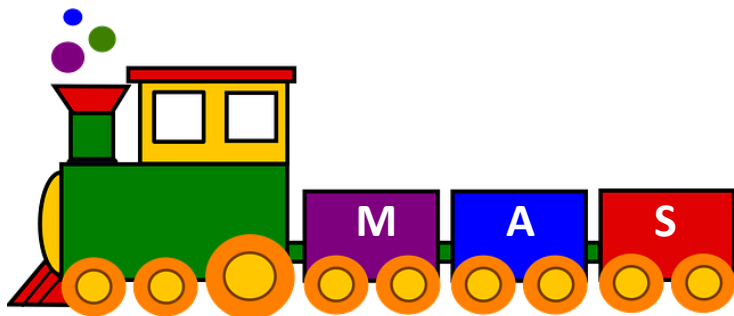


THE MILTON EXPRESS

OCTOBER 31, 2019



Message from the Principal

Autumn is such a special time of year! There is an extra “nip” in the air, the days are getting shorter, and pumpkins and haystacks decorate many houses in the neighborhood. This time of year also provides numerous opportunities for us to recognize how thankful we are for the people and things that surround us in our everyday lives.

During the month of November, morning announcements will be dedicated to “The 17 Days of Gratitude.” Each morning, a statement will be read over the loudspeaker that allows our students and staff to reflect upon someone or something they are thankful for leading up to Thanksgiving Day. For example, one day everyone might be asked to think of someone in their families who they are thankful for and why? Please support these daily thoughts through follow-up conversations at home with your children.

Sometimes, we are so busy in our everyday lives that we fail to take a few moments to think about how lucky we are to be a part of such a wonderful learning community. On Wednesday, October 30, we had Chinese delegates visit our building to learn more about the Design and Technology program that we offer for our students. This group was comprised of educators from China who worked with Kean University to further review best practices in STEM education in New Jersey. To be selected as one of their visiting sites was quite an honor. We had student ambassadors welcome them to our building by saying welcome in Chinese, along with providing a gift bag to each of the visitors (Thank you, MAS PTO)! At the end of the day, I was reminded of how fortunate we are to be a part of a school with such caring staff members, inquisitive students, and supportive families.

Sincerely,

Mr. Nick Andrezza



NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

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

- ◆ Our **UNICEF** collection ends on November 4.
- ◆ Candy for the troops ends on November 4.
- ◆ **Walk-to-School** Day is on Wednesday, November 6.
- ◆ **Veterans Day assembly** is on November 11.
- ◆ **Pizza Parlor** is scheduled for Friday, November 15.
- ◆ **Picture Day retakes** will happen on Thursday, November 21.
- ◆ **Spirit wear** is every Friday!

NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS

School's Closed!

Teachers Convention: There is an early dismissal on Wednesday, November 6, and school is closed on Thursday and Friday, November 7 and 8.

Thanksgiving Break: There is an early dismissal on Wednesday, November 27 and school is closed on Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29.

HOURS OF OPERATION FOR **BOTH HOLIDAYS:**

Full Day K, Grades 1, 2, and 3:

8:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

Half Day Kindergarten:

AM session hours: 8:35 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.

PM session hours: 10:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

Preschool:

Full Day session hours: 9:00 a.m. — 12:00

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

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



LEFTOVER HALLOWEEN CANDY and TRICK OR TREATING FOR UNICEF



Please donate any leftover or unwanted Halloween candy and your UNICEF boxes by NOVEMBER 4. Candy will be given to Operation Jersey Cares. Collection begins November 1st and will run through **November 4th**. Thank you for your support to both!



Veterans Needed!

Milton Avenue School will be celebrating Veterans Day on Monday, November 11, 2019. We are pleased to invite all veterans (who will be introduced by their MAS student at the assembly) to take part in the festivities with us at 9:15 a.m. that morning! If you are a veteran or know a veteran who would like to join us, please ask him or her to mark the date on the calendar and RSVP to **Doug Finken** (dfinken@chatham-nj.org) by **November 4, 2019**.

