

Ray Miller Elementary



Newsletter January 2018

Vol. 18 Ed. 5

From the Principal...

Last month was an exciting time for us at Ray Miller Elementary! We enjoyed classroom parties, and an assembly of the Jazz Band from KHS before Winter Break. DARE graduation was held for four 5th grade classes. An all school Sing-A-Long started our last day of school on December 21 with playing, singing and dancing by children and staff! Santa Claus even made an appearance!


We celebrated the end of a calendar year by having a short time to reflect on things that are important to us here. We appreciate the spirit of teamwork and support you have shown us in 2017 and welcome 2018! We appreciated your positive notes and comments and wonderful spirit of thoughtfulness toward us as we move into 2018!

Along with the Kirksville R-III Mission Statement, "Empowering 21st century learners to create their success, build their community and better the world", we continue to build Tiger Pride by concentrating on our goals of improving academic achievement in Reading and Math, improving attendance and school climate. We hold high expectations for all our students through our partnership with you and other community members, businesses and patrons; we are able to achieve a high quality educational experience for all our students. It is the beginning of a new semester and a more determined focus on our goals. You can continue to help us by seeing to it that your children are here each day on time and that they are here with their backpacks, books, supplies, assignment book or tracker signed and homework completed. Please continue to work with us to make this year an even more positive, productive one for all students at Ray Miller Elementary. Together, we are a dynamic team and can accomplish so much! Thanks to you for all you do! We want your children to thrive!


Dr. Jennifer Botello

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Dr. Jennifer Botello, Principal

JANUARY:

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- 3 School Resumes
 - 5 Grade Cards Sent Home
 - 4 PTA Meeting 7:00 pm Library
 - 15 **NO SCHOOL**-Martin Luther King Jr Day
 - 26-28 PTA 5 on 5 basketball tournament

FEBRUARY:

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- 1 PTA Meeting 7:00pm Library
 - 16 **No School** M/U #1
 - 19 **No School**
 - 20 PD Day
 - 22 3rd Grade Art/Music Program
 - 6:15 pm Tug/Meeh/Find/AJone
 - 7:15 pm Peck/Find/Cole/Amelv

SNOW DAYS



Our make-up days to use are, Feb 16th, Apr. 2nd, May 7th, May 23rd, May 24th, & May 25th.

GRADE CARDS



Grade cards will be distributed to students on Friday, January 5th. If your child did not present you with their grade card, please ask them for it. Discuss their report card with them. It is important for them to set new goals as we begin the New Year.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Health and wellness of our students is important to us and cold and flu season is upon us. Please take extra care to make sure your child is eating well balanced meals, drinking plenty of fluids (juice, milk, & water) and getting enough rest. Frequent hand washing is also very important in controlling the spread of germs. Children may use waterless hand sanitizer available at school, or bring their own, in the classrooms. If children are running a fever of 100* or higher, please keep your child home for at least 24 hours. If your child needs to take medication at school, please bring in the medication, per our school policy.



NEW TOYS

Children are anxious to show new toys they have received over the holidays. Please encourage children to leave toys, video games, cell phones, headsets and cards of all types at home. These are expensive and we want them safe at home, not lost or stolen. Roller skate tennis shoes cannot be worn in the school building or at recess.



BUILDING “TIGER PRIDE”

Our theme for the New Year continues to be “Building Tiger Pride.” Our character word for this quarter is “Responsibility.” Each classroom discusses the character word and quote for the week. Students read student bulletins emphasizing specific character traits each morning. Please encourage your child to talk to you about the word emphasized and the activities that their class is doing.

CHARACTER EDUCATION ASSEMBLIES

Students are participating in Character Education Assemblies on Wednesday mornings. Third grade is the first Wednesday of the month, fourth grade is the second Wednesday of the month and fifth grade is the third Wednesday of the month. The special area teachers lead the assemblies using music, videos, discussion and drama to emphasize positive character traits, building “Tiger Pride.” This semester we will be focusing on **Kindness, Respect, Safety, Responsibility and Cooperation**. This quarter our main focus is on responsibility at home, school and in the community. Encourage responsibility at home as well as at school. Having the special area teachers lead the assemblies allows collaboration time for the grade level teachers.



A SPECIAL “THANK YOU”

Thank you to the following people who made the holiday season extra special for Ray Miller Elementary families through their generous donations: Ray Miller Elementary Staff, “I Think I Can” Foundation, TSU Angel Tree and anyone else who contributed in some special way.

AFTER SCHOOL PLANS

Please make sure your child has a plan and that they know their plan for after school activities. It is extremely helpful if it is the same plan most days.

At times, it may be necessary to call the school with a change of plans for your student. If you do need to contact us, please do so before 2:00 p.m. The end of the day is hectic and notes have to be delivered to the classroom. Calling by

2:00 p.m. would give us time to do this and get your child to the correct place.



MAP TESTING WINDOW DATES



The month of April is the state MAP testing window. Specific testing dates for each grade level will be announced later. Please do not schedule appointments during these weeks of testing, if at all possible.

DECEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

3RD Grade: Melody Dennis
Emerson Gering

4th Grade: Jase Foster
Logan Martin

5th Grade: Austin Murrell
Kenzie Bowen