

*Mustang Minute: December 18, 2015*

**Next PBIS Raffle: Student Fast Pass (Front of the line all week)**

As we approach Winter Break, I would like to first take this opportunity to wish each of you and your families a most happy, healthy holiday season! I hope that you will have a chance to relax and enjoy some special times with your children. I am so proud of how hard they have been working each and every day! One of our school-wide goals this year is to help our students become stronger writers. Perhaps your children might like to write in a "vacation journal" about some of the fun things that they do while away from school next week! We would love to read all about their "adventures!" Continue to find time to read, but make it enjoyable.

**Read to Succeed:** The Six Flags Read to Succeed program has begun! Everyone is able to earn a FREE ticket to Great America if they read for a total of 6 hours, complete a reading log, and return it to their teacher by February 24th. Reading logs are available from classroom teachers and can also be downloaded from the Virtual Backpack on the Millburn website. What a great reward for some hard work!

**Math Challenge:** Math Challenge #6 is in this week's backpack! You have some extra time to work on it since answers are not due until January 7<sup>th</sup>. Find some time to work on these with the family over break!

**Book Challenge:** Our official count is 4,567 books read so far. It has been a great week. We discovered many of our teachers have been reading books and we haven't been counting them, therefore a big increase this week with adding those books to the total. We still need to get to 6,000 by the end of the month to stay on pace!!

[Book Challenge](#)

#### PTO News

The Millburn PTO Board would like to take the time to reflect on our year so far and send out a huge THANK YOU to all of our volunteers and our 345 members. We could not accomplish all that we do without your help, support and volunteer hours. If you are not a member, please join or contact us at [www.millburnpto.com](http://www.millburnpto.com).

What has your volunteer hours and/or fundraising participation done for the district?

- Funded over \$8000 for Student Field Trips at MES and MMS
- Provided NOVEL IDEAS Assembly at MES
- Purchased Therapy supplies for the SOCIAL WORK Department
- Purchased an ADA swing for the playground at MES
- Provided funds for an AUTHOR VISIT/BOOK SIGNING at MES
- Purchased writing easels for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms
- Provided volunteers and supplies for 31 Halloween parties in MES Classrooms
- Provided Halloween DJ Surprise during all recesses at MMS
- Hosted Halloween Family Fun Night at MES
- Hosted TWO Activity Nights at MMS
- Hosted FALL FEST at MES
- Provided a Surprise Popcorn Party for 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- Offered a Fall SPIRIT WEAR Sale
- Hosted 7 Staff Appreciation Events at MES
- Hosted 4 Staff Appreciation Events at MMS
- Provided a \$30 Stipend for each Staff Member to spend at Brainstorm
- Hosted Fall Book Fair at MES providing \$7800 in book for the MES Media Center
- Hosted Fall Book Fair at MMS providing \$5000 in books for the MMS Media Center
- Issued first version of the PTO Directory

How does the PTO pay for all of this? With your Fundraising Participation! Here's what you helped raise!

- \$5670 from Kidstuff Coupon Books
- \$1851 from Box Tops
- \$6591 from Fall Kids Resale
- \$6143 from World's Finest Chocolates

Many THANKS to all who helped in any way possible! We look forward to more success in 2016! May you have a wonderful holiday break!

Fondly,

Millburn District 24 PTO Board

Lisa Griesser-MMS President, Rimi Singh-MES President, Alicia Keys-MMS Vice President,  
Marci Simmons-MES Vice President, Suzanne Pursell-Secretary, Janis Moore-Treasurer

If I can be of any assistance or if you have questions, please contact me at [bwalshire@millburn24.net](mailto:bwalshire@millburn24.net) or (847) 356-8331.

Mr. Ben Walshire  
Millburn Elementary Principal

**December**

21-Jan 1 Winter Break

**January**

6<sup>th</sup> 1:00 Early Release

13<sup>th</sup> Concert Band II/Beginning Band Performance @ 7:00PM (East Gym)

15<sup>th</sup> No School- Teacher Institute Day

18<sup>th</sup> No School- Martin Luther King Jr Holiday

**\*Remember to view the Millburn Elementary calendar online to find all the events and activities.**

**Virtual Backpack:**

**Math Challenge #6**

**Lake Villa Library Info**

**Newport Fire Pictures with Santa Flier**

**Link to Virtual Backpack:** <http://www.millburn24.net/parents.cfm?subpage=1225444>