

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 6 - Nov. 22, 2019



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

Important Dates

Wed., Nov. 27	12:00 Dismissal for Thanksgiving Break
Thu. & Fri., Nov. 28 & 29	Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL
Mon., Dec. 2	In-service - NO SCHOOL
Fri., Dec. 6	Math League 8:00AM Locations - TBD
Thu., Dec. 12	Gr. 2 Enrichment - Plimoth Plantation Classroom Visit <hr/> School Committee, WHS 7pm
Fri., Dec. 13	Math League 8:00AM Locations - TBD <hr/> Gr. 5 Band Concert - 9:30AM <hr/> Gr. 5 Play - 6:30PM
Wed., Dec. 18	Early release: Dismissal at 11:50am. No lunch served.
Mon. - Wed., Dec. 23 - Jan. 1	Holiday Break NO SCHOOL
Fri., Jan. 3	Foundation for Westwood Education - Spelling Bee - WHS

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 Thanksgiving - I want to wish all of our students, families, and staff a very Happy Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving happens to be my favorite holiday. It is the perfect day to honor traditions, visit family, eat too much, watch too much football, play games, and take a catnap (or long snooze) after eating piles of turkey. I'm thrilled that all three of my sons (and my daughter-in-law) will be home again this year to enjoy the holiday with my husband and me, as well as our extended family. Luckily, we go to my brother-in-laws for dinner, so no cooking for me. I always get the easy job of bringing dessert. Thank goodness for Fratelli's bakery, they do a much better job at baking desserts than I do.



As you think about all the things that you have to be thankful for, please take a moment to remember all the men, women, and children who are not as fortunate as many of us, those who may not have a family to spend the day with, or a warm meal to eat. Remember the veterans and active service members and all of the people affected by war, poverty, and illness and give thanks for the joys in your life.



Please note that school reopens for students on Tuesday, December 3rd. Staff members will participate in a full day on Professional Development on Monday, December 2nd.

As you shop for your holiday goodies, please consider picking up a few items for the Westwood Food Pantry. I understand that they are always in need of extra food during the winter months.

MJ News

New MJ School Motto - The Martha Jones School is working on a new motto that embraces our commitment to be kind and caring members of our school community, curious learners, and courageous citizens. Look for more information on our school motto to come in January.



Extended Day is asking any of our families and colleagues, who are able, to help us assist in filling the Boston Toys For Tots warehouse because every child deserves a happy holiday! Extended Day started their annual Toys For Tots collection on November 18th. So if you after the Thanksgiving Break you are out shopping, please consider picking up a toy for the collection. Each year they try to beat the year before! Please note the collection will be run through Thursday, December 12th.

If you donate a toy that needs batteries, please include them. Toys should be given to Eliza Yee at the Extended Day office. Used toys/stuffed animals will not be accepted. No used toys, please!

Families in Need - If you know of a Martha Jones Family in need during this holiday season, please let me or a member of the PTO know (dtobin@westwood.k12.ma.us, momolloy@aol.com, or rachelalyson@gmail.com) . We can work to find ways to support any Martha Jones family in need. We just ask that the family be made aware that you are reaching out on their behalf and have agreed to the support. In addition, families may reach out on their own. Information given to me or the PTO co-chairs will remain confidential.

Winter is Here - Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Students should bring or wear pants to school during the winter months. While they love their shorts, when they are outside at recess for 30 minutes at a time, cold bare skin is susceptible to injury and frostbite.

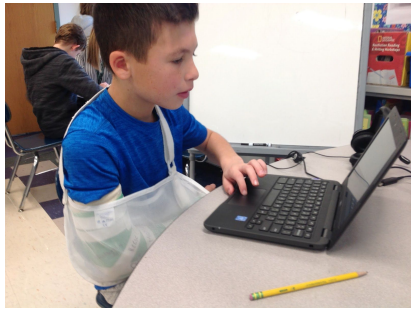
Don't forget to check out the lost and found before winter break. All clothing left over the break will be given to charity. If your child's name is in the clothing it will be returned.

