



# Mustang Messenger

January 2018

Milam Elementary

## Important Dates In January:

- December 21-January 8 - Winter Holiday
- January 15 - Holiday - No School
- January 16 - Report Cards Go Home
- January 25 - STAAR Information Night  
(5:30 - 6:30)
- January 26 - Bluebonnet Books Voting  
Party
- January 30 - Honor Choir Rehearsal  
@CCHS

## Principal – Gilberto Lozano

We would like to welcome everyone back from the winter break and hope that you were able to enjoy the time to relax and participate in some memorable activities with family and friends. As we move into the second half of the 2017-2018 school year, we want to welcome any families who are new to Milam Elementary.

In looking ahead, students will return to school on Thursday, January 9 and we want to ask our families to be mindful of re-establishing the necessary routines to ensure that your students are in attendance and on time each morning to get each school day off to a great start. In addition to morning routines, we also ask our families to continue to be mindful of early dismissal habits as well. Although there are times when an occasional early dismissal is necessary for an appointment or urgent family need, early dismissals should be minimal as this loss of instructional time can certainly affect a student's academic progress. As always, we appreciate your support as our teachers and students strive to maximize their instructional time each day.

## Nurse - Brandi Sandefur

We are so excited to announce that Milam will be hosting a healthy kids fair with the help of Interfaith Community Clinic on February 24th, 2018. There will be free medical and dental screenings as well as fun activities and prizes. Be on the look out for more information as the date gets closer.

## Counselor - Maureen Nelson

Happy New Year to everyone! I am incorporating mindfulness techniques in my group sessions with students, and even in some form during classroom guidance lessons for the spring semester. To keep things simple, I am introducing the mindfulness topic in all Pre-K through 4th grade classrooms. The students will engage in three basic mindfulness activities.

1. **MINDFUL MOMENT:** We will practice keeping our bodies still and quiet while we listen to silence. The activity will begin with a chime sound and students will be challenged to listen to the chime as long as they can hear it, and then stay quiet for a while longer to listen to any sounds in the room. The students will share what they heard after the activity, and discuss if staying still and quiet was hard for any of them.
2. **DEEP BREATHING:** We will practice inhaling and exhaling for five counts each. Arms will extend outward while inhaling and relax inward upon exhaling.
3. **RELAXATION:** Students will listen to relaxing music while listening to a guided imagery exercise.

I am hopeful that this therapeutic technique of focusing one's awareness on the present moment, while calmly acknowledging and accepting one's feelings, thoughts and bodily sensations will enhance and add to our student's educational experiences here at Milam.

# Specials

- Don't forget to wear tennis shoes on your PE days.
- The C.I.S.D. Western Art Show will be on January 13th from 3:00-5:00 at Conroe High School 9th grade campus. All are welcome to come enjoy all of the fantastic C.I.S.D student artwork that will be on display.
- This month, all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will have the opportunity to learn to play the recorder during music! Please look for the letter about purchasing one. Students are allowed to borrow a classroom recorder. As a reminder, 4<sup>th</sup> grade choir members only have 3 more practices at Milam on Tuesday, January 9, Monday, January 22 and Monday, January 29. The 4th grade choir members have auditioned for a place in the Caney Creek Honor Choir Concert on February 1. More Honor Choir information will be coming!

# Kindergarten

I hope that everyone enjoyed their holiday break and got plenty of rest. We are excited to see the growth our students will make in the next few months until summer. We can not do it alone though. We need parent support to help with sight words, reading every night and practicing math skills like counting to 100, addition and subtraction. In the next few weeks we will be working on objects in the sky, reviewing rules, understanding subtraction, procedural and Informational writing and fiction books. We are super excited to start reading more and more with your child and by the end of the year they should be reading a level D or higher. Teachers will be setting goals with each student to achieve this. Thank you for all of your help and support!

# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Happy New Year 2018! We are at the beginning of the third period of this school year! All our students are working so hard to get ready for 2nd grade. During this month, the first graders will continue learning about Non Fiction Literature but they will also start learning about Fables. In Writing we are working on "How to" books. In Math we start working with Measurement, using nonstandard units. In Science we continue observing the moon and we will start learning about different types of Soil and Rocks. Please, remember that our students need to read every day at home. Thank you for your support.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Hey Second Grade! What will the new year bring? Reading more challenging books, solving more challenging math problems, and experimenting and exploring in Science and Social Studies. We hope everyone has had a restful break and we are looking forward to an awesome Spring semester!

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Fourth grade is off to a busy year. In Language Arts, we are learning about important people through reading biographies and autobiographies. The students are writing essays about important ideas they have. In math, we are continuing to work on multiplication and division. Science is focusing on renewable and nonrenewable resources. Reading daily will help your children to be successful in both reading and math. Please encourage them to spend at least 20 minutes a day with a good book!

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Welcome back from a relaxing and restful Winter Break! We are working on fiction in reading and personal narratives in writing. In math we are solving multiplication, division, and graphing problems. In social studies we are discussing how citizens change a community. In science we are working on landforms. Remember to continue great reading habits and practicing multiplication facts.

## Library

We are so proud of our third and fourth graders who read at least six new Bluebonnet books! We will have our Bluebonnet voting party on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Students will vote for the book they enjoyed the most and help pick the overall winner of the Bluebonnet Award for the state of Texas.

Second grade will be starting their Milam-Opoly boards at the end of January. They will be reading a variety of books from all around our Milam library as well as some special Texas 2x2 books, which are books that are chosen by the Texas librarians as the best books of the year for 2-year-olds to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. We can't wait to see your students read lots of great books this semester!

