

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 3 - Oct.9, 2020



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

Important Dates

Date	Event
Mon. Oct. 12th	School Closed - Columbus Day
Tues. Oct. 13th	School Committee Community Forum
Thur. Oct. 22nd	Curriculum Night
Fri., Oct. 30th	PTO Halloween Drive-thru
Tues., Nov. 3rd	School Closed - District Wide Professional Development

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

All cohorts have now started. We now have all our hybrid cohorts attending school on their hybrids schedule. It was great to have everyone back and to see things looking a little more normal with Kindergarteners through Grade 5 students enjoying the school environment. It was also picture week this week, and seeing many of the students dressed up is always fun.

We continue to strive to make the hybrid model as successful as possible for students and teachers. This past Wednesday, grade 2 and grade 3 teachers were able to spend the morning with our technology specialists and grade level colleagues to continue to share best practices and work through some of the technology challenges that they encounter with having students both in person and zooming in at the same time. We are all trying to be creative in supporting our younger students, who are just learning about technology, as we all adapt to this new way of learning.

Thank you - I want to take a moment to thank you as you continue to be vigilant about keeping your children home when they are not feeling well. With us all working together to wear masks, wash our hands, remain physically distanced, and stay home when sick, we will be able to keep our school open and everyone healthy.

MJ News

DISMISSAL REMINDER: If your child's dismissal routine changes (bus to carpool, bus to walker, etc.) can you please be sure to notify your child's classroom teacher and Ms. Santangelo in the front office. (dsantangelo@westwood.k12.ma.us). We want to keep your child safe and dismiss him / her in the manner you are expecting.



Virtual Curriculum Night Curriculum Night - October 22nd

6:30 to 7:00 pm - Principal's Welcome

7:00 to 7:30 - Classroom Presentations for Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 3 - 5

7:30 to 8:00 - Classroom Presentations for Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades Kindergarten - 2.
Directions for logging into presentations and links will be sent the week of October 19th.

Free Lunch for All Westwood Public School Students - The district will be notifying all families of a new government program that offers free lunch to all public school students through December 31st. [Please see information about the program and how to order free lunch here.](#) Yes, I know- There is no such thing as a free lunch - but in this case - **yes there is** :).

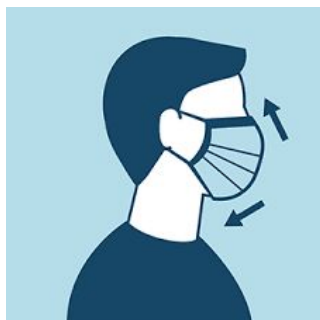


Staying Warm Inside and Outside of School - As the weather turns colder, please be sure your child has a sweater or sweatshirt for school each day. While the days are sunny, the nights are cold and we are leaving windows open to allow for the more fresh air to enter the classrooms. Even with the heat on, the rooms can be a little chilly in the morning. In addition, we go out EVERY DAY unless it is raining. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for outside weather.

PTO Meeting - We had our first Virtual PTO meeting of the school year. Thank you to the many volunteers who step up each year as PTO Board Members, Volunteers, and Committee Chairs. While we can not do all the enrichment programs, field trips, and family events we have done in the past, the PTO is thinking of creative ways to celebrate the MJ Community. Our first family event will be the Haunted Halloween Drive-By. See the PTO section at the end of this newsletter for more information about this event and how to volunteer (we need you to make it successful!) and for other PTO news.



Masks - Students have been terrific about keeping their masks on. In fact, I have not had one child referred to my office because he/she won't comply with the mask policy. They are doing a great job and should be commended and you are doing a great job remembering to have them wear their masks each day. Please remember:



Masks must fully cover the nose and mouth and secure under the chin, be made with at least two layers of breathable material, fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, and be secured with ties or ear loops.

