

# Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.  
Issue 2 - Sept. 27, 2019

L' Shanah Tovah  
Have a sweet year!



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

## Important Dates

<b>Mon., Sept. 30</b>	Rosh Hashanah -NO SCHOOL
<b>Tues., Oct. 1</b>	MINI COURSES Start
<b>Thurs., Oct. 3</b>	Curriculum Night 6pm: Grades K - 2 7pm: General meeting 7:30pm: Grades 3 - 5
<b>Fri., Oct. 4</b>	Coffee with District Administrators - 9:00AM - HANLON SCHOOL
<b>Mon., Oct. 7</b>	PTO Meeting 7pm
<b>Wed., Oct. 9</b>	Yom Kippur -NO SCHOOL
<b>Tue., Oct. 15</b>	School Committee, WHS 7pm
<b>Wed., Oct. 16</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
<b>Fri., Oct. 25</b>	PTO Halloween Event (6:30 - 8:00) and Haunted Hallway (6:45 to 7:45)
<b>Mon., Oct 28</b>	Picture Retake Day
<b>Tue., Oct 29</b>	K Field Trip - Fox Hill
<b>Wed., Oct. 30</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.

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

**Happy New Year** to those of you celebrating Rosh Hashanah this weekend. May you have a new year filled with love, peace, and friendship.

This is also a special weekend for the Tobin Family. My son Daniel is getting married on Saturday and it looks like the weather Gods have come through with a beautiful day. I know I say it often, but enjoy these days when they are young. Time goes so fast. It seems like just yesterday I was peeling him off of me as he headed into kindergarten for the first time. Unlike his brothers, who couldn't wait to be in school, Dan would have been happy to stay home forever. Now he's a successful young man about to embark on a new and exciting chapter in his life.

**Elementary School Building Project** - Join the conversation about the Westwood's Elementary School Building project and help us determine the future of our schools. There will be two community forums this fall (you can attend either session), October 23rd and November 4th at 7:00 at Thurston Middle school. I encourage all Martha Jones families to get involved and to share your ideas, hopes, concerns, and questions as we head into the parent information and gathering phase of this project. Your input is critical, so please get involved. The flyer at the end of this newsletter more details and information.

The state has released school and district MCAS accountability ratings for the Spring 2019 assessment. The Martha Jones School was recognized by the state for High Achievement and Exceeding Targets. I am proud of the work of our entire staff and our students and families for making Martha Jones such a great place for learning. Individual MCAS scores for current 4th and 5th graders will be sent home at the beginning of October.

# MJ News

## Fall Mini-Course Start – Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Don't forget that mini courses start on Tuesday. Please be sure to send a note to your child's teacher letting him/her know which day your child should stay for mini course and which course he/she is taking.

## Curriculum Night

Please save the evening of **Thurs., October 3rd** for **Curriculum Night**. Teachers will provide an overview of the content at their grade-level and their plans for the year ahead. Classroom presentations for parents of students in grades K through 2 begin at 6pm; the principal welcome and PTO meeting for all parents is at 7pm; followed by classroom presentations for parents of students in grade 3 through grade 5 at 7:30pm. Please remember that this is an evening for parents only. **If childcare is prohibiting you from attending, please contact Mrs. Tobin at [dtobin@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:dtobin@westwood.k12.ma.us) for assistance.**



## Coffee with District Administrators

Join District Administrators on Friday, October 4, at 9am at Hanlon School to discuss your perspective on the district and your hopes and expectations for your child's experience in school. The coffee is open to all families in the Westwood Schools.

**Drop Off/Pick Up and Traffic Patterns** - When arriving or leaving school, please enter via Martha Jones Road and exit via Spruce Drive. Parents should only park in front of the school in marked parking spots. All students who attend extended day should be picked up at the extended day entrance. You can enter this parking area from the driveway that runs along the side of the gym. Please enter from Martha Jones Road and take a right immediately before the school building. When exiting this parking area, all traffic should turn right along the school and exit via Spruce Drive. **Keeping the school traffic flowing in one direction, entering from Martha Jones Road and exiting via Spruce Drive is very helpful at all times.**

