

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 12 - Mar. 1, 2019



[Westwood Public Schools](#) | [Martha Jones School](#) | [Martha Jones PTO](#)

Important Dates

Sat., Mar. 2	PTO Social "Apres Ski Party", 7:30PM - 11:30PM, German Club, Walpole SNOW OR SHINE THE EVENT WILL BE HELD
Tue., Mar. 5	Gr K - 2 Enrichment: Author Visit - Marty Kelley PTO Meeting, 7:00PM, MJ Library
Wed., Mar. 6	Student Council 8:00AM
Fri., Mar. 8	Gr. 5 Field Trip - Christa McAuliffe Center
Tue., Mar. 12	MJ Book Fair (Sponsored by the PTO and Park Street Books)
Wed., Mar. 13	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am.
Fri., Mar. 15	Math League, 7:45AM Gr 4 - 5 Enrichment: Author Visit - Dusti Bowling Gr 1 & 4, 2 & 5 Enrichment: Irish Step Dancing PTO Family Fun Night, 6:30PM - 8:00PM

A complete list of upcoming dates is available [online](#).



Message from the Principal

Each year the Martha Jones PTO applies for grants to help support our Enrichment Activities that the PTO provide to our students. While your donations to the PTO provide enrichment programs to each class and grade level as they relate to that grade's curriculum, as well as author shares, grants provide funding

for All School Enrichment Events. I would like to thank the **Westwood Cultural Council** for sponsoring our latest performance by the [Crabgrass Puppet Theater Company](#). Not only did the puppeteer perform for all of our students, but he also explained how the puppets work and how he comes up with the ideas and sets.

This year we also received grants from the **Foundation for Westwood Education** for [Veronica Robles - Boston's first all women mariachi](#). And a huge thank you to **Dedham Savings Bank, the Martha Jones School, and the MJ PTO** for combining efforts to provide air conditioning to 4 classrooms on the 2nd floor (we're starting with the hottest 4 classrooms in the building). The air conditioning units needed for the size of the classrooms must be commercial grade and vented through the roof so we will be installing them this summer in some of the upstairs classrooms. You might recall that last September we had some very hot days - this will certainly help. Thanks to Sheila Matthew and grade level contracts for organizing the enrichment programs and Kristin Donahue and Jessica Hancock for their fabulous grant writing skills.

MJ & District News

Save
The Date

March is a busy month! We hope that you'll spend some time with us on Friday nights in March/April! Save the dates for Fun, Fun, Fun!

Friday, March 15th - Family Fun Night - Bingo, Arts and Crafts, Special Prizes - More Information Coming Soon!

Friday March 29, 2019 from 6:00-7:30pm - FAMILY HEALTH AND FITNESS NIGHT IS BACK!! One of Everyone's Favorite Events -

Presented by Patrick Foley and Dawnmarie Shu



The 11th annual Martha Jones Family Health and Fitness Night will be held on Friday, March 29, 2019 from 6:00-7:30pm. This will be a fun night of education and activity. We are in the process of planning many different interactive booths and fun fitness stations ranging from reaching your target heart rate, jumping on a moon walk, to the importance of family skin care. These activities are scheduled to be held both indoors and outdoors. Our goal is to emphasize the importance of keeping your body healthy and fit to promote lifelong wellness. Please contact Dawnmarie Shu (dshu@westwood.k12.ma.us) or Patrick Foley (pfoley@westwood.k12.ma.us) if you are interested in helping us with this event. There will be more information in the upcoming weeks. Get ready to get moving!

Attention Martha Jones Parents:

Do you have any specific knowledge or skills in the area of **health, wellness, or fitness**? Please consider having a booth at the health fair. Examples from past fairs include PT/backpack safety, Nutrition/healthy eating habits, and skin safety among others. We would love to talk to you about this opportunity. Contact Dawnmarie Shu at dshu@westwood.k12.ma.us

April 5th - 6:30 PM MJ Cafe/Gym - Talent for A Cause - Almost 100 students will perform funny skits, hilarious scenes, dances routines, and musical numbers in this year's Talent for A Cause. Come see this year's crew perform Favorite Skits from Past Years.



