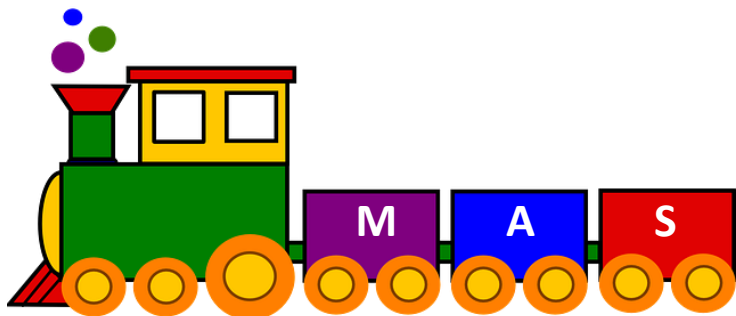


THE MILTON EXPRESS

January 31, 2020



Message from the Principal

Although it is the shortest month of the year, February is certainly a busy and meaningful month. February is known for such things as Black History Month, Dental Health Month, and American Heart Month. Students will engage in exciting activities and lessons dedicated to such important events as the 100th Day of School, Groundhog Day, and President's Day.

When identifying February 14 as Valentine's Day on their calendars, many people begin to think about being kind and caring towards others. At Milton Avenue School, the students are consistently reminded of the importance of engaging in activities that show kindness towards others. Students and staff at Milton Avenue School took part in the Great Kindness Challenge during the week of January 27. Throughout the week, the children engaged in acts of kindness aligned with the theme of Star Wars: Be A Force For Kindness. Let's continue to work together in allowing the children to become better citizens and make positive choices when interacting with their peers each day.

At Milton Avenue School, we continue to engage the students in activities aimed at developing social and emotional learning on the part of all of our students. At the PTO meeting on December 12, I had the opportunity to share information about Social and Emotional learning and how we promote it at Milton Avenue School. I encourage you to review this [presentation](#) to learn more about this important goal of ours. More information can also be found at the NJ Department of Education [website](#).

In closing, we appreciate all that you do at home to further promote the importance of kindness, caring, and respect towards others not only during the month of February, but throughout the entire year as well. During this time of caring, I can't help but to recognize and thank all of the teachers and staff who care for your children on a daily basis. I would also like to say a special thank you to the parents who volunteer their time for the school to allow the learning community to be such a special place!

Sincerely,
Mr. Andreazza

Presidents' Day Holiday

Early Dismissal -- Friday, February 14, 2020

NO LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

Full Day Kindergarten and Grades 1, 2, and 3: 8:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

Kindergarten: **AM** session hours: 8:35 a.m. – 10:35 a.m. and **PM** session hours: 10:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

Preschool: Full Day session hours: 9:00a.m. - 12:00

AM session hours: 8:40 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and

PM session hours: 10:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

School will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, February 17 and 18



THIS 'N THAT REMINDERS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE



Morning Drop Off—Students should not be on school grounds before 8:20 a.m. During these cold winter mornings, we have noticed several students standing outside in the cold prior to 8:20.

Lunch on Delayed Opening Days—in anticipation of a snowy winter, if there is a delayed opening, the **only** Chartwells lunch offering will be a turkey and American cheese on a whole wheat roll, fruit, vegetable and milk **OR** a cereal lunch bag (Cheerios, Graham crackers, yogurt, String cheese, Fruit and a milk).

Kindergarten Registration—Interested in registering your 5 year old for Kindergarten? Please visit the [PARENT RESOURCES](#) section of the district website.

Grade 1 Registration—Please visit the [PARENT RESOURCES](#) section of the district website.

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The month of **February** provides many opportunities for members of the learning community to come together to support our school and families.

- ◆ **Walk-to-School** is on Wednesday, February 5.
- ◆ **PTO Meeting** on Thursday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be an open forum for any ideas or questions you may have.
- ◆ **Pizza Parlor Day** is scheduled for **Friday**, February 21.
- ◆ **Presidents' Day Break**—see page 1 for early dismissal information and school closing



MILTON MEETING

We celebrated our students at the monthly Milton Meeting on January 31. Mr. Andreazza talked about the week of kindness and complimented the students on their kindness efforts during the week. He asked everyone to continue being kind. Milton students performed over 2917 acts of kindness during the week! We also recognized students for achievement in Art, Music, P.E., Library and Technology, as well as the Principal's Student of the Month. Congratulations to all of our students who were recognized at our Milton Meeting!

