



Mills Moments

John Mills School

“...going on...”

January 20, 2012



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

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Jan 23-27 Student Council Spirit Week (see backside)
- Jan 23 TAP, 8:00 a.m.; Student Council Meeting, 3-3:30 p.m.; Spanish Class, 3:05-4:05 p.m.; Basketball Intramurals, 3:15-4:15 p.m.
- Jan 24 6th Gr Band, 7:45 a.m.; After School ISAT Prep, 3-4 p.m.
- Jan 25 Late Start, student entry at 9:12 a.m.; Basketball Intramurals, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Yearbook Meeting, 3:15-3:45 p.m.
- Jan 26 After School ISAT Prep, 3-4 p.m.; Young Rembrandts, 3:10-4:10 p.m.; Basketball Intramurals, 3:15-4:15 p.m.
- Jan 27 5th Gr Band, 7:45 a.m.; District Spelling Bee, 9:30 a.m.

Principally Speaking

At our Awards Assembly this week, I applauded our students for all their generosity this year in helping others. Their generosity has shown in Trick or Treating for UNICEF, their outstanding fundraising for our PTA, their enthusiasm in collecting for the needy in our township and the ongoing collection of “boxtops” so we can get needed items for the classroom. The generosity continues on a daily basis in the classroom by helping classmates, being kind to others and sharing supplies when needed. Keep up the good work!

Next week our Student Council will sponsor “Spirit Week”. Please see the back of Mills Moments for more information.

Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Contest

Each year students at John Mills School participate in a handwriting contest sponsored by the Zaner-Bloser Company. Every student who participates earns a certificate. Special certificates are given for top winners in the classroom and top winners in the school. In addition, the 1st place winner in every grade receives the “Golden Pencil Award”. Their beautiful handwriting papers will compete for the state and national awards with students across the country.

Congratulations to ALL participants! Special congratulations to our 1st place winners:

- 1st grade Victoria Czacharowski in Mrs. Senn’s class
- 2nd grade Anna Skrzyszowski in Ms. Conte’s class
- 3rd grade Anna Chmielowiec in Ms. Brandt’s class
- 4th grade Monica Lach in Mrs. Johnson’s class
- 5th grade Rachael Merlos in Mrs. Wollen’s class

John Mills Community Closet is opening its doors to all families!

Please drop in if you and your family are in need of gently used clothing, coats & other items, etc.

When: **Friday, February 3rd**, 8:30-10 a.m. in the lunchroom

Six Flags Read to Succeed Program

We are now 2 weeks into the SIX FLAGS READ TO SUCCEED reading incentive program. Only 4 weeks left to complete the 6 hour reading goal. Is your child reading each day and filling out the required log? Any questions, please contact Mrs. Dahmer at dahmerp@epcusd401.org.

Parenting Tips by Mrs. Kutrubis

Instill respect at home to ensure your child is respectful at school: Have you ever marveled at how teachers keep classes under control? They deserve a lot of credit, and so do parents! When parents instill respect at home, it shows at school. To help your child work well with teachers:

- **Practice the basics.** Expect your child to take turns, listen when adults talk, follow instructions, and say *please* and *thank you*. Enforce basic class rules at home (such as keeping hands and feet to self), and compliment your child’s good behavior, especially in difficult situations.
- **Be a role model.** Children are most respectful when they’re shown respect. Picture how you want your child to behave, and then do the adult equivalent. Share, avoid interrupting, speak politely and apologize for mistakes. Show appreciation for rules. (“What if everyone ran stop signs?”) And remember to say positive things about school!

4th Grade Visit to the Art Institute

The 4th grade field trip was fantastic. We spent two hours looking at work by all the famous impressionist artists such as Monet and Renoir. All the students seemed to enjoy their scavenger hunt because they took many pictures and told me it was great. I was so surprised that many of them have never been there before. As their first experience, I wanted it to be an enjoyable and active lesson of exploring on their own. They were able to work in groups, took pictures of their favorite paintings, and shared and learned from one another. Today, we are using this experience to begin drawing and painting an impressionist still life. – Mr. Siegel, Art Teacher

Spelling Bee



On Friday, **January 27th at 9:30 a.m.** semi-finalists from Elmwood School and John Mills School will compete at the District Spelling Bee in John Mills’ gymnasium. Parents are welcome to attend!

PTA Spirit Wear Sale

The **deadline** to place an order for spirit wear is **Friday, January 27th**. Please note it is not mandatory that you purchase an item. However, every Friday has been designated to wear “maroon and gold”. Samples are available in the main office. If you have any questions, please contact Nikki Eikosidekas at 773-218-7657 or n_caras@hotmail.com.

Physical Education Information

Extra Credit - Students may take advantage of extra credit for Physical Education class every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** (unless noted otherwise). Students must arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. in the gym to earn the extra credit.

Absences - Students may earn full points for excused absences by arriving in the gym no later than 8:00 a.m. every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** (unless noted otherwise). If the student arrives in the gym after 8:00 a.m., they will not earn full points.



***John Mills School
2012 Spirit Week
January 23-27***

Monday:

Pajama Day



Tuesday:

Sports Center Day



Wednesday:

Fashion Disaster Day



Thursday:

College Gear Day

Friday:

John Mills T-shirt/Maroon & Gold Day

