

November 15 - November 19, 2010

McKenzie Monitor

E-NEWS YOU CAN USE

From the Principal

Dear McKenzie Families,

While our students were in attendance for only three days this week, it's been quite a busy week just the same. Last Friday evening McKenzie moms enjoyed a wonderful evening of "mingling" at the Winnetka Women's Club. A big round of applause to chairpersons, Wendy Irwin and Tonya Martin, and to all who attended! In addition to their classroom learning, our second and third graders were treated to a performance by the Ensemble Español Dance Company. It was a fun, interactive assembly where students got to observe folkloric, classic and flamenco dancing as well as try some dance moves from their seats! This is just one example of the many ways in which our PTA's Enrichment budget supports our curriculum.

Ongoing communication between home and school is one of the essential components of student success. In addition to daily/weekly work samples, tests, and quizzes, parent-teacher conferences and progress reports provide parents with continued snapshots of what and how their child is doing. Our staff works diligently to share meaningful representations of your child's learning. I hope this week's conference was all you hoped it would be and that you will take a few moments to give us some feedback on your conference experience. The input you provide through the link below will help us shape our future communication practices. The survey will be available to you through Friday, November 19 at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Parent-Teacher_Conferences_Fall_2010

In the week ahead:

- Encourage your child to enter his/her artwork for a chance to appear on the cover of the 2010-2011 Yearbook. Get contest rules and entry forms at www.mckenziepta.com or directly from Ms. Porter or the office. B&W drawings only, please. Entries due 11/16.
- Show your school spirit and Get Your Cheetah On! Spirit wear orders can be placed online, at www.mckenziepta.com till 11/15.
- Donate to Student Council's holiday canned food drive till 11/19. Contributions will benefit local food pantries and can be placed in the containers located in our

school lobby.

- The Sharing Committee will be distributing holiday wish-lists for children in need at Carman-Buckner School starting on Monday. Consider involving your children, letting them pick out a child's wish-list and including them in the shopping experience. This is a great way to teach the joy of giving rather than receiving for the holidays. Also consider donating to the Share the Feast grocery dollar collection. It's super easy because you can donate online from the comfort of home!
- Don't forget it's not too late to drop off hats and mittens in the lobby collection box, also due 11/30.

On Monday, Nov. 15th, McKenzie's School Improvement Team will present the 2010-11 plan at the Board of Education meeting, beginning at 7:00 pm at the Mikalean Education Center. As always, parents are always welcome.

Enjoy your weekend!

Dr. Welter

welterd@wilmette39.org

847.251.2295 x6300

DID YOU KNOW?

Last week's **PEDAL POWER** collected 280 bikes for high achieving students in Chicago Public Schools—a new record!

175 bikes were collected from Wilmette alone.

Mesirow Financial made a \$1,800 donation, enabling the purchase of helmets for every child who receives a bike. **WOW!**

Monday 11/15

- **LUNCH:** Nachos, Brown Rice, Mixed Veggies, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **CHESS CLUB:** Kindergarten - 11:35-12:20 p.m.; Grades 1-4 - 3:15-4:15 p.m.
- **McCLUBS:** 8-8:45 a.m. - Scooters and More; 3:20-4:15 p.m. - After School Sports, Dance/Hip Hop, Legos

Tuesday 11/16

- **LUNCH:** Baked Tilapia, Mashed Potato Smiles, Broccoli, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **ENRICHMENT:** 4th Grade (all classes) - Ocean Adventure Presentation; auditorium, 2:15-3 p.m.
- **McCLUBS:** 8-8:45 a.m. - Smart Board; 3:20-4:15 p.m. - Bollywood Dancing, Hoops, Amazing Minds, Drum Club

Wednesday 11/17

- **LUNCH:** Chicken Breast on WW Bun, Baked Chips, Corn, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **STUDENT COUNCIL:** 8:25-8:50 a.m., Auditorium
- **ENRICHMENT:** Kindergarten/2nd Grade (all classes); Nick Hockings presentation; auditorium 10:30-12:05 and 1:15-2 p.m.
- **McCLUBS:** 3:20-4:15 p.m. - Intro to Nerf Football, Express Yourself, Cheerleading, Painting

Thursday 11/18

- **LUNCH:** Round Pepperoni Pizza, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **CHESS CLUB:** Kindergarten - 11:35-12:20 p.m.
- **McCLUBS:** 3:20-4:15 p.m. – Flag Football (no class today), My Gym

Friday 11/19

- **LUNCH:** Mini Turkey Corn Dogs, Soup, Green Beans, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **McCLUBS:** 3:20-4:15 p.m. – Baseball Club, Lego Club

From the P.T.A.

