

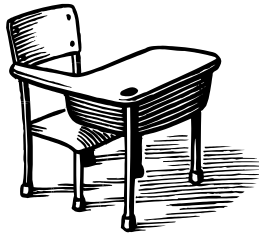


Milton Pope

Pilots

September Newsletter

From the Desk of Mr. Giertz



The start of a new year is upon us and September has already flown by. Staff and students are quickly getting into routines that they are all familiar with and our Pilots sports teams have jumped into full force too. The soccer team will be soon wrapping up their season and have done a fantastic job of improving throughout the year. Madison Bromberek and Sara Meyer won the Goalie and Kicker challenge in the annual Milton Pope Soccer tournament and the Pilots picked up their first win defeating Cross Lutheran 6-0 in the Newark Tournament, only to fall to a tough Sandwich team for the Consolation game. Our 5th-6th grade girls' basketball team is off and running and Coach Williamson has our girls working hard each night.

This coming month our Community Club will meet on two different nights. First, on October 3rd to discuss who will run the planning for the Halloween committee and then their regular meeting to be held on October 11th. Also, this coming month our 5th-8th grade students will have LaSalle County Deputy Felicia Rasmussen speak and present on school issues revolving around bullying. Be looking for your student to come home within the next couple of days with a permission letter to attend this 30 to 40-minute session.

Once again, it is great to get the year started and already see the maturity and success our students can have here at Milton Pope. We want your student to be successful and strive for goals that are going to push them each and every year. With your help at home and a dedicated staff here, I'm confident your child can achieve at a high level. If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us here at school: (815) 357-8151.

Have a fantastic October!

Sincerely,

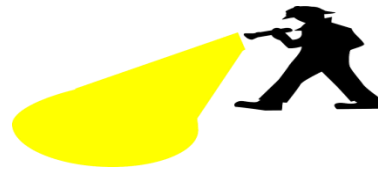
Mr. Giertz

Upcoming October Activities/Dates

- 3rd Community Club Mtg. 6:30
- 3rd 5/6 GBB @ Oglesby 5:00
- 4th 7/8 GBB Home 5:00
- 6th 7/8 GBB @ Grand Ridge 5
- 6th Articulation Day (Dismissal @ 2:30)
- 7th No School (Institute Day)
- 10th Columbus Day
- 11th Community Club Mtg. 6:30
- 12th Bullying Presentation 5th-8th Grade
- 13th Articulation Day (Dismissal @ 2:30)
- 13th 7/8 GBB Home 5:00
- 14th End of 1st Quarter!!
- 14th K & 1st to Pumpkin Farm
- 14th 1st Quarter "Fun Friday"
- 17th 5/6 GBB Home 5:00
- 17th 7/8 @ Odell 5:00
- 18th 7/8 GBB Home 5:00
- 19th Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m
- 20th 7/8 GBB @ Ransom 5:00
- 20th Articulation Day (Dismissal @ 2:30)
- 25th 5/6 BBB Home 5:00
- 25th 7/8 GBB @ Waltham 5:00

- 27th P/T Conferences 1:00-7:00 p.m.
- 28th P/T Conferences 8:30-Noon
- 31st Jump Rope Assembly K-8th
- 31st 5/6 BBB Home 5:00

Teacher Spot Light of the Month



This month's teacher spot light focuses on our Jr. High Math and Literature teacher; Mr. Finley and Mrs. Thorsen.

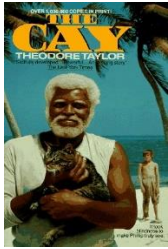
Mrs. Finley writes:

Tech classes have started to learn Microsoft Office 10 and the ins and outs with some Word projects to begin the year. 6th grade will be starting to practice PowerPoint with Mathematician biographies to prepare for their research projects later in the year. 7th grade will also be practicing PowerPoint projects by "touring" the world. They will be in charge of trying to convince classmates to want to visit their landmarks and hopefully give us a Google Earth guided tour. 8th grade will be starting to explore Microsoft Excel by budget planning. They will be choosing a career, school, home, car, and a few other things to get a taste of trying to balance a budget.

