

# Millersport Messenger

## News from Millersport Elementary

March 2015

Mrs. Angie Harrison  
Principal



<http://www.walnuttsd.org/es/>

## Principal's News

# End of Year Tests

### Upcoming Events

- ✓ April 3-April 6  
Spring Break
- ✓ April 7  
Classes resume
- ✓ April 8-  
Spring Picture Day
- ✓ April 14-  
Community  
Informational Levy  
Meeting, 7pm
- ✓ April 15-  
Market Day Pick-up
- ✓ April 17-  
Spring Fling
- ✓ April 21-  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade OAA
- ✓ April 22-  
Columbus Children's  
Theatre play, 2pm
- ✓ May 11 and 12-  
Kindergarten Screening  
for incoming  
kindergarten students
- ✓ May 14 and 15-  
Olympic Prelims
- ✓ May 20-  
Parent meeting for  
incoming  
kindergartners, 7pm,  
auditorium
- ✓ May 21 (Thursday)-  
Olympic Finals
- ✓ May 26-  
Olympic Finals Rain  
Date
- ✓ May 28-  
Last day for students,  
Early dismissal

Spring is when you feel like whistling even with  
shoe full of slush.

Doug Larson

Let Spring begin! The winter season has certainly been a challenge! Remember that the spring is jam packed with activities such as parties, assemblies, Junior Olympics, and other events. Please remember that our high expectations for student behavior will certainly continue. We consider the activities privileges and should be enjoyed by those who follow the rules and work hard in the classroom.

Unfortunately, due to the failure of our levy, our little school will be experiencing many cuts to services for children for this coming school year. We are losing our technology teacher and our librarian. These are two vital positions. PLEASE remember the importance of voting in May. The kids need you.

Enjoy time with your children this spring...if it ever gets here. Remember, my door is always open.

Angie Harrison, Principal

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Aimee Foltz and Holly Manifold, winners of The Columbus Children's Theatre Child Writing Project. Students were encouraged to write original stories, songs or poems using the theme, "Terrific Technology." Over a thousand entries were received. Twenty-one of those were selected to be adapted into a play. We are proud to announce that Millersport Elementary had TWO winners! We think this is a great testament to our little school! Props and costumes were created, sets were built, and the students' work was transformed into a professionally produced performance.

Aimee and Holly's winning stories will be performed throughout the state. The theater company is coming to Millersport Elementary on April 22 for a 2pm performance. All are welcome!

Congratulations!

**It seems that we just finished the mid-year online tests, and we are already preparing for the end of year tests.**

**Whether you are for or against the new state testing, there is little doubt you have strong feelings regarding them. I do not personally advocate for or against the tests, but I do think the tests are a great avenue to begin discussions towards educational reform. We need to be discussing how children with different learning styles and educational needs can best be educated. We need to be discussing the "unfairness" of state funding. Lastly, our discussions should include fair ways that students, teachers, and schools can be measured for effectiveness.**

**The business and medical worlds look at data all the time in order to determine the success of programs. I am not opposed to testing. Test results can be used as one measure to gauge effectiveness. They should not, however, be used as the only measure. In addition, the tests are very time-consuming. It seems that we could certainly spend the hours we spend testing...maybe, teaching? Our teachers are currently preparing feedback to the Ohio Department of Education and our state legislators. Both of these organizations also welcome parent input.**

**End of the year testing will take place during a two week period beginning April 27, 2015. Good breakfasts, calm mornings, and plenty of sleep all create a great beginning on a testing day!**



Columbus  
**Children's Theatre**

# Seven Ways to Encourage Reluctant Readers

Reading is a tremendously appealing, satisfying activity, and children will become hooked once the adults in their lives consistently build it into their daily schedules. The key is getting children started. The following seven strategies will help even the most reluctant reader become more enthusiastic about the endeavor. By employing the strategies described below, reading will become something that students do willingly, even eagerly, and the adults in their lives will not have to resort to trickery, bribery, manipulation, or any other tactic that will, at best, lead to temporary compliance. After all, we are all striving to make reading a joyous lifelong habit.