All MAS students are invited to show their support by wearing patriotic colors that day!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOMS...



PRE-SCHOOL: This month the preschool students had fun exploring the topic of TREES! The students examined the characteristics of trees, collected tree parts, and studied animals that live in trees and food that grows on trees. The preschoolers made art collages using real tree parts and also worked on patterning and sorting using tree materials they collected on their tree walks! They listened to fun tree stories like [A Tree Named Steve](#), [Abiyoyo](#) and [Chicka Chicka Boom Boom!](#) The students also had fun learning about pumpkins and were excited to have their own pumpkin patch right here at Milton Avenue School! Next month the preschool students will switch gears and begin learning about the farm and harvest as we prepare for Thanksgiving! The preschool teachers are also excited to be hosting an open house for **potential students** for the Chatham Inclusion Preschool (CHIP) program. It will be on November 6th from 1:30 to 2:15 (see the flyer at the end of the Milton Express).

KINDERGARTEN: Kindergarten has been busy learning how to be storybook readers this month! We learned about different strategies to help us read and remember our favorite stories. We also got an extra special visit from the Chatham fire department. We learned about fire safety, the fire trucks and even got to take turns squirting the hose! We got to meet our second grade buddy classes and create jack-o-lanterns showing different feelings together. We are looking forward to learning about Thanksgiving, gratitude and traditions in November. Gobble, gobble!

FIRST GRADE: First Graders worked very hard during the month of October. We learned new strategies and good habits for solving hard words when we are reading. Students know to look for word parts in words and to try to read the word two ways (long and short vowel sounds.) Hopefully they are applying these strategies when they are reading at home too! In math, we have learned to use number lines, open number lines and ten frames to help us add. Next month we will be using these strategies to help us with subtraction. We enjoyed meeting with our third grade buddies during the Week of Respect and doing different activities with them. We know that everyday is Respect Day! First Grade had a wonderful time on our first field trip to the Reeves-Reed Arboretum, sponsored by the PTO. We learned a lot of different things about trees and planting seeds. We are looking forward to the month of November and learning about Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving!

SECOND GRADE: October was a busy month for second graders! As readers, second graders have been working on using strategies to solve tricky words as well as posting their thinking when they read. As writers, they have been working hard on stretching out their small moment stories with elaboration and bringing those stories to life. Second grade scientists have been exploring the properties of matter and its different states. As we look ahead to November, second graders will read *Molly's Pilgrim*, a novel that teaches us that there are different kinds of pilgrims besides the Thanksgiving Pilgrims. After completing the novel study, the students will be asked to do a project at home to learn more about their family's past. More information about this project will be sent home in your child's folder around Thanksgiving.



THIRD GRADE: Third graders were busy in the month of October! Writing is well underway and students are working on developing their personal narratives. We are in the midst of publishing! In reading, third graders are busy learning how to use post-its to stop and jot their thinking and then stretching their thinking by writing about it in their reading workshop notebooks. We have finished our first unit and are now into MYSTERIES! As we read we will try to read like a crime solver by paying close attention to the text for clues to try and solve the problem before the book tells us! In math, we have finished our multiplication topics and are now learning about how multiplication and division are related. We are using known multiplication facts to solve division problems. PLEASE continue to practice multiplication facts every night! We love meeting with our first grade buddies! 3C is partners with 1T, 3K with 1Z and 3R is with 1V.



MILTON MEETING

We celebrated our students at the monthly Milton Meeting on October 29. Mr. Andreaza introduced Officer Guzman and he let the children know that the officer will be walking around Milton and to say hello to him. Children also were reminded about trick or treating for UNICEF and candy for the Troops. Lastly, the LEGO Replay program was explained (please check the PTO section at the end of the Milton Express for more details).

