

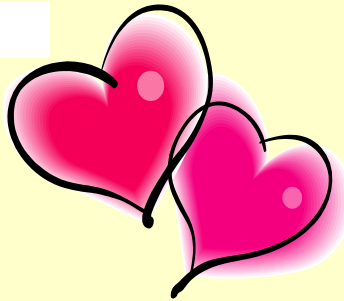
Milne Grove School Newsletter

February 2012
Volume 7, Issue 5

565 East 7th Street
Lockport, Illinois 60441

Superintendent, Donna Gray
Principal, Jaime Koziol

School & Office 815-838-0542; Attendance Line 815-838-0737 extension 2



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ 11:30 Dismissal for SIP Day on Feb. 2
- ◆ Classroom Parties on Feb. 14
- ◆ No School - Presidents' Day on Feb. 20
- ◆ Read to Succeed due on Feb 21

Full February calendar on the last page.

MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that ALL students can be successful in school. It is the mission of Milne-Kelvin Grove School District 91 to provide a supportive environment for learning in which students acquire knowledge and skills, develop a healthy self-image, demonstrate positive social behaviors, as well as acknowledge and respect ethnic and cultural diversity. We expect students to become life-long learners and productive citizens.

From the Principal - Mrs. Koziol, jkoziol@d91.net

For a moment it seemed that winter might never come, but it is here as strong as ever! With the winter weather, the various cold and flu viruses seem to be circulating as well. If your child needs to be absent for ANY reason, please call 815-838-0737 (press 2) before 9am on the day of the absence. It is imperative that we account for each child (both present and absent) as soon as possible each morning. Calling in absences makes this process MUCH easier for the office staff in each building. Also, please remember to provide cold weather gear for your child each day; students participate in outdoor recess each day the wind chill is above 20 degrees.

Nurse's News - Mrs. Gilkerson, sgilkerson@d91.net

Students in kindergarten, second and sixth grades are required to have a Dental exam. The exam form must be turned in by May 15th, 2012. The following is the information from the Illinois School Code:

According to the law adopted on August 18, 2004, Public Act 093-0946 Section 5 of the Illinois School Code paragraph 27-8.1 was amended by the General Assembly. According to Public Act 093-0946 of the Illinois School Code:

In compliance with rules adopted by the Department of Public Health and except as otherwise provided in this Section, **all children in kindergarten and the second and sixth grades of any public, private, or parochial school shall have a dental examination.** Each of these children shall present proof of having been examined by a dentist in accordance with this Section and rules adopted under this Section **before May 15th of the school year.** **If a child in the kindergarten, second or sixth grade fails to present proof by May 15th, the school may hold the child's report card** until one of the following occurs: (i) the child presents proof of a completed examination or (ii) the child presents proof that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15th. The Department of Public Health shall establish, by rule, a waiver for children who show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist. Each public, private, and parochial school must give notice of this dental examination requirement within 60 days before May 15th of each school year.

Once your child has had a dental examination, please return the dental form to the school to demonstrate compliance with the Illinois School Code. All examinations are reported to the State of Illinois.

Please do not wait to make those appointments. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at x106. Thank you for your cooperation.

Early Learners News - Mrs. Torkelson, rtorkelson@d91.net

Upcoming Events:

Week of January 30 – The Early Learners will work on the letter “Dd” along with the number 14. The theme will be Dental Health and the color will be pink. The Early Learners will also discuss what happens first, next and last when they brush their teeth.

Week of February 6 – The Early Learners will work on the letter “Vv” along with the number 15. The theme will be Valentine’s Day and the shape will be a heart. The Early Learners will also be working on caring one of the pillars of Character Counts.

Week of February 13 – The Early Learners will work on the letter “Ll” along with the number 16. The theme will be Abraham Lincoln. The Early Learners will hear a story about Abraham Lincoln when he was young.

Week of February 20 – The Early Learners will work on the letter “Qq” along with the number 17. The theme will be quilts. The Early Learners will create some special quilts.

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, February 2nd, NO SCHOOL Milne Grove Early Learners School Improvement

Monday, February 20th, NO SCHOOL, Presidents’ Day

Thursday, February 23rd, Family Fun Night for Milne Grove Early Learners from 6:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. in the gym.

Kindergarten News - Mrs. Lyttek, slyttek@d91.net & Mrs. Preboy, cpreboy@d91.net

The children are very excited that they are becoming readers and writers! We notice that they are finding words EVERYWHERE in school...in books, in the halls, in the classroom. It is fun to watch and listen to them read and spell. Journal writing has been a fun activity used in class to strengthen the kindergarteners’ letter-sound relationships and sentence making skills.

