



# MMS Bullpup Express Newsletter



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McPherson Middle School  
700 E. Elizabeth  
McPherson, KS 67460

April, 2016



## MMS EVENTS

Friday  
April 1



Monday  
April 4 Boys Tennis @ Derby North 3:30pm

Tuesday  
April 5 PTO Meeting in Commons 5:30pm  
7 – 8 Vocal Concert 6:30pm

Wednesday  
April 6 Boys Tennis @ Salina Lkwd 10:00am

Thursday  
April 7 Track/Field @ Newton Quad 3:30pm


Friday  
April 8 Explorations Field Trip—Ms. Loewen TBA

Monday  
April 11 8<sup>th</sup> grade WSU Campus Visit 8:15am  
BOE Meeting @ Central Office 7:00pm

Tuesday  
April 12 Boys Tennis vs Derby 3:30pm

Wednesday  
April 13 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Field Trip TBA  
to Museum of World Treasures & Zoo

Thursday  
April 14 McPherson Co. Student Art Show 9:00 to 4:00  
Track/Field vs McPherson Inv. 2:00pm  
meet to be held @ Hesston High School

Friday  
April 15  McPherson Co. Student Art Show 1:00 – 4:00pm

Saturday  
April 16 McPherson Co. Student Art Show 10:00 – 4:00

Sunday  
April 17 McPherson Co. Student Art Show 1:00 – 4:00pm

Monday  
April 18 **NO SCHOOL**  
Boys Tennis vs Hutchinson 3:30pm

Tuesday  
April 19 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Mac College TBA  
one group a.m. & one group p.m.  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocal Concert 6:30pm

Wednesday  
April 20 Pioneer League Music Festival 8:00am  
@ Salina South--Vocal

Thursday  
April 21 Boys Tennis @ Valley Center 9:00am  
Track/Field @ Goddard 3:30pm  
(Kilmer Classic)

Friday  
April 22   
Pops Choir Concert 6:30pm

Monday  
April 25 BOE Meeting @ High School 7:00pm

Tuesday  
April 26 Boys Tennis vs Salina South 3:30pm  
Track/Field @ Circle Participation Meet 3:30pm  
Talent show tryouts during Core Adv. 2:25pm

Wednesday  
April 27 Pioneer League Music Festival 8:00am  
@ Salina South--Instrumental

Thursday  
April 28 Track/Field @ Hays Inv. 10:00am  
Boys Tennis @ Maize South 3:30pm

Friday  
April 29 MMS Talent Show Auditions 2:30pm  
School Dance—PTO 7:00pm

# Way to go!

made with sparkles.com

The top finishers of the Core classes Box Top competition are:

**FOURTH** place -- Ms. French's Core

**THIRD** place -- Mrs. Hughes's Core

**SECOND** place -- Mrs. Wuest's Core with more than 700 Box Tops

**FIRST PLACE**-- with more than **1200** Box Tops... the 6th grade band!

Congratulations to our top finishers, and thank you to everyone who helped our school by bringing Box Tops! Our school has collected a total of 7,682 Box Tops which means we have earned more than \$700 for MMS!

Way to go, MMS!!!



## **COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FOR STUDENTS**

Community Service hours for 6th-8th graders are 5 hours per year which began this year (2015-16).

Community Service is a volunteer activity in the community. However, having one hour of Community Service as a group activity could be a great way to get kids started.

Some community service ideas for students could be:

- \*shoveling snow for an elderly neighbor
- \*volunteering for different activities at church - church dinners, bible school volunteer, etc.
- \*raking leaves for people in your neighborhood
- \*helping out at daycare
- babysitting
- \*volunteering at the Humane Society or other agencies
- \*picking up trash in the afternoon

Students will need to have some sort of adult supervision to vouch for their hours. This can be their parents if their parents participate in their community service or are their witness. Otherwise, they will enter their supervisor's name, such as a pastor, someone they volunteered to babysit for, their neighbor, etc. Also, summer hours prior to the school year until May will count.



## **FUNDRAISER FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS OF 2020**

A fundraiser for the Class of 2020 will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at our local Freddy's. 15% of all sales during this time will go directly to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class. You **DO NOT** need to have a flier for these sales to count but can turn one in if you have one.

## **MMS PTO INFORMATION**

MMS PTO would like to thank all the parents who provided food for the staff during conferences. The teachers really appreciated having a meal prepared and accessible!

