

Growing by... & Leaps & Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, Mass.
Issue 17 - May 6, 2022



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

Important Dates

Mon. & Tue., May 9 & 10	Math MCAS Grades 3, 4, & 5
Tue., May 10	GR 3 Enrichment: David Coffin Recorder
Wed., May 11	Walk to School Day (rescheduled from May 4) ----- Early Release 11:50AM
Fri., May 13	GR 4 Enrichment: Environmental Science
Tue., May 17	GR 3 Enrichment: Colonial Trades ----- PTO Meeting 7PM - MJ Library
Wed. & Thu., May 18 & 19	STE MCAS -Grades 5
Fri., May 20	PTO Family Bingo Night
Tue., May 24	Incoming Kindergarten Parent Info Night 7pm
Wed., May 25	Early Release 11:50AM ----- Incoming Kindergarten Student/Parent Visit
Thu., June 2	STEAM Fair (Art Show and Science/Eng. Fair)
Fri., June 3rd	Talent for A Cause - Show Time 6:30 all invited
Fri., June 10	Field Day

Office 781-326-7500, ext. 6321

ext. 6261: [Diane Santangelo](#)

ext. 6321: [Donna Tobin](#)

ext. 6263: [JoEllen Doyle](#)

Message from the Principal

Teacher Appreciation Week - I want to express my extreme appreciation for all of our teachers/staff. Their commitment to our students, each other, and our school community is commendable. Thank you! I also want to thank the PTO and all who contributed to the wonderful recognition of our teachers/staff. Each day staff were recognized in a different way and your kindness and thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Nurse's Day - Friday, May 6th was nurse's day. I want to thank JoEllen Doyle for the remarkable support and care she has shown our students. She has been a wonderful addition to our staff.

May is a month when many members of our school community celebrate special holidays and events. With Eid-al-Fitr, Cinco de Mayo, Asian American Pacific Islander Month and Jewish American Heritage Month converging in May, many of our staff have been sharing resources to help each other learn more about the holidays and traditions that our families may be celebrating. Here are a few of some of the resources shared this month: [USA Today](#) and [Learning for Justice](#) on the often misattributed holiday of **Cinco de Mayo**, [History.com's overview](#) of the origins and reasons for celebrating **AAPI Heritage Month**, and a [web site](#) developed by The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in honor of **Jewish American Heritage Month**. I hope our families observing and celebrating special events this month enjoy time with family and friends

MJ & District News

Due to Rain: WALK TO SCHOOL DAY WILL NOW BE HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, MAY 11TH**. [More info here](#)

MJ Art Night Volunteer Sign-ups - We are so excited to bring back the MJ Art Show in person this year! Mrs. Pasquan is looking for parent volunteers to help prepare artwork for the show. Please sign up below if you are able to help (no artist ability needed). [Link to Art Night Volunteer Sign-up](#).

STEAM FAIR - THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022, 6:30 pm -7:45 pm [More info here](#)

Each year, the Martha Jones School holds a STEM Fair along with the Art Show. Students work individually or in groups of two or three to put together science fair projects, engineering exhibits, and other innovative experiments. This is a fun way for students to engage in hands-on learning outside of school and present what they've learned to classmates. I'm sure you remember how fun your science fairs were growing up. This year the fair is later than usual and registrations have been slow, but we hope you will encourage your child and his/her friends to participate.

Registration: [Registration link here](#)

Project ideas: [Project Ideas](#)



A program
of the



FOUNDATION

Matha Jones and Hanlon Schools continue to Rock the [The Stock Market Game](#): 5th grade students are invited to participate in the *Stock Market Game*, investing a hypothetical \$100,000 in stocks and funds to build a virtual portfolio. The students participate under the supervision of teachers Mr. Goguen, Mr. Bartlett, Ms. Gross, and Mr. Parkhurst. The *Stock Market Game* is funded by SIFMA (Securities Industries and Financial Markets Association) and allows all students to participate at no cost. This is a competitive statewide contest and each year our students do amazingly well. Studying current events, previous stock performance, and past stock winners and losers to pick the perfect stocks have allowed our students to be successful each year that we have participated. This is an exciting time for the student winners (and teachers). Congratulations to all those students who participated.

