



Wildcat News

November 2020

McKenzie School

Issue #1

Principal's Message

by Mr. Barrow

I hope that you and your families are safe and healthy during this time. As your proud Principal, I could not be more appreciative of our teachers and staff who have been working hard throughout the last three months to ensure there is a dynamic and safe learning environment for our students this school year. I also would like to take the time to thank all of the parents and families for all of your collaboration and support during this school year. As I have communicated at Back to School Night, McKenzie School is excited to continue some past initiatives during the fall:

- Celebration of "Red Ribbon Week" and School Spirit Week
- McKenzie students celebrated October as the "Month of Respect"
- Stomp Out Bullying Program and Activities (Blue Day in October)
- Virtual Halloween Parade and Classroom Activities
- Staff and student wore Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness
- Continuation of Wildcat of the Month (highlighting well rounded students and exemplar behavior)
- McKenzie School Honored Local Veterans on Veterans Day
- McKenzie Students made Holiday Cards for active Marines and Sailors

Furthermore, we have emphasized in previous communications, public health is a shared responsibility, and we all play a critical role in protecting our students, staff, and community from exposure to this virus. The choices we make moving forward will directly impact the functioning of our school. We require your continued assistance in reminding and encouraging your family members and friends to observe the following guidelines without exception:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and approaching the school for arrival and pick-up
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.
- Completing the LinkFor App daily before 7:30am
- Keeping excellent communication with classroom teachers, office staff, and school nurse

In closing, please visit our website at www.erboe.net to view progress reports and report cards in the Genesis Parent Access link, located under the McKenzie "For Families" tab. If you need any further assistance with your Genesis username and password or are having any difficulties viewing the report card, please email Ms. White (rwhite@erboe.net). To find out about more of our school's activities, I would like to continue to invite you to see McKenzie School's and the East Rutherford School District's website. Our website has been designed to be a valuable source of school news, timely information, and easily found contact information for parents, students, and visitors to the site. If you have not already, please download our mobile app that accompanies our website to receive notifications and follow us on Twitter to see all of our Wildcats' school spirit and great work being done.

In a time of appreciation, I thank you for sharing your child with us every day at McKenzie School. I wish you and your family a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Technology

by Mr. Higgins



In technology class, students in grades K-4 have been learning how to use their Chromebooks for a variety of different lessons and projects. In grades 2-4 students have been learning how to navigate Google Classroom and how to use Google Docs for different assignments and projects. In grades K-1 students have been practicing how to click and drag using the trackpad on the Chromebook and also completing lessons using Google Slides.

Physical Education

by Miss Fontana & Mrs. Schneider



We Like to Move it, Move it!

The 2020-2021 school year is off to a great start! We know that this year is very unique with both in person and virtual teaching methods. In Physical Education we have been working on many different forms of fitness and exercise such as tabata, circuits, strength, flexibility and cardiovascular skills, locomotor movements and relays just to name a few. As the year progresses, we will continue to find new technologies, exercise routines, and engaging activities to keep the students healthy, strong, and having fun! Thank you for having your children prepared and ready for their physical education classes each week, both at home and at school!

Art

by Mrs. Speer



Thank you Kids!

Mrs. Speer is so proud of the students who are doing their best under these very difficult conditions. Like all of you I wish we were back in school sharing supplies, conversations, ideas, high-fives and our creations. Please continue to complete your assignments and have fun.

I would like to congratulate 4th grade student, Abigail Villanueva, for being this month's Artist of the Month. She has stood out as a very talented artist from a very early age and is a pleasure to work with. I am looking forward to her return to McKenzie School.

Guidance

by Mr. Wagner



Mr. Wagner, our School Psychologist/ Guidance Counselor is here as a support system for students in the areas of academics, testing, and social issues.

During the first week of October, students participated in daily discussions and activities in their classrooms about how they can show respect to others. Discussions and activities focused on bullying prevention, showing compassion, and being a good friend.

Mr. Wagner is available to the parents as well, to discuss any concerns. Please feel free to call him at 201-531-1235 (Ext. 4004) or email at iwagner@erboe.net.

Pre-Kindergarten 3/4

by Mrs. Credico, Mrs. Schmidt,
Miss Jackie, Miss Kristen



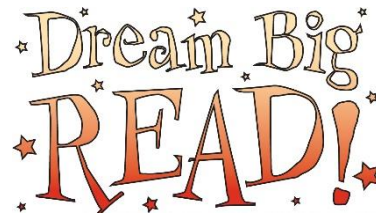
Apples, Apples, Everywhere!

Over the past month, students have explored the world of apples by conducting an Apple Study. We discussed facts we already knew about apples and created a list of questions we wanted answered. The classes explored the parts of apples by taking part in labeling activities as well as learning the names of various types of apples such as Granny Smith, Red and Golden Delicious. Our preschool friends also conducted math lessons by counting groups of seeds, adding apples and measuring our classmates using apples. The students explored the life cycle of an apple by sequencing picture cards. Students read various nonfiction books about apples and we turned our Dramatic Play Area into an Apple Orchard where they picked and sold apples to classmates. Last, students learned about the term “predict” as they guessed what would happen when one slice of apple was placed in water and the other in lemon juice. In the upcoming months, students will explore additional fall related activities as well as a new Creative Curriculum study!



First Grade

by Miss Garcia, Ms. Bleich,
Miss Scardino, Miss Roth-Child
Miss Meli



Our first graders kicked off the school year learning about story elements. To get into the fall spirit, we read Creepy Carrots by Aaron Reynolds! Students used their imaginations to create their very own creepy carrots while we discussed characters, setting, problem and solution.

Third Grade

by Mrs. Nastro, Mrs. Vecchione,
Mrs. Machado, Miss Tadiello



Third Grade Archeologists!

Third graders have been studying fossils in our animals through time unit. Throughout this unit we have explored how scientists study fossils to understand what dinosaurs, and other animals from long ago would have looked like. We even discussed if we would be able to outrun a dinosaur! Students have also been learning about natural selection and how animals have evolved into the animals we have today. In math, third graders have been working on collecting and interpreting data on a variety of graphs.

Important Information

Important Dates

November

11/19/20- Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

11/20/20- MP1 Report Cards may be accessed via Genesis Parent Portal

11/25/20- Start Thanksgiving Break - 1/2 day

11/26-11/27/20- Thanksgiving Break - Schools Closed

December

12/2/20- PTA Meeting

12/17/20- Board of Education Meeting – 6:00 p.m. at Faust

12/21/20- MP2 Interim Progress Reports sent home

12/23/20- Start Holiday Recess - 1/2 day school

January

1/1/21- New Years' Day - School Closed

1/5/21- Board of Education Meeting – 6:00 p.m. at Faust

1/6/21- PTA Meeting

1/11/21- 1/2 day students & teachers

1/18/21- Martin Luther King Day - Schools Closed

1/28/21- End of Marking Period 2

February

2/3/21- PTA Meeting

2/5/21- MP2 Report Cards sent home

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Please be advised that the New Jersey compulsory attendance laws require that all children between the ages of six and sixteen regularly attend school. Extended vacations should be planned during a period when school is not in session.

Please remember that if your child is going to be late for school, you must ring the bell at the front entrance and speak to the office staff. Students ARE NOT to come into school late WITHOUT AN ADULT.

