



Mustang Express

James McGee Elementary School
Robin Hay, Principal

January 2012

...From The Desk of The Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Before we completely leave 2011 in the past, I would like to say a huge thank you to our students and families for the assistance that they lent to our community through donations of food and items for our 'Soldier's Boxes'. Over the course of 4 weeks we were able to donate thousands of pounds of food to needy organizations in Pasco. We helped to stock the shelves of the Union Gospel Mission in Pasco. The items were welcomed by grateful volunteers who confided that their organization was serving many more families this year than they had in the past. That food was greatly appreciated! The fourth year for our 'Soldier's Boxes' was a continued success. We were able to send 30 boxes to soldiers serving overseas during the holidays. Thanks to the local ACES organization who pays the shipping for each box.

Welcome back from what was hopefully a restful, Winter Break. It seems that once we enter January we are on the downward swing for the school year. This is the time when kindergarten and first grade students really begin to blossom in their learning. Our third, fourth and fifth grade students will continue taking the MSP, Measures of Academic Progress in May rather than April. Last year we experienced continued growth in our overall scores. Once again McGee was named in the top 5% of the state for improving test scores. Your support is greatly appreciated by the staff. If you have any questions regarding the test, please contact your child's teacher.

We hope to see you at our upcoming Math Mardi Gras on January 26. This year we are back to our Mardi Gras theme. It will be a fun night of learning for students and parents alike. The Valentine Workshop will return this year in February. Stay warm and safe!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hay



Clip and save UPCs and caps from participating Labels for Education Brands. **You no longer need to clip the entire label – just the UPC code itself.**



This year Boise Cascade partnered with the Box Tops for Education program. Look for the Box Tops for Education coupon on reams of Boise Cascade copy paper. Cut out the coupon and send it to school.

Remember to save Box Tops for Education coupons from all participating products.



**2012-2013
Maintenance &
Operations Levy**



On February 14, Pasco citizens will vote on the 2012-2013 School Maintenance & Operations Levy. This is not a new tax. It is a renewal of the expiring levy approved in the 2010 election. The advertised assessed rate is \$4.51 per \$1,000. The actual assessed rate in 2010-2011 was less per thousand than the advertised rate. Check out the Levy presentation at <http://www.psd1.org/>



Dates to Remember

Winter Break No classes held	2-3
SARC Presentations 3rd gr. & 4th gr.	6 9 10
PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the library	10
Popcorn Friday	13
No school held Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16
SARC Presentations Kinder, 1st gr. and 2nd gr.	17 18 19 20
A.T.P. Meeting 2:00 p.m.	18
S.I.P. Meeting 3:00 p.m.	
Carnival of Animals Performance at Pasco High 9:30 a.m. 4th grade	20
SARC Presentations 5th gr.	24
Club Picture	26
Math Mardi Gras 6:00-7:30 p.m.	26
SARC Sexual Assault Response Center	

Mustang PTO

Supporting James McGee Elementary School



PTO POPCORN FRIDAYS!

Students will be able to purchase a ticket for \$.25 for a bag of popcorn on Popcorn Fridays. Classroom teachers will collect the money and turn in a count in the morning. Students will get their popcorn at lunchtime. Kindergarten students will get their popcorn before the end of their school day.

POPCORN FRIDAY DATE

January 13, 2012

January PTO Meeting

Tuesday, January 10, 2012
6:30 p.m. in the library

Topics

Playground Toy
Valentine Workshop
Spring Fundraiser

Daycare will be available.



1102 North 10th Ave
Pasco, WA 99301
Phone: 509-543-6771

TITLE I



National Network of Partnership Schools



PASCO SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

A.T.P. 2011 Essay Contest Finalist



Chloe Brook, a 5th grade student in Mrs. Naylor's classroom is an A.T.P. 2011 Essay Contest finalist for McGee. Chloe is pictured with her teacher, Mrs. Naylor and Mrs. Hay, Principal.

Exchange Club Student of the Month

The Tri-City Exchange Club is a local group that supports our school. This group of local people brings awareness about abuse and provide support to groups that help children who have been abused. This group buys the small flags for our Veteran's Day assembly every year. They have been a huge part of our Valentine Workshop as well. They also recognize one student per month here at McGee who is living the McGee Peace Pledge. Students are selected for a variety of reasons.

December Student of the Month

Sophia Gideon
Mrs. Borey's 5th Grade

James McGee 6th Annual Math Mardi Gras



A Family Math Night

Thursday, January 26, 2012
6:00-7:30 p.m.

McGee is having our 6th annual Family Math Night with the theme being Mardi Gras. It will be from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2012 in the cafeteria, gym and the computer lab.

Math games/activities
(grade level appropriate)
Mask-making
Estimation Jars
Popcorn graphing
Computer Lab—math games
Literature connections to math
Coin toss for probability



Reading is the Ticket



Silverwood Theme Park

As a librarian I am often asked, "what is the best way to help my child become a proficient reader?" My answer is by encouraging them to read! This month, we will be starting our **Reading is the Ticket** program. Every student who completes 10 hours or 600 minutes of recreational reading and logs those minutes will earn a ticket good for **free** admission to Silverwood Theme Park. Use the tally sheet to keep track of the books, magazines, and other things your child reads and record the number of minutes he/she spends reading. (For students who are reading chapter books, they should also mark the page numbers!) Please date and initial each reading session. After completing the 10 hours of reading, have your child turn all signed tally sheets in to his or her teacher. They must be turned in by **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012**. Help encourage your student to become a lifelong reader and **remember reading is the ticket!**



Mrs. Bryce, Librarian