

# Growing by Leaps and Bounds

*Martha Jones School - Westwood, MA*

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

**Donna Olson, Interim Principal**

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

Issue 3 - September 30, 2022

## Principal's Message

Dear Martha Jones Families,

I enjoyed meeting everyone at Curriculum Night last week. Thank you for your partnership as we work together to educate your children. Thank you to our PTO, our community partners and our families, for supporting Martha Jones School!

Thank you to our students and staff for bringing your best smile to our picture day last week. If your child was absent or if you'd prefer a re-take, we will have information coming home soon about next steps. We anticipate picture re-take day in early November.

Today we held our first All School Meeting with an emphasis on expected behavior and we read the Peter H. Reynolds book, [Be You](#). The students did such a great job and my 5th grade assistants were just awesome announcers. I am looking forward to another great week continuing to build our routines and classroom communities.

On Monday, October 3rd we roll out our first character word: Cooperation. Cooperation is about making sure we know how to be on a team or work in a group towards a common goal. Here is the definition we are using:

Cooperation: *Working together and helping others.*

Please ask your students about cooperation. Perhaps you might like to compliment your children when you observe them being cooperative.

It's great to anticipate a fall weekend! This is the time of year when we see families on the ball fields, at football games, festivals, and orchards. Whatever you do this weekend, have a great one!

For any of our families celebrating Yom Kippur, we wish you a peaceful day.

Warmly,  
Donna

Donna Olson  
Martha Jones School  
Interim Principal



## Important Upcoming Events

**Wed. Oct. 5**

Yom Kippur NO SCHOOL

**Mon. Oct. 10**

Columbus Day NO SCHOOL

**Tues. Oct. 11** Welcoming Schools Committee Mtg. 3:30

**Wed. Oct. 12**

Early Release 11:50AM

**Thu. Oct. 13**

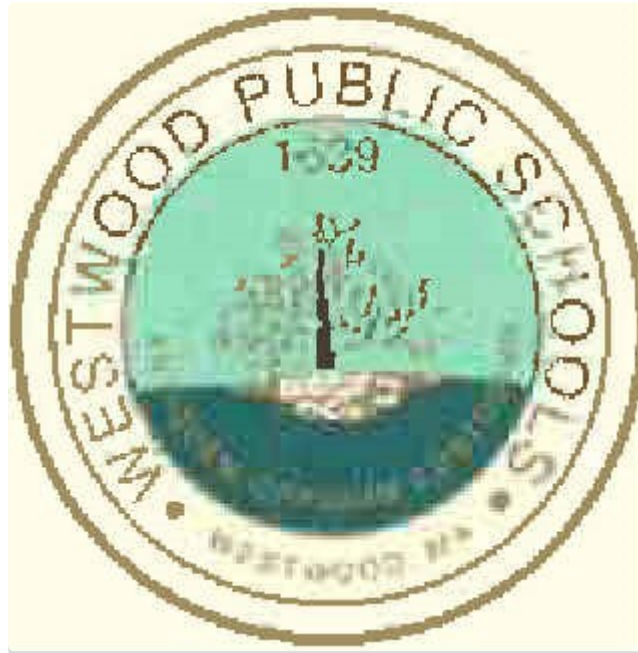
School Committee Meeting - WHS 7:00PM

**Wed. Oct. 26**

Early Release 11:50AM

**Fri. Oct. 28**

PTO Halloween at MJ (details to follow)



## District and Noteworthy News...

- [Bus Stops Are Now Posted on the district site.](#) Be sure to locate the routes associated with Martha Jones (scroll down to find our school).
- School Calendar - [Click the link](#) for the Westwood 2022-2023 school calendar.

## Martha Jones Site Council

On Tuesday evening the PTO selected Kevin Schelenski, Rebecca Lowney, Suzanne Tessier and Christina Gelsomini to act as parent/caregiver representatives on the school's Site Council. Thank you for joining us in this important work. School staff representatives include Mary Mundy, Grade 2 Teacher; Susan Bass, Grade 4 Teacher; Megan Brenk, Instructional Assistant; and Donna Olson, Interim Principal. The first meeting of the Site Council will be held on November 15th at 3:30pm.

## Martha Jones Welcoming Schools Update

Thank you to parents: Meg Lutze, Shannon Mastropalo, Robyn Abrahams; and staff: Christine Size, Erin Aaron, Chelsea Santos Friberg for joining in this important work. The first meeting of the Welcoming School Committee is October 11th at 3:30pm. All are welcome.

## Curriculum Night

Thank you to all of the parents/caregivers who attended Martha Joes School's Curriculum Night. It was such a pleasure to meet everyone. It was a positive and and enjoyable in-person event! We appreciate your partnership as we educate your children.



## Health Office REMINDER:

If a student is diagnosed with a ***communicable disease***, please contact the School Nurse. This is vital for control measures, as well as for protecting students and staff who may be medically at risk from exposure to these illnesses. Children need to remain home until they are no longer contagious. This limits the spread of the disease and allows the child to recover more quickly.

