

# Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.  
Mini Issue - September 7, 2018

L' Shanah Tovah  
Have a sweet year!



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

## Important Dates

<b>Wed., Sept. 19</b>	Yom Kippur NO SCHOOL
<b>Thur., Sept. 20</b>	Grade 4 Band Rental & Petting Zoo / 5pm - 7pm / DOWNEY School
<b>Wed., Sept. 26</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
<b>Thurs., Sept. 27</b>	School Picture Day K-5 ----- Curriculum Night 6pm: Grades 3 - 5 7pm: General meeting 7:30pm: Grades K - 2
<b>Tues. Oct. 2</b>	PTO Meeting 7pm
<b>Mon., Oct. 8</b>	Columbus Day NO SCHOOL
<b>Tues., Oct. 9</b>	School Committee, WHS 7pm
<b>Wed., Oct. 10</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
<b>Wed., Oct. 24</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
<b>Fri., Oct. 26</b>	PTO Halloween Event (6:30 - 8:00) and Haunted Hallway (6:45 to 7:45)

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

### Martha Jones School Telephone Extensions:

Office 781-326-7500, ext. 6321

ext. 6261: Diane Santangelo

ext. 6262: Donna Tobin

ext. 6263: Dawnmarie Shu

## Message from the Principal

Welcome Back! This is a mini edition of Leaps. I know you've been inundated with emails, flyers, and information over the past few weeks so I will try to keep this short. The first full edition of Leaps will be sent home on September 14th and will then be published every other week. This



newsletter is a way for you to gather information on what is happening in the classrooms and schools. Please be sure to read through it and let us know if you have any questions. This newsletter is for school, PTO, and district based information. A general bulletin will come out from Central Office each week with district, town, and community information.

Staying Cool - While the weather didn't quite cooperate with opening day, we were still able to get in some learning and fun. The students held up well and the teachers were great sports about getting through these hot days. It's nice to finally have some relief. We



did drag out the sprinklers for some water fun during recess on the hot days; this was certainly a special treat for the kids.



School Picnic - The school picnic will now be held on Thursday, September 13th at 5:30 pm. I'm sorry about the late

notice in postponing the picnic last night, I was truly hoping the rain would come a little later.

# Upcoming Events and Reminders



All parents are welcome to meet the District Administrative Team members Emily Parks, Superintendent; Allison Borchers, Asst. Superintendent; Steve Ouellette, Director of Technology, Learning & Innovation; Abby Hanscom, Director of Student Services, and Heath Petracca, Director of Business and Finance for a **coffee on Mon., Sept. 24 at 9am at the Downey School**. The coffee is open to all Westwood Schools' families to discuss perspectives, hopes, and expectations for children's experiences in school.

Aspen Portal - If you have not already done so, please be sure to go into Aspen to give permissions for:

- media (this allows us to include your child in photos in Leaps, local newspapers, etc.);
- the school directory, this allows you to be include in the Martha Jones School directory that the PTO puts out;
- and to sign off on the handbook.

Please complete these permissions/sign offs for all of your children each year. Thank you!

The Westwood Public Schools  
and  
Westwood Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)  
are pleased to welcome

For a Town-Wide Parent Workshop

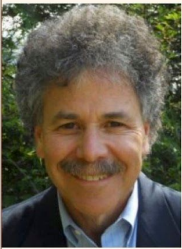
**Charlie  
Appelstein**

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

7:00—9:00 p.m. at Sheehan

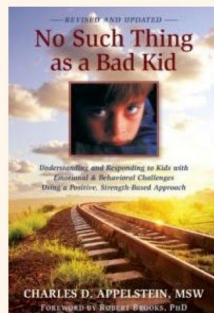
Elementary School

549 Pond Street



Starting the year out right with homework  
and other routines and expectations.

