

Milne Grove School Newsletter

October 2011
Volume 6, Issue 2

565 East 7th Street
Lockport, Illinois 60441
School & Office 815-838-0542; Attendance Line 815-838-0737 extension 2

Superintendent, Donna Gray
Principal, Jaime Koziol



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.

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ ½ Day on October 7
- ◆ Free Dental Exams
- ◆ Halloween Parade

Look for a detailed October calendar on the last page.

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

As we settle into the school year and greet a new season, I would like to send my most sincere appreciation to the entire District 91 community. Students, teachers, parents, staff and all others have gone out of their way to make me feel welcome. I thoroughly enjoy coming to work each day and I thank each one of you for making it so. My hope is to be responsive to your questions, ideas, and concerns; please feel free to contact me! I look forward to meeting each of you in person. Thank you.

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

It's that time of year again! We are busy making sure our health records meet the mandatory regulations for the State of Illinois. This is just a reminder that all Health Records must be completed no later than October 15, 2011. Letters have been sent out informing you of any deficiency. The State of Illinois requires Health Records to be completed by the October deadline. The student's report card may be held or in some cases the child will not be allowed to attend school if the records are not completed. This regulation is in place for the health and safety of all of our children, which is a top priority for District 91. Please be sure to check your child's school folder for this notice.

Miles of Smiles will be coming to our school this year on Thursday, October 20th. Miles of Smiles is a team of dental professionals that deliver preventative and educational services to children in schools. This is a great chance for kindergarteners and 2nd graders to fulfill the dental exam requirement for the school year. Remember that dental exams must be in no later than May 15th this school year to be in compliance with Illinois State law. Miles of Smiles permission slips went home with your child recently and are due back on October 6.

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

Week of October 3 - The Early Learners will review the letter "F". The theme of the week will be fall and fire safety. The Early Learners will create some fun fall projects and will learn to stop, drop, and roll. They will also work with the number two and patterns. The class will be visiting Konow's Pumpkin Patch on October 4, 2011 for our first field trip.

Week of October 10 - The Early Learners will learn about Christopher Columbus. They will also be introduced to the triangle shape and the color blue. The number of the week will be three.

Week of October 17 - The Early Learners will be introduced to the letter "P". The theme of the week will be pumpkins. The Early Learners will also work with the number four and the color orange. They will also sequence how a pumpkin grows.

Week of October 24 - The Early Learners will be introduced to the letter "H" and the theme of the week will be Halloween. The number of the week will be five. The Early Learners will also be experimenting with hearing and height.

Parent Night will be held on October 26 from 6pm until 7pm - we hope to see ALL parents!

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

In October, Kindergarten will learn to read the sight words the, like, and I. The students will be participating in many alphabet theme days as we review the letters and sounds covered in Jolly Phonics. We will focus on correct letter formation. Please make sure your child is holding their pencil correctly and are starting letters at the top. Positional words will be the focus in math and we will also be reviewing numbers, number formation, counting and matching numbers to sets.

The children will also learn about apples and John "Johnny Appleseed" Chapman during our apple unit. We will finish the month with a unit on spiders. Please continue to read every day with your child. We will be kicking off the Book-It Program this month. When your child completes their monthly reading log they will earn a free personal pizza coupon for Pizza Hut! Remember to check the teacher's web pages for additional information and feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns

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

During the month of October, the first grade children will be learning about fire prevention. They will hear a presentation from the Lockport firefighters instructing them about fire safety. Also during October, first grade teachers will read the story Charlotte's Web by E.B. White. As we read the story, the students will participate in a variety of activities. Watch for information at the end of the month on a culminating home activity for Charlotte's Web.

In Language Arts this month the students will be introduced to the short vowel sounds. We will continue to discuss writing sentences as a complete thought beginning with a capital letter and ending with an exclamation point, question mark or a period.

In our math program, first graders will be introduced to adding "doubles". Children will also be introduced to writing number sentences for "some, some more" and "some, went away" story problems.

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

In the month of October we will continue with the theme of friendship. The stories we have read, and will read, will be centered on friendship. At home you can talk about how the stories relate to this theme, and what they teach you about friendship. In social studies we are learning about our neighborhood and the community. Students will also learn about the explorer, Christopher Columbus. Students are learning all about Matter (solids, liquids, and gases) in science. At home you can encourage your child to point out the three types of matter they see in their house. Two very important skills that we are reviewing and will continue to build upon throughout the year are counting money (right now- dimes and pennies) and showing time to the half hour on a digital and analog clock. To help your child in these areas you can ask them to count your loose change and practice reading different types of clocks in your house. Please continue to practice the addition facts each night.

