



PAWPRINTS

MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | DAVENPORT

ISSUE TWO | THURSDAY, OCT. 4, 2007

From Your PrinciPAL



Dear McKinley Families,

I so look forward to Fall Festival, as it is such a wonderful opportunity for students and their families to celebrate our wonderful school and to welcome and meet new families who have joined our community.

The evening was so well done – thank you to all who made it a great evening. The coming of autumn is also a reminder that we have settled into our routines and are working hard to improve the achievement of all students.

You and your child's teacher will have an opportunity to discuss your child progress during conferences to be held Oct. 9-11. Reminders for your appointments will be sent out soon. I hope that during the conferences you will take advantage of visiting also with the music, art, and physical education teachers who round out your child's education.

Our many other support teachers –Reading Specialist, ESL, Special Education, TAG, Speech and the Counselor will also be available to meet with you. I encourage you to visit with all the educators who work with your child on a daily basis.

We so believe that parent involvement and communication are keys to an effective school that we have introduced new tools.

One is an E-BLAST which will allow us to send announcements through e-mail – very similar to the auto-dialer which allows us to send messages through the phone system. It is not too late to get on our list – please call Pam Raabe who is coordinating this project for me.

For district communications and an event calendar, you may go to the district Web site www.davenportschools.com and register on D-NET. And don't forget to view our McKinley Web page, newly formatted last year. The address is <http://manila.davenportschools.org/mckinley/>. The site is being maintained this year by Mr. Macksey, our part time librarian and we hope that it will serve as one more means of keeping you up to date with McKinley news.

We are a great school – with an outstanding staff who dedicate themselves to your children each and every day and we could not do it without you!

Happy Autumn
Amy Campanile, 324-0403
campanilea@davenportschools.org

Big Crowd Enjoys Fall Festival

The grins were big and the lines were long – a sign of a successful McKinley Fall Festival. The Friday night was unseasonably warm (90-degrees for Sept. 21!) which brought McKinley family and friends to play games, eat dinner, and show pride in their school. Fall-themed activities

filled the gym and Harvest Hallway and outside students and their families went on Tractor rides (compliments of Roger Peet of Expressions Jewelers), the Tigerbounce house, or to see the Dunk Tank.

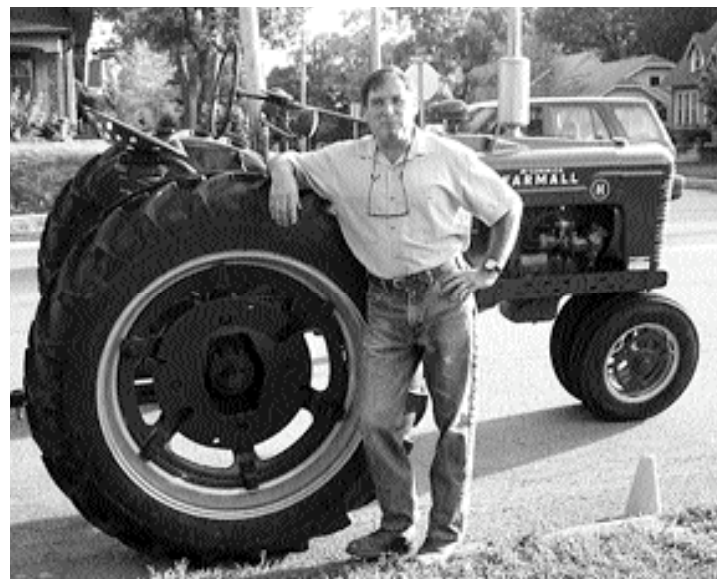
The Dunk Tank proved popular with the student voters once again. Votes were tallied (from coins in jars) and four “lucky winners” out of seven became the participants to get wet! Mr. Nicknish (parent), Mr. Jones (parent), Mr. Jim (custodian), and Ms. Wycoff were all smiling even though they were soaked!

The Fall Fest would not be possible with all the volunteers (65 people in all) that helped run games, made and served dinner, baked for the Pumpkin Walk, helped with copies and assembly, or helped to setup or cleanup. Parents, teachers, staff members and area businesses all helped to make such a special night possible!

PAGE 2: LIST OF RAFFLE WINNERS

MISSING BASEBALLS

Three special baseballs were used at the Dunk Tank at Fall Festival and were not found when the event was over. If you know where these might be, please return them to the office or give Ann Nicknish a call about their whereabouts 359-9242.