Most common communicable diseases:

***Chicken Pox/Shingles***

***Strep Throat***

***Conjunctivitis***

***COVID***

***Fifth Disease (Hand Foot and Mouth)***

***Influenza (Flu)***

***Mono***

***Vomiting/Diarrhea***

***Head Lice/Pediculosis***

Please refer to the Elementary Handbook for further information.

*Thank you for supporting a healthy learning environment at MJ! Nurse Doyle*



**WESTWOOD  
SEPAC**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

# MJ SEPAC

Join Westwood Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) for our upcoming parent groups and meetings! You may be just starting your journey or be years into an IEP/504. All are welcome.

- Oct 2: Family Popsicle Social
- Oct 17: Parent Coffee
- Oct 18: SEPAC Community Meeting
- Oct 20: Neurodiverse Profiles Parent Group
- Oct 27: Language Based Learning Difference Parent Group

Visit us at [www.westwoodsepac.org/events](http://www.westwoodsepac.org/events) for more information.

SEPAC Liaison for Martha Jones: Frank and Caitlyn Jurczak [caitlynp82@yahoo.com](mailto:caitlynp82@yahoo.com)



WYFS



Friends Network



Calm & Cope

## Westwood Youth and Family Services News

Registration is now open for **Friends Network**, a program for 3rd-5th graders through Westwood Youth and Family Services!

**The Friends Network** matches 3rd-5th graders with high school aged residents in 1:1 pairs that meet weekly on Thursday evenings from November – April to engage in games and activities in a relaxed setting. This is a great way for children to engage with a positive role model while forming a special friendship and having fun! We think of it like a big sister/big brother type program. Registration is currently open and will be open until October 13th. Here is the online registration link:

<https://forms.gle/pQEYg6ijsNki6ev7>

Registration is also open for **Calm & Cope**, a program for 3rd-5th graders through Westwood Youth and Family Services!

**Calm & Cope** is an 8 week group that focuses on ways to cope with and overcome feelings of worry and anxiety. This program runs from the week of October 17th through the week of December 12th. Here is the online registration link: <https://forms.gle/rZEWZia6hwriXjRFA>



## Grade 5 Student Council Update

The Student Council is underway! Thirty-eight fifth graders volunteered to participate this year. If your child signed up to participate they will be coming home with a permission slip for you to sign. It will include the month(s) they were assigned and the specific dates that they would need to be at MJ for an 8 a.m. meeting. Please sign and return the bottom half of the slip to your child's teacher.

## All School Meeting

Today we held our first All School Meeting. Thank you to the teachers who volunteered to read our all school read by Peter Reynolds, Be You. Grade 5 students assisted with the assembly and did a great job!

At our meeting we reviewed expected behavior, read aloud Be You and discussed our character word for October, Cooperation. It was wonderful to have the whole school together at our All School Meeting.



**What a great group!**



**Students showed  
expected behavior!!**



**Our Grade 5  
Announcers -  
Thank you and  
great job!**

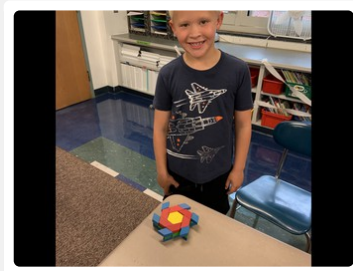
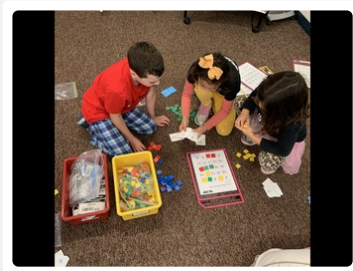
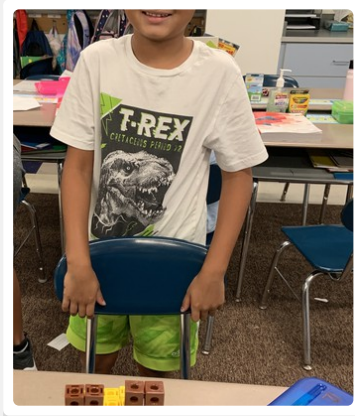
## **News from 3Lu (Mrs. Luskin)**

Scientists in 3L went to our outside classroom to observe and explore the signs of Fall! We noticed flowers that turned into seed, flocks of birds overhead, fallen branches and light brown grass, and grasshoppers storing up food. We also observed that the leaves are beginning to change color. We learned that leaves have chlorophyll in them. This chlorophyll is the food factory for plants. During the Fall, the chlorophyll moves to the branches and trucks to be stored. This reveals all the beautiful colors underneath! Nice observations scientists!



## **News from 2L (Ms. LeBlanc)**

Second graders have been enjoying exploring math materials and developing ideas about numbers by exploring our math manipulatives and engaging in counting and addition games.



## News from KM (Mrs. McDonough)

The kindergarteners in KM have been learning about the rules, routines and expectations of the classroom. From checking in their attendance picture, to calendar time to using and cleaning up classroom material; there is so much to learn!



## News from Art (Ms. Friberg)



Martha Jones artists have been learning about the *Elements of Art* while exploring the drawing center in our studio to start the school year! In first grade, artists rotated through different stations around the classroom using a variety of drawing materials to create *line, color, shape, space, value, form, and texture* in their art! If you'd like to see more photographs from our art adventures this year, please sign up for Mrs. Friberg's online [Seesaw](#) classroom!



