



# THE PILOT



## Milton Pope Pilots November NEWSLETTER

*From the Desk of Mr. Giertz*



Hello all and hope you had a wonder November. It has been a quick and productive month here at Milton Pope. Activities have kept our students and staff super busy while our Character Counts Crew has done an excellent job of promoting our theme of "Citizenship" throughout the month.

We also got to host and celebrate Veterans Day this year with our guest speaker Staff Sergeant John Finnegan. Students were able to perform class songs, poems and skits to show their patriotism and support for our veterans. We had an awesome turn out for the event and could not have done it without the help and support of our staff, students, parents and our MPCC members.

This month Milton Pope was the host of the IESA Speech contest where we had over 15 schools compete in and well over 400 parents and students make their way through the hallways. We could not have made this event happen without the help and support of the entire Fleming family as Mrs. Karen Fleming had her husband Wayne, daughters Jeannie, Anne and Sarah help run the concessions, hospitality, and judges' room for the contest. **THANK YOU FLEMING FAMILY!**

As we close out November and enter in a quick month of December, parents help to remind your student that the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter finish line is right around the corner. So, help us drive home that work ethic and do not hesitate to contact your students teachers' if you ever have any questions.

Have a great December!

Sincerely,

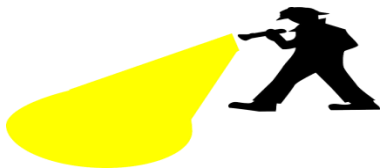
Mr. Giertz

### Upcoming December Activities/Dates

2 <sup>nd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> GBB Regionals Begin
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7/8 BB @ Home 5:00
4 <sup>th</sup>	5/6 BB @ Woodland 5:30
5 <sup>th</sup>	2:30 Dismissal (Articulation Day)
	5/6 BB @ Ransom 5:00

7/8 BB @ Wallace 5:00  
 6<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> BB Tourn. @ Wallace  
 7<sup>th</sup> BB Tourn. @ Mars.  
  
 7<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> BB Tourn. @ Wallace  
 7<sup>th</sup> BB Tourn. @ Mars.  
 9<sup>th</sup> 5/6 BB @ Home 5:00  
 10<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS CONCERT @  
 6:30  
 11<sup>th</sup> Marquette HS here for 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Graders  
 12<sup>th</sup> 2:30 Dismissal (Articulation  
 Day)  
 5/6 BB @ Home 5:00  
 7/8 BB @ Marquette 5:00  
 16<sup>th</sup> 5/6 BB @ Waltham 5:00  
 17<sup>th</sup> 5/6 BB @ Oglesby 5:00  
 18<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/Chorus Sing @  
 Nursing Home  
 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting @ 6:30  
 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Bazaar  
 2:30 Dismissal (Articulation  
 Day)  
 20<sup>th</sup> 2:00 Dismissal  
 Dec. 22<sup>1st</sup>-Jan.5<sup>th</sup> Christmas Break!

## Teacher Spot Light of the Month



This month's spotlight focuses on Mrs. Coleman, our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher and Mrs. Fleming, our Jr. High English and Social Studies teacher.

Mrs. Coleman writes:

### Third Grade News

November brings lots of turkey talk to third grade. The students were

asked to disguise a turkey with a costume in hopes of not being eaten for Thanksgiving. They wrote a clever sign to help with the disguise. Some of our undercover turkeys were dressed as a clown, Johnny Cash, a spy, and a box of popcorn. Third graders also wrote a persuasive essay, written as the turkey, to persuade the farmer to eat something else for Thanksgiving. We learned the 5-paragraph essay structure: introduction, 3 main idea paragraphs, and conclusion. Another activity that we do is to memorize some Thanksgiving poems to share with the lower grades before Thanksgiving break. Our two poems are titled "Turkey Day" and "I Ate Too Much". We will finish our turkey fun by working on a Mystery Science lesson to learn about the special parts of wild turkeys and to compare them to other birds. Third graders will get to make a "turkey gobble wobbler" that dances down a string using the ideas of friction and tension. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Coleman

Mrs. Fleming writes:

### Springfield Trip for 8th Grade

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, the eighth grade accompanied by Ms. Fleming and Mrs. Doloski took off for Springfield, Illinois. An amazing tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum was our first stop, which included a special exhibit that included one of the original Gettysburg

Address. (Lincoln was such a kind soul, when people asked for a copy that he would write on out. There are five known copies in existence and the one we saw was the “Everett copy”. The students had to do a little thinking in a question-answer portion from one of the actors portraying one of Lincoln’s cabinet members.

We proceeded to the Illinois Capitol building with a tour and a special tour in the Senate Chamber by Tara Horn, a staff member of our local Senator, Sue Rezin. We did not get the photographer on hand through because he was sick. At least we have proof that we were on the Senate floor!

We departed and left to explore the Old State Capitol building. Damon Hill was one of the featured speakers as he delivered the “House Divided” Speech. We kept on traveling on the beautiful, crisp fall day to Lincoln’s tomb where we explored so much symbolism that it made our heads spin. After the traditional rubbing of Lincoln’s nose on the much bigger than life size bust of Lincoln for luck, we had a very short walk around the War Memorials and explored the solemn and dignified way Springfield honors our fallen veterans.

After a short meal at McDonald’s outside of Springfield, we traveled home. It was a great day with a great bunch of eighth graders. All of this should help them with taking the Illinois State Constitution Test. Wish them luck when you see them.

## Character Counts



Our Character Counts Team continues to work at creating a culture of continuous character building and at increasing the level of positive behavior in the school environment. The team has been very busy building school spirit and Pilot pride throughout our district.

This month, we focused our efforts towards the yearly canned food/canned pet food drive to show our Acts of Citizenship to donate to our local Seneca and Marseilles pantries. We wanted to help our local food pantries during the holiday months, as well as, our animals. This month, we had several classes come out very strong early and have increased their donations drastically over the month. We will find out within the first week of December who comes out our top donating class. So, stay tuned and thank you again for all those parents and grandparents who have helped donate to the cause.

Below, you find our upcoming months focused themes as we move through the school year.

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**Sept. - Friday Spirit Wear**

**Oct. – Red Ribbon Week/Anti-Bullying Assembly/Boo Grams**

**Nov. – Food Pantry Drive/Pet Shelter Drive**

**Dec. – Crazy Christmas Days**

**Jan. – “Caught Being Good”**

**Feb. - Penny War  
Donations/Hoops 4 Hearts/Crush Pop**

**March- Literary Night**

**Apr. – Pancake Breakfast**

**May – Field Day**

**6<sup>th</sup>- Jonathan Neu**

**7<sup>th</sup>- Natalye McAndrew**

**8<sup>th</sup>- Ethan Sallee**



### **Student Of The Month Winners**

**K- Will Rohr**

**1<sup>st</sup>- Austin Crisman**

**2<sup>nd</sup>- Jackson Fort**

**3<sup>rd</sup>- Kyle Hedge**

**4<sup>th</sup>- Liam Muffler**

**5<sup>th</sup>- Gracie Polancic**