WYFS - There are still openings in the Westwood Youth and Family Services 2nd/3rd Grade Structured Play Group at the Martha Jones starting on Tuesday March 5 – Tuesday April 30th.

Who: Westwood residents in 2nd – 3rd grade

When: Tuesdays March 5- April 30 at 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Where: Martha Jones Elementary

What: These 8-week groups are designed to emphasize the continued development of adaptive social and conflict-resolution skills as well as self-esteem and social confidence. Organized play and drawing activities are used to reinforce weekly topics such as initiating & developing friendships, working cooperatively as a team, appropriate communication, decision-making, as well as appreciating one's own strengths and the differences of others, etc. Participants should feel comfortable and be able to be successful in a 1:4, adult-to-child ratio.

Contact: Nina Banozic, LICSW at (781) 320-1006 or nbanozic@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Register

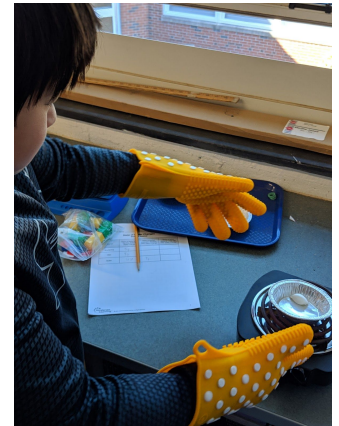
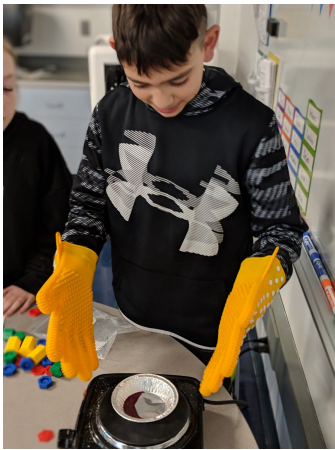
at:

[http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs for youth/programs for elementary aged residents/structured play group.htm](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs%20for%20youth/programs%20for%20elementary%20aged%20residents/structured%20play%20group.htm)

Classroom Happenings

News from 5R (Ms. Reed)

Fifth-grade scientists have been learning all about States of Matter! They started by measuring the mass of substances and adding heat to change them from solids to liquids. Next, they measured the mass again to see if there was any change in mass when matter changes states. After eliminating outside factors such as evaporation, 5R scientists determined that even when matter changes states, the mass stays the same! Up next, they will be investigating measurable properties of matter including magnetism, size, and weight.



News from 2M (Ms. Mundy)

The second graders celebrated the 100th Day of School with three very special 100-year-old visitors from Fox Hill Village! Ms. Mundy's and Ms. Hartwell's classes enjoyed an afternoon with Miss Gorman (101), Mrs. Carroll (98) and Mr. Podger (97). Students had many questions to ask about what life was like growing up 100 years ago. We learned about the early models of the automobile, telephone, and television. Students were surprised to find out that Mr. Podger still remembered his phone number as a child, and it only consisted of two digits! Our guests remembered living through exciting moments in history like The Great Molasses Flood of Boston in 1919, Martin Luther King Jr's "I Have a Dream" speech, and Apollo 11 - the spaceflight that landed the first two people on the moon. The students learned that all of our guests walked home from school for lunch and returned back to school each afternoon. Life was quite different 100 years ago! The students and our special guests thoroughly enjoyed their time together!



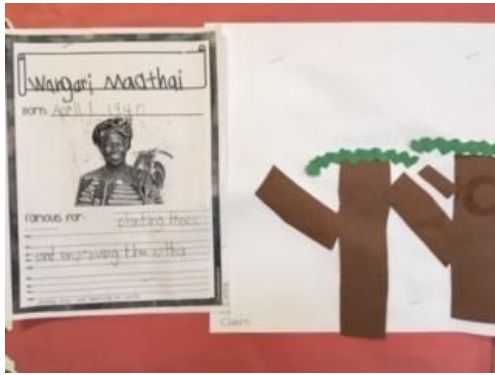
Here are just a few classroom happenings that took place during Black History Month.