We 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: Lea Tritsch, Anna Heard, Lili Sigalov and Declan Flood

Outstanding Artist: Lauren Osika,

Marvelous Musician: Anna Kang, Cate Carpenter, and Matthew DiMarco

MVP Award: Carter Wong, Audrey Liao, and William Johnson

Library Legend: Thomas Tarnok, Sebastian Nyilas, Maddison Fischer, and Eloise Haynes

STEM Superstar: Isabelle Campos, Madison Caparoso, Jack O'Donnell, and Danny Guralchuk

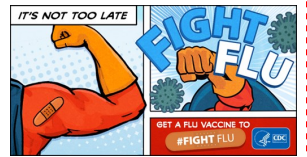


The Stetho-Scoop

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

**Report absences
via [ParentPortal](#)**

Flu season is beginning... The CDC recommends that you and your family members should get a flu vaccine before flu begins spreading in your community. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies that protect against flu to develop in the body, so make plans to get vaccinated early in fall, before flu season begins. The CDC recommends that people get a flu vaccine by the end of October.



***It is required that any child attending Preschool, ages 59 months and younger, obtain a flu vaccine and documentation is provided to Mrs. Zotti by January 2nd 2020.** Students *will* be excluded from school by the Health Department until March 2020 if it is not received by that date.*

Please note, if you think your child has a fever, please check their temperature with a thermometer. If their temperature is 100 degrees or greater, please allow them some restful time at home to recuperate and get well. Your child must remain home for 24 hours after the fever has subsided without fever reducing medication.



ON THE RUN

Marty Visitacion / Doug Finken

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

First grade students went outside to review proper throwing and catching form for a frisbee. Students partnered up and worked on a simple throw and catch, trying to use the cues that we went over in the demonstration. I was so impressed with the students' ability to listen, their ability to adjust their movements and errors in response to feedback, and to actually execute the skill. Additionally, I have been adding sit-ups into our warm-up routine. Many students are able to do sit-ups when a partner holds their feet, while it is a bit more challenging for others. I like to tell the students that many exercises are things we can do and practice at home, and the more they practice, the stronger they will get.

Second and third graders have been working on fitness concepts: cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. We reviewed these concepts while playing various games and activities.



The month of October began with the Week of Respect. The Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act requires that the week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year (October 7—11 in 2019) be designated as the Week of Respect in New Jersey. To recognize the importance of social and emotional learning and character education, the students and staff engaged in activities that highlighted being an “upstander” and why sticking up for others is important. On the final day of our week, the entire staff and students gathered on the front lawn of Milton- we formed a U to symbolize being “UPSTANDERS”.

The **Counseling Classroom lessons** are continuing monthly. The Social Emotional Learning curriculum we use is called *Second Step*. Thus far, our lessons have focused on “skills for learning”, such as good listening, focus attention, self talk and being assertive.

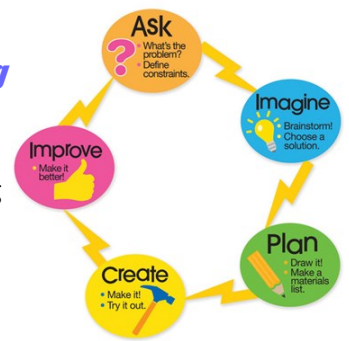
Counseling groups will begin in November. Students have the opportunity to participate in groups that have different themes such as **Friendship Group** (for students who need support with appropriate social skills), **Peacemakers** (for students who need support with emotional regulation) and **FISH** (children coping with separation, divorce). Groups will meet once a week for 5 weeks; there will be a maximum of 6 students in each group. We meet in my office during the school day. If you would like more information about your child participating in one of the groups, please reach out to me via csoder@chatham-nj.org.



Let's Peek Inside... Design & Technology

Amanda Turton, aturton@chatham-nj.org

Great things are happening this month in the D&T classroom! Read below to find out more about each project we are working on. Also, we are taking donations for recycled materials that can be used in some of our design challenges, so please consider donating and send them in with your child(ren) on their D&T days. You can check out more information about our design projects and helpful resources on Milton's Design & Technology website: <https://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/15211>.



