

# MIS Rocketeer

May, 2010  
Volume 9, Issue #9

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## A Note From... the Principal



It's hard to believe we are approaching the end of another school year. As we reflect on this school year and all the progress our students have made and all the accomplishments that staff and students have achieved, we have a lot to be proud of.

But, the school year is not over yet. We still have 5 weeks of school remaining. Teachers will still be teaching and students will still be learning. Please help us impress the importance of "finishing strong", doing our best, and following through on expectations all the way until June 4.

Please be sure to review this month's calendar at the end of the newsletter, along with any classroom newsletters that

come home with your student, in order to keep up with all the end of the year activities. A couple highlights to keep in mind:

- May 4- 5th Grade Step-Up Night
- May 12-14 - 5th Grade Outdoor Education trip
- May 27- All-School Rollerskating Party
- June 1- 4th Grade Picnic
- June 2- 5th Grade Field Day
- All School Awards Assembly

Thank you for your support throughout the school year.

Michael J. Krugman  
Principal

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Many of the fifth grade students will attend the Outdoor Education Program at Camp Timber-lee on May 12-14. The staff and students are scheduled to return around 4:00pm on Friday, May 14. We will unload at MES, so please be there to pick up your child. If someone other than a parent is picking up your child, please send a note to the homeroom teacher with the appropriate information. Luggage will be back at school by noon on Friday. **You may pick up the luggage anytime after 12:00 noon in the bus facility.** Doing this will alleviate congestion when the students arrive. You may check the Mokena Intermediate School webpage on Wednesday, May 12 around noon to find out that the group has arrived safely.

[www.mokena159.org](http://www.mokena159.org)



## Assistant Principal's Corner...

*"A school is four  
walls and a future  
inside."*



Assistant Principal's Corner...

Spring is here and it's hard to believe we are coming to the end of another school year. The MIS staff and students had a busy year and there is plenty more to come. The fourth grade students are working on the popular embryology unit. Many classrooms have an incubator filled with chick eggs. The eggs stay nice and warm in the incubator being turned 3 times a day. During the incubation period, the students are studying the embryology process through research, websites and various activities as part of the science curriculum. Sometime during the first week of May, we hope to hear many little chirps coming from the fourth grade classes. The students will have the opportunity to hold the chicks and observe their behavior before sending them to the farm at the end of the week. This is truly a hands-on experience for our students and a fun way to learn about animals. The fifth grade students have also been involved in the science curriculum by launching rockets.

Many of the classes are building rockets and will soon go on the south lawn to launch them. As the rockets get launched the students anxiously await to see if the parachute will open. This is a fun experience for the fifth graders.

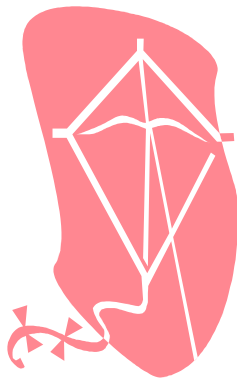
The last month of school will prove to be very busy with all the end of the year activities and field trips planned. Please check the May calendar on a regular basis so the students are prepared for the events. Have a wonderful and safe summer.

Sincerely,

Patti Bogdan  
Assistant Principal

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations to 5th grade students, Nicole Grybowski and Elizabeth Rohrer for being invited to the Illinois Principal Association Breakfast. On May 7 Nicole and Elizabeth along with their parents and Mr. Krugman will attend a special recognition breakfast sponsored by the IPA. The students are recognized for their academic standing, community service and citizenship. Congratulations and have a good time.



Look! It's a bird, it's a plane, no....

IT'S KITES handmade and flown by students in Mrs. Darling and Mrs. Clavenna's class.

Students from Mrs. Darling and Mrs. Clavenna's classes are working on opposite poems using different parts of speech. They will then be making kites out of paper and copying the poems on the kites. Once all of this is completed, the students will be trying to fly their kites.

