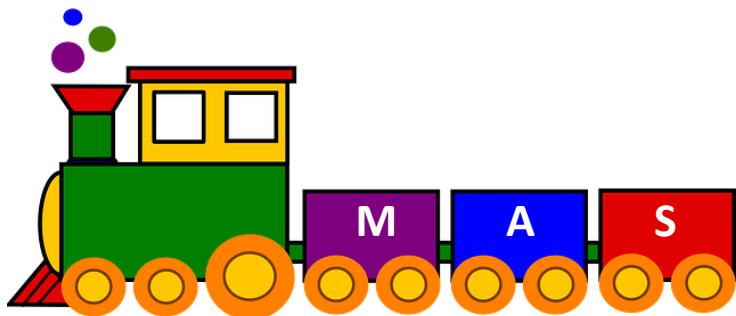


THE MILTON EXPRESS

DECEMBER 20, 2019



Message from the Principal

The month of December at Milton Avenue School certainly brought about some holiday cheer, in addition to all of the meaningful learning that takes place each and every day in the classrooms. The holiday concerts held during the week of December 2 truly showcased the talents of our students (despite Mother Nature). The singing and third grade chimes directed by Mr. Bonafede spread warmth for all those in attendance. The children enjoyed purchasing items for loved ones at the Holiday Shop, and the tree in our lobby was filled with hats and mittens that our staff and families generously donated during this holiday season. In addition, parent/teacher conferences at the beginning of the month provided the perfect opportunity for key members of the learning community to come together to discuss the progress of the children in many different areas.

During this time of year, children at home may be creating or fulfilling wish lists in anticipation of the holidays. In the spirit of the holidays and in preparation for the New Year, you'll notice that the grade level teachers submitted wishes that their classes created for the upcoming new year for this issue of the Milton Express. It's always so beautiful and touching to see the kindness and warmth in the hearts of our children as they express their wishes for their families, their friends, and the world around them.

Many people take time to create New Year's resolutions in anticipation of the New Year. This year, talk to your child about his/her goals as they relate to school, family, and the community around them. Perhaps your child hopes to further develop his/her writing in the year 2020. Your child may even establish the goal of reading an extra ten minutes each night in order to become a better reader and further develop vocabulary. As a family, perhaps you can establish a fulfilling goal such as spending more time together. If you are a regular 9-5 working family, then designate at least one evening each week that the entire family takes part in fun family activities. During the year 2020, perhaps your family can develop a goal that involves more volunteer time or donations made towards charities in need. Your child will further develop an appreciation for giving and kindness towards others in the community. We all can truly make a difference!

As we enter the year 2020, continue to talk to your child about his/her hopes and dreams for both now and in the future. It is always so important to have goals to work towards, and to understand that we all have the potential to not only make a difference in our own lives, but in the lives of the people around us as well. At Milton Avenue School, we are proud to say that we are a part of a faculty that continually strives to make a difference in the lives of those around us. We truly aim to meet the needs of the whole child, while preparing them for the world that awaits them beyond the walls of our school. On behalf of the staff at Milton Avenue School, I would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year, and may all of your resolutions and wishes become a reality!

Happy New Year!
Nick Andrezza



THIS 'N THAT — REMINDERS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

Last Minute or Emergency Dismissal Changes Procedure— In the event of last minute or emergency dismissal changes, email changes to Mrs. Paulan and Mrs. Hollingsworth in the [Main Office](#) before 3:00 p.m. **Do not send an email to the teachers. This information cannot be taken over the phone.**

Report Cards—Report cards were posted to the Parent Portal on December 13.

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.

CHIP Registration—The School District of the Chathams is currently accepting letters from Chatham resident families interested in having their 3 - and 4-year-olds attend the [Chatham Inclusion Preschool \(CHIP\) Program](#). For more details, [click here](#).

Our wish for the new year — that we have only one more snow day this year so we have an extra long Memorial Day break!

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Mark your calendars for these January events!

- ◆ **Walk-to-School** is on Wednesday, January 8.
- ◆ **Pizza Parlor Day** is scheduled for **Friday**, January 10.
- ◆ **MLK Holiday**—School will be closed on Monday, January 20.



MILTON MEETING

We celebrated our students at the monthly Milton Meeting on December 18. Mr. Andreazza talked with students about setting goals for the new year; making sure that you have a plan, be willing to put in the work, and keep practicing, even when you might fail. 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! And Mrs. Mills

Principal's Student of the Month Award: Elle Norcia, Natalia Douvras, Sierra Cantillon, and Bridget Kang

Outstanding Artist: Marlowe Cashin, Rowan Cashin, and Matthew Pagan

Marvelous Musician: Adele Rauscher, Drew Schroeder, and Cameron Ferrie

MVP Award: Elena Guralchuk, Olivia Buchberger, and Grayson Look

Library Legend: Emily Hansen, Ethan Sherman, Elihou Compaore, and Hailey Bastidas

STEM Superstar: Adah Kempton, Ella Henningson, Kieran Lange, and Hudson Hindelong

Our Wishes and Dreams for the New Year

KINDERGARTEN DREAMS

Mrs. Fanning's AM Class: We wish everyone can be with their families for the holidays.

