



Growing By Leaps and Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, MA

Matt Kuklantz, Principal

Martha Jones Motto:
Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.

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

Issue 10 - January 19, 2024

Principal's Message

MJ Community,

As you can see below, I've projected out a number of important upcoming events from now until the end of the year. There will be many more added in the coming weeks and months (e.g., field trips for grades not already listed, Field Day, Move Up, etc). That said, I wanted to highlight a number of fun upcoming events.

Cozy Day - On **January 29th** the Student Council will have a Spirit Day that will be Cozy Day. Students and adults will wear their most cozy clothes and we will gather together in the cafeteria that afternoon as a special guest will read us a book.

[Valerie Tutson](#) will be joining us on February 9th for an all school enrichment activity during Black History Month. The title of her presentation is Tales from African Traditions.

Report Cards - They will be published in Aspen on Friday, February 2 in the afternoon after 4PM. I will send along instructions on how to access them in the coming weeks.

Matt Kuklantz
Martha Jones

Important Upcoming Events

Tue. Jan. 23 - MJ PTO Fall/Spring MiniCourse Registration Opens

Wed. Jan. 24 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Fri. Jan. 26 - MJ PTO Bingo Night 6:00PM - 7:30PM

Mon. Jan. 29 - Spirit Day - Cozy Day

Wed. Jan. 31 - Gr. 2 & 5 Enrichment, Discovery Science Museum

Fri. Feb. 2 - Math League

Fri. Feb. 2 - Gr. 3 Enrichment, Top Secret Science - Engineering and Design

Tue. Feb. 6 - MJ PTO [Fall/Spring MiniCourses](#) start (through April 22)

Thurs. Feb. 8 - Gr. 3 Enrichment, Discovery Science Museum - Force & Magnetism

Fri. Feb. 9 - All School Enrichment, [Valerie Tutson](#), Tales from African Traditions

Wed. Feb. 14 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Fri. Feb. 16 - Math League

Mon. Feb. 19-Fri. Feb 23 - February Recess

Mon. Feb. 26 - School Resumes

Fri. Mar. 1 - Gr. 5 Enrichment, Top Secret Science, Space

Tues. Mar. 5 - All School Enrichment, Author Visit, [Jef Czekaj](#)

Wed. Mar. 6 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Thurs. Mar. 7 - K Enrichment, Curious Creatures & Gr. 4 Top Secret Science, Forces & Motion

Sat. Mar. 9 - MJ PTO Parent Social

Fri. Mar. 15 - Gr. 5 Field Trip

Wed. Mar. 20 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Fri. Mar. 22 - Gr. 5 Enrichment, Top Secret Science, States of Matter

Fri. Mar. 22 - K Field Trip, Discovery Museum

Fri. Mar. 29 - Good Friday, No School

Tues. Apr. 2 - ELA MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed. Apr. 3 - Early Release at 12:00pm, Parent Teacher Conferences

Thurs. Apr. 4 - ELA MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed. Apr. 10 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Fri. Apr. 12 - Gr. 5 Concert

Mon. Apr. 15 - Fri. Apr. 19 - April Recess - No School

Wed. Apr. 24 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Tues. May 7 - Math MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed. May 8 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Thurs. May 9 - Math MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Fri. May 10 - [Shaw Pong Liu](#) - Exploring China: "The Middle Kingdom" through Music and Story

Tues. May 14 - STE MCAS (Gr. 5 only)

Wed. May 15 - Gr. 1 Enrichment - Rainforest Reptiles

Thurs. May 16 - STE MCAS (Gr. 5 only)

Thurs. May 16 - [Gr. 3 Body Safety Theater](#)

Wed. May 22 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Mon. May 27 - Memorial Day - No School

Tues. May 28 - Gr. 3 Enrichment, Colonial Trades, Making Community Work

Wed. May 29 - Gr. 2 Enrichment, CT. Childrens Museum, Animal Adaptations and Habitats

Thurs. May 30 - Gr. 4 Enrichment, Discovery Museum, Sound Waves

Mon. June 3 - All School Enrichment, Author Visit, [Daryl Cobb](#)

Wed. June 5 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Thurs. June 6 - K Enrichment, Discovery Museum, Bubbles

Thurs. June 13 - Students' Last Day (Tentative)

MCAS Dates

We are planning to conduct MCAS testing on the following dates:

April 2 and April 4 - ELA (Gr. 3, 4, 5)

