



McCarthy-Towne Bulletin

May 1, 2009
Volume 38, No 9

Springtime

by Nancy Kolb, McT Interim Principal

Spring brings longer days, warm weather, spring sports and end of year activities. We stretch our days to include all the additional fun and events. At this time it's important for parents to find a balance between activity and rest, excitement and quiet times. We still have important work to do at school; new studies to explore and skills to master. Our students need to come to school rested and ready to learn. These last nine weeks are just as important as the first.

As the end of the school year approaches many parents ask, "What can I do for my child's teacher?" My vote for best gift is a letter with your personal thoughts and thanks. Many years ago I received a carefully crafted letter from a parent that detailed exactly how I had supported her child and how grateful she was. I saved that letter and every letter since. Letters from parents and students are treasured and a keepsake of how we make a difference. So consider putting your thanks in writing.

Coming up this month are some very exciting workshops that Sharon Ryan, McT Literacy Specialist, is offering—Teachers and Families as Literacy Partners for:

- Parents of Children Transitioning to Kindergarten on May 20 at 7–8 PM
- Parents of Children Transitioning to First Grade on May 6 at 7–8 PM.

These workshops and a collection of literacy resource materials for parents are funded by our recent McT fundraiser at Willow Books.

Also this month the McT faculty is in the process of planning the "contracted services" PTSO funded budget for next school year. This past year contracted services sup-

ported the art integration consultant and the parent involvement coordinator position, additional hours for the library/media assistant position and multiple classroom and reading assistant positions. As in past years, the entire faculty will discuss, evaluate and prioritize programs. Foremost in our minds is how to protect and enhance the values and vision of our school. I will present the faculty's decisions to the PTSO and the PTSO will decide how much money to gift. If there is a discrepancy between what the PTSO is able to fund and the faculty's program choices then I will go back to the faculty for further discussion and decision-making. The faculty is ever mindful of the PTSO's incredible fundraising efforts and successes. We are grateful to the parent community because your work enables us to provide McT's unique learning environment.

On a separate note, I want the McCarthy-Towne Community to know that on April 16 Kari James' (grade 2 teacher) and Dave James' (PE teacher) preschool daughter, Meg, was diagnosed with Leukemia. Meg is at Children's Hospital and the doctors are optimistic about her prognosis and recovery. Kari is taking the rest of this school year off to be with Meg during the initial phase of treatment. David will be taking time as needed to be with them and their older daughter Carly. At times like this we all want to help. Letters and cards can be sent to McCarthy-Towne. At this point the family's energy is focused on Meg and Carly and we would appreciate any communication be through McT.

Thank you for your, support, collaboration and contributions. Enjoy the spring.

Mark Your Calendar

MAY

1, Friday

Parker Damon International Night, 6:15 PM

3, Sunday

PDB Grounds Clean-Up, 11 AM–2 PM

6, Wednesday

Pick-up Butter Braid Bread and Cookie Dough orders at 103 Central St., 5–7 PM

Literacy Seminar for parents of current Kindergarten students, 7–8 PM

8, Friday

Sol y Canto Performance
Yard Sale Drop-off, 4–9 PM

9, Saturday

McT Yard Sale, 8 AM–Noon

12, Tuesday

Math MCAS Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6

13, Wednesday

Math MCAS Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6

Community Assembly

Scrip order deadline

PTSO Meeting, 7 PM

15, Friday

Student Council
Nominations due

18 & 19, Mon. and Tues.

Sci & Tech/Eng MCAS, Gr. 5

20, Wednesday

Literacy Seminar for parents of students entering Kindergarten, 7–8 PM

25, Monday

NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day

28, Thursday

McT Memorial Day Assembly

29, Friday

Kids' Night Out at McT

by Lynne Densen and Kim Clark, PTSO co-chairs

Wow, can you believe there are less than 8 weeks of school left? The year just seems to fly by once April break comes. What a fun April we had! We had over 24 performances at our Lip Sync Extravaganza, with more than 225 people in the audience. Also new this year, we offered frozen cookie dough and pastry treats.

In May we have a couple events scheduled. Tonight (May 1st) is the Annual International Night hosted by both McCarthy-Towne and Merriam. We hope you can come and experience all the fun. On Saturday, May 9th, we will holding our Annual Yard Sale, so as you start your spring cleaning, remember to donate items to McT.