[Mask/Face Covering Policy](#)

School Happenings

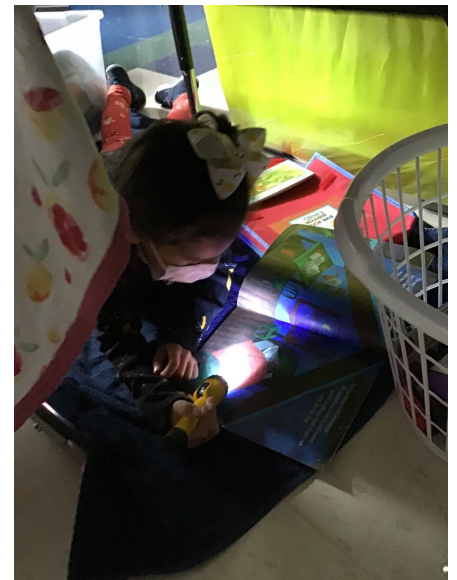
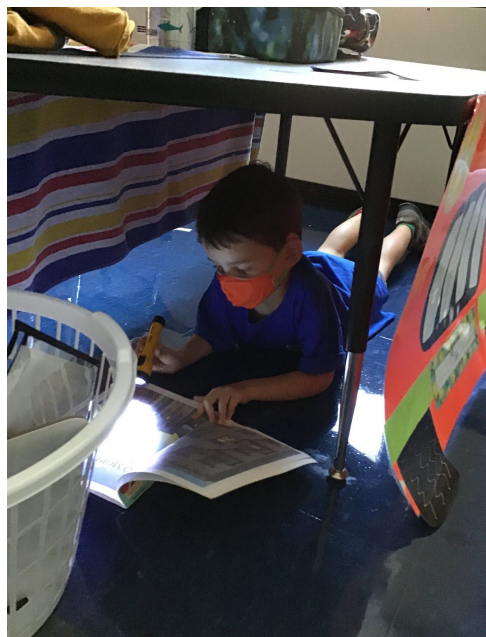
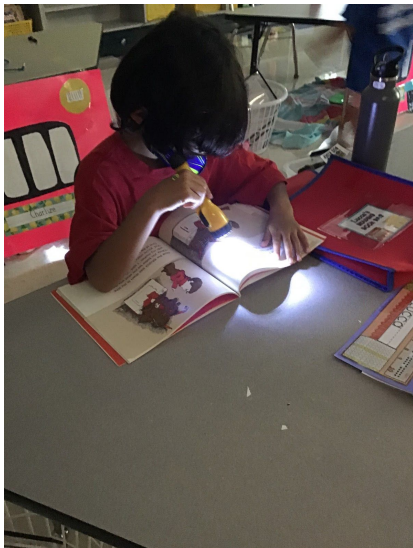
The weather has been cooperating nicely with our plans to get students outside as much as possible. Students continue to be able to eat outside and enjoy lunch with friends while basking in the sunshine.



Mrs. LaBedz' music class gets to do the Cha-Cha-Cha outside while remaining physically distanced.



Students also are having fun learning inside - Ms. Vetstein's students engaging in some special "Flashlight Reading Time."



PTO News

WELCOME TO THE NEW ONLINE DIRECTORY!

YOUR SCHOOL'S PTA/PTO NOW OFFERS...



SCHOOL DIRECTORY ON THE GO

View the online directory anytime, anywhere by logging into your secure account.

- ✓ Search anyone in the directory by phone, address, first or last name.
- ✓ Call, text or get driving directions while in the app!

DOWNLOAD FROM THE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY



Search AtoZ Connect

login.atozconnect.com



We are excited to share with you that starting this year Martha Jones PTO is using AtoZConnect as our school directory. AtoZConnect is a secure web-based system that allows parents to verify and edit their own directory listings. This will replace the printed directory we have provided in the past. With AtoZConnect you will be able to update your own information if it changes. You will also be able to access the directory on the go and always have it at your fingertips.

The Martha Jones PTO Board decided to move to AtoZConnect as it is environmentally friendly and will eliminate the flyers that have traditionally gone home in backpacks. AtoZConnect will also streamline all the communication you receive from the PTO into one place eliminating the need to search your email inbox for information. It is our hope that AtoZConnect will help families feel more connected to the Martha Jones community especially during this unprecedented year.

By now you should have received two emails asking you to verify your information. One dated September 29 from the "Martha Jones PTO" and one dated October 6 from the "Martha Jones PTO Board." In both these emails you were asked to verify your information if you haven't already. If you did not receive this email, please email Mary Jason at maryjason06@gmail.com. Thank you for your assistance and patience as we transition to this digital directory.