May 7 and May 9 - Math (Gr. 3, 4, 5)

May 14 and May 16 - STE (Gr. 5 only)

News from the Health Office

Cold and Flu Season

Whether we like it or not, the cold and flu season is upon us. Most colds are caused by viruses, but symptoms to keep children home with include fever greater than 100.0, vomiting (GI or stomach bug), or a constant cough that is causing the student discomfort.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any issues, concerns, or questions regarding your student's health and well-being: jdoyle@westwood.k12.ma.us or (781)326-7500 x6263

And remember please help us and update SDM with any absences :)



News from the MJ Classroom's



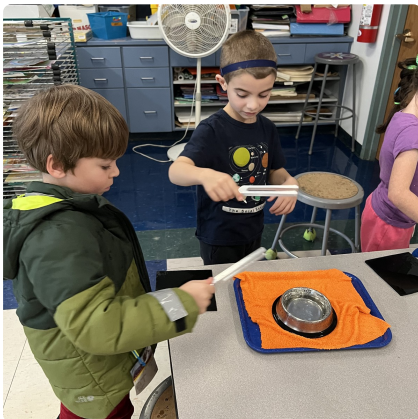
News from 5P (Mr. Parkhurst)



This year in Mr. Parkhurst's class students have been participating in the Stock Market Game. Students are given an imaginary \$100,000 to invest in the stock market. Our technology specialist, Mr. Goguen, led the students in lessons about how to research companies to invest in, when to buy and sell, diversification, and on bonds and mutual funds.

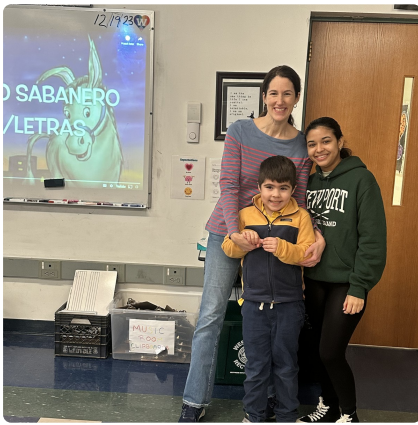
Students were fully engaged and had great fun and success. In the Fall session of the game, 2 teams from the class finished in the top 10 in Massachusetts. The partnership of Avery Tessier and Layla Klaene (a.k.a. Money Queens) were 6th place in the state with a total of \$118,579.04. The team of Kate Tateosian and Renzi Schelenski (a.k.a. Bob Ross Bills) were 8th place in the state with a total of \$118,079.50.

News from 1B (Ms. Brock)



First graders are learning about sound in science and enjoyed an enrichment program from the Discovery Museum this week! We learned that sound is caused by vibrations and that it can travel through solids, liquids, and gases. Students participated in different sound stations and used tuning forks to create vibrations.

News from the Music Room (Mrs. Pickering)

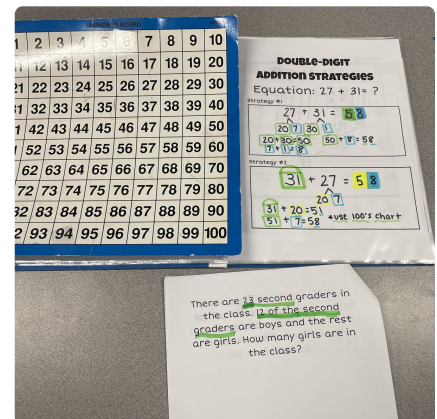
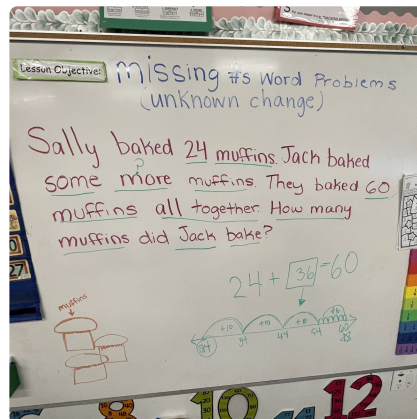
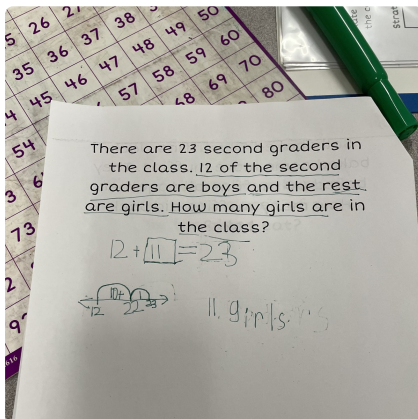


An important part of our First Grade Music curriculum focuses on celebrating with music. By the end of our year, students will understand that:

- I can make music with my friends and family.
- I can celebrate with music by singing, moving and playing instruments.
- We have musical traditions.

