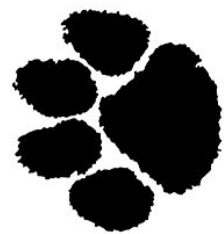
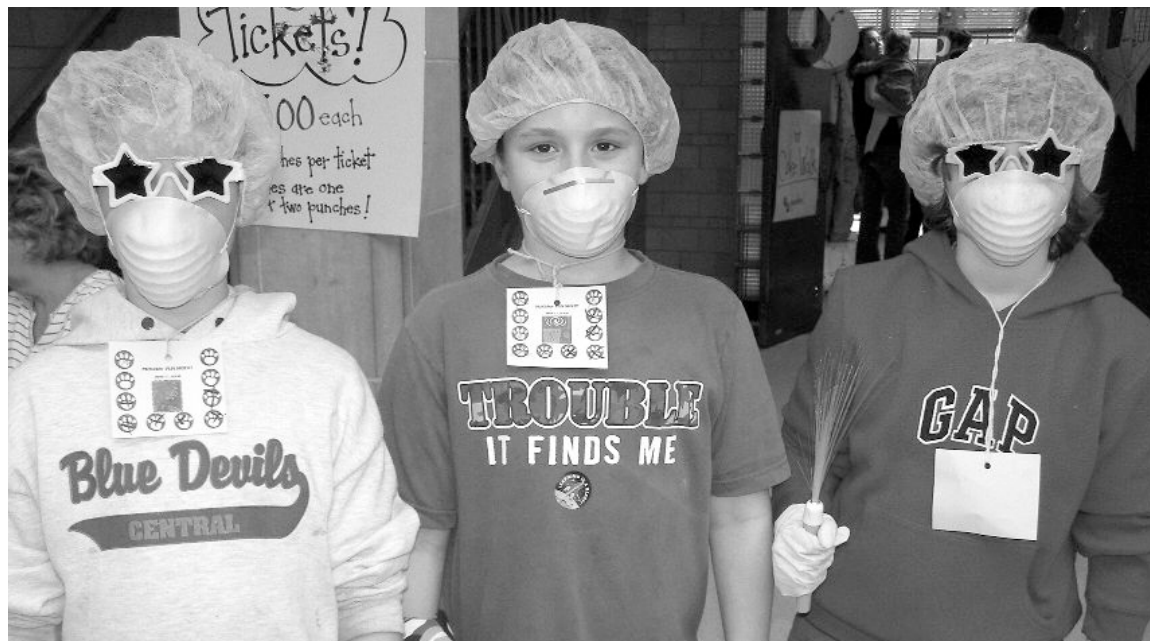


## A GOOD START TO A GOOD DAY

Did you know that breakfast is the most important meal of your child's day? It provides the nutrients and energy they need to concentrate in school. Research even shows that kids who eat breakfast get better grades, pay more attention in class, and behave better. Help your child begin their day on the right foot and don't forget breakfast!



# 4 pawprints



### A night of fun

This year's Fun Night (complete with beach theme) will be April 24. Last year Jack Moran, Ben Greiner, and Connor McDevitt got themselves ready for fake surgery. (Story, Page 3.)

## It's Lights! Camera! Book Fair time!

<< Continued from Page 1

will run the week prior to the Fair. Students may bring in coins that they find at home (maybe by cleaning out every drawer in the house or on the floor of the car!).

This gives a way for students to learn about giving while Scholastic will match our Change Challenge earnings to buy books for a national

charity. Please don't forget to volunteer. Sign up to join the Book Fair crew. A volunteer casting call went out in Thursday folders or you can e-mail your preference of time slots from 8:30 -10:00 a.m., 10-11:30; 11:30-1:00; 1-2:30; 2:30-3:30, or Tuesday from 6-8 p.m.

Contact Traci Swanson at 355-8866 or tshanahanswanson@gmail.com.

## FROM THE FRONT

<< Continued from Page 1

a Popcorn Friday building-wide, and just in time to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2. The first week of March continued with an Area Band Tour on Wednesday and a Read-in on Friday. Our orchestra students performed a lively concert on March 3 at Eisenhower Elementary School, directed by Mrs. Judy Booe. The children were outstanding! Thank you, Mrs. Booe for all your hard work.

Next on the agenda is our spring book fair. The PTA will host an opportunity for children to raise funds for their classroom libraries through the "Change Challenge!" Gather your loose change and send it to school. Classes with the highest total for each day will win special privileges the following week. Look for details in the Thursday folder.

