



McMeen Elementary

Family Weekly Newsletter

Weekly Happenings

Saturday, March 19

Community Clean-up Day 10am - 12pm

Community Playdate 12pm - 1pm

Monday, March 21

Tuesday, March 22

Istation Parade

3:30 - Choir

Wednesday, March 23

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

3:30 - Frisbee Golf for 5th Grade

Thursday, March 24

Read-a-Thon Celebrations

4:00-5:30 - Freedom Concert in the Auditorium

Friday, March 25

Last Day to Register for Summer Connections (see below)

3:15-5:15 - COVID Vaccination Clinic in the Gym

March 28 - April 1 - *Spring Break, No School*

Upcoming Events

MARCH



March 28-April 1 - Spring Break

Students in ELD made dioramas and presented them to other students and staff. Check out these 5th Graders presenting to Kindergartners!



News from McMeen PTO

[PTO Newsletter](#)

Next Meeting - Tuesday, April 12th at 6pm via [this Zoom link](#).

PTO is looking for a **Photographer** willing to donate their time. Email mcmeenpto@gmail.com if you are interested or know someone who would be!

Contact Us!

Email: mcmeenpto@gmail.com

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

Instagram: @realstudentsofmcmeen

Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in Supporting McMeen?

We are still always looking for volunteers to support with the following:

- **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. You can also sign up on the [McMeen volunteer calendar](#). ***We are currently working on putting together some support/guidance for parents who choose to volunteer.***
- **Volunteer** - Apply for a background check 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](#).

Announcements

School Store

Our school store is now open. Get all of your Mustang gear today!! The ordering window will be open until March 27th. It will take 2-3 weeks to ship the orders once the ordering window is closed. You will be able to pick up your orders right here at McMeen. Please add your child's name as the customer so that we can easily get the orders out once they arrive. Shop here:

<https://denverathletic.chippily.com/mcmeenems/>

Registration for Summer Connections

Registration for DPS's summer school program, Summer Connections, closes on March 25th. Make sure you register at <https://www.dpsk12.org/academics/summer-connections/>.

Free Tickets to Dinos and Dragons Stroll

This family-fun event is something that all ages will enjoy, especially elementary and middle school kiddos. Check out the event at DinoAndDragonStroll.com. The DINO & DRAGON STROLL will be open Saturday, April 2nd from 10am-4pm with a special Sensory friendly hour from 8:30am-9:45am and Sunday, April 3rd from 10am-3pm. Our Sensory Friendly Hour will allow students with special needs, such as autism, the ability to enjoy our event in a more subdued setting (no flashing lights, limited sound, limited movement from the dinos & dragons). ***They are offering FREE TICKETS for all students under the age of 17.*** You must redeem your tickets online using the discount code **DENVER**. Learn more on their website or [this flier](#).

REMINDER CMAS Schedule Change

We had to make a change to the CMAS schedule and move Science to the end of April. Please

review the changes on the schedule below and reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions. **As a reminder, attendance for students during testing is very important.**

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	No School		NO TESTING			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		3rd-5th Grade Literacy				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		3rd-5th Grade Math				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		5th Grade Science				

REMINDER Cultural Learning Opportunities

Below are some learning opportunities and/or resources centered on various cultures.