Kindergarten- Flying Machine Invention Design Challenge

- ◆ *Rosie Revere Engineer- What does Rosie Revere do as an engineer? How does she solve problems?*

First Grade- Yertle the Turtle Tower Design Challenge

- ◆ How can we create and edit design plans for our tower designs?
- ◆ How can we test and measure our tower to check if they meet the challenge specifications?

Second Grade- Little Piggy House Design Challenge

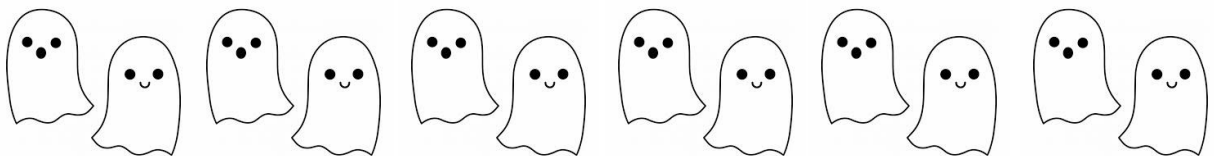
- ◆ How can we make detailed design plans that include step by step explanations of how to build our ideas?
- ◆ What data can we collect during the TEST step to analyze the success of our houses?

Third Grade- Gummy Bear Parachute Design Challenge

- ◆ How can we create a test for our parachutes to assess all of the specifications?
- ◆ What does it mean to analyze and reflect on our designs in the IMPROVE step?

DONATIONS WANTED

- ◆ Cardboard (e.g. tissue & shoe boxes)
- ◆ Egg cartons (**cardboard** only)
- ◆ Paper towel/toilet paper rolls
- ◆ Newspaper



From the Art Room

Kenji Hasegawa

khasegawa@chatham-nj.org



First graders have been learning about the work of Paul Klee. Klee used basic elements of art in his work like line, shape, and color. After viewing some of his paintings, students were inspired to create pictures using a variety of shape tracers.

Second graders learned how to trace overlapping leaves on watercolor paper. We talked about veins and leaves changing color before students used a combination of crayon and watercolor to complete their picture.

Third graders are creating repeating shape patterns known as tessellation. They selected special animal tracers and had the problem solving task of figuring out how they could repeat their shape so that it fits into itself like a puzzle. They are adding color and so far they are stunning..



Library Lore

Jill Mills, jmills@chatham-nj.org

Happy October!

This month we incorporated both Week of Respect and Digital Citizenship Week by spending time talking about being safe and smart online. We had great conversations about screen limits, being in control of what you do and see online, and how to always show your best self when on a computer, device, or game. I hope you continue to have these conversations at home. If you ever want any resources, please contact me.

In third grade, we are exploring the way climate affects our lifestyle. We are so fortunate to live in a temperate zone where we can experience fully all four seasons! I hope you are getting outdoors to enjoy these beautiful autumn days!

In second grade, in addition to our digital citizenship lessons, we've been practicing becoming more independent in the library and discovering new things to read. We will wrap up the month with an introduction to genre passports. These passports encourage all readers to experience something different than what they typically read.

In first grade, we've talked a lot about respecting others but remembering to respect ourselves and doing our best to balance our time among all of our interests and activities. We have focused on how to keep ourselves safe online.

Kindergarten has been learning about all the different kinds of books we have in our library and students are now ready to move throughout the "neighborhoods" to discover new things to read. We continue to talk about good library practices which include book care and returning our books on time.

Finally, in preschool, we've been talking trees - what grows in trees and what happens to trees in the fall. We've had a lot of fun getting creative with leaf designs and apple counting and song and dance.

We are off to the races with our PTO Reading Program (read more about it in the PTO news below)! As students complete their reading sheets, you can always print one [here](#), visit the Library website for a link to the form, or have your student stop by the library. We always keep extra copies here. Vroom, vroom!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

Doug Finken, dfinken@chatham-nj.org

Marty Visitacion, mvisitacion@chatham-nj.org



First Grade—During the month of October students discussed the five senses and we reviewed the ear. We also had a discussion of Halloween safety practices.