Roger Peet provided hayrack rides during Fall Festival.

GET READY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE!

If you would like to make a submission to the Pawprints newsletter, please forward information to apnicknish@mchsi.com. Thank you! Deadline for the November 2007 newsletter is Oct. 25.

OCTOBER DATES

9/10 – CONFERENCES times from 3:30-7:30 p.m.

10 – (note on Wed.) PTA meeting at 11:30 a.m.

11 – CONFERENCES times from 7:30-11:30 a.m.

11/12 – NO SCHOOL

17-23 – Fall Scholastic Book Fair 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

18 – Klutz Build-a-Book Family Event

25 – Newsletter submissions due to apnicknish@mchsi.com

26 – No School (In-service day)

31 – Halloween Parade 1-2 p.m.



Third Grade News: The Mayor Pays a Visit

Third graders are learning about the importance of rules, laws, consequences and basic government in Social Studies. They have been exploring websites during computer lab about our local government, reading nonfiction material, and on Thursday, Sept. 13, they had a visit from Davenport's Mayor Winborn. Mayor Winborn explained his duties as mayor as well as answering the many questions of McKinley's curious third graders!

In Science third graders have been exploring sound. They are reading nonfiction material and participating in sound experiments in the classroom. On Oct. 1 the Bettendorf Children's Museum presented their outreach program on sound, with the help of funding from the PTA's grade-level collaborative funds.

NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS: "Please be sure your third grader is reading at least 20 minutes every night! This will help increase their fluency. After reading be sure to discuss your child's book with them to help develop their comprehension skills!"



Mr. Jim tried his best to stay dry in the dunk tank.

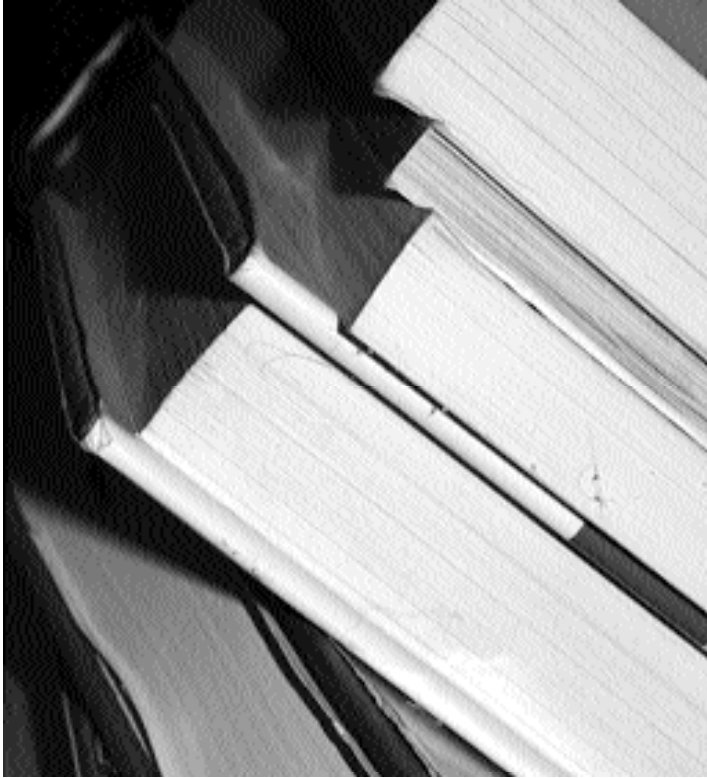
MCKINLEY'S FALL FESTIVAL RAFFLE WINNERS 2007

1. Isabel Bloom – Scaredy Cat Sculpture: Meg Nicknish
 2. Isabel Bloom – Witchy Poo Sculpture: Katy Axel
 3. Meme's Candy Store – Goodie Bag w/ Beanie: Angela Koster
 4. Lagomarcino's – 5 ice cream sundaes/T-shirt: Teresa Rossmiller
 5. Calla – gift box with soaps, towels and more: Sally Canfield
 6. Colman Florist's-Fall Silk Flower arrangement: David Marley
 7. Added Touch – Bowl filled with Fall Theme: Dietta Langtimm
 8. McNificat Package – Shining Star tiger/Penant: LeAnna Doyle
 9. Weiss Chiropractic Gift Certificate: David Canfield
- Please support these Village of East Davenport merchants for generously donating prizes to McKinley's Fall Festival raffle!