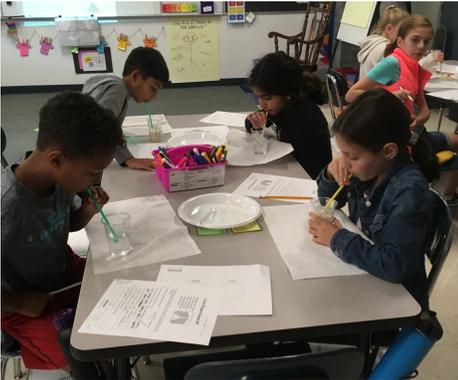


**Savers Fundraising** - Don't forget to bring you gently used clothing to Curriculum Night as part of our fundraising efforts this year. Each family should have received a bag to fill. If you need additional bags, feel free to use your own or call the school office for more.

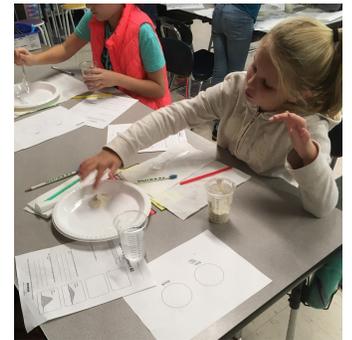
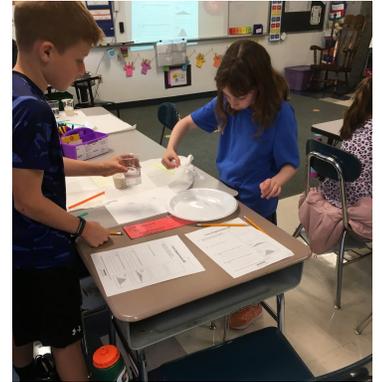
**PTO Membership** - I encourage all families to sign up to participate in the PTO. Your dues help pay for special events and programming as well as the student directory, which all members receive. If you would like to join the PTO but the membership dues prevent you from joining, please send me or the PTO chairs (Rahel Lipton or Maureen Grealish) a confidential message and we can help.

# Classroom Happenings

## News from 4L (Mrs. Luskin)



Students in fourth grade are bursting with excitement about volcanoes in science! We have been learning about where they usually happen and why they happen. In a recent lab investigation, students in 4L discovered how volcanoes explode. Students learned that there are two basic kinds of volcanoes (cone and shield volcanoes) and they release lava differently. To help them understand this, students took part in a simulation with thin and thick "lava" and made the lava bubble up by blowing into a straw. Then, they poured the lava to see how it acted once it was released. At the end of the investigation, students were able to make the connection between the different kinds of volcanoes and the type of lava that is released from them.



## News from Art (Mrs. Pasquan)



Kindergarten students spent the first three classes exploring different centers in the art room. During the first class, we used supplies from the Drawing Center to create covers for our sketchbooks. During the second class, we used materials from the Collage Center to create robot collages inspired by Boy and Bot by Amy Dyckman. We spent the third class, using materials from the Painting Center to create paintings inspired by The Dot by Peter Reynolds. We spent time talking about how to set up and clean up materials from each center. Moving forward, students are now allowed to use drawing, collage, and painting supplies whenever they have free time in Art.



## **News from 3Le (Ms. LeBlanc)**

Students in 3Le have had a terrific start to the school year! After a few days of getting to know each other and learning classroom rules and routines, the students were eager and ready to dive into their math investigations! We started by reviewing and expanding on prior knowledge of place value. Students worked in partnerships and small groups to build structures using base ten blocks. After completing a structure, students were asked to calculate the value of it, then manipulate the blocks to add or subtract from the value. We have also enjoyed learning and playing lots of math games together that allow us to practice our super skills! Two class favorites are Close to 100 and Knock the Block Off. In Close to 100 students select from 6 cards to make an equation that gets them as close to a sum of 100 as possible. During Knock the Block Off students are working on building addition fact fluency with sums within 20. They roll 3 dice, add up the sum, and place a tile to claim the number as theirs on a board. If someone else gets the same sum however, they get to "knock your block off"! It has been a fun challenge for students to get 5 blocks in a row. It is shaping up to be an exciting and eventful year of mathematics in 3rd grade!



## **News from KM (Mrs. McDonough)**

Kindergarten is off and running! The students in KM have been learning many new routines and expectations while having a lot of hands on fun. We have started on the path of becoming Super Readers, studying the pictures of learn-about-the-world books while reading independently and with a partner.



