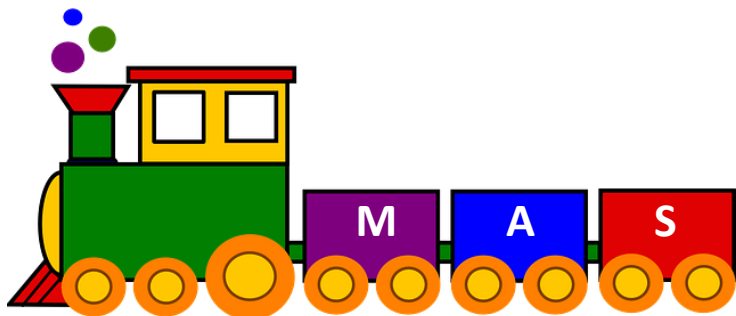


THE MILTON EXPRESS

March 29, 2019



Message from the Principal

Regardless of the month, each day we continue to stress the importance of instructional content areas such as reading and writing in preparing our children for a successful future. Another way we can prepare our children for a successful future is to allow them to recognize the importance of our planet, and how to take care of it. During the month of April, Earth Day signifies the perfect time to do this!

There are a number of engaging activities and important lessons you can consider when raising environmental awareness in your household with your children. Here are a few suggestions for your family to consider...

- **Save Energy:** Explain to your children that televisions, computers, and lights use energy. Teach them to turn off appliances and lights when you leave the room.
- **Conserve Water:** According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a family of four uses 400 gallons of water every day on average. To conserve water in your household, be sure your children know to turn off the water while they are brushing their teeth. Perhaps they can even take shorter showers.
- **Recycle:** Explain to your child that waste that is thrown away simply sits in a local dump or landfill if we don't recycle. Be sure they are involved in the process of recycling paper, plastic, bottles, cardboard, and aluminum cans. Perhaps you can even find new and creative ways to use these materials in your home after cleaning them.

Small Things You Can Do...

- Walk or ride a bike instead of traveling by car when possible.
- Donate old clothes, toys, shoes, or other reusable items instead of throwing them away.
- Take nature walks to recognize the beauty and inspiration that surround us!

Although Earth Day is marked on our calendars only once a year, it is important to teach children and adults ways we can make every day Earth Day.

Sincerely,
Nick Andrezza

CLASS PLACEMENT

The Milton faculty is beginning the process of compiling class lists for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Our goal is to create well-balanced classes and to provide the most appropriate learning environment for each child. When determining placement, we also consider boy/girl ratio, academic ability, peer relationships, learning style, students who require support services, and social and behavioral characteristics.

As parents, you may have additional information for us to consider. You are welcome to send me an email about your child to assist with class placement. Please include information such as your child's learning style, any social challenges, and /or any emotional needs your child requires. Kindly do not request friends or a specific teacher. The key ingredient in this process is trust. I ask that you trust the staff to use the available information and our professional assessment to make the best possible placement decision for your child. **All emails should be sent to me at nandrezza@chatham-nj.org no later than April 12, 2019.**

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

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

- ◆ **Walk-to-School** is on Wednesday, April 3.
- ◆ **Pizza Parlor Day** is scheduled for Friday, April 12.
- ◆ **Third Grade Spring Concert** on Wednesday, April 24 at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ **PTO Meeting** on , April 25 at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Michael LaSusa, Superintendent of the School District of the Chathams, will be guest speaker.
- ◆ **First Grade Night at the Library** is on Friday, April 26. Details to follow after spring break.



SCHOOL HOURS FOR SPRING BREAK

Monday, April 15 through Friday, April 19:

School Closed for Spring Break

Monday, April 22—Delayed Opening (Teacher Professional Development)

Grades 1, 2, and 3 hours: 10:35 to 3:05 AM Preschool and Kindergarten ONLY

AM kindergarten hours: 10:35 to 1:25

Preschool hours: **Full Day:** 11:00 to 2:30 and **AM only:** 10:40 to 1:00

Please note: 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).

