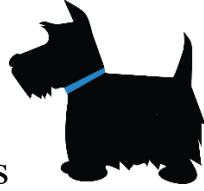


Mac's Notes



April 18, 2024

Dearest McDonald Community,

I wanted you all to know that this will be my last year of teaching; I will retire at the end of this school year. I've been teaching for 38 years, and I'm turning 65 in September, so it is time!

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for being such a wonderful, welcoming group of people. I came to McDonald 6 years ago, and it has been such a positive way to end my teaching career. The students, parents, and staff have been lovely. I have felt I can be myself and bring my own interests and passions into my teaching. Thank you so much for your open communication and for working with me in the education of your children.

Starting in the fall, I will be returning a couple times a week as a substitute teacher, so I look forward to seeing you all again in the near future!

See you around and thank you again.

Ms. Luke / Carlen (she/her)

Hello McDonald community! I am very excited to share some news for the 24-25 school year: I have decided to pursue an additional certificate to become a school administrator! This means that I will not be our Spanish K teacher next year; instead I will fill an interventionist role at McDonald. I feel lucky to take this next career step with such an amazing community supporting me. Y'all are awesome!

Daniel

I am incredibly grateful for the service generously given us by Ms. Carlen Luke. We arrived at McDonald International at the same time in the summer of 2018 and I have been humbled by her expertise, kindness, and quiet leadership with her colleagues. Students engage in her class with energy and curiosity. She has led us in Climate Change work and brought us unique and memorable experiences, including Whale Tales and a melodic and catchy school song. We will miss her dearly and look forward to her substitute teaching to come.

Maestro Daniel will be easier to find, as a continued support to our unique community of learners. He will be an exceptional school leader and I am incredibly proud he has chosen to take these next steps. Also arriving in the summer of 2018, Maestro Daniel shares a love for flexible seating and dismantling school structures that no longer serve us. He is an innovator!

With Appreciation, Zoe Facilla

A Fun-Filled Visit with Author Ben Clanton

- We are grateful to Ms. Finnegan for coordinating a memorable presentation for our first-third graders with author Ben Clanton the week before spring break.
- We gathered in the Scottie Café to experience his incredible creative process.



Elementary Progress Reports (EPRs)

- Elementary Progress Reports are viewable in your “The Source” account.
- If you would like to connect about your child’s progress, please reach out to their teachers.

Recycling Opportunity

McDonald International is keeping Plastic Film from landfills with Ridwell this spring! As part of this limited-time drive, you can bring these types of [Plastic Film](#) to a collection bin in our school hallway from May 1st-21st. Ridwell will make sure they stay out of landfills and are turned into new decking materials instead—start collecting these items at home now.

You can also help McDonald recycle our school’s plastic film for the entire ‘24/’25 school year! Be sure to use [this link](#) to join Ridwell with an at-home membership by May 31st, 2024. If we sign up 10 or more new members by this date, we will be awarded monthly Plastic Film pickups for our school next year.

Olivia Martinez Vidaurri, principal for the day on April 2

- Congratulations to Olivia who won the Principal for a Day from the PTA auction.
- Principal Olivia joined Principal Facilla all day on Tuesday, April 2nd as a school leader for a day. We visited classrooms, assisted in the Scottie Café, completed safety checks and Principal Olivia called an extra all-school recess/dance party. It was so much fun!



Scottie Ambassadors---report

- Students are in the process of writing SMART Goals for this leadership group.
- Meetings are on Mondays during first recess and Fridays during last recess in the office.

Plant Exchange

- This coming Sunday (April 21) McDonald International is celebrating spring with a fun outdoor event – the free plant and seed exchange on the school. Location is the school playground. The event is 10:00am-12:00pm. All are welcome! If you don't have anything to bring, that's OK! We would love to enjoy your company. In addition to plants and seeds, folks will have the opportunity to check out a worm bin! One (or more) of our parents is passionate about this, and she will also set-up an education station teaching recycling (sorting), compost and garbage. Volunteers will be helpful! If you'd like to help with set-up or clean-up can please contact Melody Datz Hansen medatz@gmail.com

McDonald Lost and Found

Are you missing a jacket, water bottle, or something else? Here's what to do:

1. Check the Lost and Found rack on the playground at drop-off or pick-up.
2. Label (First and Last name) your items. Our volunteer team regularly checks for labelled items to return to the kids' homeroom teachers.
3. Look out for monthly communications (like this one!) for a last chance to claim your items before they are donated.

If you recognize any of these items, please reach out to mcdonaldlostandfound@gmail.com to claim them.



