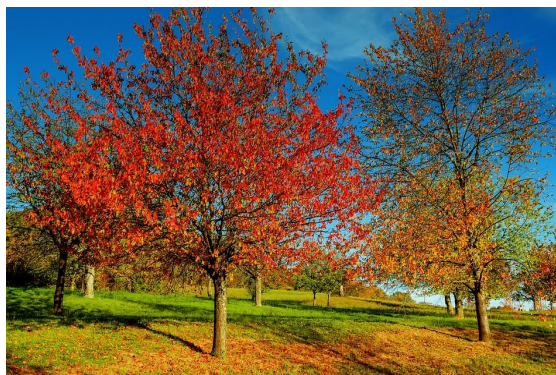


Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 3 - Oct. 12, 2018



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

Important Dates

Wed., Oct. 24	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
Fri., Oct. 26	PTO Halloween Event (6:30 - 8:00) and Haunted Hallway (6:45 to 7:45)
Mon., Oct 29	Picture Retake day
Wed., Oct. 31	Kindergarten Field Trip - Fox Hill Village Magic Show
Thu., Nov. 1	Gr. 2 Enrichment: Dental Visit
Mon., Nov. 5	School Committee meeting 7pm, District Office PD Room (Rescheduled from 11/15)
Wed., Nov. 7	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. Parent/Teacher Conferences as scheduled
Mon., Nov. 12	Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL
Wed., Nov. 14	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. Parent/Teacher Conferences as scheduled
Thu., Nov. 15	Parent Teacher Conferences / Evening (as scheduled)
Wed., Nov. 20	12:00 Dismissal for Thanksgiving Break

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

Martha Jones School Telephone Extensions:
Office 781-326-7500, ext. 6321

Message from the Principal

Teachers as Learners - At Wednesdays' professional development, all elementary staff participated in a district wide workshop with author Jessica Minahan. Ms. Minahan is the author of *The Behavior Code: A Practical Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Most Challenging Students* and *The Behavior Code Companion Strategies, Tools, and Interventions for Supporting Students with Anxiety-Related or Oppositional Behaviors*. While Ms. Minahan focused the workshop on supporting students with attention and anxiety difficulties, the strategies, teaching points, and information she shared is really beneficial when thinking about all students and the unique needs of students' as individuals. If you ever have the opportunity to hear Jessica Minahan speak, I highly recommend her.

Costumes Needed - As you start shopping for Halloween, please keep in mind that we support two organizations each year during the Halloween season. The Ouellette family does a costume drive each year for children in need who cannot afford costumes. These children may be in foster care, living



in communities of poverty, or living right here in our community and are in need. We will be collecting costumes from now until the evening of our Halloween celebration and Haunted Hallway (October 26th). Please consider donating a slightly used or new costume. There is a Drop Off box in the school lobby.

Candy Drive - In addition, we will also be participating again this year in the Wellesley Dental Group's **11th Annual Candy Drive for the Troops**. From Nov. 1st through Nov. 7th, we will be collecting all donated candy to be sent to our troops overseas as a pick-me-up and reminder that people at home in the USA are thinking of them.

MJ News

Fundraisers - This is the time of year when many of you may be asking yourselves, "How many fundraisers does this school do?" Please know that the PTO fundraisers and events are heavy in the Fall for a few reasons:

1. The original works fundraiser and current scripts fundraisers are done at this time to allow you to order items for the holiday season. Grandma, Aunts and Uncles, Godparents, and others love getting notecards, mugs, and calendars with your child's artwork. This is a unique way to celebrate your child's creativity while doing your holiday shopping all at once. The Scripts fundraiser (see more information below) is a great way to support the school without spending any additional money. Many of us buy gift certificates for holiday gifts, graduation presents, birthdays, and weddings. Why not get those same gift certificates through scripts? It cost you no more, the gift certificate continues to be worth its full value, and a percentage of the amount of the gift certificate is returned to the Martha Jones School - a win-win for everyone. Some people even buy certificates to local supermarkets and other places they regularly shop. They know they'll spend the money and we get funds to support our programs.

2. Having fundraisers early in the year allows us to have money available for programs that might come up sooner rather than later. While the majority of the programs and field trips are done in the Spring, once all the fundraisers are completed, it makes sense to do some earlier in the school year.