Second and Third Grade—We went over Halloween safety practices. Some of the major concepts that we review include: having a flashlight/glow stick to help us be seen, crossing at the crosswalk/corner, staying on the sidewalk, having a costume that isn't too difficult to see where you are going, being able to walk safely without tripping on your costume, don't go inside someone's house for candy, making sure parents inspect the candy to make sure it is sealed and not something that could be hazardous to someone who has a food allergy, and other Halloween safety concepts. The students are very knowledgeable on this topic, as it is something that we revisit each year around this time.



MUSIC NOTES

Veronica Maldonado, vmaldonado@chatham-nj.org

Mark your calendars! The first week of December will be a busy week for our singers with holiday concerts (same week as Parent/Teacher Conferences).

First Grade – December 3 at 9 a.m.

Second Grade – December 4 at 9 a.m.

Third Grade –December 5 at 9 a.m.

First grade began learning about quarter notes and eighth notes by identifying the rhythm of the words, pumpkin and bones. **Second grade** learned about half notes this month with one of their concert songs, "The North Pole is Cool." The children are very excited to sing these festive holiday songs with you soon!

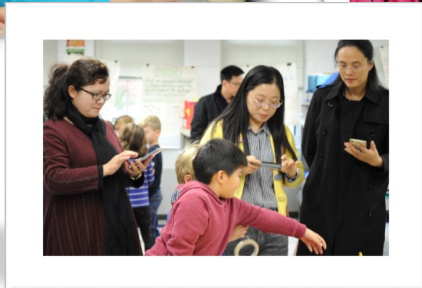
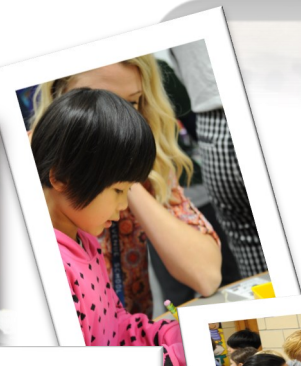
Third grade has been reviewing rhythm durations of quarter notes, eighth notes, half notes, and whole notes. They learned about sixteenth notes with "Pumpkin Bones," which has been a favorite Halloween song this month!

And plans are being made for our Third Grade Chorus to perform again at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Saturday, December 7, 2019. More details will be coming home with Chorus members soon.

Mrs. Maldonado will be out on maternity leave from November through April. We are pleased to welcome Mr. Sal Bonafede to continue our music lessons, third grade ensembles, and concerts during this time. If you have any questions, please reach out to him at sbonafede@chatham-nj.org



We had great fun with the Chinese Delegates



THANK YOU MAS PTO



FOR OUR
PRESCHOOL PUMPKIN
PATCH





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Halloween! October has been very busy, and we have had a great time at Milton!

I would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped run the many events that took place this month. A big thank you to Karen Bruzzo, Virginia McVeigh, and Lisa DiTuro for chairing the Arctic Book Fair. It was a lot of work and the children truly enjoyed all of the things they planned. Our MAS Duathlon was the best attended race we have had in years thanks to Carrie Carpenter and Lee Bastidas. Everyone got a lot of physical activity in that morning! Picture Day was a huge success and ran smoothly thanks to Kathleen James and Lorraine Teish. The children looked adorable and were all smiles. We had our first Walk to School Wednesday. Mary Tam did an amazing job creating games and finding really cool key chains for the children. Each month they will be able to collect a new charm for their keychain! Thank you to Cathy Hodges, Karen English, and Stacey Schroeder for planting mums in front of the school and getting us ready for the fall season.

The students enjoyed a Week of Respect and our first PTO sponsored assembly, The NED Show. The children learned about ways to deal with obstacles that come up in life and how to never give up. Throughout the week they learned valuable lessons about respect and how to treat others. Hopefully everyone is still perfecting their yo-yo skills at home!