The Main Office will be closed during Spring Break.

THIS 'N THAT — REMINDERS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

MOVING? Please contact Sally Moreno, Central Registrar (smoreno@chatham-nj.org). Student records will need to be sent to new schools and the sooner we know, the sooner your new schools will know!

Registration for First Grade and Kindergarten is still ongoing. Please visit the PARENT RESOURCES section of the district website to register.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOMS...



PRE-SCHOOL: Buildings far, buildings near....Preschool is building our way through the year! In March, we completed our "Buildings Study" by learning about what happens inside buildings. We learned so much about the buildings in our neighborhood, and had fun exploring beautiful buildings from around the world! After we completed our building study, we began the "Pet Study." Some of the preschool classes have a class pet to care for, observe, and love! We began the study by investigating to find out which kinds of animals are pets. Thanks to the PTO, Eyes Of The Wild came to Milton with a pot belly pig, dove, iguana, rabbit, and tortoise for the preschool students to pet and learn about. It was a huge thrill for everyone and really enriched our study! We ended the month of March by investigating where pets live. We spent the month playing in our Pet Store, using craft supplies to create pets, building pet habitats at our discovery center, going fishing in our water table, and building pet homes in the block center. As April approaches we will continue our "Pet Study" by investigating what pets eat and how we care for pets. After Spring break Preschool looks forward to beginning our "Recycling Study." **Mrs. Laura's** preschool students talked about buildings they frequent in the community. We focused on pre-reading skills by looking at the logos of some of our favorite places. We also talked about community helpers and transportation. After we completed the *Building Study*, we moved on to talking about animals. We learned about zoo animals the first week and had a visit from Eyes of the Wild. We were able to see and touch a bunny! Thank you to the PTO for this wonderful assembly. We then learned about farm animals and things associated with farm animals. In upcoming weeks, we will be talking about pets and how we care for pets.

KINDERGARTEN: Kindergarten is excited to be MARCHing into spring! In reading, kindergarten focused on checking our reading to ensure accuracy. We ask ourselves 3 important questions, "Does it look right? Does it sound right? Does it make sense?" In math, we practiced composing and decomposing numbers all the way up to 19 and learned about numbers on a hundred chart! We learned *How to Calm Down* by stopping, naming our feeling, and belly breathing. Kindergarten is looking forward to enjoying spring weather in April!

FIRST GRADE: March has flown by very quickly in first grade. We have been very busy in math. We have learned how to compare two digit numbers by using the greater than and less than symbols. We are beginning to "regroup" by asking ourselves if we can make a ten. We were excited to learn this is what second grade math will be like! The students have also used mental math to add two digit numbers in their heads. It's always fun to give your child a problem that they can try to solve in their head! We have come to the end of our reading and writing nonfiction units. First graders are now focusing on writing realistic fiction. by creating characters and giving them adventures, problems and solutions. We are being the "boss" of our reading by self-correcting and problem solving difficult words. We know that it is important to understand what we read! We enjoyed Author's Day and meeting Jeff Mack. We hope that March goes out like a lamb and that April starts to bring us warm spring weather!

SECOND GRADE: March was a busy month for second graders. In science, they completed the Earth Systems unit and will move into the final unit, Interdependent Relationships in the Ecosystems. They will learn about different habitats, adaptation, as well as the life cycles. Second grade mathematicians are continuing with 3-digit addition and subtraction strategies and will then move into measurement. Second grade poets are immersed in writing poetry about big feelings and are successfully using literary language to convey their thoughts. We will be sending home a sampling of your child's poetry in April.

THIRD GRADE: In the month of March our third graders explored the unit of character study for reading. They followed a character's journey in chapter books with reading partnerships and reading independently. Students noticed and identified how a character experiences a series of events, the climax of the story, and how the character personally resolves the big trouble. In writer's workshop, students just wrapped up opinion writing and will start planning, and drafting their own adaptation of a fairy tale of their choice. In math, students spent the month identifying and comparing fractions. Earlier this month, third graders enjoyed the Read Across America fun-themed week, and spent time with their first grade buddies. We are looking forward to April and Spring!