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SWISS VALLEY MILK CAPS

Just a reminder, the Health Office will continue to collect Swiss Valley milk caps. Swiss Valley gives our school 5 cents for each cap collected. In the past we have purchased wash cloths, hygiene supplies, wet wipes, winter apparel, clothes, undergarments and shoes for students when needed.



There's a Book Blizzard Coming!

For the past 25 years Scholastic Books has partnered with parents, teachers, librarians, media specialists and schools to connect kids to the books they love to read.

Last year more than 57 million books were put into the hands of kids all over the nation because of book fairs. On Wednesday, Oct. 17 through Tuesday, Oct. 23, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., McKinley will hold its Fall Scholastic Book Fair (Book Fair Blizzard).

Your child will get to browse the books during the school day and then tell you about their choices. Book Fair encourages a love of reading with affordable, quality books that range from the newest titles, exclusive editions, and award-winning classics.

You can be a partner in helping inspire kids to read by attending the Fall Book Fair (great gift ideas for relatives on your list too!). There will also be a special Klutz Build-a-Book Family event on Thursday, Oct. 18.

This is a totally fun in-school event where students and their families together turn a blank Klutz book and some simple craft materials into a priceless family treasure. It's a celebration of literacy, arts and crafts, and family togetherness.

Book Fair needs volunteers to make it happen ... please contact Anne Saveraid 359-0499 or Jennifer Chen 344-4939 to volunteer. New also this year is our own web page, which you can access to volunteer or obtain information at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/mckinleydav>.

Don't miss Book Fair Blizzard 2007!

Fifth Grade News: Area Band Begins Now

Fifth grade students who started a band instrument in the summer program are invited to join the Area Band in October. This Area Band is comprised of fifth grade band students from Sudlow area elementary schools, including McKinley, Garfield, Washington, and Eisenhower. Other interested first-year band students are welcome.

When: We begin Oct. 4, and continue each Thursday after school from 4-5 p.m. (No Area Band Oct. 11 – no school, conference week)

Where: Sudlow 3rd floor band room (above cafeteria in room 324)

Students who are just beginning their band study this fall will have an opportunity to join Area Band when they have progressed far enough to play in the band. The band director at your school will let you know when your student is ready to join Area Band.

This is a great opportunity for students to get more experience playing their instruments in a group setting and have fun doing it! They will enjoy the opportunity to meet new friends and play in a larger band than their elementary band. Some of these kids have gotten to know each other from Summer Band class and will look forward to reuniting in the fall! Come join us!

*Mrs. Ciccotelli, Mr. Guss, Mr. Reiter
Eisenhower, McKinley, Washington & Garfield Band Directors*



Eighty people enjoyed McKinley's third annual "Welcome To Kindergarten" event held on Sept. 18th. The event helps kindergarteners and their families strengthen friendships with their classmates and teachers. The kindergarten teachers provided activities for the children.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Rachelle Hodson, RN, School Nurse

MEDICATION POLICY

Please do not randomly send medication with your child to school. Medications that are sent in envelopes or baggies will not be dispensed. If medication must be given at the school, the parent must provide a written and signed doctor's order stating the name of the child, medication, and hour to be given. All medication must be received at school in the original prescription container. Cough drops may be sent with your child without a physician's order. They can be kept in the nurse's office and dispensed as needed.

Thank you, and if you have any questions, please feel free to call the Health Office at 324-0403

VISION SCREENING

Vision screenings are being started this month for students in Kindergarten, 3rd and 5th grades. Teachers and parents may request a vision screening for their child when a problem is suspected regardless of grade. The Snellen vision charts are used for the majority of screenings. If your child does not pass the vision test, I will either contact you by telephone or a written note in your child's planner recommending a referral to your personal optometrist or ophthalmologist.

How Germs Spread: Tips for Stopping Them

The main way that illnesses like colds and flu are spread is from person to person in the respiratory droplets of coughs and sneezes.

