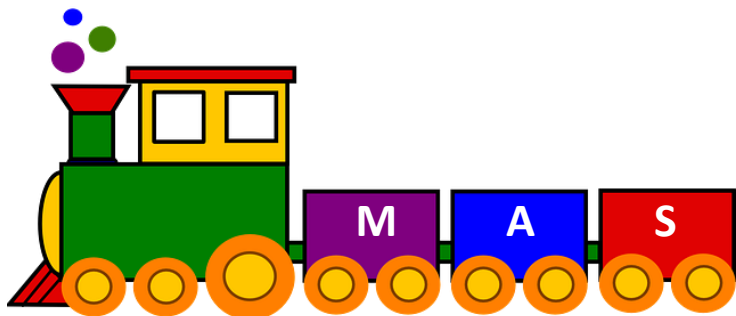


# THE MILTON EXPRESS

April 30, 2019



## Message from the Principal

As we approach the final two months of the 2018—2019 school year, I continue to be amazed by the strong partnership that the school, families, and community continue to demonstrate while aiming to meet the needs of our students.

The first full week of May marks Staff Appreciation Week. You will never find a staff that is more dedicated and passionate than the staff we are fortunate enough to have at Milton Avenue School. Although the calendar marks the week of May 6—10 as Staff Appreciation Week, I want to express how much we appreciate our staff and what they do for our students and families all year round!

During the month of May, I would like to take a moment to wish all of our moms a very happy Mother's Day! As parents, you are your child's first teachers. As always, we thank you for being our partners in supporting the growth and development of the students who enter through our doorways on a daily basis!

Finally, our third grade students will be taking NJSLA assessments on May 2-8. The first two days are dedicated to English Language Arts, while the final three days are dedicated to Math. Additional information about testing and parent resources can be found on the following page.

Sincerely,  
Nick Andrezza

### MAY HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ **NJSLA Testing** runs from **May 2 to May 8**.
- ◆ **Stringfest** will be at Chatham High School on Friday, May 3 at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Walk to School Day** is on Wednesday, May 8.
- ◆ **Spring Picture Day** is on Wednesday, May 8 immediately after school. See this week's PTO Update.
- ◆ **Pizza Parlor Day** is scheduled for Friday, May 10.
- ◆ **PTO Meeting** is Thursday, May 16 at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Third Grade Parent Orientation at Lafayette** is Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Field Day** is Friday, May 17.
- ◆ **Incoming Kindergarten Parent Information Meeting and Student Visit** is Tuesday, May 21 at 9:00 a.m. (Half Day students) and 1:30 p.m. (Full Day students).
- ◆ **Memorial Day Holiday** is Friday, May 24 and Monday, May 27. See the next page for delayed opening schedule and lunch options for May 28.
- ◆ **PTO Transition Brunch** is schedule for Thursday, May 30 at 9:00 a.m.

## NJSLA TESTING INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

During the month of May, students in grade 3 will be taking the NJSLA assessment. This assessment is aligned to the Common Core standards which have been adopted by the state of New Jersey in the content areas of English Language Art and Mathematics. These standards drive our instruction regardless of the standardized testing used by the state.

The testing dates for third grade are as follows:

English Language Arts (ELA):	Thursday, May 2 (Unit 1) Friday, May 3 (Unit 2)
Mathematics:	Monday, May 6 (Unit 1) Tuesday, May 7 (Unit 2) Wednesday, May 8 (Unit 3)



**School and the Main Office will be closed Friday, May 24 and Monday, May 27.**

**There will be a delayed opening on Tuesday, May 28.**

**Grades 1, 2, and 3 hours: 10:35 to 3:05**

**PM kindergarten hours: 12:15 to 3:05**

**Preschool hours: Full Day: 11:00 to 2:30 and PM only: 12:30 to 2:50**

**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).**

## 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.

**Registration** for First Grade and Kindergarten is still ongoing. Please visit the PARENT RESOURCES section of the district website to register. The sooner we know, the better for each school.



## SPECIAL CHARTWELLS "THEME" LUNCHES FOR MAY

On Wednesday, May 1, Milton will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo with a fun lunch of chicken burritos, black beans, rice and salsa.

Start the Memorial Day weekend with a Chartwell's BBQ! On Wednesday, May 22, we'll have hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers to celebrate the start of summer (we hope)! And if all goes well, we'll have a picnic lunch.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOMS...

**PRE-SCHOOL:** The **PREP and CHIP** classes had an amazing time completing our Pet Study. We are starting our Reduce, Reuse, Recycle study. We will discuss ways we can help the Earth by reducing waste, like using refillable water bottles. We will use old junk to make new things including robots, marbles runs, and instruments. Lessons will cover the importance of recycling and sorting. We will learn where our waste goes and how it affects our community. Earth day was very exciting; we planted flowers outside the school! We will start our Garden Study in a couple of weeks where we will learn all about insects, plants, and flowers. **Mrs. Laura's class** started the month with the Pet (animal) study. We learned about animals that would make good pets. We also had an exciting visit from Creature Comforts. Maggie and Angus visited with the children. They were able to pet and walk the dogs! We are finishing the month by talking about colors and shapes. Next month, we will begin the Growing and Changing study.