For those starting to buy annuals and perennials, the Birdhouse is still donating 50% of the sale of selected plants back to McT.

Remember, if you are not sure about the date or details of an event, social, or fundraiser, please visit our website at www.mctptso.org; it is frequently updated.

Thank You, Thank You!

Donelan's Receipts, from Wendy Schaad

Nearly \$121,000 worth of Donelan's receipts were collected this school year! Through the Receipts for Education program, McCarthy-Towne will redeem those receipts for free educational equipment and art supplies valued at approximately \$1,200. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Lip Sync, from Lynne Densen and Karen Anderson

Thank you to everyone who made the Lip Sync Extravaganza a wonderful success. We had 24 wonderful performances, with both students and teachers performing. We also had close to 250 people in the audience; it just keeps getting bigger each year!

Thank you also to all the bakers and to all the volunteers who worked the event. Thank you to Stefan Durrant for taking all of the music and putting it in order on the CD and to Tony Dolan and his crew for taping the show and burning it to DVD.

Willow Books Storytime Success,

from Sharon Ryan, McT Reading Specialist

Thank you to the entire McT community for making the McT Willow Books Storytime a HUGE success! Thanks to your generosity, McT has earned over \$500 to use toward the Teachers and Families as Literacy Partners Program. Special thanks to Julia, Vin, Janet, Abby, Caitlin, Callie, Kari, Carolyn, and our new principal, David Krane, for generously sharing their time and talent. Sincere thanks to the McT PTSO's Lynne Densen and Nicole Lipa for co-ordinating this effort to support our youngest literacy learners as well as Willow Books for hosting this event!

PD International Night—TONIGHT!

Please join us in the Cafetorium **tonight at 6:15 PM** to celebrate the cultural diversity of McCarthy-Towne and Merriam schools at the 3rd Annual International Night!

Bring a dish to share (please label ingredients and whether to serve hot or cold), and enjoy student performances featuring songs and dances from many different countries, including China, India, Greece, Ireland and the Philippines.

All families are encouraged to participate and are welcome to wear clothing from their country of origin or ancestry!

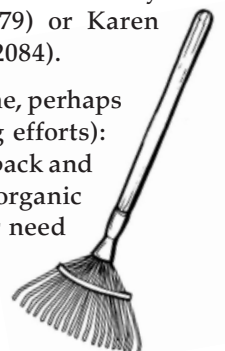
If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact Stacy Harris (askquixote@verizon.net or 978-263-6095).

PD Spring Clean-Up—This Sunday!

The annual Spring clean-up of the McCarthy-Towne and Merriam School grounds is this **Sunday, May 3 from 11 AM-2 PM**. With your help we can make our school grounds look beautiful. Bring rakes, weeding tools and wheel barrows... the whole family is welcome, and we need all the help we can get! The landscaping of the grounds is done only by volunteers and we need you!

For more information, please contact Amanda Lye (amandalye1@yahoo.com or 978-635-9879) or Karen Dean (dkdean83@gmail.com or 978-274-2084).

Wish List (if you cannot donate a little time, perhaps donate one of these to our hard working efforts): A small child's wagon, for moving hoses back and forth to gardens, a 40lb. bag of compost (organic if possible), or small tools you no longer need that are in good condition.



Butter Braid Bread and Cookie Dough Pick-up

Thank you to everyone who placed butter braid bread and cookie dough orders. The orders will be available for pick-up on **Wednesday, May 6 from 5–7 PM** at 103 Central St.

Please contact Jill DeFoe (defoe@verizon.net) if you can't make the pick-up time or have any questions.

Fifth Disease

What is it? Fifth disease is a mild rash illness that usually affects children, and is commonly seen in late winter and early spring. It is caused by "Parvovirus B19," which lives in the nose and throat, and can be spread from person to person. The first stage of illness consists of headache, body ache, sore throat, low-grade fever, and chills. These symptoms last about 2–3 days and are followed by a second stage, lasting about a week, during which the person has no symptoms at all. Individuals are most infectious before the beginning of their symptoms. In children, the third stage involves a bright red rash on the cheeks, which gives a "slapped cheek" appearance, and may be followed by a "lacy" rash on the trunk, arms and legs. The rash begins 17–18 days after exposure, and may appear on and off for several weeks with changes in temperature, sunlight, and emotional stress. Adults may not develop the third-stage rash but may experience joint pain, particularly in the hands and feet. The disease is usually mild, and both children and adults recover without problems.