The Student Council has designated the following days as Spirit Days:

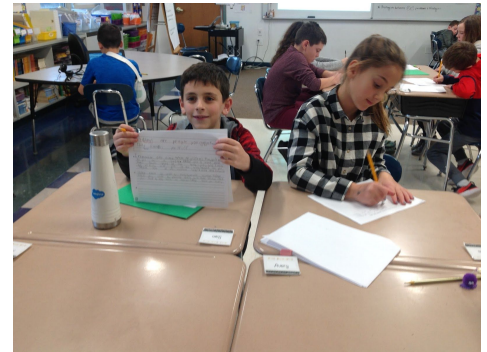
Month/Date	Spirit Day
<p><i>December 20th</i></p>	<p>Pajama Day</p> 
<p><i>January 31st</i></p> 	<p>Swap Day (teachers dress like students + students dress like teachers)</p>
<p><i>February 28th</i></p>	 <p>Dress like a famous person day</p>
<p><i>March 27th</i></p> 	<p>Wacky Friday (wear mismatched clothes, crazy hair, crazy socks, etc.)</p>
<p><i>April 17th</i></p>	 <p>Career Day (dress up like the career you aspire to have)</p>
<p><i>May 29th</i></p> 	<p>Superhero Day</p>

Classroom Happenings

News from 4B (Ms. Bass)

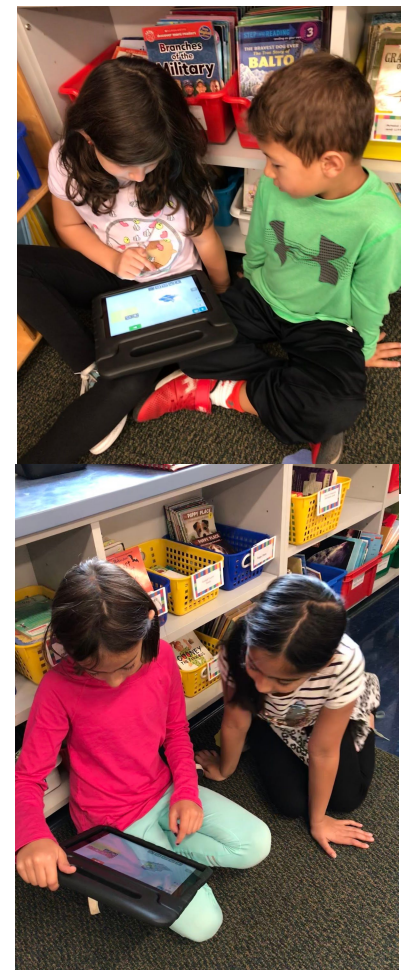


personal significance to develop into an essay, 2) establish an overarching thesis statement, and 3) generate three big reasons to support a thesis statement. Right now, the fourth graders are learning about the framework of an essay, and perhaps the most important element of essay composition: the evidence! Thus far, students have learned that a strong personal essay includes a variety of evidence types, including micro-stories and parallel lists. 4B writers are off to a great start with this unit!



News from 2M (Ms. Mundy)

With the help of Mr. Goguen, Ms. Mundy's second graders have been enjoying their first experience in coding. Mr. Goguen introduced the second graders to a programming puzzle game called Lightbot. The object of the game is to guide a robot to walk through mazes and light up tiles. As students use the Lightbot game, they are learning basic coding logic through concepts like sequencing, debugging, procedures and loops. The students are motivated to play as completion of each level unlocks more challenging levels that introduce new programming concepts. Lightbot has quickly become the favorite Technology activity in 2M!



News from Music (Mrs. Pickering 🎵)

The first grade students are studying *The Carnival of the Animals* by Camille Saint-Saëns to help feel, hear and experience musical opposites. The students are able to identify the musical opposites high/low, loud/soft and fast/slow. The first graders are learning how Camille Saint-Saëns described animals with his music. The students made predictions about what musical opposites Mr. Saint-Saëns used for each animal. For example, the students predicted the bird music would be high like a bird chirping or flying high in the air. When listening to the music, they could hear the flute play its high melody. The students also predicted that the Elephant music would be low because of its large size. When listening to the music, the students could hear the



low pitches of the giant double string bass. As always, the children enjoyed moving to the music of *The Carnival of the Animals* and using their bodies and facial expressions to imitate the animals and the music.



