



Milford Express – June 15, 2010

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Go Mustangs!!!

www.milfordpublicschool.com

908-995-4349

This is the last Milford Express for the 2009-2010 school year!

Dates To Note:

June 16 Wolf Trip Cancelled
June 18 Early Dismissal 12:35
June 21 School Picnic 11:00
Early Dismissal 12:35
June 22 Last Day of School for Students
Dismissal at 12:35
Report Card Day
Graduation at 7:00
Sept. 7 First Day of School

Dear Parents:

Here is what has been going on at Milford School:

Student of the Week

Doug Huber is our student of the week. Doug was chosen by his classmates. Cameron D'Amica wrote this about why he was chosen. "Doug gives 100% in whatever he does, even if he doesn't like what he is doing in class. He is also nice to people no matter what. Doug is fair and caring toward people and his schoolwork. It is immeasurable how hardworking he is. Doug's amazing ability to treat people with respect is why he is treated with respect by others." Congratulations Doug! We are very proud of you!

Our last student of the week for the 2009-10 school year is 8th grader, Alyssa Riker. Mr. Quinn nominated Alyssa

because she is a dedicated student who works hard in everything she does. She is a wonderful young lady who will do whatever she can to make Milford School a better place for everyone! Way to go, Alyssa!

All the students of the week will be honored at a student of the week breakfast on June 16 at 8:00. All parents of these students and staff members who have nominated them are invited to attend.

2010-2011 School Calendar

Attached is the calendar for the 2010-2011 school year. Please note: the first day of school for students is the day after Labor Day, Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Law Day 2010 YouTube Video Contest Winners!

Congratulations to Liam McCracken, Tim Sattizahn and Jarrid Roye for earning Honorable Mention in the Young Lawyers Division Law Day 2010 YouTube Video Contest. You have won a \$50 itunes gift certificate.

Congratulations also to Brianna Schonheiter, Ashley O'Toole and Katie Haff for winning Honorable Mention in the Young Lawyers Division Law Day 2010 Youtube Video Contest. You have won a \$50 itunes gift certificate.

The staff and students at Milford School are so proud of you, Liam, Tim, Jarrid, Brianna, Ashley, and Katie!

IM **Immunization Requirements**

Reminder of revised immunization requirements by New Jersey Department of Health for students entering the sixth grade in September.

- (a.) Every child born on or after January 1, 1997 and entering the sixth grade shall have received one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) given no earlier than the 10th birthday.
- (b.) Every child born on or after January 1, 1997 and entering the sixth grade shall have received one dose of a meningococcal – containing vaccine.

If you have any questions regarding the above requirements, please contact me at 995-4349. This Immunization requirement must be completed before starting school.

Judy Leidich, School Nurse

Air Conditioners

Usually by this time of the school year, we have been melting in the classrooms because of the extreme heat from this brick building. However, this year, because of the air conditioners bought by the PTO, every classroom is cool and students are actively learning. We lost so much academic time in the past and it is so wonderful to see classes as busy now as they were in January. Thank you, PTO!

Summer Website

Please check the school website frequently this summer. It will have classroom updates, summer reading information, school supply lists and other items of interest.

www.milfordpublicschool.com The office staff and I will be in school most of the summer. Any questions or concerns, please call.



Del Val Honors to Milford Students

The following former Milford School students received recognition at their senior awards ceremony at Del Val: Elizabeth Andresen, Lauren Heuer, Lindsey Fiebig, Chloe Early, Christine Pongracz, Tyler Quinn, Kendell Covino and Samantha Romeo. The awards were for academic, skill achievement, service, and athletic. These students are graduating with high honors: Elizabeth Andresen, Lauren Heuer, and Samantha Romeo. Congratulations and best wishes to our wonderful students. You make us proud!

5th Grade News from Mrs. Zdepski:

This month we have had some fun adventures in both our social studies and language arts classes.

We ventured to the NJ State House and Old Barracks Museum for a hands-on history lesson and current events tour. The Barracks tour consisted of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades being recruited for the Continental Army. We learned about a soldier's life, witnessed a weapons demonstration and took an oath. Some students were "treated" in the infirmary for different ailments. Thankfully, the leeches never made it out of the jar.

The NJ State House tour was very informative with a one hour tour that explained the different offices and political processes that take place therein. We were invited into the Office of the Governor just outside the governor's office. (Not every tour group is extended this invitation.) We tend to think the governor was behind the door and in his office, as there was a bodyguard outside the door. We learned about the legislative process and our state representatives. If you have never been to the State House they welcome the public and it is definitely worth the visit, if not only to view the beautiful architecture and artwork.

Sadly, due to budget cuts, it is believed that not only the Old Barracks will close next year, but also scheduled to close is Washington Crossing Historic Park. (Information is available online with reference to these budget cuts.)

As we have been studying different parts of the Revolution it is important to know the students completed their research papers with terrific presentations of their historic figure in the form of an oral report. We completed our discussion of The Boston Tea Party with a visit from Molly Pitcher, played by Mrs. Fitchett, who served the students iced tea and cookies.