Share the Joy Holiday Gift Giving – Make the holidays bright by purchasing gifts for a needy child at Carman-Buckner School. Pick-up a child's holiday wish-list in the McKenzie lobby Monday-Wednesday, November 15-17 at 8:45-9:15 a.m. or 2:45-3:15 p.m. Drop off new, wrapped gifts after the Thanksgiving break on Tuesday, 11/30.

Holiday Canned Food Drive – The Student Council is sponsoring a holiday canned food drive through Friday, November 19. The canned food will be donated to local food pantries. Look for the collection containers in the school lobby.

Girls on the Run for 3rd Graders: Do you have a daughter in 3rd grade? Please join us to learn about the Girls on the Run program offered at McKenzie. We will meet Thursday, November 18th at 9:00 in the cafeteria. Questions? Call Molly Sullivan at 847-256-9957.

4th Grade Farewell Planning - The first meeting to gather volunteers for the 4th Grade Farewell is Tuesday, November 16 at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria. If you can't make the meeting but would like to be involved, email Ellie Johnson at elliebjohnson@yahoo.com or Deanna Goldman at deannagoldman@mac.com.

Register for Chess Club: Registration for the winter session of chess club begins on November 15th and continues through November 28th. Please register at the PTA website. Participation is limited and on a first come first served basis, so please hurry!

Register for Junior Great Books - The McKenzie Junior Great Books (JGB) Program begins in January for 1st through 4th graders. Once a week, discussion groups led by parent volunteers meet at lunch/recess to discuss JGB readings selected to encourage analytical reading and a love of literature. The cost of materials for the 8-week program is \$30. Go to http://www.mckenziepta.com/shop_pta.html to register now until November 26th. Call Danae Melnick at 847-251-4703 with questions.

Submit Your Artwork for the Yearbook! Encourage your kids to enter artwork for a chance to appear on the cover of the 2010-2011 Yearbook. Contest rules and entry forms at www.mckenziepta.com or students can get them from Ms. Porter or the office. B&W drawings only, please. Entries due 11/16. Questions? Contact Sara Kurensky at sara@kurensky.org.

Race to Nowhere Viewing - PLN invites McKenzie parents to view the documentary film, *Race to Nowhere: The Dark Side of America's Achievement Culture*, <http://www.racetonowhere.com/>, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. at New Trier HS (Winnetka campus). McKenzie parents are invited to meet at the entrance of Gaffney Auditorium at 6:45 pm. Dr. Welter will facilitate an informal discussion following the movie. Please RSVP to Julie Johnson at jujohnson007@sbcglobal.net.

Share the Warmth Hat and Mitten Drive - The McKenzie Sharing Committee is collecting NEW hats and mittens for children in need at Carman-Buckner School in Waukegan. Please bring your purchases to the McKenzie lobby by Tuesday 11/30.

Share the Feast Grocery Dollar Collection - Put food on the holiday tables of the neediest families at Carman-Buckner School by purchasing grocery dollars. Purchase on-line by clicking on the link or drop-off a check to the Sharing Committee in-box written in an increment of \$25 (\$25, \$50, \$75, \$200, etc.) to the McKenzie PTA. Collection ends Tuesday, 11/30.

Reminder: Submissions for the **McKenzie Monitor** are due by **Thursday at 12:00 pm.** Go to <http://mckenziepta.com/communication.html> for the submission form. Questions? Contact Mindy Rittner, McKenzie Monitor Editor at mrtrittner@brinkshofer.com.

On the Web...

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

[McKenzie Elementary School Website](#)

[District 39 Website](#)