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October 2016

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# McGregor Moments

Mrs. Strang, Principal

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## Upcoming Events

### October 5

- ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> grade Marshall Music Night 6pm HS band room
- ✓ Count Day

### October 7

- ✓ Progress reports uploaded to Home Access Center

### October 11

- ✓ Fundraiser Ends

### October 14

- ✓ PTO Meeting 6:30pm

### October 13

- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Reading Night 6-7pm

### October 18

- ✓ School Improvement Meeting 3:15pm (Parents welcome)

### October 20

- ✓ Math Curriculum & Math Game Night 6-7pm

### October 21

- ✓ Life Touch Picture Retakes

### October 28

- ✓ Fall Festival Parade 2pm

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## A message from Mrs. Strang, Principal

Dear Sand Creek Families,

It's hard to believe but it's that time of the year again - the beginning of a new school year. Welcome back! While you aren't part of the teaching staff, you are just as important to your children's education as we are.

Your children receive the best education when you and our dedicated teachers work as a team. It's a parents enthusiasm, support and involvement that inspires children to do their best; and a teacher's ability to teach what they need to learn. Together we can achieve wonderful things.

There's a lot of excitement ahead of us, including new teachers to meet, new books to read, new friends to meet and new skills to master...and I look forward to you sharing in those exciting times. As a parent myself I know how fast time goes by. One year your child is in kindergarten and seemingly in the blink of an eye they're in their senior year of high school, college and then married themselves with children.

We are working hard to ensure that your child will enjoy a successful and exciting experience at our school. Our goal, as always, is to create a positive school climate that maximizes instructional time for student learning, while developing strong physical, social, and emotional characteristics in a safe environment. Our office and custodial staff have worked very hard getting ready for a great year. Teachers have been in and out all summer, working on creating a warm learning environment for your child. We are excited for the 2016-17 school year!

One of the things our teachers have been busy planning is our Fall Festival celebration. This year we will be participating in a week-long celebration of "fall" and recognizing our farming community and other agricultural specialists. Each class will enjoy a hayride as part of the celebration and we will end the week with our Fall Festival parade on Friday, October 28, 2016.

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## Mission Statement

Ruth McGregor Elementary School is committed to delivering an effective 21st century educational program that prepares its students to live happy, healthy, productive and successful lives.

A message from Mrs. Strang, cont.

Weather permitting we will be holding the parade outside on the circle driveway. So bring your lawn chairs and join us in celebrating. In place of Halloween costumes, we are asking that students and staff dress up as farm-related characters such as: farmers, farm animals, produce/crops, or scarecrows, etc. Classroom parties will still be held, and will be "Fall Festival" themed.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call, set up an appointment, or stop in to see me.

Proudly serving our Sand Creek families,

Mrs. Strang

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### *Lifetouch Picture Re-takes*

*Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>*

*9 – 11 am*



### **School Improvement Meeting Tuesday, October 18 @ 3:15pm**

Parents are welcome to come help us write the fall survey for Parent Teacher Conferences.

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### **Progress Reports available on October 7**

You may access your student's progress reports through the Home Access Center. If you need assistance with the Home Access Center, please notify Andrea Wheeler, Administrative Assistant, at (517) 436-3121 or by e-mail at [andrea.wheeler@sc-aggies.us](mailto:andrea.wheeler@sc-aggies.us)

### **Calling All Future Cheerleaders.....**



The Sand Creek JV/Varsity cheerleaders will be hosting a cheer clinic for elementary students after school the week of October 18<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>. The junior cheerleaders will perform prior to the JV football game on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

More information will be sent home with students next week.



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### **CAFETERIA NEWS.....**

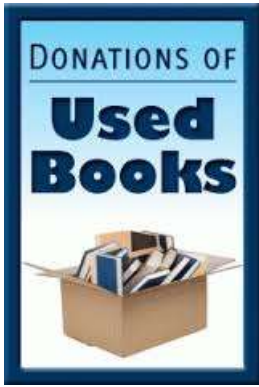
Ruth McGregor Elementary participates in the Universal Free Breakfast Program. Each morning all students in preschool through fifth grade benefit from this program.

The price for lunch has increased to \$2.30 for this school year.



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**A Big Thank You to Jason Preston & Next Step – Creative Image Solutions for the new welcome banner and sign in the front entrance of the building.**



Sand Creek Schools is collecting used books to be sold at the Sand Creek PTO Craft Show on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

All proceeds for the used book sale will go towards the purchase of items for the library.

Books can be dropped off at the high school library or elementary school during normal school hours.



## First Annual Fall Festival Celebration!

Our community is filled with hard-working and talented farmers and other agricultural specialists. Our curriculum is filled with fun facts about all the wonderful things this group of people does for us.

This year, in lieu of celebrating Halloween, we will be recognizing our farming community with a Fall Festival, a week-long celebration to pay tribute to our local agriculturalists. We hope to bring in a variety of farmers and producers to provide hands-on experiences for our students through the week leading up to our Fall Festival hallway parade on Friday, October 28, 2016.

In place of Halloween costumes, we are asking that students and staff dress up as farm-related characters such as: farmers, farm animals, produce/crops, or scarecrows. Classroom parties will still be scheduled at the teacher's discretion, but will be "Fall Festival" themed rather than Halloween themed.

Thank you for helping us to start this new tradition honoring our local agricultural heroes and fall season!



