

September 20 - September 24, 2010

# McKenzie Monitor

## E-NEWS YOU CAN USE

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### From the Principal

Dear McKenzie Families,

Effective and ongoing communication between home and school is one of the hallmarks of high student achievement. Our fall Curriculum Nights are just one of those channels of communication. Thank you for taking the time to attend these evenings—what a great way to begin our partnership this year! I want to emphasize the word “begin,” as there will be many more opportunities to stay connected throughout the school year. Monthly PTA meetings and school-wide events are just some examples. You might find the time to assist with a learning activity in the classroom or chaperone a field trip. Everyone can stay connected by reading the weekly **Monitor**, classroom **newsletters**, and visiting the district, school, classroom, and PTA **websites**. Because communication is a two-way responsibility, we must all find the time to make this a top priority. In the weeks to come I will be reminding you of upcoming school-wide and district events. I do encourage you to use the Google calendar on the district’s website to stay in the know.

Have your children talked about the **Habits of Mind**? Every month or two, McKenzie places special emphasis on one of the essential **Habits of Mind** (for more information, please visit: [www.habitsofmind.org](http://www.habitsofmind.org)). We teach our students that when these behaviors become **habits**, people become very successful at what they do. The first habit we feature is **Persisting**. In our students’ language, it’s called: “**Sticking to it!**” Remember the book, **The Little Engine that Could?** We want our students to become that engine that repeats, “I think I can, I think I can....” while chugging uphill. I hope you will join us in pointing out times when your child or someone else in your family demonstrates this behavior to help reinforce to our students both its importance and recurrence in everyday life.

In closing, I offer special thanks to the parents who helped with **Picture Day** this week, as well as those who organized and worked at last weekend’s **Ice Cream Social**.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Dr. Welter

[welterd@wilmette39.org](mailto:welterd@wilmette39.org)

847.251.2295 x6300

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# THIS WEEK...

## Monday 9/20

- LUNCH: BBQ Chicken Wings, Green Beans, Corn Muffin, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- REMINDER: Chess Club – Kindergarten - 11:35-12:20 p.m.; Grades 1-4 - 3:15-4:15 p.m.

## Tuesday 9/21

- LUNCH: Turkey Nachos, Brown Rice, Veggies with Dip, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- ENRICHMENT: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade/Moroschan - Evanston Ecology Center (buses leave at 12:30; return at 2:30)
- REMINDER: Chess Club – Kindergarten - 11:35-12:20 p.m.

## Wednesday 9/22

- LUNCH: Veggie Egg Roll, Brown Rice, Fresh Fruit, Carrots, Fortune Cookie, Milk
- ENRICHMENT: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade/Dolkart, Aten - Evanston Ecology Center (buses leave at 12:30 and return at 2:30); 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade/Brighty, Flondro - Botanic Gardens (buses leave at 9:15; return at 1:30) bring sack lunch/drink; dress for outdoors

## Thursday 9/23

- LUNCH: Square Cheese Pizza, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- ENRICHMENT: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade/Krumholz, Luskin - Evanston Ecology Center (buses leave at 12:30; return at 2:30); 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade/Martin, Safran, Torf - Botanic Gardens (buses leave at 9:15; return at 1:30) bring sack lunch/drink; dress for outdoors
- REMINDER: Chess Club – Kindergarten - 11:35-12:20 p.m.

## Friday 9/24

- LUNCH: Hamburger or Cheeseburger on WW Bun, Baked Fries, Carrots, Fresh Fruit, Milk

# From the P.T.A.

**Join the PTA!** Don't be caught without *your* 2010-2011 McKenzie Directory - get your copy today by joining the PTA at [www.mckenziepta.com](http://www.mckenziepta.com).

**McClubs are here!** Check out the new McClubs page on the PTA website for the new online registration process and other important fall session information. Registration begins on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Please see [www.mckenziepta.com/mcclubs/](http://www.mckenziepta.com/mcclubs/).

**10% Back to Schools - Grocery Promotion:** For three weeks starting on September 18<sup>th</sup>, a BACK TO SCHOOL redemption code will be printed at the bottom of your Dominicks receipt. Visit <http://backtoschools.escrp.com/> and enter in your redemption code, or turn in your receipt directly to McKenzie, and our school will earn 10% of your total. McKenzie's Group ID is 500013854.

**Come to the Kelly Miller Circus!** The circus will take place on the field behind the Mikaelian Education Center (615 Locust Road) on Saturday, September 25 at 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 general admission or \$35 for reserved ringside seats. Proceeds benefit the Educational Foundation's Gripp Grants and other initiatives in all six D39 schools, and the wider Wilmette community. Questions? For more information, please visit [www.d39foundation.org](http://www.d39foundation.org) or call 847-853-3939. Stop by at 9 a.m. on circus morning and see the Big Top go up!

