

Milne Grove School Newsletter

November 2011
Volume 6, Issue 3

565 East 7th Street
Lockport, Illinois 60441
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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.

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

We are entering the season of gratitude, and I would like to take this opportunity to express mine. Thank you to every student in our building for giving your all and attending to your studies. Thank you to every parent who diligently works with their child at home to ensure his or her success at school. Thank you to every staff member who shows up each day ready to give 110% to make a difference in the lives of our children.

It is often easier to ponder what we would like to have than to honor both the tangible and intangible gifts that already surround us. I wish your families a wonderful season of giving and gratitude.

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

Whether it's washing hands while singing happy birthday two times, learning to cough into the crook of an arm when no tissue is nearby, or keeping a healthy distance from others when sick, there are good habits that can help keep germs at bay as we enter the height of cold and flu season. Occasionally, we will be unsuccessful at keeping the germs at bay and our kids will fall ill. Here are a few guidelines to help in your decision of whether to send your child to school or keep him home:

- Mucus is allowed at school, only if clear. Yellow or green mucus indicates a possibility of infection.
- Coughing is allowed at school, but a dry, hacking and persistent cough should be evaluated by a doctor.
- Minor discomforts and sour throats without the presence of a fever are allowed at school. Please remember, your child CAN take medication at school (see below).
- Mild stomach aches are permitted at school, but students who have been vomiting or who have had diarrhea in the last 24 hours should be kept home.
- Students who have a fever or are only fever free with medication should be kept home. Children must be fever free without medication for 24 hours.

Over the counter and prescription medications can be administered at school, but you must come into the health office to complete a medication form and provide the medication first. This includes the use of ANY over the counter or prescription medication, cough drops, chap-stick, and lotion (for dry skin, eczema, etc).

If a child has been out of school for three consecutive days, he or she will need a doctor's note to return to school. You are welcome to submit a doctor's note for any length of absence.

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Halloween Parade
- ◆ Picture Retake Day
- ◆ Family Reading Night

Look for a detailed November calendar on the last page.

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

Week of October 31st - The Early Learners will be learning about the letter "Tt" along with the number six. The theme for the week will be trees. The Early Learners will also experiment with their sense of taste.

Week of November 7 - The Early Learners will be learning about the letter "N", the number seven, and the color brown. The weekly themes include November and Native Americans; students will make Native American headdresses and necklaces.

Week of November 14 - The Early Learners will be reviewing the letter "N" with the theme of nursery rhymes.

Week of November 21 - The Early Learners will be reviewing the letters "T" with themes of Thanksgiving and turkey. They will also be learning about the number eight and the square shape.

Week of November 28 - The Early Learners will review the letters and numbers they have worked on already. The letters include A, B, F, G, H, P, N, and T. The numbers include 0 to 8.

Friday, November 4th - Field Trip to the Allstate Area in Rosemont to see the circus!

The bus will arrive at 8:55am and will return at 1:40pm. Each child will need their own labeled sack lunch to eat on the bus after the 10:30am performance. Please return to Milne Grove School at 1:40pm to pick up your child.

HOME VISITS are November 10th and 11th. If you have forgotten your date and time please let us know right away!

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

Kindergarten is having fun exploring letters, sounds, and sight words! We have just completed all the Jolly Phonics letter sounds and motions. Students have loved being "detectives" when searching for sight words in their library books and classroom books. The Kindergarteners now have a book baggie that should hold all the books they make this school year! Keep the bag in a special place so that your child can take it out and read the books often. In Math we have been working on matching numbers to sets and have enjoyed working with manipulatives in the classroom. In November we will work on sorting objects, 3D shapes, and comparing number value. In Science we will explore with signs of fall! We are looking forward to our feast this month because we will learn so much about our pillar in November, Respect. We will learn how the Pilgrims and Indians showed respect towards each other and we will also discuss what it means to be thankful. Keep reading everyday and we are thankful for your wonderful support.

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

During the month of November the first grade students will be learning about the similarities and differences between insects and spiders. We have read both fiction and nonfiction books on this topic, including Charlotte's Web by E.B. White.

The first graders are working hard to learn new sight words, phonetic skills, and reading comprehension skills. The phonics skills we will be focusing on most are the short vowel sounds. Each night, continue to read to your child and have him or her read to you. Daily practice of vocabulary words and additional outside reading increases your child's progress.

This month in math, first graders will be introduced to the following math facts, adding and subtracting 0 to any given number and subtracting one from any given number. In addition to these concepts we will be working on identifying and counting dimes, counting by 2's, identifying even numbers and telling time to the hour.

