



## Principal's Corner

### Reading Aloud

"I always stumble because I read too fast." "I'm afraid my child won't listen to me." "I was laughed at when I read aloud at school."

Do you have worries like these when you read aloud? You're not alone. Many parents avoid reading aloud to their kids. However, reading aloud is one of the best ways to help your youngster succeed in school. Keep these tips in mind:

\*Everybody makes mistakes. If you make mistakes when reading aloud, your children will learn that it's okay for them to do so too.

\*Practice makes perfect. Find a book that you like and read it aloud by yourself until you feel comfortable.

\*Involve your youngsters in the story. Have them turn the pages. Or read one line and let them read the following lines.

\*Take your time and don't rush the story. Your children can tell if you're in a hurry. Reading slowly will help you read clearly.

\*As you feel more comfortable, try changing your voice to show the characters' feelings-joy, sadness, fear. These variations can make the story more exciting for both of you!

\*Remember that you are helping your youngster learn to enjoy reading. Try different types of reading materials, such as comic strips and poetry.

Above all, try to relax and enjoy the time you're spending with your children!

\*\*Enjoy March, it's READING MONTH!\*\*

Mr. Bontrager



February 28th—March 4th will be our annual spring book fair at Miller.

Your child's class will be visiting our fair early in the week to check out the prize-winning books. During their lunch times, students are encouraged to

invite a special guest to join them for lunch and to visit the Book Fair and purchase their favorite books!

### Muffins with Mom

Join us once again for our annual Muffins with Mom on

**Wednesday, March 2nd.**

Last names beginning with A-K will start the morning at 7:15 having muffins with their students. Then be able to shop at the book fair.

Last names beginning with L-Z will start at the book fair and at 7:35 will be able to have muffins in the Café.

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**Wednesday, March 2nd**

**6:00 pm—7:30 pm**

Come and enjoy some ice cream then head on over to the Book Fair to purchase some prize-winning and thrilling books!

*We hope to see you all there!*

### FIRST ANNUAL READING ROCK-A-THON

This year the MES Staff and MES PTO are teaming up for a Reading Rock-A-Thon! We have asked every child to participate in this event to help raise money for technology updates and assemblies.

For every \$50.00 the students bring in they get their names put into a drawing for Four Tickets to Michigan Adventures.

Students will be Reading and Rocking during their special time on Thursday, March 3 and Friday, March 4.

\*\*\*We are still looking for a few more rocking chairs. If you are able to help us out with that please let Jill Miller know. *We need any size or style of rocking chair, even gliders.* You can contact her at [jill.miller@myeagles.org](mailto:jill.miller@myeagles.org) or 417-773-1959 cell or 517-529-7083 home!



**Nominate a Top Teacher Today for Jackson County**

**Show your appreciation for your TOP TEACHER!**

**See page 4 for more details!**



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# Columbia School District Miller Press



## ATTENTION PARENTS:

### Kindergarten Registration Packets are Now Available

If you have a student who will be starting Kindergarten in the fall and would like to attend the Columbia School District please pick up a registration packet in the Miller Elementary School office.

**There will be a Parent Only Meeting on  
Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 pm  
in the Miller Elementary Library.**

Columbia School District is proud to offer full day every day kindergarten classes.

Please bring the following items prior to or to the parent meeting:

- Your completed kindergarten packet
- Your child's Immunization record
- An original birth certificate  
(We will copy items for you)
- Proof of residency (phone, electric bill etc)
- Your child must be 5 years old by December 1st 2011



If you have any questions regarding Kindergarten registration please contact:  
Miller Elementary @ 592-2157 Pam Anderson—Secretary, Geoff Bontrager—Principal

\*To avoid standing in lengthy lines you may return your child's packet to the office anytime prior to the meeting.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Please Join us for Our Kindergarten Meet and Greet  
Tuesday, May 10th @ 1:30pm**

Please bring your incoming kindergartner to Miller on May 11th for a special Kindergarten Meet and Greet. Your child will be able to tour the school, meet our staff, climb aboard a school bus, play out on the playground and enjoy a snack in the cafeteria!

## QUIZ BOWL

The 3rd, 4th and 5th graders have been doing the Quiz Bowl on Fridays since January.

The Quiz Bowl promotes student academic growth in problem solving, critical thinking, and communication skills. The activity also provides motivation for students to excel in academics and it's just "FUN"! The winner at the end of all the Quiz Bowls of each grade level wins a pizza party from the PTO!

The Quiz Bowls are on the following dates, all are at 8:15 am in the cafeteria.

**March 4 - 3rd Grade  
March 11 - 5th Grade  
March 18 - 4th Grade  
March 25 - 3rd Grade**

Come on in and watch them in action!