Principal's Student of the Month Award: Sam DiMarco, Lauren Jbeily, Austin Kerins, and Hudson Hindelong

Outstanding Artist: Anaya Chhapgar, Sarah Alcantara, and Lucy Ladd

Marvelous Musician: Jiarui Wu, Clotilde Hayes, and Justin Klatt

MVP Award: Mae Bruzzo, Jake Accardo, and Isabel Cabrera

Library Legend: Camila Cervantes, Zyra Sheth, Cameron Walter, and Liadain Hillman

STEM Superstar: Ryan Wilson, Tyler Espino, Raquel Funes, and Sofie Rice

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOMS...

PRE-SCHOOL: The preschool students jumped into the new year by studying winter topics such as bears, penguins and snowmen. We read Snowmen At Night and brainstormed our own ideas about what snowmen might be doing at nighttime! The pre-k students also began their study on clothes. They explored the features of clothes, what clothes are made of and how to take care of clothes. The dramatic play area was transformed into a nursery filled with baby clothes, a clothing store for buying and selling clothing and a laundromat where they learned to wash, dry, iron and fold clothes. The clothing study will conclude with a focus on clothes worn by various community helpers. This will lead the preschoolers into a new study on buildings in our community. The preschoolers are looking forward to playing in their post office and celebrating Valentine's Day next month!



KINDERGARTEN: 3... 2... 1... HAPPY NEW YEAR! The kindergarteners began 2020 by setting new reading goals for themselves. The children thought about which "Reading Super Power" they felt they needed to improve on and have been persevering each day towards accomplishing their goal. In math, we learned about subtraction and are practicing decomposing numbers. Kindergarten scientists are learning about pushes and pulls by studying roller coasters! We're looking forward to Valentines Day with our Kindergarten Sweethearts!

FIRST GRADE: Happy New Year from first grade! First graders made goals for the New Year. They not only made goals for themselves, but they made a plan on how they will work to achieve their goals. In reading and writing we are learning about nonfiction. We are reading more nonfiction books and learning about all of the features that go into nonfiction books. Students are learning to recognize, read, and understand those features as they learn about the world around them. As writers, students are writing *All About* books. They are putting Table of Contents, headings, captions, boldface print, and glossaries in their books. They are experts and are teaching readers of their books all the things they know about a topic. Please have your child point out all of those features to you when they are reading nonfiction books at home. In math, we have learned about graphs. We have learned how to collect, represent, and interpret data for tally charts and picture graphs. Please have your child continue to practice their math fluency at home with Splash math. We are looking forward to the busy month of February with the 100th day of school and Valentines Day!

SECOND GRADE: Second graders began 2019 plunging into nonfiction in both Reading and Writing Workshop. Our students have been engaged and motivated as they diligently work on writing expert books on topics they know well. Second grade mathematicians have become more confident in solving math stories with and without regrouping. Fact fluency is important for all students to continue to work on at home. As we enter February, second grade scientists will continue to explore landforms on earth, how they changed over time, and investigate how Earth's events can change the shape of the land. Social emotional learning, as well as growth mindset, continues to be reinforced in the classroom.

THIRD GRADE: Third graders rang in the New Year by setting new goals using our 20/20 vision. These included enhancing a reading skill, memorizing math facts, or improving on a work habit. In language arts, students read informational texts and wrapped up the unit by learning about narrative nonfiction. As mathematicians, we have moved into addition and subtraction with regrouping. Students learned that the best way to check their work is to estimate by rounding or using the inverse operation. Ask your child to tell you about Sheep in a Jeep and what they have learned about forces and motion in science!



Counselor Corner Carole Soder csoder@chatham-nj.org

We ended the month of January with The Great Kindness Challenge (GKC: the happiest week of the year)! This week is dedicated to creating a culture of kindness on school campuses across the nation. Our theme was "BE A FORCE OF KINDNESS", which included spirit days, creating posters, and working with our classroom buddies. We also challenged our students to do up to 5 kind acts each day and had our Milton Meeting to celebrate, not only our award recipients, but the total amount of kind deeds completed throughout the week!