How is it treated? There is no specific treatment for fifth disease. Health care providers may suggest treatment to relieve some symptoms. There is no vaccine to prevent fifth disease.

Should my child stay home? Children with fifth disease do NOT have to stay home. By the time they are diagnosed with the rash, they are no longer contagious.

What should you do? 1. Watch for symptoms and notify the school nurse if you suspect your child has fifth disease. 2. If you are pregnant, or have a blood disorder or weakened immune system, tell your health care provider about possible exposure. 3. Always be careful about hand washing, especially after touching discharge from the nose and throat and before eating or handling food.

Spring Yard Sale—Next Saturday!

It's almost here! Please support the McT Annual Yard Sale on **Saturday, May 9 from 8 AM–Noon**. We're still looking for:

Volunteers Help us organize and run the sale with just 2 hours of your time. Help is needed to set-up the sale on Friday, May 8 from 4–10 PM. We also need help on Saturday running the sale and afterward cleaning and transporting unsold items to local charities. Please contact Wendy Schaad (ws.schaad@gmail.com or 978-266-1670) and let her know when you are available to help.

Donations Tax Deduction Forms will be available. Please drop-off donations on Friday, May 8 from 4–9 PM in the Cafetorium.

Shoppers Stop by and shop from 8 AM–Noon. There will also be baked goods available for purchase. You never know what kind of treasures you'll find! And remember, this is a CASH ONLY event.



Questions? Please contact either Brenda Simpson (brendahsimpson@hotmail.com or 978-266-1136) or Tina Vanasse Narbonne (narbonnefamily@yahoo.com or 978-263-3446) with any questions.

Acton Green Energy Fair

Want to cut your energy bills? Reduce your carbon footprint? Find out how at the Acton Green Energy Fair on **Sunday, May 17 from 1:30–5 PM** at RJ Grey Jr. High. Admission is free.

Check out hands-on exhibits about solar power, wind power, solar cookers, LED light bulbs, Kill-a-Watts and more. Take a tour of the solar panel array at the Leary Field concession stand.

1:45 PM Low Carbon Diet Workshop learn how to shrink your energy bills!

2:30 PM Keynote Presentation by Dr. Sajed Kamal, internationally renowned renewable energy expert (Grades 5–adult)

4:00 PM NSTAR Energy Magic Show (limited seating, Grades K–4 with adult)

For more information, visit www.greenacton.org.

Tidbits from Tina

McT School Counselor

Getting Rid of Your Anger—from McT 2nd Graders

As our 2nd graders know, we all get angry at times, and that's OK. It's what we Do with our anger that can get us into trouble. Students in Noreen's, Jen's and Kari's classes have come up with ideas to help us get rid of our anger in ways that don't hurt anyone. The next time you're angry, maybe some of these suggestions will work for you, whether you are a student or a grown-up.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Lie in bed and cry | Hug your Dad/Mom |
| Go to your room and lock the door | Just ignore it |
| Talk to Mom/Dad about it | Say, "Let's start over" |
| Take a time out | Go to my tree house |
| Punch a pillow | Do something active |
| Ask yourself, "What's the problem?" | Squeeze a stress ball |
| Walk away | Listen to a favorite CD |
| Build something and then break it | Have some alone time |
| Talk with the person you're angry with | Dance |
| Don't think about the thing that made you angry | Go outside and play (any season) |
| Think about good things | Sit by the fire |
| Do deep breathing | Play video games |
| Say swears to myself, not out loud | Relax and watch TV |
| Talk with a friend | Listen to music/ipod |
| Count to 10 | Stop and Think! |
| Read a favorite book | Talk about why you're angry |
| Stay away from the person | Find something else to do |
| Talk to your big sister/brother | Write in a journal |
| Say, "It's ok" to yourself | Exercise outside |
| Kick a soccer ball | Play a computer game by yourself |
| Play sports | Punch a punching bag |
| Lie in bed until you feel better | Play the piano |

Last and First Day of School

With four weather-related school closings this year, **the last day of school is THURSDAY, JUNE 25.**

The first day of school after summer vacation will be TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1. This is before Labor Day, and a different day of the week than usual. Also note that there will be no school on Friday, September 4 and Monday, September 7 for the Labor Day weekend.