In social studies we are reading and writing stories about fairness, respect, good citizenship and Martin Luther King, Jr. In February, we will be starting a mini-unit on the Presidents and celebrating the 100th day of school. We LOVE to count!! We are practicing counting by 1’s, 5’s, and 10’s in preparation for 100th day. In Math we will be graphing, tallying, sorting, estimating and writing numbers to 31. Please continue to practice at home.

The Kindergarten Team

First Grade News - Mrs. O’Halloran, mohalloran@d91.net; Miss Sander, dsander@d91.net; & Mrs. Stanly, lstanly@d91.net

Milne Grove first grade students will be learning about how to be safe through the D.A.R.E program presented by the Lockport Police Department. This program consists of several individual class lessons. Students will learn about ways to keep safe including not talking to strangers, obeying street signs, and not taking medicine without their parent’s supervision. This is another great program sponsored by the PTO and will begin the first week of February.

On Thursday, February 2nd, we will celebrate the 100th day of school. Each first grade class will make a special snack called “G.O.R.P.” During the day we will be counting by 100’s, reading 100th day storybooks, and completing activities which focus on the number 100.

February is also dental health month. The students will be participating in activities related to learning about dental hygiene, the parts of a tooth, and dental careers.

This month’s new concepts in Math include doubles plus one facts, adding two digit numbers without regrouping, reading a graph, identifying and making congruent shapes, counting large collections and grouping by tens, trading pennies for dimes telling time to the half hour. In class we will also continue to work on counting by 2’s and 10’s, identifying odd and even numbers, telling time, and counting dimes and pennies.

In Language Arts we will begin to move from short vowels to long vowel sounds. Students will be introduced to the mighty silent “e”. We will also be looking at other long vowel patterns. We strongly encourage you to continue to review short vowel sounds as well. Nouns will continue to be a focus as well. We will begin to discuss and identify proper nouns as well.

Please encourage your first grader to read to you, or read independently a little each night. As we enter into third quarter we will continue to build our level comprehension. We ask that as you read with your child, please stop throughout the story and ask your child to make predictions about what might happen next. Review the characters, setting, problem, and solution of the story.

The First Grade Team

Second Grade News - Mrs. Bolte, mbolte@d91.net & Mrs. Georgopulos, rgeorgopulos@d91.net

Language Arts- Our next theme will be Tales Around the World. We will be reading folktales, tall tales, fairy tales and fables. Students will be bringing home a different reader for many of the stories we read. It is important to continue studying the weekly spelling and vocabulary words each night.

Social Studies- The students will continue to learn about the Potawatomi Indians. They have learned about the housing, roles of the men, women and children, and the French Fur Trade. A speaker from the museum, Isle a la Cache will be coming to the classrooms on Friday, February 3rd. After learning about the Potawatomi Indians, students will learn about our 16th president, Abraham Lincoln and our state of Illinois.

Science- We will continue learning about things that grow and change. After completing our last unit we will begin learning how animals grow and change. Students will be introduced to the habitats of animals as well.

Math- Students have begun learning the subtraction facts. It is important to study these facts nightly. When students are timed for their fact tests they get 2 ½ minutes to complete 25 facts. The focus for the month will be geometry and subtraction, with and without regrouping.

Third Grade News - Miss Podwika, kpodwika@d91.net, Mrs. Slingerland, mslingerland@d91.net, Mrs. Steed, csteed@d91.net

Happy February. This month the third graders will be very busy reading different genres in their readers such as nonfiction, fiction and fantasy. Each class will also be reviewing ISAT preparation in regards to reading skills and strategies that have been covered throughout the year.

This month we will also continue ISAT preparation in math. Students were sent home with information regarding extra math practice through www.xtramath.org. Please use this website to further develop mental math skills. Also, reviewing subtraction with your children will lead to success in division.

Additional ways to help your child at home is to use Spell City. Every spelling list from our readers can be found on this site under Mrs. Steed's name. The site is www.spellingcity.com

Keep reading to your child beyond just the weekly story to advance vocabulary and background knowledge. Always feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Physical Education News -

Ms. Sharp, lsharp@d91.net

The PE classes are in the middle of a hockey unit and will begin a volleyball unit in mid- February. They will learn the skills of both sports, which will be followed by lead-up games and modified games.

