

THE PILOT

November NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of Mr. Giertz



Hello all and hope you had a wonder November. As we have made adjustments over the last couple of months to our school day, our students and staff have smoothly transitioned into routines that we will see through the month of December. We could not have done this transition effectively without the support and understanding of our parents and community. Parents, I thank you deeply for your efforts in helping us keep Milton Pope moving along and keeping our children as safe as we possibly can.

As we look forward to December, we will continue to look at our eLearning status and strive to create learning that is more effective. We will again address how our status with in-person is progressing, as well as, how COVID-19 will possibly affect our hours of educating in person. It is

our goal to get students' back to a full time status here as we enter into the New Year but we will continue to evaluate our numbers with staff and student attendance as that approaches.

When you have time, you may go on to our 'FYI' page of the school website and read our letter that many area schools are asking parents to help with in keeping their families safe well beyond the Thanksgiving break. We really do have two number one goals, and that is to keep our staff and students safe and to educate them the best we can with the time we have here. We appreciate everything our community and parents stand for and wish you all the best as our holidays approach.

Have a great December!

Sincerely,

Mr. Giertz

Upcoming December Activities/Dates

3rd November SOTM Winners!

16th Board Meeting @ 6:30

14th-17th K-5th Christmas Bazaar

Dec. 18th- Jan.3rd Christmas Break!

**Teacher Spot Light of the
Month**



This month's spotlight focuses on Mrs. Coleman, our 3rd grade teacher and Mrs. Fleming, our Jr. High English and Social Studies teacher.

Ms. Coleman writes:

Third Grade News

The third grade class has been working hard on learning what it means to multiply and divide. We have used models to make equal groups, drawn arrays; skip counted, and used related facts. Multiplication and division are always exciting new concepts in third grade.

Another focus in the month of November has been writing a narrative essay. We chose a true story that we wanted to tell about ourselves. After brainstorming, we began writing. The introduction paragraph started with a catchy "hook" sentence to grab the reader's attention. We are also talking about using transition words, dialogue, and descriptive language throughout the four-paragraph essay. We will finish our narrative essays by typing them and adding a clip art picture. This is quite an accomplishment for a third grader!

The class has been working hard this year on listening, writing neatly, and learning new things. I look forward to seeing what else we can conquer throughout the year!

Ms. Coleman

Ms. Fleming writes:

It is very quiet at Milton Pope in the Junior High wing. You only hear the masked hush as the Junior High teachers silently and safely whisk their teacher carts from classroom to classroom. The blue glare of the computer screen of those who are remote learners cuts into the overhead bright white lights to make our classrooms complete with everyone present and accounted for. Yes, November has been another unpredictable month for 8th grade. We completed the Illinois Constitution, but unfortunately were not able to go on the trip to Springfield due to the virus. It has been difficult to stay looking on the bright side, but despite all the pitfalls that 8th grade has experienced, they are still a positive group. We are all hoping that tomorrow will be better.

We are all awaiting the decisions of IESA to see exactly where we stand on extracurricular activities. Keep your fingers crossed that some positive ideas come our way soon. Until we know where we are headed, we just keep up the good fight. The 8th graders will learn as much as they can as quickly as they can, because they all know that their Milton Pope days are few and high school looms in the near future. Hanging out with their friends is complicated but they look forward to coming to school every day at least to see their friends for a little while. It is as important as their schoolwork because their time is so precious.

Someday we will look back on these days like our parents and grandparents looked back at the Great Depression. I am sure you will agree we are ready for these days to be in our past right now. Stay safe.

Ms. Fleming

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. The team has been very busy building school spirit and Pilot pride throughout our district.

The month of November, we took a short break from some of the activities that our students love to compete in. Once we come back from Thanksgiving break, we will begin to plan our December “Christmas Crazy Attire” week that we all love to participate in before Christmas break.

Below, you find our upcoming months focused themes as we move through the school year.

Dec. – Crazy Christmas Days

Jan. – “Caught Being Good”

Feb. - Crush Pop

March- Literary Night

Apr. – Pancake Breakfast

May – Field Day



November S.O.T.M. Winners

K- Nora Maierhofer

1st- Will Rohr

2nd- Carly Stoudt

3rd- Damon Witte

4th- Aubrey Carrera

5th- Kendall Read

6th- Piper Stenzel

7th- Lila Coleman

8th- Lillia Muffler