



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 19, June 16, 2025

Principals Message

MJ Community,

As we finish our last day of the 2024-2025 school year, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making this year a success. This has been a year filled with learning, growth, challenges, and many moments of joy. I am deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, who worked tirelessly to support our students' academic and personal development. To our students, thank you for your hard work, your curiosity, and the positive energy you bring to our community each day. And to our families and community partners, your support and collaboration have been invaluable in helping us create a welcoming and inclusive environment where all students can thrive. I wish you all a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer!

Thanks!
Matt

WHS Robotics Open House

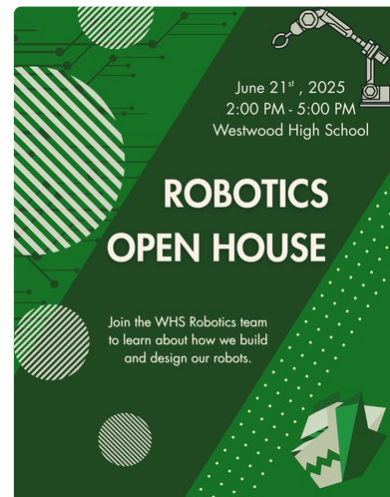
The WHS robotics team has been working diligently throughout the year, dedicating countless hours to design, build, and program their robot for various competitions. Their upcoming Open House is an opportunity for them to showcase their achievements, share their journey, and

demonstrate the skills and knowledge they've acquired.

Event Details:

- Date: June 21st
- Time: 2:00 - 5:00 pm
- Location: Westwood High School

During the Open House, you'll have the chance to talk with students and mentors who participate on the team, learn about the challenges they've faced and overcome, learn about some of the STEM skills they've developed, and watch and participate in live demonstrations of their robot.



Your presence at the Open House would mean a lot to them. We believe that community support and encouragement are instrumental in fostering a thriving environment for STEM education and extracurricular activities within our school community.

Kindergarten Registration

If you know parents or guardians of incoming Kindergarteners, please reach out to make sure they have registered. I'd appreciate it.

Martha Jones Health Office

Allergies

Allergies are caused by the body's reaction to substances called "allergens," which trigger the immune system to react to harmless substances as though they were attacking the body.

Allergic rhinitis is an inflammation of the nasal membranes and eyes caused by certain particles in our environment (like, pollen and molds, or dust mites and animal dander).

The symptoms of allergic rhinitis

- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Itchiness of the eyes, nose and throat
- Headache and fatigue can be symptoms sometimes

How can you minimize exposure to seasonal allergy triggers?

- Wash hands and face when coming inside come from playing outside so pollen is not rubbed in eyes and nose
- Take a shower at night before bedtime to wash off any pollen
- Do not bring items from outside into the bedroom
- Keep windows in your home and car closed when possible
- Check the forecast for pollen levels, and limit outdoor activities when pollen counts are higher

For more information regarding Spring Allergies please visit [healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org)

Time for Tick Checks:

Everyone living in the New England area where ticks are common should perform nightly tick checks during the warm months. Rapid discovery and removal prevents ticks from transmitting

diseases. Keep in mind that ticks are very small and love to be in warm dark places like the armpit, groin, around the ear and on the back of the neck.

Bike safety:

Wearing a helmet is one of the most important ways to stay safe on a bike!

Bike riding is a great way for families to get some outdoor exercise; however, it's also a leading cause of injuries in children.

Please reach out to the Health Office with any questions! Happy Spring!

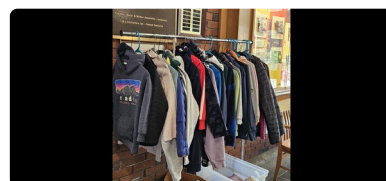
Happy Spring!

JoEllen Doyle, RN, BSN School Nurse

News from the Front Office

Lost and Found

We have a pretty full rack here at MJ (as this picture shows). Please note all unclaimed items will be packed up and sent to their forever homes (read that as the charity shop) on **Monday, June 16 after dismissal**. Thank you



Student Safety and Vehicle Traffic

Student safety is one of our utmost concerns. We kindly ask that you are mindful in the carline and parking areas when you are coming to MJ to collect your child. **The safety of all students depends on all drivers obeying the rules and speed limits.**

Thank you



Absences and Dismissal Changes

Please remember to update SDM if your child will be absent or late. Thank you for embracing the technology!



Message from the Extended Day Office

Extended Day will open at dismissal (12:10pm) and will close at 3pm for the summer break on Monday June 16th.



Bus Registration for SY 2025 - 2026

Bus Registration is now open. The [link to register can be found here](#). (It can also be found by searching directly on the [main district webpage](#).) The new 2025-2026 rates and the registration form is there in English, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. The walker form is there in English.



The District kindly asks the registration request be completed by June 30th so routes can be arranged. Thank you

2026 Tutor List

Please find linked here an updated [Tutor List for 2025-2026](#).

This list can also be found on the [MJ webpage](#).

Important Upcoming Events

Mon, 6/16 - Last Day of School for Students, 12:10 dismissal



CLASSROOM NEWS

News from the MJ Classroom's News from 3Lu (Mrs. Luskin)



Students in Mrs. Luskin's third grade class are synthesizing their learning about the American Revolution in Massachusetts into a comic strip timeline using Pixton.

