

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 7 - Dec. 7, 2018



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

Important Dates

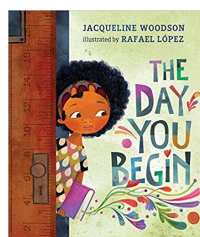
Thu., Dec. 13	School Committee Meeting, 7:00PM, WHS
Fri., Dec. 14	Math League, 7:45AM Winter Concert, 9:30AM 5th Grade Play, 6:30PM
Wed., Dec. 19	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am.
Fri., Dec. 21	Spirit Day - Pajama Day
Mon., Dec. 24 - Tue., Jan. 1	Holiday Break - NO SCHOOL
Fri., Jan. 4	Math League, 7:45AM ----- Westwood Spelling Bee - WHS, Start times: Gr 3- 3:30p Gr 4- 5:15p Gr 5- 6:45p
Wed., Jan. 9	Student Council 8:00AM Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am.
Fri., Jan. 11	Math League, 7:45AM
Thur., Jan. 17	School Committee meeting, 7PM WHS, Small auditorium
Fri., Jan. 18	Math League, 7:45AM
Mon., Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Day NO SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 23	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

This past week we celebrated National Inclusive Schools week.



This year's theme was Kaleidoscope of Friends. Students read stories about including others, friendships, and what makes each of us unique. The students read books about how we each have things about us that are different and thing about us that are the same. Many classrooms read the book, *The Day You Began*, by Jacqueline Woodson. This is a story encourages children to find the beauty in their own lives and share it with the world. Sharing our own stories help us connect to others. Psychologist and Hanlon parent Dr. Emily Mohr will facilitate a parent discussion about inclusion beginning with a focus on Jacqueline Woodson's *The Day You Begin*, at the Hanlon School on Wednesday, December 12th at 7pm. All Westwood parents are invited to attend. You do not need to read the book to attend, the conversation is really about supporting students and working to ensure each students feels that his/her story is important.



This is a great time to speak with your child about including others, being kind to friends and classmates, working to build relationships with students they may not know, or including others that may be excluded at times. While we work hard to ensure that every child feels important and included at Martha Jones, there are still times when students are unkind to each other, exclude students, or don't include others who might not "be like them." It always saddens me when I speak with a student who might feel lonely, left out, or not connected to others in the school community. Having just one other student reach out and say, "Want to play with us today?" can truly change a child's day around. Please be sure to reinforce the concepts of kindness and inclusion in conversations with your child.

MJ & District News

Message from the MJ Student Council

The Student Council would like to announce its first spirit day of the year. Pajama Day will take place on December 21st, the last Friday before the school vacation. Students are welcome to wear everything from sweatpants and a sweatshirt to a pair of pink, fluffy, bunny slippers! Happy Holidays and Merry Pajama Day!

Outdoor Play - At Martha Jones, we go outside almost everyday, even in the winter. We ask you to please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor weather. This means coats, hats, mittens, and pants or leggings, as well as snow pants and boots when it is snowing. Unless it is dangerously cold (typically, less than 20°F and/or windy) we go out each day. Be sure all clothing is labeled, many students have black winter boots, similar coats, and the same hats and mittens.

Enrichment Activities - A special thanks to the PTO for providing special experiences to our students! This week, the Grade 3 students got a special treat as they begin learning the recorder.

David Coffin - Exploring the Early Winds - A Recorder Concert and Program Covering the History of the Recorder

Grade 3 students were entertained and wowed by David Coffin. Demonstrating his early wind instruments, David uses his humor and vitality to delight students with his wonderful presentation. From the pennywhistle to the Scottish pibgorn, students learn about the different sounds they make, how the instruments have changed over the years, and where and when they may have been used.