Another note of celebration comes directly from our school kitchen. Ms. Debbie Murrell, our cafeteria supervisor received a perfect score three times in a row from the Health Department. Great job Miss Debbie! Also in the cafeteria, our Positive Behavior Supports Program, led by Mrs. Mathews and Mrs. Berthel, has initiated the positive paw prints. Please be sure to visit the cafeteria to view all the "Picture Paw Prints" that represent students who have demonstrated the three R's: Respectful, Responsible and Ready. The children are named

and asked to stand on Friday during lunch to receive applause from their peers. This has been a wonderful way to praise the many, many children in our building who "make great choices" every single day at school. Thank you parents, because your support of positive school behavior makes our work so rewarding.

I am also very excited about the lower level room renovations, which are near completion. Our goal is to move the BD Program into the new space after spring break. The new windows are beautiful and the division of space will provide multiple areas of social and academic interaction of the children with their teacher. Ms. Rowe's patience and flexibility in working with the children has been amazing. Ms. Klein, Ms. Williams, Ms. Askam, and Ms. Rathna have also contributed to the remarkable progress of several of the children. It is clearly a team effort and continues to expand as we contemplate the expansion of the program in the fall.

One last note, Mr. Hafner has been busy writing an SCRA Grant to equip the new rooms with appropriate furniture, activities and enrichment for the children in our BD Program. McKinley teachers work tirelessly to bring the best possible education to each and every McKinley child. Thank you for all you do!

Teresa Bechen, Principal McKinley Elementary

# pawprints

McKinley Elementary School | Davenport  
ISSUE SEVEN | THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009



### A lot of variety

Tuesday night, March 10, McKinley held its annual Variety Show with 32 separate acts and nearly 50 performers. One of those was Emma Embree on the cello. (Story, Page 2).

## Rolling out the red carpet for reading

It's time to roll out the red carpet for reading. McKinley's Lights! Camera! Book Fair starts Monday, March 16, through Friday, March 20. The Fair takes place two times a year offering students and their families a chance to shop for the latest books right in the school!

You can add to your own library with a variety of books to appeal to all ages while at the same time adding to the classroom libraries. Look for the Teacher/Staff Wish Lists to make donations to your child's classroom. The students will have a chance to review book choices during the school day.

Books may be paid for by cash or a check (made payable to McKinley PTA) or Visa/Mastercard are accepted. The Fair will be open Monday and Tuesday March 16 and 17 from 8:30 to 3:30. A scrapbook making session called Build-A-Book will be available from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday. It will coincide with the 5th grade chorus concert with volunteers ready to entertain and assist with little ones so you can enjoy the concert. Please contact Heidi Hulme at heidisavon@hotmail.com if you would like to pre-register for a kit. Fair hours on Wednesday are from 8:30 to 2:30, Thursday 8:-3:30, and Friday 8-noon.

Don't miss this well-loved event and be sure to ask your student about their own wish lists. The sequel to last fall's Change Challenge

>> Continued on Page 4



TERESA BECHEN

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Spring is nearly here! Yes, the third quarter will end right before spring break begins.

We have accomplished so much already, but there is still time for more. The final quarter promises to be filled with great family fun, traditional school events and even some new activities for our children. Several different communication tools will be used to make sure everyone hears the news about these upcoming events in a timely manner.

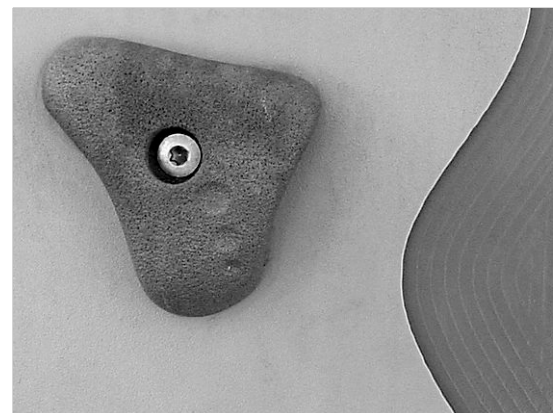
ITBS went smoothly this year led by Mrs. Cindy Nixon, our test coordinator for McKinley. She worked many extra hours ensuring that every detail was taken care of over the past month and all the teachers really appreciated her assistance. ITBS was a school-wide event with our primary children demonstrating the behavior expectations of being respectful and quiet, while our intermediate children demonstrated their academic responsibility and readiness to do their best.

