



# Mustang Messenger

February 2018

Milam Elementary

## Important Dates In February:

- February 1 - Honor Choir Concert  
@ CCHS (6:00 pm)
- February 3 - Sci/Tech Fair
- February 6 - Progress Reports Go Home
- February 6 - STAAR Information Night
- February 13 - Author Visit - Jeff Savage
- February 19 - Holiday - No School!
- February 22 - Math Night
- February 24 - Healthy Kids Festival

## Principal – Gilberto Lozano

Happy New Year! We had a wonderful transition back into school and we are ready for a semester full of learning and growing. Keep informed of your child's progress by making contact with their teacher. Our classes are updating their literacy assessments this month and it is exciting to see their progress and make goals for the rest of the year. If you haven't already, make some school goals and/or resolutions with your children. Goal setting is proven to be a way to improve success in all ages of children. You can develop SMART goals together:

**S** = Specific, **M** = Measurable, **A** = Attainable, **R** = Relevant, Rigorous, Realistic, and Results Focused, **T** = Timely and Trackable

Learning how to frame goals as SMART can help you see an improvement in your child's work. Here is a practical example, starting with a typical, but not especially SMART, goal: *I will do better on my report card in the next marking period.* Here is a way to make it SMARTer:

*In the next marking period, I will get at least a B on all my math tests, and at least a B on most of my quizzes and homework assignments by focusing on my independent work and finishing my homework.*

## Nurse - Brandi Sanderfer

I am so excited to announce that with the help of Interfaith Community Clinic we will be hosting our first healthy kids fair here at Milam this month. The fair will be on February 24th from 9-12 with registration from 8:30-11:30. There will be medical and dental screenings, vaccinations, fingerprint kits, prizes, and lots of fun! The fair is for children ages 2-14 and there is NO COST to participate. We will be sending flyers home with more information. We hope to see everyone there!

## Counselor - Maureen Nelson

During the month of February, Milam Mustangs will be spreading kindness because KINDNESS is CONTAGIOUS! Studies have actually proven that positive effects take place in the brain of anyone who witnesses a kind act. This means if you do something kind, it will cause a domino effect and motivate other people to be kind as well. Did you know kindness increases energy and happiness while decreasing pain and stress? Be on the lookout for information in your student's Tuesday folder that shares how you can help us spread kindness this month!

# Specials

- Don't forget to wear tennis shoes on your PE days.
- Congratulations to the following students that were selected to participate in the C.I.S.D Western Art Show! Madison Code, Eric Vo, Kylie Martin, Jaxon Eskue, Carolina Caudillo, Kashona Gilbert and Selena Sarmiento.
- Congratulations to the Honor Choir students who were in the Caney Creek Honor Choir Concert! Thank you for all of your outstanding work and dedication! This month, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will continue learning to play the recorder. The 4th Grade Program is April 26! Please make sure all 4th graders have black pants/skirts and a white shirt for their performances! Thank you!

# Kindergarten

February is here! It feels like our children are growing so fast, and we still need a lot of parent help to continue to work on the skills that our kids need in order to be ready for 1st grade, we encourage them to read every day to reach our goal of level D or higher, practice counting more than 100, and make addition and subtraction problems. We also encourage you to practice the sight words with your student. In Social Studies we will be learning this month about Black History and we will be talking about our Presidents. In Writing, we will be making books, and in Science we will be learning about rocks and soil and living and nonliving things. While we still have time left in the year, we need to make every day count. Please continue working hard with us, as it will pay off and we will see our kids' success. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your children. We really appreciate your support and help!

# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

We are hard at work in first grade! In Reading, we'll be making inferences and drawing conclusions while reading literary non-fiction books. We'll also be learning about the structure and elements of fables. The students will continue to write "how-to" books in Writer's Workshop. In Math, students will be working on addition and subtraction problems with sums and differences to 15. We'll also continue to practice counting coins and counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s to 120. In Science, we'll be studying soil and rocks and how they both help make useful products. In Social Studies, we'll be studying Black History, Presidents and other influential leaders that have made an impact on our society.



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

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Hello Milam Parents! Second graders are staying warm at school because we are so busy working hard! In Math, we are measuring things and learning about units of measurement. We are getting ready to start learning about fractions. In Writing, students are beginning "All About Books" with chapters and features of nonfiction text. In Science, we are rocking along learning about rocks and our Earth. In Social Studies, students remember our Geography and looking at our own community and how it is ever-changing. In Reading, we have begun our middle of the year Reading Assessments to see how much our students have grown as readers! We incorporate reading in all subjects! Are you reading at home? Keep it going! Let's see how far we can go!

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

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Greetings third grade families! We have so many exciting things going on this month like an ice-cream party that students are working toward earning for mastering their multiplication facts! This is coming up soon, so please make sure to practice them daily. In addition to working on multiplication and division we will be working with fractions and geometry in math. In reading we are finishing up our unit on literary nonfiction and beginning our Informational Expository unit. In writing we are working towards publishing our Personal Narratives and will soon be writing letters and responding to reading. In Social Studies we have been learning about leaders in our community with primary focus on Black History Month, presidents and leaders, and Women's History. In Science we have a Sci//TECH event this month! We are learning about rapid changes in landforms and weather.

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

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This semester is flying by, and February is full of exciting things in Fourth. In Language Arts, the students are revising and editing their essays as we continue to prepare for the Writing STAAR. During Reading, we are learning about dramatic literature and having fun reading plays in class. In math, we are continuing to develop our skills in division and multiplication. We are also starting our Fractions unit this month. Please keep working with your child on fact families for division and multiplication. In Science, we are studying shadows, tides and changes in the patterns of the Earth. Thank you for continuing to support your students and make sure they are completing their homework each week.

## Library

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Wow! We had over **one hundred** third and fourth graders who read at least six new Bluebonnet books and were able to come to our voting party in January. Milam third and fourth graders chose the book The Great Pet Escape as their favorite Bluebonnet book of the year. The state of Texas will announce the winner of the Bluebonnet award in a few weeks!

Second graders will be starting their Milam-Opoly boards in February. Please encourage them to read books every day and ask them how they are doing on completing their Milam-Opoly boards. All second graders who complete their entire board will attend a popcorn party at the end of the year. We hope to see a lot of kids there!