

Mustang Minute: January 20, 2017

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Respect Question: What Does Respect Look Like On The Playground?

Spelling Bee: MES had its annual spelling bee on Thursday. 22 classroom champions competed over a course of almost two hours. The winner of the 2017 MES Spelling Bee is 4th Grader Kristen Tenoso. Runner-up is Jayashri Madan. Kristen will now compete at the Lake County Spelling for a chance to move to nationals. Great job to all of our spelling bee participants!

Creative Writing Club: Mrs. Lafferty is hosting a spring session of The Creative Writing Club for Millburn's 4th and 5th graders! Students will meet once a week for ten sessions and will participate in writing activities and forums that go outside the boundaries of regular academic or technical forms of writing.

Creative Writing Club will be held after school at 2:40-3:40 on Wednesdays and will begin on February 22nd. If interested, please fill out the Activity Form you can find on the Millburn website and return it to your child's Homeroom teacher.

Recycling/Trash Free Fridays: Millburn has begun a recycling project during lunches in the cafeteria. Students are being encouraged to recycle their lunchtime garbage, and after just two weeks of the program, are already making a BIG positive impact in our environment.

Beginning next week, Millburn will hold "Trash Free Fridays!" Students who bring a cold lunch to school are encouraged to bring their food and drink in reusable containers every Friday. Our long term goal is for students to become motivated to bring trash free lunches every day of the week. Thank you for your support in this endeavor!!

Read to Succeed: Just a reminder that there is still time to participate in the Read to Succeed program. Read for a total of 6 hours, complete a reading log, and hand it in to your teacher before February 24th to earn a FREE ticket to Great America! Extra reading logs can be found in the Virtual Backpack. This year, you can also help your teacher earn a free ticket! If 8 or more students in the class participate, your teacher will also earn a free ticket to Great America! What a great reward and all YOU have to do is read!

Literacy Night: We are in the planning stages of having Literacy Night once again at Millburn Elementary. This night is designed to celebrate literacy. Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 2 from 5:30-7:30. More information will be provided in the coming weeks. Hope to see you there!

PARCC Testing: We are still a few months off, but the state assessment, PARCC, is approaching. This assessment will be administered to students in grades 3rd-5th (here at MES). Students will be taking 7 tests total (4 Math, 3 English/Language Arts). Therefore, there will be a total of seven days (1 assessment per day) of testing from March 7-15. If you would like to learn more about this assessment, visit the website below:

<http://www.parcconline.org/about/the-parcc-tests>

Recess Volunteers: Recess Volunteers wanted. Is winter your favorite time of year? Do you enjoy being outside regardless of cold temperatures and snow? If you answered yes and are willing to help out all students on both outdoor playgrounds from 11AM until 12:20PM, WE NEED YOU! Recess volunteers can

choose to help one day a week, one day every other week or even one day each month. Please contact Recess Volunteer Coordinator, Tracy Behnke at tracybehnke@hotmail.com with any questions or sign-up information. Thanks!

Millburn Madness: Millburn Madness is just 5 Weeks Away!

We are so excited about this year's event on Saturday, February 25 at Austin's Fuel Room in Libertyville. All of the profits from this event will go directly to our schools, so we hope to have a record breaking turnout this year! Millburn Madness starts at 6:00 pm with our awesome silent auction items, some great food from Austin's, a free drink and time to mingle with other Millburn parents. We will have our live auction at 8:00 pm and then enjoy a private concert by The Breakfast Club. NEW THIS YEAR - if we raise \$1,500 in our "Administrators Sing Karaoke" fund, then Dr. Lind, Mr. Jorgenson and Mr. Walshire will sing karaoke with the band!! Get your tickets for \$40 each before February 13 at www.mef24.schoolauction.net/millburnmadness.

In early February, we will open our online auction of Millburn staff donated items AND all of the grade level projects so watch for an announcement about when that will open - it will only be open for one week this year!

Please contact Valerie (Valerie.Powley@sbcglobal.net) if you have any questions, would like to donate an item to our silent or live auction or would like to donate your time to help make this event a success. Thank you for your support of the Millburn Education Foundation!

MEF Scholarship: The Millburn Education Foundation will be offering three scholarships again this school year. Please see the backpack for more information regarding the scholarships. If you have any questions, please contact Meghan Konicki at mkonicki@millburn24.net.

Amazon Smile- Are you an AMAZON shopper? If the answer is yes, then you can support the Millburn Education Foundation while you shop on Amazon. Follow these simple steps to start having a portion of your purchase go to the Millburn Education Foundation.

