

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 4 - Oct. 26, 2018



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

Important Dates

Mon., Oct 29	Picture Retake day
Wed., Oct. 31	Math League Coordinator Meeting 9:00AM Kindergarten Field Trip - Fox Hill Village Magic Show
Mon., Nov. 5	School Committee meeting 7pm, District Office PD Room (Rescheduled from 11/15)
Wed., Nov. 7	Student Council 8AM 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
Mon., Nov. 26	In-service - NO SCHOOL
Tue., Dec. 4	PTO Meeting 7pm
Wed., Dec. 5	Student Council 8AM Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am.

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

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

Message from the Principal

Westwood Holiday Gift Giving Program - The holidays can be a very difficult time for many families. If you are in need of assistance or know a family in need of assistance during the holiday season, the Westwood Youth and Family Services Holiday Gift Giving Program confidentially matches donors with Westwood families needing assistance purchasing gifts for their children during this holiday season. **To participate or to donate gifts, please contact WYFS at 781-320-1006 by November 2nd.** Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information.

Halloween - Please remember that students are not allowed to wear their costumes to school during the school day or to bring in candy to be distributed to other students. Costumes are allowed and encouraged for the Halloween Party and Haunted Hallway. The Halloween Party and Haunted Hallway will take place this Friday evening, October 26th from 6:30 to 8:00 (the haunted hallway closes at 7:45). Students must attend with an adult and younger siblings are welcome to attend. Please be sure to supervise your child(ren) during this event. It is one of most popular nights and I look forward to seeing everyone there. A special thank you to the committee for working so hard to recruit volunteers, set up, and make the night so special. It is not too late to help out. See the PTO section. While the event is free, we are doing a food drive for the food pantry so please bring an item to donate. We will also be collecting costumes for children in need for a drive sponsored by the Ouellette Family of Westwood. Your generosity is always appreciated.

Don't forget to save any extra candy from Halloween to donate to our troops. We will be collecting candy from Nov. 1st - 7th to send to our troops to let them know we are thinking of them. See Flyer Below

MJ & District News

Please note that on Wednesday, November 21st Martha Jones students will be dismissed at 12:00 Noon (instead of 11:50) to begin the Thanksgiving break. NO LUNCH will be served.

This year the Westwood Public Schools will be doing a series of Parent Workshops. I encourage you to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities to partner with the schools to support your children.



JUDGE BAKER CHILDREN'S CENTER SPEAKER SERIES

LIMIT SETTING IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY: EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 8TH GRADE

- The brain science behind screen time addiction
- The reality of technology: Balancing school-required use and personal use
- Setting limits: Finding the right fit for your child and family
- Concrete resources and tools for parents and caregivers

**Thursday, November 8th
7:00-8:00 p.m.
Westwood High School Little Theater**

PANELISTS:

Todd Danforth, Ph.D., School Psychologist, E.W. Thurston Middle School
Licensed Psychologist in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Danielle Sutton, M.S.W., LICSW, Director at Westwood Youth and Family Services

Sarah A. Tannenbaum, Psy.D., Associate Director, Summer Enrichment Institute and
Staff Psychologist, Center for Effective Child Therapy, Judge Baker Children's Center

Please submit questions that you would like addressed by the panelists to Maria Torres at mtorres@jbcc.harvard.edu. No names will be used.



ABOUT THE SPEAKER SERIES: Judge Baker Children's Center is hosting a series of free discussions to raise awareness about important topics in children's mental health care and development while fostering a lively exchange of ideas. For more information about Judge Baker Children's Center, visit jbcc.harvard.edu.

Classroom Happenings

News from 4W (Mrs. Waldner)

In 4W, we are becoming spectacular fiction writers. In our writing unit, we have developed realistic fiction story ideas, believable characters, planned out story arcs, drafted our stories to include details, revised, and edited. As writers, we concentrated on details that established setting, including the 5 senses, and showing what is happening



instead of telling in order to create a visualization of the story for the reader. All the students in class worked so hard! As a class last week,



we paused to celebrate the writers we are! Each student got to share their published stories in small groups. They were all so proud of their hard work and the stories they developed! Their faces glowed with pride! We also discussed how to give meaningful compliments- clear and specific. Each student then received compliments on sticky notes about their writing from their peers. Examples of the compliments that were given were "I really liked how you added feelings and smells in your description." "I like how you used the the just right amount of dialogue." " I like how you used similes." Awesome compliments! After the celebration, each student sat down to reflect on their writing individually and set goals for their next story. I can't wait to read their next fiction story!