1. Start with your child's passions. Children will be more excited about reading when they can choose books or magazines related to their interests. This suggestion is far and away the most powerful one when it comes to encouraging those who are reluctant to read. When kids own the choice of what they will read, motivation increases significantly.
2. Make reading a social experience. Children who do not enjoy reading alone often enjoy reading with somebody else. Children can read with their parents, siblings, other relatives, and friends. Some children even start mini-book clubs and discuss books related to their common interests. Asking children to read to their younger siblings and cousins can powerfully impact their own motivation to read.
3. Read aloud to children. Many parents regularly read aloud to their children when they are very young, yet stop this activity as the kids get older. Parents should read aloud to children throughout the elementary grades. Doing so makes reading more enjoyable, improves listening skills, builds comprehension, lengthens attention spans, and grows the imagination.
4. Take advantage of new technology. Children who may not find books interesting may enjoy reading the same texts on smart phones, computers, and electronic readers, such as the iPad or Kindle. Technology makes everything seem cooler and more engaging to children, and we should capitalize on this fact when it comes to reading.
5. Be a role model to children. When children see their parents reading frequently, discussing what they have read, and carrying books around, they will value reading to a greater extent. The power of modeling cannot be underestimated.
6. Camouflage reading. Parents can increase the amount of time their children spend reading by subtly building the activity into other, seemingly unrelated activities. Examples include reading menus at restaurants, reading the directions to board games, and looking at various websites together. Children who may not yet enjoy reading for its own sake may enjoy it tremendously when it's incorporated into other engaging pastimes.
7. Be sure children read books that are appropriately challenging. Many times kids don't want to read simply because the books they encounter are too difficult. This seemingly obvious point is frequently forgotten. None of us want to encounter frustration, and we will go to great lengths to avoid experiences that make us feel this way. Appropriately challenging books are those in which students can fluently read approximately 95% of the words. Encountering a small number of difficult words can help children grow in their reading skills, but encountering too many of these words can interfere with fluency and lead to discouragement.

Commit to trying one or more these ideas to help your child become a more enthusiastic reader. Teaching the whole child means that we focus on developing children's academic skills, but just as important, we focus on children's attitudes about these skills. We want to raise children who read well and read because they want to do it, not because they have to do it.

Steve Reifman, Author

*Teaching the Whole Child*



# Green Kids

*Help us salute the following students who were on GREEN every single day of the third grading period. We are proud of you!!*

## Kindergarten

Logan Everhart-McMahon  
Josyah Finegan  
Bailey Harness  
Alli Hitchcock  
Zachary Kelly  
Breann Laughlin  
Mallory Rhoton  
Wyatt Stutske  
Ariana Thompson  
Sarah Whetstone

## 1st Grade

Kendyl Bonkowski  
Eric Braden  
Alicen Collins  
Thomas Cuyler  
Raygen Donnelly  
Rebecca Dymek  
Jayden Gillman  
Andrew Hill  
Ty Johnston  
Katelynn Kreher  
Ellie Lanning  
Sydney Littlejohn  
Colten Mason  
Brady O'Neal  
Justin Phillips  
Keanan Qurshi  
Jenna Schilling  
Izzy Shafer  
Darian Smith  
Jeffrey Smith  
Jack Workman\*

\*Jack was also ALL GREEN 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period and was left off the list.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Ethan Ailes

Harmony Atwood  
Raymond Barton  
Addison Beidel  
Meghan Bruckelmeyer  
Emalene Chevalier  
Haiden Clark  
Morri Doran  
Arianna Fleischer  
Madeline Kittle  
Wyatt Littlejohn  
Layla McComas  
Madelyn Miller  
Cynneace Urban  
Madelyn Winders  
Katelynn Young  
Hannah Zimmerman

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

Camron Allen  
Connor Ball  
Alexis Barch  
Olivia Beckwith  
Ayden Bidwell  
Emily Blevins  
Seanna Cook  
Olivia Everitt  
Allison Foltz  
Caleb Gallagher  
Tyler Large  
Zack Montgomery  
Kylee Morgan  
Alekszander Petrefski  
Veronica Rarey  
Elliott Rhoton  
Mayci Schiling  
Allyson Schwartz  
Kylee Shafer  
Ava Sharp

