



Milaca Tracks & Tales

500 Hwy 23 West, Milaca MN 56353

Reminders

Monday, November 5
No School for Students

Tuesday, November 6
Election Day
Please vote!

Friday, November 9
Veterans Day Concert
1:00 p.m., Main Gym

Tuesday, November 13
Flu Shot Clinic
2:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Elementary Conferences:
3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

HS (Gr. 7-12) Conferences:
4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

FAFSA Workshop
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 15
No school for SR PreK

Elementary Conferences:
3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

HS (Gr. 7 & 8) Conferences:
English, Social Studies,
Science, and Health
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, November 16
Grades 6-8 Choir Concert
7:30 p.m., HS Gym



STAR Reading Club

Missy Tellinghuisen, PTO Chairperson

Milaca Elementary's STAR (Sit Together And Read) Reading Club has just entered its fourth year since its inception in 2014. Early childhood years are crucial for language development and eventual reading proficiency. A child entering kindergarten with a strong foundation in language development is more likely to read proficiently by third grade. Exposure to vocabulary in books is key to language development. The goal of STAR is to improve these early literacy skills of Milaca Elementary's earliest readers by providing reading experiences and suggestions for families at home.

Daily, students in preschool through first grade are able to choose a STAR book and take it home to read with their families. When finished, the student can return the book to his or her classroom and exchange it for a new book. If you have an extra STAR book at your house (a STAR label is located on the cover), please send it in with your child, so it can visit a new family. Monthly, each student fills out a reading calendar that has developmentally appropriate literacy activities embedded in each of the weeks. The literacy activities are designed so students can both review and challenge literacy skills that are being taught at home and in the classroom.

STAR books are made possible through generous donations by First National Bank of Milaca, Milaca Parent Teacher Organization, and a Dollar General Grant.

Why read

20 minutes

at home?

Student "A" reads
20 minutes/day
3,600 minutes/school year
1,800,000 words/year



90th percentile on standardized tests

Student "B" reads
5 minutes/day
900 minutes/school year
282,000 words/year



50th percentile on standardized tests

Student "C" reads
1 minute/day
180 minutes/school year
8,000 words/year



10th percentile on standardized tests

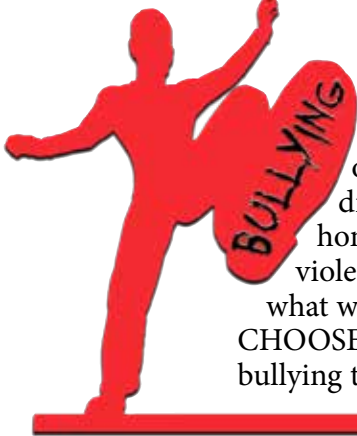
By the end of 6th grade, student "A" will have read the equivalent of **60 school days**, student "B" will have read **12 school days**, and student "C" will have read only **3**.

want to be a better **READER**? a better **WRITER**? a better **COMMUNICATOR**? **READ!**

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

National Block It Out Day

Colleen Bell, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program Trainer



The first Wednesday of every November is known as National Block It Out Day (#BlockItOutDay). An initiative of STOMP Out Bullying, the goal of this day is to block negativity from our digital lives and, by doing so, end cruelty, homophobia, racism, hatred, and online violence. Each of us has the power to choose what we give our attention to online. We can all CHOOSE to block out the online hatred, trolls and bullying that makes up the culture of cyberbullying.

So let's BLOCK the negative messages we each receive from social media,

create a SAFE, positive online space, and ENCOURAGE and EMPOWER others to do the same.

It takes bravery, but when a person blocks out their bully, they're blocking out negative messages and creating a healthy, safe, and positive online environment. When that person encourages their friends to do the same, they lead by example and help others create a safe space, too. When we come together in this way, we create a ripple effect that erases the spread of hate and cruelty on social media.

On Block It Out Day, Wednesday, November 7, STOMP Out Bullying is encouraging everyone who is being bullied, trolled, and mistreated online to not only block out their bully on social media, but to go a step further and encourage and empower their friends to block their own bullies as well.

National Block It Out Day
Wednesday, November 7

- We can control what we take in.
- We can and should refuse to take in negative messages of hate and discrimination!
- We can and will erase negative messages.
- We can and will take power away from bullies!

Olweus Kick Off with Eric Timm

Michelle Stupar, Social Worker

Milaca Elementary started the school year with an exciting Olweus kick off, with the help of Eric Samuel Timm, an orator, author, artist and visionary. Over the past year, Eric has toured with Toby Mac, Kari Jobe, and Hillsong.



At the kick off, Eric helped introduce this year's theme: *Being The Best You*. He spoke to our student body about *The Power of Words: Words of Life*. Students are using words as weapons now, more than ever before. Eric took students on a heartfelt journey through the life of another student's powerful story. He equipped them with personal responsibility for the words they say face to face, post online, and speak to themselves. This kick off challenged our students to speak words of life.

"You don't have to be friends with everyone, but you don't have to be enemies with anyone either. There is a better way and we can take that path together." - Eric Samuel Timm

Please Vote!
November 6



Milaca Public Schools - Instilling Pride and Achieving Excellence

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