# Mokena District 159 Educational Foundation

Invites you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual

“Drive for Success”

Friday, June 11, 2010

at

Green Garden Golf Course  
9511 West Manhattan-Monee Road  
Frankfort

Shot Gun Start 2:00 PM

Dinner / Silent Auction 7:00 PM

Golf and Dinner - \$100

Includes: golf, cart, snack lunch and dinner

Dinner Only - \$30 (\$35 at the door)

Music, door prizes, class basket drawings, silent auction

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact:

Mokena Educational Foundation  
c/o Catherine Gainer  
19329 Emerald Ct  
Mokena, IL 60448  
slokak@comcast.net  
708-479-0537

Mokena Educational Foundation is dedicated to providing independent financial support to enrich, encourage and expand educational initiatives for Mokena School District 159 students and staff.

**Mokena School District 159  
2010-2011 Registration Information**

**Residency:**

Mokena School District now requires ALL students to establish residency on a YEARLY basis.

Parents will not be allowed to register students for the upcoming school year unless proof of residency is provided from the categories listed below. Only the specific documents listed in each category will be accepted towards proof of residency.

Category A (one document required):

Real Estate Tax Bill	Signed and Dated Lease
Mortgage Papers	Loan Statement
Closing Papers/Proof of Closing Date	

Category B (two documents showing proper address required):

Gas/Electric/Water Bill	Driver's License/State ID
Vehicle Registration	Home/Apt. Insurance Papers
Voter Registration	Public Aid Card

**Fees:**

Kindergarten:	\$ 140.00 per child
First Grade – Third Grade:	\$ 180.00 per child
Fourth Grade – Eighth Grade:	\$ 195.00 per child

**Registration:**

Registration for the 2010-2011 school year (for both new and returning students in grades 1-8) will be conducted at Mokena Intermediate School (11331 W. 195<sup>th</sup> Street) on the three dates listed below.

August 5 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm

\*\* Students entering Kindergarten can be registered at any time. Kindergarten registration packets are available in the District Office located at 11244 Willowcrest Lane.

If you have questions related to the registration of students for the 2010-2011 school year, please contact Mokena Elementary School at 708-342-4850 or the District Office at 708-342-4900.

### Keep on Collecting.....

MIS continues to collect Campbell Soup labels, General Mills Box Tops for Education, Tyson Food labels and empty computer ink jet cartridges. Between now and the end of the year, General Mills Big G cereals are giving away 1 million Bonus Box Tops!! MIS has a chance to win 10,000 bonus box tops just by collecting and submitting the Whole Grain symbols from General Mills cereal boxes. Each Whole Grain symbol gives MIS another chance at winning 10,000 bonus box tops. Some of these are redeemed for audio-visual equipment, and others for cash which helps us purchase audio-visual and technology-related equipment for MIS. Collection bins are in the main office and the learning center.



### Keep on collecting!



### Recycle for the Future

Mokena PTA encourages recycling for the future of our children.

☺ Please save all of your used inkjet cartridges & turn them in to the school office in a plastic bag. The plastic bag can be placed in the box provided in the front office of MES, MIS, and MJHS.

☺ There is a large green and yellow recycling bin in the MJHS parking lot. Please help us by bringing over your newspapers, magazines, junk mail, and catalogs. At this time, only paper can be placed in this recycling bin.

Both of these recycling projects not only keep all of this garbage out of our landfills, but help us to earn a little bit of cash at the same time! Help us keep the earth green! Recycle!



## MIS HAS CHARACTER

### READING COUNTS

During the school year each classroom participated in the Reading Counts Program. The teacher set a classroom goal for his/her students to reach by the end of the quarter. After reading a book the student takes a ten-question quiz utilizing the computer. The student receives points for passing the quiz, which helps achieve the set goal. Once the student reaches the classroom goal for the quarter, their name is added to the "Reading Counts Wall of Fame." Each teacher has a graph placed outside their classroom that records the amount of points the class has achieved. We also have a large graph in the commons that shows the amount of points the entire school has reached. The MIS students have currently earned 38,668 points and we still have a few weeks to add more points. The students seem to enjoy this program and it's a fun way to encourage reading.



**This month, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students learned about the character education skill, *citizenship*. Students learned a variety of ways to grow in good citizenship and show they are good citizens in their school and community. Three important ways to grow in good citizenship are to show respect, be involved in a group or community, and to serve others. Students also discussed the benefits of having good citizenship skills and how it impacts our school and community. Students who display positive citizenship skills know the rules, follow them, and look for ways to help their school and community. Parents can encourage good citizenship in their children by discussing the importance of being a responsible and respectful community member and following through by doing things to help in your community. Being a good citizen is a life-long quality that will help your child at school, home, and in the community.**



# ROCKET REMINDEES

### **Field Trips Lunches**

Please mark your calendar for field trip dates so your child will remember his/her lunch. The majority of the classes leave by 8:45 to attend the field trip and at that point it is too late to bring a lunch to school. Each student will need a sack lunch when going on the majority of the field trips planned.

