

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 7 - Nov. 26, 2021



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

Important Dates

Mon., Nov. 29	In-service - NO SCHOOL
Tue., Dec. 7	K Enrichment - Westwood Fire Department
Wed., Dec. 8	Early Release 11:50AM
Tue., Dec. 14	K Enrichment - Dental Visit ----- PTO Meeting 7PM
Wed., Dec. 22	Early Release 11:50AM
Fri., Dec. 24	NO SCHOOL - Start of Holiday Break - School resumes on Monday, Jan. 3rd

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



As we head into Thanksgiving, I want to take a moment to let you know how Thankful I am to be part of the Martha Jones School Community. While I, along with many of you, have certainly faced some challenging times and situations over the past 20 months, the fact that I get to work with such wonderful teachers and staff, dedicated families, and truly amazing kids makes it possible for me to come to work each day, ready to tackle challenges and celebrate successes. Yesterday, I had the pleasure of playing Mousetrap with some students who had earned some fun time with me. Seeing them laugh and enjoy themselves while engaging in thoughtful conversations, being friendly and kind to each other as they took turns, and truly having fun made my day. (As a side note, if your child has Mousetrap on their Hanukkah or Christmas list you may want to choose another game, it takes forever to set up and longer to play :)! Of course, that may have been their strategy in choosing that game. A Very Happy Thanksgiving to All.

Happy Hanukkah - To those of you celebrating Hanukkah, may your Festival of Lights be filled with hearty meals, special prayers, and fun times with family and friends. I hope you have a wonderful weekend filled with holiday celebrations.



MJ & District News

Each year, as we get ready for Thanksgiving, each student makes a turkey feather stating what they are Thankful for (thanks Mrs. McDonough for organizing this each year). It is precious to read what the students are giving thanks for. Many write about how thankful they are for their family, their friends, their homes, their food, their teachers, their siblings, and their grandparents. Here are a few that stood out to me:

I'm thankful for my Dad, he always recognizes when I'm sad and cheers me up!

I'm thankful to all the people who protect us and protect our country.

I'm thankful for my dog, he is a good friend.

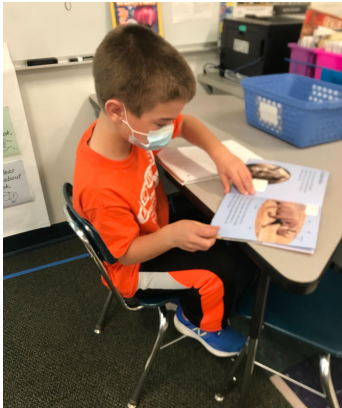
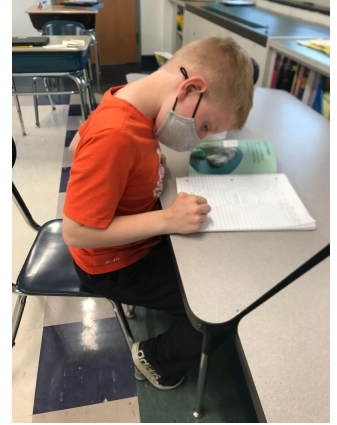
I'm thankful for video games, especially when I'm not allowed to go outside.

I am thankful for Bees. (This one made me laugh, because bees have been a bit of an issue at lunch during this unusually warm fall and every day students are begging me to get rid of the bees! I'm glad someone appreciates them.)

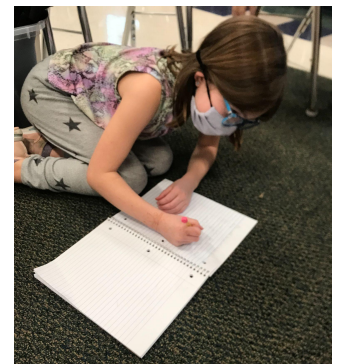


Classroom Happenings

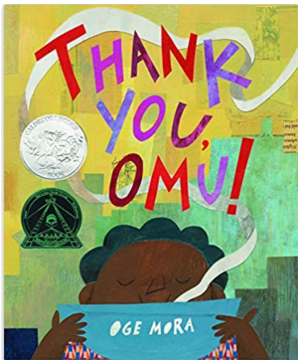
News from 4B (Ms. Bass) In reading workshop, the fourth graders have just embarked on a new unit: the study of nonfiction. This unit covers a myriad of topics, from recognizing the different ways in which a text might be structured, researching and taking notes, to planning various research projects with a team. The beginning of the unit focuses on some of the ways in which readers engage with a nonfiction text: previewing a text and its key features, noticing and overcoming the inherent challenges of a nonfiction text (e.g. confusing facts and figures, unrelated information, misleading headings...just to name a few!), as well as learning how to approach tricky vocabulary and navigating between narrative nonfiction and expository writing.



