

# Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.  
Issue 13 - Mar. 15, 2019

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



DON'T FORGET TONIGHT IS  
FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT  
MARTHA JONES  
6:30 to 8:00 PM

- BINGO
- ARTS & CRAFTS AND
- LOTS OF FUN

## Important Dates

<b>Tue., Mar. 19</b>	Gr. 5 Enrichment: MOS Star Lab District Programming:  Preventing Biased-Based Bullying, 7pm, WHS - Little Theater
<b>Thu., Mar. 21</b>	Gr. 4 Open Band 9:00AM - 9:45AM
<b>Fri., Mar. 22</b>	Gr. K Field Trip - Discovery Museum
<b>Tue., Mar. 26</b>	School Committee Meeting 7:00PM, WHS - Little Theater
<b>Wed., Mar. 27</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am.
<b>Thu., Mar. 28</b>	Gr K Enrichment: Dental Visit  Gr. 4 Field Trip - BSO
<b>Fri., Mar. 29</b>	Math League, 7:45AM  SPIRIT DAY - Color Day  MJ Health & Fitness Fair, 6:00PM - 7:30PM
<b>Wed., Apr. 3</b>	All School Enrichment: Veronica Robles Mariachi
<b>Wed., Apr. 3</b>	Student Council 8AM
<b>Thu., Apr. 4</b>	District Programming: How to Emotionally Equip Our Kids, 7PM, Deerfield School
<b>Fri., Apr. 5</b>	Math League, 7:45AM  MJ Play - Talent for a Cause 6:30PM - 7:30PM

## Message from the Principal

**Welcoming Committee** - One of the major goals of the Martha Jones school community is that all students and families feel welcomed, safe, and supported. We have families of all different configurations from numerous cultures and countries, who speak many languages, celebrate various holidays, and have wonderful stories and backgrounds to share. In order to ensure that we are meeting the



needs of all of our families, I will be starting a Welcoming Committee. If you are interested in participating in the Welcoming Committee (the committee may decide on a different name), [please sign up here](#). The committee will look for ways to celebrate similarities and differences among families, ensure that all school community members are recognized, and plan events that help all children learn about others and embrace diversity. I hope to have one or two meeting this year and really kick off some fun events for next year.

### Parent Workshop - Preventing Bias Based Bullying

Westwood Public Schools has done a series of Parenting Workshops this year. On Tuesday, March 19th - Danielle Murray - a Safe and Welcoming Schools presenter, member of the Boston Public Schools Equity Office, and best of all, a Martha Jones parent will be presenting a workshop on preventing bias-based bullying. I hope you'll join us on Tuesday evening in the Little Theater at Westwood High School.

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

# MJ & District News

**Announcement from MJ Student Council** - By, Student Council Elle and Selin 😊

## Your Favorite Color Day

The student council is proud to announce the next spirit day. **On Friday, March 29th** we will be having "Your favorite Color Day". Wear your favorite color shirt, pants, socks, jewelry or even shoes. We will get to know people better by learning who likes which color. We can even look carefully around the school and try to figure out which color is the most popular! So, show your school spirit and wear your favorite color

## **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. Please contact Dawnmarie Shu ([dshu@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:dshu@westwood.k12.ma.us)) or Patrick Foley ([pfoley@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:pfoley@westwood.k12.ma.us)) if you are interested in helping us with this event. Get ready to get moving! If you know of any vendors who would like to participate, please have them contact Patrick or Dawnmarie.



Carpool Reminder - PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON SPRUCE DRIVE OR THE CUL-DE-SAC ON SPRUCE DRIVE to pick up your child. We did not want cars parked and traffic moving where the walkers are walking. If you are picking up your child, please use the carpool lane and make sure children can enter and exit your car from the passenger side. Thank you.