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

The third grade teachers enjoyed meeting the parents and guardians that attended Expectation Night last month.

In Language Arts, students will continue reading a different story each week. This month stories concentrate on mysteries, historical fiction and expository nonfiction. Please have your child read the story again at home during the week. In social studies, students will be working on Flat Stanley. Remember to have an address in mind to send Flat Stanley off on his journey. Information will be sent home.

The science topic for this month is rocks and minerals. A way to extend class learning is to have your child search for different rocks, look up on the internet the different types of rocks and minerals, read books about rocks and minerals, etc. Math will find the students continue with assessments on adding and subtracting. Once we find where each student is as far as knowledge of this area, differentiation will begin.

Physical Education News - Ms. Sharp, isharp@d91.net

The P.E. classes began the year working on catching, throwing, running for a touchdown, hiking, and passing the football. They are playing lead-up games using the football skills. They also play a fitness game once a week and a fun game. In October, the classes will start a soccer unit. There is a word wall that has words pertaining to the unit, as well as, words that are used often. The students have to read, recognize, and demonstrate some of the words. The Kindergarten classes are working on loco-motor skills, such as, hopping and jumping, jump rope, balancing, color/number identification.

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

Kindergarten through Third Grade music classes are learning Music Tone Colors (music sounds) learning about the different instruments within each Instrument Family. All students are playing the Orff instruments within the percussion family. Music Classes have been studying patriotic and folk music during September. September 14 was the birthday of when Francis Scott Key wrote the words (lyrics) to the Star-Spangled Banner - the national anthem of the United States. All D91 music classes learned about the song. See the special attachment that was sent with this newsletter to learn more information about music happenings!

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

Welcome Back! Thank you to all parents for attending Milne Grove Open House. It was wonderful to see each of you and it was a pleasure discussing your children and their artistic abilities!

All students will need an art shirt to wear during painting and sculpture projects to protect their clothing from accidental spills or drips of material. Please provide an oversized adult short-sleeved t-shirt (no buttons or long sleeves please.) Buttons and long sleeves can be difficult for some students to put on or maneuver with when completing their projects. Please also write your child's first name clearly on the art shirt provided. Each Milne Grove artist has created their own personal sketchbook for all preplanning, practicing, and brainstorming prior to projects assigned. All students will have an ongoing book of their art journey in the 2011/2012 school year!

All kindergarten through third grade students have started their first projects of the year - focusing on both drawing and design. Kindergarten students will be working with line, shape, and color by creating an original watercolor painting resist in the spirit of Wassily Kandinsky. First grade students will use Pablo Picasso to motivate their own unique self portraits, and the second grade will use the stained glass of Louis Comfort Tiffany to inspire their own interesting stained glass name design. Third grade students will use the artwork of Amedeo Modigliani to spark interest in their own realistic self portrait sculpture. It is exciting to see all the personality, individuality, and creativity Milne Grove students bring to each and every project.

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

Book Notes

Please be aware of your child's Library Day and remind him or her to bring all books back on time!! It helps to keep library books either in the child's backpack, or in a safe but obvious location in the house. If a book ever gets damaged, or WET, please be sure to let me know. Wet books take weeks to dry thoroughly!

If your child does forget a book, or you can't find one, please contact me. If I know that a parent is aware of a missing book, I can allow the child to check out a new book. If I don't hear from you, your child will have to wait until the following week to bring home another book.

In September we learned about proper library procedures and book care, and shared some introductory stories. In October we will be reading books about fire safety, Halloween, and other topics related to what's going on in class.

Computer Bytes

We started off the school year discussing Computer Lab rules and procedures, and talking about stopping the spread of germs school wide, as well as specifically in the lab. In October all classes will be visiting websites and using software that will help enhance what they are learning in class, as well as working on age-appropriate technology skills. The District website, www.d91.net, is a great source of info on all aspects of the District, including links to the websites we use here at school. Please be sure to visit the MG LRC page for library and lab info; for the website links, just click on the globe at the top of the page! You should also take a look at the KG LRC page (Cyberlibrary).

Volunteer Corner

Milne Grove parents Katie Schuldt and Jessica Burke have been kind enough to share some of their time to help get the library and lab ready for student use - I truly appreciate their help!

I still need a few parents to come in and help reshelv books as they are returned throughout the week - all that is required is good attention to detail! If you are interested in learning more, please let me know!

Tales of Differentiation...

