If you need this document translated, please call the Westwood Public Schools' Student Services Department at 781 326-7500 x1345 or email your request to mmartin@westwood.k12.ma.us Thank you.

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أو على البريد الالكتروني الخاص بك x1345 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستوود "الخدمات الطلابية في 781 326-7500 mmartin@westwood.k12.ma.us لك. لطلب كنتشكرا

Если вам нужен этот документ переводится, пожалуйста, позвоните Вествудгосударственных школах "Студенческие службы Департамента по 781 326-7500 x1345или по электронной почте запрос на mmartin@westwood.k12.ma.us Спасибо.

Growing by . . . . . .

Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones Elementary School Newsletter

New publishing schedule for LEAPS - next edition February 3, 2012

Issue 15 | January 20, 2012

Each of the elementary schools is printing this article about the report card.

The January report card will be mailed to your home next Friday. The standards based report card provides clear communication about how a student is performing against grade level standards. Westwood has developed grade level standards aligned with content areas from the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. The mid-year report card indicates the child's mid-year performance as s/he works toward the year-end standard in English/language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, art, music, and physical education.The following questions and answers are a guide for parents to use with the mid-year report card.

How should I share report card information with my child?
It is appropriate to summarize the report card rather than show it to your child. Discuss specific skills that are strengths and those that require additional practice. Use current work samples as examples. This is a time to celebrate your child's accomplishments and list a few goals for the next few months.

How can I interpret the grading scale?
The January grades reflect how your child is progressing relative to mid-year expectations. A detailed explanation of the grading scale will be enclosed with the report card.

If my child receives a 2 or a 3 what does it mean?
A "3" indicates that the child is approaching that standard, but requires some support to reach it. A "2" indicates an area where the student is struggling and where continued practice and instruction are needed. Please keep in mind that there are many standards for each content area.

How can I help my child when s/he receives a 2 or 3?
Ways for parents to help children haven't changed: creating homework routines, reading aloud, reviewing corrected work, and encouraging activities that require problem solving and independence. Check with your child's teacher for specific ways to support his/her learning.

How does the school meet the needs of students who work above the grade level standard?
Students who consistently exceed grade level standards will continue to receive classroom

instruction that is commensurate with their skill level.

How are students with identified special needs evaluated using standards?
All students, including students with identified special needs, receive report cards that note current performance in relation to the grade level standards. For **s**tudents with Individual Educational Programs (IEP) parents will also receive progress reports on the IEP goals.

Peggy Scott

Martin Luther King, Jr. - a few memorable quotes

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere

Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.

Never succumb to the temptation of bitterness.

January & February 2012 Calendar

Early Release:
Grades K-5 dismissed at 11:50 AM (no lunch)
February 15th

No School:
February 20th - 24th February break

Leaps Publication Dates for February:
February 3rd & 17th

Meetings:

January 13th & 27th	"The Blessing of a Skinned Knee" book club 9:15-10:15 a.m.
February 3rd	Conversation with the Principal 9:00 am in MJ library
February 10th	"The Blessing of a Skinned Knee" book club 9:15-10:15 a.m.
February 16th	School Committee Meeting @ 7:30 pm

Enrichment:

February 8th	Skylab - Gr. 4
February 9th	Discovery Museum Sound Program - Gr. 2
February 9th	Boston Children's Theater field trip - Gr. 1
February	Art Matters presentations in the classrooms

Events:

January 23rd	Grade 5 - Beatnik Cafe
January 23rd	Mini-Courses begin through the week of March 19th
January 27th	Report cards mailed home
February 6th - 10th	Scholastic Book Fair
February 6th -17th	Read-a-Thon

Looking Ahead:

March 17th	WESC Social
March 23rd	PTO Meeting 9:00 AM
March 30th	Family Night

Martha Jones News

Budget meetings - stay informed!

On Wednesday, January 18th the Superintendent presented his recommended FY '13 budget to the School Committee and the public. The School Committee will continue to discuss the budget recommendations at their meeting on Thursday, **February 16th**. You are encouraged to attend School Committee and PTO meetings, read the budget documents posted on the Westwood Schools web page, and speak with your School Committee members whenever you have questions.

MCAS dates

Parents of students in grades 3-4-5, please note the MCAS dates scheduled for this year and avoid any appointments on these days. Thank you for your help!
March 20 - ELA comp (March 29 - make-up)

ELA *Grade 5:* 3/21 & 3/22 *Grade 4:* 3/26 & 3/27 *Grade 3:* 3/29 & 3/30

Math *Grade 5: 5/7 & 5/8* *Grade 3: 5/9 & 5/10* *Grade 4: 5/17 & 5/18*

Science & Technology/Engin. *Grade 5: 5/14 & 5/15*

From the Health Room

Whether we like it or not, the winter is upon us. With it comes the dreaded "stomach bug" and the inevitable, lingering cough and cold. We try very hard to teach the children to make a conscious effort to cover their mouth when they cough, to use and properly dispose of a tissue after blowing their nose, and try not to "spread their germs" by washing their hands frequently. Hand washing is the first line of defense to prevent the spread of germs.