Written primarily for professionals, volunteers and parents who guide kids with emotional and behavioral challenges, the revised edition of *No Such Thing As a Bad Kid* is packed with positive, trauma-informed, strength-based principles and techniques that help child-guiders to develop powerful and transforming relationships with the kids they guide. This empowering handbook opens by portraying misbehavior as a call for help. It then guides the reader through "decoding" the message and, via hundreds of hands-on tips, sample dialogues, and inspiring anecdotes into research-backed approaches for revolutionizing interactions with kids at risk. The book is all about changing the negative mindsets many kids harbor and giving them hope for better days. Even parents of children not at risk will benefit from this book.



## Westwood SEPAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



**Meet your special education administrators!** Enjoy an overview of special education programming and services in the district and a chance to hear directly from the people that work at each school/level.

**Date:** September 24th, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

**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.

**Presenters:**

- Aprile Albertelli, Preschool Director
- Glen Atkinson, Hanlon, MJ and Deerfield Special Ed administrator
- Lisa Freedman, Sheehan and Downey Special Ed administrator
- Edith "Dee" Graichen - TMS Dept. Head for Student Services
- Robin Fabiano - WHS Dept. Head of Special Education
- Abigail Hanscom-District Director of Student Services

Hear about programs across the district and have an opportunity to ask questions about services available to your children

This meeting is also an opportunity to meet/network with other parents and help plan SEPAC programming for the year.

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

To volunteer, questions, or submit ideas on forum topics email: [westwoodsepac@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodsepac@gmail.com)

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

# PTO News

## **PTO MEMBERSHIP 2018-2019**

Registration is open for the 2018-2019 Martha Jones PTO. Dues are \$45 for a family with one child and \$55 for a family with more than one child.

The school directory and a Martha Jones car magnet are given to all the families who have joined the PTO. They are sent home with your child.

**Please join by September 21 to ensure receipt of the Directory. [Click here to join the PTO.](#)**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

### **Room Parents**

Room parents assist with in-class activities and/or special celebrations and organize holiday and year end gifts for the teacher. Depending upon the needs of the teacher, room parents may coordinate special volunteer efforts and provide an important link for communication with other parents. **One room parent from each class will be required to attend the 4 PTO General meetings over the course of the year to help the class stay informed.**

If you are interested, please [click here](#) and scroll to your child(ren)'s teacher. Please note only 2 parents will be chosen per class.

### **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. [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!

## **CURRICULUM NIGHT: THURSDAY SEPT. 27: BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK!**

**Birthday Book Program:** Enrollment will be available at curriculum night.

For a donation of \$15, your child may choose a brand-new book from the library during his or her birthday month. A commemorative bookplate will be placed inside the front cover of the book with your child's name and birthday.

He/she will enjoy being the first to borrow the Birthday Book and students for years to come will enjoy seeing their friend's name inside the book. **PLEASE BRING A CHECK TO ENROLL. [CLICK here for the Registration Form.](#)**

Flyers are also going home in backpacks.

**Martha Jones Apparel:** Items such as sweatshirts, pajama bottoms, shirts and umbrellas will be on display and order forms will be available. **Checks will be accepted for payment.**

## **MARTHA JONES FALL FUNDRAISER:**

The PTO is changing our Fall Fundraiser this year. We are partnering with Savers to collect gently-used clothing and soft goods to raise money for our school. You get to clean out your closets and MJ gets money for enrichment programs and field trips.

**To reach our fundraising goal, we are asking each family to fill 3 bags that will be provided by the PTO.**

[Click here for more information.](#) We are also in need of volunteers to man the collection location at the school. [Click here to volunteer for a 1-hour shift.](#)

## **FALL MINI COURSES**

The Martha Jones PTO is pleased to announce the return of the Fall Session of the After School MINI COURSE Program.

The program offers fun, after-school classes that are held at Martha Jones. The classes include everything from dance, sports games, jewelry making, art, cooking and even a play!

The fall session will run Oct. 1 to Dec. 7. Details about the classes and schedule will be released soon!

## **PICTURE DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Picture Day for all Martha Jones students is Thursday, September 27. We are looking for 4 volunteers to help –2 for the morning, and 2 for the afternoon. [Click here to volunteer!](#)

## **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 Erika Howe at [erica.gregg.howe@gmail.com](mailto:erica.gregg.howe@gmail.com).