

# STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY

March, 2025

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## ≡ COMING UP ≡

3/3-3/7 - Book Fair

3/6 - Family Night, 5:30-7:00

3/14 - No School (Act 80 Day)

3/21 - Mr. Yuck Lessons

4/7 - School Dental Exams

4/18 - No School (Good Friday)

## ≡ READ ACROSS AMERICA ≡

We are excited to celebrate Read Across America Week with a SPIRIT WEEK! Each day will have a fun theme to show our school spirit and share our love for reading.

**M, 3/3-** Yertle the Turtle

*Wear green, blue, or turtles*

**Tu, 3/4-** Oh, the Places You Will Go

*Wear something with a place, or what you'd like to be*

**W, 3/5-** Wacky Wednesday

*Wear your wackiest clothes*

**Th, 3/6-** The Cat in the Hat

*Wear white, red & black*

**F, 3/7-** I am Not Going to Get Up Today

*Wear your pajamas*

## ≡ MARCH MADNESS ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE ≡

Get ready for some fun and friendly competition with our March Madness Attendance Challenge! The goal is simple; be here on time, every day, all day. The more students who attend, the better the chances for their class to win prizes and earn bragging rights! Each week, we'll see which classes are on top with the best attendance rates. It's an awesome way to promote school spirit, teamwork, and, of course, showing up ready to learn.

The challenge kicks off on 3/10, with students competing against other classes within their grade for the highest attendance percentage. It's a battle to see which classes can maintain the best attendance and move on to the semi-finals.

The excitement ramps up in Week 2 with the semi-finals as we have two grade-level matchups- **Kindergarten versus 1<sup>st</sup> grade** and **2<sup>nd</sup> grade versus 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**. The winning classes from these matchups will earn their place in the finals.

In the final week, the winners from the semi-finals will face off to determine the Grand Champion! This is the ultimate showdown, with the class that maintains the highest attendance rate throughout the week taking home the title and a special prize!

Will it be Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade that takes the crown? Stay tuned to find out who will be crowned the March Madness Attendance Champion!

Remember, every day counts, and every student plays a part in their class's success!

## ≡ TROUT JOURNEY ≡

The trout, once tiny eggs, have grown steadily over the past month. Just a few inches long, these fingerling trout are growing stronger and more active. They have begun to show their natural instincts, darting and swimming in different directions, swimming against the current, and exploring their environment. These natural instincts are essential for them to survive in the wild once released.

We're excited to continue watching them grow as we get closer to their release in May.



## ≡ PSA ≡

Mar  
11

The next PSA meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3/11 at 6pm in the SMES cafe. Meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday of each month.

*Childcare is not available. Please make alternate arrangements for your children. In the event of an emergency, your child must sit at the table with you and be escorted to/from the restroom.*

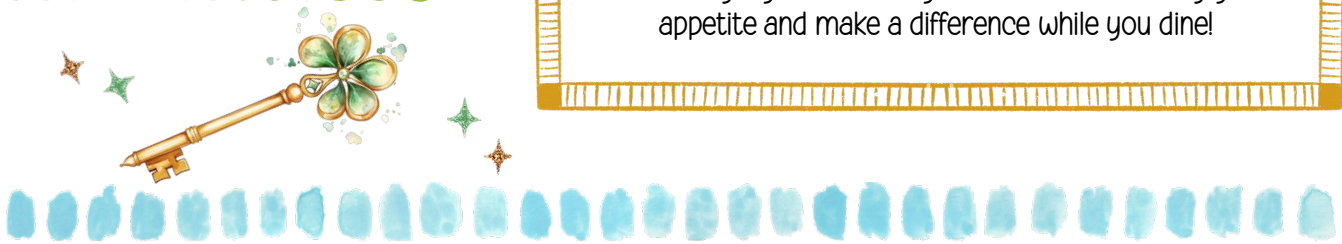
## FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

**Food Trucks**- Sinister Donuts, Sam's Hot Dogs & Solid Gold Concessions will be on-site during Family Night on 3/6. A portion of the proceeds from every purchase will go directly to the SMES PSA.