February is JUMP ROPE FOR HEART. All grades will participate during their PE class time, the week of February 13. Students will be bringing home an envelope at the beginning of February. If you would like to donate to The American Heart Association, you can write a check and put it in the envelope and have your student return it to school by February 17. They will receive prizes depending on the donation.

Thank you for all your support.



Music News - Mrs. Randolph, srandolph@d91.net

All MG Music Classes are focusing on identifying different instrument tone colors and instrument families; holiday music for Valentine's Day, Lincoln and Washington; instruments and singing.

- Kindergarten and First Grade are learning to play Orff instruments to accompany the Mallet Song, Mallets to the top, and One, two tie my shoe, in addition to other songs.
- Second Grade is studying "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Grieg and learning to sing in Spanish. Worksheets are due every week now.
- Third Grade continues to play the recorder, review Sea Shanteys, and music from Hawaii. (Did you know Hawaii has 3 different colors of sand? Ask your child to share with you what they learned about sand and astronauts in Hawaii.) Fridays at 8 am are OPTIONAL recorder mornings for 3rd grade students to come to music, pass recorder songs for stickers, and use the music technology lab. Students will only occasionally have worksheets.

A GIANT **THANK YOU**

to everyone who helped with the "Toyland" Christmas Program! Especially all the parents who helped clean up after the program!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR ALL THE HELP TO:

The D91 School Board, Administration, Teachers, Staff, Custodians, Athletic Dept. & Coaches, KG Band Dept., D91 Drama Dept., CHORAL RISERS - 14 sets purchased by KG Chorus Parents; NEW FOLDING CHAIRS & CANDY VILLAGE DECORATIONS: PTO & OFFICERS RISER SET-UP & DECORATORS: Mr. Carberry (assembling new risers & decorating); Mr. Ferrazzi (Unloading risers), Mrs. Otis, Mrs. Bobek, Mrs. Dorion, Mrs. Jerrick, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Bruemmer, Mrs. Plagman, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Cravens, Mrs. Woodworth, Ms. Allen, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Esposito, Mrs. Tracy LOCKPORT POLICE DEPT & Chief Kendziora

AD BOOK COMMITTEE: Mrs. Cronin, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Latham, Mrs. Bersch,

SANTA SUIT - Donated in Memory of Frank Brozck by Mrs. Elaine Brozck & Austin, Tyler & Savannah Johnson

I hope I haven't missed anyone. (If I did - please let me know!) And Most of Thank you to my wonderful students!

REMINDER: All year- SAVE metal tabs off soda and other cans to help purchase gym sound system & equipment.

Art News - Mrs. Cravens, jcravens@d91.net

Happy New Year and congratulations to Mrs. Cravens on the birth of her new baby boy! My name is Amy Siefken, and I am happy to return to MG while Mrs. Cravens is home. Last year, I had the privilege of teaching for Mrs. Cravens when she was home with her daughter - so most of the faces at MG are not new to me, and I am excited to be back! I have a BA in Art Education from Wheaton College, and have taught art for 12 years. During the summer, I teach art at the Avery Coonley School in Downers Grove.

- Third grade students are learning about the French artist Claude Monet and color "tints" as they create an ice-cream painting out of tempera paint.
- Second grade students are creating a chameleon using watercolor pencils and a torn paper background. Animal reference books have been used as a resource for this project.
- First grade students have been learning about peacocks and drawing a peacock with a beautiful train that will be colored using oil pastels and watercolor paint.
- Kindergarteners learned that zebras can run 45 mph! On brown paper, students have drawn their own zebra and created a colorful patterned frame.

LRC News - Mrs. Tumino, ltumino@d91.net

Book Notes

We are having a great time reading the Monarch Award nominated books! So far we have read several silly ones and look forward to getting into some more serious selections in February. Students will be voting for their favorites during the last week of February. In late January interested third graders signed up to read some selections from the Bluestem Award (a state award for readers in grades 3-5) list and will vote for those in April.

Reading Incentives

The *Student Author Project* ended in Jan. with dozens of great books created by our students; look for them in the LRC in March!

Six Flags Read to Succeed forms are due back on FEBRUARY 21st!!! We are unable to accept late forms, so be sure to get yours in on time to earn your free ticket!

The *Joliet Slammers Book Buddies* reading program will be starting in March. Look for flyers to come home!

Computer Bytes

Second and third graders have been working in Microsoft Word and all the grades have also been using a variety of educational websites to help reinforce topics and skills covered in class. Links to these websites can be found on the MG LRC page of www.d91.net - just click on the globe at the top of the page and ask your child to show you her favorites!