For the statewide Spring Competitive Session - **John Volpe, Aiden Mobius and Dominic Ellison came in 1st place statewide**. This is such exciting news. Way to Go John, Aiden, and Dominic. These three students will be recognized at a virtual ceremony run by the SIFMA foundation on May 18th.

We also want to congratulate our Hanlon School champions. Hanlon students placed 2nd in the Spring Competitive Session and 1st and 2nd place in the Yearlong Competitive Session.

[May 20th - BINGO Family Night](#) - Each year the families in grade 5 raise money for special grade 5 activities and a scholarship that goes to a graduating WHS former MJ student. This year's event is a BINGO night for all MJ families. The event is free but donations will be accepted. Stop by for some fun and to win some candy prizes.

Join Westwood Special Education Parent Advisory Council for our upcoming parent groups and meetings!

May 7: Inclusive Fitness Open House

May 10: SEPAC General Meeting

May 19: Language Based Learning Parent Group

May 24: Coffee Meet & Greet

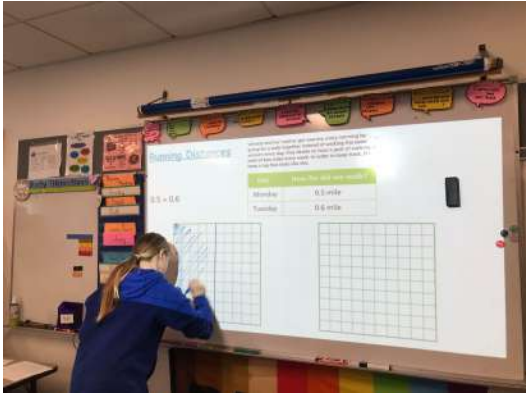
May 25: Emotional/Mental Health Parent Group

May 26: Neurodiverse Profiles Parent Group

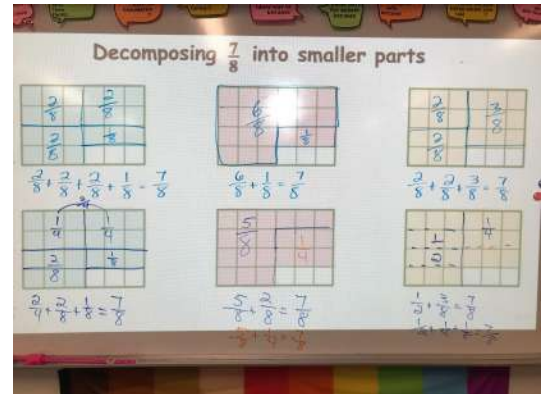


Classroom Happenings

News from 4L (Mrs. Luskin)



Currently, fourth graders are immersed in our Fractions and Decimals unit. This unit focuses on understanding the meaning of fractions and decimals; comparing fractions and decimals and finding equivalents; and using visual models to add, subtract and multiply fractions. Pictured below



are some ways students use visuals to add and subtract fractions and decimals. Although much of our exploration is with visuals, students also use their bodies as a protractor and to show where common fractions and decimals are within a whole. This helps students internalize the size of fractions and decimals. Students usually comment, "Fractions and decimals are fun!"

News from 1B (Ms. Brock)

Scientists in Ms. Brock's class have been learning all about animal adaptations in our life science unit. First graders are learning that animals have unique parts that help them survive. In one of their favorite investigations, students explored why different birds have different shaped beaks. Students experimented with long pointy beaks made from straws and flat wide beaks made from cups. When trying to pick up food with both types of beaks they discovered that certain beaks are best for picking up seeds while others are better for scooping up food. Students thought about the

types of food that birds eat in the different habitats that they live in. We enjoyed a special enrichment from the Children's Museum about animal adaptations and habitats, as well! We observed and learned about stick bugs, snakes, box turtles, and chinchillas. We are practicing using evidence when making scientific claims and look forward to learning about plants next!