- **The Denver March Powwow** will be held in person this year from March 18-20 at the [Denver Coliseum](#). Admission is free for students 6 years old and under. For all others, tickets are available for purchase at the door at \$7 per day. Last year, the event was held virtually, and we heard from DPS community members about their [connections to the Denver March Powwow](#). Denver March Powwow [passes will be provided to Native American Culture and Education students](#) in DPS for free from 3-5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16 at the Denver Indian Center located at 4407 Morrison Rd, Denver, CO 80219. To receive a Denver March Powwow pass, students must be enrolled through Denver Public Schools and have a 506 form on file with the NACE office. Blank 506 forms will be available at the distribution for completion.
- **March is Women's History Month**, which celebrates the contributions women have made to the United States and recognizes the specific achievements women have made over the course of American history in a variety of fields according to the [official website](#). **Visit The Commons to access resources for teaching about cultural moments.** We are also seeking shout outs: tell us about a woman in DPS who has made a positive impact on your life. Think teachers, supervisors, bus drivers, office support — any woman in DPS you'd like to celebrate! We'll share your shout-outs toward the end of the month. [Share your shout out's here.](#)
- **The African American Young Ladies Summit Program is hosting a virtual Journey Through The Decades of Black Excellence Showcase Fundraiser at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 22.** The event will feature an annual fashion showcase scholarship opportunity and a Uganda fundraiser. All are welcome! Space is limited, so [confirm your ticket purchase today](#). Contact Dr. Plashan McCune at plashan.mccune@higherlearningu.org or Deanna Pierrie at deanna_pierrie@dpsk12.net for more information.

REMINDER Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month. Find resources [here](#).

This is the link to Adeline Gray who was raised in Denver and was a DPS student. She is the most decorated wrestler (male or female) in history. [Adeline Gray](#)

REMINDER I Matter Mental Health Resource for Youth

Colorado [House Bill 21-1258](#) established this temporary behavioral health services program to provide access to mental health and substance use disorder services for youth, including addressing needs that may have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is open to

youth 18 years of age or younger or 21 years of age or younger if receiving special education services. Learn more and sign-up on their [website](#).

REMINDER Discounted Avalanche Tickets

The DPS Foundation is offering discounted tickets to three separate Avalanche Games: Sunday March 14, Wednesday March 23, and Thursday March 31. To learn more, check out these flyers in [Spanish](#) and [English](#) or visit the [DPS Foundation website](#).

REMINDER Freedom Concert

We are excited about our first in-person concert since the start of the pandemic. Our Freedom Concert has been scheduled for March 24 4-5:30pm.

REMINDER COVID Vaccination Clinic at McMeen

We are excited to offer a free vaccination clinic here at McMeen on March 25th and May 6th (**note, this is a change in date**) from 3:15-5:15. Pfizer vaccines will be available for students, and there may be some for DPS families and staff.

Student Shout Outs

Caught in the Act Winners - Congratulations to our Caught In the Act winners this week: Jayce ~ Ms Tony's Respect, Sydney Callahan ~ Ms Zaleski's Respect and Responsibility, Sasha ~ Ms Dickinson's Responsibility, Daenerys ~ Ms Mena's, Hussain ~ Ms McReynold's Achievement, Conner Fernandez ~ Ms Johns Responsibility, Abdijabar ~ Ms Caldwell Responsibility, Ola ~ Ms Holm Responsibility, Zoey ~ Ms Keli Achievement and Perseverance, Austin ~ Mr Barrera

Top Banana Class -The class with the most Caught in the Acts this week: Ms. Candee's Class!

4th Grade, Oli Hoffman - Thank you for always being such a helping hand throughout the day! - Ms. Keli

2nd Grade, Abel Asgedom - He has been working so hard in class and has made INCREDIBLE growth this year! I am so proud of you buddy! - Ms. Johns

2nd Grade, Liana Henry - she is such a loving and caring student! She shows compassion for her teachers and her classmates. Our class has talked about what it means to have a 'growth mindset' and she is the perfect example of this! She radiates positivity! -Ms. Candee

5th Grade, Eyad Babekir - Eyad was such a leader on our field trip to Bluff Lake Nature Center. He was very good at spotting wildlife. He demonstrated respect to his classmates, teachers, and nature! Great job Eyad!