Families have generously given their time to come into the music classroom to share different holidays and/or musical traditions in their family. If you would like to share your families musical celebrations please fill out this form by [clicking here](#).

News from the Ms. Eaton



In the Learning Center, the second grade students are working on a new math concept. They have been actively working on solving addition and subtraction word problems with both single and double-digit numbers with success. Most recently, they have been introduced to the concept of an identifying an "unknown change." This concept involves analyzing the wording given a mathematical word problem and identifying the parts that you "know" and part that represent an "unknown change." Students read the problem and underline the important information/ key words and through discussion, they determine which parts of the problem are "known" or "unknown." Unknown parts are marked with a question mark. From there, the second graders work on determining if the problem that they are solving requires addition or subtraction and generate an accompanying equation using an empty box to represent the "unknown change." They then choose

a previously introduced computation strategy to solve the problem. The second graders are off to a good start!



MARTHA JONES SCHOOL

PTO

Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.

PTO News

Martha Jones Bingo Night

Join us for a night of family fun at the Family BINGO Night, brought to you by our fifth graders! Mark your calendars for **Friday, January 26th**, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Martha Jones gym. This event is free and open to all MJS students and their families. Don't miss out on the chance to win exciting prizes, create lasting memories together. See you there!



Winter/Spring Mini Course Session

On Tuesday, January 23rd, registration will open on the PTO website at www.mjspto.com for the winter/spring session of Mini Courses! Offerings are varied and include favorites such as Fun & Games, Arts & Crafts, Calligraphy, and Talent for a Cause, and cool new courses like SheCanSTEM, Chess Wizards, and Irish Step Dancing! Classes will begin the week of Monday, February 5th, with most classes ending the week of April 22nd (reserving the week of April 29-May 3 as a make-up week). On the 23rd, a link for registration will be provided in an email notice from Principal Kuklantz as well as on the MJ PTO Facebook page. Login to your Membership Toolkit account ahead of time to ensure you can easily access registration. If you would like to participate, but need financial assistance, please contact Matt Kuklantz and he can provide a waiver. Thank you to the PTO volunteers and course instructors who make these activities possible!



Please see this [course guide](#) and [schedule](#) for more detailed information about all of the fantastic mini-course offerings and how to sign-up!



International Night

Celebrating & showcasing cultures from various countries around the world!

Save the date! On Friday, May 10th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, Martha Jones School is hosting its first-ever International Night Celebration, and you're invited! Join us for a night of fun, food, and festivities as we celebrate the diverse cultures that make our school community so special. From exciting performances to delicious international cuisine, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Mark your calendars and get ready for a memorable evening of togetherness and global exploration. We can't wait to see you there!

Sign-up [here](#) to host a table, share food, music, photos, or a performance!

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT LOGO DESIGN

Do you have a budding artist at home? We're inviting them to participate in an incredible opportunity to design the future logo for our upcoming Martha Jones International Night Celebration. The winning logo will be used to promote all things related to the event.



Encourage your child to let their imagination soar and create a logo that captures the essence of our diverse community, representing the different cultures and values that make us unique. They can use any art medium they prefer, be it drawing, painting, or digital design. [Submissions](#) are due by February 1st and the winner will be announced on February 15th!



MJS Parent Social

Let's rewind to the 90s! You are invited to the totally rad Martha Jones PTO Parent Social on Saturday, March 9th from 7-11pm. Get ready for non-stop dancing to the incredible tunes of the [Up All Night Band!](#) Leave the kids at home and join us for a night of fun with other parents. This party is open to all and not exclusive to Martha Jones parents, so bring your friends along! Tickets are \$50 per person in advance or \$60 at the door. Buy your admissions and raffle tickets [here!](#)



The grade-level with the highest number of parent tickets represented will be awarded a comfy, cozy **pajama day!**

BIRTHDAY BOOKS & LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Don't miss out on the opportunity to participate in the [PTO Birthday Book Program!](#) Ms. Swimming has selected some fantastic books that students have requested, but the Martha Jones library does not currently have. During their birthday month, participating children are invited to the library to pick a brand new book from this collection. A bookplate commemorating your child's birthday will be placed inside the front cover and they will be the very first student to borrow this book! Once they've finished reading it, the book will be returned to the library's collection, where it can be enjoyed for years to come. The cost of this program is \$15 per student.