Nolan Solano  
Sara Voss  
Nadya Williams  
AJ Winders

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

Carter Budreau  
Amy Harrison  
Trey Johnston  
Alex Kelly  
Delaney Leonard  
Carson Miller  
Jordan Ross  
Alayna Thompson  
Megan Wiles  
Cooper Winders  
Natale York  
Hailee Young

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Carrie Carpenter  
Izabella Erlenbach  
Abigail Hetrick  
Addison Sharp

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Shane Baker  
Jacob Bruckelmeyer  
Mariah Curry  
Aimee Foltz  
Katie Hall  
Brooke Hurst  
Holly Manifold  
Mason Purvis  
Darren Reese  
Kendyl Schilling  
Ethan Severance  
Courtney Spencer  
Andrew Wamack

**All A Honor Roll**

**4th Grade**

MaKenzie Gossel-Smith  
Trey Johnston  
Delaney Leonard  
Hailee Young

**5th Grade**

Carrie Carpenter  
Tyler Hall

**6th Grade**

Christian Benedetti  
Jacob Bruckelmeyer  
Holly Manifold

**A/B Honor Roll**

**4th Grade**

Grace Beidel  
Sophie Bidwell  
Carter Budreau  
Cameron Cash  
Wyatt Collins  
Mandee Courts  
Amy Harrison  
Clint Hay  
Mariah Huntsman  
Alex Kelly  
Donnie Kendrick  
Mitch King  
Thorne Kovacs  
Angel Lehman  
Michael Levacy  
Zoe McClellan  
Carson Miller  
Lily Miller  
Kylee Muncy  
Noah Robertson  
Jordan Ross  
Hayden Schaffer  
Brantson Schilling  
Josie Slocumb  
Michael Smith  
Alayna Thompson  
Ben Whalen  
Cooper Winders  
Natale York

**5th Grade**

Leah Bernard  
Brooke Durbin  
Eian Cook  
Bailey Cotterman  
Haley Eiginger  
Arianna Eldridge  
Izabella Erlenbach  
Abbygail Hetrick  
Zebediah Loring  
Allie Maynard  
McKenzie Qurshi  
McKenzie Sager  
Kiley Sayers  
Addison Sharp  
Ellie Stoner  
Trevor Treinish  
Nate Turner  
Kayla Weekley  
Brilyn Wiley  
|

**6th Grade**

Veronica Atwood  
Shane Baker  
Megan Batson  
Naomi Carpenter  
Mariah Curry  
Gracie Demolet  
Adam Dupler  
Aimee Foltz  
Austin Games  
Audrey Goett  
Brooke Hurst  
Carter Purvis  
Mason Purvis  
Natalie Robertson  
Kendyl Schilling  
Rebecka Schilling  
Ethan Severance  
Sam Singleton  
Courtney Spencer  
Tate Treinish  
Andrew Wamack  
Miranda Warren-Martinez



WALNUT TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

# What Parents Should Know About Common Core

Today's students are preparing to enter a world in which colleges and businesses are demanding more than ever before. To ensure all students are ready for success after high school, the Common Core State Standards establish clear, consistent guidelines for what every student should know and be able to do in math and English language arts from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

The standards were drafted by experts and teachers from across the country and are designed to ensure students are prepared for today's entry-level careers, freshman-level college courses, and workforce training programs. The Common Core focuses on developing the critical-thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills students will need to be successful. Forty-three states, the District of Columbia, four territories, and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) have voluntarily adopted and are moving forward with the standards.

The new standards also provide a way for teachers to measure student progress throughout the school year and ensure that students are on the pathway to success in their academic careers.

Interested in learning more about the Common Core and the skills that students need to succeed? Go to <http://www.corestandards.org> and click on the link: What Parents Should Know.

## Check us out on Facebook



April 6- Deadline to register to vote (You can download a form from the Fairfield County Board of Elections website)

April 7- In-Person Absentee voting begins

May 5- Primary Election Day

Remember to vote!