Our next meeting will be until April 5, in the first floor Conference Room 160.



8<sup>th</sup> graders will be going to WSU on April 11<sup>th</sup>. They will be leaving at 8:15 and returning before 8<sup>th</sup> hour. Everyone will need to bring a sack lunch.

6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies field trip to the Museum of World Treasures and the Sedgwick County Zoo will be on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Students will need to bring a disposable sack lunch.

April 19<sup>th</sup> is also a field trip day for 6<sup>th</sup> graders. They will tour McPherson College in two groups—one group in the morning and one group in the afternoon.



## ART DEPARTMENT NEWS

Recently both art teachers took Ms. French's Pre-AP 8<sup>th</sup> grade art class on an "art tour" field trip all around Wichita. We started by visiting the Ulrich Museum on the WSU Campus (taking in the Gordon Parks photo exhibition), stopped at the Wichita Center for the Arts to see the middle and high school Scholastic Art Show (wow! Lots of amazing, creative work!), then went further into Old Town to City Arts and got to experience creating glass mosaics. We finally ended our tour at the Wichita Art Museum. It was a great day and fun for all to see that we have a lot of professional art experiences locally.

The McPherson County Student Art Show is coming up soon! Both middle school and high school work will be on display. The exhibition will be up the following days and times at the Park School gym (210 North Elm).

**Thursday, April 14, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Friday, April 15, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 16, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 17, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

There will be a come and go reception for artists and their families on Friday evening from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Art teachers will be distributing invitations to participating MMS art students prior to the show. We hope that anyone and everyone will take in this amazing annual show and see what great talent we have here in McPherson!

Lynda French & Nicky Bowers  
MMS Art Teachers



## Through the Eyes of an Eighth Grader (Compliments of Mrs. Fenwick's Pre-AP Project Writing Class)

### Moving On

April is often associated with being the first month of the year that can truly be considered spring. Then May will usher in summer, and that will be the end of the school year. The final weeks of school often go by quickly. The sheer amounts of work given to us will guarantee that we will be too busy to focus on the passage of time, as there are plenty of end of the year projects that will consume our thoughts. Each of us will just go day by day and before you know it the whole final quarter has gone by. Most of us will be happy for the end of the year to come. It is strange to think that some of us may not be coming back next year, but moving on to the next chapter of our lives as minors. Before you know it, we will be graduating high school and moving off into the world to join the regular masses of society. Somewhere out there, there is someone who will start the cycle we will end, and continue the day-to-day passage of life. We are in essence, similar to plants. When one finishes its cycle, another flower rises to take its place in the world. Time will pass, time will end, and time will start all over again. This is the rhythm to which all human life moves, and will continue to move.

~Sean Barr~



### APRIL FOOLS

April Fools is a very fun holiday, but not one without a little fear. The story I am going to tell is one of my own prank experiences when I was about eight or nine. At this time in my life, I lived in Galva and went to school in McPherson. My mother, sister and I were all driving home one evening and my mom muttered something about being low on gas. My sister and I looked at each other, eyes white with fear, not knowing that if we ran out of gas we were not going to die. My mom saw how scared we were, and started to say we needed to get to a gas station as soon as we could, or else we might be stranded on the highway all night. This worried my sister and I more, especially combined with the fact that my mom had started to slow down to a point where she jerked the car and stopped. My third grade mind told me I was going to die, and my sister shared the same ideas. After we were obviously scared, my mom started laughing and proceeded to keep driving. This is a story that has stuck with me for a while, not because it was a good prank, but because I was so scared. Just remember this April Fools not to take a prank too seriously; they really are more trouble than they are worth.

~Josie Strathman~

**Through the Eyes of an Eighth Grader (cont'd)**  
(Compliments of Mrs. Fenwick's Pre-AP Project Writing)

## **LOVE THE EARTH**

This month is filled with two earth-loving holidays, Earth Day and Arbor Day. You would think April is a beautiful month filled with sunny days, flowers blooming, and warm weather. Although April is the first full month of spring, there is also a lot of rain. "April Showers." People all over the United States get excited for the wet season that occurs in April because of how many things the rain helps. For one, rain naturally waters all of the plants; two, it moistens ground and makes it more fertile to therefore plant more plants; and three, it refills lakes and rivers. Yet, there have been a few Aprils without rain, let us just hope this one brings a lot!