We have started becoming authors, writing and sharing weekend stories in our journals. We have learned the routine of math workshop while exploring the manipulatives we will be using this year. And a highlight so far would be the creation of our class terrarium with guest star, science guru, Ms. O'Toole!



# PTO News

## **PTO MEMBERSHIP 2019-2020**

***LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER - DEADLINE EXTENDED TO SEPT. 27th***

Registration is open for the 2019-2020 Martha Jones PTO. Dues are \$45 for a family with one child and \$55 for a family with more than one child.

All families who join the PTO will be given a copy of the school directory. If your family is new to MJ this year you will also be given a MJS car magnet. Both will be sent home with your child. Anyone who has lost their magnet can purchase a new one for \$5. Please contact Ms. Santangelo at [dsantangelo@westwood.k.12.ma.us](mailto:dsantangelo@westwood.k.12.ma.us) or Rachel Lipton at [rachelalyson@gmail.com](mailto:rachelalyson@gmail.com)



**Please join by September 27 to ensure receipt of the Directory. [Click here to join the PTO.](#)**

## **BIRTHDAY BOOKS**

***DEADLINE EXTENDED TO SEPT. 27th***



Birthday Book enrollment is open now through September 27th. For \$15, your child chooses a book during their birthday month and the book becomes a permanent part of the Martha Jones Library. The book will have a commemorative bookplate inside the cover with your child's name. After your child is the first to borrow the book, it stays in the library for other students to borrow. If your child's birthday is in the summer, they will participate in the May and early June. [Click here](#) for the enrollment form.

## **MARTHA JONES FALL FUNDRAISER**



The PTO is again 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 large trash bags.** Drop off will be at Curriculum Night on October 3. For more information, click [here](#).

Please click [here](#) if you can volunteer to help us out with this event on either October 3 or October 4.

## **FALL BOX TOPS COMPETITION**



We are excited to announce our fall classroom Box Top competition! Please send in any unexpired Box Tops using [the attached collection sheet](#) or in a plastic bag. Box Tops will be collected through **October 18** and the class with the most Box Tops will win a popsicle party!

Each Box Top is worth 10¢ for Martha Jones. This money will be used 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!

We will also be sending home information about important changes to the Box Top program, please be on the lookout.

## **LET YOUR AMAZON SHOPPING SUPPORT MARTHA JONES STUDENTS!**

You can support Martha Jones PTO while you do your Amazon shopping with AmazonSmile!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Martha Jones PTO every time you shop, at no cost to you.



You'll find the exact same prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the Martha Jones PTO. Just log onto [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), choose Martha Jones PTO as your charity of choice and shop away!

## **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 Denise Cahill at [denisepcahill@gmail.com](mailto:denisepcahill@gmail.com).

## **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:**

Curriculum Night and Savers Fundraiser: October 3rd

First General PTO Meeting: October 7<sup>th</sup>

MJ Halloween Party: October 25<sup>th</sup>

*\_ 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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.



# WESTWOOD Public Schools

Join the conversation about Westwood's School Building Project and help us determine the future of our schools.

The Westwood School Committee is holding two sets of community forums this Fall to share information about the School Building Project and gather input from the community.

## 1) Initial Information Presentation and Feedback Session

October 23 and November 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Thurston Middle School cafeteria  
(participants can attend either session)

- Review the School Building Project process and receive a "current status" update;
- Meet the design team (project manager and architect); and
- Participate in small break-out groups to discuss project priorities.

## 2) Education Plan Presentation

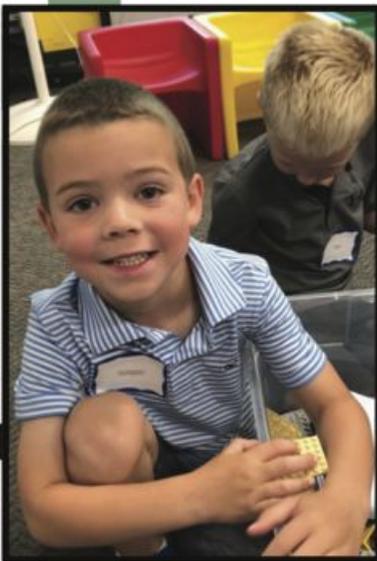
December 9 and December 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Thurston Middle School cafeteria  
(participants can attend either session)

- Identify project priorities;
- Review the School District's roadmap for educational excellence in Westwood; and
- Understand the next steps for the School Building Committee.