News from KL (Mrs. Layton) What is Black History Month?

Black History Month is a month-long recognition of the achievements and accomplishments of African

American people throughout history—from the inventor of the traffic light to the first African-American president. In Room 109, we learned about an inventor (Garrett Morgan), an explorer (Matthew Henson), an astronaut (Mae Jemison), an athlete (Jackie Robinson), a musician (Louis Armstrong), among others. We talked about the

struggles of African Americans and those who stood up for what was right (Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks). Our discussions coincided with our Making Shapes math unit. The kids had a wonderful time creating objects out of shapes that reminded them of important figures during Black History Month. Enjoy!



Mrs. Luskin's Class Recognizes Black History Month -

It is a regular part of our class to read books with diverse settings, characters, and themes. Our class has been focusing on characters that show "grit". One such character is Ayanna Najuma. Students read and performed a reader's theater about her and the sit-ins she took part in. We then used this reading as a model for a character trait project.

Ayanna Najuma



Ayanna Najuma was a second-grader who grew up in the 1950s in Oklahoma when the law made black and white people segregated. She and other children were trained to sit in all-white restaurants so that the restaurants would have to serve black customers too.

Ayanna Najuma was determined to change the laws about segregation in her town. For example, she trained hard to do sit-ins at all-white restaurants. This shows that she was determined to change the laws by being committed to learn ways to do sit-ins peacefully. Another example that Ayanna is determined is when she stayed seated all day in a restaurant when she was not served. This shows determination because it was difficult for her to sit all day without food and drink and with white people treating her nastily. Lastly, Ayanna showed determination when she went back to the same restaurant two more times to do a sit-in. She was not going to give up until she got served her food and drink order. Ayanna Najuma's determination helped change the laws of segregation in her town, and she inspired others to do the same.

News from Music (Mrs. Saada-Smith)

5th Graders in Mrs. Saada-Smith's music class have been learning about rhythm. They began the unit, "How Does Music Unite Us" by drumming African rhythms together using many different percussion instruments in the music room such as djembes, gangkogui and shekeres. After they learned to play as an ensemble, the students learned an uplifting song, *Sansa Kroma*, a song often sung by children in Ghana that goes along with a stone passing game (which they played in small groups). The song is a reminder that the whole village is there to take care of them. This past week, the students put together a percussion ensemble and created their own complementary rhythms, which they performed for the class.



Pictured are students from 5Pa, practicing their projects. Then we began learning some African Dance!

Thank you for your donations to the Souper Bowl! - The students loved wearing their sports gear and we were able to donate many, many bags of groceries to the Westwood Food Pantry!



PTO News

2019 MARTHA JONES PARENT SOCIAL: THIS SATURDAY!!!!

Have cabin fever?? The Martha Jones Apres Ski Party is the remedy!! The party will be held this Saturday, March 2 from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. at The German Club on Route 109. There will be a DJ, cash-bar, silent auction and teacher experience auction. This is a kid-free event, so book your sitters now!

[Buy your tickets here](#)

Upcoming PTO Meeting

Our 3rd PTO meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday, March 5, at 7:00 pm in the Martha Jones Library. We hope that all parents feel welcome and connected to our school community. Please feel free to join us. Whether this is your 1st PTO meeting or your 100th, we are always happy to see you!

MARTHA JONES BOOK FAIR

We are once again working together with **Park Street Books** for *one fabulous day of shopping!*

[Book fair flyer](#)

Tuesday, March 12th will include:

- Morning Bagels and Books
- Classes shop the fair at designated times during the school day
- Family Shopping Night

The [class schedule and volunteer opportunity list](#) is here. Hope to see you there!