Please check inside your child's report card envelope, for a confirmation of your November Parent Teacher Conference date and time. If you have not scheduled a conference please do so soon. Have a Happy Thanksgiving, The First Grade Team

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

In the month of November we will continue with the theme of Neighborhoods. The stories we have read, and will read, will be centered on different types of neighborhoods and the community workers found in each. At home you can talk about how the stories relate to this theme, and what they teach you about neighborhoods. In social studies we are learning about our neighborhood and the community. We will incorporate this unit with our reading theme. Students are learning about sound in science. To help them connect with what they are learning in science, you could talk about the different sounds you hear in the neighborhood. Then practice classifying them by high and low pitch and soft and loud sounds. Two very important skills that we are reviewing, and will continue to build upon throughout the year, are fractions and place value. To help your child practice fractions, you can ask them to name the fractional part while cutting pizza or fruit. To help your child recognize place value, ask them to identify the true value of each digit in a two or three digit number (58 has 5 tens and 8 ones). 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

As teachers we often hear this question from parents, "What can I do at home to help my child at home"? Here are some ideas you can implement this month that would tie in with our class studies.

- Practice math facts with multiplication.
- Discuss or visit landforms such as Dellwood Park, hills and ravines, the Des Plains river and the I and M canal, just to name a few.
- Check out and read books on landforms.
- Have your child read out loud to you, or take turns and read one page at a time.

Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up this month. If you haven't scheduled a time please e-mail or call your child's teacher. We look forward to seeing you and discussing your child's progress.

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

The PE classes finished a soccer unit and will be doing a basketball unit. They will work on the skills of dribbling, passing, and shooting. After practicing the skills, they will play lead-up games and modified games. They will also play some holiday games and continue to do a fitness activity every week. Please have your child continue to practice tying his/her shoes. Thank you.

Music News - Mrs. Randolph, [srandolph@d91.net](mailto:randolph@d91.net)

I am so proud of the grades 2 & 3 music students who have been doing all their music worksheets. They are following the "Responsibility" Pillar of Character Counts! Keep up the good work!

All students in grades K-3 are learning:

- Patriotic music in celebration of Veteran's Day
- Learning music for Thanksgiving
- Preparing for the Christmas program "Toyland" to be presented Tuesday, December 20 at 9:15am and 1:15pm in the KG old gym. Kindergarten and First Grade will perform two songs on the stage. Second through Fifth Graders and KG Chorus will present the entire musical in the gym with auditioned Chorus members selected as the cast.

THIRD GRADE MUSIC: Students have started learning to play recorders (small plastic wind instrument) during music as well as learn the Christmas musical.

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

During the fall months, Milne Grove artists are currently working on the following projects:

All Kindergarten art students will move into painting and learn the color wheel - with a focus on primary and secondary colors. Students will be creating several paintings over the next few months. Our first official painting will focus on the color, line, and shape found within a rainbow. Students will also learn to mix and blend the secondary colors and tints/shades. First grade students have finished a printmaking lesson, which focused on positive and negative space inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy and the fall season. First grade students will also be moving into painting this month and completing several paintings throughout the quarter. Second grade students will continue the use of oil pastels and other mixed media with watercolor to create a resist. Students were "quizzed" on turtle trivia and created their own amazing turtles with patterned shells and underwater treasures. Third grade students have finished an outrageous dream bedroom design. Students pushed their creativity to create the ultimate room with interesting layout and much personal detail. Third grade students will also move into painting and the study to artist Henri Rousseau and his bright and bold jungle paintings.

If you have any questions regarding your child's art class, please feel free to check the "Art Pages" on the school

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!! Last month, we read books about fire safety, Halloween, Trustworthiness and other topics related to what's going on in class. Third graders have also been learning about the Dewey Decimal System and how to look up and find books on various topics.

Computer Bytes

All classes have been making good use of the Computer Lab. The younger grades have been working in More Starfall, a subscription website that the D91 PTO paid for us to join. The 2nd graders have been working in language arts and math sites, and the third graders have been working on keyboarding skills and an introduction to Microsoft Word.

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. For the links, just click on the globe at the top of the MG LRC page!

Volunteer Corner

Kindergarten parents came out in force to help their kids get acclimated to the Library. I'd like to thank the following for their help: Melissa Zuniga, Cindy Dragosh, Becky Phillips, Tara Mollandin, Agata Piasecka, Craig Beske, Nancy Cole Ramirez, Edyta Kogut, Becky Marshalek, Lisa Karpinski, and grandma Nola Lara. Thanks also go out to Debbie Jerrick, Cris Bentley and Becky Phillips for helping with some additional projects.