Another exciting event that takes place in April is Earth Day. If everyday were Earth Day, well it probably wouldn't seem as important, but maybe we'd live in a clean world. Earth Day is meant as an authentic reminder to be appreciative and respectful of the ground we walk on, the trees we sleep under and the beaches we swim at. Most people plant and make gardens, plant trees, or clean up trash in parks to symbolize a thank you to our earth. Along with Earth Day being in April, there is also Arbor Day as well. This day is similar to Earth Day but instead it specifies on the trees. One this day people go around to different communities to plant trees. You celebrate the oxygen makers of the world and plant more. April is a special month full of fun holidays and events. Hopefully your April will be wet, and full of planting.

~William Powers~



## **RENEWAL**

I have always thought of spring as the renewal of the year. The tulips are back in my mom's garden, the sun is shining brighter than ever, and the warmer weather draws the kids back outside and playing, and I am super excited because spring sports have kicked off. This season is my last club soccer season before I start playing in high school, and speaking of high school, now that spring is here that means we only have about two more months before we are freshmen. A lot of people including me are stoked for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Rec, and every girl I have talked to has already found their dress and then there's me who can't find one because I hate shopping. I am excited and scared for high school. I am excited that I get to go to a new school and meet new teachers, but I'm also scared of the same things; like what if my teachers don't like me, or if I get lost, or I humiliate myself, etc. But the one thing I am scared of the most is leaving middle school because I know I will never get it back!

~Anna Nason~



We are once again planning for the Summer Food Service Program. Please watch the May MMS Newsletter for additional information of where sites will be and the times for the FREE summer lunch program for children and youth ages 1 to 18. We will also include information should you like to be a volunteer to help with this awesome program.



### **JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FOR BREAKFAST EVERYDAY!**

**BREAKFAST IS A GREAT WAY TO BEGIN EACH DAY.  
BREAKFAST IS AVAILABLE 20 MINUTES BEFORE THE  
START OF THE SCHOOL DAY.**

**BREAKFAST IS FREE TO STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR  
FREE MEALS.**

**BREAKFAST IS \$.30 TO STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR  
REDUCED MEALS.**

**BREAKFAST IS \$1.80 FOR ALL K-12 STUDENTS.**

**We now have optional menu items daily  
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL**

**BILL FROESE AT 241-9490**

## GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE MEANINGFUL ROLES

**Think about a time when you did a project that allowed you to make decisions, have input that others took seriously, and capitalize on your talents and knowledge.** How did you feel?

Not only did you probably feel excited and energized, but also you felt empowered. Even when the project encountered difficult obstacles, you were more likely to complete the project when you had an important and meaningful role in it.

That's what this asset is all about: giving young people useful roles. These roles start for children at home. As children grow, they have roles in their cultural groups, their schools, their congregations, their clubs, and their community. And children and youth know when those roles are useful and meaningful, and when they are not.

Building this asset entails valuing young people's talents, skills, interests, and opinions. It also means setting aside the old hierarchy that adults know best, youth know some, and children are too young to know or contribute anything. When we start seeing children and youth as valuable resources, our young people will start feeling empowered and contribute to our communities, our schools, and our families in meaningful, thoughtful ways.



## Upcoming Events

May	2	Boys Tennis @ Salina Lkwd	3:30pm
		Track/Field @ Goddard Eish.	3:30pm
May	3	7 – 8 Vocal Concert	7:00pm
May	5	Boys Tennis vs Newton	3:30pm
		Track/Field @ Maize Inv.	3:30pm
May	6	MMS Talent Show	2:30pm
May	8	Mother's Day	
May	9	Boys Tennis @ Pioneer League	9:00am
		Tournament @ Derby HS	
		BOE Meeting @ Central Office	7:00pm
May	10	Track/Field @ Pioneer League	
		Salina Lkwd	2:00pm
May	11	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip/Opera House	TBA
May	12	Jazz Band @ May Fete	5:30pm
May	13	All School's Day—NO SCHOOL	
May	16	6 – 8 Band Concert	6:30pm
May	17	Grade 5 Band Night	6:00pm
May	19	5 – 8 Orchestra Concert	7:00pm
May	23	Showcase Event—tentative	6:00pm
		BOE Meeting @ Central Office	7:00pm
May	24	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition	9:00am
		School Dismissed—Last Day	12:30pm
		Summer Break Begins	
May	30	Memorial Day	