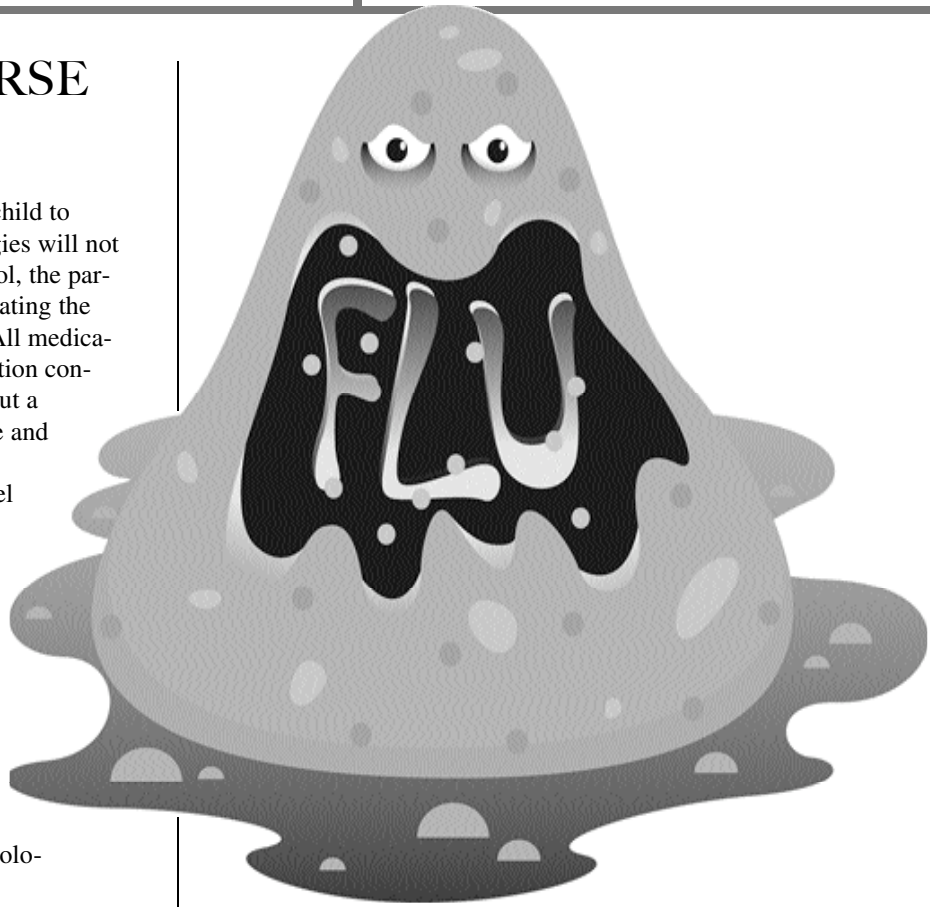
This is called "droplet spread" and can happen when droplets from a cough or sneeze of an infected person move through the air and are deposited on the mouth or nose of people nearby.

Germs also can be spread when a person touches respiratory droplets from another person on a surface like a desk and then touches his or her own eyes, mouth or nose before washing their hands. We know that some viruses and bacteria can live two hours or longer on surfaces like cafeteria tables, doorknobs, and desks.

How to fight the germs that cause colds & flu

1. Teach children to wash their hands the right way. This is one of the simplest ways to prevent the spread of disease.
 - ❖ Frequently, throughout the day
 - ❖ Before and after they eat and use the bathroom
 - ❖ With warm, soapy water, for at least 20 seconds
2. Do the elbow cough: Encourage kids to cough and sneeze into their elbows, not their hands
3. To reduce the spread of surface germs, be sure to disinfect surfaces daily. Kids can touch up to 300 surfaces in just 30 minutes.

Sources: Scott County Health Department & Center for Disease Control



Counselor's Corner: Helping Your Child

The mission of the Davenport Community School's comprehensive school guidance program is "to enhance each student's ability to acquire knowledge, attitudes and skills in the academic, career and personal/social domains to become contributing members of our diverse society."

According to Jenny Dixon, Elementary school counselor, "I teach classroom guidance lessons, small group counseling, and individual counseling during school hours. The counseling services are free and confidential and I am available at McKinley on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and every other Friday."

Ms. Dixon works as counselor at Jackson as well and can be reached at 324-0403 or 322-1787.

Ways for a student to see the school counselor:

1. Self-referral
2. Parent-referral
3. Teacher-referral
4. Administration-referral

Issues discussed with school counselor:

1. Any behavior/emotional/social issues
2. Family issues
3. Friendship issues
4. Any other issue of concern