



Mustang Express

James McGee Elementary School
Robin Hay, Principal



OCTOBER 2011

...From The Desk Of The Principal

Dear Parents,

This year our staff and students are continuing with our positive reinforcement plan based on the bestselling children's books **How Full is Your Bucket?** by Dr. Donald O. Clifton and **Have You Filled a Bucket Today?** by Carol McCloud. Teachers have been given copies of the books to read to students. The premise of the books revolve around 'filling your bucket or others' by being kind and complimenting others. When you are kind to others it fills your bucket as well as theirs. When others are kind to you it also fills your bucket. When you or others are unkind, you are 'dipping' from your buckets. Each classroom has a bucket to fill with compliments or notes of good deeds by classmates. When their bucket is full they can pick a special activity to celebrate this. Students have quickly grasped the concept and can explain it to you. If you are interested in reading a either of these books, please stop by the office. They work great in any situation. Our goal is to create positive, happy and contributing citizens!



Your child's attendance at school is important to their success. We continue to have children dropped off late every morning for no apparent reason. Often those children live within walking distance. If you live close, please allow your child to walk. It is good for them and will make our parking lot safer. Also, many students are being checked out early each day or we receive a call each day with information about what the child is to do after school today. Please try to make appointments after school hours and make plans with your child in the morning about their after school routine. Each time that we have to call into a classroom to give out information is disruptive to the learning. Help us to help all children get the most out of their time at school.

Remember in the parking lot before and after school, students should be dropped at the curb or a parent may park and walk them through the parking lot to the sidewalk. We want all children to be safe, but it is not safe to send them through the parking lot on their own or to drop them into traffic near the front of the building.

We appreciate all of your support with school and the education of your children. Every staff member at McGee has a goal of the best education for each child. With your support, our kids will not only succeed, they will lead.

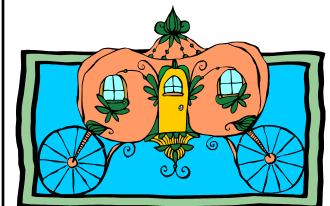
Sincerely,

Mrs. Hay



October 2011 Dates to Remember

Fall Fundraiser Starts Discount Cards	3
Individual Picture Day	4
PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m. Cafeteria	4
Popcorn Friday	7
Furlough Day Early Release at 12:00 p.m.	14
Fall Fundraiser Ends Turn in all orders today	17
AM Kindergarten to Country Mercantile Pumpkin Patch 9:30-11:15 a.m.	18
PM Kindergarten to Country Mercantile Pumpkin Patch 9:30-11:30 a.m.	19
Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre 9:30 a.m. Kinder-3rd grades	21
Ann Whitford Paul, Author visiting (Afternoon)	24
Pumpkins on Parade	24-28
Trunk or Treat Night 6:00-7:30 p.m. (Costumes may be worn)	28



Trunk or Treat Night

Sponsored by A.T.P. and P.T.O.
Friday, October 28, 2011
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Our A.T.P. and P.T.O. groups will be sponsoring a Trunk or Treat Night on Friday, October 28, 2011 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Students may wear costumes as they "trunk or treat" through the building. Inside classroom doors will be decorated with a book theme. Students will go from door to door receiving a piece of candy. We are asking for parents to donate a bag of candy for this fun, new event.



Pumpkins on Parade

Sponsored by McGee A.T.P.
October 24-28, 2011

- Dress your pumpkin up like your favorite book character.
- Pumpkins will be displayed from October 24-28. Please bring your pumpkin in no later than **October 25**, in order to be judged.
- Any size pumpkin can be used.
- Label your pumpkin with
 - *Student name
 - *Teacher name
 - *Book title
 - *Character name
- Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 best dressed pumpkins.

Mustang P.T.O.

Supporting James McGee Elementary



PTO POPCORN FRIDAYS!

Students will be able to purchase a bag of popcorn for \$.25 on Popcorn Fridays. Teachers will collect money from students first thing in the morning. Popcorn will be delivered throughout the day to students. Kindergarten students will get their popcorn before the end of their school day.

POPCORN FRIDAY DATES

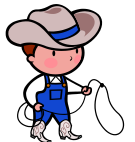
October 7	November 4
December 9	January 13
February 10	March 16



Boo Grams

Our P.T.O. will be selling *Boo Grams* in October for 50 cents each. A Boo Gram is a small card to write a message to a student with a holiday candy/lollipop. Look for more information to be sent home soon.

Mustang Round-Up



We would like to give a big thank you to Lisa Scott, Shawna Suemori, Sara Evans, Jamie Southworth, Heidi Redfield and Tonya Steele for coordinating such a wonderful, fun-filled family evening. Also we would like to thank all of our wonderful teachers and great parents that volunteered his/her time and labor to make this such a successful event.

Fall Fundraiser Discount Cards

The P.T.O. will be selling discount cards for \$10 again this year. The fundraiser starts on October 3 and will end on October 17. There is a great selection of offers from local businesses. Help support McGee and our students by purchasing a discount card for yourself, a friend or family member. The money raised will go towards purchasing a new playground toy.

Art Class

Welcome to a new year of art at McGee! Throughout the year, we build student understanding and skills using the elements of design: line, space, color, texture, shape, and form.

Students will work with all the art elements year-round, but at different times of the year, we emphasize different art elements.

We begin the year learning and reviewing how to use line, shape, and space in art. Look for pictures coming home with a variety of lines, such as pointy "zigzag" lines or curvy "loopy" lines. Students will learn about geometric shapes (such as triangles and cubes) and organic shapes (such as leaves and water waves). Students will compose all the art elements within the picture space to create a pleasing design, or "composition," learning to fill the space and draw the viewer's eye to a "focal point" or center of interest.

Some of you may see art come home right away. In other classes, projects take more than one class to finish and may be collected for schoolwide display on bulletin boards, then be sent home later. Displayed work will change throughout the year, so different classes will exhibit at different times.

Thank you for your support of art at McGee and for the encouragement you give your students at home. Providing art materials and time to explore with them at home will show in your student's progress in art at school, as well as make for a fun family experience. E-mail me at lhendrickson@psd1.org or call 547-6583 ext. 3230 with questions if you'd like to know about art resources or you'd like to volunteer to help with art at McGee.

Mrs. Hendrickson
Art Teacher