3. Some of our fundraisers seem more timely than others in terms of opportunity. We decided to hold the Savers fundraiser when we thought many of you would be cleaning out your summer clothes and be getting ready for fall and winter. **We donated over 9,000 lbs of clothing and raised \$2,300 towards our PTO budget.** If you didn't get a chance to go through your clothes, no worries. There has been a few suggestions to do another clothing drive at the end of the school year, so save those donations.

Please know that I appreciate your generosity and commitment to our school community and the fun and engaging activities that are provided by our PTO. These events help build our school community and support the culture of home/school partnerships. Hope to see everyone at the Halloween Celebration on Friday, October 26th. This is a free family event sponsored by the PTO.

Pokemon is back? I think I saw students with Pokemon cards this week. I remember when my sons were avid collectors of Pokemon and they are in their 20s. I could probably dig out some old pokemon cards from stored boxes; maybe that would make me the "cool" principal :)! Please remind your child that teachers can not keep track of Pokemon cards. If your child does bring cards to school, please remind him/her that trading cards or giving cards to others is not allowed in school. Please save trading and sharing for home playdates. Like all items from home, if the item is near and dear to your child, please do not allow him/her to bring it to school. We can not be responsible for items brought from home.

Parent Forums - This year, the district is planning a series of parent forums. With topics ranging from How to Teach Children to Be Good Digital Citizens to Science with Young Children to Preventing Bias Based Bullying, we hope that you will find a topic of interest to you. Our first two forums are:



Tuesday, October 30, 10am-11am, District Administration Professional Development Room

Teaching Our Children to Be Good Digital Citizens: Working Together to Prevent Cyberbullying and Sexting

Learning how to use, and how to live with, digital technology is a challenge for all parents today. Come and hear about myths that might be draining your parenting confidence and concrete, useful strategies that you can use to help your child learn to use digital technology in a safe and healthy way.

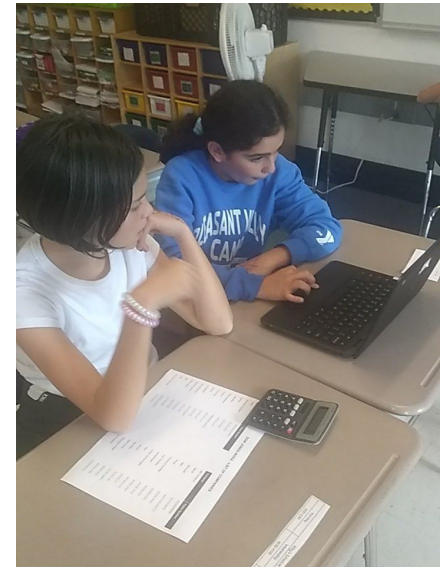
Thursday, November 8, 7pm, High School Little Theater

Limit Setting in the Age of Technology: Effective Strategies for Kindergarten through 8th Grade.

Classroom Happenings

News from 5B (Mr. Bartlett)

Students in 5th Grade have been learning all about money, investing, and how the stock market works by participating the national [Stock Market Game](#). Students have been working in small groups to invest a simulated \$100,000 in stocks and bonds. Based on their investments, the groups have been tracking their stock holdings, selling underperforming or over-performing stocks, and re-investing funds in other companies. Popular investments have included Nike (NKE), Microsoft (MSFT), and Intel (INTC). Alongside math and technology skills, students have also been learning collaboration and decision making skills in real life situations



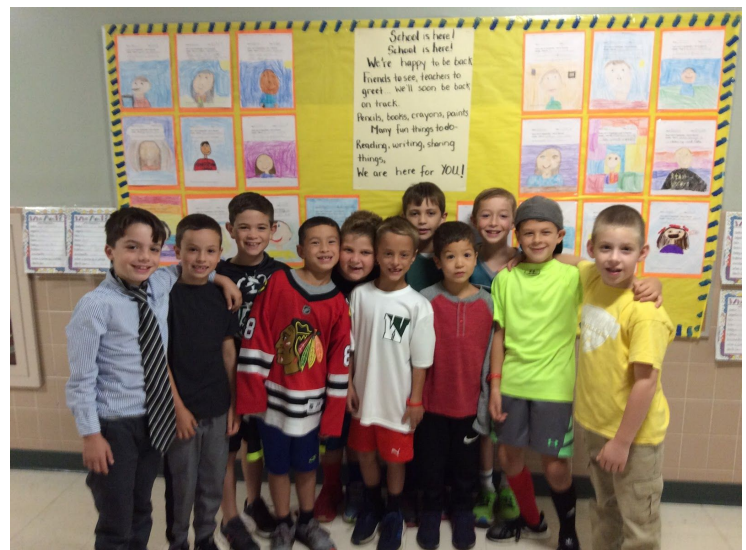
News from 2H (Ms. Hartwell)