We closed the event with

>> Continued on Page 4

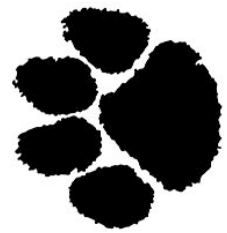
## PAYING ATTENTION: IDENTIFY THE IMAGE AND WIN!

OK, sorry. It appears we're making this too difficult. For a second month in a row the Mystery Image was a stumper. It was the pawprint dotting the "i" on the McKinley message sign outside the building. But, don't give up! Give this month's a try. Good luck next time. And thanks to all those who try to figure the photos out! Remember, bring your answer to Mrs. Moss in the office. The winner will be announced at the end of the day on Friday. The first person to correctly guess the image will win a \$5 gift card to our neighborhood grocery partner, Schnuck's. So, put on those thinking caps and focus. This month's photo should be a little easier than the last two. Or at least we hope it is!

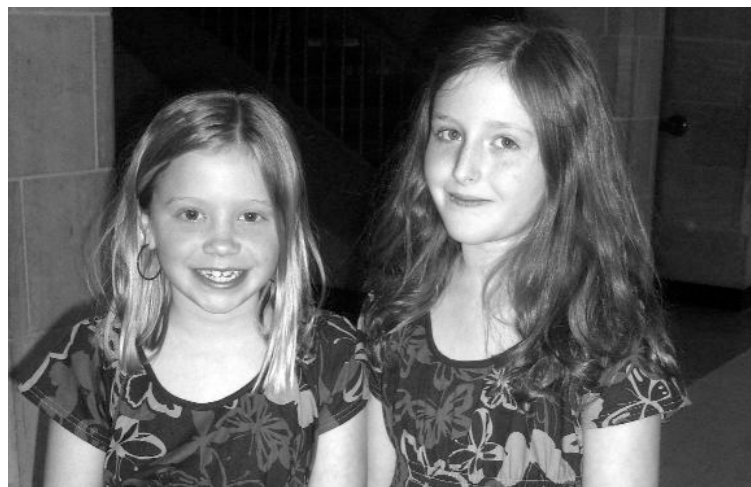
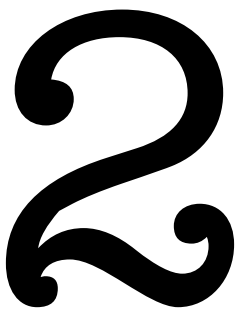


## CONTRIBUTE TO PAWPRINTS

Anyone is welcome to make a submission to Pawprints. Keep us informed on the happenings of student groups such as Scouts or sports teams as well as classroom news. If you have information or photos, please send them to Ann Nicknish at [apnicknish@mchsi.com](mailto:apnicknish@mchsi.com) or call 359-9242.



pawprints



From singing to gymnastics, Lily McKay and Lauren McDevitt (top) and Delaney Walsh and Olivia Lewis entertained hundreds at the Variety Show on March 10.

# WOW!

## What a (variety) show!

The 2009 McKinley Variety Show was not short on talent! Students from all grades participated, showing their special talents including piano and cello playing to singing, dancing, and gymnastics.

Students prepared for the show on their own time, practicing routines, singing into microphones, and gathering props and costumes. Two shows with more than 30 acts were performed on the McKinley stage in front of a full house – one for the school and one for the general public on March 10.

Mrs. Berthel, Mrs. Mathews, and Mr. Scott coordinated the Variety Show again this year.

### DON'T FORGET PIZZA PALS

These days your best pal is one that saves you money and gives back at the same time. Available from McKinley PTA and at Book Fair, these coupons cost \$11 and give you a large pizza from Old Chicago (a \$22 value)

and \$5 of your purchase goes back to McKinley PTA! Old Chicago has generously donated all pizza for our Fun Night for the past four years.

To purchase contact: Traci Swanson, 355-8866 or [tshanhanswanson@gmail.com](mailto:tshanhanswanson@gmail.com)

## NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Rachelle Hodson

March is National Nutrition Month, so with that in mind, it is time to focus on healthy eating habits.

Making positive food choices and exercising daily are lifelong skills we can teach our children – which help to maintain reasonable body weight and reduce risk of diabetes and heart disease.