Mrs. Fanning's PM Class: We hope Santa brings presents to everyone in the world.

Mrs. Wertheim's Class: We wish for everyone to have a happy family and for kids to outgrow their food allergies.

FIRST GRADE WISHES

Mrs. Trauger's Class: We wish for everyone to have a home.

Ms. Vega's Class: Our class wishes that everyone around the world works to make Earth healthier by not throwing trash on the beaches and keeping the water clean and to stop eating animals for food.

Ms. Zimmer's Class: We hope that everyone takes care of our planet. We also want to help other children by donating clothes and toys that we don't use anymore. We also want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday! .

SECOND GRADE Hopes

Mrs. Berger's Class: We wish for kindness in school and around the world and that all people will have food to eat over the holidays.

Ms. Martin's Class: Our class wishes for all to be kind, joyful, and helpful to one another.

Mrs. Pinto's Class: Mrs. Pinto's class wishes for everyone to be able to be with friends and family during the holidays and to have a great 2020!

THIRD GRADE Desires

Mrs. Cook's Class: Mrs. Cook's class wishes for World Peace.

Mrs. Kurlak's Class: We wish our Milton family a warm and happy holiday season with lots of kindness, good cheer and luck.

Mrs. Rockoff's Class: Our class wishes that people who are homeless have food and shelter this holiday season.



Counselor Corner Carole Soder csoder@chatham-nj.org

Classroom counseling lessons for the month of December were done in the spirit of the holidays and the theme of "Giving". Each student created a popsicle stick craft for their family. The designs included snowflakes, trees, gingerbread cookies, and snowmen. We hope you enjoy receiving this special keepsake.

Small groups counseling sessions have begun and will continue through late winter, early spring. Themes for our groups are: separation and divorce, friendship skills and emotional regulation. Please contact me for more information, csoder@chatham-nj.org if you wish to have your child included.



The Stetho-Scoop

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

**Report absences via
ParentPortal:
DO NOT email teacher!**

Healthy Habits for Winter...As we all gather with friends and loved ones during the Holiday season, remember to **always wash your hands after sneezing and coughing or using a tissue and stay at home if you feel sick.** We have so much to be thankful for this time of year and the health of our family and friends is so important. Kindly ask friends and family members to avoid giving colds and viruses as 'gifts' and avoid giving hugs and kisses if someone appears sick.

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

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy Holiday Season and a Happy, Healthy New Year!



A Spotlight on Design & Technology

Amanda Turton- aturton@chatham-nj.org

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

Looking for fun ways to spend your winter break? Check out these winter and holiday themed STEM challenges and computer games. Hope you and your families enjoy a wonderful holiday season!

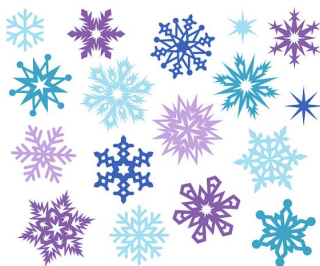


Computer Games

[ABCYA—Factory Balls Christmas](#)

[ABCYA - Build a Gingerbread House](#)

[ABCYA-Holiday Snowman](#)



STEM Challenges

Build a Chimney for Santa – Use items from the recycling bin to design and make a chimney.

Candy Engineering – See what you can create with gumdrops and toothpicks.

Parachute for Santa – Design and build a parachute for Santa to land safely on every home.

Plastic Cup Tree – Make the tallest Christmas tree using 100 cups.

Jingle Bell Maze – Design a cardboard maze for a jingle bell.

Snowball Catapult – Design and build a catapult to fling snowballs made of cotton balls or shaved ice.

Wrapping Paper Bridge – Build a bridge using discarded wrapping paper and tape.

Snow Fort – Use cardboard and other recycled materials to build an indoor fort.

Experiment: How long does it take ice to melt?

Design symmetrical snowflakes or 3D snowmen using recycled materials.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

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



Kindergarten and First Grade: Students discussed and reviewed fitness and the heart! They identified different sports and exercises that help them grow stronger and why it is important to keep their heart strong.

Second Grade: The second grade students recently learned how to read a food label. Concepts like calories, serving size and ingredients were introduced, and the students gained a better understanding of the kind of information that is found on a food label.

Third Grade: The third grade students are finishing up lessons on nutrition. We reviewed information food labels and took a more detailed look at how calories work. In the new year, the students will learn about how to set an effective goal for themselves.