Our classroom SEL (social -emotional learning) lessons this month included: Identifying feelings, Compassion, and Calming down strategies.

Library Lore Jill Mills

jmills@chatham-nj.org

January has been a month of research across the grades. While our students discovered new ways to gather information, they also showed me many tricks on using Google Classroom. They are great teachers as well as great learners!



Third grade's research on climate tied in with their classroom study on weather. We learned about regional influences, surprising weather, and extreme conditions. We will wrap up our work by creating a digital closet that reflects the climate we studied.

States were the focus of **second grade** research, with each student exploring a different state. Although each student was working independently on his or her state, there was still great collaboration and sharing of information and skills. I was really impressed with how well these classes worked with one another.

First graders worked in pairs to learn about animal adaptations. Their partnerships not only brought great information, but also demonstrated teamwork and cooperation. I was so impressed with their work and effort!

In **Kindergarten**, we did an author study on the ever-popular Mo Willems. While most students know his Elephant and Piggie series, along with his Pigeon books, students were surprised to discover the "Elephant and Piggie Like Reading" series, written by other authors, but endorsed by those two beloved characters. We also learned about Mo Willems earlier success on Sesame Street. Mo Willems has been compared to Dr. Seuss and has been awarded the most *Theodor Seuss Geisel Honors for Best Books for Beginning Readers*.

Which brings me to my favorite way to wrap up January - the ALA Book Awards. In the coming weeks, we will be taking a look at the most recent Geisel, Caldecott, Sibert, and Newbery Award and Honor books. For more information on the ALA Book Awards, visit <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia>

Finally, I am including an early peek at the Tara Lazar Visit book order form attached to the end of the Milton Express. Tara Lazar will be visiting Milton Avenue School on Friday, March 27th. Here are some of the books we will be offering. For more information on Tara Lazar, please visit taralazar.com. More information about ordering books can be found on Milton [website](#).



The Stetho-Scoop

Erin Zotti, RN School Nurse/Health Educator,
ezotti@chatham-nj.org

**Report absences
via ParentPortal:**

**DO NOT email
teacher!**

Contagious Illnesses: There have been a few reported cases of influenza, 'strep-throat' and colds over the last few weeks. Influenza-like-illness is listed as high activity during this time of year in New Jersey according to the CDC. Please keep your child home if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms:

- A fever 100 degrees or higher. **Students should not return to school until their temperature is normal for 24 hours without fever reducing medication.**
- A frequent cough (*may be associated with Strep-throat and/ or colds*)
- Ear pain and/or eye drainage (*ear infections are not contagious, but the viruses that usually cause them are*)
- Sore throat with fever, rash, or headache

Please seek prompt medical attention if you think you or your child(ren) have **flu-like symptoms** as anti-viral medications can reduce the severity of flu-symptoms.

Flu-like symptoms appear quickly and may include high fever, a severe headache, muscle and body aches, chills, sore throat, exhaustion, and dry cough. Children may also have nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Please visit cdc.gov for more information about influenza in our area.

Reminder Please be sure your child dresses appropriately for the weather. Recess is required for **every** child and they **will** be outside if the temperature is 20 degrees Fahrenheit (with the wind chill) or greater. If your child does not have or refuses to wear appropriate clothing, they may not be able to participate in recess.



Salvatore Bonafede, sbonafede@chatham-nj.org

First Grade has started learning to read and sing two of the eight solfège notes, called so and mi, on the music staff. Fun singing games, such as "Old Mr. Woodpecker" and "Lemonade," have given students the chance to practice reading and singing these notes. We also continue to practice quarter note and eighth note rhythm patterns, and will be ready for quarter rests soon! We played Staff Champion to practice identifying lines and spaces of the music staff. If your child has signed up for a free Quaver Music account at home, Staff Champion games are available in the Music Theory section of the Student Interactives (accessed from the yellow sign on Quaver Street).

Second Grade continues to review quarter notes, eighth notes and quarter rests, as well as reading and singing so, mi and la on the music staff. We've learned singing games such as "Pizza, Pizza, Daddy-O" and "We Are Dancing in the Forest" to help review reading and writing rhythms and rests.

Third Grade has already started to learn their Spring Concert music! They are excited to sing songs all about food this April! We continue to review reading and singing the pentatonic solfège notes: do, re, mi, so, and la. We recently learned about sixteenth notes and rests through the singing games "Dinah" and "Paw Paw Patch." Knowing all of our rhythms will be very important when we play recorders later this year!