Most importantly, students are learning that these skills are ongoing, versus isolated lessons. Successful readers must draw upon an arsenal of strategies every time they pick up a nonfiction book or article! Thus far, the fourth graders have approached this new unit with enthusiasm and dedication. Next up: researching natural disasters and learning how to paraphrase notes!



News from Reading (Ms. Child) - Over the past couple of years, I have followed the most wonderful blog for educators called [Teachers, Books, Readers](#). This blog shares book reviews, ideas for teachers and students, and a love of all things literacy. Contributing to the blog are 31 educators, classroom teachers, literacy specialists and leaders in the field of literacy. Recently, I read a [book review of the book *Thank you, Omu* by Oge Mora](#).



If you are looking for a book about sharing and gratitude this is the book for you! *Thank you Omu*, is a heartwarming story of a woman who makes the most wonderfully delicious stew. The delectable smell travels out her window and through the neighborhood. Many members of the community knock on Omu's door wondering about the wonderful smell. Omu is happy to share! As we prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday this book is a great one to share with children. Although this story is a departure from the more traditional Thanksgiving story, the message is crystal clear, be grateful, say thank you! Is there someone in your life who you would like to thank? This story will spark young writers to do so!

And speaking of saying thank you, thank you to parents, students and staff at Martha Jones. What a caring, thoughtful, hard working group of children, parents and educators! I am very grateful to be a part of the Martha Jones community. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

News from Music (Mrs. Pickering)

1. All people sing.
2. All people around the world make music.
3. Different countries can have musical traditions.
4. Music can inspire movement.

What an exciting year of music making!
Mrs. Pickering



PTO News

PTO MEETING: Tuesday, December 14th at 7pm



Our next PTO meeting is 12/14. Plan is to have in-person and on Zoom. Details will come out the week before the meeting.

BIRTHDAY BOOKS PROGRAM RE-LAUNCH



We are so excited to announce the relaunch of the Birthday Books program. This year the program will run from January to June as we celebrate birthdays and half-birthdays. This is a great opportunity to celebrate your child's birthday and provide the Martha Jones Library with brand new library books. Click [here](#) to learn more about the Birthday Books program and click [this link](#) to sign up.

HOLIDAY GIVING OPPORTUNITIES: Winter Sock Drive starting December 1st



The PTO will be running a Winter Sock Drive in December to benefit Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program. For people experiencing homelessness, the need for new socks is critical especially during the winter season. BHCHP relies upon donations of new, white socks to distribute to patients at more than 40 shelter-based clinics and through their outreach care program. The drive will be collecting NEW white adult socks and will run the first two weeks of December. For questions, please contact Mary L. Jason maryjason06@gmail.com or Kimberly Chase kimenfuego3@gmail.com

SCRIPS GIFT CARDS

Thank you for all the SCRIP orders! Unfortunately this year the site is having a lot of issues and they are not giving us the one day delivery option as they normally have. We were expecting to have them last week or early this week but it looks like we won't receive them until next week. We are sorry for the inconvenience and will send a reminder the day they will be available either for pick up or sent home with your child.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this difficult 'supply chain' time!

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

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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 ويستودود الخدمات الطلابية في 781-326-7500
لك. لطلب كنتشكر lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us

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2021 PreK - 12 Hiring Fair

Hội thảo tuyển dụng Feira do emprego 招聘会
Fwa travay ભરતી મેળો Eskpozisyon sou jwenn djòb
Ярмарка найма Feria de contratación معرض التوظيف

We are seeking talent for the following positions:

- Lunch, Bus & Building Monitors
- Clerical/Administrative Assistants
- Cafeteria Workers
- Bus and Van Drivers (CDL or 7D licensed)
- Substitute Nurses (ADN, ASN, RN)
- Teachers: STEM, ESL, Special Ed & Voc/CTE
- Teaching Assistants/Paras/Tutors
- Substitute Teachers (Daily, Long Term & Building Subs)

MPDE schools are committed to creating career opportunities for educators, support staff and administrators from diverse backgrounds. Our member districts include:

Andover, Arlington, Attleboro, Cambridge, Danvers, Falmouth, Fitchburg, Framingham, Lexington, Lynn, Mansfield, Marshfield, Medford, Melrose, Milton, Needham, Quincy, Randolph, Salem, Somerville, Stoughton, Walpole, Waltham, Wayland, Wellesley, Westwood, Weymouth & Woburn.

Scan the QR code or follow the link below to sign up for the fair:

<https://qrco.de/bcWt16>



Visit the MPDE website at: www.mpde.org



If you have any questions, please contact adminmpde.org