Volunteer Corner

Many thanks to Becky Phillips for coming in to help put away books every week! I'd be sunk without her!

EMERGENCY CLOSING INFORMATION

You can check the status of emergency closings at Milne Grove the following ways:

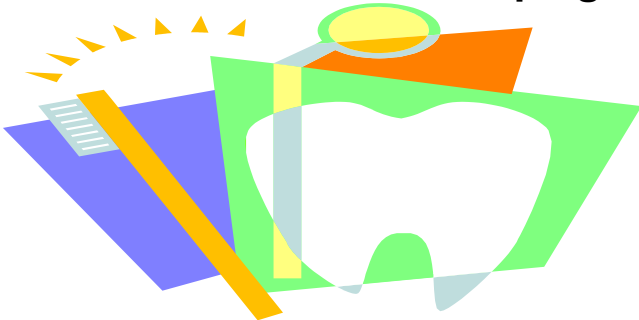
1. If you are signed up for our automated phone and/or e-mail system, *Connect-Ed*, you will receive a phone call and/or e-mail notifying you of any school closings. PLEASE keep your phone number and/or e-mail address up-to-date. Call us immediately with any changes.
2. Log on to our website www.d91.net.
3. Log on to the public website www.emergencyclosings.com and search for Milne Grove School by name and city.
4. Call 847-238-1234 using a touch tone phone and enter our main phone number.
5. Receive an e-mail notification of a change by signing up at www.emergencyclosings.com.
6. Watch CBS Ch. 2, NBC Ch. 5, ABC Ch. 7, FOX 32, WGN TV or CLTV cable for closing information.
7. Listen to radio station WJOL - 1340 AM, WGN Radio 720 AM, or WBBM Radio 780 AM.



VISIT US ON THE WEB!



"Give Kids a Smile" Campaign



The Will County Dental Society is sponsoring free dental services to local children from low-income families. Children ages kindergarten through fifth grade are eligible and must be accompanied by a legal guardian.

The exams will take place on
Saturday, February 4 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
 at locations in Joliet, Romeoville, Crest Hill and Wilmington.

Other locations in Plainfield, Romeoville and LOCKPORT will schedule exams throughout the month of February.

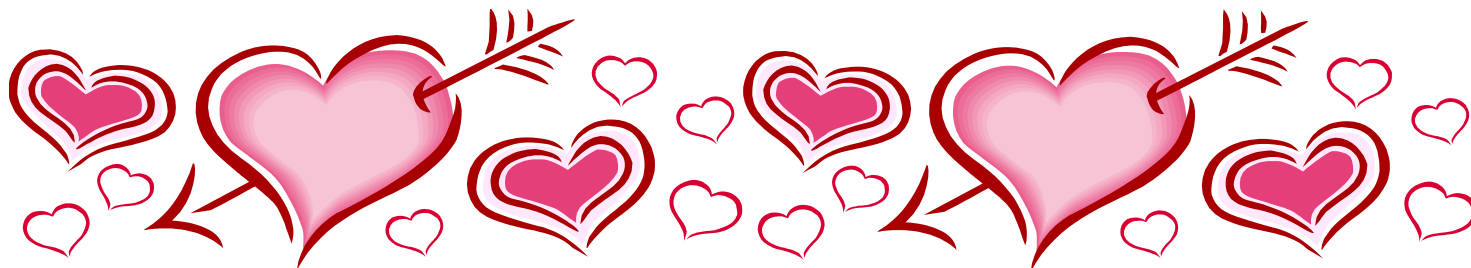
If you are interested in scheduling an appointment, you may pick up a form in either school office (or downloaded from our website at www.d91.net) which needs to be completed and sent to the Will County Dental Society.

Rainbows

When something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. Sometimes death or divorce appears to be a grown-up problem, but it has a profound affect on the children that it touches.

If your child is experiencing some type of loss, The **Rainbows Program** may help your child put his/her feelings into words, work through their grief, build a strong sense of self-esteem, and begin to accept what has taken place. It also allows your child to have a special time each week where they can get together with other children of the same age group and talk about what is happening in their lives.

D91 is offering a Rainbows group from February through May. Students will meet once a week during their lunch/recess time. Please call Jaime Koziol by Feb 3 at 815-838-0542 x104 if you are interested in having your child attend.



PTO MANNA FUNDRAISER

Retailers you already frequent from Wal-Mart to Jewel and JCPenney to Toys R Us offer a % back to our school if you purchase your gift card through PTO!

This is a quick and easy way to make a difference.