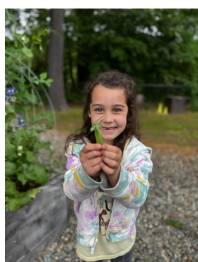
News from 2M (Ms. Mundy)



The second graders are learning about animal adaptations in our life science unit on animal biodiversity. Earlier this month, Ms. Mundy's class, along with Ms. Hartwell's class, enjoyed a Children's Museum enrichment program on Animal Adaptations. The students had the opportunity to meet and touch some of the museum's Wildlife Sanctuary animals, including a stick bug, Brazilian Rainbow boa constrictor, Eastern box turtle, Crested gecko, and a hedgehog. Students learned the role that adaptations like camouflage, sharp claws, hard shells, and quills play in keeping animals safe and allowing them to find food in their habitats.

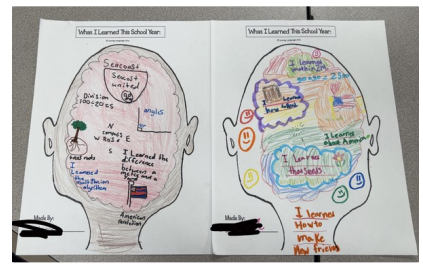


News from 1F (Mrs. Fader)



1F has spent a lot of time in the outdoor classroom this Spring! This week, we got to harvest some of the peas that we grew in early Spring. We also got to harvest some strawberries, chives, carrots, lettuce, and radishes. With the help of Mrs. Goosen, we cut some of them open to explore the parts that help them to grow and survive.

News from Ms. O'Rourke



Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.

With gratitude,
Your PTO

A row of colorful books on a shelf. The books are in various colors including blue, green, orange, yellow, and purple, and are of different heights and thicknesses.

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.

Please consider signing up for a library volunteer spot for your student's class. Each week, every classroom has one library spot you can volunteer for. Please see the link below to sign up. You will see a calendar with all of the teacher's names in either Grey or Blue. Blue means the spot is open and grey means that someone is already volunteering for that spot. Once you sign up, you'll see a little human icon next to the slot. In the event you sign up and cannot attend, please try and cancel within 24 hours so someone else can fill that spot. To cancel, click the icon next to your slot and "unclick" the person who is volunteering, and hit save. [Sign up for Library Here!](#)

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION DRIVE

We aim to raise \$7,500 from our annual PTO drive and are halfway to this goal! Every donation, no matter the amount, is appreciated and important in helping us continue to fund enrichment and community activities. Please consider making a [contribution](#) today! As a reminder, we also have a Corporate Match option. Many Employers offer matching donations because MJS PTO is a qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

WEBSITE & DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Martha Jones PTO is a non-profit organization that takes great pride in supporting our teachers and students. We do this by offering valuable programs, organizing exciting events, and providing essential resources that enhance the educational experience of every student.

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. [Sign-up today!](#)

MARTHA JONES PTO FACEBOOK GROUP AND INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

Join the Facebook group and follow us on Instagram to get the latest PTO news and updates delivered right to your news feed! [Join our Facebook group](#) or follow us on Instagram @marthajonespto.

Martha Jones PTO Meeting Dates SY 2024-2025

September 24, 2024, 7pm

November 19, 2024, 7pm

March 4, 2025, 7pm

May 6, 2025, 7pm

PTO CONTACT FOR EVENTS, NOTICES:

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

PTO Co-Secretary - [Priscilla Stephan](#), [Jenn Katsilieris](#), [Erika Gautheir](#)

Martha Jones PTO Board 2024-2025

[Kristen Donahue](#), Co-President

[Ally Pavlic](#), Co-President

[Kristen Gautreau](#), Co-Treasurer

[Abbe Lynch](#), Co-Treasurer

[Priscilla Stephen](#), Co-Secretary

[Jenn Katsilieris](#), Co-Secretary
[Katie Collins](#), Co-Social Media
[Priya Sharma](#), Co-Social Media

Martha Jones PTO Board 2025-2026

[Ally Pavlic](#), Co-President
[Lisa Lennon](#), Co-President
[Abbe Lynch](#), Co-Treasurer
[Monisha Dabek](#), Co-Treasurer
[Jenn Katsilieris](#), Co-Secretary
[Erika Gautheir](#), Co-Secretary
[Priya Sharma](#), Co-Social Media
[Gina Ciampolillo](#), Co-Social Media

District & Community News You Can Use

Kindergarten Registration

Please see the [letter](#) from Assistant Superintendent Ahearn with key dates and instructions for kindergarten registration.

Westwood SEPAC

The Westwood Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is a state-mandated, parent-run group working to promote a network of parents, guardians, and caregivers of children with special needs.



Information about SEPAC and events can be found at <https://www.westwoodsepac.org/events>.

Unlocking Executive Functioning

At the end of February, the Special Education Parents Advisory Council, hosted a talk about [Executive Functioning](#) hosted by two WPS staff: Dean of Students at TMS, Erin Banty, and BCBA, Stephanie Muse. It's highly informative and offers pragmatic ideas to help students.

WY&FS

August Program for Rising 6th Graders: SQUAD SKILLS - See the attached flyer for more information



SQUAD SKILLS

Tuesday, August 19th 9:30a - 11:30a

@ Westwood Public Library,
First Floor Conference Room
660 High St, Westwood

This free co-ed workshop is for rising 6th graders to meet new classmates and learn skills to help navigate the new social scene that comes with beginning Middle School. This workshop is open to all Westwood residents and students of Westwood Public Schools

Register now!



For more information,
please contact
Adina Swan at
781-320-1012 or
aswan@westwoodma.gov

School Calendar

[Click this link](#) for the Westwood 2025 - 2026 school calendar.

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 lprouffe@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 lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us 谢谢你。

ext. 1346 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 7500-326 781

لك. لطلب كنتشكر lprouffe@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 lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us Спасибо.



Matthew Kuklantz

Matthew is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

