

# Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.  
Issue 4 - Oct. 25, 2019



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

## Important Dates

<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.
<b>Mon., Nov. 4th</b>	Community Forum - Elem. School Bld. Project 7:00 pm Thurston Care
<b>Wed., Nov. 6</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
<b>Mon., Nov 11</b>	Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL
<b>Wed., Nov. 13</b>	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served. ----- Evening Parent Conferences (as scheduled)
<b>Thu., Nov. 14</b>	School Committee, WHS 7pm
<b>Wed., Nov. 27</b>	12:00 Dismissal for Thanksgiving Break
<b>Thu. &amp; Fri., Nov. 28 &amp; 29</b>	Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL
<b>Mon., Dec. 2</b>	In-service - NO SCHOOL

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

**Elementary School Building Project Update:** On Wednesday, October 23rd, the Westwood School Committee held a Community Forum and reviewed the process to date, outlined our current status, introduced the project manager and architect, and offered citizens the opportunity to share their project priorities, concerns, and questions. Attendees worked in groups of 6-8 participants to share their input on the following questions:

- o *What features should this project consider?*
- o *What's important to you?*
- o *What most excites you about this opportunity?*
- o *What are your concerns?*
- o *How would you define a successful community process?*

The Forum will be repeated on November 4th at 7:00 pm in the Thurston Middle School cafeteria. The project has the potential to impact every elementary school student. I encourage all Martha Jones families to participate in the process and share you thoughts, ideas, and concerns. This is the time to get involved.

Foundation for Westwood Education Spelling Bee - It is that time of year again, registration for the Spelling Bee is now open for students in grades 3, 4, and 5. This is a wonderful event and I must admit that I love it when Martha Jones students come take home the trophy. Please see the attached flyer at the end of this newsletter. The Foundation for Westwood Education offers many grants and funding opportunities for our special things we want to do in our schools and in the district. Please consider supporting this event. Help your child organize a team now.

# MJ News

## Martha Jones Continues to Give:

**Candy for the Troops** - For the past few years, Martha Jones School students have been very generous in donating their "extra" candy to members of our armed services. Candy from this drive will be sent with oral hygiene kits to deployed troops around the world through the non-profit local organization CarePacks. We are one of 43 schools who together donated over 12,000 lbs of candy through the Wellesley Dental Group. We hope that you will be able to join us this year! **Candy will be collected from November 1st through November 7th.**

**Congratulations to Mrs. Mundy's class.** They are the winners of the Box Top Contest. Thank you for contributing your box tops. Each box top summited goes to funding Martha Jones Activities.



**Our 4th graders recently visited Moose Hill Sanctuary in Sharon.** They had the pleasure of participating in two wonderful programs. These programs tie in directly to our curriculum standards and classroom lesson.

Habitat Hunt - Each student is given a native animal and becomes the group expert on that creature. While exploring field, forest, and wetland habitats, students will search for the food, water, and shelter their animals need for survival. Students will recognize that animals live only where they can find these resources as well as air and adequate space and that different animals have different needs. Students will also classify the animals and determine how they fit in the food chain. While playing an active game, students discover how animal populations are dependent upon the availability of resources in their habitat.



Erosion and Landforms - Students walk on trails to experience a variety of terrains, observe erosion and discover two methods used to slow erosion; play an active game that simulates water flowing downhill and how plant cover reduces erosion; and work as a team to create a model that maps the shapes and types of landforms and bodies of water at Moose Hill. Thank you to the PTO for funding the buses for this field trip.

## Script Gift Card Orders are due on Tuesday - Gift Card purchases support Martha Jones

Let us help with your holiday stress! Buy gift cards **NOW** through the Martha Jones SCRIP fundraiser and avoid the long lines and headaches that come with shopping in December. See more info in PTO section of the newsletter, below.

# Classroom Happenings

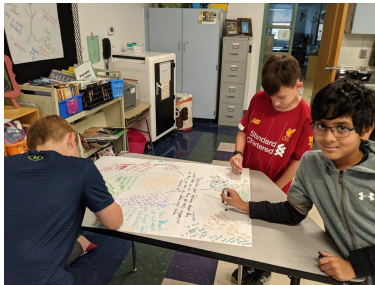
## News from 4W (Mrs. Waldner)



In 4W, we are growing as readers as well as adding to our own mindful practices through meditation. We just finished our first class read aloud, The Tiger Rising. This is a heart-felt story of a boy dealing with the complex emotions of losing someone close to him, moving to a new city, and developing a friendship. The main character carries around an emotional "suitcase" and changes throughout the



book as he starts to deal with his emotions. The class loved the story and reacted emotionally to the ending. They experienced the characters' sadness and their happiness. As a concluding activity this week, the class traveled around to different posters that displayed thought provoking questions about the book, recorded their thoughts, and included supporting text evidence. Students also responded to their peers' thinking by adding onto answers or politely disagreeing using evidence. It was amazing to see their web of thoughts come out on paper and build throughout the activity.



