

January 2012

The McKinley Monthly

Principal, Mark Carter 414-773-1510 www.mckinley@wauwatosa.k12.wi.us

Dear McKinley Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had an enjoyable and relaxing break and holiday season. The staff and students are once again hard at work learning, and also enjoying the mild weather we have had. The weather surely won't stay mild, so please keep an eye on the conditions so your child is dressed appropriately for being outside and enjoying whatever this winter has to offer.

Students in grades SK through 5 will be participating in MAPs testing. The winter test session begins January, 17th and runs through the week of February 13th. Teachers will notify parents of the individual classroom testing schedule. We appreciate your efforts to make sure your child is rested and in attendance for their testing times.

Events this month include a PTA Meeting at 7:00 p.m on the 12th, McKinley Open House from 6:00-7:30 pm on Thursday, January 19 and Family Game Night, 6:30-8:30 pm on Friday the 27th. Please join us in these opportunities to become involved with and have fun at your child's school. There are also two Mondays in January that the student's do not have classes. Monday, January 16th and Monday, January 23rd which is a teacher inservice day.

At the beginning of February the Wauwatosa elementary schools have registration for 2012-2013 school year for JK and New SK students. Current students do not need to register again for next year. There are also information sessions at both middle schools for our 5th graders that will be moving on to Longfellow or Whitman next year. Please call the McKinley office if you have any questions concerning registration for next year.

Mark Carter

Mark Carter
Principal
(414)773-1510
carterma@wauwatosa.k12.wi.us

Each Friday is
McKinley Spirit Day!!
You can show your

**24 Hour
Attendance Line
414-773-1502**

**Mark Your
Calendars!**

2012 - 2013 JK, New SK and 6th Grade Registration

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

MCKINLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday, February 6, 2012
8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Monday, February 13, 2012
8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

(JK students currently attending McKinley DO NOT need to be registered again for SK.)

Questions can be directed to the McKinley Office: 773-1500

6TH GRADE ORIENTATION & INFORMATION SESSIONS

LONGFELLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 7, 2012
5:00PM-6:30 PM OR 7:00 PM-8:30 PM
Longfellow Auditorium
Contact: Sue Ennis, 6th Grade Counselor
414-773-2427

ennissu@wauwatosa.k12.wi.us

WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wednesday, February 1, 2012
6:00 PM
(414)773-2600

Look for more information as these dates draw near. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Winters or the Middle Schools with any questions.

Santa's Elves Help the Tosa Community Food Pantry

A group of "McKinley Moms" and some former McKinley families recently gathered to box complete Christmas dinners for clients who frequent the Tosa Community Food Pantry, 7474 Harwood Avenue in Wauwatosa. Food for 25 dinners including fresh hams were donated, boxed, decorated and delivered by McKinley families to the pantry where they were distributed before Christmas.

Thank you "McKinley Moms" and your children for brightening the lives of our clients and for demonstrating love and compassion for our families in need.

Sincerely,

The Tosa Community Food Pantry

Tips and Reminders



- Please have your child dress for the weather. Except for times of extreme weather conditions, the students will go outside for recess.
- If your child needs to take any type of medication at school, a parent must complete an authorization form in the office. The medication must be delivered by a parent/guardian and be in its original container.
- It is imperative that any changes to your contact information (phone, address, email, etc) be communicated immediately with the school office.

McKinley PTA Safe Routes to School Newsletter Mini Grant Award to McKinley Elementary School

Grants award federal funding to 26 U.S. schools, municipalities and organizations to increase walking and bicycling safety for students

The National Center for Safe Routes to School announced December 21, 2011 the selection of its newest mini-grant recipients — a program made possible through the federal Safe Routes to School program.

Twenty-six schools, municipalities and organizations from across the country will receive \$1,000 to support projects designed to encourage students and their families to safely walk and bicycle to school. The mini-grant activities, many of which are driven by students, will occur during the spring semester of the 2011-2012 school year.