### **Dress Code**

Due to the change in weather, please review the Parent/Student Handbook for proper dress code.

- Students may wear shorts. However, in the interest of a consistent standard and good taste, shorts, skirts and dresses for the students must reach at least to the student's fingertips when the student is standing with arms at sides of body.
- Tank tops, bare midriff shirts, as well as distressed, unusual tight-fitting or revealing clothing are considered inappropriate dress. The straps on all tops must be at least 1 inch wide at their narrowest point. Undergarments may not be visible.
- Hats and other head coverings are not to be worn in the school building unless there is a medical or religious reason for doing so.

Students will be excluded from class until arrangements for acceptable attire can be made. Please review the dress code policy on page 17 of the Parent/Student Handbook, which can be located on the district the school website.

### **Library Fines**

The students have already been notified of any outstanding library fines that need to be taken care of from this school year. Please pay all library fines for overdue books or damaged books by May 21st. If you have any questions about your fine, please contact Mrs. Mulvaney, the Learning Center aide.

### **No Teacher Requests for 2010-11 School Year**

Due to the overwhelming amount of special requests that have been received for teachers over the past few years, MIS administration will no longer accept individual requests from parents. Please understand that with 8 sections of each grade-level, students cannot be placed by preference, but are placed by educational need. We appreciate your understanding in this procedure.

### **MIS is now on Twitter**

Be sure to follow us on Twitter at: [www.twitter.com/MIS159](http://www.twitter.com/MIS159)

*Thank you for your cooperation on these matters.*



# MIS HAPPENINGS

## KMO

On March 24, a team of 8 students from Miss Horsch and Mrs. Klappauf's classes competed in the Knowledge Master Open. This is a general academic competition for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. There were a total of 603 teams from 44 states, plus Canada, Egypt, Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, South Korea, and Singapore who competed this year.

The MIS team members were Sierra Cady, Marleigh McDonough, Joshua Perch, Daniel Rymut, Laura Liden, Kevin Meaux, Taylor Miron, and Dominic Terrones.

Our team placed 9<sup>th</sup> overall and 2<sup>nd</sup> in our state. The team did an outstanding job, and we are very proud of them!



## Earth Day

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd, some of the fourth graders at Mokena Intermediate School had a science lesson outside. They spent about an hour collecting and surveying the debris that could be found around the school, along the baseball fields, and on the playground. All that participated truly enjoyed the clean-up lesson because it felt good to do something for their school, the town of Mokena, and for the Earth! The students were shocked at the number of cigarette butts that were found, especially around the playground equipment.



One student was happy to help, but found out the real reason why they were doing it in an unusual way. He found an owl pellet along the edge of the tree line. After inspecting the contents, as the class had done recently, he found some sort of plastic wrapping inside the owl pellet. So the wrappers and other debris are definitely being mistaken for food by animals. It's a good thing that this owl was able to spit it up, but other animals may become sick or die from eating trash that is left outside.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Arbor Day Contest

Congratulations to 5<sup>th</sup> grade student Kayla Deang! Her original poster placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the state of Illinois National Arbor Day competition. This is a great honor and we congratulate her!

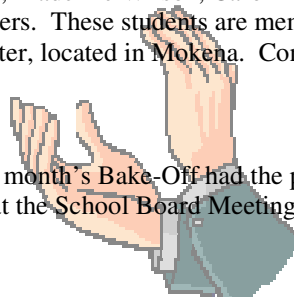


### Alice in Wonderland

The following MIS students recently took the stage to perform in "Alice in Wonderland," Claire Peters, Madeline Wilson, Caroline Heathcock, Elena Karnezis and Emily Peters. These students are members of the All About Music Children's Theater, located in Mokena. Congratulations to the rising stars of MIS.

### School Board Meeting

The first place winners of last month's Bake-Off had the privilege of saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the School Board Meeting.



