



McMeen Elementary

Family Weekly Newsletter

February 14-18, 2022

Weekly Happenings

Saturday, February 12

1:00 - School Choice Playdate and Information Session - We are having a Playdate and information session for prospective families on the McMeen playground this upcoming Saturday. **Coffee will be provided.** All current and prospective families are invited to attend. Please reach out to any prospective parents you know and invite them to join us and learn about our amazing school!

Monday, February 14

Friendship Day Celebrations - check with your child's teacher for details

Tuesday, February 15

3:30 Choir

Wednesday, February 16

Superintendent Visit

2:30 - GW Uplift Program with 4th and 5th Grade

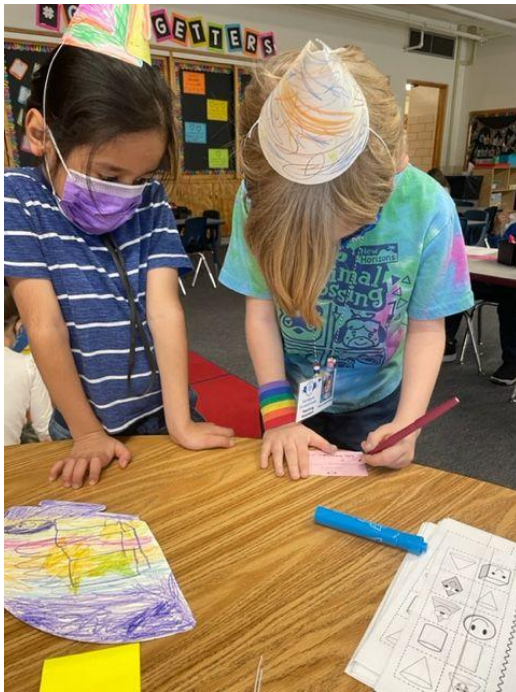
3:30 - Frisbee Golf for 5th Grade

Thursday, February 17

Friday, February 18

100th Day of School!!

Opt Outs for Body Safety Lessons Due (see below for details)



Students in Ms. Mena's class have started giving one another Caught in the Acts! Students in Ms. Caldwell's class working on multiplication.

Upcoming Events



[Black History Month Resources](#)

FEBRUARY

Feb 21- President's Day- No School

Feb 22- Teacher Professional Development Day- No School

Feb 23 - Social Media Safety Presentation for 4th and 5th

News from McMeen PTO

[PTO Newsletter](#)

Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 8th
at 6pm via [this Zoom link](#).

Contact Us!

Email: mcmeenpto@gmail.com

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/McMeenElementary>

Instagram: @realstudentsofmcmeen

Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in Supporting McMeen?

Like all schools right now, McMeen is currently experiencing challenges with staffing related to COVID illnesses and protocols. There are a few ways you could help out if interested:

- **Morning and Recess Monitoring** - One area we are really finding we have a need in is monitoring the playground during both the mornings and recess. In the mornings, we need help from 8:05-8:30 and during recess we need help 10:45-12:45. ***We would love any time you can support during these blocks and on any days. It's totally fine if you can just do 30 minutes one day per week.*** If this is something you are interested in, please complete the process in the next bullet AND contact Lauren Bartsch (lauren_bartsch@dpsk12.net) to set up a schedule.
- **Volunteer** - Even though we have suspended volunteers in the building, you can still start the process of becoming certified to be a volunteer for when we are able to open it back up. To do this, apply on the [Volunteer Background Portal](#).
- **Apply to be a Substitute** - Did you know you can make \$200/day as a substitute in DPS? AND that you can pick where and when you sub? The district (and McMeen) is always in need of substitutes. Learn more and apply on the [DPS website for guest teachers](#).

Library Book Donations

The McMeen Library is in need of hardcover books and would love donations in English, Spanish, or Arabic. The Bookies Event (below) is a great way to help donate books as well!

Announcements

Mask Update

On Wednesday, the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment [announced](#) that the public health order requiring masks in schools will expire **at the end of the day on Friday, Feb. 25.** **Masks are still required in all indoor school settings until that date.** The decision by DDPHE means that, beginning Monday, Feb. 28, **masks will no longer be required but will be strongly recommended for all students, staff, and visitors across DPS.**

REMINDER Summer Options

We are hearing from a lot of parents that they are feeling confused about options for their child this summer. We are hoping we can help clarify some of that here.

- **Summer Connections** is the DPS summer *school* option, where students will work on literacy, math, and science. This is a rebranding from what was formerly known as Summer Academy, which also only focused on literacy. Registration is open now through March 25th. You can learn more [here](#). **They have also released flyers in [Arabic](#), [Spanish](#), and [English](#) for more information.**
- **Discovery Link Summer Camp** is the summer enrichment option. They were originally going to offer camp at Bradley Elementary for McMeen students; however, they are no longer able to do that since Bradley will be under construction. Registration is open now! You can learn more about all the available sites [here](#) or reach out to Candace Hoffmann at candace_hoffmann@dpsk12.net.

REMINDER Cherry Creek Youth Sports Girls Softball

Registration for the spring season is now open at www.creeksports.com. The season runs from April 2 to May 8. Learn more from [this flier](#).

REMINDER COVID Notifications

We wanted to let you know that DPS schools will no longer send general COVID-19 notification letters to families when there is a COVID-19 case in your child's classroom or at their school. Instead, families can check the [DPS COVID-19 Dashboard](#) to see the latest updates with cases that are reported to us.

You will still be notified if your child needs to quarantine after an in-school exposure.