"This is our fifth round of mini-grants, and we continue to be impressed with how communities can leverage a little bit of funding and a lot of commitment to develop new programs and to build upon strategies that may already be working well," said Lauren Marchetti, director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School. "The community and student leadership recognized here exemplify the forward-thinking mindset that can lead to communities that offer a variety of transportation options."

(Continued on page 5)

Calendar At A Glance *Subject to Change

January 2012

- 2 – Classes Resume
- 12 – PTA Meeting, 7:00pm
- 16 – No Classes, K-12
- 18 – Market Day Pickup 2:15-3:15 pm
- 19 – Open House & Art Show, 6:00-7:30 pm
- 23 – Inservice Day, No Classes
- 26 – Follow a Friday Schedule
- 27 – Family Game Night 6:30-8:30pm

February 2012

- 6 – Kindergarten Registration 8:00 am – 3:30 pm
- 9 – Principal's Advisory Council, 4:00pm
- 10 – PTA Family Fun Night, 5:30-8:30pm
- 15 – Market Day Pickup 2:15-3:15 pm
- 15 – Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8:00 pm
- 16 – Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8:00 pm
- 17 – Parent /Teacher Conferences, No Classes
- 20 – JK Only Conferences, No JK Classes
- 21 – Faculty Meeting, 3:30 pm

March 2012

- 2 – Early Release, 11:30am Dismissal
- 5 – Trimester 2 Ends
- 8 – PTA Meeting 7:00 pm
- 13 – Hoops for Heart, 3:15-5:00 pm
- 14 – Market Day Pickup 2:15-3:15 pm
- 20 – Faculty Meeting, 3:30pm
- 23 – High Interest Day

April 2012

- 5 – Follow a Friday Schedule
- 6-13 – Spring Break
- 16 – Classes Resume
- 17 – Faculty Meeting, 3:30pm
- 18 – Market Day Pickup 2:15-3:15 pm
- 19 – Math Night 6:00-8:00 pm

May 2012

- 3 – Principal's Advisory Council, 4:00 pm
- 10 – PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 15 – Faculty Meeting, 3:30pm
 - Band/Orchestra/Chorus Concert, 7:00 pm
- 16 – Market Day Pickup 2:15-3:15 pm
- 17 – Spring Book Fair
- 25 – Inclement Weather Make-up, or No School
- 28 – Memorial Day, No School
- 31 – Field Day

June 2012

- 7 – Last Day of School
- 5th Grade Celebration

Down in The Art Room



Grade Level focus:

Kindergarten:

Has been prolific with their art making. Most recently their completed watercolor family portrait painting. Prior to this their subject matter has also been things near and dear to their hearts. Their home, themselves, their favorite colors and favorite things are a few of these. Their knowledge of symmetry will be tapped next.

1st Grade:

Have been using their imaginations quite a bit so far this year. They just started an abstract dog painting. Prior to this they used lines, shapes, colors to make group and individual pieces. Concentric shapes were elaborated upon and a clay portrait drawing is still in the works.

2nd Grade:

Have been diligently creating neighborhood collages. Earlier this year they used space, shapes, and repetition to fill a page with seashells. Clay house tiles are underway and the elements of design were tapped for a contrasting complimentary color collage.

3rd Grade:

Focused on the promotion of healthy eating, vegetables were the subject for their 1st painting this year. A move to Zentangling, Dr. Seuss and printmaking was a long process, but worth the time. Creative energy is now flowing in the creation of a Cyclops monster of the 3rd grade variety.

4th Grade:

Has been bursting with mixed media. Sewing a little pillow monster consumed their focus at the start of the year. They moved on to a very glitzy & blingy self portrait in the style of Simon Sparrow. Clay tableaus with the subject of "beauty" are just begun.

5th Grade:

So far this year the 5th Graders have created "windows of the soul" paintings using velvet as their canvas & oil paint in stick form. The se along with the mixed media Dia de Los Muertos pieces they recently finished, will be hanging up for the all school art show. They are just beginning a large format line drawing of a chair or a tricycle.