We also took a recent trip to Philadelphia and visited the Liberty Bell. We were not disappointed with a double-decker bus tour we took of the historic city which allowed us to see over twenty historic landmarks. Our tour guide explained the landmarks as we rode along for the ride. It was quite an adventure! We finished the day with a walking tour of Independence Hall.

We have been busy with writing skills, and as always, improving our grammar and spelling skills in language arts. It is important to know the students entered the Quik Check Festival of Ballooning writing essay contest; to the students' disappointment no one in our class one. However, the students did a beautiful job composing their thoughts and writing some very meaningful essays on the topic, "What the American Flag Means to Me." They did such a fabulous job that a bulletin board displaying their essays is in the hallway downstairs. If you have a chance to stop by and read one or two you won't be disappointed. I am very proud of them and they should be proud of themselves. There were over 4,000 essays submitted with only one winner. Congratulations to the winning student and we will try again next year!

Third Grade News

The third graders have been busy with many exciting activities. First, we are pleased to report that **Milford Public School collected \$129.63 for Haiti!** Thank you, everyone, for your contributions! Since the third graders are studying decimals and money in our current math topic, Mrs. Culley asked us to count the money. Small groups and partners counted portions of the bills and change with impressive accuracy, and then we totaled all the amounts. We had a lot of fun with this "hands on" project where we applied writing the amounts with two decimal places and calculating the total.

Congratulations, Meghan Haff, Michael Herrera, Dylan Lankford, Danielle Romeo, and Megan Torrey. Each of these students received an "Outstanding Effort" certificate from the Tri-County

Young Authors Competition for their writing! Their work is posted outside our door. Enjoy!

Place based education has been one of our school goals this year and the third graders have thoroughly enjoyed all the connections of our classroom learning to where we live. The fourth graders joined us on a science walk to the “narrows” along the Delaware River. This narrow road extends north from Spring Garden Street past Chestnut Hill Bed and Breakfast. We saw lots of shale, a sedimentary rock, on the hillside, signs of rocks being broken apart by weathering, erosion, a waterfall, the landforms of the area, discussed how the valley may have formed many thousands of years ago by the Delaware River cutting through the rocks, and how the many plants and animals in the area have adapted to live here. We were so excited to see so many cacti growing on the rocks! Seeing two turtles was a bonus!

Yesterday we traveled again with the fourth and fifth graders to learn more about the geology of our northeast region of the United States, on a fabulous trip to Crystal Cave in Kutztown, Pennsylvania. Seeing thousands of calcite and aragonite crystals in many colors, stalactites, stalagmites, and dripstone formations was truly incredible. Our tour guide shut off the cave lights to show us how dark the cave is naturally, and how difficult it was to explore the cave when it was first discovered in 1871. Learning about the inside of our earth and how this amazing cave was formed and discovered, combined with panning for gems, playing miniature golf, and enjoying ice cream made our day outstanding.

Wow! We live in an awesome part of our country!

**From Milford Board of Education
President, Teresa Kane**

To the Students, Parents and Teachers:

As the school year is rapidly winding down (or perhaps reaching a crescendo), I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments of this past year and look ahead to the future. 2010 was a difficult year for everyone, but in the true spirit of a small school, everyone pulled together and did the best with the cards that we were dealt. Budget cuts that the state passed down and the Town Council implemented totaled in excess of \$160,000 – representing an 8% reduction in funds; yet the administration intends to offer a complete academic program in the 2010/2011 school year. I would like to acknowledge the Administration, Staff and Teachers for taking wage freezes to help minimize the impact of these cuts.

Looking back on what we've accomplished this year, there is much to be acknowledged. We completed almost all of the renovations in time to begin the school year and benefited from improved electrical distribution, ubiquitous computer access and other important safety and aesthetic improvements that were long overdue. We were monitored by the NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) and our average overall score was 92% - designating Milford as a “high performing” district. Kudos to all who made this possible...

I'd like to take a moment to congratulate our Eighth Grade Honor Students – John Rezes; and Brittany Mazzetta – “Distinguished Student” for the year; as well as Mary Ellen Mazzetta for being selected “Teacher of the Year”. Congratulations on your accomplishments. I would also like to wish Marilyn Cody all the best in her retirement – Milford will not be the same without her! Last – but not least – I would like to congratulate Ed Stoloski for being named “Superintendent of the Year” for Hunterdon County by his peers – it’s a great honor for Ed, and for Milford.

As we move into the 2010-2011 school year, we will continue to benefit from the many shared services we have in place with East Amwell and Frenchtown, including our Superintendent and Child Study Team; our Business Administrator, Music Teacher and World Language Teachers; Cafeteria and Internet Service. We are also contracting with Educational

Services Commission for our Technology representative and share our Custodial Services with the Borough of Milford. These shares help prevent the revolving door of part-time staffing and they also are saving the taxpayers thousands of dollars each month.

We will continue to explore opportunities for efficiency and consolidation and remain committed to providing the best educational experience possible. To everyone who makes that possible – including the Board, the Administration, the Staff, the Teachers, the PTO, the Parents and the Students – thank you for a job well done.

Have a safe and a fun summer!