5th GRADE PARENTS—WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Yearbook committee is collecting photos and needs your help:

- If you haven't already submitted your child's baby picture, please email your child's high resolution baby photo to 2019mjyearbook@gmail.com by **March 1**. Please have just your child in the picture. Please include your child's name and teacher in the subject line. If you are unable to email it, please send an original photo in your child's backpack with their name and teacher written on the back to be turned into the teacher. Originals will be returned to you.
- We are also collecting your highest quality pictures of your child and his/her classmates from grades K-5. *Only photos taken at MJS or photos taken at a school function will be accepted.* Group photos are encouraged!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Kathy Hannon at kchop67@gmail.com or Lucy Maroun at marounFamily42@gmail.com

MARTHA JONES PTO FACEBOOK GROUP

Did you know Martha Jones PTO has its own Facebook group page? Join the Facebook group to get the latest PTO news and updates delivered right to your news feed! [Click here to join!](#)

PTO CONTACT FOR EVENTS, NOTICES:

If you have an event or notice for our PTO update, please email it to PTO Co-Secretary Erica Howe at erica.gregg.howe@gmail.com.

WPS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation.

If you need this document translated, please call the Student Services Department at 781-326-7500 ext. 1346 or email your request to jlouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us. Thank you.

如果您需要翻译本文档，请致电Westwood的公立学校的学生服务部在781 326-7500, 1346 或电子邮件您的要求 jlouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us 谢谢你。
أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك 1346 ext. إذا بحاجة إلى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781 7500-326
لك. لطلب كنتشكر|jlouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us

Если вам нужен этот документ переводится, пожалуйста, позвоните Вествудгосударственных школах "Студенческие службы Департамента по 781 326-7500 ext. 1346 или по электронной почте запрос на jlouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us Спасибо.

Visit the Martha Jones Book Fair

Sponsored by MJ PTO & Park Street Books



**ONE DAY FAIR
ONLY**

TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH

BAGELS AND BOOKS

8:15 AM - 8:45 AM

Come early for our grand opening and enjoy some light breakfast refreshments while shopping. Students can bring mom, dad, grandparent, or special person to shop with them. Please note that this is not a drop off event and all students must be supervised by an adult.

CLASS VISITS

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All students will visit the book fair and shop with their class. Parents may volunteer during their child's visit to help select books or count money/change.

FAMILY SHOPPING NIGHT

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Come shop our special evening hours. Students can bring mom, dad, grandparent, or special person to shop with them. Please note that this is not a drop off event and all students must be supervised by an adult.



PARENT PROGRAM

PREVENTING BIASED-BASED BULLYING

PARENTS WILL LEARN ABOUT BIAS-BASED BULLYING AND HOW THEY CAN SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN AS THEY DEVELOP ALLY BEHAVIORS AND SKILLS. TOGETHER, WE WILL LOOK AT BULLYING IN SCHOOLS AND DEVELOP TECHNIQUES TO EMPOWER STUDENTS TO BECOME LEADERS IN CREATING HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19 | 7 PM
HIGH SCHOOL LITTLE THEATER

This workshop will be led by Danielle Murray, Westwood parent and Safe and Welcoming Schools Specialist at the Boston Public Schools.



Westwood High School Presents:

WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS

Disney

FREAKY
FRIDAY

A NEW MUSICAL

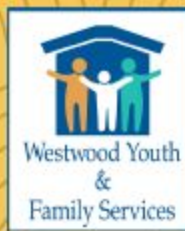
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MARCH 14 & 15 @ 7:30
MARCH 16 @ 2:00 & 7:30

\$10.00 STUDENTS & SENIOR CITIZENS
\$15.00 ADULTS

WESTWOOD
STAGE
.COM

tickets and info at WestwoodStage.com



Structured Play Group

2018-2019 Group Description

These 8-week groups for K - 5th graders emphasize the development of social skills as well as building self-esteem and confidence. Organized play and activities are used to reinforce topics such as initiating and developing friendships, working cooperatively, and recognizing personal strengths. All groups are free of charge and run 4:00 - 5:00 PM.



Spring 2019 Groups now available!

Kindergarten/1st Grade

- Wednesdays, March 27 - May 22, Islington Community Center
- Thursdays, Feb. 14 - April 11, Islington Community Center

2nd/3rd Grade

- Tuesdays, March 5 - April 30, Martha Jones Elementary

Contact: Nina Banozic, LICSW
781-320-1006 or nbanozic@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Register online at:

<http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/default.htm>