A pdf of the 2009–2010 school calendar is available for download on the school system website at ab.mec.edu/about/aboutpdf/schcalendar10.pdf.

Time for CORI Renewal

from the office

All adults who volunteer in the public schools must complete a CORI check. If you have not filled out a CORI form in calendar year 2009, your CORI with the Acton Public and Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools will expire on June 30, 2009.

Please remember to submit a new CORI form any time you are in school before the end of the year. You must submit the form in person along with a photo ID (driver's license, passport) which we will copy. CORIs submitted this year will cover all APS and AB Regional Schools related activities through June 2012.

Placement for Next Year

from the office

Parents/guardians of students in grades K–5 will be receiving a letter at spring parent-teacher conferences with the child’s user name and password for access to the on-line emergency card. You will need this information to access class placement information, which will be posted on Friday afternoon, August 21.

Please keep this letter in a safe place where you can find it. Your child’s user name and password stays the same through high school graduation and you will need to update the emergency card information and medical authorization every year until your they graduate.

Also remember to update the card any time your address or contact information changes, or if your child’s health information changes.

You’re Invited— Parent Appreciation Breakfast

*All parents and guardians are invited
to attend the annual McCarthy-Towne*

*Parent Appreciation Breakfast
on Friday, June 5, 8:30–11 AM in the
Parker Damon Building multi-purpose room.*

This is a special opportunity for the McCarthy-Towne staff to thank the parent community for all their support during the year. Staff members bring in delicious breakfast treats. Parents and staff drop by all morning to informally chat and enjoy the goodies. (Don’t forget to pick up the special “Thank you” made for you by your child.)

All McCarthy-Towne parents and guardians are invited. (You do not have to have volunteered for any school or PTSO activity, or donated to the PTSO, to come.) Sorry—we cannot accommodate McT students before school, but younger siblings are welcome anytime.

No need to RSVP, just stop by the multi-purpose room (that’s the big room on the ground floor at the bottom of the main staircase) anytime between **8:30 and 11 AM on Friday, June 5.**

–Astrid Trostorff,

Parent Involvement/Community Outreach Coordinator

Sol y Canto Comes to McCarthy-Towne

Sol y Canto will perform a concert at McCarthy-Towne School on **Friday, May 8.** This is one of six concerts they will be performing at all of the elementary schools in Acton and Boxborough. Sol y Canto is the award winning Pan-Latin ensemble led by Puerto Rican/Argentine singer and bongo player Rosi Amador and New Mexican guitarist and composer Brian Amador.

Since 1994, Sol y Canto has brought their unique style to national and international venues, including appearances at the Kennedy Center, the White House, the California World Music Festival, Boston’s Symphony Hall, Puerto Rico’s Museo de Arte and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. In addition to awards for several of their releases, they have earned recognition by Boston Magazine as “Best of Boston” for Latin rhythms and were named “Outstanding Latin Act” by the Boston Music Awards.

Sol y Canto is known for making their music accessible to Spanish- and non-Spanish speaking audiences of all ages. The school concerts in Acton/Boxborough will draw from their extensive repertoire, including their children’s music CD *Twice as Many Friends/El Doble de Amigos*. That CD (released in 2003) is a Parents Choice Award winner and features a fun and celebratory collection of bilingual children’s songs for singing, dancing and learning.

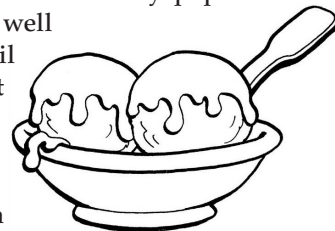
This concert series is funded by the McT PTSO in conjunction with a grant from the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

We hope your children enjoy the show! Francesca Ricciardi and Julie Greenspan (McT CPAC Chairs).

McT Ice Cream Social

Mark your calendars for the annual end-of-year McCarthy-Towne Ice Cream Social—**Tuesday, June 16 from 5:30–7:30 PM.** The festivities will take place at the back playground of the Parker-Damon Building (or inside if it rains). You won’t want to miss this year-end celebration.

