

Christa McAuliffe Messenger

November 2011

PLEASE DO NOT DROP STUDENTS OFF BEFORE 7:40 A.M.

McAuliffe Makes Miracles Happen

The Student Council will be hosting our Annual Cancer/Diabetes fundraiser, 'Volley for a Cure', on November 10th. Because of our students' support, some people who suffer from these diseases will receive help. The evening will consist of playing a teacher/student volleyball game. The Student Council is striving for another successful fundraiser this year! Families donating to this great cause are given paper volleyballs to decorate in honor or memory of those who have been affected by cancer or diabetes. The volleyballs will be used to decorate the gym the night of the fundraiser. In addition, our school is participating in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's School and Youth Program, Pennies for Patients. Students can collect spare change to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's goal to improve the quality of life for patients and their families. This Student Council sponsored fundraiser began on Oct. 17th and will conclude on Nov. 4th. There is a coin collection box in each classroom. When McAuliffe works together, miracles do happen. Thank you in advance for all your support and contributions. Student Council's next project will be collecting food and gloves/hats for families in need during the upcoming holiday season. Watch for more information.

Keeping Everyone Safe

Our staff has mentioned that traffic on 174th St. is going too fast. Please slow down and observe posted speed limit signs, as well as "No Cell Phone Use" in a school zone. Remember, only a right turn is allowed out of the west parking lot.

Picture Retake Day

Picture Retake Day is scheduled for Thursday, November 10th. If your child missed picture day in September, you may send the money envelope on November 10th and have your child photographed. If you are not satisfied with your child's picture, send the entire package back on November 10th and the picture will be retaken.

ATTENTION!

If your student is going to be absent or tardy, you need to contact the office at 708-429-4565 by 7:55 a.m. If you need to contact the office outside of the normal office hours (7:30am – 3:30pm), voice mail is available.

Parents, as the weather is beginning to get colder, please make sure that your student is dressed appropriately. We will continue to go outside for recess as long as the temperature is above 25 degrees.

Congratulations!!!

McAuliffe School is proud to announce that Colleen McElligott was the overall 1st grade winner of the Tinley Park Fire Prevention poster contest. Colleen was given a ride to school in a fire engine. Congratulations on a great job!!!

Tips For Success

As we begin a new quarter, our "Tips for Success" may be of some help!

Developing good organizational skills is a key ingredient for success in school and life. The Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities has compiled a list of strategies that parents can use to help their child develop good organizational skills.

1. **Use checklist** – get your child in the habit of using a "to do" list.
2. **Organize homework assignments** – number assignments in the order they should be done.
3. **Set a designed study place** – study in the same place every night with materials readily available.
4. **Set a designated study time** – reserve a certain study time everyday.
5. **Keep organized notebooks** – keep track of papers in a binder.
6. **Conduct a weekly clean up** – sort out book bags and folders weekly.
7. **Create a household schedule** – stick to a regular study time, dinnertime, and bedtime.
8. **Keep a master calendar** – organize the family commitments and schedules.
9. **Prepare for the day ahead** – pack school bags the night before.
10. **Provide support** – help your child to keep organized.

Nurse's Note

November is American Diabetes month. As the number of people diagnosed with diabetes continues to rise, let's be mindful that diet and exercise can prevent or delay the onset of type 2 Diabetes. We can create healthy habits in our children by decreasing the amount of fat and sugar in our diets and increasing our intake of fruits and vegetables. As the weather gets colder, we tend to be less active. Make it a point to add some activity to your day! Also, please remember to keep ill children home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. Any questions, please contact Lois Murphy at 708-429-4565.

P.T.O. News

The P.T.O. is in need of chair people for next year. Chair people are needed for Volley for a Cure night, Family Reading Night, and Entertainment Books. Please contact a board member if you are interested in volunteering.

Thank you to all who participated in the Market Day Pie and Yankee Candle fundraisers. Your support is very much appreciated.

Our Coat Drive was a success. Thank you for your contribution to our community.

Author assembly – November 15th

Family Reading Night – November 17th

**Christa McAuliffe P.T.O.
News and Happenings
November/December 2011**

Volunteers Needed

The P.T.O. is in need of chair people for next year. Chair people are needed for Volley for a Cure Night, and Entertainment Books. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact a board member.

Fundraisers

Coat Drive: This was a huge success. There were 83 coats donated to Together We Cope.

Market Day Pies: We received orders for 157 pies. Remember that the pick-up day is Monday, November 21 from 1pm to 3pm in the McAuliffe Commons.

Yankee Candles: As a first time fundraiser, this was a great success. We received 75 orders.

Marcus Theater Tickets: Order forms for the Marcus Theater tickets have been sent home. These make great stocking Stuffers! Orders are due by Tuesday, November 15th.

Thank you to all who have participated in the fundraisers. All of the money raised is used to fund assemblies, programs, and things for the students.

Happenings

On Tuesday, November 15th the P.T.O. is sponsoring an assembly for the students. Caldecott-Winning author Eric Rohmann will be visiting to celebrate Book Week.

Family Reading Night will be held on Thursday, November 17th from 5:45 until 7:45.

Santa's Secret Workshop will be held on Saturday, December 10th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Bring the family out for a day of fun and shopping. There will be pictures with Santa, raffles, balloon artists, face painting, shopping for the kids, and fun with Santa's elves. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Amy Kwiat at ajkwiat@sbcglobal.net.

All students that ordered hot lunch for the first half of the school year will receive a Free Hot Dog lunch on December 15th.

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