Welcome back to what promises to be an excellent year of learning for everyone! I am very excited to be back as the D91 Differentiation Consultant. Here is what the teachers and I have cooked up for this year:

1. Engaged Learning – We will look at Total Participation Techniques throughout the year to keep those kids actively learning throughout the day.
2. Differentiated Instruction – We will employ student interest, choice and pre-assessment to guide our instruction.
3. Literacy Everywhere – We will emphasize reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing in every content area.
4. Literacy Rich Classrooms – We will focus again on word walls and anchor charts to make our classrooms as visually appealing and resourceful as possible.

READY, SET, GO!

Amy Brodeur, University of Saint Francis

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Back to School Dash! A special thanks goes out to the D91 PTO and D91 Teacher's Association.

Lastly, thank you to Lia Ditter and Heidi Waxweiler for bringing your idea to life and for your incredibly hard work.



Red
Ribbon
Week



Character
Counts
Week

Red Ribbon Week and Character Counts Week will be merged into one this year at Milne Grove! During the week of October 24, we will be organizing different activities to affirm our commitment to substance abuse prevention and character education. Such a commitment is part of building good character in our students; therefore, it is a great opportunity for our school community to send a clear and unequivocal message to our students. Please join us year round in this endeavor.

Lunch News - Mrs. Thomason

Parents and guardians, please remember that if your student is absent on a day they ordered hot lunch, the credit they have earned **must** be taken the next month. It is the responsibility of each family to keep track of the missed days and credits. Please be sure to fill out the monthly lunch order form in it's entirety. Include, the student's first and last name, the teacher's name, and grade. Thank you for your cooperation.

HALLOWEEN AT MILNE 2011

Our annual Halloween parade and classroom parties will be held on Monday, October 31, 2011. Morning preschool and kindergarten will begin their parade at 10:00am. Grades 1-3 as well as afternoon preschool and kindergarten will begin their parade at 2:00pm. Parents, grandparents, etc. are invited to congregate in the rear of the building on the playground blacktop to view the short parade. The children will exit the through the rear southeast doors, parade around the blacktop, and then reenter the building through the rear southwest doors. Pictures and videos are allowed. Once the children reenter the building, parents will leave and the children will go to their classrooms for their parties. Due to limited classroom space, only designated room parents may attend the parties. If the weather does not cooperate for our parade, visitors may go to the gym, and we will have the parade pass through for you to view. If this is the case, all visitors will enter the gym through the back gym doors.

Students in Grades 1-3 MAY NOT wear their costumes to school, but MAY wear costumes home from school. We will be working on the regular curriculum for most of the day, and we do not want the children to be distracted. Costumes should be brought to school in the student's backpack or in separate bag.

Due to their half day schedule and their developmental level, students in Pre-K and K MAY wear their costumes to school and home.

Students in ALL grades must adhere to these costume rules: Handheld costume accessories may not be brought to school due to the risk of loss, breakage and injury. This includes wands, weapons, look-alike weapons, baskets, and any other item a child might carry to enhance his or her costume. Costumes that promote violence and/or frighten other people (or younger children) are not permitted at school. Please remember that children should bring modified versions of their costumes to school. Masks, makeup and hair dyes are not allowed at this age level. Room parents will be available prior to the parade to help the children put on their costumes, but we encourage parents to choose costumes that are easy for students to put on and take off by themselves.

**Trick or Treat Hours from Lockport Police Department:
October 31st from 3PM-6PM**

Treats for Halloween:

At Expectation Night, each classroom had families sign up to contribute "party food" for each of the three parties offered this year. If you did not sign up at Expectation Night and your child would like to bring a treat to share with the class, please make sure it is individually packaged, so it can be placed in a treat bag that each child takes home. In lieu of a snack or toy, please consider contributing a book or game to your child's classroom that the kids can enjoy all year.



VISIT US ON THE WEB!



Our webmaster often posts other community news on our webpage. Log on now to find information on Lockport Jr. Porters PK-8 Wrestling Club, St. Joseph Oktoberfest, Elite Cheerleading and Girl Scout Membership.

**Coming Soon... the MG LRC
Pumpkin Decorating Contest!!**

Decorate (do NOT carve or cut!)
an 8" or smaller pumpkin and
deliver it to the Library on Oct. 20-21.
Winners will be chosen on October 31st!
Everyone wins Character Coupons!
Prizes for category winners!
Entry fee: one or more item for the
Lockport FISH Pantry.
Details on web and coming home soon!

On Sunday, October 9, 2011 from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., the Lockport Township Fire District will be conducting an open house at Fire Station Six to commemorate Fire Prevention Month.