International Night Volunteer Ask

Spring is in the air, and **International Night is around the corner!** This annual event is an all-school celebration complementing the fall Obon/Dia de los Muertos night. There will be class performances from each grade, cultural performers, activity stations, food trucks, and a bake sale to benefit the PTA. You don't want to miss it!

When: **3:00-6:30pm on Saturday, May 4th**

Where: all around the school grounds

To pull off this event, **we need many volunteers for a variety of roles and time commitments: [review needs and sign up today](#).**

We urgently need volunteers willing to organize the following two activities:

- craft booth (craft instructions and materials will be provided)
- photo/selfie booth

We also need contributions to the delicious bake sale: [sign up here](#).

Most importantly, save the date, bring your family and friends, and let's come together to celebrate McDonald International School! If you have any questions, please reach out to Colleen Korby, colleen.korby@gmail.com, and events@mcdonaldpta.org.

Tentative Performance Schedule

Opening remarks	3:00 PM
Intro: Steel drum performance	3:05 PM
K Spanish	3:40 PM
K/1 Japanese	3:50 PM
1 Spanish	4:00 PM
Kung Fu Performance	4:15 PM
Steel drum, second performance	4:15 PM
2 Spanish	4:35 PM
2/3 Japanese	4:45 PM
3: Spanish	4:55 PM
Kung Fu Performance	5:10 PM
Folklorico Mexicano Dance Performance	5:10 PM
4: Spanish	5:35 PM
4: Japanese	5:45 PM
Flamenco Dancer Performance	5:55 PM
5: Spanish	6:10 PM

5: Japanese	6:20 PM
Closing remarks	6:30 PM

!!!Attention 5th Grade Families!!!

It is time to gather photos and memories for the 5th grade memory book!

WHO: 5th grade families

WHAT: Photos of your 5th graders during their time at McDonald that will be included in the book - Kindergarten and 5th grade school photos, plus field trips, Islandwood, Jump Start for Kindergarten, school events, remote school pics, International Night performances, etc.

WHERE: Upload to the shared folders [here](https://shorturl.at/afjtB) (<https://shorturl.at/afjtB>) - READ ME doc within the folder for instructions

WHEN: All photos and other memories submitted by **Friday April 19** - the more we get the more fun the book will be!

Additional details:

- To order a memory book for your 5th grader go to
 - <https://tr5.treering.com/validate> - Passcode 101522209885185
 - Cost is \$25.35 + tax
 - Each book includes 2 pages you can customize; need to be completed by families by May 8
 - Delivery is expected by June 11
 - **Note that this is NOT the all-school yearbook that is ordered via SchoolPay**
 - Questions? Contact Kathleen Rankin (kerankin@gmail.com) or mcdonaldmemories5@gmail.com with Fifth Grade Memory Book in the subject line

Interview Team

- If you would like to volunteer for upcoming interview teams as we enter hiring season after spring break, please complete the [interview training](#) and email Zoe Facilla at zfacilla@seattleschools.org with your availability and willingness to serve.
- Open positions: 1.0 K Spanish Teacher, 1.0 3rd ELA Teacher, 1.0 Special Education Teacher, 0.5 Special Education Teacher, 1.0 Special Education Instructional Assistant, 0.5 Assistant Principal.

Scottie Café Menu

- [Please click here to view](#) on our website.
-

Noteworthy Dates this week:

- Plant Exchange, April 21, 10 am to 12 pm on the Scottie Playground

Looking Ahead

- Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, April 26, 7:40-9:40 am in the Scottie Library (attached invitation, we hope you can join us and we look forward to celebrating your service to our community)!
- April 30—rising 5th graders are invited to meet the Hamilton MS principal (see attached flyer)
- Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science-5th (WCAS) Schedule

Dates	Test	Teachers
Week of April 22	SBA ELA 4/5	Andy Shernoff, Elizabeth Purvis, Kathleen Wong, and Linda Oakley (5 th)
Week of April 29	WCAS 5 and SBA ELA 4	Diana Einmo, Miwa Casper, and Linda Oakley (4 th)
Week of May 6	SBA Math 4	Kelli Black
Week of May 13	SBA ELA 3	Jackie Martinez and Carlen Luke
Week of May 20	SBA MATH 3, 4, 5	Angela Klaassen, Reiko Myers, Miwa Casper, Diana Einmo, Yumiko Taniguchi

The SBA and WCAS (5th only) are administered annually to our 3rd-5th graders as a measure of their cumulative progress toward learning standard mastery. The assessments are computer based and untimed.

To support your child on testing days, we recommend adequate sleep, nutrition, and hydration. If your schedule conflicts with a testing time, reach out to your child’s teacher, and find another time that works for you. Our assessment window has some flexibility through early June. I am the school assessment coordinator, and you are welcome to email/call or drop in with any questions you have.