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>.
2. Login with your Amazon account information.
3. Pick your charitable organization: **Millburn School District 24 Education Foundation.**
4. Happy shopping!

Next time you shop on Amazon, login through Amazon Smile to support the Foundation. The charitable organization will already be saved in your account. Thanks for your support!

PTO News

PTO MEETING!! Thanks to all who attended our PTO Meeting this week! It's great to have the support and to share ideas! Our next meeting is March 15 at 9am at MES. The PTO Board would like to give a huge THANKS to Margaret Muscia for taking the meeting minutes for us!!

8th GRADE FAREWELL CELEBRATION!! All 7th grade parents are invited to our KICK OFF MEETING, January 26th at 7pm at MMS in the LRC. The 8FC is a treasured Millburn tradition when the 7th grade parents and students plan a celebration for the 8th graders and their parents. We are accepting THEME ideas from 7th graders NOW! Please see flyer in the virtual backpack!

BOX TOPS!! We are off to a great start with our Box Tops program! Thank you so much for taking the time to clip those Box Tops! They really do make a difference. So far, we have collected **14,933 Box Tops** which means **\$1,489.30** in **FREE** money for Millburn!

Please keep on clipping! Our next Box Tops Collection Sheet will be going home later this week. The November Box Tops are due back **Friday, January 20th, 2017**.

Check out the Box Tops App! It's a great way to earn extra Box Tops (and money) for the school. If you use the Box Tops app and want your student to get credit for the Box Tops earned, please take a screen shot of your activity on the app and email it to Denise Ide at boxtoplabels@millburnpto.com

For every Box Tops collection sheet (complete with 25 Box Tops) that you send in, your child will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 Target gift card. If you don't have enough to fill a sheet, please send in what you can in a baggie with your child's name on it. Every Box Top helps! If you need extra collection sheets, they can be printed out from the virtual backpack. If you have Campbell's Labels 4 Education labels, please put those in a separate baggie with your child's name on it. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Denise Ide at boxtoplabels@millburnpto.com

MMS ACTIVITY NIGHT!! The next **Middle School Activity Night** of the year is **Friday, January 27th**. The theme is "**Luuu**". Students may choose to dress in hopes of bringing on warmer weather with their finest beach party gear. This is a chance for them to be creative, however, please adhere to the dress code regarding short/skirt length, no masks, and no showing of any undergarments. Failure to abide by these rules will result in the student being asked to return home to change.

Back by popular demand: NITRO BALL!!!

Activity Night Volunteers Needed! Have you ever wondered what your middle schooler could possibly be thinking? Are you having a hard time remembering what it was like to be in middle school? Let us bring you back to the good old days (without any weird Freaky Friday moments)! Join us, **Friday, January 27th** for a night of crazy, chaotic fun (without phones or electronics)! We can use all the help we can get: serving up food & drinks to the masses, and just watching all the rooms of activity. Are you brave enough? If so, contact Denise Ide at activitynight@millburnpto.com

MES FAMILY FUN NIGHT!! Come out for some family fun and get some exercise this winter at Bella's Skate on Grand, open only for Millburn School. The PTO is hosting our first ever Family Fun night at the roller rink on Thursday, February 9th from 530-730pm. No need to worry about dinner, take a break and have some pizza, there will be a family meal deal available, details to come. Please pre-pay and register in advance, detailed flyer in the backpack. If you have any questions, please contact Kandi Silk at familyfunnight@millburnpto.com. Thanks!!

WENDY'S DAYS!! Our local Wendy's was bought by a corporation and our fundraising opportunities have changed. We used to get 15% from 5-8pm. Now we can earn 30% from 10am-10pm, **BUT WE MUST SHOW THE FLYER** to earn the credit! Please keep a snapshot on your phone to show the first two Tuesdays of every month. We have added it to virtual backpack as well so that you can always pull it up! Thanks for your support!

Upcoming Events: BOX TOPS DUE 1/20, MMS ACTIVITY NIGHT 1/27, MES FAMILY FUN NIGHT 2/9, WENDY'S DAYS 2/7 & 2/14

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

Mr. Ben Walshire
Millburn Elementary Principal

January

25th Winter Band Concert at 7PM (East Gym)
27th PBIS PARTY Day

February

1st 1:00 Early Release
10th Valentine's Celebrations
22nd Talent Show Rehearsal

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

Virtual Backpack:

MES Family Fun Night

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