

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 16 - Apr. 14, 2022



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

Important Dates

Friday, April 15th	No School - Good Friday Passover Begins at Sundown Easter Sunday - Happy Easter
Mon - Fri Apr. 18- Apr. 22	NO SCHOOL - Patriot's Day and School Vacation week
Wed., Apr. 27	Early Release 11:50AM
Sat. Apr. 30	PTO Social 7:00PM - 11:00PM German Club, Walpole
Mon., May 2	New Principal Meet & Greet 4:30PM - 5:30PM MJ Library
Wed., May 4	Walk to School Day
Fri., May 6	GR 2 Enrichment: Animal Adaptations
Mon. & Tue., May 9 & 10	Math MCAS Grades 3, 4, & 5
Tue., May 10	GR 3 Enrichment: David Coffin Recorder
Wed., May 11	Early Release 11:50AM
Fri., May 13	GR 4 Enrichment: Environmental Science

Martha Jones School Telephone Extensions:
Office 781-326-7500, ext. 6321
ext. 6261: [Diane Santangelo](#)
ext. 6321: [Donna Tobin](#)
ext. 6263: [JoEllen Doyle](#)

Message from the Principal

There are a number of Fun Events Happening at MJ this Spring.

[April 14th and 15th - MJ Book Fair](#) at Park Street Books. Don't forget to stop by and shop at Park Street Books today and tomorrow to support the Martha Jones School. This year's book fair will not be held at school, but at Park Street Books. [Link here for Read-A-Thon Results](#)

[May 2nd - 4:30 - Meet and Greet with Donna Olson, 2022-2023 Interim Principal. Information Here.](#)

[May 4th - WALK TO SCHOOL DAY](#) - This is an annual statewide event that encourages all students (with an adult) to walk to school on Wednesday, May 4th. The police department will be on hand to help at major intersections. Parent volunteers are needed. [See all details here.](#)

[May 20th - BINGO Family Night](#) - Each year the families in grade 5 raise money for special grade 5 activities and a scholarship that goes to a graduating WHS former MJ student. This year's event is a BINGO night for all MJ families. The event is free but donations will be accepted. Stop by for some fun and to win some candy prizes. [Info linked here](#)

[June 2nd - SCIENCE FAIR and ART SHOW \(STEAM Event\)](#) - Students generated science and engineering projects. Student Scientists can work individually or in groups of 2 or 3. Projects are completed outside of school and showcased at the fair. It is also an event showcasing student Artwork from their art classes. [Link here for flyer.](#)

June 10th - Hold the Date: Martha Jones Field Day!

MJ & District News



School Start Time Survey - As you may know, the School Committee and the Superintendent formed a subcommittee early this school year to consider changes to school start times for the 2023-2024 school year.

The district hosted a virtual forum with Dr. Judith Owens, Director of Sleep Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital. If you were unable to attend, you may view Westwood Media Center's recording of the forum on the School Start Times Subcommittee webpage at www.westwood.k12.ma.us/district/school-committee/start-times.cfm. In addition, a survey was sent to all families on April 8th. If you did not have a chance to complete the survey, the deadline has been extended and there is still time to do so.

The survey is available at <https://forms.gle/LXm4ZQfjBujsPEWr8>. The Subcommittee is collecting information that will inform possible scenarios.

