

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 17 - May 14, 2021



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

Important Dates

Date	Event
Tue., May 18th	Gr. 3,4, 5 Math MCAS
Thu., May 20th	Gr. 5 STE MCAS
Mon., May 24th	Gr. 5 Visit to Thurston Middle School
Mon., May 24th	Incoming Kindergarten - Parent Info Virtual Meeting (evening)
Tue., May 25th	Gr. 5 Enrichment - Virtual MOS Visit - Built for Survival
Wed., May 26th	Gr. 5 Parent / Student Thurston Middle School visit (afterschool)
Mon., May 31st	Memorial Day NO SCHOOL
Tue. & Thu., June 1st & 3rd	Gr. 5 Enrichment - Water Conservation
Wed., June 2nd	Gr. 3 Enrichment - 1868 History Day (Fisher School Virtual Visit)
Wed., June 2nd	FIELD DAY Gr. K & 1
Thu., June 3rd	FIELD DAY Gr. 2 & 4
Fri., June 4th	FIELD DAY Gr. 3 & 5

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



To our families celebrating the end of Ramadan, I hope you had a festive Eid.

A Huge Shout-Out to Our Students Taking MCAS on Tuesday -

Students in grades 3, 4, & 5 have completed the ELA MCAS. Math MCAS will be held on Tuesday, May 18th, for grades 3, 4 & 5 and Science, Tech/Eng. On Thursday, May 20th, for our grade 5 students. As you know from my messages, we lost power in the middle on MCAS on Tuesday. The students were amazing. They did a great job waiting patiently while we worked to determine how long the outage would last and then were able to handle the disappointing news that they would need to stop their testing and resume it on Thursday. Thankfully, all of the work they had already completed was saved, and they were able to resume where they left off when they started back up on Thursday.



Student Covid Testing - There is still time to sign your child up for COVID testing. You sign up once and testing is done each week. Students are tested on Tuesdays or Thursdays, depending on grade level and results are shared, usually within one day. Only parents of students in positive pools are contacted. [Here are the details on Testing.](#)

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Martha Jones Students and Families Participate in Massachusetts Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

Walk-To-School Day

On Wednesday, May 12th, the Martha Jones community walked to school as part of the statewide Safe Routes to School Initiative. The SRTS Program works to increase safe biking and walking among elementary and middle school students by using a collaborative, community-focused approach that bridges the gap between health and transportation. SRTS utilizes the six E's to implement its program: Education, Encouragement, Engagement, Evaluation, Engineering and Equity.



The students, families, teachers and staff administration all coordinated and took part in planning. A special thank-you to Lt. Chris Sheehy, Lt. Joe Vinci, and Patrol Officer Mark Randlett from Westwood Police and the many parent/guardian neighborhood captains and volunteers for their help in ensuring cross-walks were safely utilized and traffic was managed effectively.



[Check out more photos linked](#)

[here.](#)

CHANGES IN DISMISSAL ROUTINES - As the weather gets nicer many students are walking and biking to school instead of taking the bus. Please make sure to notify the office if your child will not be taking the bus on any given day. We do bus attendance at the end of each day and if someone who is listed as a bus student is not on the bus and we do not have notification from the parent, the bus is held up until we can reach a parent to be sure the student is allowed to walk or bike home. Thank you for your cooperation.

Guidelines for Close Contacts and Quarantining - A few people have asked what is considered a close contact now that students can be seated 3' apart, with masks, instead of 6' apart at school. The definition of "close contact" remains the same (within 6' for 15 minutes or more cumulatively, even when masked. However, only those within 3' are required to quarantine. Other "close contacts", those between 3' and 6', do not need to quarantine as long as they remain symptom-free. Parents will still be contacted for all close contacts within 6'. As you know, the guidelines and regulations change frequently and I will work to keep you updated.

THANK YOU TO THE PTO and Parent Community - Thank you for the PTO and all of the parents/guardians for all of the kind ways that you showed your appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week. Your generosity is much appreciated.



MJ & District News



Codeswitching: Race and Identity in the Westwood METCO Program Monday, May 17th, 6-8pm

Please join us for an evening of reflection and discussion as we watch the film *Code-Switching* and hear from a panel of Westwood METCO students, educators, and alumni sharing their experiences with the METCO program. This evening will be dedicated to hearing from our community as we aim to support and more fully integrate Boston students into our suburban school system.

Please register [here](#) for the event, and submit questions for the panelists [here](#) by 5/14.



**Wednesday May 19th, 2021
8:00-9:00pm
Zoom Video Conferencing**

Please join us and meet other Westwood parents/caregivers who have students with Language Based Learning Differences. This is an opportunity to connect, ask questions, share resources and support each other. Whether you are just starting the process or have been supporting your LBLD student for awhile - we can help one another. Language Based Learning Differences can include:

Auditory Processing Disorder (APD), where students have difficulty understanding and processing differences between sounds in words;

Dyscalculia, where students have difficulty understanding arithmetic and mathematical calculations;

Dysgraphia, where students have difficulty writing or exercising other fine-motor skills; and

Dyslexia, where students have difficulty identifying speech sounds and learning how they relate to letters and words (decoding).

All Westwood parents/caregivers are welcome including private and out of district placements. We ask that whatever is shared during a meeting is kept confidential and is not to be discussed outside of the group.

