



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 2 - September 20, 2024

Principal's Message

MJ Community,

It was great to see our community this week at both the PTO Picnic and Curriculum Night. A frequent refrain I hear from our parents and caregivers typically involves gratitude for the good work that goes on here and that their students are happy to come to school each day. I want to also express my gratitude to you as a community, our students come to school each day excited and ready to learn.

As I spoke briefly about last night, as part of my entry plan, school staff and the community voiced a need for more consistent approaches to student expectations and behavior. This coincides with a finding from the district's equity audit. One of my goals this year is to collaboratively establish or reaffirm and implement core values that reflect the collective vision of teachers, students, and community members. This work would culminate in the development of a school wide community core values and norms that inform the behavioral expectations and rubric.

If you are interested in being considered for a smaller working group, please indicate that through this [google form](#).

Matt Kuklantz

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

While your child's classroom teacher gave an overview of the grade level curriculum last night, you can also access the [Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks Parent Guides](#) for each grade level. These guides to the Massachusetts learning standards help families understand what students are expected to know and be able to do by the end of each grade in English Language Arts and literacy, mathematics, science and technology/engineering, and history and social science.

Music Class Introduction

Welcome to another musical year at the Martha Jones School!! Our names are Erica Yennior and Caitlin Goldman, and we teach the general music classes here at Martha Jones. Music class is a chance for students to experience being a part of a musical community. Together we will create rhythmic patterns and musical ideas, use a singing voice and play classroom instruments, add music to stories, and show musical concepts through movement. Students are encouraged to think about music in new ways, making connections to the role of music in our own lives, and the lives of those around the world.



Thank you for the opportunity to share these musical experiences with your children!

Sincerely,
Erica Yennior and Caitlin Goldman
Sheehan Music Specialists
eyennior@westwood.k12.ma.us
cgoldman@westwood.k12.ma.us

Walk-A-Thon!

Martha Jones will be hosting our first annual Walkathon on October 8, 2024 from 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM during the school day at MJ (rain date 10/15). In addition to a community building event for our school, this event will help the Martha Jones PTO fundraise for our community. The funds that PTO raises each year helps to pay for all the in school enrichment opportunities that your children benefit from grade level and all school enrichment events, teacher grants and stipends and other MJ community events. The strength of our school is related to the strength of our PTO.

Please [register](#) your child for this event. The most registered grade by percentage will win a grade level spirit day. The deadline for this incentive is Monday.



Martha Jones Elementary School



Today begins a very important task and healthy way to raise money for students of **Martha Jones Elementary School**

We want to generate a healthy response to our students' positive community. Please help us reach our fundraising goal by supporting the Martha Jones WalkHub. We have teamed up with GoFundMe to make this event fun and profitable with online means. Truly, truly technology!

Donations used during the WalkHub go directly towards your student's experience at Martha Jones, through gifts, food and all other enrichment items, teacher grants, and community events.

Follow these 3 Simple Steps to go to your goal!

1. First, Register - or re-register - to go to your dashboard and complete your student's webpage with a PICTURE [and a personal bio/about.](#)
2. Select an online donation along the red donation button right away.
3. Share with friends and post on social media. They want to help!

- Send 10-15 emails and/or text messages.
- Post to Social Media.
- Help your student reach their goal in 24-48 hours.







Student Goals!

- Our goal is to raise 100% of all students registered online. It's easy, FREE, and it does have quite a reward!
- Each student is encouraged to raise \$200.00.
- Be an Overachiever! Supervisor by raising \$250.00.

OUR TOTAL SCHOOL GOAL IS \$10,000.00

Current Details

- Event Code: 124761924
- **Event Expiration date: 10/1/2018 11:59 PM**

(If you have a question about this event, please contact the event organizer, it should be turned in to the school.)

• Please email: info@walkhub.com or: walkhub@fme.org



School Adjustment Counselor Newsletter

The Westwood Public Schools Elementary School Adjustment Counselors have created a [newsletter](#) highlighting their role and the work that they do across the district.

School Breakfast and Lunch

Beginning this school year Westwood Food Service will be providing FREE REIMBURSABLE BREAKFAST, in addition to FREE REIMBURSABLE LUNCH, to all students enrolled in the Westwood Public School district.