Class Placement - In May, teachers, special educators, specialists, the school psychologist, and I will begin the process of class placement for the 2022-2023 school year. We review information about each child's academic, social, and personal characteristics and use that information when making placement decisions. Our primary goal is to develop well-balanced classrooms and assign each child to a classroom in which he or she can develop academically and socially. I am confident that all of our teachers provide students with wonderful learning opportunities. If you have specific information about your child's learning needs that you would like us to consider during the process, please email me that information **no later than May 6th. Only information provided to me, in writing, will be considered (please note "Placement" in the email subject)**. Conversations with teachers during conferences, requests from previous years, and information from prior conversations are difficult to keep track of and not considered in the placement process. Please note that letters and emails are not kept from previous years since children change and grow and we make decisions based on current information. I will copy all emails I receive and distribute them to the placement team members for consideration. If you are the parent of multiples (twins, triplets, etc.), you may specify whether you want your children placed in the same class or different classes. Please don't assume we know this information, if you have a preference for together or separate for your twin/triplet placement, let us know. **Westwood Public Schools does not allow parents to request their children's teachers; therefore, requests for specific teachers will not be accepted or considered. Specific requests to have a teacher will not be honored and will result in your child not being placed in the requested class.** Sometimes, parents assume that if one of their children had a teacher, the other child will automatically have that same teacher. This is not true. Previous family placements are not considered in the placement process. All class placements are final and will be sent to families in August. Please contact me if you have any questions about the process.

A few reminders as we head into Spring

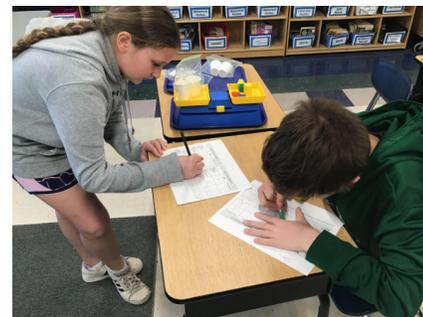
It is helpful for students to have their own refillable water bottle, as the days get hotter we like to keep them hydrated. Refillable water stations are available in the cafe and hallway. Please be sure to label your child's water bottle with his/her name. This is true for sweatshirts, coats, etc. The mornings are chilly, but by recess there are coats all over the playground and lost and found fills up quickly. Please label all clothing so it gets back to your child and not donated to charity.

Bus behaviors - this time of year, I typically see an uptick in complaints about student behaviors on the bus. Please remind your child that the bus is an extension of the school and they need to be respectful of each other, the bus driver, and observe the bus rules (stay seated, older students at the back of the bus and younger students near the front, be kind to each other, and always keep hands and arms inside the bus - never outside of the bus window). I do recognize that some of the buses have been running a few minutes late in the afternoons, I thank you for your patience as we continue to manage any bus driver absences while getting all bus students home as quickly and as safely as possible.

Classroom Happenings

News from 5B (Mr. Bartlett)

5th graders have been working to prove that matter exists when you cannot see it. One experiment conducted was to make iced tea! Students individually measured sugar, ice tea and a cup of water. After mixing these ingredients together, students measured the iced tea drink and compared this to the total mass of the ingredients. They proved that even though we can not see the sugar, it is still there because the total mass of all the ingredients matches the mass of the iced tea.



Students could also make observations by tasting the iced tea to see if it was sweet or not.



Another experiment involved creating a chemical reaction using baking soda and vinegar. Students again measured the mass of the baking soda and the mass of the vinegar before combining them. Students did this twice; once in a cup, allowing any gas to escape (an open system) and once in a sealed ziplock bag (closed system). When students measured the masses of the combined substances, the open system had lost mass, due to gas escaping, but the closed system trapped the gas and did not change. In addition to our measurements, students could make visual observations because even though they could not see the gas, they could observe bubbles and see the ziplock bag expanding. Throughout these experiments, students have been working in building their observational skill



as well as gathering measurable data to support what they can, and more importantly, *cannot* see.

News from Literacy (Ms. Wyler)

Inferential understanding is an important part of comprehension at all ages, but it becomes increasingly critical as students move up through the grades. While reading aloud and talking about books at home is always a great way to support all reading development, there are many additional ways you can support your young learner's inferential thinking. For our youngest learners, storytelling and engaging in pretend play are some of the most meaningful ways to support their comprehension. When children pretend play they are creating characters and stories. They are thinking about how their character may feel, are acting upon their character's motivations, and are predicting what might happen next. The list of benefits goes on and on! You can also support your child in media other than books. Movies and T.V. shows are great resources for practicing inferential comprehension. When you are watching a show, pause and ask your child, "How do you think (the character) is feeling?" or "Why do you think they did that?". You might also try pushing your child's thinking further by asking questions like, "What makes you think that?". These types of follow up questions encourage your child to provide evidence for their thoughts. Below are two video links with additional suggestions as to how you can support your child's thinking at home.

