

Julie Geyer

From: MCK_3_Flondro_J@wilmette39.org on behalf of Denise Welter [welterd@wilmette39.org]

Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 10:06 PM

Subject: Monitor

May 2 - May 6, 2011

McKenzie Monitor

E-NEWS YOU CAN USE

From the Principal

Dear McKenzie Families,

We open our school doors on Monday morning to the month of **May**. It begins one of the busiest times of our school year. In addition to celebrating the culmination of many different thematic units, our students are preparing for music performances, beginning to enjoy outdoor physical education (and recess), spending time in our gardens, participating in field trips, Field Day, and so much more! We are looking forward to having you with us for many of these events!

Podcasts, SMART boards, and iPods, OH MY! A big round of applause to PTA's **Parent Learning Network**, McKenzie staff, and all the families who participated in Wednesday's **Technology Night**. Over 140 parents and students used a variety of **21st century learning** "tools", energized by all the possibilities ahead! Feedback from the families who attended will help us expand this event next year. Keep your eyes on our school website, where you will find an updated list of educational apps you and your child can use at home!

The first week in May has been designated as **Teacher Appreciation Week**. Schools across the nation will be celebrating the contributions made by these dedicated professionals. Back in 1944, an Arkansas teacher began corresponding with Eleanor Roosevelt about ways in which to recognize America's teachers. It was in 1953 that Mrs. Roosevelt persuaded the 81st Congress to dedicate the first Tuesday in May as **National Teachers' Day**. While the nation may have one special day and many schools have a dedicated week, McKenzie staff knows it has your ongoing support each and every day! For that we are most appreciative.

As we begin our planning for the new school year, I want to stress the importance of **early registration**. It is the number of registered students for next year that determines the number of sections we will have at each grade level. Please don't delay--take a moment this weekend to let us know that your child(ren) will be attending McKenzie

next year.

A **kindergarten lottery** was conducted yesterday to determine AM/PM placement. Letters were sent home today. **Fourth grade parents** are reminded to submit **Outdoor Education** health forms and payments by Monday.

In closing, I want to extend hearty congratulations to Mrs. Becky Littmann, who was recently named the new principal of Central School. Becky has served as a part-time assistant principal both at McKenzie and Central Schools over the past several years. I want to thank Becky for all she has done to help make McKenzie the wonderful school it is. Her talent and heart is a winning combination, indeed! We are in the process of interviewing assistant principal candidates for positions at the Jr. High, Highcrest, and the shared assignment at McKenzie/Central. I look forward to sharing the results of our final decisions later this month.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend!

Dr. Welter

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Did you know?

The **Bakeless Bake Sale**, sponsored by McKenzie's Student Council, raised **\$2,349.97** for the Japanese Relief Fund. **Wow!** The combined efforts of District 39's students yielded a check for over \$32,000, presented at this week's Board of Education meeting to a representative from the American Red Cross.

From the P.T.A.

Staff Appreciation Week is Around the Corner - Every day this week McKenzie celebrates its wonderful staff with fun surprises, each sponsored by a different grade. There will be a raffle with prizes for over 50% of the staff due to the generosity of McKenzie families. The week culminates with a staff luncheon at the home of the Thompson family. There are still a few openings to bring food; please see the PTA website to sign up. Last, we encourage you to walk into the school to look at the bulletin board entitled "550 Minds Growing Everyday," with photos of each of our 550 students. This week shows what can happen when a school pulls together to celebrate its staff.

Student Council's First Friday Spirit Day for May is "Red, White, and Blue Day." Students are invited and encouraged to show their school spirit by wearing red, white, and blue on Friday, May 6.

FAN Event - Mindset: The Elements of Success with Carol Dweck will take place on Monday, May 2, from 7-9 p.m. at the Skokie School Auditorium, 520 Glendale Ave., Winnetka. Dr. Dweck's hugely influential work examining learning, motivation, success, failure and resilience has impacted parents, educators, athletes, coaches, corporate executives and others vested in high achievement. Her research concludes that we produce confident learners when we praise students for the process they engage in, not when we tell them they're smart or talented. Dr. Dweck's rare Midwest appearance is a must-see event, and will appeal to a wide audience of all ages.

Citizen of the Year Celebration: On Tuesday, May 3, the D39 Educational Foundation is honoring Carole Dibo as the Citizen of the Year. Carole, the first HMS and WJHS Variety Show director and owner of the Wilmette Theatre, has greatly influenced the lives of many young actors in Wilmette. You are invited to help us honor Carole for her contributions to the community and to the creative arts in Wilmette on May 3 at the Michigan Shores Club, at 911 Michigan Ave. from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at www.d39foundation.org.

4th Grade Bike To Highcrest day is May 18th - After school on May 18th, 4th grade kids and their parents will follow a path from McKenzie to Highcrest. We will be greeted by the principal of Highcrest and given a brief speech about bike riding protocol. Please join us on May 18th at 3:45 p.m. in the back of McKenzie!

Birthday Books now accepts PayPal! Even if your child's birthday has long passed or is yet to come, the deadline to order a Birthday Book for your child is May 1st. Please see www.mckenziepta.com/birthday_book.html for the online form. Questions? Contact: birthdaybooks@mckenziepta.com or rebecca_lieber@sbcglobal.net.

4th Grade Parents - Highcrest Middle School will be using the convenient services of SchoolKidz, Inc. and their Teacher Tailored® back-to-school supply kit program. This program will save you time and is competitively priced, and all proceeds support the Highcrest PTO. All kits will be delivered to the school and ready for your child at the Meet & Greet in August. Look for the order forms coming home soon and also available on the Highcrest Middle School website. Orders will be accepted 4/27 through 5/04. Contact Angi Meyers for more information at angimeyers@yahoo.com.

This Week...

[Click Here for the Lunch Menu:](#)

www.mckenziepta.com/Archives/FromsDocuments/LunchMay2011.pdf

Monday 5/2

- **CHESS CLUB:** Kindergarten: 11:35-12:20 p.m.; Grades 1-4; 3:20-4:20 p.m.
- **LECTURE:** Mindset: The Elements of Success with Carol Dweck, 7-9 p.m. at the Skokie School Auditorium, 520 Glendale Ave., Winnetka

Tuesday 5/3

- **CHESS CLUB:** Kindergarten: 11:35-12:20 p.m.
- **REMINDER:** Citizen of the Year Celebration at the Michigan Shores Club, 911 Michigan Ave. from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday 5/4

- **ENRICHMENT:** 2nd Grade – Mad Science: Lights, Color, Action (Bourisaw, 9:15 a.m.; Weil, 10:25 a.m.)
- **STUDENT COUNCIL:** 8:25-8:50 a.m., Auditorium

Thursday 5/5

- **CHESS CLUB:** Kindergarten: 11:35-12:20 p.m.
- **REMINDER:** Heritage Day, 3rd Grade; 12:45-2:45 p.m., Auditorium, Classrooms and Gym

Friday 5/6

- **ENRICHMENT:** 2nd Grade, Chicago Symphony Orchestra Field Trip, bus leaves 9:15 a.m.

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 mruttner@brinkshofer.com.

On the Web...

[McKenzie P.T.A. Website](http://www.mckenziepta.com)

[McKenzie Elementary School Website](#)

[District 39 Website](#)