A great way to encourage creativity in your child is to have lots of art "stuff" at her/his disposal. If kids are allowed to explore with several different media (watercolors, Crayons, markers, glue & papers) without a specific project in mind, they will use their innate creative imaginations to practice using their own visual language. This in turn, will further develop their visual literacy.



Art Teacher:

Jenny Leigh 773-1567
leighje@wauwatosa.k12.wi.us

Upcoming art shows:
March~ Barnes and Noble
@ Mayfair Mall
April~ Tosa Library Show

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January 2012

The McKinley All school art show will take place the evening of open house;

January 19, 2012.

Please join us for a school filled with the beautiful creations by McKinley students from K5 - 5th grade.



Anyone who keeps the ability to see beauty never grows old. -Kafka

A man paints with his brains and not with his hands. -Michelangelo

Check out these cool Art Sites!

Bomomo : <http://www.bomomo.com>
Like a computer program with art tools, but better!

Inside Art : <http://www.eduweb.com/insideart/index.html>

A game which explores a painting from the inside out. You 'escape'

from the painting after answering ' Who? / What? / Where? / How? ' questions

Haring Kids : <http://www.haringkids.com/>
Artist Keith Haring was devoted to kids Activities include games, puzzles, pictures to color, stories and more.



Connections

McKinley Elementary

December/January

www.wauwatosapta.org/mckinleypta

Dear McKinley Families—

December was a busy month with the Secret Holiday Workshop, City Tins Fundraiser and the Winter Concert Bake Sale. We want to thank all the volunteers who helped make them possible. The City Tins fundraiser was a huge success with 321 sold. The PTA will receive \$3210 to put towards special programs, field trips and activities for our children.

Mark your calendars for Game Night on January 27th. It will be in the small gym from 6:30-8:30pm. Games will include chess, checkers, charades, Twister and other card and board games. Our second school wide *Box Top* competition of the year is under way. The class with the most logos collected will earn a pizza party. Start clipping as the deadline is February 16th!

Family Fun Night will be held on February 10th. In addition to the many volunteers needed for that evening, the FFN committee is looking for a volunteer to assist with the ticket orders and budget. If you are interested in assisting with this please contact Amy Dedow, amydedow@sbcglobal.net or Katie Whitlock, whitlockt@yahoo.com.

We would like to thank you for your continued support for the upcoming programs in January.

Sincerely,

Amy Standal and Sue Soczka

PTA Co-Presidents

Ways to Support the PTA



Continue Collecting Box Tops! The PTA will again be collecting Box Tops labels. A school-wide competition will begin after the winter break and run through February.

*Look for additional ways to earn money for McKinley School by also collecting "Caps for Cash" and Campbell Soup labels.



Upcoming Events

- Family Game Night – January 27, 2012
- Family Fun Night – February 10, 2012
(note date change)
- High Interest Day – March 23, 2012
- Math Night – April 19, 2012
- McKinley Adult Social – April 28, 2012

Upcoming PTA Meetings

- Thursday, January 12, 2012
- Thursday, March 8, 2012
- Thursday, May 10, 2012



Come have some fun at the PTA's Game Night



Friday, January 27, 6:30p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

There will be a variety of card and board games to play.

Bring your own board game to share with friends



McKinley PTA Safe Routes to School Newsletter

As the busy holiday time and darker days are approaching, please remind your children and yourselves to stay alert on the streets. Parents, please avoid texting or talking on your cell phones while driving. Also, remember to follow traffic rules around the school and avoid double parking. Remind your children to look both ways before crossing the street and not to walk into the street between parked cars.

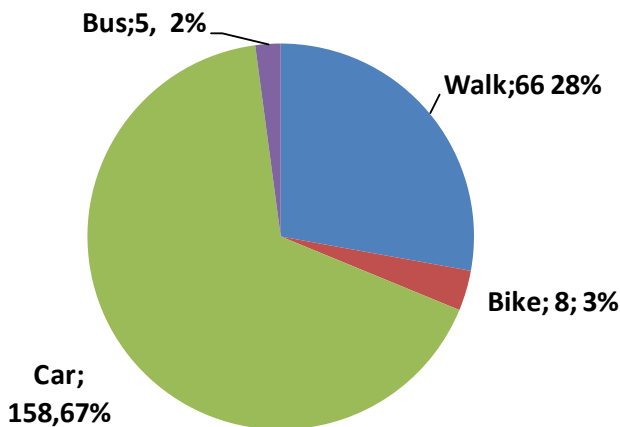
SRTS committee will be asking for your ideas on how to improve traffic congestion around McKinley Elementary. Look for forms at the holiday concerts.