## NEXT SPRING (dates to be announced):

The School Committee will continue community engagement sessions on the following topics:

- Review of the pros and cons of the School Building Project plan with the design team;
- Obtain input from the community on the School Building Project plan; and
- Determination and presentation by the School Building Committee of the preferred solution for the School Building Project.



Educational excellence is our top priority. The Westwood School Building Project will help us modernize our schools and enhance student learning. We look forward to your participation!



**FRIDAY  
OCTOBER  
4  
9:00AM**

**HANLON  
SCHOOL**

**COFFEE WITH DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATORS**



*Join District Administrators to discuss your perspective on the district and your hopes and expectations for your child's experience in school. The coffee is open to all families in the Westwood Schools.*

# Community News You Can Use

## Westwood SEPAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



### Westwood Special Education Overview

#### 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. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about what makes Westwood unique and to ask questions about services available to your children. This meeting is also an opportunity to meet and network with other parents.

**Date:** Monday October 7th, 2019

**Time:** 6:30-7:00 Parent Networking, 7:00-9:00 Presentation.

#### Presenters:

Abigail Hanscom-District Director of Student Services  
Lisa Freedman-Preschool Director & K-5 Department Head, Downey  
Glen Atkinson-K-5 Department Head, Hanlon, Sheehan & Deerfield  
Kelly Grant-Out of District Coordinator and K-5 Department Head, Martha Jones  
Abigail Hanscom standing in for Dee Graichen-TMS Special Education Director  
Robin Fabiano-WHS Special Education Director

**Location:** Westwood High School District Office 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.*

**RSVP:** [westwoodsepac.org/event-reg](http://westwoodsepac.org/event-reg) or on our Facebook Page

[District Student Services Website](#)

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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)

SEPAC Board: Megan Brenk, Meggan Flaherty, Aravind Mowa and Jennifer Ellis

SEPAC Elementary Liaisons: Liz Polin,-Downey, Kerry Aglugub-Hanlon, Kelly Anderson-Deerfield, Sue Kagan-Sheehan, Megan Brenk-Martha Jones



## WESTWOOD YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES – UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### **FRIENDS NETWORK**

Who: Westwood residents in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades

When: November 2019 – April 2020, Wednesdays from 5:15 – 6:15 PM or 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Where: Patricia Carty-Larkin Senior Center, 60 Nahatan Street

What: The Friends Network program matches young Westwood residents with high school aged residents in 1:1 pairs that meet weekly to engage in games and activities in a relaxed setting. This is a great way for children to engage with a positive role model while forming a special friendship and having fun!

Contact: Mary Ellen LaRose at (781) 320-1006 or [mlarose@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:mlarose@townhall.westwood.ma.us)

Register

at:

[http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs\\_for\\_youth/programs\\_for\\_elementary\\_aged\\_residents/friends\\_network.htm](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs_for_youth/programs_for_elementary_aged_residents/friends_network.htm)

### **GIRLS GROUP**

Who: Westwood girls in 4th – 6th grade

When: Fall 2019, Tuesdays from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Where: Islington Community Center

What: These 12-week groups will focus on navigating friendships and cliques, avoiding peer pressure, managing bullying situations, and exploring topics such as body image, confidence and self-esteem. We utilize art projects, videos and games to help reinforce these important topics in fun and creative ways!

