

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 2 - Sept. 26, 2020



For those celebrating Yom Kippur, may you find peace on this Day of Atonement.

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

Important Dates

Week of Sept 28	Grade 5 students start hybrid schedule on Tuesday
Mon. Sept. 28th	School Closed - Yom Kippur
Tues. Oct. 6th	Picture Day M/T cohort
Tues. Oct. 6th	Room Parent Meeting 6:30 PTO meeting 7PM
Fri. Oct. 9th	Picture Day TH/F cohort
Mon. Oct. 12th	Closed - Columbus Day

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



It has been wonderful to be back at school and to see the students, in person, these past two weeks. I look forward to seeing our 5th graders this week.

While it is great to be back, I recognize that parts of the hybrid model have not gone as smoothly as we had planned when students are engaging from home, especially in grades 2 & 3. The technology has not functioned as well as we had hoped, many of our younger students are just getting familiar with using chromebooks, seesaw, google docs and google classroom, and using technology for extended periods of time. Dealing with all these changes at once has not been easy for students or teachers. Please know that many people spent many hours over the summer working on the plan to bring students back successfully, but even with all the planning, there have been some bumps. However, I do believe that we will be able to make improvements and that things will get better. Overall, the students are happy to be back, thrilled to see their teachers and friends, and the staff are enjoying the students.

I appreciate your patience as I navigate the challenges that our students and teachers are facing.

MJ News



PICTURE DAYS ARE COMING - PICTURE DAY FOR THE MON/TUES COHORT IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH AND FOR THE THUR./FRI COHORT ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH.

Lifetouch pictures has been our school picture vendor for the past few years. They take time with each student and offer a variety of different packages and on-line registration and purchases. Individual student pictures will be taken and care will be given so that the photographer remains physically distanced from the students while their photos are

being taken. There will be no class photos at this time however, Lifetouch will be providing composites of each classroom. Lifetouch is actively working to provide contactless on-line ordering. I encourage you to order online so you do not need to return the paper form. However paper forms will be sent home this week for those who need them. But please order online if possible. Here is all the information you need to order on-line.

Orders must be submitted online or to the school office on or before picture day. If shopping online, you do not need to do separate orders for each child, you can add a sibling to the on-line order form when you go to your cart.

1. Go to www.my.lifetouch.com and on the left hand side enter our **Picture Day ID: EVTG8VMKW in the gray box** and click Shop Now
2. Enter your students first and last name followed by their grade level and click confirm & continue. ****If you have more than one child you'll be able to add additional children later in the ordering process.* ****If you have a Lifetouch account already, you may sign into it now by clicking the blue **Sign In** link near the top right of your screen. Your Account profile will be viewable. Click the blue **Continue Shopping** button on the right in order to select "Packages".*
3. Click on "Packages" to choose what package suits your family's needs best. Lifetouch has bundled their most popular products in multiple package combinations starting at \$18. Don't see a package that's quite right for you? Click on The "Custom Packages" tab to create your own.
4. For custom packages, you will be prompted to select how many sheets or different items you'd like in your custom package. You will then have to click on each blue **Choose Item** button and select what items you'd like in your custom package. You will need to select "**Choose this look**" for each item you add to your package. MJ is lucky enough to pose for outdoor portraits against our beloved (now famous) Tree. The background look for our photos will default to the MJTree regardless of whether you are able to select from a different background. Again, the look will not change. It will default to the MJ tree, but you still must make the selection. When finished click **Add to Cart & Continue**
5. Once you select a package you will be able to select any enhancements such as having Name & Grade printed on your photos or selecting to have your photos Retouched. If you are not interested in these, you must select **No Thanks** in order to proceed to the Blue **Add to Cart & Order** button on the right.
6. You may add optional a la carte items to your order. If you do not want any a la carte items, click on the **Done Shopping? Go to Cart** button or simply click on your cart at the top of the page.
7. This should bring you to your shopping cart page where you can either check out or add additional children's portraits at this time using the blue **SHOP FOR NEXT STUDENT** button above the green **CHECKOUT**. ****If adding additional students you will need to enter the **Picture Day ID: EVTG8VMKW** again and repeat the steps for each.*

Lifetouch donates a percentage of all packages back to the MJ PTO. Thank you for participating.

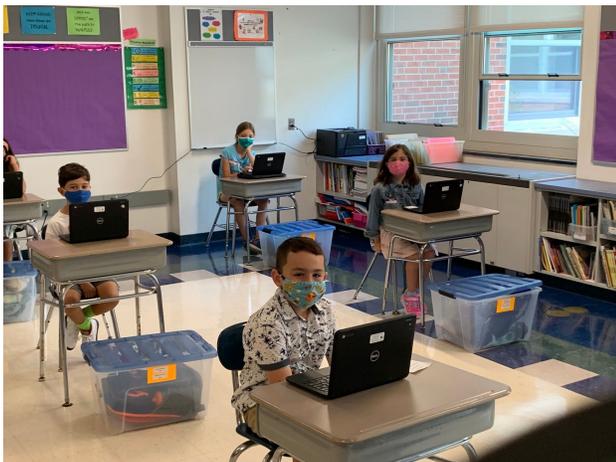
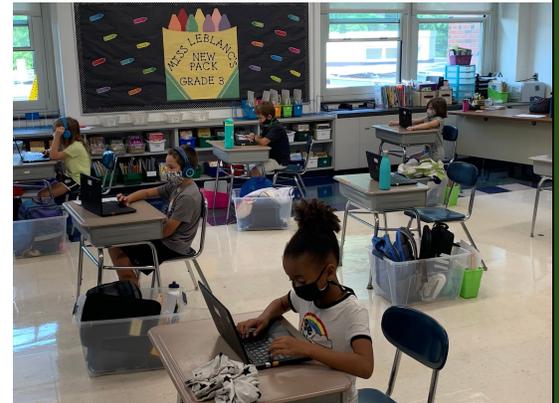
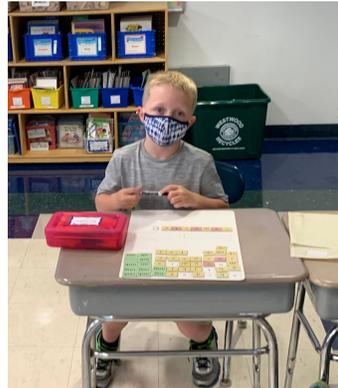
CAR PICK-UP REMINDERS: Please do not park on the side streets and walk up to the school to pick up your child. If you are not walking to the school from your home, please use the car pick up line.

Walkers: While we start bus dismissal at 2:00, walkers are not dismissed until 2:15.

Curriculum Night will be held virtually this year and is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 22nd, more details to follow.

Classroom Happenings - Welcome Back

Even with masks and physical distancing, students enjoy their first week of school.



PTO News

A Special Thanks - I want to take a moment to thank our out-going PTO board members. A special thank you to Rachel Lipton (co-president), Denise Cahill (co-secretary) and Kathryn Travers (treasurer) for their wonderful commitment to the MJ students, both as the PTO board members and for their many years of dedicated service to Martha Jones.

Please join me in welcoming our new PTO board members:
Julie Menendez, Co-President (with Maureen Grealish)
Cat Sonis, Co-Secretary (with Amy Amatangelo)
Christine Patrinos, Treasurer
Megan Brenk, social media (with Jamy Sesselman).

School Directory - The PTO is in the process of developing an electronic school directory as part of your PTO membership. Information on the directory will be sent in the Tuesday PTO memo, please stay tuned.

Look for the PTO update on Tuesday for more PTO news you can use.

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