

MENDENHALL RIVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Early Release Site Council PTO	11 Geography Bee	12	13	14 End of 1st Semester FRIDAY FUN NIGHT	15
MAP Testing						
16	17 NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day	18	19	20	21 Spelling Bee	22
23	24 Early Release	25	26 Battle of the Books District Spelling Bee	27 Awards Assembly NAEP Testing	28	29
MAP Testing						
30	31	Visit our website at http://mrCS.juneauschools.org/				



Eagle Pledge

"Today I have a chance to change our lives
by making this day the best for you and me.
I am kind in what I say and do.
I respect myself and others.
At Mendenhall River
we are safe."

- 1/10 Early Release Monday – School ends at 1:30 for ALL students including Kindergarten
Site Council Meeting • 5:30pm @ MRCS Library – Monthly meeting with Site Council, MRCS Staff, and Parents.
PTO Meeting • 6:30pm @ MRCS Library – Parent Teacher Organization meets the second Monday of every month.
- 1/11 Geography Bee • 12:30pm @ MRCS Library – 4th and 5th Grade Students
- 1/14 Friday Fun Night • 6:00 – 8:30pm @ MRCS • \$10 per student (MRCS Students Only) – Sponsored by 2nd grade
- 1/17 Martin Luther King Day • NO SCHOOL – Inservice for Certified Staff only
- 1/21 Spelling Bee • 8:45am @ MRCS Gym – Questions? Contact Kelley Harvey 463-1799
- 1/24 Early Release Monday – School ends at 1:30 for ALL students including Kindergarten
- 1/26 Battle of the Books – 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grades



Pink Eye or Conjunctivitis

by Nurse Maureen

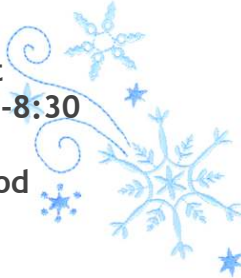
With the cold virus that is circulating this winter we seem to be seeing many cases of pinkeye (conjunctivitis). As a parent, you might be wondering if your child needs to see a doctor or if this is something that you can manage at home.

Pinkeye can be caused by many of the bacteria and viruses responsible for colds and other infections. Pinkeye can also be caused by allergies such as hay fever or pet dander. Exposure to chemicals can also cause red, irritated eyes. An example would be air pollution or chlorine in the swimming pool.

Generally, if they have pink eyes that are producing yellow or green pus they should see a doctor. For example, if they wake in the morning and their eyes are "glued shut" with pus. They should also see a doctor if their eye lids are very red and swollen or if there is an ulcer or sore on the clear part of the eye, complaints of severe pain, changes in eyesight, light sensitivity or if they have a fever.

All mild cases can be treated by cleansing the eye with warm water and a clean cotton ball at least every 1 to 2 hours while awake. Pinkeye is harmless and mildly contagious. Children with viral conjunctivitis can attend school. Children with bacterial conjunctivitis can return to school after they have been on their eye drops for 24 hours and if there is minimal pus. Remind your child to wash their hands frequently especially after touching their face. Pinkeye with a cold usually lasts about 7 days.

Friday Fun Night
January 14th • 6:00-8:30
\$10.00/student
plus money for food
 MRCS Students Only



Battle of the Books is in full swing and kids have started to practice battle. For more info: <http://www.akla.org/akasl/bb/bbhome.html>



Counseling News

by Tristan Berkey, MRCS Counselor

Hello and welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a great winter break! It was fun having time off but it is nice seeing the kids again. On Monday, January 10th, I will be starting a Banana Splits group for both Primary and Intermediate students. This is a group designed for students who have parents that are divorced or separated and will take place during lunch every Monday until March 14th.



The purpose of the group is to help students process the changes that have occurred in their family and to learn ways to cope with those changes. Many of the students enjoy having a safe place to talk about their feelings and meeting other students who are

in a similar situation. If you would like your child to participate in this group, please call me at 463-1799 or e-mail tristan_berkey@jsd.k12.ak.us.

Indian Studies Program Parent Advisory Committee (ISPPAC)

You are invited to attend the community Indian Studies Program Parent Advisory Committee Meeting scheduled on Thursday, January 13, 2011, 11:30 to 2:00pm, located at Marie Drake Building, second floor, training room #311. For more info, please call Marla at 523-1737.

The Juneau Indian Studies Parent Advisory Committee, as noted in their Bylaws, is to ensure that Title IX, Part A, Subpart I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is implemented throughout the Juneau School District. All parents of school-aged children are welcome to attend any and all meetings. Notices are posted in the Juneau Empire. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to advocate for the educational, emotional and social needs of children.

MAP Testing at MRCS

January 10th-14th • 24th - 28th

WHAT IS MAP?

Last year, the Juneau School District began using a new assessment program for all students called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). These computerized tests are given at the beginning, middle and end of the school year to measure individual student progress. MAP is used across the United States and in five Alaska districts.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Students are tested in Math, Reading and Language Usage. Younger students wear headphones to hear the questions; older students read questions displayed on the screen. As the student answers questions, the level of difficulty automatically adjusts to the student's performance. If questions continue to be answered correctly, the level increases; if answers are incorrect, the questions become easier. Students work at their own pace with no grade limits or time limits.

WHEN CAN I GET THE RESULTS?

Unlike other assessments given in the district, MAP results are available to teachers, students, and parents almost immediately after a test is given. Information is shared at parent-teacher conferences and by parent request. Getting quick results helps students get constructive feedback and provides teachers with valuable details about specific skills in a subject area. For example, a student's math results show competency broken down by areas of numeration, measurement, computation, geometry, etc. This way teachers can accurately identify specific strengths and possible gaps in learning and use that information and strengthen daily lessons to meet the needs of kids.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO MY CHILD?

Teachers use the information from these assessments to challenge or support each student at their specific level. Progress is measured three times during the year so strategies can be adapted to help kids learn as needed. Teachers look at the data in teams and talk about what methods work best for individual students. Parents can see the areas of improvement from test to test and from year to year.