## Fall Festival Parade

Friday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm



# AGGIE SUMMER READERS



We were so proud of our summer readers at Ruth McGregor Elementary, we decided to celebrate!! These students returned their Family Summer Reading Calendars and/or participated with Mrs. Sell in the summer reading program at the Read It and Reap Library. Our celebration included a story, ice cream and a prize bag.

Our summer readers were: Trevor Shattuck, Grace Hassenzahl, Logan Smith, Alli Scharer, Hunter Kidd, Maryjane Murphy, Skyla Duff, Michael Clendennin, Madalynn Trame, Leni Ladd, Chloe Elliott, Emma Burns, Mikyla VanEtten, Grady Hazelwood, Olivia Swander, Madalyn Kay, Noah Hassenzahl, Savannah Baldwin, Kayla Meszaros, Ryan Meszaros, Nicholas Trame, Taylor Mephram, Jordan Hassenzahl, Jason Spaulding, Jessie Moffitt, Evan Swander, Trey Mephram, Faith Beardmore, Erika Meckley, Zoe Rorick, Mitchell Tripp, and Gavin Martinez.

A big thank to the parents who helped and supported your reading efforts this summer☺

Mrs. Benge & the Literacy Team.

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## Student Ambassadors

Throughout the 2016-17 school year the fifth grade Student Ambassadors will organize, plan and carry out many school and community wide projects. The purpose of the Student Ambassador Program is to empower students by providing them with the opportunity to develop leadership, human relations, and communication skills. The Ambassador Program will bring value to the entire school community by:

- Providing positive role models
- Promoting positive and healthy relationships
- Creating a safe school climate and culture
- Participating in school service jobs
- Leading the school in community service



We would like to recognize the following students as our 1st quarter 2016-17 Student Ambassadors: Denae Covey, Rachel Felver, Ania Glinski, Emma Hildebrand, Braedon Long, McKenna Maxson, Trevor Opel, and Alex Rottman.





**Please continue collecting Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education. This is a great way to earn "free money" for our school.**



## IMPORTANT TRAFFIC FLOW INFORMATION

At the end of the day it is important that traffic continues to flow in the drop off and pick up area. **If you are going to enter the building you need to find a parking spot.** Otherwise, your child will be waiting for you. ***Please do not line up no more than 3 cars wide.*** If busses have left, you may pull up to the front doors, as students will be waiting inside.

**Morning Drop Off:** Follow around the island and drop students off at the sidewalk, **KEEP MOVING. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE UNATTENDED.** If you need to enter the building, you **MUST** find a parking spot.

**Dismissal Pick-up:** It is **CRUCIAL** that traffic continue to flow. **If you are entering the building to pick up your child** you **MUST** find a parking place. If busses have already loaded and left, you may pull up to the front entrance.

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*The staff at Ruth McGregor would like to thank all the grandparents who gave a donation for the Culver's Frozen Custard which was served at Grandparent's Night. Your donation was very much appreciated.*



## CROSS COUNTRY FUN RUN

**Tuesday, October 11 @ 4pm**

Please watch for more information to come home with your student.



### Ruth McGregor Wants to Help

*Sand Creek Elementary is looking for families who may need assistance with the upcoming holidays.*

*Here at Ruth McGregor we understand that the holidays can be very stressful – whether it is help with food, household items or clothing – we want to help.*

*Please contact the school office @ 436-3121 and we will be happy to send you a form to complete and return to us.*



### CHAIRS FOR SALE

Ruth McGreggor has several old student chairs for sale. Chairs are \$2.00 and can be seen in the front foyer of the school. Please see office for payment.

## Helpful Reminders for Parents

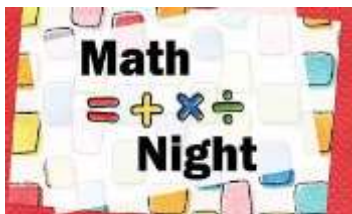
- **Teacher Communication:** Per the teacher handbook, phones are to be off or on silent during instructional times. I am asking parents not to text teachers during the school day and expect an immediate response. The same goes for emails.
- It is often difficult for teachers to get to their computers while they are in the midst of classroom instruction. I am asking that you allow teachers at least 24 hours to respond to an email or a text. If there is an emergency and you need to contact the teacher during the day, please contact the elementary office at 517-436-3121 and the office staff will get the message to the classroom teacher.
- **Transportation:** Questions or changes should be made through the elementary office. Any changes to transportation for your child for the day need to be made before 2:00 pm. This allows the office time to let the classroom teacher know of any transportation changes.
- **Attendance:** Students are to be in their classrooms at 7:45am. Any student that arrives after 7:55am will be marked tardy. Please make sure your child is on time and ready to learn each day.
- **New to Student Handbook/Dress Code:** No sandals or shorts are permitted in the elementary building between November 1 and April 1.
- **Volunteers:** Parent volunteers are needed and welcomed at the school. There are many tasks that volunteers can perform. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact your classroom teacher or the elementary office. Our goal is to provide students with an excellent education and a positive learning experience in a community-type atmosphere. We look forward to partnering with you this coming year.

## NEWS FROM THE PLAYGROUND.....

Parents please take the time to sit down with your child and go over the Rules on Playground flyer that was sent home with your child. Additional copies can be found on the wall outside the office door.



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### **MATH CURRICULUM & MATH GAME NIGHT**

Ruth McGregor Elementary will be hosting Math Curriculum Game Night on Thursday, October 20 from 6-7pm. All children first through fifth grade are invited to attend along with their parents.

We will be serving one slice of pizza and bottle of water for each person who attends. Adrian College math students will be assisting the children with games from our Everyday Math Curriculum.