5/19 @ 9am

Second Grade- 5/19 @ 1pm

Third Grade- 5/18 @ 1pm



## ATTENDANCE & TIMELINESS

As we enter the final month of school, attendance is just as important as ever- each day truly counts! We have many fun & engaging activities planned to celebrate the end of the year, & we want every student to be part of these special moments!

### 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!

HELP US WELCOME  
KEVIN LOVEGREEN WITH A  
**SPIRIT WEEK** MAY 11-15

**Tuesday - Explorer Day**  
Dress like an explorer with safari hats, binoculars, vests, and maps.

**Monday - Gone Fishin' Day**  
Wear bucket hats, sunglasses, flannels, or fish themed shirts.

**Wednesday - Wildlife Wednesday**  
Dress like an animal you might see outdoors: deer, bear, fish, birds, etc...

**Thursday - Camp Out Day**  
Cozy camping vibes. Think PJs, hoodies, sweats, etc....

**Friday - Camo Day**  
Blend into your surroundings by wearing camo.

DO NOT send any real OR fake weapons to school.  
Thank you!

## Absence Note

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

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

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

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



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

## PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION



This Principal Appreciation Day, we celebrate & thank Mr. Miller for his dedicated leadership & care for our school community. He has been a constant source of support & encouragement for our students, staff, & families.

As he prepares for a well-earned retirement at the end of the school year, we are especially grateful for the positive impact he has made on our school.

## EARTH DAY

Our school celebrated Earth Day with meaningful activities that highlighted the importance of caring for our environment. Students participated in a variety of classroom projects, with some classes picking up trash around the school to keep our grounds beautiful.



## PSA

PSA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 5/12** 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.

### CALENDAR FUNDRAISER WINNERS



Congratulations to the winners of this year's Calendar Fundraiser! Students who sold the most calendars were recognized & received their prizes, celebrating their hard work & dedication.

Thank you to all who participated. Your efforts helped make this fundraiser a truly successful one, supporting our school community in meaningful ways.

### WEIS FOR KIDS

Link your Weis Rewards Card to help our school earn money just by grocery shopping! Scan the QR code below & 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!



## BE THE YELLOW

Join us on **5/8** in wearing yellow to celebrate "Be the Yellow"- a special day all about spreading kindness, positivity, & joy, just like a bright ray of sunshine.

Whether it's offering a helping hand, sharing a smile, or including someone new, we encourage our students to be alight in someone's day.

Let's fill our school with sunshine- inside & out- by wearing yellow & celebrating the power of kindness!

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

**Teacher Appreciation Week (5/4-5/8)** is more than just a celebration- it's a chance to recognize the caring, dedicated educators who make our building such a special place for our young learners to grow.

From taking their first steps into school to gaining confidence & independence, our teachers are there for every milestone. Each day, they bring patience, creativity, & kindness into their classrooms, helping students feel safe, supported, & excited to learn.

We are proud to have a team of teachers who work together to meet the needs of every child- each member of our team plays an important role in shaping our students' experiences.

Join us in showing appreciation and reminding our teachers how valued they truly are.

# STORM TRACKER

Kindergarten students had a wonderful time talking with ABC27 news meteorologist Summer Trolli! She taught students about the different types of clouds, severe weather, & how to be safe. Then students had the opportunity to see her storm tracker vehicle & all the tools she uses to predict the weather! Students were also featured on the weather segment of abc27 news on 4/30!



## SCHOOL NURSE APPRECIATION DAY

On **School Nurse Appreciation Day (5/6)**, we celebrate our 2 amazing school nurses- Nurse Ritchey & Nurse Yoder. From scraped knees to upset tummies, they are always there with a smile, ice pack, & just the right amount of care to help our students feel better & get back to learning.

Thank you, Nurse Ritchey & Nurse Yoder, for all the comfort & care you give!

## ARBOR DAY

Mr. Miller completed his tradition of planting a flowering crabapple in front of the school with a few 3<sup>rd</sup> graders & Mr. Conner! A fitting close prior to his retirement!



## KINDERGARTEN IS EGG-CITED!

Our kindergarten classrooms were filled with excitement once again as students watched baby chicks hatch right before their eyes! This marks the second year of this special hands-on learning experience, which continues to be a favorite for students.

A special thank you goes to Deere Run Ag for making this opportunity possible again this year. Their continued support helps create engaging experiences for our youngest learners.

