



# THE MCFALL MONTHLY

A Newsletter Published By:  
McFall Elementary  
October 2011



We are off to a great start of the school year! I have enjoyed meeting our new students and parents, and everyone seems to be settling in to the McFall routine. My door is always "open" to you as parents, so feel free to stop by anytime to say hello or to talk about things that are happening in your child's school life. As a district, we continue to work on the Common Core Curriculum and are also in the beginning stages of developing our District Strategic Plan. Both of these will offer continued improvement to the great things that are happening at McFall Elementary.

It's hard to believe that September has come and gone, and we're moving full swing into the fall season. Have a happy October!

Jon C. Washburn, Principal

## SCHOOL PICTURES

Our school picture company, Lifetouch Studios, will be here on October 3 and 4 to take our school pictures. The classroom schedule is posted on the McFall website at [tkschools.org](http://tkschools.org). Students should bring their order packet on the day their class is scheduled. Visit [lifetouch.com](http://lifetouch.com) for more information.



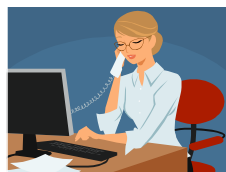
## The Barnyard Express

On October 17 and 18, all of our McFall students will enjoy a visit from Farmer John and the Barnyard Express. The PTO is sponsoring this return visit of one of our most popular programs. Our students will have the opportunity to learn about the importance of farming and



meet many of the barnyard animals in an entertaining and informative presentation.

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.  
Office phone: 269-795-3637  
Principal: Jon Washburn  
Secretary: Lisa Finkbeiner  
Office Aide: Shari Dalton  
Office Lunch Coverage: Shannon Johnson



## October is Fire Prevention and Safety Month and



McFall students are treated to a variety of presentations by some of our special community helpers. Our safety programs include:

**Smokehouse:** Our first grade classes will travel to the Thornapple Township Fire Department, tour the facility and go through the smokehouse which teaches students how to escape a burning building.

**Fire Department To Visit Kindergarten:** Fire Department volunteers will also talk with our kindergarten students about fire safety and show the students their safety equipment. The students will then go outside and get some time to look over the emergency vehicles including a fire truck and ambulance.

The McFall staff is indeed grateful to all of our community volunteers who take the time to assist us in safety lessons for students.

## Fall Schedule:

October 3-4:	Picture Day
October 7:	M-W in session Entertainment Book Sale Begins
October 11:	T-Th in session
October 17-18:	Farmer John
October 19-20:	Vision/Hearing Screening
October 21:	HALF DAY for students! M-W in session
October 28:	T-Th in session
November 4:	M-W in session
November 7-11:	Parent/Teacher Conference Week
November 14-18:	Conference Week 2 for X5/Kdg
November 7-8:	Picture Re-takes
November 11:	T-Th in session
November 17:	Re-test for Vision/Hearing
November 18:	M-W in session
November 23-25:	No School—Thanksgiving Break

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Page 2

**Entertainment Book Sale:** McFall has sold Entertainment Books for the past several years, and once again, we are participating in this opportunity. Books will be distributed on October 7, and the sale will run through October 21. If you do not wish to purchase a book, simply return the book to school with your child. The cost to purchase a book is \$25, and the school earns \$10 for every book sold. We will use these funds to offset the cost of special school activities, and more information will be sent home with your student.



THANK YOU!

## Parent Pick-Up Card

We will be starting our Parent Pick-Up Card October 18, and a letter will be sent home with your student to give you more information. If your child is picked up every day they attend school, you may sign up for a Parent Pick-Up Card (optional) which allows you to go directly to the classroom without signing out your student in the office. Stay tuned for more info!

## HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED

please take a moment to review the attached letter. If you are interested, please complete and return the form to the McFall office.

We also wanted to pass along some information regarding a local children's clothing exchange:

**Kim's Kubby Hole  
Clothing Exchange  
Main Street—Freeport**

Open Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Managed by Becky Callihan, 616-765-5471

There is currently a large selection of clothing, so please give Becky a call or stop in and visit her Kubby Hole.

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