Finally, **Kindergarten** is learning all about high and low sounds, using our voices as whispers, talking, singing, shouting, and testing their loud and soft sounds through fun singing games like "Grizzly Bear", "My Pony Macaroni", and tons more through music and stories.

Please visit <http://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/15783> to view our December Holiday concert videos or check out the rotating banner on Milton's home page. If you are looking for an interesting museum experience this winter, don't forget about the Morris Museum!



From the Art Room

Kenji Hasegawa khasegawa@chatham-nj.org

Kindergarteners returned from the Holiday break and painted New Years fireworks with tempera paint on black paper. They have also worked on winter related projects. We did a drawing of a snowman using blue crayola markers which was brushed with water to create a painted effect. We just started a winter tree project using cool colors blue, green, and purple.

First grade has been working on cities reflected in water. We discussed reflections and viewed examples of cities by water. Students sketched cities with crayon and folded paper and rubbed back with ruler to create a reflection below. Students colored the top neatly and then painted the reflection in a more loose painterly way.

Second Graders have been learning about Koi fish. They are working on Koi fish in ponds using a variety of drawing and painting materials. Students had fun learning about these special fish that are considered beautiful as well as good luck. Fun fact: the Oldest living Koi Fish named Hanako lived to the age of 226 years.

Third graders recently finished high contrast positive and negative trees. In art, positive space is the subject, and negative space is the background. Students painted trees that filled the paper with branches that overlapped and touched the edges of the paper. Students then used bright fluorescent paints to fill the background.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

Doug Finken/Marty Visitation
dfinken@chatham-nj.org/mvisitacion@chatham-nj.org



Kindergarten: Students discussed mindfulness and discussed books about the practice of being mindful during both classroom activities and outside of the school. This mindfulness can range from listening to the teacher to how they may participate in an activity.

First Grade: Students have been reviewing nutrition and "My Plate". We discussed the importance of a balanced variety of nutritious foods, and how they contribute to wellness. We also talked about why some foods are healthier to eat than others.

Second Grade: Students recently learned about germs and medicine. We learned about bacteria and viruses and how they can make us sick. We also learned about over the counter versus prescription medicines. Students learned about vaccines and how they can help prevent certain illnesses, and various terminology about medicine, such as dose, pharmacy, side effect, and drug facts label. An emphasis was placed on safety and making sure that parents are supervising any medicine use. A large focus was also placed on ways to help prevent the spread of germs, such as: washing hands, covering a cough/sneeze, staying away from sick people, getting enough sleep, and other methods to help stop and slow the spread of germs.

Third Grade: Students learned how to set an effective goal and they each came up with a personal health goal. The focus of this activity was not just for the students to make the connection that health goals are not just physical goals, but goals can also be emotional, social, spiritual (values) or intellectual (learning). We used the word S.M.A.R.T. to help design an effective goal. Is the goal **S**pecific, **M**asurable, **A**ttainable, **R**ealistic, and **T**imely? By using the SMART goal design, students have a framework to help set effective goals that they are more likely to follow through at any age or point in their lives.

A Spotlight on Design & Technology

Amanda Turton- aturton@chatham-nj.org

Milton's D&T website: <https://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/15211>

Thank you to all of the families for sending in so many donations of recycled materials to the STEM room- we greatly appreciate it!

The new year brings new design challenges for our Milton engineers. Here are some of the challenges we are working on now.

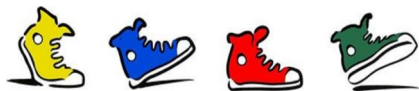


Kindergarten – Students were introduced to Benny the Bear, a polar bear who somehow got lost on a deserted island. He needs help using the resources available to build a habitat that meets his needs.

First Grade – Students read the story of how elephants from the circus were used to test the Brooklyn Bridge when it was first built. They are now researching different types of bridges and determining which materials will be best for the strength and stability of their own model bridges.

Second Grade – Students were introduced to Larry the Leprechaun, who discovered a pot of gold. They are now researching more about boats, buoyancy and properties of materials to help them design and build a boat model to help Larry bring his gold home.