**MARTHA JONES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PTO**

*Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.*

## PTO News (updated 9/28)



## **MARTHA JONES HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY: OCTOBER 28, 6 PM to 8 PM (6-6:30 PM SENSORY FRIENDLY)**

BOO!! The celebration will be completely OUTSIDE at the school.

A Walk-Through Haunted Bus Lane will be set up, and your favorite scary and not-so-scary monsters will be back in action.

A DJ will get your kids moving and grooving to their favorite songs on the blacktop! Our DJ even has some fun games and contests up his spooky sleeves!

We need DOZENS of parent volunteers to make this night happen. Volunteer shifts are listed by job through [Membership App or Website](#). You don't have to be a PTO member to volunteer! We need volunteers to set up, clean up, work as party monitors/guides, and DRESS up and scare the kids in the Haunted Lane.

There is no cost to attend the Halloween Party, which is open to all MJ students, siblings and families. In lieu of an admission ticket, we ask that each person bring a canned or dry good to donate to the Westwood Food Pantry.



## **LOOKING GOOD...WESTWOOD GEAR IS BACK!: 10/1 -10/15**

Get your gear and show your Westwood pride on the field and around town! A special email will be sent with a link to the store located in the Membership App and Website. A portion of the Westwood Gear proceeds support the MJS PTO.

## **MJS PARENT SOCIAL KICKOFF MEETING: 10/20 AT 7:30 PM**

If you are interested in volunteering to help plan the MJS Parent Social, join us for a kickoff planning meeting on Thursday, October 20 at 7:30 PM at Kristen Donahue's home (23 Burke Street). Please contact Kristen Donahue, Chair of the MJS Parent Social: [kristen.m.richman@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.m.richman@gmail.com) with any questions.



## **“SHOW ME THE MONEY!”**

Please submit any expenses for PTO-sponsored projects and events through the [Membership App or Website](#). It is under the “Our PTO” section.



## Membership has it's perks!

Sign up today at: <https://mjspto.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/198140>

PTO Members get exclusive access to the full school student directory, including guardian contact information and voting privileges. Plus, your membership fees help fund our programs like field trips, enrichment activities, playground equipment and our larger signature events.

mabel's labels.

## Back to School Label Time

Go to [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) and enter "Martha Jones PTO" as the fundraiser you would like to support. You can even order the "combo label pack" with the MJ logo. By purchasing any of the 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.

## Other ways to connect with the MJ 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 Beth Klaene at [baklaene@gmail.com](mailto:baklaene@gmail.com) or Mary Jason at [maryjason06@gmail.com](mailto:maryjason06@gmail.com).



# Food Services Website

[Click the link](#) for Food Services Information.



## 2022-2023 School Calendar

September 2022							October 2022							November 2022													
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa							
			31	1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5							
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12							
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19							
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26							
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30										
							30	31																			
29 Teachers report 31 Students' First Day 2-5 Labor Day Weekend 26 Rosh Hashanah							5 Yom Kippur 10 Columbus Day							11 Veterans Day 23 Early dismissal 24-25 Thanksgiving Recess 28 All Day Inservice (No school for students)													
December 2022							January 2023							February 2023													
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa							
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6								
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18							
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25							
							29	30	31					26	27	28											
26-30 Vacation							2 New Year's Day (Observed) 16 Martin Luther King Day							20-24 Vacation													
March 2023							April 2023							May 2023													
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6								
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	14	15	16	17	18	19	20							
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21	22	23	24	25	26	27							
							30							28	29	30	31										
7 Good Friday 17-21 Vacation							29 Memorial Day																				
June 2023							School Hours							School Hours													
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	School Hours																				
							High School 7:25am-2:05pm (Dismissal at 12:45pm on Early Release Days) Middle School 7:48am-2:25pm (Dismissal at 1:10pm on Early Release Days) Elementary Schools 8:50am-3:10pm (Dismissal at 11:50am on Early Release Days) Preschool 4-day 9am-1pm or 9am-2:45pm (Dismissal at 11:30am on Early Release Days) Preschool 5-day 9am-2:45pm (Dismissal at 11:30am on Early Release Days)																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Early Release Days highlighted in yellow																				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	School Committee Start Date Guideline: When Labor Day is September 1, 2, 3, or 4, the first day of classes will be the following Tuesday. When Labor Day is September 5, 6, or 7, the first day of classes will be the preceding Wednesday. In addition, there will be no school for students on the Friday preceding Labor Day.																				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Approved by School Committee January 13, 2022																				
25	26	27	28	29	30																						
16 Students' Last Day (Tentative)/Day 180 19 Juneteenth 26 Students' Last Day (Includes 5 make-ups)																											

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 [jplouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jplouffe@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 [jplouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jplouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us) 谢谢你。

7500-326 781 ext. 1346 إذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستود الخدمات الطلابية في 781 326-7500 ext. 1346 لك . لطلب كنتشكر [jplouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jplouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us) أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك

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