[Sign-up](#) as a **Library Volunteer!** Mrs. Swinning needs one parent per class to help check-in, shelve, and check-out books. This is a great opportunity to get into the school, interact with your child's class, and support the library program!

WEBSITE & DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Log in or register on the [PTO website](#) to stay updated on all PTO events, receive important PTO emails, and stay connected with Room Parent communications. You will also be able to update your information, contribute to our Annual Contribution Drive, purchase Birthday Books, and volunteer for various PTO committees or in the Library!

Many of our committees are still looking for volunteers. Volunteering for a committee is a great way to get involved, meet other parents, and support our school community! [Sign-up today!](#)



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!

Martha Jones PTO Board 2023-2024

[Katy DiMare](#), Co-President

[Kristen Donahue](#), Co-President

[Kirsten Bulger](#), Co-Treasurer

[Kristen Gautreau](#), Co-Treasurer

[Mary Jason](#), Co-Secretary

[Priscilla Stephen](#), Co-Secretary

[Megan Mahan](#), Co-Social Media

[Katie Collins](#), Co-Social Media

Martha Jones PTO Meeting Dates SY2023 - 2024

March 5, 2023, 7pm

May 7, 2023, 7pm

PTO CONTACT FOR EVENTS, NOTICES:

If you have an event or notice for our PTO update, please email it to:

PTO Co-Secretary - [Mary Jason](#), [Priscilla Stephan](#)



SEPAC

Please see the [Westwood Special Education Parents Action Committee \(SEPAC\) website](#) with all upcoming events.

District & Community News You Can Use

News from Westwood Youth & Family Services

Westwood Youth and Family Services are happy to announce our Spring group programming for Kindergarten-5th graders.

Registration for all Spring groups begins on Monday, January 29th at 9am and we will be accepting 8 students per group. Sessions run weekly..

Below are the online registration links for each group-

- Social Smarts for K/1: <https://forms.gle/2LfDugA5PfT4uqyL9>
- Feelings F.I.R.S.T. for 2/3: <https://forms.gle/aZuUuVYPLDACm9on6>
- H.E.R. Place for 4/5: <https://forms.gle/4cuVfuoQxtAxvTvS7>





SOCIAL SMARTS

This free clinical group will focus on learning about communication, recognizing personal strengths, and working collaboratively through interactive activities.

This group is open to all Westwood residents and students of Westwood Public Schools.



ONLINE
REGISTRATION
BEGINS
JANUARY 29TH

Spring 2024 Offerings

K/1st graders: Tuesdays, March 19th-May 14th @ 4-5pm
Wentworth Hall - 273 Washington Street

For more information: contact Shea Staffa-Lonergan, LICSW
slonergan@townhall.westwood.ma.us, or 781-355-8402



www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services



Feelings F.I.R.S.T.

(flexibility, impulse control, regulation, scaling, tools)

This free co-ed clinical group will focus on identifying and expressing feelings in healthy ways, managing big emotions with regulation tools, and building confidence through interactive activities, games, and movement. This group is open to all Westwood residents and students of Westwood Public Schools.

ONLINE
REGISTRATION
BEGINS
JANUARY 29TH

SPRING 2024 OFFERINGS

2ND/3RD GRADERS: THURSDAYS, MARCH 21ST-MAY 16TH @ 4-5PM
WENTWORTH HALL - 273 WASHINGTON STREET

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT SHEA STAFFA-LONERGAN, LICSW
slonergan@townhall.westwood.ma.us, or 781-355-8402

www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services





School Calendar

[Click the link](#) for the Westwood 2023-2024 school calendar.

Links to [Westwood Community Resources](#). The link will take you to the Interface Referral Service for Mental Health Supports. This service helps to facilitate access to outpatient services. Additionally, on the page there are links to Westwood Youth and Family Services, the Food Pantry, Council on Aging, Westwood Community Chest, and many more.

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。

ext. 7500-326 781 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500 ext. لك. لطلب كنتشكر lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك 1346

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.



Matthew Kuklantz

Matthew is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