News from PE (Mr. Foley) What's Happening in Physical Education

Over the past several weeks the Martha Jones students have been participating in an educational gymnastics unit. The children spent the first few weeks working on a variety of floor skills in the areas of: traveling, balancing and rolling. The second part of the unit focused on the gymnastics equipment structure. Gymnastic activities are a very important part of every child's experience in physical education. And

make a significant contribution to the goals of the curriculum. Gymnastics encompasses a variety of components such as: rolling, balancing, weight transfer and traveling on different body parts and equipment. Participating in gymnastic activities teaches and promotes important physical values. These activities help develop muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, coordination, as well as gross motor development and body control. The physical demands of holding balances, rolling and traveling contribute to the development of overall physical fitness.

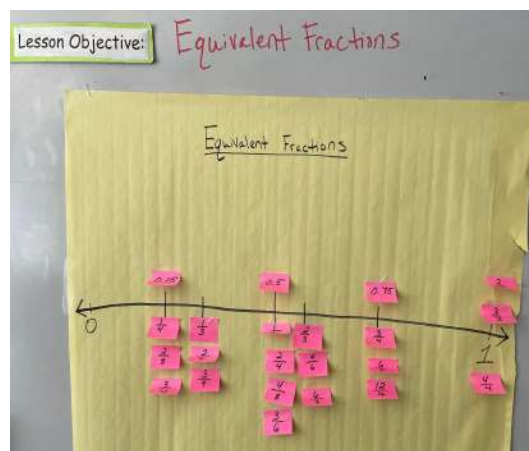
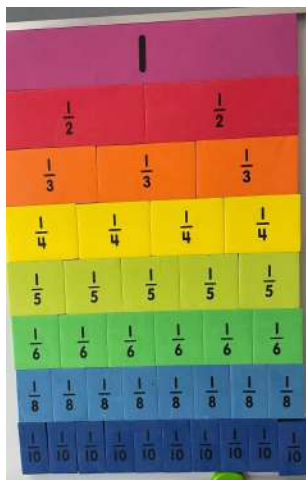
Check out some of our MJ Gymnasts in action.



News from Ms. Eaton

In the Learning Center, fourth grade students are working on understanding the value of basic fractions. Initially, the students worked with fraction manipulatives to help create a fundamental understanding of

fractions being part of a whole. Currently, they are working on ordering fractions on a number line and are working to notice relationships through making comparisons and creating equivalent fractions. By analyzing fractions through such methods as comparing the denominators (checking to see if there is a common denominator), identifying how close fractions are to $\frac{1}{2}$ and/or how much more needs to be added to a basic fraction to equal one whole, students continue to build upon their understanding.



PTO News

PTO Update 5/4/22

WANT TO HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF MJS?

We are looking for people with new ideas, diverse perspectives, and a passion for creating an enriching community for our MJS students, families, and educators. If this sounds like you, please email us at julimenendez@yahoo.com, and find out how you can be a PTO Board Member or get involved with other PTO committees. Open positions include: Co-President, Co-Treasurer, Co-Secretary, and Co-Social media chair/marketing director for the 2022-2023 school year.

Board Members will be voted in at the next PTO Meeting on Tuesday, May 17.

GET YOUR STEPS IN, WALK TO SCHOOL DAY- MAY 11

[Sign up here](#) to help walk the students to school. On Wednesday, May 11th, Martha Jones will participate in the Safe Routes to School Walk To School Day. Students and families across Massachusetts are encouraged to walk school to and enjoy a safe, healthy, and active lifestyle. ***Show your school spirit and wear your MJ shirt!***

S.T.E.A.M. FAIR REGISTRATION CLOSES - MAY 13

[Registration to Participate](#)
[Project ideas](#)

The S.T.E.A.M. Fair will be held Thursday, June 2 from 6:30 -7:45 PM. The STEAM fair is an annual event for students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math projects and present them to the Martha Jones community. Scientists can work individually or in groups of 2 or 3. Projects are completed outside of school and showcased at the fair. It is also an event showcasing student artwork from their art classes.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT - MAY 20

Join us for an all school family fun. This event is free, but all donations will go to the MJ 5th Grade Scholarship Fund to benefit a former Marth Jones graduating WHS 2022 senior.

