



# Mustang Express

James McGee Elementary School  
Wendy Lechelt-Polster, Principal



November 2015

## ...From The Desk Of The Principal

Dear Parents,

We have much to celebrate as we move into the winter months! We have successfully incorporated all-day kindergarten and 6<sup>th</sup> grade into our program at James McGee Elementary. Both groups of students appear to be thriving and we very much appreciate our teachers and support staff members who have worked diligently to provide a successful, developmentally appropriate program for our youngest and oldest groups of students.

Our McGee CARES program is off and running. In October, we recognized students who were demonstrating "Cooperation." In the next six weeks, we will be turning our focus to students exhibiting a positive, McGee CARES "Attitude."

**After School All-Stars:** This is a district-sponsored program which will have four sessions throughout the year. It is geared to 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students and each session will offer a different sport/activity. The fall session will be volleyball. McGee staff members will be running *After School All-Stars* and the program will include a snack, active participation time, and a focus on developing character/sportsmanship.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences December 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>:** Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held from December 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. This is a revision from the original calendar provided to staff and parents. This change better corresponds with the end of the trimester and thus will allow for report cards to be completed and available at conferences. It also allows additional instruction time prior to grade reporting. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

**Cold Weather Reminders:** We are moving into the cold season. Please remember to send your child to school well prepared for the winter weather. Students spend time outside at recess, and even when it is so cold that we keep students inside for recess, emergencies with power and heat in the building and/or school bus could expose your child to cold conditions. We suggest that you send your child with a warm coat, hat, and gloves. A student can always take off layers he/she doesn't end up needing.

Please be sure to listen to the radio or go to the Pasco School District website ([www.psd1.org](http://www.psd1.org)) in the event of inclement weather to find out about school delays and closures. *You can sign up to receive texts regarding PSD news including school closures and delays by contacting the District Information Systems Office at 543-6757.*

November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day. Thank you veterans for your service to our country!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lechelt-Polster



November 2015  
Dates to  
Remember

<b>SARC Presentation</b> 6th grade	4
<b>Veterans Day Program</b> Time to be	10
<b>Veterans Day</b> No classes held	11
<b>Individual Picture Retakes</b> Morning only	19
<b>Thanksgiving Break</b> Release at 12:30 p.m.	25
<b>Thanksgiving Break</b> No classes held	26-27

McGee

Cooperation

Attitude

Respect

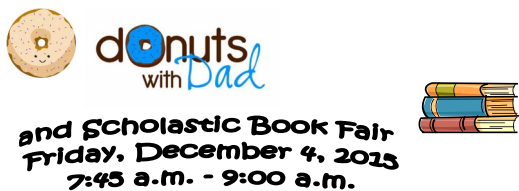
Effort

Safety



Remember to vote  
on November 3, 2015

## Up-coming Events



## Mustang P.T.O.

Supporting James McGee Elementary

Contact us at [mcgeevolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:mcgeevolunteers@yahoo.com)



Us on Facebook "Mustang PTO"



Students are asked to invite their dad, grandpa or male friend to have a donut and milk or juice with them on Friday, December 4, 2015 from 7:45 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. in the Cafeteria. There is no charge to have a donut and milk or juice.

You can then visit the book fair in the library. There will be many books, magazines, posters and miscellaneous items to purchase for a minimal price. The book fair will be open from December 4 through December 11, 2015.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. If you are available please email us at [mcgeevolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:mcgeevolunteers@yahoo.com) or call the school office.



## Art Information

McGee artists are leaping into fall! Students in all grades have been learning about the first of 7 art elements – line and shape – while creating art with names. (The other five are color, value, texture, form, and space.) Some families may see these projects coming home as gifts, door signs, etc. Some excellent examples of student art may not come home yet, as they have been displayed on bulletin boards in the school.

Our youngest students are creating their own lines “posters” and other projects featuring line designs, while older students are moving on to incorporate lines and shapes in their work, from painted story quilts (in the style of artist Faith Ringgold) to drawing the human skeleton – a first step to drawing the human figure.

Also in October, we began “Open Studio Art” during lunch recess for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Artists join me in the art room to work on their own original art, using materials in the room as they would in a real artist’s studio.

As young artists enjoy exploring a variety of types of media, we consume many types of supplies in regular classes and the Open Studio. Donations are always welcome! Suggestions of popular items include:

- ◆ Interesting papers – gift wrap, scrapbooking paper, cardstock
- ◆ Batting/”fluff” for stuffing hand sewn pillows
- ◆ Fabric – especially cotton and other easy-to-cut blends
- ◆ Stencils

You may bring donations to the front office and let them know they are for the art class, or stop by and visit the art room. If you’d like to visit the art room, please check in at the front office first. If you have questions about donations, or anything else in McGee’s art program, call the main office at 547-6583, and ask for the art room. Or email me at [lhendrickson@psd1.org](mailto:lhendrickson@psd1.org). I’d love to hear from you!

Thanks so much for your support and encouragement at home. To keep that creativity going, here are a few of my favorite internet resources for art at home:

- ◆ National Gallery of Art; [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov). Interactive, hands-on activities and exhibits of famous art, online student galleries.
- ◆ Artsonia; [www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com). Lessons, projects, art club, online gallery.
- ◆ Crayola; [www.crayola.com](http://www.crayola.com). Lessons, projects, products, online gallery.
- ◆ Artopia; [www.knowitall.org/artopia](http://www.knowitall.org/artopia). Interactive, hands-on activities and exhibits of famous art, online student galleries, including digital media arts; appropriate for upper elementary and middle school students.

Artfully Yours,  
Ms. Hendrickson



### PEAK! Partners in Educating All Kids!

*Working together to support Pasco’s children.*

We would like to thank our two PEAK Partners for their support and sponsorship for the 2015-2016 school year.