We held our first PTO meeting of the year. Thank you to Mr. Visitacion for coming and speaking to us about the new and exciting things going on in Physical Education. Please join us for our next meeting, which is planned for December 12, 2019 at 9:00am in the library. Mr. Andrezza is going to be our guest speaker!

November is lining up to be another busy month. Please consider volunteering for our Mural Project. It's going to be amazing, and the children will have the chance to leave their mark on the Milton walls. We are still in need of a Luminary Coordinator and it would be very helpful if someone could assist the PTO with this committee.

Milton is a very special school. Thank you so much again for being such supportive and wonderful parents to work with this year. Please don't hesitate to ever reach out with any questions or ideas. Have a safe and wonderful Halloween!

Sharon Piskadlo

PTO President



LUMINARIA



A Luminary Coordinator and individual Block Captains are needed! This is an easy, fun job that you can do with your children. Our coordinator works with the block captains to take orders and distribute the kits. Sign up for block captains will be coming in November! If you are able to coordinate this event, please contact Sharon Piskadlo—help this MAS tradition continue!!

THIRD GRADE SPIRIT COMMITTEE:

Come get a head start on your holiday shopping while supporting our Third Graders! **Quartet** will be opening its doors for our Ladies Night on Tuesday, November 5th from 6-9pm. There is sure to be a great selection of items and lots of laughs! Bring a friend or two and spread the word to your neighbors—the more the merrier! See you there.



MORE PTO NEWS!

WALK TO SCHOOL

Please join us in celebrating Walk to School Day on Wednesday, November 6th! Why is walking to school good for you? Walking with friends and family helps to improve sociability and communication skills. Exercise makes students feel calmer and happier. It improves concentration, making it easier to focus in school! Trick or treat your way to school, so please stop by the table on the way to the blacktop to play a game and pick up a treat or treat giveaway!

MILTON MURAL PROJECT

We are still in need of parent volunteers to help out during with our [Milton Mural Project](#), particularly to assist our Pre-K classes on November 13th and to assist with touch ups on November 18, 19, and 20th. No artistic skill is needed. We need YOU to make this happen. Consider signing up for one (or more!!) time slots today!!



On Your Mark, Get Set, READ!



The MAS PTO is excited to once again sponsor the MAS Reading Program for grades K-3. The program is designed to encourage our children to develop and maintain a love of reading while working together as a class toward a common goal. **On Your Mark, Get Set, Read** is this year's theme. Each class will be represented on our bulletin board with a racecar. As classes earn 400 points and dedicate a book to the library, their racecar will move further down the track. In addition, all classes will be part of the MAS Reading Racing Team, earning gold medals toward a school-wide total. We look forward to keeping you posted on our students progress each month!

WE WANT YOUR LEGOS!



Replay

Have piles of unused LEGO bricks taking up valuable space in your house? Well now's your chance to get rid of them and feel good about it. For the month of November, bring your Legos (ALL TYPES ACCEPTED—small bricks, large bricks & Duplo) to school and we will send them to the LEGO Replay program where they will be cleaned and sent to Boys and Girl Clubs around the country. As part of the Planet Promise, LEGO Bricks can be rebuilt and re-played with – having a new creative life. When sending them to school, please have bricks put into reused boxes or bags. We will be keeping track of how many pounds we collect and will announce the grand total at the November Milton Meeting! For more information on this program visit <https://www.lego.com/en-us/campaigns/replay> or email Nicole Mahoney, nmm0412@gmail.com

Chatham Inclusion Preschool

~OPEN HOUSE~

Where: Milton Avenue School

Buzz in at the front door

When: November 6, 1:30-2:15



Please join us for a presentation and a question and answer session.

Our preschool program is comprised of typically developing preschoolers and children with special needs.

In an atmosphere of "We All Belong", children with and without disabilities are provided with learning opportunities to facilitate academic and social success! The program is taught by teachers with Special Education and Prek-3 certifications.

We use-

- The Creative Curriculum
- Foundations
- Differentiated Instruction
- The Chatham School District Calendar

Please RSVP to Miss Gabby by November 4

glarosaleedy@chatham-nj.org