(Pictured left to right: Claire Ansborg, Amber Heimburg, Rachel Brusich, Ally Shipley, Lena Thompson, Mrs. Karen Perry, Superintendent)

### Finalists in the PTA Calendar Competition

The Month of September	Megan Carr Connor	Kendall Pignato Laura Kim	Rachel Brusich
The Month of June	Connor Riley	Danielle Tremble	Madeline Wilson



## A word from Mr. Horn and Mrs. Lavery

Students have been doing a wonderful job in PE. We are now starting our Football and Outdoor/Picnic Games units. Hopefully the next couple of weeks the weather will allow us to get outside. We are also finishing up with some of our fitness testing. Students will be awarded at the end of the year with fitness certificates in the category they qualify for. We are getting toward the end of the year and we need to finish strong. We have to remind ourselves that school is not over just yet.

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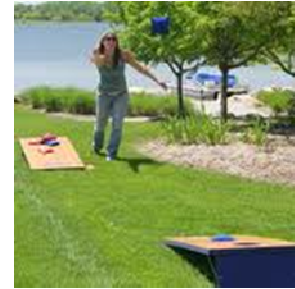
A word from Mr. Horn  
and Mrs. Lavery

Contact Mr. Horn &  
Mrs. Lavery:

E-mail:  
E-mail address

[hornj@mokena159.org](mailto:hornj@mokena159.org)

[laveryl@mokena159.org](mailto:laveryl@mokena159.org)



**Attitudes are contagious. Are yours worth catching?**



**SUMMER CAMPS  
AT  
LWEAST HIGH  
SCHOOL**

For more information go to [www.lw210.org/east/athletics/](http://www.lw210.org/east/athletics/)




## Walgreens

Take Care Clinic

Now offering Camp and Sports  
Physicals for \$35  
(good through 9/30/10)

### *All Children Exercising Simultaneously ACES*

*On May 5 from 10:00-10:15am all MIS students and staff will participate in the ACES program. We will gather on the south lawn and exercise to help promote the importance of youth fitness in a fun, non-competitive atmosphere. Children from all 50 states and 45 foreign countries will take part in the ACES program. We look forward to a morning of fun.*

### MIS Staff vs. Student Basketball Game

The 8th Annual MIS Staff vs. Student Basketball Game will take place on Friday, May 7. Staff members will be playing against 20 fifth-grade Intramural Basketball players. The student team will be coached by Mrs. Lavery and Mr. Horn. The staff team will be coached by Mr. Roberts. This event is only open to the MIS students and parents of the student players. There is not enough room to accommodate everyone. I'm sure your child will have some fun and exciting stories to tell when they get home from school that day.



The MIS singing club has been busy practicing this spring. They had their first performance at the Spring Fine Arts concert that was held this week. They will also perform at the end of the year awards assembly.

- Anna Abel
- Mika Adamson
- Dominic Bartolini
- Alyson Bazik
- Karsyn Burns
- Sierra Cady
- Katie Canniff
- Annamarie Castle
- Justin Daley
- Daniel DePalma
- Amber Devenney
- Haley Fioretti
- Andrea Flesher
- Moira Garvey
- Hayley Grebic
- Alyssa Huculak
- Rachel Huculak
- Madeline Jones
- Elena Karnezis
- Margarita Kremmydas
- Matthew Kurowski
- Nicole Larson
- Aleisha MacDonald
- Sofia Martin
- Marleigh McDonough
- Angel Mirkov
- Claudia Nieto
- Thomas O'Hea
- Emily Peters
- Grace Pierczynski
- Sarah Piltaver
- Kayla Ray
- Jack Sargent
- Samantha Schmidt
- Molly Schuringa
- Abbey Stroh
- Elizabeth Tarrant
- Hannah Treacy
- Jackie Zoetvelt



## NEWS FROM OUR LEARNING CENTER

Where did April go? As usual, we have been very busy.

The fourth graders listened to a chapter of the book "Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief" by Wendelin VanDraanan. We have many of the Sammy Keyes books and the students were excited to check them out. Many of the children put books on hold so they could read it at a later date.

The fifth grade practiced their Atlas and index skills while participating in a 2 week game, similar to The Amazing Race on TV. They had to go from place to place using their atlas- racing against other teams in their class. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winners received 100 book bucks each, 2<sup>nd</sup> place were awarded 50 book bucks and 3<sup>rd</sup> place received 30 book bucks. The remaining teams received 10 book bucks. It was lucky for all of them because it was also an auction week in the Learning Center.