[Stopping to Think and Grow Ideas While Reading, Watching TV, or in Life!](#)

[Incorporating Everyday Talk at Home that Can Lift the Level of Your Child's Thinking Skills](#)

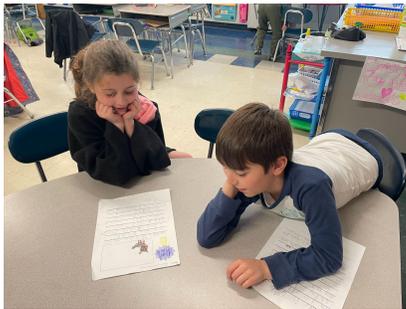
News from 2H (Ms. Hartwell) WHS Child Study Students Help Out In Grade 2



Since the Fall, two times a week, 2H has had two students from the high school come in for their Early Education Study elective. The high school students engage in any activity we are doing at the time of their arrival. The second graders have been in reading groups, playing math games, writing stories, and doing science experiments when the students are present. The children are happy and excited when they walk in. The second graders have stated, "It is nice having them in the classroom ...they are like a second teacher...they are helpful." A second grader also stated, " We got to help them with two assignments! When they created a book and read it to us. And when they made up a science experiment to go with our study of Solids, Liquids and Gas." This collaboration has enriched our classroom.



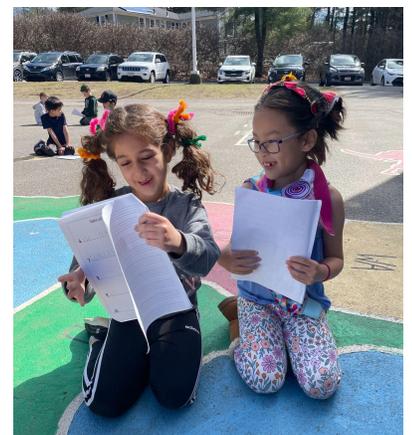
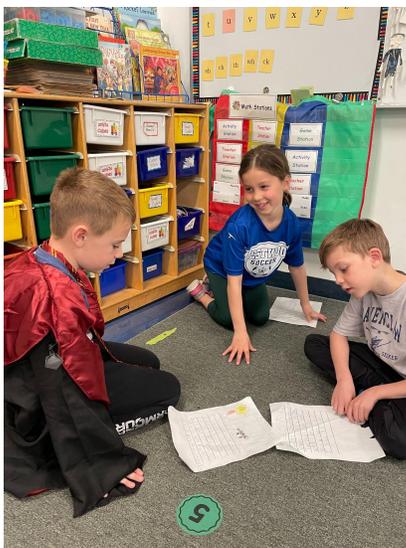
News from the 1D (Mrs. Dunn)



Mrs. Dunn's first grade class has been writing up a storm this spring! After wrapping up a unit on writing *All About* books, students were eager to celebrate by sharing their stories with fellow authors from 1B. We are now diving deep into a unit of study on opinion writing, honing our ability to develop convincing arguments that are supported by multiple detailed reasons. We kicked off this unit by holding a mock dog show and writing our opinions about which dog deserved the "Best in Show" award. Students have now transitioned to writing reviews of anything and everything- toys, games, movies, restaurants- and are bolstering their arguments by trying out craft moves learned from analyzing mentor texts and writing samples. This is pretty sophisticated work for first graders, but having great powers of persuasion comes naturally to these young writers!



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PTO News

PTO Update 4/13/22

WANTED: DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES AND NEW IDEAS (A.K.A - YOU!)