The Stetho-Scoop

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

**Report absences
via ParentPortal:**

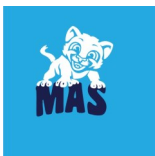
**DO NOT email
teacher!**

Allergy season is soon approaching. Please notify Mrs. Zotti in the Health Office if your child requires any Allergy medications while attending school. Medication cannot be given without a signature from the child's parent and physician. Please give any prescribed allergy medication to your child prior to coming to school and remind them to WASH THEIR HANDS after recess to prevent the spread of pollen and other allergens.

Please continue to notify the school nurse if your child has been diagnosed with Strep throat, influenza, or any other communicable disease. This helps us to identify trends in an illness and keep everyone in the MAS school community informed.

Please report any diagnosis of a concussion to the school nurse. Concussions occur more often in the Spring and Summer months. Indications of a concussion after a head injury include headache, blurry vision, dizziness, lethargy, nausea, and/or vomiting. Signs and symptoms of a concussion may not occur until hours after the injury. Check with your child's Pediatrician after any sports-related head injury to ensure proper recovery time.

Please enter absences in the Parent Portal or call the absentee line before 8:30am and 12:00pm for the afternoon sessions, if your child will not be coming to school or will be late. DO NOT email your child's teacher as they do not enter verified absences.



MILTON MEETING

We celebrated our students at the monthly Milton Meeting on April 1. Mr. Andreazza reminded students that, now that the weather is getting nicer, he expects them to make good decisions when they play with friends; use appropriate words and treat your friends with kindness. Show caring and ask students to join in and play.

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: Tyler Espino, Austin Kerins, Cameron Ferrie, and Chloe Hunter

Outstanding Artist: Leon Wang, John Foucher, and Hope Hoteling

Marvelous Musician: Colin English, Maddie Rowell, and Natalia Sokolowski

MVP Award: Charlie Yesline, Liadain Hillman, and Gia DiDonato

Library Legend: William David, Isaac Kahn-Gutterez, Justin Klatt, and Maahir Kumar

STEM Superstar: Benjamin Stroud, Austin Kerins, Phoebe Zaleck, and Cali Sprague

Counseling News

In the month of March the students at Milton had opportunity to practice Mindfulness during my classroom visits. We used guided activities from a website called Mind Yeti (www.mindyeti.com). Mind Yeti pairs with our Second Step curriculum that we use to teach social emotional learning.



Success in the classroom only happens when children are in the right frame of mind to learn. When they're distracted and can't focus—what we call “having a case of the Hubbub”—Mind Yeti helps kids calm down, focus better, and feel more connected to themselves and others. It also provides a great foundation for boosting Second Step skills. We participated in guided practice of “mindful listening”. It was fun as well as a challenge to test our listening skills.



On the Run

Marty Vistacion / Doug Finken

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

First graders have revisited some games and activities that we have learned from earlier in the year. When many of these games are introduced, they are just learning the rules of the games as well as the skills needed to succeed during game play. Now that we have revisited the games, the students are able to strategize and play some of these games on a higher level.

Second and third grade completed lots of exciting challenges. Each grade had fun practicing their “Leprechaun Leaps”, which was a 15 minute partner jog. Students also completed the Fitness challenges , which included the Pacer Run, push-ups, the climbing wall, and the curl up test.



Library Lore Jill Mills

jmills@chatham-nj.org

March was a busy month in the library. Jeff Mack's visit was a huge success! He stirred the imagination and creativity of our students! We are looking forward to his newest publication, *Mr. Monkey Takes a Hike*, which will be released next week. Ask your student to share their favorite part of Jeff Mack's presentation. Thank you to the PTO for their generosity in supporting an author/illustrator visit every year, and a special thanks to Christine Walter and Suzanne David for coordinating the lunch, made complete with salads and desserts donated by the library parent volunteers! Please be sure to check the library website for photos of the event!