The question to you is  
"Are you smarter then a 3rd, 4th or 5th grader"?

## 4th Grade Mackinac Trip

**Payment due:  
March 11**

## Mr. Howland's Music Class

Students studied the opera "Hansel and Gretel" with Mr. Howland in January for their "In the Spotlight" piece. The following FUN website tells the story of Hansel and Gretel, as well as featuring some of the music. Students get to navigate through the story and change character costumes, set designs, movements of the characters, etc.

<http://www.classicalkusc.org/kids/opera/index.asp>



**Make sure you check it out!**



## Spirit Wear Sale Coming Soon...

- April 11th-April 22th
- ⇒ Full Zip Sweatshirts
  - ⇒ T-shirts
  - ⇒ Sweat pants
  - ⇒ Shorts



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# Columbia School District Miller Press



## **Miller Elementary Spring Carnival March 18th 6-8:30pm**



### **It's time again for an evening full of family fun and games!!**

**\*Photo Booth**

**\*Games including Ring Toss, Bingo, Balloon Darts, At the Races, Beat the Dealer, Sucker Tree, Bubble Gum Bubble Blowing Contest and many more!**

**\*Huge raffle table including a Table/ Fire Pit, Patio Chairs, Michigan State and Michigan apparel, digital voice recording photo frame and many many more!**

**\*Silent Auction full of wonderful goodies**

**\*Tickets may be used to purchase food (Subway, Hot Dogs, Chips, Pop, Water, Cotton Candy)**

**\*\*Remember Friends and Family are welcome!**

**Advance tickets will be on sale during lunch March 14th-18th from 11:30 to 1:00 & again after school from 2:30 to 3:30.**

**Advance prices 5 for \$1.00.  
Tickets on sale at the door will be 4 for \$1.00.**

**There will be 3 entrances where you can buy tickets, upper and lower elementary front doors and lower elementary back door.**

**We are still in need of volunteers to help us run some of our games and other carnival jobs. If you would like to help us out, please contact Jill Miller at 417-773-1959 cell/517-529-7083 hm/  
[Jill.Miller@myeagles.org](mailto:Jill.Miller@myeagles.org)**

### **Helpful tips for an enjoyable carnival evening**

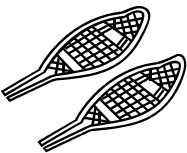









- Dress Comfortably – T-shirts and tennis shoes, it gets hot and you're on your feet most of the night.
- Leave your coat in the car or use our convenient coat check room.
- Make sure the toddlers in the family have a nap earlier in the day, it could be a long evening.
- Dress your child and yourselves in bright colors so you can easily identify each other.
- Set a meeting time and place for older kids to check in with you.
- *Leave stroller at home if possible-The hallways are very busy and there is not a lot of room to move around.*



# March 2011



**Miller is a bucket filling school! We fill buckets...No Dipping!  
Ask yourself, have you filled a bucket today?**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <b>SPRING BOOK FAIR</b> Math Madness 3:15-4:15  Happy Birthday Mrs. Bruntjens	2  Muffins with Mom 7:15am  Ice Cream Social 6pm	3  <b>Rock-A-Thon</b>	4  Quiz Bowl 8:15 3rd grade Think Energy Program 11-12 Brooklyn Elementary Mother/Son Event 6:00	5
6 Showshoe Day 	7 Daughters' and Sons' Day  CP Banking Day	8 Math Madness 3:15-4:15 Student of the Month 2pm International Pancake Day 	9 Get over it Day	10	11 Happy Birthday Mrs. Kelly Quiz Bowl 8:15 5th grade Popcorn Friday Hat Day	12 
13 Check your Batteries Day <b>Daylight Saving Time Begins</b> 	14 Happy Birthday Mr. Beamish  CP Banking Day	15  PWP 2PM	16 Absolutely Incredible Kid Day	17  <i>Happy St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 Quiz Bowl 8:15 4th grade   Carnival 6-8:30	19 National Chocolate Caramel Day! YUM!
20 Maple Syrup Day 	21 PTO Meeting 6 PM  CP Banking Day	22 As young as you feel day	23 National Puppy Day	24  Spring Picture Day Say Cheeeesee!!	25 Quiz Bowl 8:15 3rd Grade	26  Pistons vs. Pacers Fund-raiser Game 7:30pm
27 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day	28	29	30 Pencil Day 	31 <b>March is.....</b> Berries and Cherries Month, Music in our Schools Month, National Caffeine Awareness Month, National Craft Month, National Kits Month, National Nutrition Month, National Umbrella Month, Red Cross Month, Sign with your Child Month and Youth Art Month.		