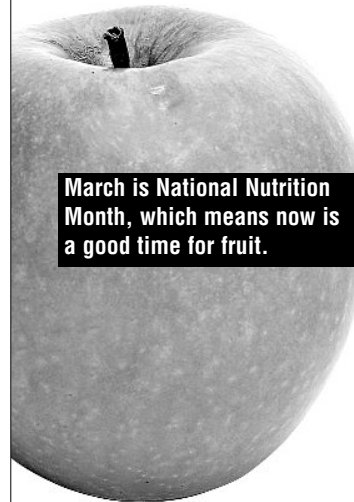
You may be surprised to know that children actually need snacks. Their stomachs are small, so they cannot get all the food and nutrients they need in just three meals a day.

The trick is to give your child a snack that is both healthy and filling so he will be able to wait until their next meal. Try giving your child a choice of snacks when he/she becomes hungry. Offer foods like low fat popcorn, string cheese and fruit, or peanut butter/raisins on celery.

### IT ALL ADDS UP

Exercise does not have to be done all at once. Encourage your child to be active throughout the day. Small amounts of time will add up. In general, school age children should get at least an hour of physical activity each day.

Remember: Regular exercise will not only make your child healthier, it will help them sleep better at night and be in better shape to learn and play all day.



March is National Nutrition Month, which means now is a good time for fruit.

## ROUND UP THE YOUNG ONES

Kindergarten Roundup will be held at 5 p.m. on April 16. If you have child or know of one who will be 5 before Sept. 15, 2009, please call the McKinley office.



pawprints



## Splish. Splash.

### Fun Night is going to be a Beach Bash!

McKinley Fun Night will be Friday, April 24. A fun-filled tradition, the evening is designed for the whole family to enjoy games and dinner (pizza) at the school.

Ring toss, an obstacle course, cake walk, photo booth, golf, and many more games will be sure to entertain. A drawing for the raffle ticket winners will conclude the fun evening.

Raffle ticket sales will start on Friday, March 20, to kick off spring break.

If you want more than one packet of 10 raffle tickets to sell over break, please request the number of packets you would like to Fun Night Chair Carrie Hummel at [carriehummel@yahoo.com](mailto:carriehummel@yahoo.com).

Get your sunscreen, beach hat, and flip flops ready for a FUN night at the Beach!



Daniel Greiner and Zachary Cacari share some laughs at last year's Fun Night.

## Students advance to state competitions

Emily Hummel (McKinley Fifth Grader) and her Kid's Caddy is one of 300 in the state of Iowa selected as a commendable invention to be exhibited at the 2009 State Invention Convention to be held Saturday April 25th at the Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa. Way to go!

### TEAM QUEST ADVANCES

Four fifth grades participated in Team Quest, representing McKinley as they competed with other 5th and 6th graders. After placing first locally, the teams of Katy Axel, Justine Doyle, Bryan Nguyen, and Thompson Teasdale advanced to Regionals in Springfield, Ill., to place second and have the chance to advance again. Congratulations!

## MARCH/APRIL DATES

### MARCH

12 – PTA Meeting at 6:30 pm  
13 – Visiting Artist (Craicmore)  
16-20 – Lights! Camera! Book Fair  
17 – Fifth grade Chorus Concert  
17 – Build-A-Book 6-8 pm  
21-29 – Spring Break

30 – School resumes

### APRIL

1 – Symphony Day at Adler for 4th grade  
9 – PTA meeting 6:30 p.m.  
13 and 20 – No School  
24 – Fun Night



Cathy Tran, Thu-Hao Nguyen and Sarah Hegetschweiler hang out in the Biz Town Cafe.

## Biz Town abuzz with business

Elementary school students are not old enough to drive, work, vote, or be the boss. However, that doesn't stop them from operating banks, managing restaurants, writing checks, and voting for mayor at Junior Achievement BizTown!

The program combines in-class learning with a day-long visit to this fully-interactive simulated town facility. The program helps students connect the dots between what they learn in school and the real world.

McKinley fifth graders enjoyed the chance to use hands-on activity to practice what they'd learned from daily lessons. They have been working since early fall to prepare for their March visit to Junior Achievement's Biz Town.

The simulated community in downtown Davenport helps students develop a strong understanding of the relationship between what they learn in school and their successful participation in a worldwide economy.

Brian Nguyen was voted mayor and at the end of the Biz Town day he made special presentations to students voted outstanding citizens including Jack Moran and Katy Axel.

The day was a success as all the businesses paid off their loans and completed tasks such as publishing a newspaper; running sports, variety, and environmental shops; promoting businesses through marketing on the web and through a radio station; and paying utilities and taxes.