Looking for a way to give back to the MJ community, while having fun and meeting new people? We are looking for board members to serve as co-president, co-treasurer, co-secretary, co-social media chair/marketing director for the 2022-2023 school year.

For more information please email marthajonesschool@gmail.com

APRIL 14 & 15 PARK STREET BOOKS SHOPPING DAY

Park Street Books has offered us a shopping day to support MJS! On Thursday, April 14 and Friday, April 15 from 9am-6pm you can visit Park Street Books at 504 Main Street in Medfield, and they will donate 20% of all qualifying purchases to the MJ PTO.

MJ SPECIAL EXPERIENCES ONLINE AUCTION- Open now until April 30th

Does your child want to be the MJ Principal for the Day? Maybe they want a ride to school in a Fire Truck? Have a special birthday to celebrate – how about a party at Hale?

[Click here to register for the Special Experiences Auction and place your bid.](#)

The Martha Jones Roaring 20's Parent Social, our most popular and profitable PTO fundraising event, will be held on Saturday, April 30.

As part of the event, we are holding an ONLINE AUCTION for some special experiences **sponsored by MJ teachers, staff and parents, as well as additional community partners.**

The online auction is **NOW OPEN** to place your bids. It can be accessed from home or at the event until it **closes at 10 p.m. Saturday April 30.**

In addition to the online auction, spectacular RAFFLE BASKETS created with donations from the whole MJS community will be auctioned off AT THE EVENT only. The baskets are NOT part of the online auction.

Have questions about the auction site and how to use it? [Click here](#) for more information!

And don't forget to buy your tickets to the Parent Social now! [Click here to get in on the fun!](#)

S.T.E.A.M. FAIR REGISTRATION CLOSSES On May 13

[Registration to Participate](#)
[Project ideas](#)

Thursday, June 2nd, 6:30 -7:45p.m. The STEAM fair is an annual event for students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math projects and present them to the Martha Jones community. Scientists can work individually or in groups of 2 or 3. Projects are completed outside of school and showcased at the fair. It is also an event showcasing student Artwork from their art classes.

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 Cat Sonis at catkell23@yahoo.com or Beth Klaene at baklaene@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 14TH AND 15TH

Park Street Books Shopping Days



Park Street Books Shopping Day: Park Street Books has offered us a shopping day to celebrate this event! On Thursday, April 14th and Friday, April 15th from 9am-6pm you can visit **Park Street Books at 504 Main Street in Medfield and they will donate 20% of all qualifying purchases to the MJ PTO.** The students from the winning Read-A-Thon classes can use their hard-earned Gift Certificates on these shopping days too!

YOU'RE INVITED

***FAMILY
MEET AND GREET***

with

**Mrs. Donna Olson,
2022-2023 MJ Interim Principal**

Stop by to say hello, enjoy a few light refreshments, and welcome Ms. Olson to the MJ school community.

Monday, May 2nd

4:30 to 5:30

Martha Jones Library

(please feel free to bring your children)



Martha Jones Walk-To-School Day

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

(Rain Date - May 11, 2021)

May 4th is Massachusetts Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Walk-To-School Day and Martha Jones School will be participating this year. We are encouraging all students to Walk To School on May 4th. Attached you will find meeting spots for most of our neighborhoods with team Captains who will be leading groups of students as they walk to school. **Parent/caregiver volunteers are needed to make this a safe walk for everyone. If you are willing to help out by walking your child and a group of students to school, [PLEASE SIGN UP HERE](#) as a parent/caregiver helper.** This is a great way to encourage students (and families) to get exercise. Buses will run their regular routes for bus students that are not able to participate and all bus students will take their buses home in the afternoon (this is a morning event only).