News from KL (Mrs. Layton)

Decomposing is the process of separating a number into smaller parts. This skill is taught through plenty of practice. Taking numbers apart and putting them back together is useful in addition and subtraction of larger numbers later on. You can practice with your child anytime you have a small number of objects and a few spare moments. For example, put eight (or any number 5-10) things in two piles (maybe keep 3 and give your child 5). Count yours; have your child count his/her objects. Then, change the number in each pile. In a minute or two, the two of you will have practiced all of the ways to decompose 8 (or 5, or 6...) You can go one step further by recording your decompositions as $3+5$, etc. and comparing all the ways to make 8.



News from 1D (Mrs. Dunn)

Students in 1D are learning that writers study other authors' craft to see what special things the authors do that they could try in their own writing. Just as aspiring baseball players study the moves of professional baseball players, young writers study the moves that published authors make to learn from and be inspired by their work. We introduced this concept by closely examining the craft moves in the book *Night of the Veggie Monster* by George McClements. Students enthusiastically worked in partnerships to identify techniques that George McClements used to tell his story and discussed the purpose of each technique. We charted these craft moves for students to refer to during Writer's Workshop and consider trying out in their own writing. Students noticed McClements' use of ellipses to build suspense, bold print to emphasize important words, and exact actions to help the reader visualize what was happening in the story. Students have been eager to try out some of these craft moves in their own writing.



However, the goal of this lesson was not just about learning to use the specific features in this one mentor text. The ultimate goal of studying the special features of mentor texts is that students view the books they read not just something to enjoy and comprehend, but also as sources for lessons in the craft of writing well and think, "I could try that in my writing, too!"

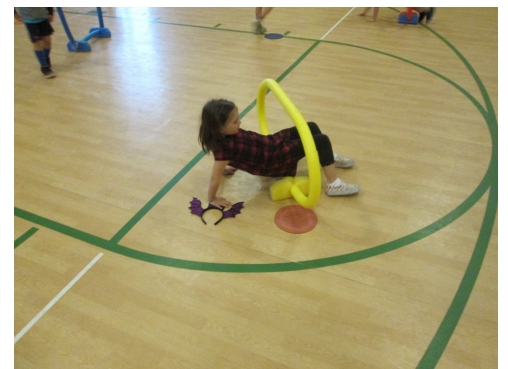
What did George McClements do?	Why did he do this?
Wrote <u>ellipses (...)</u> in the middle of the sentence	To build excitement or suspense
Wrote <u>EXACT ACTIONS</u> that people do	To make a movie in the reader's mind
Wrote some words in <u>BOLD</u> print	To tell the reader to read with a strong voice

News from PE (Mr. Foley)

What's Happening in Physical Education! In grades K-2, the physical education curriculum focuses on movement education. Movement education is a series of movement experiences utilized to develop confidence and proficiency in coordination and body control. When children explore through movement, it gives them a better understanding of these concepts and skills.



To develop these important skills, the students are introduced to a wide variety of games and activities. In kindergarten, students explore their own space by creating different body shapes and balances. By first and second grade, students are challenged to move in open space and change speeds, levels, directions, and pathways. These games and activities are both enjoyable and developmentally beneficial. The children pictured are getting a chance to work with a variety of movement equipment. They are having lots of fun creating different ways of traveling and demonstrating body control in "open space".



PTO News

SCRIPS FUNDRAISER: Order Forms were sent 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 came 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!!

2019 MARTHA JONES PARENT SOCIAL: *Save the Date*

Please save the date for this year's MJ Parent Social! The party will be held Saturday, March 2, 2019 from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. at The German Club is on the Westwood/Walpole line. There will be a DJ, cash-bar, silent auction and teacher experience auction. This is a kid-free event, so book your sitters now!

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 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 Movva, Co-Secretaries • Kelly Anderson & Jennifer Ellis, Co-Treasurers



CANDY DRIVE!

Wellesley Dental Group's
11th Annual Candy Drive!

Candy Collection: 1st - 8th Nov, 2018

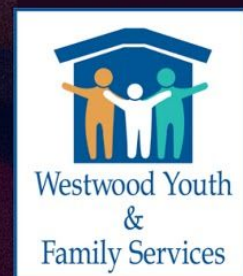
Community Event: 9th Nov, 2018
Timing: 10 am - 11 am

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





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!