There will be five different fun carnival games, and a new giant inflatable obstacle course. Back by popular demand, The Pocket Lady, as well as face painting, tattoos and nail art. And of course, don’t forget the pizza and the big, messy Kimball’s ice cream sundae that just can’t be missed! Watch for flyers to go home mid-May with more details, along with a pre-paid order form.



Advocacy Tools for Adoptive Parents

Are you an adoptive parent who is struggling with trying to best address your children's needs at home and at school? Are you looking for some ways to speak up for your children while also respecting their privacy? Would you like to learn how to empower your children to help them deal with questions they may encounter from friends regarding their adoption? Do you want to find out some of the tools you can use to help "educate the educators" with regard to your child's particular needs and learning styles? If so, please join our discussion led by Mary Rowlinson, RN on **Monday, May 18, 7:30 PM** at the RJ Grey Jr. High Library.

As an adoptive parent of three grown adopted children, a school nurse and a parent supporter and educator in the area of adoption, Mary Rowlinson will be presenting some very practical tools and strategies to use to support your child at home and school. She will also cover the topics of parenting a child who may have a form of Reactive Attachment Disorder and how to best take care of yourself, the parent.

Mary Rowlinson currently works as the Adoption Information Specialist at First Connections where she developed an adoptive support and education unit. She started at Concord Family and Youth Services and has been working in the field of adoption support, specifically post placement support for about 10 years.

In addition to hosting this meeting, ABPCC (Acton Boxborough Support Group for Parents of Children with Challenges) will also have our monthly Morning meeting at 9:30 AM on May 27 at ABRHS, room 121 East. We will discuss this topic in addition to our general open session. For further information on our group, contact either Francesca Ricciardi (fmr08@verizon.net) or Lynn Armstrong (lynn.armstrong2@verizon.net).

Teachers and Families as Literacy Partners

Sharon Ryan, McT Reading Specialist, will be hosting two parent evening seminars designed to provide enjoyable summer literacy ideas and activities for our youngest literacy learners. These seminars will provide parents with resources and skills to use over the summer to nurture literacy in their children.

May 6, 7-8 PM Designed for parents of students transitioning from Kindergarten to grade 1 in the fall.

May 20, 7-8 PM will be designed especially for parents of our incoming kindergarten students.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Ryan (sryan@mail.ab.mec.edu). Thank you for your support!

REVISED: MCAS Dates for Spring 2009

Note the remaining MCAS test dates for the 2009 school year. If you have children who are students in grades 3, 4, 5 and/or 6, please avoid scheduling appointments or travel during MCAS test periods.

Mathematics for grades 3, 4, 5 and 6:

May 12, May 13

Science & Technology/Engineering for grade 5:

May 18, May 19

Social Studies for grade 5:

CANCELLED

AB PIP Offers Summerskills Workbooks

PIP (Parent Involvement Project) is coordinating the sale of Summerskills Sharpeners, a series of math, language arts, and foreign language workbooks.

Math Workbooks

Available for PreK-8, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and High School Math. These workbooks are aligned with the National Math Standards.

Language Arts Workbooks

Available for PreK-Gr. 7

Foreign Language Workbooks

Spanish I (Middle/High School), Spanish II (High School), and French I (Middle/High School)

Parents are advised to select the book grade level that corresponds with the grade their student has just finished. Cost is \$17 each (a savings of \$2 over the list price). For each book ordered, at least \$2 goes to support PIP family math and science activities.

Samples of the Summerskills workbooks are on display at Acton Memorial Library in the teen area of the Children's Department, or can be previewed online at www.summerskills.com. Order forms are online at <http://actonpip.org/pdf/2009summerskillsorderform>. Order forms are also available with the samples at Acton Memorial Library. **Place your order by Friday, May 23, for "backpack" delivery in mid-June.** Contact Susan Krikorian (978-635-0174 or actonpip@yahoo.com) for more information.

Show your support for Earth Day, have your Summerskills books delivered in an "eco-friendly" PIP reusable grocery bag with an additional \$5 donation to PIP.

PIP is a network of parents, educators, community, and business partners supporting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education K-12. For more information about PIP visit www.actonpip.org.