[RSVP for the meeting here](#). If you RSVP via email the Zoom link will be sent to you. The link will also be posted on the [SEPAC Website](#) and [Facebook Group](#) the day of the meeting.

Join our closed Facebook Group: [Westwood SEPAC-Special Education Parent Advisory Council](#) To volunteer, questions, or submit ideas [email: westwoodsepac@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodsepac@gmail.com)

Board: Megan Brenk & Kerry Aglugub, Co-chairs • Aravind Movva and Liz Polin, Co- Secretaries • Jennifer Ellis and Jared Jones, Co-Treasurers

PTO News

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

During Teacher Appreciation Week the PTO showed our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the Martha Jones teachers and staff for all the hard work they have put into our school during this unprecedented year. On Monday a combo of sweet and salty snacks and seltzers were delivered mid morning to help give a little energy boost. Teachers were greeted with coffee, hot chocolate and munchkins on Tuesday morning to help start their day off on the right foot. Thursday's treat was healthy smoothies from The Juice Bar at lunchtime. The week was capped off with a full breakfast, catered by Roche Brothers, which provided the staff with not only a great breakfast, but also a time to come together as the MJ team and enjoy each other's company. Thanks again to our amazing MJ staff for all that they do for our kids every single day!

Thank you to our fantastic Teacher Appreciation Week committee -Elaine Cashman, Amy Theaumont, Rena Rizzi, and Aamina Akrim- for making this week so special for our Martha Jones staff!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PTO BOARD

In our final PTO meeting of the year, Lauren Bent was voted in as Co-President and Beth Klaene was voted in as Co-Secretary. They join Julie Menendez, Co-President, Cat Sonis, Co-Secretary, Megan Brenk, Social Media Co-Chair, Christine Patrinos, Co-Treasurer and Gina Szigety, Co-Treasurer. Congratulations to our 2021-2022 PTO Board!

5TH GRADE CELEBRATION **June 2, 2-4 p.m.**

The 5th Grade Committee is delighted to invite all 5th graders to an end of the year celebration!

Who: Graduating 5th grade students (please note the celebration is for 5th grade students and parent volunteers only)

When: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 (Raindate: June 9)

Where: Martha Jones School - Outside

Time: 2-4 p.m.

What: Ice Cream Truck! Laser Tag! DJ!

We will need many parent volunteers to make this event a success. We will be sending out a volunteer sign up sheet soon.

5TH GRADE FACEBOOK CLAP OUT SHOUT OUT

To honor our 5th graders as they get ready to move up to middle school (can you believe it?), we wanted to offer a "5th Grade Clap Out Shout Out" on the MJ Facebook Page.

Jamy Sesselman will do one post for each 5th grader whose parent(s) would like a shout out for their child. This is, of course, completely voluntary.

All you would need to do is email Jamy (jampombo@yahoo.com) a photo of your child with and a few sentences about him/her.

You could send a baby picture and a current picture if you'd like OR just a current photo.

You could include any or all of the following:

- Activities involved with at MJ, (For example Talent for a Cause, Band, Math League, Student Council, etc.)
- Hobbies/ Sports your child enjoys
- What they will miss most about MJ
- What they are looking forward to in 6th grade.
- Or any thing else you'd like to share about your special child

Jamy will post them on the Martha Jones FB page as they are received.

MABEL'S LABELS

mabel's labels®

Summer camp is around the corner! Get all the labels you will need for camp today! Go to 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.

ELECTRONIC BOX TOPS - COLLECTION ONGOING

Download the Box Top App and scan receipts within 14 days of purchase. Click [here](#) for more information about how to download the Box Top app and scan your receipts. Each Box Top is worth 10¢ for our school.

SHOP AmazonSmile ON THE APP

Support Martha Jones with every purchase

The Amazon Shopping app now supports Amazon Smile! Simply download the newest version of the Amazon Shopping app, go to settings, turn on Amazon Smile and choose the Martha Jones PTO as your charity. After you've done that, every purchase you make will automatically support the Martha Jones PTO at no cost to you.

You will find the exact same prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the Martha Jones 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 Amy Amatangelo at amyamatangelo@yahoo.com.

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أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك ext. 1346 إذا بحاجة إلى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 7500-326 781
lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us لك. لطلب كنتشكر

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 lpouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us Спасибо.

CODE SWITCHING



RACE AND IDENTITY IN THE WESTWOOD METCO PROGRAM

**MONDAY
MAY 17TH
6-8PM**

REGISTER FOR
THE EVENT

HERE

SUBMIT QUESTIONS
FOR THE
PANELIST BY
5/14

HERE

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WESTWOOD SEPAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Language Based Learning Parent Group

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Zoom Video Conferencing

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2020 Recipients

R.A.Y. (Recognize-A-Youth) Award Program

Westwood Rotary and Westwood Youth & Family Services (WY&FS) are seeking the public's help in identifying young people in our community that have demonstrated a commitment to helping others. We would like to celebrate these individuals by honoring them with the R.A.Y. (Recognize-A-Youth) Award. Recipients will have distinguished themselves through their initiative and commitment to community service and have demonstrated an ethic of caring for others that is essential to the health of our community. If you know of a young person that should be honored please nominate them for a R.A.Y. Award.

Nomination forms can be submitted online at
www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services

