



Mills Moments

John Mills School

"...Going On..."
August 19, 2011



2824 N. 76th Avenue
Elmwood Park, IL 60707
www.epcusd401.org

Peter M. Herbert, Principal
Donna J. Kutrubis, Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Aug 23** Curriculum Night for All Grades (see below)
- Aug 24** Late Start, student entry at 9:12 a.m.
- Aug 26** Market Day Pick-up, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Principally Speaking

Mrs. Kutrubis and I would like to welcome all parents of returning students and new students to John Mills School. We're so happy to have your children and look forward to a great year.

At my "Back to School" assembly this week, I reviewed our Mills Pride Rules – **Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Ready**. These rules will be implemented throughout the school year while in the classroom, hallways, lunchroom, playground and to and from school.

On **Tuesday, August 23rd**, parents are requested to attend their child's Curriculum Night. There will be two sessions for each grade level - 7:00-7:30 p.m. and 7:30-8:00 p.m. - to enable you to go to more than one classroom if needed. It is very important that you attend to learn the grade level curriculum and expectations for this school year. **Curriculum Night is for parents only.**

Again, welcome to the 2011-2012 school year.

New Staff Members

We would like to welcome the following staff members who have joined us: Ms. Arias – 3rd Grade Teacher; Mrs. Collins – Enrichment Teacher; Ms. Coluzzi – Director of Reading; Ms. Conte – 2nd Grade Teacher; Ms. Herrera – ESL Teacher; Ms. Meyers – 1st Grade Teacher.

Government Free Breakfast/Lunch Program

If you would like to apply for this program, you must do it online at our website at www.epcusd401.org. If you do not have access to a computer at home, please contact the main office. After you apply, a letter will be sent home with your child indicating whether or not you have been approved. Until you receive the letter, you must pay for breakfast and/or lunch.

Entry/Exit Times

Every day but Wednesday, students will enter at 8:35 a.m. and will leave at 3:00 p.m. On Wednesdays, students will enter at 9:12 a.m. and leave at 3:00 p.m. There is no supervision before 8:20 a.m. every day but Wednesday. On Wednesdays outside supervision begins at 8:55 a.m.

Please note crossing guards are at their corners at 8:05 until 8:35 a.m.; on Wednesdays 8:45 until 9:15 a.m. and at 2:55 – 3:25 p.m.

Students are to go home after school and check in with their parents and not remain on school property.

Parenting Tips by Mrs. Kutrubis

Start the school year with successful habits...Research shows a link between parent involvement and student success. So plan to pitch in with school activities-right at home. This will require some self-discipline, but it will also set a great example for your child. Try to:

- Put priorities on the calendar, such as study time and school events.
- Stay nearby while your child does homework. He/she may need your support.
- Create routines. Read. Exercise. Go to the library. Have family meals.
- Talk with your child about school. Show your interest every day.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher. Attend open house and parent/teacher conferences.
- Be consistent. Use a daily and weekly schedule that works.

Picture Day

Picture Day is scheduled for **Thursday, September 1st**. Every student will be photographed regardless if they purchase a picture package. Please take time this weekend to look over the variety of packages being offered. The students must have their money envelope with them at the time the picture is taken if they are purchasing a package.

Student Information Handbook Packet

A large white envelope was sent home this week to all families in John Mills School. For families with more than one child in school, the envelope was given to the youngest student. The envelope contained the following items:

- John Mills Parent-Student Handbook
- **Sign-off sheet** for the Mills' handbook
Sign-off sheet for District Policies for Student Handbooks (Policies are on-line at www.epcusd401.org or in the main office for your review.)
- **Student Data Form** for you to look over and revise if needed.
- School magnet

All **three forms for each child** you have at John Mills must be signed and returned to the main office by **Monday, August 22nd**. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

John Mills Student Council

John Mills School will soon be conducting elections for Student Council Officers. Any 6th grade student who is interesting in running for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer must attend a meeting in room 201 on **Monday, August 22nd** from 3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Summer Reading Sure Pays Off!

Students who completed their summer reading requirement were rewarded today with a special gym time and a cool treat provided by the PTA. Congratulations to all our super readers!





Breakfast/Lunch Program

Breakfast and lunch will be served daily. Behavior in the lunchroom is expected to be appropriate. When students misbehave in the lunchroom they may be issued a detention.

If your child goes home for lunch you will need to come in and sign the child out and then bring the child back to school and sign him/her back in. **No student will be allowed to go home "alone" for lunch.**

Prices are as follows:

Children's Complete Lunch	\$2.40	Breakfast	\$1.25
Reduced meal	.40	Reduced meal	.30
Milk only	.50		

Lunch payments are to be made in envelopes with the student's name, room number, grade and amount enclosed written on the front. Your child's teacher will collect payments daily.

Student Name Homeroom Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Grade (Front of Envelope)
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BREAKFAST SCHEDULE

Grades 1 & 2 (in the cafeteria)

Every day but Wednesday	8:20-8:35 am
Wednesdays	8:55-9:12 am

Grade 3-6 (in the classroom)

LUNCH SCHEDULE

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>LUNCH</u>
1	11:45 – 12:15
2	11:35 – 12:05
3	12:15 – 12:45
4	12:25 – 12:55
5	10:55 – 11:25
6	11:05 – 11:35

District 401 Breakfast/Lunch Guidelines

Students need to maintain a positive account balance. Cash or checks made payable to Elmwood Park School District 401 are accepted. Please note a \$30.00 fee will be assessed for all returned checks. Notifications of student account balances are sent home with the students when their accounts are at \$5.00 or less. Students who forget to bring lunch and do not have money in their account will be offered ONLY a sunbutter sandwich, vegetable of the day, fruit cup and milk for 6 lunch meals maximum. Their account will be charged for a meal each time.

Our goal is to ensure that each child eats lunch every day. If you have any questions or concerns, please call John Mills' Food Service Office at 708-583-6282.