SCRIP Card Program

Once again, thank you to all the families that ordered Scrips in April; we have already raised over \$3,100 for the year. This program really does make a financial difference for McT!

The end of the school year is quickly coming to a close. The last weeks of school seem to fly by, so don't be left scrambling to thank all the wonderful people in your children's lives—teachers, assistants, bus drivers, coaches, and assistant coaches, just to name a few. Order Script cards in May and have them in plenty of time for your end-of-the-year gift-giving.

Don't forget upcoming birthdays, weddings, and graduations. Not sure what to give your niece for graduation? How about a Crate & Barrel gift card, or maybe a card for Macy's, JC Penny, or GAP? There are many great gift cards in varying denominations, making it easy to buy for everyone!

May orders are due on Wednesday, May 13. Our last order for the year will be due on Friday, June 12. If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Densen (lynne.densen@verizon.net or 978.266.2952) or Maureen Jones (maureen.jones1@verizon.net or 978-266-2874).



Proposed 2009-2010 PTSO Steering Committee

to be approved at the next PTSO meeting on Wednesday, May 13, at 7 PM


Sr. Chair	Kim Clark
Jr. Chair	Tammy Sarnelli
Treasurer	Jonathan Chintz
Secretary	Sue Donahue
Faculty Reps	Tina Morgan
Book Gifting	Joanie Davis
Bulletin Editor	Rebecca MacNeill
Bulletin Collator	Laurie Taylor-Teran
Buddy Family	Marie Clougher
CPAC	Francesca Ricciardi Julie Greenspan
Directory	Suzanne Kissane, Wendy Marlowe, Lisa Nivison, Open
Backpack Flyer Coor.	Open
Grant Writing	Melinda Karp
Hospitality	Lynne Densen
International Liaison	Pending
Inter-School Council Rep	Wendy Schaad, Susan Trudeau
Nominations	Laurie Taylor-Teran
P.D.B. Lost & Found	Open
P.D.B. Landscape Comm	Karen Dean
P.D.B. Steering Comm. Rep	Bridget Matz
Potlucks	Kate Murray
PTSO Website	Maria Greene, Lynne Densen

Publicity	Amy Hedison
Safe Arrival	Anne-Marie Sweeney
School Committee Observer	Jonathan Chintz
Socials	Tracey Smith, Maryellen/Kate
Student Council / Community Service Liaison	Suzy Epling

FUND RAISING:

Fund Raising PTSO Liaison	Pending
Auction Chairs	Open, Open
Book Fair	Julie Jannke, Susan Lerner
Donelan's Receipts	Wendy Schaad
Family Photo Day	Open, Sandy Billings
Funding Factory	Jeannie Meijer
General Mills Box Tops	Julie Driscoll
Gift Wrap/Bulbs	Suzi Yarin
Lip Sync	Lynne Densen, Karen Anderson
SCRIP	Lynne Densen, Maureen Jones
Special Events Snack Sale	Open
Yard Sale	Pending, Pending

McCarthy-Towne School – MAY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Parker Damon International Night, 6:15–8:30 PM	2
3 PDB Grounds Clean-Up, 11 AM–2 PM	4	5	6 Pick-up Butter Braid Bread and Cookie Dough orders at 103 Central St., 5–7 PM Literacy Seminar (transition to Gr.1), 7–8 PM	7 Snack sale	8 CPAC Performance: Sol y Canto Yard Sale Drop-off, 4–9 PM	9  McT Yard Sale, 8 AM–Noon
10	11	12 Math MCAS Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6	13 Community Assembly Scrip orders due PTSO Meeting, 7 PM Math MCAS Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6	14 Snack sale	15 Student Council Nominations due	16
17 Acton Green Energy Fair, 1:30–5 PM	18 Sci & Tech/Eng MCAS, Gr. 5	19 Sci & Tech/Eng MCAS, Gr. 5	20 Literacy Seminar (transition to Kind.), 7–8 PM	21 Snack sale	22	23
24	25 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	26	27	28 McT Memorial Day Assembly Snack sale	29 Kids' Night Out at McT	30
31	JUNE 1	JUNE 2	JUNE 3	JUNE 4 Snack sale	JUNE 5 Parent Appreciation Breakfast, 8:30–11 AM June McT Bulletin in Backpacks	JUNE 6