Our very fashionable teachers got dressed up for the 5th-grade field trip to the Christa McAuliffe Museum last Friday. This is a favorite field trip among the students and teachers. Expedition Mars brings science to life, giving students the exciting opportunity to apply what they learn in the classroom to a real-life scenario in our state-of-the-art simulated learning environment. Through both project and problem-based learning, students taking part in the mission have to complete tasks to ensure success. At the same time, they may encounter emergencies or unexpected problems that require critical thinking and decision-making skills to find resolutions. Each student plays a part in the mission, interacts with at least one physical hands-on lab, and is responsible for finishing several tasks. Teamwork is crucial because if one member of the class fails to complete his or her job, the entire mission may be at risk.

# Classroom Happenings

## News from Literacy (Ms. Child)

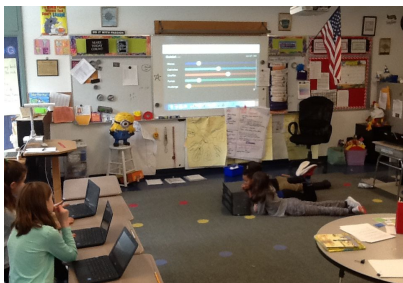
First Grade Readers! Our first-grade students have grown immensely over the past several months. First grade is a huge year of growth for these young readers and writers. Students go from recognizing only a few words to recognizing many, many words with ease and automaticity. Additionally, they have many tools for solving hard words. They are learning to use more than one strategy, while always thinking about what makes sense and sounds right. During reading workshop, students have the opportunity to make their own book choices, practice strategies on their own and with a partner, and share their thoughts and ideas. It is wonderful to see them read with stamina and independence!

Tools for Solving and Checking Hard words		
Try Something!		Check It!
Think about what's happening.	Check the picture.	Does that make SENSE?
Think what kind of word would fit.	Get a running start.	Does that SOUND right?
Try it many ways.	Read it part by part.	Does that LOOK right?
Do a s-l-o-w check!	Crash the parts together.	
Check if it's a snaf word.	Use a word you know.	



## News from 3M (Ms. MacDonald)

The students in 3M are working on interpreting and solving multiplication and division stories. We were using the computer program Quizlet Live to collaborate and work together in teams of 3. Their goal was to be the first team to accurately match math stories to the correct quantities by using images of arrays.



### **News from Music (Mrs. Pickering)**

The 3rd-grade musicians from Mrs. Luskin's class are in their Recorder Unit. The students have been working on creating a good tone on their instrument, reading and responding to musical notation, and playing together as a musical ensemble. This week, the students have created their own compositions and recorded a video performing their piece. Finally, the students uploaded their work to their digital portfolio in seesaw that is shared with families. Enjoy!



### **News from 4B (Ms. Bass)**



In 4B, we just launched a new unit in math focusing on size, shape and symmetry. We began with an examination of linear measurement, including U.S. standard and metric units. Several objects in the classroom - including desk edges, door frames, pencils and folders - were measured in student partnerships to 1)



2) reacclimate students to different units of measure, and 2) help students to develop common points of reference (e.g., the width of a door frame is frequently the length of a yard; a staple is frequently the length of a centimeter). Recently, the fourth graders partnered up to measure the varying perimeters of these common classroom objects. It was a great exercise in teamwork, estimation, precision, and of course, strategizing to determine perimeter!

# PTO News

## **MARTHA JONES FAMILY NIGHT—this Friday!**

Please join us this Friday, March 15th for our Annual Family Night at 6:30 pm. Students will play bingo for spring/summer related prizes - think spring and outdoor activities!

We'll also have arts and craft activities available. Students will have the option to take their crafts home or we'll donate them to a local nursing home for residents to enjoy.

The PTO provides funding for Family Night so there is no cost to attend. \*\*We'd appreciate any donations to the Westwood Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is in need of the following:

Personal care items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, disposal razors, etc); peanut butter, jelly, flour, sugar, salad dressing, cake mixes, pancake mix and syrup. Thank you!

