



McKinley Elementary School
60 Thompson Street
Fairfield, CT 06825
203.255.8318



Leslie C. Pearson, Principal

January 2014

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a relaxing, fun-filled time with friends and family. At McKinley, we are re-energized and recommitted to providing the very best instruction we can to your children every day.

I want you to know about the exciting work we have been doing in reading. We are planning **3 parent workshops** which we are calling "**Parents as Reading Partners**" to be held in the school's Library Media Center from **9:15 - 10:00 am** as follows:

Grades 4 - 5: January 23

Grades 2 - 3: January 30

Grades K - 1: February 13

From 9:15 - 9:35, our Language Arts Specialists will discuss how reading is taught in the classroom and we'll discuss ways you can support your child's reading life at home. 9:40 - 10:00, you are invited to join your child in the classroom to read with them. Bring a favorite book to share. We hope to see you there!

I have received a lot of positive feedback about the traffic flow at morning drop-off and want to thank all of you following the plan of entering by the driveway. (Please refer to the November newsletter posted on the website at <http://fairfieldschools.org/schools/mck/>) Upon the recommendation of the Traffic Flow Committee, we will be making a small change that we hope will make a BIG difference in the afternoon pick-ups. **Starting Tuesday, Jan. 21, older sibling walkers will dismiss with the youngest sibling's classroom.** This way parents can meet all children from one location. This is a trial to see if it makes a difference in speeding up the dismissal process, due to the limitations in parking. As always, we appreciate parents parking in designated spots and not just leaving cars unattended, blocking the exit of others.

If you have not yet registered in **Infinite Campus (IC)**, please do so. Please contact the school if you need support with this. I have been using it to send messages to parents and the district uses it to alert parents of any changes to schedules, such as snow delays, or important announcements. You can receive these alerts in the manner you designate - by text or email. Soon this will be the main way to receive communications from the school and district. I don't want any family to be left out of the information loop in area you care most about - your child's education.

Best regards,
Leslie C. Pearson