**Raffle Baskets**- Each class has put together a variety of themed baskets that will be available during family night for a chance to win. Tickets are just 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, or 15 for \$10. The more tickets you buy, the higher your chances of winning. Winners will be contacted Friday

**Gardner's Candy**- Gardner's Candy booklets will be coming home soon with delivery in time for Easter!

**Harshbarger's Night**- Harshbarger's will be hosting another fundraising night benefitting SMES PSA on 5/6. Bring your appetite and make a difference while you dine!



Over-the-Counter Medication forms were handed out to students on the first day of school. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian in order for students to receive medication from the school nurse. If your child has not submitted the Over-the-Counter Medication form to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school. Forms are available in the nurse's office.

**As a reminder, students are NOT permitted to carry any medications on their person during school hours. This includes cough drops, medicated creams, eye drops or anything used for medicinal purposes. Any medication that is required to be taken at school MUST be transported to school by a parent/guardian or designated adult and accompanied with a physician's order. Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off.**

If your child requires an inhaler, a new physician order must be submitted to the school nurse **EACH** school year before your child can carry an inhaler on their person. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCS D Medication Policy.

Please contact Nurse Yoder or Nurse Ritchey if you have any questions about medications.







### ≡ PBIS SPONSORS ≡

Please join us in thanking the following businesses for sponsoring our PBIS program through donations for our PBIS program & bucket prizes!

- The Academy
- At the Barnyard
- Class 1 Transportation
- Harshbarger's Sub & Malt
- Lewistown Lanes
- MCHS School Store
- Urban Air

### ≡ GOLD PAW WINNERS ≡



Each month, students who consistently display Respectful, Responsible, Ready, and Safe behaviors can be selected as Golden Paw Ticket winners. Each winner receives a golden coin to use in our book vending machine and a chance to win a Golden Paw t-shirt!



### 101<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SCHOOL: "KHAOS"-TICALLY FUN

First grade celebrated the 101<sup>st</sup> day of school, dressing in black and white, creating a "Dalmatian" effect. To make the day even more "spot"-acular, we welcomed a real Dalmatian named Khaos! Khaos, with her spots and tail wags, was the perfect guest to help us celebrate, making it a memorable milestone for all. Thank you to Khaos and her human, Libby, who truly brought the 101<sup>st</sup> day of school to life!







### ≡ LOST & FOUND ≡

Our lost and found is overflowing with unclaimed items! From sweatshirts and jackets to lunchboxes and water bottles, we have a wide variety of misplaced belongings.

If your child has lost something recently, remind them to check the lost and found. Family Night on 3/6 is a great time for you to check it yourself while here at SMES. It is located right inside the doors to the basketball hoops.

All unclaimed items will be donated soon, so don't wait! Let's keep our school neat and make sure everything finds its way back home.

### ≡ LET US KNOW ≡

Please remember to keep your contact details up-to-date to ensure we can reach you in case of emergencies and to maintain smooth communication.

It is also important to keep your address up to date with us. We are able to verify proper enrollment and busing.

If there are any changes to custody or guardianship arrangements, we need this information on file to ensure we are in compliance with legal requirements and to protect your child's well-being.

### ≡ EDUCATIONAL TRIPS ≡

As the weather starts to warm up, many families begin planning trips to museums and beaches. As you're planning, remember that students are allowed 5 educational trip days. Simply complete the required form at least 5 days in advance. After the trip, the student must submit a 1 page report on their experience within 3 days of returning.

### ≡ REMINDERS ≡

**Absent-** excuses must be submitted within 3 days of returning from an absence. You can send a written note or submit electronically via Family Access. If your child saw a doctor for their absence, you can send the doctor's excuse to school with your child or ask the doctor's office to fax the excuse to 717-248-5839.

**Arriving late-** sign the student in at the office. Depending on the time they arrive, their lunch choice may be limited.

**Leaving early-** send a note to school with your student. Include their first and last name, time they are leaving, and reason.

**Parent pickup at dismissal-** send a note to school with your student. Include their first and last name, dates they are a pickup, and who will be picking them up. (if an every day, or scheduled days of the week, you can send one note for the whole year)

## Absence Note

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