19623 Renwick Road



This is a great opportunity to meet your local firefighters and tour their newest facility. The Fire District will also be hosting a food drive to benefit our local Fish Pantry. Bring a non-perishable food item when you come to visit.

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.

Comcast Internet Offer

Bringing the Internet to your home can be easy and affordable...

Comcast is offering a reduced internet rate that some District 91 families MAY qualify for. This opportunity was discovered at the Regional Office's Learning Leaders meeting and NOT a result of a "plug" from Comcast.

How to qualify

To qualify for \$9.95 a month Internet service and a low-cost computer (\$149.99 + tax), your household must meet all these criteria:

- Be located where Comcast offers Internet service
- Have at least one child receiving free school lunches through the National School Lunch Program
- Have not subscribed to Comcast Internet service within the last 90 days
- Not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment

How to apply

- Call **1-855-8-INTERNET** (1-855-846-8376) to request an application
- Comcast will mail you an application. Complete and return it, along with lunch program documents from your child's school
- Comcast will notify you by mail about the status of your application. Allow 7-10 days for a response

How to get connected

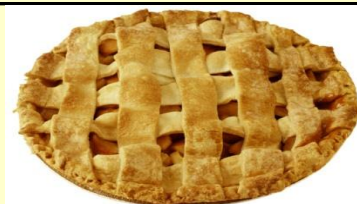
Once you are approved, Comcast will mail you a welcome package with everything you need to set up your Internet service and receive their free Internet training. If you choose to purchase a low-cost computer, your welcome package will provide details.

District 91 Parent Academy

We need you!!! Please join Mrs. Koziol and Mr. Pritchard from 6:30 - 7:30pm on October 11, 2011 in the KG LRC.

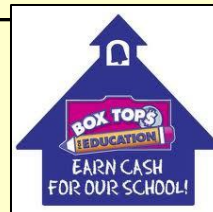
The topic will be the new Common Core Standards; specifically, how your child's education will be impacted by these new expectations.

**LOOK FOR
PTO PIE SALE
INFORMATION
TO COME HOME
IN FOLDERS
THIS MONTH!!!!**



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)

October 2011

CC! Pillar of the Month - Trustworthiness

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Market Day Web Orders Due 11pm
2	3 PTO Fundraiser Ends	4	5 Market Day Pick Up 4:30 – 5:30pm Chorus/Band Pizza Hut Fundraiser 4-8pm (bring coupon)	6 Miles of Smiles Permission Slips Due	7 ½ Day – 11:30am Dismissal Only PM K Attends Music Volunteer Form Due Spirit Day!	8
9 Fire Safety Week Begins	10 No School – Columbus Day	11 District 91 Academy Meeting KG LRC 6:30pm – 7:30pm District 91 Board of Education Meeting; KG LRC - 7:30pm	12	13 Market Day Pie Sale Begins! Lunch Order Form Sent Home	14 Fire Safety Presentations Spirit Day! Deadline for Health Records	15
16	17 Nicky's Gyros Chorus/ Band Fund-Raiser 3-9 pm (bring coupon)	18 Nicky's Gyros Chorus/ Band Fund-Raiser 3-9 pm (bring coupon)	19 Lunch Order Form Due	20 Miles of Smiles Services at MG Pumpkin Contest Due Date	21 Spirit Day! Classroom Box Tops Contest Ends Today! Pumpkin Contest Due Date	22
23 Red Ribbon and Character Counts Week Begins	24 Wear Blue for Trustworthiness	25 Wear Yellow for Respect	26 Wear Green for Responsibility Deadline for Chorus/Band Ad Book Sales Early Learner's Parent Night 6-7pm	27 Wear Orange for Fairness	28 End of Quarter 1 Wear Red for Caring	29 Practice Citizenship in your town.
30	31 Halloween Parties and Parade	<p>Items ordered through the PTO's fall catalogue sale will be delivered on November 9.</p> <p>Spirit Wear will be available for order in early November with delivery before Christmas.</p> <p>Picture Retake Day has been scheduled for November 16. Remember to order your yearbook!</p>				

Parents, please remember that there are no adult supervisors outside before 8:20am. It is unsafe for children to be outside unsupervised, so please make sure your child arrives no earlier than 8:20am.

Thank you for making your child's safety at pick-up and drop off the number one concern! We appreciate your continued patience and safe driving practices.

You can find the coupons for the Chorus/Band "Dinner Out" Fundraisers in the KG newsletter or in the Music Supplement

We will be conducting our "Spirit of Giving" Free Garage Sale again this year – please start collecting items to donate!