Salvatore Bonafede, sbonafede@chatham-nj.org

Congratulations to all of the MAS students for preparing and performing wonderful concerts this month! The children's smiles, excitement, and singing left everyone in the holiday spirit. All of their hard work and enthusiasm was evident as they sang, danced, and played. Happy Holidays!

Quaver Music: If you have any questions about signing up for your child's free account, please follow these [Quaver Directions](#) or email Mr. Bonafede! If your child already signed up for a free account on the QuaverMusic.com website, there is a new special code for 100 QuaverNotes this winter! When logging in, enter **HappyHolidays19** in the My QuaverCode box. Students will have until December 31, 2019 to enter the code, but the QuaverNotes don't expire. You can also read about these codes on the [Quaver blog](#).

Library Lore Jill Mills

jmills@chatham-nj.org



Earlier this month, all K-3 classes participated in Hour of Code. The students and I had a lot of fun! If your child would still like to practice coding for skill and fun, visit code.org/us/ learn. There are lots of games with varying level of skill-building! We wrapped up the month sharing winter and holiday stories across all grades, just enjoying the chance for read-alouds and reflections on favorite stories.

We have dedicated many new books to our collection through the reading program, so over the break, please be sure your children are reading AND recording what they read. Please visit the library website for a new [copy of the reading sheet](#) to complete.

We wish all of our Milton families a healthy and happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year!



From the Art Room

Kenji Hasegawa khasegawa@chatham-nj.org



All K-3 classes recently did a fun project of a polar bear wearing an ugly holiday sweater. Students were given a simple xeroxed copy of a polar bear wearing a sweater and hat. The goal was to cover the entire paper with pattern. Students focused on elements of art like shape, line, and color to fill their artwork with pattern. Students even created fur patterns with carefully repeated lines all over the head of the polar bear. Artworks are now hanging on and around the art room door as part of the holiday door decorations.



On the Run

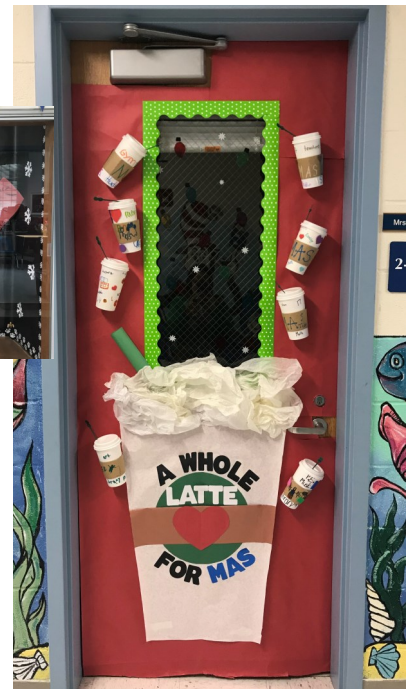
Marty Vistacion / Doug Finken

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

Kindergarten: The kindergarten students worked on personal space and locomotor skills while playing a snowball game! The students have been practicing listening skills and following directions while using the game, "Red Light, Green Light". We continuously discuss sportsmanship and being healthy with exercise.

First Grade: We started using the scooter in class. The scooters will be used from time to time through different activities and games, and they allow the students to work on spatial awareness and safely moving through a shared, or general space.

Second and Third Grade: This month, second and third grade students participated in the Reindeer Run, a fifteen minute partner jog. Focusing on cardiovascular endurance, we discussed the importance of activities that help keep the heart strong. The last week of December, we focused on muscular strength by using our climbing wall, swing and climbing ropes! Students participated in holiday games that focused on cooperation and teamwork".



PTO NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to wish all of our Milton families a happy and healthy holiday season. Thank you for your constant support and generosity. Enjoy the break and see you in 2020!

Happy
Holidays!

Winter After School Enrichment

Just a reminder that the Winter ASE begins on Monday, January 6. Please see the [ASE Calendar](#) on the Milton home page.

Save the Date!!

Milton's Annual Family Fun Night is set for Friday, March 6, 2020 at Chatham Middle School. Look for more information and ways to get involved in this amazing event after the holiday break.

On Your Mark, Get Set, READ



Milton's awesome readers have been racing to the finish line these past few months! As a team, they have earned 23 gold medals and dedicated as many exciting, new books to the library.

Each class has completed at least one lap and many are well on their way to their third and even fourth!

1 lap completed: KF-PM, 1T, 2P, 2M, 3K

2 laps completed: 1V, 2B, 3R

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

Keep up the great reading everyone and don't forget to turn in your completed reading sheets. The long winter break will be a great opportunity to catch up on some reading!

Walk to School Day



Winter has arrived, but that doesn't mean an end to children walking to school. With the right preparation, walking to school in the winter can be fun and enjoyable! Start the new year by participating in our special Winter-themed Walk to School day on Wednesday, January 8th! Come by the table by the blacktop to collect a snowflake charm and learn some tips on how to continue walking to school all winter long!