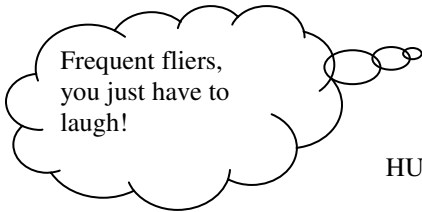
## NEWS FROM OUR COMPUTER LAB

Computers and wires are burning with all of the students working diligently on so many different projects. Writing of essays and poems, making PowerPoint slide shows, and some things that I cannot tell about (Shhh it is a SURPRISE). Most of the work being done is for the Curriculum Fair. They have worked hard to have all of the parents admire some spectacular works of art.

If they are not working on these projects the students are coming in to again utilize the Math Game Show and the Pearson web site. Teachers are working every angle to give the students all of the technology they need to have to excel in the coming school years.



# Nursing News You Can Use



HUMOR IS THE BEST MEDICINE!

## YOU MIGHT BE A FREQUENT FLYER IF.....

- *If you keep coming to the nurse, but really don't want mom called.....You might be a frequent flyer.*
- *If you go to see the nurse because you hurt yourself sitting at your desk .....You might be a frequent flyer.*

Q. Can February March?  
A. No, but April May!



Why did the mushroom go to the party? Because he was a fun guy.  
Why did he leave the party? Because there wasn't mushroom!



## It's not too early to get your 6th grade physicals done!

Physicals are due to the Junior high by July 15th 2010. Dental exams will be due by May 15th 2010. Physicals and Dentals done now will be accepted, please turn them in to the Junior High office when completed. **Forms went home with all fifth grade students** and are available in the office or on line at the MPS website; [www.mokena159.org](http://www.mokena159.org)

## HEALTHY EATING TIPS!!!!!!!



### To get more fruits and vegetables in your diet:

- Make ALL fruit smoothies, blend fruits and ice.
- Mash cauliflower and turnips into mashed or twice baked potatoes.
- Grate or puree zucchini, carrots, parsnips, turnips and squash and add to red sauces or use in pizza, meatloaf or chili.
- Apples, pears, bananas, oranges and cherry tomatoes do not need refrigeration. Keep them in plain view for easy access but don't forget to hide the cookies, candies and chips.



Dear, MIS Family and Friends,

*Will You Walk For Others?*



The Mokena Cancer Support Center is looking for our school families to get involved in helping them to help those battling cancer in our Lincoln-way communities.

## Spring Has Sprung!

### Time For Sun Safety Has Begun!

*Time to go and play outside  
But before you go to have your fun  
Rub lots of sunscreen on your hide  
So you don't burn out in the sun*

*Don't forget the tops of your feet  
And rub some on your neck and ears  
After 2 hours this whole thing repeat  
So your skin will last for years and years*

*Breaks in the shade will keep you cool  
And keep heat exhaustion at bay  
Drink lots of water, even in the pool  
To keep you feeling good all day*

*Sunglasses protect your eyes from rays  
And wearing your shades is cool  
Even when there is just a haize  
Be sun safe, don't be a fool*

## JOIN THE SPRING WALK OF HOPE

**WHEN: SUNDAY, MAY 17<sup>th</sup> AT 11:30 AM**

**WHERE: The Mokena Community Park at 10925 S. LaPorte Rd.**

You can participate as an individual or group and choose from the one mile walk, three mile walk, or 5 K run. You can walk in memory or honor of a loved one, or just for the fun of it! All participants will receive a Walk of Hope tee shirt. Pre-registration is required. Please pick up more information, along with a registration form, at The Cancer Support Center 19250 S. Everett Lane Mokena, Illinois. You may also download forms or register on line at: [www.cancersupportcenter.org](http://www.cancersupportcenter.org).

Upon completion of the walk/run events, a celebration will be held in the park featuring The Big Wig Mechanic Band, Aurelio's pizza, and children's activities which will include; a Jumpee, Dotsie the Clown, face painting, and several celebrity mascots for photo opportunities! These activities will be offered free of charge to all participants. **Registration is now open for anyone interested!!**

Proceeds benefit the Cancer Support Center's FREE services to support those in need right here in our communities.