We are excited to bring the FREE BREAKFAST program to Westwood. A variety of options will be provided at all schools, including Gluten Free, Vegetarian, Vegan and Dairy Free offerings. Your school menu can be viewed at [Menus / Westwood Public Schools \(nutrislice.com\)](#).



News from the MJ Health Office

Health Office REMINDER

In Massachusetts, public schools are required per Mass General Laws to screen students periodically for the purpose of identifying health related concerns. Click this [link](#) to see the required schedule for all grades. The complete Westwood Public School Policy on Health Screening can be found [here](#). The purposes of each screening is outlined [here](#).

If you feel your child needs additional support or education, or you want more information regarding when your child will be screened, please reach out directly to your school nurse.

HEALTH Screenings:

Health screenings will take place during the months of October through December.

Grade K, 2 & 3

Vision and Hearing

Grade 1

Vision, Hearing and Height/Weight (BMI)

Grade 4

Vision, Height/Weight (BMI)

Grade 5

Vision & Postural

If results of the screening warrant further follow up you will hear directly from your school nurse.

The majority of students do not exhibit any abnormal findings. **You will not be notified if your child has a normal screening.**

Medical documentation of a required screening from your child's primary care physician can be provided to exempt a student from school-based screenings. Additionally, if you wish to opt your child out of a required health screening, please notify the school nurse by October 12, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact our school nurse using the information below.

Thank you for supporting a healthy learning environment at MJ!

Nurse Doyle

jdoyle@westwood.k12.ma.us

781-326-7500 x 6263

Important Upcoming Events

Sat., Sep. 21 - Westwood Day

Tues, Sep. 24 - 6:30 Room Parent Meeting with PTO (MJ Library)

Tues, Sep 24 - PTO Meeting (MJ Library)

Wed, Oct 2nd - Early Release, 12:00pm

Thur, Oct. 3rd - No School - Holiday

Tues, Oct. 8th - Walk A Thon

Mon, Oct. 14th - No School - Holiday

Wed, Oct. 16th - Early Release/Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:00pm

Fri, Oct 25th - PTO "Haunted Hallway" event

Wed, Oct. 30th - Early Release/Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:00pm

Tues, Nov. 5th - No School - Professional Development

Thur, Nov 7th - Picture Retake Day (morning)

Mon, Nov. 11th - No School - Holiday

Wed, Nov. 13 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Wed, Nov. 27 - Early Dismissal

Thur, Nov. 28 - No School - Holiday

Fri, Nov. 29 - No School - Holiday

Wed, Dec. 11 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Fri, Dec. 20 - Early Dismissal

Mon, Dec 23-**Wed**. Jan. 1, 2025 - No School - Vacation

Thur, Jan. 2 - School Resumes

Wed, Jan 8 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Mon, Jan 20 - No School - Holiday

Wed, Jan 22 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Wed, Feb 5 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Mon, Feb 17-21 - No School - Vacation

Wed, Feb 26 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Wed, Mar 12 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Wed, Mar 26 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Tues, Apr 8 - MCAS ELA (Gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed, Apr 9 - Early Release, 12:00pm

Thurs, Apr 10 - MCAS ELA (Gr. 3, 4, 5)
Tues, Apr 15& **Thurs**, Apr 17 - MCAS ELA Make-up Dates
Mon, 18-25 - No School - Vacation
Wed, Apr 30 - Early Release, 12:00pm
Tues, May 13 - MCAS Math (Gr. 3, 4, 5)
Wed, May 14 - Early Release, 12:00pm
Thurs, May 15 - MCAS Math (Gr. 3, 4, 5)
Fri, May 16 - MCAS Math Make-up (Gr. 3, 4, 5)
Mon, May 19 & **Tues**, **May** 20 - MCAS Science (Gr. 5)
Thurs. May 22 - MCAS Science Make-up (Gr.5)
Wed, May 28 - Early Release, 12:00pm
Wed, June 11 - Early Release, 12:00pm
Mon, June 16 - Student Last Day (no snow days)

News from the MJ Front Office

Lost and Found

A message from Ms. Santangelo

We just completed day 16 of school and there are currently 11 items hanging on the Lost & Found rack 🗑️

Please be sure your child's items are labelled with a name or initials

- I do my best to get labelled items back to their forever homes.