Infectious diseases are illnesses caused by infection with specific germs: viruses, bacteria, fungi, or parasites. Infectious diseases that can be spread from one individual to another are called contagious or communicable diseases. These illnesses are one of the major problems that schools face, causing both student and staff absence, as well as discomfort. The responsibility for the care of each student rests with his or her family and his or her source of medical care. In all cases, diagnosis, testing, treatment, and follow-up care must be performed by your primary care physician.

Respiratory tract diseases can run rampant through a school. These diseases are spread through microscopic infectious droplets from the nose, eye, or throat, most of which are shared via hand contact with infected fluids and then contact with surfaces that uninfected people touch and pick up the germs. The flu virus is spread in this way. Respiratory tract diseases may be mild (viral colds), moderate (strep throat), or severe (bacterial meningitis).

We ask that you keep your child at home if s/he is ill. This means, to attend school s/he is fever-free and or has not vomited for 24 hours. If your child is well enough to attend school we expect that s/he will be able to fully participate in all school activities, including Physical Education and recess. If your doctor has diagnosed your child as having an infectious disease, such as Strep, please call me and let me know. It is helpful to all of us to know what illnesses are lurking in our building.

There have been several cases of pneumonia diagnosed in MA, including Westwood, since the Fall. Both the MA DPH and the Westwood BOH are tracking the incidence, looking for clusters. If your child is diagnosed with pneumonia, please let me know.

Celeste Mahoney RN
781-278-0275
cmahoney@westwood.k12.ma.us

Scholastic Book Fair - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The PTO will hold its annual Scholastic BOOK FAIR, **February 6-10, 2012**. The students will attend the book fair during their regularly schedule library class time. There will also be an opportunity for families to shop. This is a really fun event for the children and the parents. However, we can't do it without parent volunteers. Please click on the link below to volunteer.

Parent volunteers are needed to run the register, assist with book selection and posters and help the younger children manage their money. For planning purposes, please let us know if you can volunteer during your child's library time. We are using Google Docs to manage the sign-up process. Please click on the link below to add you name to the volunteer list.

Click here to sign-up

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Lauren Murray at jlmurray1@verizon.net or Elaine Beattie at emdbeattie@yahoo.com

We especially need help in the following areas:

Kindergarten - Giovanangelo
Grade 1 - Dunn
Grade 2 - Mundy
Grade 3 - Feintuck
Grade 4 - O'Toole, Holden
Grade 5 - Parkhurst, Pontes,
Family night - Wednesday

There are other open slots as well. THANK YOU!

Dressing for a Winter Day at School

Most children love and enjoy recess, especially in the winter snow. Morning (before school) and afternoon (after lunch) recess will be out doors at school **unless the air temperature, including wind chill factor, is below 20* or it is raining**. With this in mind, dressing your child appropriately for outdoor winter play is extremely important. We expect all children to be wearing a winter coat, hat, and mittens/gloves. If there is snow on the ground we would also include snow boots, and snow pants. Your child cannot remain dry, comfortable, and safe from the cold if s/he is not dressed properly.

Have young children practice putting on cold weather clothing. It takes time for small fingers to master zipping jackets, pulling on gloves and fastening boots. Devoting a few minutes at home for your child to practice dressing for cold weather allows him/her to save time when s/he has to redress for outdoor recess at school.

PTO News

Upcoming Enrichment Schedule:

Grades 4 - Skylab - February 8th
Grade 2 - Discover Museum sound program - February 9th
Grade 1 - Beantown Jumpers visit - March 2nd

ArtMatters - This program will be presented in your child's classroom during the month of February.

This session will focus on:
Grades K-2 - Music & Dance
Grades 3-5 - America West

Thank you for your support of these programs.

Thank you!

Another round of mini courses is scheduled to begin next week. Many, many thanks to **Stacie Reiser** for coordinating this very popular MJ program!!!

Box Tops for Education - GOAL ALMOST REACHED!!!

Our goal is to reach $700 in Box Tops rewards this year. We're currently at $535. We have $165 left to achieve our goal, with one more Box Tops submission remaining in March. To help us reach our goal, we're going to have a weekly drawing. **Everyone who submits Box Tops will be eligible to participate in the drawing**. Each week we'll choose 5 winners. We're going to run this program for 8 weeks. To participate, all you have to do is write your child's name on the Box Tops label and keep sending them in! If the Box Tops label is plastic or too small to write on, you can tape it on to a piece of paper with your child's name. Martha Jones has already received a check for $367 this year from Box Tops! Let work together, have some fun, and meet our goal!

Box Tops brands include Hefty, Ziploc, Betty Crocker, Fiber One bars, Boise, Avery, Yoplait, Pillsbury, Landolakes, Green Giant, Scott, Cottonelle, Viva, Progresso, Old El Paso, Cheerios, General Mills, and Nestle-Juice.

Quick Links

Martha Jones Website Marth Jones PTO

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU/ALLERGY INFO

Westwood Public Schools

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Join Our Mailing List!

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Trusted Email from Constant Contact FREE
Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to jcianciarulo@westwood.k12.ma.us by emdbeattie@yahoo.com | Update Profile/Email Address | Instant removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.

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