Third Grade – Students have been learning about how helmets are used to protect athletes from injuries while playing sports. They are currently researching sports that do not require helmets to gather information that will help them create a helmet model for sports like soccer, basketball, or gymnastics.



On the Run

Marty Vistacion / Doug Finken

mvisitacion@chatham-nj.org / dfinken@chatham-nj.org

Kindergarten students have been working on gross and fine motor skills with various activities. Students try to focus on personal space and general space during games. Kindergarteners also work on motor skills using scooters, balls, and some tumbling.

First grade students learned basketball skills this month. Students all had opportunities to practice their dribbling, shooting, and passing skills. When dribbling, the emphasis was to have students do their best to maintain their dribble while moving throughout the space in the gym. There was a mixture of skill levels with basketball skills, but it is important for the students to know that skills like dribbling and shooting are skills that the students can practice by themselves on their own time, which is a great thing about basketball. We will continue to work on these skills from time to time throughout the school year.

Second and Third grade students have been working on team concept skills. Students designed their own game in small groups, using fitness and manipulate concepts. As a group, they designed the game rules and directions and focused on working together. With the football season coming to an end, students participated in modified game called "End Zone" as students worked together to throw a pass to a teammate to score a touchdown.

PTO NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The PTO has many exciting events planned for the remainder of the school year. The next big event we have lined up is an assembly on February 12- BOT, The Secret World of Robots! This assembly is the perfect combination of entertainment and education that will get the children excited about STEM!

Our next PTO meeting on February 6 will be an open forum for any parent that has any questions or suggestions. This is an evening meeting and will begin at 7p.m. We look forward to seeing you there and answering any questions you may have.

On March 6 we will be hosting our annual Family Fun Night. Please consider volunteering. Patricia Hogan and Laura Bojanowski have been hard at work planning a night of fun for the children, and they really need extra help from our parents to make the night a success. This evening is always a highlight for the children that attend, and our school's biggest fundraiser.

There are many ways to get involved and help out in our school. If you ever have any questions or concerns or would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact me at spiskadlo@yahoo.com.

Thank you for all the support you provide the PTO throughout the year. It's been very enjoyable getting to know so many new people this year. Thank you for all you do.

Sharon Piskadlo
MAS PTO President



THIRD GRADE FUNDRAISER

Support Milton by ordering yummy Valentines' treats. All orders can be placed online before February 11th and will be delivered to your children at school on February 14th. It is super easy and yummy! Place your order [now](#).



MAD SCIENCE NIGHT AT CMS! FAMILY FUN NIGHT MARCH 6, 2020

Family Fun Night is Friday, March 6! We are in need of [parent volunteers and bake sale donations](#) for the night of the event as well as silent auction items. See flyer posted to the [MAS webpage](#). Tickets are also on sale—buy now and save! A flyer was sent home in backpacks last week.

On Your Mark, Get Set, READ

Milton's reading racers are continuing their great work in 2020! As a team, they have earned 8 more new books for the library, bringing their total gold medals so far this school year to 41!

Each class has been reading their way around the track:

5 laps completed: KW, KF-AM, 1V, 1Z, and 3C

3 laps completed: KF-PM, 2B, 3K

2 laps completed: 1T, 2P, 3R

1 lap completed: 2M

Keep up the great work everyone and don't forget to bring in your reading sheets. New blank forms can be found [here](#).



Milton Avenue School is proud to announce
New Jersey's own Tara Lazar



will be visiting our students on Friday, March 27th!

Tara Lazar will be autographing books for students! If you would like to purchase an autographed book, personalized to your child or children (first name only), complete this order form and return to Mrs. Mills. Cash or checks payable to MAS PTO.

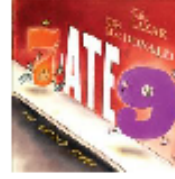
For more information on each title, please visit taralazar.com

Deadline for orders is Monday, March 9th.

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

# of books	Age	Title	Inscription(s)	Price Each	Total
	PK-2	<i>Way Past Bedtime</i>		\$18.00	
	K-2	<i>Little Red Gliding Hood*</i>		\$6.00	
	K-3	<i>7 ate 9: the untold story</i>		\$18.00	
	K-3	<i>Normal Norman</i>		\$15.00	
	2-3	<i>The Monstore*</i>		\$6.00	

* paperback



Prices reflect full retail price. The author book sale is a PTO fundraiser.