



THE PILOT



Milton Pope Pilots November NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of Mr. Giertz



Hello all and hope you had a wonder Thanksgiving Break. As we shovel into December, take note that this year we made sure our 2nd quarter was to end before the Christmas break. So, help push along your student to keep this last month just as important as any.

Want to give special thanks again to our MPCC for providing us with the upcoming Christmas Bazaar, as well as, a special thanks to Erin Stuedemann for directing and organizing her last Bazaar. Erin has been a tremendous asset to the MPCC and organizing the Bazaar is quite the undertaking. Without a doubt, many others play a vital role in the set up but taking the lead role in this is quite the task. So, thank you again Erin!

Want to remind our parents that the upcoming month has our Band and Chorus concert as a featured event. The date for the

concert is Dec. 12 @ 6:30. It is quite concert, so for those who have not partaken in this event before . . . mark your calendars!

Have a great December!

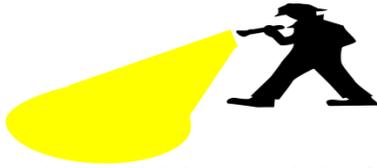
Sincerely,

Mr. Giertz

Upcoming December Activities/Dates

- 1st 6 BBB @ Wallace Tour. TBD
- 3rd 5/6 BBB @ Home 5:00
- 4th 7/8 BBB @ Home 5:00
- 5th 5/6 BBB @ Home 5:00
- 6th 5/6 BBB @ Oglesby 5:00
7/8 BBB @ Marseilles 5:00
Articulation Day (Dismissal at 2:30)
- 10th 5/6 BBB @ Wallace 5:00
- 10th Community Club Mtg. @ 6:30
- 11th 5/6 BBB @ Home 5:00 (Make Up Game vs. TCA)
- 12th Christmas Concert @ 6:30
- 13th 5/6 BBB @ Home 5:00
Articulation Day (Dismissal at 2:30)
Band/Chorus Field Trip
- 17th 5/6 BBB @ Waltham 5:00
- 18th 6/7/8 BBB @ Cornell 5:00
- 19th Board Meeting @ 6:30
- 19th Christmas Bazaar
- 20th 7/8 BBB @ Home 5:00 (8th Grade Nigh vs. TCA)
- 20th Articulation Day (Dismissal at 2:30)
- 21st 2:00 Dismissal
- Dec. 22nd-Jan. 6th Christmas Break!

Teacher Spot Light of the Month



This month's spotlight focuses on Mrs. Francis, our Music and Chorus teacher and Mrs. Fleming, our Jr. High English and Social Studies teacher.

Mrs. Francis writes:

MUSIC ROOM NEWS

General music and chorus continue to flourish in our mobile classroom this fall! So far, students in K-5 have some or all of the following, depending on their grade: sung songs (some rounds, and some in two part harmony); improvised lyrics; found a steady beat; read grade-appropriate rhythms; played rhythm sticks, boomwhackers, egg shakers, and/or instruments from Ghana; danced; played musical games; sung by themselves... not to mention prepared music for our upcoming Christmas Program! Music education is alive and well at Milton Pope!

This year's Christmas Program is on Wednesday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. Please remember that chorus students need to arrive to warm-up at 5:30 p.m. and K-5 students need to be in their classrooms at 6:15 p.m. Please also remember that *the gym will not be open until 6:00 p.m.* so that the chorus may warm up on stage. In order to be fair to all families, *please do not reserve seats ahead of time.* Students should wear dress clothes for the concert. These must follow the Milton Pope dress code.

As always, if you have any questions about general and vocal music, do not

hesitate to call me at 815/357-8151 or email me at hfrancis@miltonpope.net. It is a joy making music with your children!

Mrs. Fleming writes:

On November 9th, the eighth grade accompanied by Ms. Fleming, Mrs. McCloskey, and Mrs. Ludwig took off for Springfield, Illinois. An amazing tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum was our first stop, which included a special exhibit of four United States Presidents that had a connection with Illinois. This year is the 200th anniversary of Illinois as a state so there were several special items on display to commemorate this special moment in time. We proceeded to the Illinois Capitol building with a tour and a special tour in the Senate Chamber by LaSenda, a staff member of our local Senator, Sue Rezin. We departed and left to explore the Old State Capitol building. The students heard some amusing stories about pigs in the street in Springfield.

We kept on traveling on the beautiful, crisp fall day with the snowflakes flying to Lincoln's tomb where we explored so much symbolism that it made our heads spin. Our tour guide pointed out an amazing statue of Lincoln that is seated, but the shadow appears to be standing. She told us..."Mr. Lincoln is still standing up for his country." After the traditional rubbing of Lincoln's nose on the much bigger than life size bust of Lincoln for luck, we had a very short walk around the War Memorials and explored the solemn and dignified way Springfield honors our fallen veterans.

After a short meal at McDonald's outside of Springfield, we traveled home. Pretty sweet to see all of that with a great bunch of students. Some of what they witnessed must have made an impression on

them because all of the eighth graders passed their Illinois State Constitution Test. Congratulations 8th graders!

forth to make our community feel taken care of. Thank you again!

Sept.- Friday Spirit Wear

Oct. – Red Ribbon Week

Nov. – Door Decorations/Canned Good Donations

Dec. – Crazy Christmas Days’

Jan. – Hot Chocolate Read Aloud

Feb. - Penny War Donations

March- Pancake Breakfast

Apr. – Poetry Month

May – Field Day

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. Last month we focused on supporting our local food pantry by having a canned food contest. **The 7th grade class won the monthly contest by donating over 190 cans for the month. Congratulations 7th Grade!**

Next month, we will be doing our yearly Crazy Christmas Days. Students' will get to enjoy the last week of school before Christmas break by wearing their favorite sporting gear, winter outfits, crazy socks, and many more fun items. Like always, we are so thankful for the pouring of gifts and care our students', staff and parents put

