

M A R C H 2 0 1 0

the MCGRATH KNIGHTS

MARCH KNIGHTS! MARCH KNIGHTS! MARCH KNIGHTS!

✧ Mini-Iditarod ✧

27th Annual Event

Friday March 26, McGrath school had a Mini-Iditarod at 1:00 p.m. All students had a part in it. The kindergartners were handlers, the first and second graders were mushers, the third and fourth graders were checkers and vets and the fifth, sixth, and seventh graders were runners. Those who were not

running helped Ms. Joyce at the concession stand. The high school students took pictures at some of the checkpoints. There were no scratches this year, and everybody was a winner!



George learns parenting skills with "Abigail"

Upcoming Events

4/6-9 HSQE/SBA Testing

4/12-16 4th Grade Trip

4/19-23 Earth Week

4/20 Health Fair

4/22-24 NYO Anchorage

4/26-5/1 Washington DC/ NY
Close Up Senior Trip

5/7 Graduation

5/13 Field Day

5/14 Last Day of School



Musher

Aurora
Saige
Sierra
Ivory
Lucas
Joshua
Rachel

Handler

Amber
Alyssa
Ella
Kendra
Axel
Kaden
Dakota

Dog

Tosh
Queens
Cedar
Bonnie
Leo
Yen
Tussak



Iditarod Trail Snack Shack

The 3rd and 4th grade students opened the Iditarod Trail Snack Shack for the second year at the McGrath checkpoint. The students served Frito Pie, hotdogs, cocoa, coffee, and tea. Profits from the sale will go toward new Mini-Knights basketball uniforms. The Snack Shack was featured on Iditarod.com Insider video as well as on several Iditarod blogs. The publicity has brought in donations from all over the country.



Judo

Judo started at McGrath School in January. Adults and kids go to Judo. The teacher is Matt Shelborne. When we are at Judo, we practice moves and learn new moves. Judo is on Wednesday's and Saturday's from 7:00-8:30 a.m. We do judo at the school. I'm so happy we have judo, and everybody who goes likes it too. My favorite part of practice is learning new moves. Some of the moves are called paintbrush, lion killer, maraconis, butterfly, and arm bars.

By Danyka Groover

To Build a Fire

In mid-February, the high school and middle school students went on their snow machines to check ALISON. When they were done collecting snow and ice data they were required to build a sustainable fire for health class. Groups gathered birch, spruce, and dry grass to build a fire. Each group was given a box of water-proof matches to start their fire. George and Jon were the first to get their fire a-blaze!





Getting to Know the Dogs

Each musher and handler in the Mini-Iditarod had to learn mushing skills. Kristi Bullock showed students how to harness a dog. Kids practiced mushing commands without the dogs. They held onto the line that was attached to the sled and pulled the musher's and handler's around one at a time for their first practice. Then they got to the dogs. They put on each dog's harness and helped hook him up to the sled. First, they were really nervous, because they thought the dogs would go too fast and tip the sled. After a few tries, they loved mushing!



Beaver Mitts

Third through tenth grade students made awesome beaver mitts. They worked hard on them for many weeks. Clara stayed after school with some of the kids and helped them finish their mitts. All their mitts turned out fabulous! Thank you Clara!!



Susan Butcher Biography

Susan Butcher grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Then she became a vet and moved to Colorado. Then she got a job offering in Fairbanks at an Alaskan Ox Farm. The ox farm later moved over to Unlakeet and she moved with it. Also, she moved to Knik to train her dogs for dog mushing and that's how she became a dog musher. And it all started for her passion for animals and being a vet. In her first race, she got 19th place and loved to mush. In 1982, she finished in 2nd place. But in 1985, she got into a bad accident on the trail. A large cow moose about 20 feet in front of her and her sled. She threw the sled over to stop the dogs. The moose was charging the dog sled. She was terrified. She got off her sled and started to unhook the dogs. Then she started to hear yelps from her strongest dogs Jonnie and Ruff. The moose was thrashing its feet and it started to charge at her. She tried to scare away the moose so she took off her parka and waved it around in the cows face. But she started to hear Hyde and Yeller, her dogs. Finally, another musher came and had to shoot the moose." When Susan checked the dogs for injuries, only two of them didn't have injuries. Unfortunately, Hyde and Jonnie died.

Researched by Christine Taylor, 5th Grade



Quarter 3 "A" Honor Roll

K/1/2

**Emily Deacon
Aurora Standish
Rachel Carpenter**

3/4

**Katie Chase
Leemar Bye**

Quarter 3 "A/B" Honor Roll

3/4

**Justin Rosander
Harlan Standish
Anthony Korn
Danyka Groover
Cherish Andrews**

5/6

Eva Teresa Korn