Items without labels get sent to the donation bin after 4 weeks.

(For those who remember I use the old Filene's Basement method - date and check 😊)



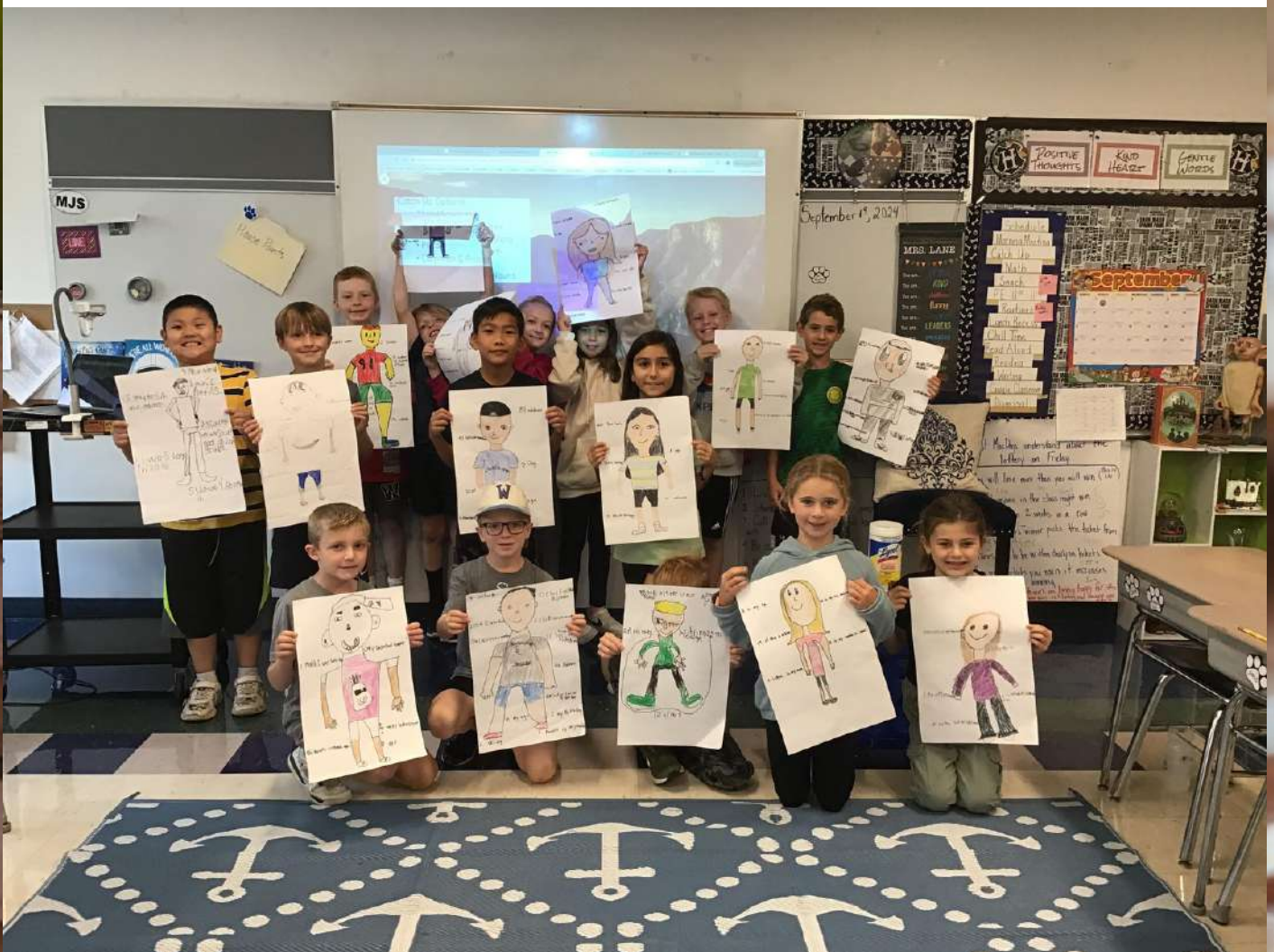
CLASSROOM NEWS

News from the MJ Classroom's News from 4B (Ms. Bass)



Fourth graders have been exploring the concepts of multiples and factors. We determined that the factors of a given number will share factors with its multiples. For example, the factors of 100 are *also* the factors of its multiples, e.g. 200, 300, 400. On a smaller scale, the factors of 8 are also factors of 16, its multiple. As we move into subsequent units on division, knowing the factors of a given number will be a helpful tool for problem solving.