A few things you should know about Walk to School Day:

- If you would like your child to participate in the SRTS Walk-to-School Day, please bring him or her to the designated meeting place closest to your home (meeting spots listed below) to meet up with an adult or feel free to join the group and [sign up as a parent/caregiver volunteer](#).
- Groups will leave the meeting spots at 8:15 to head to school. Please have your child at one of the designated meeting spots no later than 8:15. **Do not drop your child off if an adult is not present.**
- If your child normally walks to school without an adult and will be walking his/her typical route, that is fine, he/she does not need to join at a meeting spot but he/she is welcome to do so.
- If you want to gather some neighbors together on your own and walk together as a group feel free to do so.
- This is a **Walk** to School event. Siblings are welcome to join, but for everyone's safety, **please** no dogs, bikes, skateboards, etc.
- Please follow all pedestrian safety protocols when walking: use crosswalks, walk on sidewalks, stay together, wear bright clothing. Police will be assisting with crossing at:
 - Pond Street @ Colburn Street
 - Intersection of Pond and Clapboardtree @ the Temple
 - Pond @ Oak Street/Arcadia
- If you are driving to a drop off location, please pay extra attention to walkers. Do not leave cars idling when dropping off at the drop off location. To avoid traffic and congestion, walking to meeting locations is best, but if you must drive, drop your child with one of the parent volunteers and be on your way to leave room for other parents to drop off.

Proposed Meeting/Drop Off Locations (Volunteers Needed)

Sycamore Drive @ Magnolia Drive

Locust Drive @ Magnolia Drive

Alder Road @ Sumac Drive

Briar Lane @ Winslow Road

Briar Lane @ Tamarack Road

Tamarack Road @ Fensview Drive

Dela Park Road @ Delapa Circle

Colby Way @ Sherman's Way

Temple Parking Lot

Colburn Street @ French Street

Fisher Street @ Baker Street

18 Oak Street

Please reach out if you have any questions and I look forward to having many of our students participate on Wednesday, May 4th.

Martha Jones 5th Grade Presents:

Bingo Night

MJS Gym - 80 Martha Jones Rd.

Friday, May 20, 2022

6:30-7:30 PM

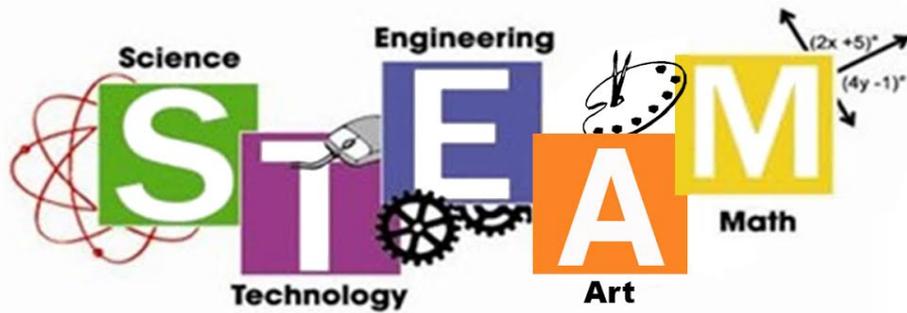
Join us for an all school family fun & fundraising event!

KING SIZE
CANDY PRIZES!
SNACKS, DRINKS,
50/50 RAFFLE

The event is Free, but all donations will go to the MJS 5th Grade Scholarship Fund to benefit a former Martha Jones graduating WHS '22 senior.

For those who cannot attend,
direct donations also accepted via
Venmo@Kathryn-Burke-16
PayPal@kyburke kat.kempf@gmail.com





Registration is open for the
Martha Jones S.T.E.A.M. Event
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math)
S.T.E.M. Fair and Art Show

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022, 6:30 pm -7:45 pm
Register by May 13th

The STEAM fair is an annual event for students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math projects and present them to the Martha Jones community. Scientists can work individually or in groups of 2 or 3. Projects are completed outside of school and showcased at the fair. It is also an event showcasing student Artwork from their art classes.

Registration: [Registration link here](#)

Project ideas: [Project Ideas](#)

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 谢谢你。
أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك ext. 1346 إذا بحاجة إلى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستوود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500
لك. لطلب كنتشكر 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 Спасибо.