In the classroom, a read aloud is a shared experience. Read alouds are a wonderful way to teach children. Tracking a story over time, memory, listening to the reader's voice, discussing, inferring, and predicting are a few of the skills practiced while reading out loud to a child. A week ago in Room 105, we finished our first read aloud "Gooney Bird Greene" by Lois Lowry. Years ago,

I introduced this amusing and popular favorite to my second graders. As a class, we decided to showcase and celebrate our unique selves and our story telling, by having a



"Gooney Bird Greene Day". To this day, the children are still inspired by "Gooney Bird Greene", and the tradition continues and is celebrated in each second grade classroom.



News from 1F (Mrs. Fader)

Students in 1F have been working hard at building routines and good reading habits during Reader's Workshop. Every week the students book shop for just right books for their book bags. We recently started using a reading mat to help us set up for success during reading time. We have been keeping track of how many times we reread our books and making new goals for the next day. Students have been learning to be active readers every time they pick up a book to read. One habit we have been working on is doing something



at the end of a book. Instead of closing the book and moving on to read another, students have been rereading and practicing their retell. Students have been working with their reading buddies on a "5 Finger Retell". They make a fist and put a finger up for each part of their retell. Students are practicing using words such as "first, next, then, after that, and finally" when retelling a book. The students continue to practice these skills and build their reading stamina every day. We have made it to 15 minutes of quiet independent reading!



News from Ms. Mulhern

In the Learning Center we are exploring the world of flexible seating. In our room we have currently have six options of seats, aside from the normal desk chair: a bean bag chair, yoga ball (in a stabilizing stand), basic stool, wobble stool, desk chair with a stretchy kick band and desk chair with balance disk. The students have been given an opportunity to explore the choices in our room. We have developed flexible seating expectations for the room, and students are working to find what works best for them. Flexible seating creates a fun and comfortable learning environment where students feel as if they are able to communicate their needs and are given a choice when it comes to their learning. Flexible seating provides sensory input which can help children focus and process the information they are learning. Flexible seating students to wobble, rock, or bounce, which increases oxygen flow to the brain, allowing students to have more on-task behavior. We were fortunate enough to have the support of the PTO in our quest for more Occupational Therapy tools in the Learning Center. We were given money to make some purchases over the summer and are very grateful for this opportunity.

Flexible Seating Rules

Find a **SMART SEAT** that helps you do your **BEST** work

SMART!



Find a new seat **IF** your seat is not working for you



A teacher can ask you to move at **ANYTIME** if you are not following the rules



Work as a **COMMUNITY** to take care of our classroom supplies



Use your seat **CORRECTLY**



PTO News

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Library Volunteers

Duties consist of helping children find books, check out, reshelv and organize books. The library volunteer coordinator will be in touch with the class schedules for the library.

We are still in need of 1 volunteer for the following classes:

- Grade 1 - Kyvelos
- Grade 3 - Luskin
- Grade 3 - MacDonald
- Grade 4 - O'Toole
- Grade 4 - Waldner
- Grade 5 - Parkhurst

Please [Click here](#) if you can help in the library.

PTO Committees

We are in need of volunteers on several PTO committees, including the committee that plans the VERY popular Martha Jones Halloween Party. [Click here if you'd like to join one of our MANY committees!](#) We need your help to ensure a successful school year!

MARTHA JONES HALLOWEEN PARTY: *Friday, Oct. 26! 6:30pm to 8pm*

Boo!! Halloween fun & games and a bounce house will be in the gym. A DJ dance party and refreshments will be in the cafeteria. The frightfully fun Haunted Hallway will run for one hour from 6:45-7:45 p.m. (Please note: The Haunted Hallway may be scary for young children.)

We need DOZENS of parent volunteers to make this night happen. We need parents to help in the gym, craft room, and parents to DRESS up and scare kids in the Haunted Hallway. [Click here to volunteer!!!](#)

We will be collecting items for the Westwood Food Pantry at the party. Feel free to drop something off in the lobby. While there is no cost to attend the Halloween Party, which is open to all MJ students, siblings and families, we do ask that in lieu of an admission ticket, each person bring a canned or dry good to donate to the Westwood Food Pantry.