As we move into the next phase of this pandemic, please encourage your students to continue following the [DPS 5](#) and the DPS [COVID-19 Guidance for Parents & Caregivers](#). Please monitor your students for illness symptoms and keep them home if they are sick. We also know that getting vaccinated is the best way to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Please visit www.vaccines.gov to search for the vaccine provider closest to you or consider accessing no-cost health care services offered from our [School Based Health Centers](#) (Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools) by calling 303-602-8958.

For more information about how many COVID-19 cases we have in our community, please visit [Denver's COVID-19 Case Dashboard](#).

Please call our front office if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

REMINDER Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run will start the week of March 7th. Girls on the Run inspires girls to a lifetime of self-respect and a healthy lifestyle through an innovative program that combines training for a 3.1-mile run/walk race with fun games and activities that help girls learn to define their lives on their own terms. We will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. Open to all 3rd, 4th and 5th grade girls. Registration opens at 9AM February 7th. For more information about the program go to www.girlsontherunrockies.org. Questions or want to coach? Reach out to Hannah Stults or Summer Holm at hannah_stults@dpsk12.net or summer_fahrenbrink1@dpsk12.net

REMINDER Coats

We want to remind everyone that we do have a lost and found. If your child is missing any clothing items, please ask to check it out at arrival or dismissal (it is just inside door 5 near the entrance to the playground). Please also ensure that your child only takes their own items from the lost and found. We have had a few instances where kids are accidentally taking the wrong items. If this has happened with your child, please help return those items to the lost and found.

REMINDER Body Safety Lessons

To support our students in developing stronger body safety skills, and in compliance with Erin's Law, the Denver Children's Advocacy Center will be delivering 5 lessons about safety, prevention, and child abuse to students in Kindergarten-5th grade. Some topics include appropriate touch, safety steps, support systems, and the role of secrets. Licensed professionals facilitate these training sessions. To learn more about the curriculum please visit <https://www.denvercac.org/what-we-do/prevent-abuse/denver-safe-start>.

If you do **NOT** wish your child to participate in programming, please sign and return [this form](#) (paper copies will be sent home next week) to Stefanie Limberger, School Psychologist Intern, supervised by Dr. Gray (Jennifer_gray@dpsk12.org), **by February 18th, 2022**. If we do not hear from you, we will assume your child has permission to participate in this program.

Student Shout Outs

2nd Grade, Alyzae Romero-Alcazar - She is a problem-solver who puts the needs of her classmates and teachers before herself! She does what she can to help others and finds new/creative solutions to problems without being told by a teacher! - Ms. Candee

2nd Grade - I am shouting out 2nd Grade musicians and teachers for coming to music with a mindset to learn, and improved grade-wide behavior. -Ms. Q

4th Grade, Cecilia Keys - She has worked so hard to show leadership and initiative in the classroom. I am proud of her ability to persist through tough times and come to school every day!

Kindergarten, Karlos Rodriguez-Cobos - "El esta tratando muy duro para hacer buenas decisiones y ser un buen ejemplo para sus compañeros. He is trying really hard to make good choices and be a good example to his peers." - Sra. Zaragoza

Kindergarten, Oskar Martin - El se esta esforzando mucho en su lectura y escritura y siempre tiene una buena actitud para hacer su trabajo . He is trying his best with his reading and writing & always has a good attitude when it comes to do his work. - Sra. Zaragoza

ECE, Dihya Saidi - Dihya is super helpful around class to both her teachers and classmates. She is always excited to learn new things and help her friends when they need it. Great job Dihya! - Mr. Hughes

Kindergarten, Amir Hussain Sadeqi - Amir is a newer student in our classroom. He has been working SO hard and has grown so much in his speaking and listening skills since coming to McMeen! - Mrs. McReynolds

Kindergarten, Abigayle Birdsall-Jewell - Abigayle is an incredibly hard worker and a kind friend. She is always the first to include someone who is feeling left out! -Mrs. McReynolds

Kindergarten, Ava Gossett - Ava has grown so much in kindergarten this year! What started as "I can't do it" has become "I can and I will!" She has become a letter-sound expert and a wonderful writer! - Mrs. McReynolds

ECE, Vivienne Scott - Vivienne is working very hard practicing her Spanish all day long. Way to go! - Sra. Aldaz

Kindergarten, Abdiaziz Igal - Abdiaziz is an absolute superstar! He is a generous and thoughtful student who has set a personal goal to "help my friends learn and do the best they can in school". He is a leader and wonderful asset to our classroom, and we are so lucky to have him with us this year! - Ms. Mena

News from Classrooms

Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade Dual Language - McMeen's Dual Language Program was awarded a grant from the DPS Foundation. With this grant we will purchase foundational Spanish literacy curriculum and leveled student texts in Spanish. These materials will support the literacy and language development of our native Spanish and native English speaking Dual Language students. We are so excited to continue building our program and grateful to have these resources not only for our students this year, but for years to come!

Resources from DPS

REMINDER Healthy Start Times

With the shift to Healthy Start Times in fall 2023, DPS is seeking input on what options work best for the community in carrying out this change. There are three options for bus routes that make Healthy Start Times possible. Please share these opportunities for students, families and DPS community members to join upcoming meetings. For more information and to register, visit the [Healthy Start Times page](#).

REMINDER Covid-19 Vaccination INFORMATION

Our Denver Health School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) are now offering vaccinations for free at [18 locations](#) across the city. SBHCs offer a quick and convenient way to get vaccinated. Please see this flier (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)) with dates and locations of these free SBHC vaccination clinics. More information about the safety of the COVID-19 vaccine for children can also be found in this [fact sheet from Denver Health](#). Families can register for the vaccine online with their Denver Health MyChart account [here](#), or can call 303-602-8958 to schedule an appointment.



McMEEN
ELEMENTARY

McMeen Elementary School

*1000 S Holly St
Denver, CO 80246
720-424-5520`
FAX 720-423-5547*