Additional, 4W is managing our emotions daily by taking a few mindful minutes to meditate each morning. I am amazed how everyone loves this time (and even asks for it). This mindful time has not only settled their emotions but

also clears their minds to prepare for a productive day. It has truly lightened everyone's "emotional suitcase." We have learned so much as readers and about taking care of ourselves through mindfulness!



**News from 1D (Mrs. Dunn)** - Mrs. Dunn's first-graders have been working hard at developing strategies for reading accurately. After spending the beginning of the year learning various strategies for solving unknown words (e.g., using picture clues, finding "chunks" of words they know), students are now practicing a routine to help them monitor their reading and correct errors. They are learning the accuracy strategy of **cross-checking** to ensure that their attempts at words make sense and match the letters on the page. They have practiced asking themselves three questions (with corresponding body movements) to check their attempts at words:

- **Does it look right?** (cross right arm over chest)
- **Does it sound right?** (cross left arm over right arm, forming an X)
- **Does it make sense?** (both arms come down to the side)



Doing the physical movements while asking themselves these questions helps students remember the questions. Students have been practicing cross-checking during shared reading, partner reading, and independent reading. Students know that if their answer to any of these three questions is no, then they have to go back and try another strategy to try to solve the word. But if their answer to all three questions is yes, they can be confident that they have successfully solved the word and can continue reading. First graders are well on their way to becoming independent readers!

### **What's Happening in Physical Education with Mr. Foley?**

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.

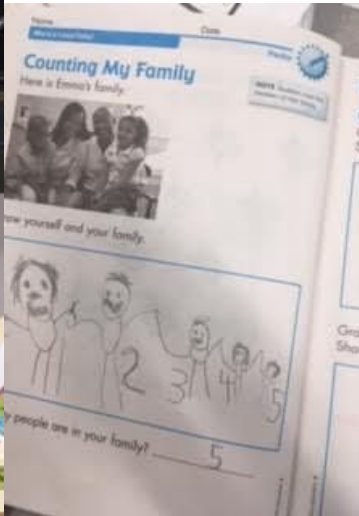
The children pictured are getting a chance to work with a variety of movement equipment. They are having lots of fun creating different ways of traveling and demonstrating body control in "open space".



## News from KL (Mrs. Layton)



Counting is the basis for understanding our number system. During our current math unit, *Counting and Comparing*, Kindergarten students have been provided an introduction to and practice with important aspects of counting. The kids have been enjoying many opportunities to connect the number names with the written numbers and with the quantities they represent. Our work has focused on: Developing strategies for accurately counting and keeping track of quantities up to 12, connecting number words, numerals and quantities and representing quantities with pictures, numbers, objects and/or words.



Who says that Library studies only happens indoors? Here is Mrs. Swinning collecting colorful leaves with Mrs. Dunn's class.



# PTO News

## **SCRIP - GIFT CARDS**

***Orders Due Tuesday, Oct. 29***

### **Gift Card purchases support Martha Jones**

Let us help with your holiday stress! Buy gift cards **NOW** through the Martha Jones SCRIP fundraiser and avoid the long lines and headaches that come with shopping in December.



**Here's how it works:** The PTO purchases gift cards from popular retailers like Dunkin' or Target at a discount. The gift cards are then sold to parents, friends, co-workers etc. at face value and the difference in price goes to the PTO. Please note that the gift cards you receive will be for the **full** value that you paid. There is **NO** additional cost to you. To view/print Order Form Click [here](#)

Gift cards are not only great for teacher, bus driver, and coach gifts but also for **everyday items** like groceries, clothing, building supplies etc. Double dip and buy some Amazon gift cards and then make your purchase through the AmazonSmile program - that's a win, win for MJS!

SCRIP order forms will go home in backpacks on October 16 and are due **October 29**. Late orders cannot be accepted. Please make checks payable to the MJ PTO and be sure to label your envelope "PTO SCRIP". Gift cards will be sent home before November 18. If it's a gift you want to keep secret, those orders will be available for pick up in the school office. Questions should be directed to Kristen Donahue [kristen.m.richman@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.m.richman@gmail.com)

## **WESTWOOD GEAR**

***Orders Due Friday, Nov. 8***

### **Get your Westwood Gear Here!**

Here's another easy way to get your holiday shopping done early while supporting Martha Jones! The Martha Jones PTO is selling Westwood themed apparel. There are many new items available this year including a warm Westwood blanket, which is perfect for those cold soccer/hockey games, and a handy cell phone credit card holder. There are also new shirts, vests, hats, headbands and more! To view photos of some of the items available Click [here](#)

If you want to view available Westwood apparel and accessories **in-person**, you are in luck! We will have a table set up at the Halloween party so, please stop by. Plus, in-person credit card purchases are now accepted via PayPal (3% processing fee).