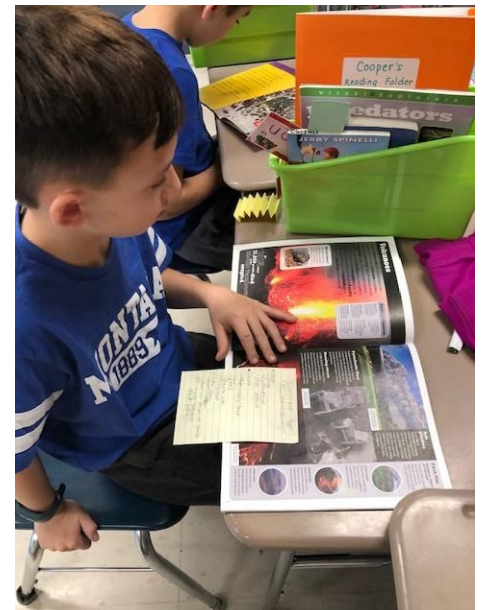
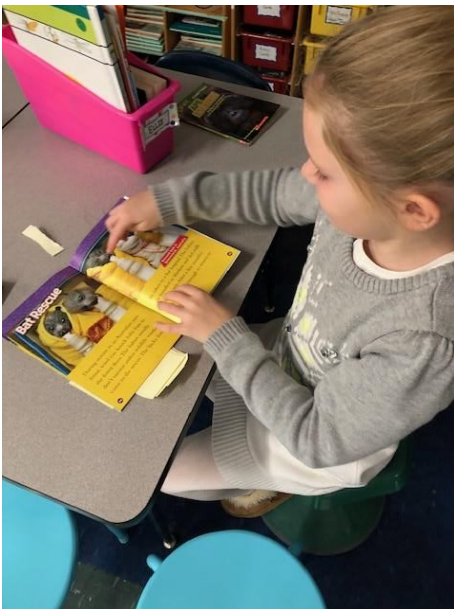
Don't Forget - The 5th grade play is this Friday evening, December 14th at 6:30PM. All students and families are welcome to come and cheer on our 5th graders. Bake goods will be available for sale to support the 5th grade scholarship. This year's play is the Pirates of Grammar Island. These plays are always a treat, come by and support our students.

Lost and Found - It's that time of year, when clothes start piling up. PLEASE be sure your child's coats, boots, and snowpants are labeled with his or her name. There are already some beautiful and expensive winter coats in lost and found. All items left in lost in found over the holiday break will be donated to charity, so please stop by and check it out.

Classroom Happenings

News from 30 (Mrs. Ogozaly)

The students in 30 have been growing into strong nonfiction readers! We began our unit looking at the structure of nonfiction texts and how a book's organization can help us determine the main idea and purpose of a text. Text features play an important role in how we read and understand nonfiction texts. Students have been on the lookout for various text features in their reading and using them to further develop their understanding of their nonfiction texts. Students have also been working on determining the main idea of a text and supporting that idea with specific details. They use a structure called "boxes and bullets" to practice pulling out the main idea of a section and supporting it with more detailed information. In the second half of the unit, students will begin studying and reading narrative nonfiction texts, particularly biographies. The class is looking forward to finally getting their hands on the large collection of "Who Was?" books in the classroom library!



News from Literacy (Ms. Wyler)

Growth Mindset for Writers

Setting Writing Goals with Students

During our literacy blocks, the students have been working hard on improving themselves as writers by setting self-directed goals for their learning. Even our youngest kindergarten students are learning to use an illustrated checklist "to make their good writing even better!". So often, when we reinforce the work that our children share with us, we focus on the outcome. We praise how well our children spelled their words correctly or how clearly they illustrated their point in a persuasive essay. While it is important to encourage our children and praise their efforts, it is also important that we continue to foster their growth mindset through reinforcing the process and struggle that is inherent and necessary for growth to take place. As writers, the students are learning to look reflectively at their work and think about what steps they could take, not just in that piece of writing, but in this piece and all their writing moving forward.

News from 1K (Mrs. Kyvelos)

In 1K, the Mathematicians have been busy thinking about how numbers can be composed and decomposed, and how this knowledge can help to guide computation. What one mathematician knows about addition combinations, for example, can be used to help guide new thinking when faced with a seemingly unfamiliar subtraction problem. Knowing that $6+4=10$ and $4+6=10$ can also help to inform a mathematician when solving $10-6$ or $10-4$. Additionally, when a mathematician knows that $16+4=20$ and $4+16=20$, facing a related subtraction problem like $20-16$ feels empowering because of

the foundational part-part-whole knowledge. This fact-family understanding can then be applied when working with various multiples of ten. Our class has been using the Sterns Blocks, pictured here, as a visual model to better understand the relationship between addition and subtraction, and to build upon their developing understanding of the

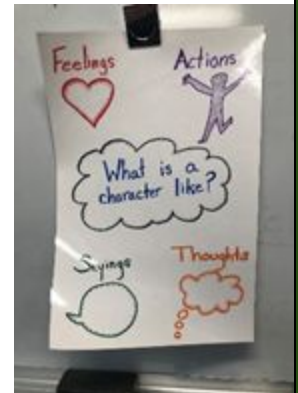
base-10 system. Great work, 1K Mathematicians!



News from Ms. Eaton

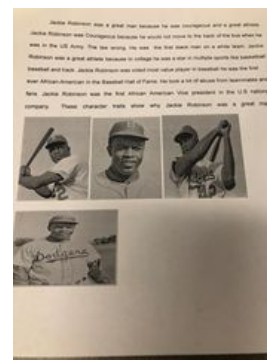


In the Learning Center, we are completing a unit on character traits. Discussion surrounding a character's outward appearance versus their inner character was the springboard to introducing this concept. Students created their own character traits poster to reinforce this idea. Together, the teacher and students brainstormed positive and negative character traits and how a character can demonstrate these traits through their feelings, actions, sayings and thoughts.