**"Reading Saves the Day!"** The McKenzie Book Fair is being held September 28-30 in the small gym from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 to 5:30 p.m., with extended hours on Wednesday (9/29) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Special "Hero" story readers will read after school each day at 3:30 p.m. and on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Come listen to Police Officer Parisi read on Tuesday, 7th grade Girl Scouts read on Wednesday afternoon and a special PJ story time reader at 7:00 p.m. On Thursday, Oshana will be our Hero reader after school. Have the kids listen to a story while you look around the Book Fair!!

**Get Your Cheetah On!** Check out old faves and new styles to stay warm and look cool all year! Great gifts for students, teachers, staff, or parents! Orders due 10/1 for delivery the week of 10/24 via backpack express. To order, visit the PTA website ([www.mckenziepta.com/merchandising.html](http://www.mckenziepta.com/merchandising.html)) or, if paying by check, please print the form and send in with your check made out to McKenzie PTA. Call Maria Bock with questions at 847-256-3388.

**21st Century Learning – Learn More About It:** Join us on Thursday, October 7 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the McKenzie Auditorium for an engaging presentation by Dr. Sarah Jerome, Superintendent of District 25, with over 45 years of experience in education. A follow-up discussion will occur at the MEC on Friday, October 8 from 9:15-10:45 a.m. For more information go to [www.mckenziepta.com](http://www.mckenziepta.com) or contact Julie Johnson at (847) 251-4828 or [jujohnson007@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jujohnson007@sbcglobal.net).

**The Sharing Committee:** Please help the kids at Carman-Buckner School - just 25 miles away, but 90% are below the poverty level. These programs are happening during the month of September: coins are being collected in the classroom to purchase

new books; and school supplies and gently used books are being collected in the lobby. For more information, please see [www.mckenziepta.com/sharing.html](http://www.mckenziepta.com/sharing.html).

**The General Mills Box Tops** program is back! Last year, we raised over \$700 for the PTA through this program, and with your help we can raise even more this year. Box top labels are found on most General Mills products, and each box top is worth 10 cents. To participate, cut out and collect box top labels, and then drop off the labels in one of the collection boxes in the main and kindergarten lobbies. Please cut labels along the perforated line and do not submit the entire package. Questions? Email [christiane.shah@gmail.com](mailto:christiane.shah@gmail.com) or call 847-728-0123.

**Want More Information?** The McKenzie PTA Website, [www.mckenziepta.com](http://www.mckenziepta.com), has lots of information on all the upcoming events mentioned in the McKenzie Monitor, other events, clubs, calendars and much, much more! Be sure to check it out.

**Reminder:** Submissions for the **Monitor** are due by **Thursday at 12:00 pm**. Go to <http://mckenziepta.com/communication.html> for the submission form. Thanks!

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## On the Web...

[McKenzie P.T.A. Website](#)

[McKenzie Elementary School Website](#)

**From the Nurse's Office:**

### Spotlight on Pertussis or Whooping Cough

Pertussis, otherwise known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious illness that is easily transmitted through coughing and sneezing, and the best prevention is the Pertussis vaccine. It is the "aP" in the DTaP, which also has Diphtheria and Tetanus.

Pertussis initially looks like a regular cold, with runny nose and a mild cough that lasts typically for 1 to 2 weeks. Those two weeks are a highly contagious period.

Unfortunately, the severe and distinctive coughing starts after this period. At this point it is often diagnosed and treated with antibiotics, but the antibiotics usually only limit further transmission of the disease and may not alleviate the coughing symptoms. The illness also can last a long time, with coughing episodes slowly becoming less frequent and less severe. It is sometimes referred to as the 100-day cough.

As parents we are very careful to keep our children's immunizations up to date, but often we forget about our own. Cases of pertussis or whooping cough are on the upswing in Illinois. We were all immunized as children, but as we grow older our immunity wanes. You may have received a booster for pertussis if you have had a

tetanus booster after 2005. I would encourage you to check with your doctor to see if you need a pertussis booster.

Please call or e-mail me with any questions, 1-847-512-6302 or [morank@wilmette39.org](mailto:morank@wilmette39.org).

## [District 39 Website](#)

### **The Circus comes to Wilmette D39!**

Please support your D39 schools with a trip to the circus on Saturday, September 25. The D39 Educational Foundation's fall fundraiser will take place right here in Wilmette on the field behind the Mikaelian Education Center, 615 Locust Road, with shows at 2 pm and 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 general admission (children under age 2 do not need a ticket).

For more information, to purchase online, or locate a ticket outlet, go to the Foundation website [[www.d39foundation.org](http://www.d39foundation.org) ]. Tickets also will be sold (cash/check) outside each school on Wed, Thurs, and Fri afternoons, Sept. 22-24. Tickets can be purchased at the circus box office starting at 9 am on circus day -- come see the Big Top go up and meet the animal trainers.

Ticket proceeds support the Foundation's Gripp Grants and other educational enrichment programs in D39 schools and the Wilmette community. We thank you and all our generous local community partners for your support. See you on Saturday, September 25th!