Pedestrian accident involving Longfellow Middle School student! Safety of the students is the primary concern of the SRTS committee. Unfortunately, on Monday, November 7th a middle school student was injured while walking to school. The school crossing guard was in position and had traffic southbound traffic stopped on Wauwatosa Avenue at West Wright Street. A vehicle attempted to pass on the right and struck a 12-year-old boy. For more information on this story: <http://wauwatosa.patch.com/articles/injury-to-student-prompts-call-for-school-zone-safety-review>

Exciting news! McKinley SRTS committee was awarded 1 of 25 Spring 2012 grants from the National Safe Routes to School organization. The money will help to fund LED hand paddles to be used by the crossing guards and city and district wide promotion of the Walking School bus program.

For more updates on the walking school bus and crossing guard ambassador program, please see the PTA website. We continue are continuing to recruit new walkers!

Results of November "Hands Up" Tally



The 3rd grade class had the highest percentage of walkers/bikers for the 2nd month in a row!

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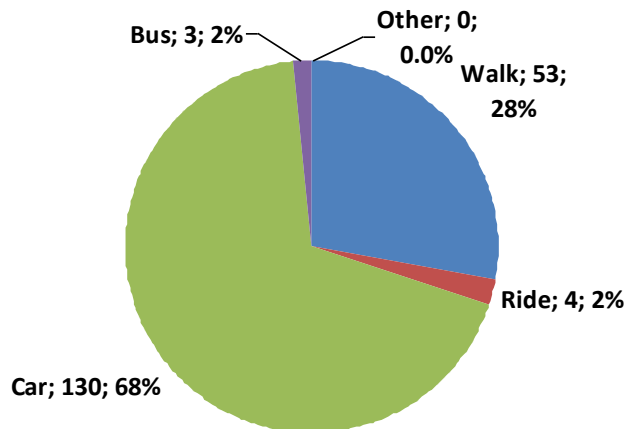
Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs are sustained efforts by schools, parents, schoolchildren, community leaders and local, state, federal and tribal governments to enable and encourage more children to walk and bicycle to school. The National Center, which serves as the clearinghouse for the federal SRTS program, received 212 eligible SRTS mini-grant applications from schools and community organizations nationwide during this fifth award cycle. Proposals selected in the highly competitive process distinguished themselves by identifying a need and proposing a sustainable program to address it.

McKinley Elementary School grant seeks to expand its Walking School Bus program by reaching out to local community members, businesses and three nearby universities. Volunteer recruitment will use posters, newspaper advertisements and digital marketing strategies to recruit college students to help lead the McKinley walking school bus. Once a core group of volunteers has been identified and trained, additional WSB routes will be added. Training sessions and background checks will be required for all volunteers. In addition, the program will create a "Wauwatosa Walking School Bus" handbook, which will be available to other elementary schools in the Wauwatosa school district. For more information about the National Center's mini-grant program, visit www.saferoutesinfo.org/funding-portal/mini-grants.

Walking School Bus Program:

Amy Standal and Sarah Lerand attended a Walking School Bus conference hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in Madison. The program addressed creating and sustaining a walking school bus program. Watch for upcoming updates to the program. Thank you to all who made the WSB program possible this year!

Results of December "Hands Up" Tally:



Reminder: Stay alert! Do not talk on cell phones or text while driving.

State Superintendent Tony Evers proclaimed January 9 to 13 as Adult School Crossing Guard Recognition Week in honor of the adult school crossing guards who help children walk safely to and from school throughout the school year.