News from 3La (Mrs. Lane)



In 3 Lane the students made math self portraits that we are going to hang up around the classroom for curriculum night. Instead of names the kids wrote number clues to help parents find their child's picture

News from KM (Mrs. McDonough)



In kindergarten we are scientists! We discussed how scientists study, observe, ask questions and wonder. We talked about how they look closely at the world around them and often draw what they see using the correct colors and details. We went outside with our sketchbooks to the outdoor classroom and drew lots of the wonderful things we saw living and growing in the garden.



MARTHA JONES SCHOOL

PTO

Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.

PTO News

THANK YOU!

Big thank you to all who planned, participated, and attended the **Back to School Picnic** and **Curriculum Night** this week. Both events were wonderful opportunities for families to get to know other families in the community and meet the talented Martha Jones staff that works closely with our students every day!

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!](#)

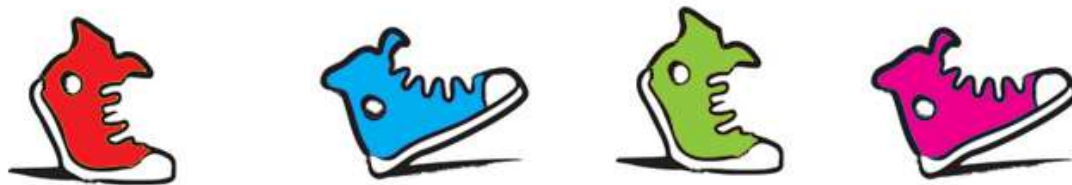
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION DRIVE

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.

ROOM PARENT SIGN UPS

Martha Jones classrooms are still looking for a few volunteers to be Room Parent for some of the older grades. Duties consist of being the main line of communication for things such as coordinating volunteer opportunities within the classroom, collecting classroom supplies, and collecting the holiday and year end teacher gifts. [Sign up here](#) to volunteer!

WALK-A-THON



WALK-A-THON

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MJS Halloween Party

The MJS Halloween Party will be on Friday, October 25th at 6-8pm!

This is a fun outdoor event with a DJ, haunted hallway, food, and photo booth! It's a great chance to meet new families, caregivers, and come together as a community! The 1st half hour (6-6:30pm)

will be sensory friendly with no lights, smoke, and music. Please bring a donation for the Westwood Food Pantry, and if you can, [sign-up](#) as a volunteer!



BIRTHDAY BOOKS & LIBRARY V

- Participate in the [PTO Birthday Book Program](#)! Ms. Swinning 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!



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](#)

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

District & Community News You Can Use

Westwood Youth and Family Services

We hope you all have had a wonderful summer! WYFS is reaching out to share our Fall group programming for Kindergarten-5th graders through Westwood Youth and Family Services.

Below are the links and program flyers:

[Social Smarts for Kindergarten / 1st Graders](#)

[Calm & Cope: Anxiety Coping Group for Kids](#)



Please let us know if we can answer any questions. If you would like to learn more about the services we provide to Westwood children and families please visit our website:

<https://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services> or follow us on Instagram and Facebook @westwoodyfs.



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
AUGUST 19TH

Fall 2024 Offerings

K/1st graders: Wednesdays, October 16th -December 11th @
4-5pm

Wentworth Hall - 273 Washington Street

For more information: contact Liz Craig, LCSW
lcraig@westwoodma.gov or 781-320-1023



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



School Calendar

[Click the link](#) for the Westwood 2024-2025 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. 7500-326 781 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستود 'الخدمات الطلابية في

لك. لطلب كنتشكرا lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us أو على البريد الالكتروني الخاص بك 1346

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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