News from Art (Mrs. Pasquan)



This year, 5th grade students have been asked to take more responsibility in the planning of their art projects. At the beginning of the year, they were given time to experiment with a variety of drawing materials and subject matter in their sketchbooks. They were then asked to combine their favorite drawing materials with their favorite subject matter in the creation of a W.O.W. project (Wonderful Original Work of art). Some students chose to draw from life, some used the grid method to enlarge a photograph, while others combined ideas from multiple resources. This week, 5th grade students took a break from their work to experiment with a variety of colored pencil techniques. Again, some students immediately applied the techniques to their current drawings, while others



chose to test the ideas on a worksheet that will be saved for later reference. The overall goal is that they are learning how to grow as an artist: how to come up with an idea, make a plan, experiment with materials, find resources, reflect on their work, and decide what is next. So far the results have been exciting.



PTO News

ORIGINAL WORKS

Deadline Extended

Orders Due Monday, Nov. 25



A kid favorite fundraiser!

Time is running out to place your Original Works Fundraiser orders! 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 Nov. 12. Orders should be submitted by **Nov 25**. (Order forms can also be brought in to school but online ordering is preferred) 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

MARTHA JONES PARENT SOCIAL

Save the Date - Saturday, March 21, 2020

A parent favorite fundraiser!

Please join us for the Annual Martha Jones Parent Social on Saturday, **March 21, 2020** from 7:30-11:30pm at The German Club in Walpole. (Rt. 109 Westwood/Walpole town line)

As in the past, there will be a DJ, cash bar, silent and teacher experience auctions along with a healthy dose of fun and dancing! This is an **adult only** event, so book your sitters now!

SHOP AmazonSmile

Support Martha Jones with every **HOLIDAY** 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, 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 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 denise Cahill@gmail.com.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

General PTO Meeting: **Dec. 3** @ 7pm - MJ Library

Parent Social: **Mar. 21** @ 7:30-11:30pm - German Club

_ 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. Thank you.

如果您需要翻译本文件，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 谢谢你。
أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك ext. 1346 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستنود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500
لك. لطلب كتشكر lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us

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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

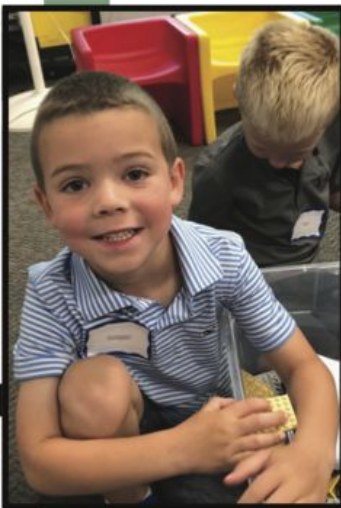
December 9 and December 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Thurston Middle School cafeteria
(participants can attend either session)

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

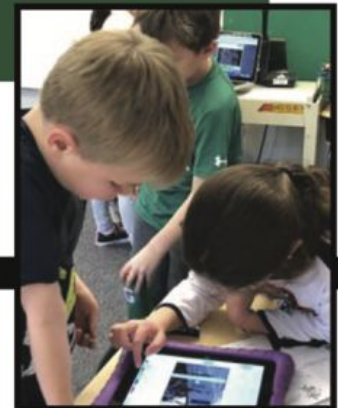
NEXT SPRING (dates to be announced):

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!



WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRESENTS

PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

*A presentation and Q & A led by
Dr. Elizabeth Englander*

December 4 • Wednesday • 7 PM
Westwood High School Auditorium

This event aligns with Westwood's strategic goal to provide information and resources for parents to help them establish an appropriate technology balance at home.

Interested in attending?

Visit www.tinyurl.com/wps-digitalparenting to RSVP.

Dr. Elizabeth Kandel Englander is a professor of Psychology and the founder and Director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center at Bridgewater State University, a Center which delivers programs, resources, and research for the state of Massachusetts and nationwide. She is a nationally recognized researcher and expert in the area of bullying and cyberbullying, childhood causes of aggression and abuse, and children's use of technology.

