Empowering Lifelong Learners News Update



Principal Message: Welcome Back from Holidays!

Well... how many of you are ready to get back into the swing of things again? I should be ready - since I spent quite a lot of time resting during the holidays! ©

In any case, whether you are ready or not, welcome back! There is much that lies ahead for the rest of the year and we are excited to focus on continuing to improve our reading and achievement results, further build our activities and standards to support the International Baccalaureate program and continue to offer a safe and caring learning environment.

In January we will offer students another new selection of options that they can choose from, and give them a survey to give us feedback about their experiences thus far.

We will also begin having a new schedule during explore it and Flex time to help provide specific focus for building skills and knowledge that can help students succeed. We will focus weekly on building skills in comprehension tests, cartoon and information analysis, poetry, and creative writing. Flex time will continue to involve options, IB profile learning, leadership work and reflections. Our students will be learning a lot!

We will have exams for grades 6-9 during the last week of January. A schedule will be sent home for these exams one week prior. They will be for Language Arts, Math, Social and Science. This will help provide us with additional data of our achievement thus far.

We will have a writing assessment in the new year for all grades so we can see writing skills across our school. Starting in January every 2 weeks students will have EVERYONEREADS time an opportunity to read with the whole school in the gym. Some will silently read, others will read aloud to a small group or buddy read. This will create collaboration time for teachers to work on school improvement initiatives.

Here's to an exciting year ahead! -Ms. Prud'Homme

Meet the New Teacher! Ms. Lisa Hungerford

Hello and Happy New Year!!

It is a pleasure to introduce myself to the Milo Community. My name is Lisa Hungerford and I will be filling in for Rebecca Holgate while she spends time with the newest addition of their family.

I am an avid reader; enjoy outdoor activities as well as travelling, camping and scuba diving. I grew up on a grain farm in Saskatchewan and earned my Bachelor of Education from the University of Regina. My career took me Saskatchewan to British Columbia and then to the Middle East and Central America. teaching multiple grade levels in the areas of English, Social Studies and PE. I landed at the University of Lethbridge where I earned

a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts in Geography. I worked as an Urban & Regional Planner until the appeal of the IB Program drew me to South Africa and Belgium, teaching IBDP Geography and Environmental Systems.

I believe teachers are navigators. It will be my pleasure to guide your child down a path of holistic learning through a project-based program in line with the IB philosophy. I look forward to meeting and working with you and your child in a positive, safe environment on a journey of successful learning adventures.

It is funny how things come full circle. I am thrilled to be spending time in a rural setting with a strong sense of community. For now, please feel free to contact me through the main office of the Milo Community School. - Ms. Hungerford

JANUARY ISSUE 201

CELEBRATE WITH US!

- Inquiry Day was on Dec. 9th which challenged students across grades 1-9 to research, create and present their ideas about lifelong learning. It was great to see everyone learning together across grades!
- Christmas Castaways was a hit with stand up room only for many audience members! Check out more pictures on the next page.
- We raised over \$900 with the Mom's Pantry Fundraiser!
- Welcome new teacher, Lisa Hungerford. She comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experiences!
- Good bye and good luck to Miss Smith in her new endeavours we will miss you!
- All the best to Mrs. Holgate during the next year with her new baby Leah Grace!



- Ski trip is booked for Feb. 23 at Castle Mountain! Watch for ski trip forms and information coming home soon.
- Options were a great success in the fall and will be changing in January for students to have another choice for options!



LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Our IB Learner Profiles were the focus for the Inquiry Day Challenge:



Explore like a

Hero

Step 1: Choose a Learner Profile & Group

Step 2: Research

Step 3: Create an icon and poster

Step 4: Feedback

Step 5: Present

Inquiry day was a great success with students self-organizing into groups of 4-5 to work toward a series of steps to complete a project. It was a great time of learning, collaboration and research.

Our Christmas Concert

Students worked diligently throughout the month of December creating props, costumes, sets and details for this year's Christmas Concert! This concert, Christmas Castaways, took the audience across various cultures around the world, including our very own Siksika culture, Ukrainian, Mexico, Hawaii, and the story of Jesus. Our band students also shared their learning so far with their instruments!

Thank you for everyone's effort and for the full crowd of families and community members that came to watch the production. And a special thank you to Mrs. Kirk and Miss Smith for leading and organizing the production!