## **PTO Meeting—budget update**

The Westwood school district recently asked all the Westwood School PTO's to help fund the Parent Programming that is offered through the school district, for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. Each School's PTO was asked if they would be willing to donate \$750 to support the program. At the recent Martha Jones PTO meeting, the board opened the discussion up to a vote, as this donation would be an expense that is not in the original approved Budget. The donation of \$750 was approved by vote.

Here is the link to the parent programs that are offered this year.

<http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/district/superintendents-office/parent-programming/>

## **Special Appreciation to The German Club and Konditor Meister**

The PTO would like to extend a special thank you to The German Club in Walpole for hosting the annual MJ Parent Social. The German Club graciously donates the space at no cost to Martha Jones. If you are in need of event space for a function, please consider the GC! Tell Karl the Martha Jones PTO sent you!

We'd also like to thank Konditor Meister bakery for the scrumptious pastries they gave us at no cost!

## **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](mailto:erica.gregg.howe@gmail.com).

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[lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us). Thank you.

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لك. [لطلب كنتشكر lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:lpouffe@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 [lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us) Спасибо.



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 ©Disney

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](http://WestwoodStage.com)





# Westwood SEPAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



Tuesday, March 26, 2019

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Westwood Public Library, 660 High St, Westwood, MA ([map](#))

March is Mental Health Awareness Month. There's nobody more important to take care of than yourself when raising a child with special needs.

Join us for an evening of self care as we explore simple mindfulness practices and yoga stretches to ease physical and mental tension. Learn practical and beneficial tools to manage daily stress and nourish the mind-body connection for greater health and overall well-being.

We will have an optional donations jar for those who want to contribute to the Westwood SEPAC. We don't do any major fundraising but sometimes our special speakers and events cost money.

Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat if you have one. Please RSVP on the Facebook Page or to [westwoodsepac@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodsepac@gmail.com). SPACE IS LIMITED.

Thank you to Patricia Chilangwa for donating her time and sharing her practice with us.

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Join our closed Facebook Group: [Westwood SEPAC-Special Education Parent Advisory Council](#)

Website: [www.westwoodsepac.org](http://www.westwoodsepac.org) // To volunteer, questions, or submit ideas email: [westwoodsepac@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodsepac@gmail.com)

Board: Megan Brenk & Meggan Flaherty, Co-chairs • Angela Pomarole & Aravind Mowva, Co-Secretaries • Kelly Anderson & Jennifer Ellis, Co-Treasurers

# Westwood SEPAC

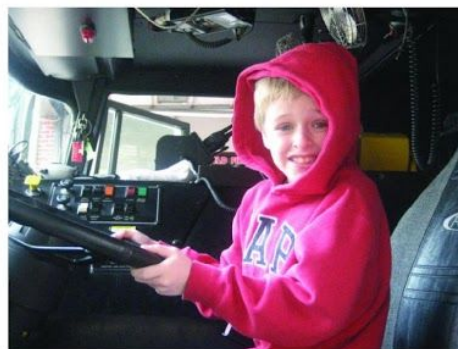
SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



## Safety for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Tuesday, April 2, 2019  
7:00 PM -9:00 PM

Please join us as retired Fire Captain, Bill Cannata, presents the ALEC (Autism Law Enforcement and Education Coalition) headquartered here in Westwood.



Learn how your local First Responders have been trained to prepare for emergency situations involving your loved one diagnosed with autism and other related developmental disabilities.

Location: Westwood High School, 220 Nahatan Street Park in the front horseshoe parking lot off Nahatan Street. Go through the doors marked "District Administration". Once inside follow signage to Professional Development Room.

[ALEC](#)

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Join our closed Facebook Group: [Westwood SEPAC-Special Education Parent Advisory Council](#)  
To volunteer, questions, or submit ideas [email: westwoodsepac@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodsepac@gmail.com)  
Board: Megan Brenk & Meggan Flaherty, Co-chairs • Angela Pomarole & Aravind Mowa, Co-Secretaries •  
Kelly Anderson & Jennifer Ellis, Co-Treasurers