Contact: Emily Greco, LCSW at (781) 320-1006 or [egreco@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:egreco@townhall.westwood.ma.us)

Register

at:

[http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs\\_for\\_youth/programs\\_for\\_elementary\\_aged\\_residents/girls\\_group.htm](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs_for_youth/programs_for_elementary_aged_residents/girls_group.htm)

### **STRUCTURED PLAY GROUPS**

Who: Westwood residents in Kindergarten – 5th grade

When: Fall 2019 – Spring 2020, one afternoon per week from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Where: Islington Community Center; Hanlon, Sheehan and Martha Jones Extended Day programs

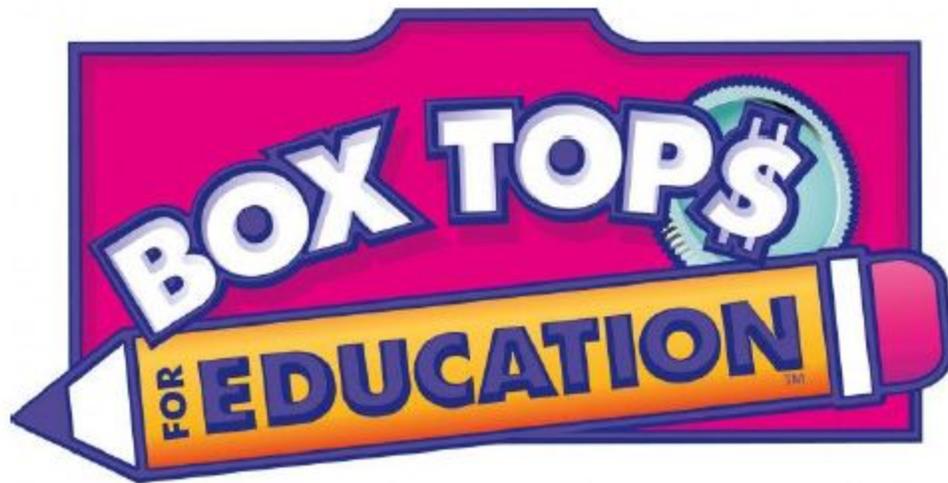
What: These 8-week groups are designed to emphasize the continued development of adaptive social and conflict-resolution skills as well as self-esteem and social confidence. Organized play and drawing activities are used to reinforce weekly topics such as initiating & developing friendships, working cooperatively as a team, appropriate communication, decision-making, as well as appreciating one's own strengths and the differences of others, etc.

Contact: Emily Greco, LCSW at (781) 320-1006 or [egreco@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:egreco@townhall.westwood.ma.us)

Register

at:

[http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs\\_for\\_youth/programs\\_for\\_elementary\\_aged\\_residents/structured\\_play\\_group.htm](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs/programs_for_youth/programs_for_elementary_aged_residents/structured_play_group.htm)



**Fall Box Tops Competition:**  
**Send in Your Box Tops!**

We are excited to announce our first classroom Box Top competition of the 2019-2020 school year! Please send in your kids' unexpired Box Tops in a baggie with your child's class name and number. Box Tops will be collected in homeroom classes.

The homeroom with the most Box Tops collected through **October 18** 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!

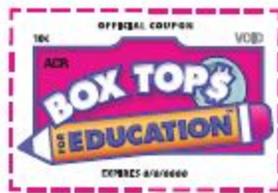
Please see the attached flyer for important changes happening to the Box Top program going forward.



Dear Families,

The Box Tops for Education program is changing the way we can earn cash for our school!

Over the summer, participating brands have begun to change their packaging from the traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.



SEE THIS...  
**CLIP IT**



SEE THIS...  
**SCAN**  
YOUR RECEIPT

Going forward, instead of clipping from packages and checking expiration dates, all Box Tops will be earned digitally by scanning your receipt. The Box Tops for Education team has worked hard to build a NEW-and-improved, user-friendly Box Tops mobile app, available now.

The new app features state-of-the-art technology that allows you to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

**BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE NEW APP  
OR UPDATE YOUR EXISTING APP:**



If you still have traditional Box Tops clips at home, make sure to send them to school. We will still earn cash for all clipped Box Tops until they expire. Better yet, you can “double dip” during the packaging transition by clipping traditional Box Tops AND scanning your store receipt containing participating products.

Thanks for helping our school get what it needs!

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE CHANGES AT**

**BTFE.COM**

*Friends of the Westwood Library*

# *Fall Book Sale*

**Westwood Main Library**

Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> - 1:00pm - 8:30pm  
Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> - 10:00am - 5:30pm  
Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> - 10:00am - 3:00pm

Funds raised through the book sale support Library programs and services, including museum passes, lectures, author talks, technology upgrades, and children's programs.



*The Friends of the Westwood Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and contributions are fully tax deductible as allowed by law.*