Fables, picture books, and biographies were used as mentor texts to practice this skill. Locating

evidence to support the character trait(s) within the text allowed the students opportunities to identify supporting details and construct a cohesive written response surrounding this concept.



PTO News

CALLING ALL 5th GRADE PARENTS

Keeping with tradition for the Martha Jones 5th graders, there are a number of end of year activities that take place, and we need volunteers to make all of these special memories happen for our 5th graders.

Please consider donating your time. If we can all pitch in there will be little work for everyone. Please sign up on the links below for each committee. If you are willing to be committee chair, please put your name in one of the first two slots. Donna Tobin and Mr. Bartlett (Grade 5 Rep) would like to meet with Committee Chairs on Friday, December 14th at 10:30am, immediately following the 5th grade winter concert.

[Click Here for Celebration Committee](#) – Need 5-6 parents

This committee is responsible for organizing the end of the year celebration held for all the MJ 5th grade students. This event will be held on Wednesday, June 6th (last ½ Wed.).

[Click Here for Yearbook Committee](#) – Need 2-3 parents

This committee is responsible for helping the Grade 5 teachers collect photos for the yearbook. Responsibilities include gathering photos (including baby photos from parents), taking pictures at events, etc. The yearbook will be given out to students on the last few days of school allowing them to have a signing party.

[Click Here for FUNdraising/Class Gift Committee](#) – Need 4-5 parents

This committee is responsible for organizing FUNdraisers (bake sales, raffles etc...) throughout the school year raising money for the 5th grade class year end events and class gift (Martha Jones Scholarship Award), given on behalf of the 5th grade class. All 5th grade parents are encouraged to help support this committee by baking goods, etc. The next bake sale will be at the 5th grade play. The play has a pirate theme, so any related goodies might be fun to sell.

There will be additional opportunities to help out throughout the year if you are not directly on any of these committees; we hope we can count on you when the time comes. Thank you!
Please contact Rachel Lipton at rlipton@akamai.com or Donna Tobin or Mr. Bartlett with any questions.

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

Join us for a
parent support
meeting.



RSVP: <https://www.westwoodsepac.org/event-reg>

**Connect with other local families, share stories and ask advice
in a friendly welcoming atmosphere. Children are welcome!**

Date: Friday, December 14, 2018 | **Time:** 9:00-11:00am

Location: Cafe Nero, Legacy Place, Dedham
(Look for SEPAC table sign)

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

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لك. لطلب كنتشكرا lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us

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Kaleidoscope OF FRIENDS

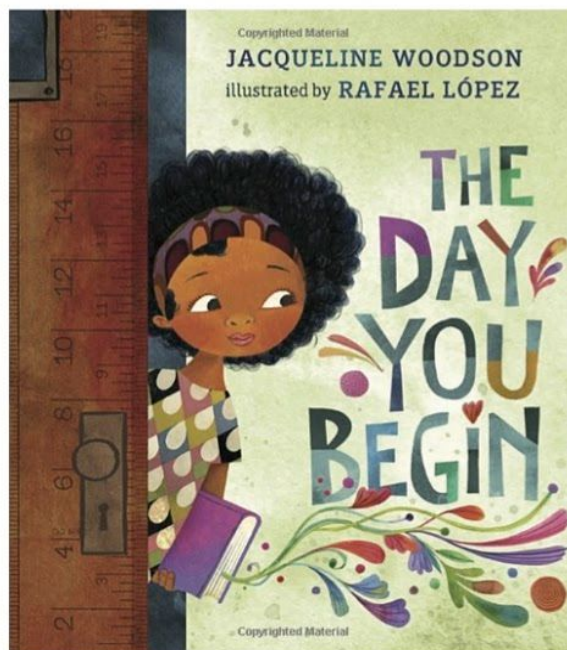
INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK
DECEMBER 3-7, 2018

JOIN US FOR A PARENT DISCUSSION TO HELP YOU
ENGAGE YOUR CHILD ON TOPICS OF INCLUSION AND
BELONGING IN HONOR OF INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK

Wednesday, December 12 at 7pm
Hanlon Elementary School

Psychologist and Hanlon parent Dr. Emily Mohr will facilitate a parent discussion beginning with a focus on Jacqueline Woodson's **The Day You Begin**, a book being read in many Westwood Elementary School classrooms as part of Inclusive Schools Week.

There's no need to have read the book in advance; copies will be available at the event.



THIS EVENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