ATTENTION FIRST GRADE STUDENTS!

Please put Friday, April 26th on your calendars! That night, the Library of the Chathams will host Milton Avenue School's First graders for an evening of fun and activities. An hour after the library closes to the public, they will reopen again just for us! Details will follow.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

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



First Grade: First grade classes have discussed nutrition and the "My Plate" concept, which stresses the importance of having a plate full of different food groups and the value of their nutrients. Students have started discussing the importance of physical fitness!

Second Grade: The second grade students just learned about disabilities and disability etiquette. The students learned about different types of physical disabilities and how to respectfully communicate with those who have a physical disability. They also learned about different accommodations that can be helpful. We also watched several clips of Paralympic sporting events, which the students seemed to enjoy.

Third Grade: The most recent topic we covered in class was sportsmanship. Sportsmanship involves the social, emotional and even the spiritual dimensions of health. This is a topic that we cover in first, second and third grade, but in third grade, I try to encourage the students to be a bit more personally reflective of their own sportsmanship practices in their lives. I often tell the students that knowing how to be a good sport and actually being a good sport are two different things.



FROM THE ART ROOM

Kenji Hasegawa khasegawa@chatham-nj.org

First grade classes learned about perspective recently. To help students visualize size and distance in relation, we painted a field of Poppy flowers. Flowers up close in the foreground were painted larger with more detail and as we moved higher in the picture into the background flowers were made smaller and smaller with less detail. All the flowers were hung outside the Art room to celebrate the beginning of Spring!

Second Graders this month are working on Mola artwork. Mola is fabric art created by indigenous people of Panama known as Kuna people. Students studied examples of the work and even had the chance to look at a real one. Students were inspired to create Animal Molas out of paper, while decorating with marker, crayon and paint. The works are colorful and eye catching!

Third graders have been working on patterned Abstract animal collages inspired by the work of Clare Youngs. Clare Youngs is known for creating a variety of drawn and painted patterns on paper and then cutting and collaging to create the whimsical silhouette of an animal. After studying her work students were inspired to create their own patterns. Stunning work!

A Spotlight on Design & Technology

Amanda Turton aturton@chatham-nj.org

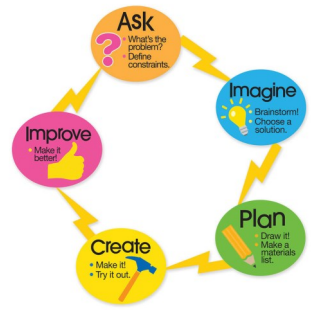
Milton's D&T website: <https://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/15211>

Kindergarten—Practicing Our Typing Skills Students have been spending time getting more familiar with the keyboard and practicing their typing skills with ABCYa games such as “Cup Stacking” and “Typing Rocket Jr.”.

First Grade—Animal Adaptations Students have been learning about different adaptations animals have to help them survive in their environments. They then conducted their own research on animal adaptations with provided video and game links for student-friendly sites.

Second Grade —Leprechaun Boat Challenge Students tested and reflected on their boat designs. They will now be moving into a design challenge that builds off of their study of weathering and erosion in their science curriculum.

Third Grade—Human Impact Research Project Students were introduced to different ways humans can impact the earth. They are now conducting their own research about these impacts and will be planning out a technology presentation based on their findings.



[Typing Rocket ABCYa-Kindergarten](#)

[EduTyping- 1st-3rd grades](#)



Veronica Maldonado, vmaldonado@chatham-nj.org

Third Grade has been practicing very hard to put together great performances for their Spring Concert on April 24, 2019. We ask that children wear an outfit that reflects this special event - the more festive and fancy, the better! There are no specific color requirements. (Also try to avoid multiple layers as it can get very warm in the multipurpose room.)

