

## OCTOBER ISSUE 2015

### CELEBRATE WITH US!

- The annual Milo Terry Fox Run was on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Staff and students walked or ran 10 Km around the town in honour of those fighting against cancer. Thank you to Joanne Monner, The Milo Lions Club along with The Elevator for organizing and providing lunch for all race participants. Well done everyone!
- The Milo Fall Fair was a success on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, thank you to all of the volunteers for this effort, and congratulations to all of the student entries and winners!
- The NEW Milo School logo was revealed at the Milo Fall Fair, thank you everyone for your support with the new mission and vision for the school.
- During Explore It time students are learning and practicing reading skills to improve reading fluency, accuracy and comprehension – be sure to encourage reading, writing and meaningful conversations at home!
- Come visit us for the Scholastic Book Fair October 3-8<sup>th</sup>. The book fair will be open to students during lunch recesses.

***“Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try”***

### International Baccalaureate Update

As an IB candidate school, we will strive for excellence and be an engaging, collaborative, and global community.

The IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) will be implemented in grades 1-3 this year, while its methods and values will be carried across the school in various projects and initiatives.

Learning experiences will be focused on building skills for inquiry, reflection, critical thinking and collaboration.



Mr. Brian Rodgers teaching 7/8/9 band!

## Principal Message: What a fabulous first month!

The first month has now blown by with excitement and new energy! Students will start **option classes** (creative class choices) on Wednesday Oct 7<sup>th</sup> until December and then choose another option choice in the new year for another three months. Options range from drama, robotics, photography, and foods. This will be awesome!

We are also starting every morning with Explore It, a time for **literacy (reading and writing) skill building**. Teachers are focusing the month of October on reading skills and reflection (thinking about learning). All grades together are focusing on specific skills to practice, reflect upon and evaluate, in order to improve reading and writing skills across subjects and learning experiences.

This year for parent teacher interviews, we will have **student-led conferences**, where students will show their parents examples of their own learning and progress. Our first student-led conference is on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>.

Our School Goals this year will focus on **reaching excellence** in the following areas: 1) **Building a safe and caring connected learning community** of parents, students and teachers, 2) **increasing our literacy skills** through improved standards, methods and

achievement results, and 3) **improving our standards for assessment** of learning to increase overall student achievement. In the monthly School News Update you will see featured updates about the three goals, along with a student and teacher learning spotlight.

Our Meet the Teacher Night was a success on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who attended! We served a chili supper, and had a great time connecting together. To learn more about the school goals join us for the next School Council meeting at 6:30pm on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Come and join the discussion. I hope to see you there!

For the latest news go to our website, at [www.milochool.ca](http://www.milochool.ca) which features a live calendar of events for the year, a School Council page for meeting information/reports, and school news updates for notices and school events. Contact us if you are looking for a volunteering opportunity, if there is something happening in the community that you would like us to be a part of, or if you'd like to visit and share your area of expertise.

Thank you for your continued support and effort at home for your child's learning. Together we can achieve great success! – Ms. Prud'Homme

## Meet Mrs. Quincy Smith!

Meet our PSIII intern teacher from the University of Lethbridge Miss Quincy Smith. She will be teaching the grade 1/2/3 class as well as helping to coach the girls' volleyball team. Welcome to Milo Miss Smith!





Kevin Gietz, Superintendent

Palliser Regional Schools



## Superintendent's Message: So many reasons to be thankful!

October is a season for thanksgiving, anchored in traditions of being thankful for a bountiful harvest.

While many of us are no longer directly connected to the ebbs and flows of farming, it's always a positive process to pause and reflect on the many reasons we have to be thankful. As one of our Palliser Wall of Fame inductees suggested in 2014, "thinking is thanking."

In Palliser, I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve our students through our work every day; for parents/guardians who are engaged partners in our schools, supporting the efforts of our teachers and school leaders; and for our staff – teachers and all those in supporting roles – who are teaching students how to learn and how to be engaged, literate citizens of the world. In doing so, they unlock the unlimited potential of our students for life.

I'm also thankful to see Palliser's efforts being acknowledged in many ways. Later this month, members of our literacy team have been invited to present at the Second Calgary Summit, a conference for educators working to support vulnerable

readers in kindergarten through Grade 4. On the very same day, our Board of Trustees have been invited to share their story on generative governance and the decision they made to provide centralized services to ensure students across Palliser have access to the supports they need. Our literacy program would not exist had the board not changed the way it ran our division about a decade ago.

Finally, I'm thankful that this month brings our first of four teacher collaboration days, when professionals from across the region meet to work in small learning groups. The topics are self-directed and groups may be united by the grade or subject they teach or by a literacy goal they share. Our first collaboration day is Oct. 13, giving our students an extra-long Thanksgiving weekend and giving our staff precious time to learn together.

As for the bountiful harvest, we can look to our outstanding student results as the crop emerging from the seeds sown by our strong school communities.

I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

### Milo October Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
	Day 3 Meet the Teacher Time: 5:30 - 7:00	Day 4 4:15pm - volleyball	Day 1 Scholastic Book Fair 12pm - Chili Hot 2:30pm - Book fair 4pm - Milo Can 4pm - Volleyball	Day 2 Milo Fall Fair items	Milo No School	Milo Fall Fair 3pm- Scholastic Book Fair
4	5	6	7	8	9	
Scholastic Book Fair					Milo No School	
	Day 3	Day 4 9 am - Vaccinations	Day 1 Options start!	Day 2		
11	12	13	14	15	16	
Thanksgiving - No		District PD Day - No		Day 3 4pm Volleyball Game Milo	Day 4	Dream Teams!
18	19	20	21	22	23	
	Day 1	Day 2 6:30pm - School Council Meeting	Day 3 4pm - VB Game-Milo	Day 4	Milo No School	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
MILO: Canopener	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Milo No School	

Milo Community School  
is **transforming...**  
  
the way we **LEARN**,  
the way we **TEACH**,  
the way we **SUCCEED**.



reflective  
principled  
knowledgeable  
open-minded  
risk-taker  
caring  
inquirer  
communicator  
balanced  
thinker