JOIN THE MARTHA JONES PTO

Once you have verified your information in AtoZ, you will also be invited to join the Martha Jones PTO. The cost of a PTO membership is \$45 for families with one child and \$55 for families with two or more children. A PTO membership gives you access to the full Martha Jones directory on AtoZConnect. If you

do not sign up for PTO membership, you will not have access to the directory. However, you still will have an AtoZConnect account and the ability to update your information and receive all PTO notices.

Support of the PTO through a PTO membership helps fund events, special projects, and educational programs throughout the year. The PTO Board is already working on ways to convert many of our traditional in-person highlights to social distanced events this year. Now more than ever we want to make sure we provide fun, engaging activities to help your children feel connected.

Thank you to everyone who has already joined the PTO this year!

ROOM PARENTS AND COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Once you are in AtoZ, please take a moment to click on the "event sign up" tab and volunteer to be a room parent in your child's classroom or to join one of our committees. Even though this year will look very different, there are still many ways to get involved and we would love your help.

The room parent job will be virtual this year. Room parents help coordinate the teacher gift and organize any virtual volunteer activities that may arise during the year. It's a great way to get to know your child's teacher and support the great work they are doing.

SAVE THE DATE: Martha Jones Haunted Halloween Drive-Thru ***Friday, October 30***

BOO!! Save the date for the Martha Jones Haunted Halloween Drive-Thru!

Although we won't be able to do our annual Halloween party this year, there's no way we could let our favorite spooky holiday pass us by! Please save the date for "A Drive-Thru Haunted House" that will be set up outside the school the evening of October 30.

Parents are invited to drive through the display at set times based on your child's grade. There will be guides directing traffic. In order for this event to be successful and not cause traffic issues, we request that families only participate at the time allotted for their child's grade. If you have more than one child at Martha Jones we request that you pick a time that best matches your families needs. Time slots will be assigned and announced soon.

Although children won't be allowed to exit their cars, we would love everyone to decorate their car and have their kids don their Halloween costumes. We are sure this will be a Halloween night to remember!

We need DOZENS of volunteers to make this night safe and successful. We need volunteers to help set up and remove the display and parents to DRESS up and wave to kids as they drive by. Please click [here](#) to volunteer for this very special event.

PTO MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020-2021

The PTO holds four regular meetings per year. The dates for the remaining meetings this year are December 1, March 2 and May 4 all at 7 p.m. This year the PTO meetings will be held via Zoom.

FALL BOX TOP CAMPAIGN

Due Date: October 23

Please send your kids' unexpired Box Tops in a baggie to school by Friday October 23, 2020. A bin will be available in the office to collect the Box Tops. Please be sure your child's name and teacher are included on the baggie.

ELECTRONIC BOX TOPS - COLLECTION ONGOING: Download the App and scan receipts within 14 days of purchase. Click [here](#) for more information about how to download the Box Top app and scan your receipts. Each Box Top is worth 10¢ for our school.

MABEL'S LABELS

mabel's labels®

This year, more than ever, it is going to be very important to label all lunch boxes, backpacks, water bottles, clothes, etc. Due to the safety protocols around COVID-19, the school will be unable to maintain a long-term lost and found.

The Martha Jones PTO has partnered with Mabel's Labels to help with this. By purchasing labels via our fundraiser, you will receive free shipping (labels are mailed directly to your address) and the PTO will receive 20% of your purchase. Go to campaigns.mabelslabels.com and enter "Martha Jones PTO" as the fundraiser you would like to support.

SHOP AmazonSmile Now on the App ***Support Martha Jones with every purchase***

The Amazon Shopping app now supports Amazon Smile! Simply download the newest version of the Amazon Shopping app, go to settings, turn on Amazon Smile and choose the Martha Jones PTO as your charity. After you've done that, every purchase you make will automatically support the Martha Jones PTO 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.

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 Amy Amatangelo at amyamatangelo@yahoo.com.

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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 lplouffe@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 lplouffe@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 ويستود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500
لك. لطلب كنتشكر| lplouffe@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 lplouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us Спасибо.



Fall Box Tops Campaign:
Send in Your Box Tops!

Please send your kids' unexpired Box Tops in a baggie with your child and your child's teacher's name marked on the baggie to school by **Friday October 23, 2020**. A bin will be available in the office to collect the Box Tops.

ELECTRONIC BOX TOPS - COLLECTION ONGOING

Download the App and scan receipts within 14 days of purchase. Click [here](#) for more information about how to download the Box Top app and scan your receipts.

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!