Third Grade Spring Concert - Wednesday, April 24 at 9:00 a.m.

A professional DVD recording of our concert is available again! Please remember to return your completed form with payment no later than Friday, April 26. Late orders cannot be accepted. [DVD Order information and form.](#)

First and Second Grades have been exploring more musical concepts with Quaver Music! First grade has continued working on rhythm and pitch and are learning about the quarter rest, a silent beat in music. Second grade has explored reading and singing a new solfège note on the music staff, Do!

Quaver Music: If you have any questions about signing up for your child's *free* account, please follow these [Quaver Directions](#) or email Mrs. Maldonado!

PTO NEWS


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Finally **SPRING** has arrived and with it, some much nicer weather.

Spring After School Enrichment classes begin Monday April 1st. Milton will be celebrating Earth Day on Friday April 12th. Weatherman John Marshall will be visiting us to present an educational and highly dynamic Weather Assembly for our students. We will have our Third Grade spring concert on Wednesday April 24th at 9am.

Parents, we hope you'll join us for our PTO meeting on Thursday April 25th at 9am in our Library. Dr. Michael LaSusa, Superintendent of the School District of the Chathams, will be presenting.

We have a lot to look forward to in April, but please allow me to thank a few people who helped with the wonderful events in March....

 Family Fun Night was an incredible success! Thank you to Patricia Hogan for all your hard work in putting this together. You are a Rockstar!

Thank you to Adrienne Doroski for spearheading the baked items! It was such a wonderful evening of laughter and smiles! Thanks to everyone who volunteered that evening, to all who baked, and to those who donated to the auction. It definitely takes an army and Family Fun Night was a success because of all of you!!

Author's Day was another huge success. Christine Walter and Suzanne David, thank you for helping Mrs. Mills bring author Jeff Mack to Milton!

Thank you to Meredith Eckert who also spearheaded our spring community service efforts, along with Lenore Paulan and Melanie Hollingsworth! Thank you to everyone who donated a box of crackers! They will be distributed to families in need by the Junior League of Summit over spring break.

Thank you to Heather Rocco, our K-12 ELA Supervisor, who spoke at our March PTO meeting. It was a very informative presentation for us all.

And please check Milton's Facebook page for some wonderful pictures of the Petting Zoo and Story Pirates Assembly that visited us in March.

I am sure the students are very much looking forward to Spring Break. Please enjoy the week off!

Yvonne Greenwood
PTO President

VOLUNTEER FOR THE PTO!

If you're interested in getting involved at Milton, please consider volunteering for the PTO! It's not only a great outlet for your creativity, but volunteering helps foster relationships within the school and lets you interact with your children. Nothing puts an extra big smile on your child's face like knowing you're the one who helped make their event so special! There are many skills needed so please take a look at the different volunteer opportunities we offer. If you are unsure about what you would like to help with, please feel free to send me an email. I am happy to chat or answer questions about our committees. Please reach out to Sharon Piskadlo spiskadlo@yahoo.com for more information. <http://signup.com/go/EbqiKWm>



OTHER NEWS



Chatham Education Foundation:
Casino Royale
Buy your tickets [here!](#)

SUMMER CAMP LINKS

- [Chatham Summer Arts Camp](#)
- [Mr. A Day Camp](#)
- [String Fever Summer Program](#)
- [Colony Pool Camp](#)
- [Rutgers Reading Skills Summer Program](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

- [Paper Shredding at Green Village Fire House](#)
- [Flea Market at Green Village Fire House](#)
- [Work Family Connection Registration for 2019-2020 School Year](#)

ATTENTION 3RD GRADE PARENTS

Lafayette 2019-2020 PTO Committee Chair positions and descriptions are currently available on [signup.com](#) at [Lafayette PTO Committee Boards 2019-2020](#). If you are interested in chairing a committee, please review the descriptions and sign up directly. If you have any questions, feel free to email Sally Allen at sallymallen@yahoo.com or Lauren Golio at lsmediamom@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.