Order forms and checks are due back to school by **Friday, Nov. 8th**. Please make checks payable to the MJ PTO and be sure to label your envelope "WW Gear". To print a new order form Click [here](#)

Westwood gear will be sent home **before** December 20th. If it's a gift you want to keep secret, those orders will be available for pick up in the school office. Questions should be directed to either

## **ORIGINAL WORKS**

***Orders Due Monday, Nov. 18***



### **A kid favorite fundraiser!**

We are pleased to announce that we will be running the Original Works Fundraiser again this year. Designed to encourage creativity and grow student self-esteem, Original Works is an art program that ties directly into Mrs. Pasquan's Art Curriculum at Martha Jones. Your child's artwork can be printed on magnets, coffee mugs, note cards and more! The pride and excitement that our students get from seeing their artwork transformed into special keepsakes is truly wonderful. Whether it's something you treasure for years to come, or give as a unique and special gift, Original Works products are fun and practical for any season or occasion—and they make **GREAT** holiday gifts for your entire family!

Students have completed their art masterpieces, and the final artwork and online ordering instructions will be sent home soon. Proceeds fund our PTO sponsored programs and last year we raised over \$2000. We are hopeful that we will meet or exceed that this year so please keep that in mind when making your selections! For more information about the Original Works program, please click [here](#) or contact Liz Nicosia [elizabeth.nicosia@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.nicosia@gmail.com)

## **SHOP AmazonSmile**

***Support Martha Jones with every purchase***

Support the Martha Jones PTO while you do your Amazon shopping by using **AmazonSmile**. AmazonSmile is a simple, automatic way for you to support the Martha Jones PTO every time you shop, at no cost to you.



You will find the exact same prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon 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!

### **Amazon shopping with an iPhone?**

You can use AmazonSmile just like an App by following a few simple steps. Open [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) in your browser, tap the "share/forward link" button then tap the "Add to Home Screen" icon (you may need to swipe left to see this). You will now have an AmazonSmile icon which can be used in exactly the same way as the Amazon App **but now** all of your purchases support the Martha Jones PTO.

## **BOX TOPS - COLLECTION ONGOING**

***Download the App and scan receipts within 14 days of purchase***

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 the Fall and Spring classroom competitions, we collect Box Tops year-round, so please feel free to send them in whenever you have them.

We recently sent home information about **important changes** to the Box Top program, please take note of these changes and continue to support the Box Top program. Click [here](#) for more information.

## **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).

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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 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستوود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500  
لك. لطلب كنتشكرا [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.

## **Community News You Can Use**



### **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)





# 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.

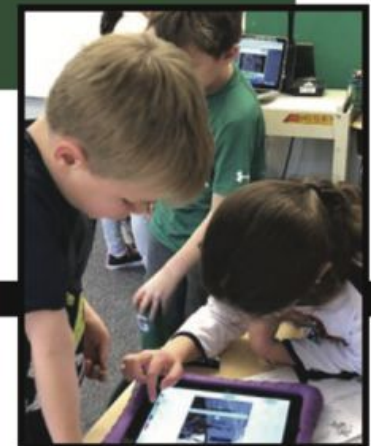
## NEXT SPRING (dates to be announced):

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!



FOUNDATION FOR  
**WESTWOOD**  
EDUCATION

# Spelling Bee

**Friday, January 3, 2020**

**Westwood High School Auditorium**

**Snow date Saturday, January 4, same location and times**

**Registration is open from October 12 to November 9**

**To Register you will need your team name, team member names (3-4 students), parent in charge name and a credit card to complete the registration below. All grades study the entire list at [www.myspellit.com](http://www.myspellit.com).**

**Don't forget to design your team t-shirts!**

**Grade 3: 3:30pm arrival time [GRADE 3 REGISTRATION](#)**

**Grade 4: 5:15pm arrival time [GRADE 4 REGISTRATION](#)**

**Grade 5: 6:45pm arrival time [GRADE 5 REGISTRATION](#)**

**Exact Times Subject to Change**

**Questions? [events@foundationforwestwoodeducation.org](mailto:events@foundationforwestwoodeducation.org)**

A COLLECTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT MARTHA JONES FROM NOV. 1ST - 7TH



12TH ANNUAL  
**CANDY  
DRIVE**

FOR THE TROOPS

**PRESS EVENT**

8th November 2019 @ 10AM  
5 Seaward Rd. Wellesley, MA 02481

**CANDY COLLECTION**

1st-7th November 2019

**CONTACT**

candydrive@wellesleydentalgroup.com  
781-237-9071