In math class, 6th and 7th grade classes are wrapping up chapters based on ratios and percentages. 6th graders were in charge of a small business and needed to make adjustments to gain interest from other classmate "shark" investors. 7th grade students got to pick and choose items for their own store and calculate discounts on a shopping

experience. 8th grade has started to learn how to solve multi-step equations and we will be focusing on relating them to real world problems beginning next week.

Junior High Literature with Mrs. Thorsen



8th Grade-We kicked off the school year by reading the novel, **The Cay**, by Theodore Taylor. The main characters, Phillip and Timothy, become stranded on a cay after a terrible accident. Phillip and his mother were trying to return to the United States after the island, Curacao, which they had been living on was surrounded by German submarines during World War II. Phillip and Timothy learned to depend on each other for survival and the hope that they would be saved one day. We celebrated the book by enjoying tropical fruits...mango, coconut, pineapple, starfruit, pomegranate, and kiwi while listening to calypso music. We sketched island scenes, fruits, or sea animals. We then used water colors to complete our island drawings. "Dis b' dat outrageous book!"



7th Grade-“Shoes that come by devilish means will burn your feet....behave yourself son from here on in.” This quote is from the story, “Thank You, M’am” by Langston Hughes. They needed to infer that the main character, Roger, should work to earn money to buy the things that he would like to wear and not try to steal other people’s pocketbooks to buy some blue suede shoes. A sense of pride will come from working to buy what we want instead of guilt for stealing money that we did not earn to buy the things that we want. We practiced finding the conflicts in the story with a partner. They needed to find external, internal, and the central conflicts. We also enjoyed a video that was created to follow the story. They have also studied the stories, “Seventh Grade”, “Names/Nombres”, “Zebra”, “A Crush”, “Dirk the Protector”, “Homeless”, “Bums in the Attic”, and “Eleanor Roosevelt”.



6th Grade-The sixth grade students are currently studying, “Matthew Henson at the Top of the World”. “Matthew Henson

was a co-discoverer of the North Pole with Admiral Robert Peary on April 6th, 1909. He was a pioneer in Arctic exploration and discovery.” This is our first non-fiction story in the first quarter. We just started to learn about his life before he met Robert Peary. Before this story, we studied “Eleven”, “President Cleveland, Where Are You?”, “Scout’s Honor”, and “Nadia the Willful.” Sixth graders have been working hard at practicing how to do a literary triangle, comprehension checks, skill packets, and writing lengthy essay questions. Looking forward to sharing more literary stories and novels with them!!

Book Fair Coming Soon!!

The Book Fair is coming to our school on Thursday, October 27 and Friday, October 28. The Book Fair will be held on the stage with

There is also the online Book Fair Opportunity. The web address is <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/miltonpopeelemschool>

All books purchased online will be sent to the school with free shipping. Books may be ordered through the online fair until November 10th.



As an extra bonus for friends and family both near and far, Ms. Fleming will gift wrap items that are sent to the school through

the online book fair that are Christmas presents. Simply email me at: kfleming@miltonpope.net with the parent’s name, the name of the gift giver, the titles of the books and who will receive the gift books. This will be perfect for the friends and relatives who would like to help out our school and order a gift at the same time! All of the gift wrapped books can be picked up by the parent with the gift tags and ready to put under the Christmas tree!

Enjoy the Book Fair both at the school and online.

Character Counts



Our Character Counts Team continues to work at creating a culture of continuous character building and at increasing the level of positive behavior in the school environment. This committee has been working together to come up with ideas for the teachers to use throughout the year that go along with Character Counts. You will again be seeing a “Character Counts Corner” in each monthly newsletter that will fill you in with some information about character and some happenings throughout the school. This year we have come up with several ideas to help celebrate our success academically and behaviorally within each quarter. Our

student committee and staff groups have come up fun ways to help encourage and drive home that with hard work and a good attitude taking part in a “Fun Friday” event makes that effort even more special. Be watching for small updates or letters informing you and your student what “special” event their class is being challenged to for that upcoming Friday. We will also still focus on a month listed below and what each pillar of character needs to represent within our building. They are:

Aug. /Sept. – Responsibility

Oct. – Trustworthiness

Nov. – Citizenship

Dec. – Caring

Jan. – Fairness

Feb. /Mar. – Respect

Apr. – Trustworthiness

May – Caring

June – Fairness