5th Grade, Renee Anthony - She is always ready for school and has a great attitude about all things in life! She is funny and kind, and always makes her classmates laugh! - Ms. Jaramillo

1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade Ariel, Gueda, Kiyan- Great job working hard in reading groups, supporting each other and being ready to learn in reading each day! - Mrs. McWhorter

5th Grade, Laritza Lizarraga - Laritza was an excellent leader on our field trip this week! She was so kind and helpful. Way to go Laritza! - Ms. Zaleski

1st Grade, Raul Rivera Duran - Raul is a compassionate friend and always makes sure that others are recognized for their hard work! Way to go Raul! - Ms. Alvarez

5th Grade, Chloe Everett - Chloe is such a hard worker! I always see Chloe on task and trying her best. She also focuses on being a good friend and classmate. Keep it up Chloe! - Ms. Zaleski

3rd Grade, Dillan Dodder - Dillan takes responsibility for her academics as well as taking responsibility for tending her friendships. - Rebeka Reeves-Toney

3rd Grade, Sedra Elmagdobi - Sedra has been expanding her friendships in our classroom and making sure all her peers are included on the playground. - Rebeka Reeves-Toney

ECE, Rahma Igal - Rahma has learned so much in ECE. She has a lot of friends and likes to be a leader in the classroom by setting a great example for all of her friends. Great Job Rahma!

Kindergarten, Alan Cruz-Burgos - El siempre le gusta ayudar a mantener nuestro salon de clase organizado. Ayuda a sus compañeros hacer buenas decisiones y es responsable. - Sra. Zaragoza

ECE, Oscar Kennedy - Oscar muestra mas seguridad y confianza en si mismo al expresarse en el idioma español. También muestra esfuerzo y progreso al escribir palabras en español escribiendo los sonidos de las letras que el escucha en las sílabas y palabras. ¡Nos sentimos felices y orgullosas de Oscar! ¡Sigue esforzándote Oscar!

Oscar is building his confidence in speaking in Spanish and showing great effort and progress in writing words in Spanish by writing the sounds of letters he listens is syllables and words . We are happy and proud of Oscar!! Keep up your hard work Oscar!!! - Mrs. Rivera and Mrs Erica

News from Classrooms

ECE - Mr. Hughes's class has been learning about animals and a little about the habitats they live in. So far we have learned about Arctic Animals, Ocean Animals and Rainforest/Jungle Animals. We will be learning about Desert Animals before spring break. After spring break, we will finish up with the Grassland, Mountain and Farm Animals.

We have also been working on measuring and comparing objects and have been able to implement it into our animal unit.

In our **ECE Dual Language** classrooms we are studying the unit of study "Seasons". Our students have learned about attributes of Winter and Spring, describe the weather, identify clothes we wear and what activities we can do during Winter and Spring seasons. Our students are making real word connections as they are encouraged to use the new vocabulary and speak in complete sentences in Spanish.

In mathematics our students are measuring and comparing objects using non-standard units to measure as well as exploring and using standard measurement tools.

Kindergarten students will be wrapping up a unit on plants and will begin learning all about the farm! In literacy, students are working on beginning and ending blends.

In math, students are working on composing and decomposing numbers to 10 using number bonds and number sentences.

Fifth Graders went on a field trip to Bluff Lake Nature Center this week. They did an excellent job representing McMeen and we are so proud of them! They learned a lot about biodiversity in different ecosystems. They even got to see prairie dogs! We had such a great time. Thank you to all the parents who chaperoned and supported our kids in outdoor learning!



ECE- Ms. Aldaz's class is preparing for a tea party in the art studio. They learned two hand building methods with clay- pinch pot and slab. Then they imagined themselves as royalty and created their own crown. We are excited to fire and glaze our clay and celebrate!



Resources from DPS

[Families of Multilingual Learners are Invited to the March 23 MLE DAC Meeting](#)

Families of multilingual learners (students who speak a language other than English at home) are invited to join DPS for a virtual Multilingual Education Districtwide Advisory Committee (MLE DAC) meeting on Wednesday, March 23 from 5-6:30 p.m.

At this month's meeting families will:

- Review and comment on student assessment results and family engagement efforts.
- Get to know a DPS Board Member.

You can [register here](#) and join the meeting via [Zoom](#). For more information, visit the [MLE DAC website](#) or call 720-423-2040.

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

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