The event will be held at MJ Gym on Friday, May 20th from 6:30-7:30p.m. If you are unable to attend, but still want to contribute you can send donations via Venmo@Kathryn-Burke-16 or PayPal@kyburke kat.kempf@gmail.com.

RED, WHITE, BLUE SPIRIT DAY - MAY 27

Join us kicking off Memorial day and wearing your red, white and blue.

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 or Beth Klaene at baklaene@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Martha Jones Walk-To-School Day Wednesday, May 11, 2022

May 11th is Massachusetts Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Walk-To-School Day at Martha Jones School. We are encouraging all students to Walk To School on May 4th. Attached you will find meeting spots for most of our neighborhoods with team Captains who will be leading groups of students as they walk to school. **Parent/caregiver volunteers are needed to make this a safe walk for everyone. If you are willing to help out by walking your child and a group of students to school, [PLEASE SIGN UP HERE](#) as a parent/caregiver helper.** This is a great way to encourage students (and families) to get exercise. Buses will run their regular routes for bus students that are not able to participate and all bus students will take their buses home in the afternoon (this is a morning event only).

A few things you should know about Walk to School Day:

- If you would like your child to participate in the SRTS Walk-to-School Day, please bring him or her to the designated meeting place closest to your home (meeting spots listed below) to meet up with an adult or feel free to join the group and [sign up as a parent/caregiver volunteer](#).
- **Groups will leave the meeting spots at 8:15 to head to school. Please have your child at one of the designated meeting spots no later than 8:15. Do not drop your child off if an adult is not present.**
- If your child normally walks to school without an adult and will be walking his/her typical route, that is fine, he/she does not need to join at a meeting spot but he/she is welcome to do so.
- If you want to gather some neighbors together on your own and walk together as a group feel free to do so.
- This is a **Walk** to School event. Siblings are welcome to join, but for everyone's safety, **please** no dogs, bikes, skateboards, etc.
- Please follow all pedestrian safety protocols when walking: use crosswalks, walk on sidewalks, stay together, wear bright clothing. Police will be assisting with crossing at:
 - Pond Street @ Colburn Street
 - Intersection of Pond and Clapboardtree @ the Temple
 - Pond @ Oak Street/Arcadia
- If you are driving to a drop off location, please pay extra attention to walkers. Do not leave cars idling when dropping off at the drop off location. To avoid traffic and congestion, walking to meeting locations is best, but if you must drive, drop your child with one of the parent volunteers and be on your way to leave room for other parents to drop off.

Proposed Meeting/Drop Off Locations (Volunteers Needed)

Sycamore Drive @ Magnolia Drive
Briar Lane @ Winslow Road
Dela Park Road @ Delapa Circle
Colburn Street @ French Street

Locust Drive @ Magnolia Drive
Briar Lane @ Tamarack Road
Colby Way @ Sherman's Way
Fisher Street @ Baker Street

Alder Road @ Sumac Drive
Tamarack Road @ Fensview Drive
Temple Parking Lot
18 Oak Street



Martha Jones 5th Grade Presents:

Bingo Night

MJS Gym - 80 Martha Jones Rd.

Friday, May 20, 2022

6:30-7:30 PM

Join us for an all school family fun & fundraising event!

**KING SIZE
CANDY PRIZES!
SNACKS, DRINKS,
50/50 RAFFLE**

The event is Free, but all donations will go to the MJS 5th Grade Scholarship Fund to benefit a former Martha Jones graduating WHS '22 senior.

For those who cannot attend,
direct donations also accepted via
Venmo@Kathryn-Burke-16
PayPal@kyburke kat.kempf@gmail.com



Registration is open for the
Martha Jones S.T.E.A.M. Event
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math)
S.T.E.M. Fair and Art Show

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022, 6:30 pm -7:45 pm
Register by May 13th

The STEAM fair is an annual event for students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math projects and present them to the Martha Jones community. Scientists can work individually or in groups of 2 or 3. Projects are completed outside of school and showcased at the fair. It is also an event showcasing student Artwork from their art classes.

Registration: [Registration link here](#)

Project ideas: [Project Ideas](#)

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

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