



November 17, 2016
Edition 6

The 1st No Excuses University
School in Cy-Fair ISD

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McFee Elementary
19315 Plantation Cove Lane
Katy, Texas 77449

McFee Elementary 281-463-5380
A Title 1 School

The Howler

Adventure Dash

Adventure Dash is coming to McFee!

Adventure Dash is a high-energy fundraising company dedicated to serve school districts across the country.

AD uses fun-filled, age appropriate obstacle courses as a way to show that no obstacle will be too hard to overcome when trying to achieve a goal. They employ teamwork through the classrooms to help encourage everyone to work together.

Sponsoring a student for one of our races will be a way to show that you believe they will accomplish their goals and set a foundation for the future.

McFee's Adventure Dash Fundraiser will begin on November 30th and will run through December 9, 2016.

More information about Adventure Dash is to come.



Spelling Bee

It's Spelling Bee Season!
Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will have the opportunity to earn a

spot in the McFee Spelling Bee!

On Friday, December 2nd, all students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will take a written Spelling Bee Qualifying Test during their Language Arts class time.

The top speller(s) from each class will move on to the McFee Spelling Bee, which will be held on Friday, January 6th. The winner of the McFee Spelling Bee will move on to the CFISD Spelling Bee, which will be held on Wednesday, February 1st at the Berry Center.

You can sign your child up to join the Word Club at spellingbee.com. There you can access online quizzes and audio pronunciations of words. Parents/Guardians of classroom Spelling Bee Qualifying Test winners will be notified in writing by Thursday, December 8th.

Thank you and...Happy Spelling!

Ways to be Thankful

As Thanksgiving approaches, it is the perfect time to help students think about what gratitude means.

Gratitude is a powerful way to turn around your thinking—on

the one hand, the cup can be half empty. On the other hand, it can be half full. It all depends on your perspective and the gratitude perspective will always allow a person to see what is good or even great about their situation.

It is therefore vital to teach children from early on the power of gratitude in their own lives, both as an attitude of mind and as an emotional motivator to keep going.

Here are 3 ways you to begin...

1. Help your children to notice and be thankful for all the fun things life has to offer by actively pointing out the wonders around them on a regular basis. Focus on nature and help children to see the beauty around them daily, from the birdsong and the trees to the mighty mountains and rivers of their country.

2. Thank your children when they do something kind or good. Whatever it is, when it's their idea to do something for others, show gratitude for it. Occasionally throw in a free hug and a "Thank you for being you. I love you so much."

3. Listen for children's laughter and babies chatter. Comment on it frequently so that your children find it perfectly normal to seek out the happy, beautiful human sounds and to actively seek laughter. By remarking on such positive emotions in humans around their

own age, they will be encouraged to see this as an expected norm.

By bringing out the best in our kids, we can only imagine what blessings they could bring. Anything worthwhile takes a lot of time and effort. It's up to all of us to make it happen.

McFee Recognizes Campus WATCH D.O.G.S.

McFee Elementary is fortunate to have had so many Watch Dads of Great Students (D.O.G.S.) request to serve McFee Elementary. These great dads have served as positive role models for students, provided an extra layer of security by patrolling the campus, and volunteer in classroom to engage with students.

We would like to recognize Justin Hitt (father of Kylee Hitt), Rodrick Neal (father of Kallyn Neal), Urbano Sanchez (grandfather of Harloe Cofield and father to Citlalli Sanchez, Special Ed Secretary)

We are so thankful to have our wonderful fathers support our school and students at McFee.

If you are interested in learning more about Watch D.O.G.S. , please contact Carla Butler at carla.butler@cfisd.net or call 281-463-5681.



Upcoming Events

November 21 – 25, 2016 – Thanksgiving Break

November 18, 2016 – Adventure Dash Rally

November 30, 2016 – Adventure Dash Kick off

December 1, 2016 – Progress Reports go home

December 2, 2016 – Picture Retakes

December 6, 2016 – 1st grade Program @ 6:30 pm

December 9, 2016 – End of Adventure Dash

December 13, 2016 – Choir Program night @ 6:30pm

December 14, 2016 – Marco's Pizza night

December 15, 2016 – 2nd grade Field Trip to Main Street Theater

December 15, 2016 – 5th grade Field Trip to Cy-Lakes

December 16, 2016 – Holiday Parties 9:45-10:30 and PM Pre-K @ 1:45 – 2:30

December 19 – January 2, 2017 – Winter Break

January 3, 2017 – Classes Resume

AR GOALS

50% of Yearly Goal

2nd Grade – Jeremiah Harris-Spencer, Eli Rivera, Chloe Sawyer, Carlos Bonialla Jr., Meagan Bernal, Eli McGuire and Jordan Vaillant

3rd Grade – Okikioluwa Dunmoye, Amanda Marroquin, Elijah Bankston, David Rodriguez, Carlos Suarez, Tami Olugboye, Emmalee Cardenas, Joselin Castro, Jordin Bernard, Valerie Casique and Jessica Mazariegos

5th Grade – Zha'Mauri Howard, Joshua Hunt, Skita Wanyoike, German Chamorro, Jeveviev Gilmore and Hannah Edwards

75% of Yearly Goal

2nd Grade – Noah Sanchez

4th Grade – Gizelle Jones and Brianna Sterling

100% of Yearly Goal

5th Grade – Oluwanifemi Johnson

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go." – Dr. Seuss





HORIZONS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

A Guide to Parent Referrals for GT Program Eligibility in CFISD

A parent's first step is to review the information located on the HORIZONS website:

www.cfisd.net/en/parents-students/academics/gifted-talented/ especially

- Program Overview
- Parent Information
- Testing for the HORIZONS Program

Parents should discuss appropriateness of GT testing referrals with child's teacher(s) and/or campus elementary Counselor or secondary Director of Instruction.

HORIZONS Testing Open-Referral Period: October 3 through December 2, 2016

Parents and teachers can refer students for testing.

Parents/guardians can obtain the **Parent Survey and Permission to Test** form from their child's campus.

Completed forms must be returned to the elementary campus Counselor or the secondary Director of Instruction **by December 2, 2016**.

Late forms will **NOT** be honored.

Referred students' information is placed on the Mid-year Testing Roster by Counselors/Directors of Instruction; students are then scheduled for testing.

Testing is administered on campus during school hours on a date set by the campus during the district testing window.

Testing includes the administration of two nationally-normed standardized abilities tests.

Students who score 130 or higher on the abilities tests qualify for HORIZONS services. Results are then sent home to parents from each campus.

Students who do not score 130 as a minimum score on the abilities tests do not qualify for HORIZONS services. Parents of students with scores of 125-129 may wish to view information about the appeal process contained in the **Appeal Process** guide.