I still need a few parents with good attention to detail to come in on a regular basis and help put away books as they are returned throughout the week. If you are interested in learning more, please let me know! Contact me at ltumino@d91.net or 815-838-0542, x122.

Spirit of Giving...



The Spirit of Giving will return to Milne Grove School this holiday season! Last year's event was a huge success and was appreciated by so many district and community members, that we are in the process of planning our next event.

The "Shop for Free" Garage Sale will take place on December 10th from 11am until 2pm..

Donations will be accepted beginning on November 21st due to the generosity of Herder Bros. Moving and Storage, who have donated storage trailers for our use this season.

Items can be brought to the back of the school during afternoon dismissal.

Please keep our garage sale in mind when cleaning out your closet, attic or garage or when pulling out last year's winter wardrobe and putting away this year's summer duds. We are looking for **clean and gently used or new clothing of all sizes, household items, and toys.**



**Feeding the
Community**

The LRC food drive has been extended through November 18! The Lockport FISH Pantry could use:

Stews, Canned Meats, Pasta, Tuna fish, Cereals, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Syrup, Pancake Mix, Soups, Rice, Instant Potatoes, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruits, Macaroni and Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Sauce, Vegetable Oil, Toilet Paper, Hand Soap, Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent, Diet Food for Diabetics, Sugar-free, Low-Sodium Diet Foods - Prefer No Baby Foods and Absolutely no Medicine such as Aspirin or Tylenol

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, Elite Cheerleading, Girl Scout Membership. Also, find out how to help our Fire Department win a grant!

BLACKBOARD CONNECT ED

Lockport School District 91 has been utilizing the Blackboard Connect-Ed system since 2008. This school-to-parent communication service allows our schools to send periodic personalized voice messages to parents and guardians via telephone or e-mail. Many reminders are sent this way and ALL emergency communications will be sent through Blackboard. If you have not been receiving those messages, please notify the school office ASAP to update your contact information!

Family Reading Night



On November 17, the LRC will be sponsoring a family reading night. This year's theme is "Reading Takes you Places". Mrs. Tumino will send a flyer home with more details. All Milne families are asked to take time out and enjoy an evening of reading together - get a head start by looking for interesting books that go along with the theme!

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.

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.

PTO MANNA FUNDRAISER

Don't forget to order your holiday gift cards through the Manna Program. Retailers from Walmart 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.

Don't forget Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Thursday, November 10 from 12:30pm – 7:50pm
Friday, November 11 from 8:30am – 2:50pm

Students are not in attendance on these days. Conference times are prearranged with your child(ren)'s teacher(s). Please contact the school at 815-838-0542 if you have forgotten your conference time or have not yet scheduled a conference.

This is the only designated parent-teacher conference of the school year.

District 91 Board Meetings

Would you like to know more about D91?

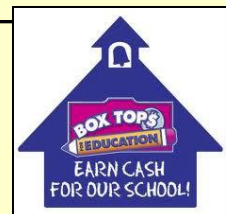
Attend a board meeting!

7:30pm on November 8, 2011

KG LRC

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)

NOVEMBER 2011

CC! Pillar of the Month - Respect

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31 Halloween Parties and Parade	1	2 Market Day Pick Up 4:30 – 5:30pm	3	4 Spirit Day! Report Cards	5
6	7	8 District 91 Board of Education Meeting; KG LRC - 7:30pm	9 PTO Fundraiser Orders Arrive Lunch Order Form Sent Home	10 No School – PT Conferences Rainbows and Title I Survey Due	11 No School – PT Conferences Rainbows and Title I Survey Due	12
13	14	15	16 Picture Retake Day Lunch Order Form Due	17 Family Reading Night Pajama Day!	18 Spirit Day!	19
20	21	22	23 No School	24 No School – Happy Thanksgiving	25 No School	26
27	28	29 Fall Book Fair Begins at KG LRC	30 Fall Book Fair at KG LRC	1 Fall Book Fair at KG LRC	2 Fall Book Fair at KG LRC	3 Holiday Festival/ Book Fair at KG LRC

Spirit Wear will be available for order in mid- November.

Don't Forget to Order Your Yearbook – the cost per yearbook goes up from \$18 to \$20 after November 11 – reserve yours today!

The Giving Tree: The 3rd Grade students are sponsoring a service project to benefit local residents that are without proper winter protection. Your donations of new hats, gloves, scarfvcs, and socks are much appreciated; both children's and adult sizes are welcome – look for more information in our December newsletter.