



Mustang Messenger

October 2017

Milam Elementary

Important Dates In October

- October 3 - Fundraiser Orders Due
- October 6 - End of First Grading Period/
Early Release Day
- October 6 - Spirit Day (wear red)
- October 9 - School Holiday
- October 13 - Spirit Day (wear pink)
- October 17 - Spirit Day (1990's style)
- October 23 - 27 is **Red Ribbon Week**:
 - October 23 - Wear Blue Jeans
 - October 24 - Wear Sunglasses
 - October 25 - Wear Mismatched Shoes
 - October 26 - Wear Crazy Socks
 - October 27 - Wear Red Clothes
- October 30 - November 3 - Book Fair

Principal – Gilberto Lozano

I enjoyed the opportunity to visit with many of you at our recent Open House. It is amazing to hear how quickly our families bounce back after being impacted by the storm. Please do not hesitate to contact the counselor, Maureen Nelson, or me if there is anything we can do to help your family.

Our first grading period ends on October 6 and report cards will go home soon after. During the second grading period, our teachers continue to challenge ALL students by providing innovative lessons. Students collaborate in small groups to solve complex problems in math. They spend extended time emerged in independent reading. Students are reading quality literature from their classroom or school library. Writer's Workshop happens daily in all our classrooms from Pre-Kindergarten to Fourth Grade. Our staff is committed to ensure that every student excels daily.

Nurse - Brandi Sandefer

Sleep

Did you know that children ages 5-12 need 10 or 11 hours of sleep a night? If you don't get enough sleep your brain doesn't function normally, you can have a difficult time performing usually easy tasks, and your immune system can even be affected! The following are some tips to help make sure you and your child are getting enough sleep.

- Try to go to bed at the same time every night.
- Follow a bed time routine that helps your body relax and get ready for sleep.
- Limit foods and drinks with caffeine, especially in the evening time.
- Don't have a TV in the bedroom. If you do, turn it off when it's bedtime.

Counselor - Maureen Nelson

October is National Bullying Prevention Month

Every October, school and organizations across the country observe National Bullying Prevention Month. The goal is to encourage communities to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on all children of all ages. Milam students and staff will participate in observing National Bullying Month in the following ways:

- The focus of all classroom guidance lessons will be bullying. Emphasis will be placed on learning the components of bullying and how the witness/bystander and target of bullying can stop/prevent bullying.
- Each Monday during October we will wear blue in honor of the Blue Shirt World Day of Bullying Prevention.

Red Ribbon Week

The Red Ribbon Week theme is "United We Stand Against Bullying and Drugs". As parents and citizens, please talk to your children about the dangers of drugs. Also, set clear rules for your children about not using drugs. Ben Milam students and staff will participate in daily Red Ribbon Week activities. Check the Milam calendar for the daily activities.

Specials

- In the month of October our 3rd and 4th Grade students will start participating in the Fitness Gram Test. Students will be tested on the following skills: Shoulder Stretch, Curlups, Push ups, Pacer and Trunk Lift. All scores will be recorded and parents are able to view these items by logging into their Parent Access account. Please remember that all students are required to wear tennis shoes to PE.
- All of our Milam students have started working on their first art projects of the year! Next up...western art!
- October is a busy month in music class! 3rd grade students are preparing for the Winter Musical, "Catch the Holiday Spirit." It will be presented Thursday, December 7 at 6:00pm! All 4th graders will receive information about purchasing a recorder. 4th graders who already have a recorder may begin bringing it to the music room. Choir will begin on October 16 for the 4th Grade Milam Choir Members! Please watch for more information!

Kindergarten

We are so excited to be learning our letters, sounds and sight words to begin to read! We have been working on numbers and comparing them with many activities and working with math tubs. We have been learning about good citizenship and our five senses. So many fun things are happening in our classes! Please make sure your student is doing homework every night. Kindergarten is the time to start that good habit of getting assigned work done each night. Please continue to read every day with your student.

1st Grade

We are off to a good start in First Grade! We will be busy working on plot and retelling with fiction and fairy tales for Language Arts. For Writing we will be working on developing stories while using correct capitalization and punctuation when writing personal narratives. For Math we will be working on place value to 20 and geometry (2D and 3D shapes). We will continue counting forward and backward up to 120. For Science we are finishing up with changes in matter and then we will be learning about heat and light energy. In Social Studies we are learning about maps and globes.



2nd Grade

Happy Fall Y'all! Second graders are falling into great books as we enjoyed our Read for a Better Life Kickoff last month. Let's not stop there! Let's keep up the reading at home and at school. As we read, we are also writing stories of fun experiences we've had. These are our personal narratives. In Writing, we have learned how to record our ideas into a "tiny moments" notepad and pull these out when we are ready to write a new piece. In Math, students are adding and subtracting bigger numbers. We are memorizing our partners to ten and doubles. Remind your students to bring in any coins they may find to support our financial literacy program. This will fund books for your student at our Fall Book Fair. See you in November!

4th Grade

Fourth grade has been busy this year. In math, we just wrapped up a unit on decimals, and now we are working on addition and subtraction. Remind your students to practice their multiplication and division facts each night. In reading, we are beginning a unit of study on the genre of poetry. The students will get to share their opinions in their expository essays during writing. Our social studies unit is focusing on the Native Americans in Texas. In science, students will be learning about different forms of energy. Thank you for your support!

3rd Grade

There are so many amazing things happening in third grade already! We are working hard on writing procedural and personal essays in writer's workshop. The students have been reading about informational and expository text and will soon begin learning about poetry. In math we are beginning our addition and subtraction unit and learning how to solve word problems. We will also continue graphing throughout the school year. We are learning how communities have changed in social studies, and in science we will begin exploring mixtures and forms of energy.

Library

We are up and reading in the Milam library! We had an awesome response to our "Read for a Better Life." The students loved the Bingo reading game, and we had a wonderful turnout with lots of parent volunteers. Congratulations go out to the grade levels that won the Popsicle Parties for having the highest participation: Kindergarten, and 3rd and 4th grade (who tied!) Thank you so much for your participation!!

The Book Fair is coming up the week of October 30th with lots of fun activities in conjunction with Milam's Reading Night on November 2nd. Our 3rd and 4th grade students are starting on their "Milamopoly" boards and diving into the Bluebonnet Book program. Ask your child to tell you about the books they are reading and all the exciting things going on in our library