Contact Tricia Brasen at tbrazn1@yahoo.com for more info or stop by the Milne office for an order form.



PATRIOTISM PROGRAM RETURNS

Due to the success of last year's programming, Milne Grove will once again offer a free after school program for students in grades K-3 beginning in March. The program will be offered from 3:10 - 4:00; dates to be announced. More information will be sent home in the future.



STUDENTS HAVE A CHANCE TO PROMOTE THEIR OWN FITNESS AS WELL AS RAISE HEART HEALTH AWARENESS!

Look for participation forms the first week of February - all money raised goes to the American Heart Association.

Library News

The Lockport Branch of the White Oak Library District will be closed for renovations beginning January 27th.

Please visit the temporary location in the Gaylord Building beginning February 1.

200 West 8th Street

Hours and phone number are unchanged.

Some of the organizations represented on this page of the newsletter are not affiliated with District 91, and District 91 does not sponsor or endorse these organizations or their activities. This information has been made available to D91 families pursuant to the District's policy governing the distribution of written materials from non-school organizations.



Reserve Your Yearbook Now!

Yearbooks must be preordered, no extras will be purchased.

\$20 each due February 2, 2012

Forms available in the MG Office

Box Tops are as Easy as 1,2,3...

1. Buy Box Tops Items
2. Cut Out the Box Top & Send to School
3. Our School Earns Money

Or shop on participating online retailer websites! (see btf.com for a list)



Train Your Brain

With Dr. Swayne, School Psychologist

This is another in a series of articles dedicated to all of you –the District 91 community. These articles are written to help each of you become more efficient in your learning and memory, as well as some ideas to help make your life easier and more enjoyable. There will be a variety of topics, including memory helps, learning strategies, stress & relaxation, and promoting a healthier and more efficient and productive lifestyle.

This month's topic is **Discover Your Learning Style.**

What are learning styles?

These are simply different ways or approaches to learning.

What kinds of styles are there?

Generally, there are three major ways of learning, or types of learners:

- 1) Visual Learner
Learns best through seeing – reading, observing models, graphic organizers, charts, may organize by color [file folders, etc.]
- 2) Auditory Learner
Learns best through listening – spoken directions, verbal information, reading texts aloud.
- 3) Tactile/Kinesthetic Learner
Learns best through moving, doing, arranging, acting and experimenting with various physical approaches.

What type of learner are you?

If you prefer	You are probably a[n]
Using charts, pictures, maps and graphs To take notes, use handouts Use multi-media [computers, videos, filmstrips] Study in a quiet place away from distractions	Visual Learner
Make speeches, presentations, participate in debates Read text aloud and discuss your ideas verbally Enjoy using verbal analogies, stories to help with recall	Auditory Learner
To take frequent study breaks Move around to learn new concepts Enjoy projects – building things, developing posters Use of bright colors to highlight reading material	Tactile/Kinesthetic Learner
A combination of the above	A Multi-Modal Learner

By knowing what your strengths [learning styles] are, you can help increase your learning. One of the best ways to improve learning is to use both your personal learning style, AND some of these other styles of learning. By increasing the use of these styles or modalities, you will become more efficient in learning new concepts/ideas and it will be easier for you to remember what you have learned.

Any comments or questions? I would love to hear from you! Email me at lswayne@d91.net.

Next month's topic: STRESS – making it work for you!!!!

Resources include:

How the brain learns, 3rd edition. David A Sousa [2006].

www.ldpride.net

www.stylesoflearning.com

FEBRUARY 2012

CHARACTER COUNTS! Pillar of the Month - CARING

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Lockport Library Branch opens in Gaylord Building	2 100 th Day of School 11:30 Dismissal School Improvement Final Yearbook Orders Due	3 2 nd Grade in-class field trip; Isle a la Cache Rainbow Responses Due Spirit Day	4
5	6	7 Title I Parent Meeting 6:30-7:40pm	8 Rainbows Begins Market Day Pick Up 4:30-5:30pm MG Gym	9 Lunch forms sent home	10 Midterm Spirit Day	11
12	13 Jump Rope for Heart all week in PE classes	14 Happy Valentine's Day! Classroom Parties D91 Board of Education Meeting 7:30pm	15 Lunch forms Due	16	17 Jump Rope for Heart Donations Due Progress Reports Distributed Spirit Day	18
19	20 No School Presidents' Day	21 Six Flags Read to Succeed Deadline	22	23 Early Learners Family Fun Night 6-7pm	24 Spirit Day	25
26	27	28	29			