A 50/50 raffle will also be offered during the night.

SCRIPS FUNDRAISER: *Order Forms Going Home Oct. 12*

This fundraiser is an easy way for Martha Jones to raise money. Here's how it works: The PTO purchases gift certificates from popular retailers at a discount. Parents then buy the gift certificates from the school at face value. The difference in price is kept by the school. Parents spend the gift cards at the retailer, where it's worth the full-face value. If you give gift certificates for gifts, holidays, or shop at any of the retailers, this is a great way to support Martha Jones with NO additional cost to you.

[Scrip order forms](#) will go home in backpacks on Friday, Oct. 12. **They are due Wednesday, Nov. 1.** In order to get all gift certificates back in time for the holidays, late orders cannot be accepted.

Checks should be made payable to the Martha Jones PTO, Inc. Please forward your order form and check to the school office in an envelope marked PTO SCRIP. Orders should be back to you by Nov. 16 -- just in time for Black Friday shopping!!

FALL BOX TOPS COMPETITION

We are excited to announce our first classroom Box Top competition of the 2018-2019 school year! Please send in your unexpired Box Tops by using [the attached collection sheet](#) or in a plastic bag labeled with your child's name and total number. Box Tops will be collected in each class. The class with the most Box Tops collected *through October 19* will win a popsicle party!

Each Box Top is worth 10¢ for our school. Martha Jones can use this money to help pay for school supplies, fund field trip expenses and other fun events! In addition to a Fall and Spring competition, we collect Box Tops year-round, so please feel free to send them in whenever you have them!

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.

Westwood Public Schools 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 Westwood Public Schools' Student Services Department at 781-326-7500 ext. 1346 or email your request to lpouffe@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 ext. 1346 或电子邮件您的要求 lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us 谢谢你。
أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك ext. 1346 إذا بحاجة إلى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستودود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500
لك. لطلب كنتشكر 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 Спасибо.

Book Sale

Presented by

The Friends of the Westwood Library

Thursday, October 18th 1pm - 9pm

Friday, October 19th 10am - 6pm

Saturday, October 20th 10am - 3pm



Money raised through the book sale supports Library programs and services, including museum passes, lectures, author talks, technology upgrades, and children programs.

Westwood SEPAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



The Westwood SEPAC invites all families and interested professionals to a workshop on:

Massachusetts Anti Bullying Law: IEP and Schoolwide Strategies to Prevent Bullying of Students With Disabilities.

With Johanne Pino, Massachusetts Advocates for Children.

Date: Tuesday November 6th, 7-9pm

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.

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

Website: www.westwoodsepac.org // To volunteer, questions, or submit ideas email: westwoodsepac@gmail.com

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



HELP CHILDREN IN NEED THIS OCTOBER

Here's How You Can Help

Place gently used costumes in bags. Label costume and size:

Example: "boys size 5 Spiderman" or "girls size 6 Snow White"

If you do not have a gently used costume, please consider purchasing a new costume.

Collection Details

When: Tuesday, October 8th - Sunday October 28th

Where: Halloween bins in all Westwood Public Schools and the Halloween bin at 42 Partridge Drive- Westwood

Our family began a Halloween Drive 15 years ago hoping to bring costumes and smiles to children in need throughout New England. Our drive has grown from 25 donations to 12,000+ in 15 years.

Together, with your incredibly generous donations, we have made so many children throughout New England happy!

Please help make a child's wish come true again this year!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



CANDY DRIVE!

Wellesley Dental Group's
11th Annual Candy Drive!

Candy Collection: 1st - 8th Nov, 2018

Community Event: 9th Nov, 2018
Timing: 10 am - 11 am

WESTWOOD HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAM

SINCE 1999 HUNDREDS OF WESTWOOD FAMILIES
HAVE RECEIVED SUPPORT THROUGH THIS
PROGRAM.

THIS CONFIDENTIAL GIFT GIVING PROGRAM
MATCHES LOCAL DONORS WITH WESTWOOD
FAMILIES WHO NEED ASSISTANCE PURCHASING
HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

TO PARTICIPATE OR TO DONATE GIFTS
PLEASE CONTACT WY&FS
BY **NOVEMBER 2ND**
781.320.1006
YOUTH@TOWNHALL.WESTWOOD.MA.US
WWW.TOWNHALL.WESTWOOD.MA.US/YFS