**KINDERGARTEN:** April showers bring May flowers! We really enjoyed our trip to the MAYO Performing Arts Center to see *The Boy Who Would Be Captain Hook*. Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring the trip! In Reading Workshop, we are building our reading stamina to become Avid Readers and in writing, we are beginning our How To unit. Kindergarten scientists are learning about the differences between living and nonliving things and how to take care of the earth. We even got to decorate grocery shopping bags as part of an Earth Day project! We are looking to participating in Field Day in May!

**FIRST GRADE:** April has been a busy month in first grade! We have completed our math unit on measuring. The first graders have been measuring objects around the classrooms with nonstandard units of measurement like counting cubes and paperclips. We are looking forward to reviewing time to the hour and learning to tell time to the half hour. In reading, we are practicing how to think carefully about what we read to better understand our texts. An example of this would be keeping track of which characters are talking in a book. We also learned to do "Stop and Jots" with our reading, by using post-its and making symbols on them to recall different parts our of reading. Hopefully the "Stop and Jots" will continue during reading time at home. In writing workshop, first graders have been adding details to their realistic fiction series books. We are working on introducing characters in series and getting our readers to know all about them. We are looking forward to May, with our next field trip, field day ,and beginning our Flat Stanley projects, and learning about all the places he will be traveling!

**SECOND GRADE:** During the month of April, second grade poets wrote about objects important to them using strategies like using rhythm and literary language to communicate their ideas. We hope you enjoyed reading your child's poetry that was sent home before break. Looking ahead to May, *Writing to Persuade* will be the focus during writing workshop. Second grade mathematicians will continue with addition and subtraction in measurement and then move into graphing and data. As we move into our new science unit, students will be observing the life cycle of the Brassica plant, as well as learning about different habitats and how plants and animals adapt to their specific environments. We are looking forward to our field trip in May to the Morris Museum.

**THIRD GRADE:** April has flown by for our third graders. In reading, the students finished their character studies unit. The focus was identifying character traits and finding evidence that would help students understand the characters actions, mood, and lessons learned. The students spent time comparing and contrasting characters too. The students read fiction stories that included fairy tales, fables, and folktales during this unit. In writing workshop, the focus was fiction writing and fractured fairy tales. The students were able to use what they learned during reading to help create their own stories. As mathematicians, third graders have most recently learned about fractions, geometry, and time. Math concepts are always reinforced by putting the concepts and skills into real-life problem-solving situations. Automatic recall of addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts before the end of the year remain one of their goals too. On April 12, third graders enjoyed a great afternoon outside celebrating Earth Day. The students were involved in 3 different rotations, all focusing on nature and outdoor observations. A special thank you to Mrs. Mills, Ms. Turton, and CHS students from the AP Environmental class for all their help.



## Counseling News

The counseling lessons have been varied this spring! In our **Kindergarten** classes, we read "Only One You" by Linda Krantz. This endearing story of Adri the fish and his parents, who share their wisdom with him as he is about to explore the world on his own, leads to a discussion about the wisdom we have learned from our own families. In addition, we painted our own "fish", made from rocks, and will create a rock garden in the month of June.

**First, second and third** grades participated in "peaceful Problem Solving Activities" in an effort for them to learn tools for resolving conflicts. Conflict at this age mostly occurs when children have different opinions, or simply misunderstood intentions. **Resolving conflict** involves communicating effectively and reaching a compromise. This is such an important skill, and one that can be used lifelong! Student had an opportunity to practice this skill, specifically focusing creative solutions and "I Statements".



## MILTON MEETING

We celebrated our students at the monthly Milton Meeting on April 29. Mr. Andreazza presented kindness hearts to students and recognized Mrs. Laura Sivori, preschool teacher, as the Milton Staff Member of the year. 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:** Alex Bastidas, Jack James, Declan O'Brien, and Hunter Greenwood

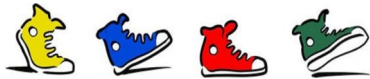
**Outstanding Artist:** Finn Collins, Brayden Teisch, and Megan Suh

**Marvelous Musician:** Audrey Liao, Ethan Imanuel, and Jack McBratney

**MVP Award:** Kiara Puello, Reilly McVeigh, and Landon Tracey

**Library Legend:** Neal Alteveer, Drew Schroeder, Yaolin Wang, and Brooks Loftin

**STEM Superstar:** Marlowe Cashin, Elihou Compaore, Gregory Tomasulo, and Giulia Manicone



## On the Run

**Marty Vistacion / Doug Finken**

[mvisitation@chatham-nj.org](mailto:mvisitation@chatham-nj.org) / [dfinken@chatham-nj.org](mailto:dfinken@chatham-nj.org)

**First graders** recently worked on how to swing a bat. We had several lessons where the students had multiple reps hitting off a tee using a wiffle ball bat. We then progressed to hitting off a pitch, and every first grade student who attempted a swing was able to hit the ball off a pitch. The students' receptiveness to constructive feedback was tremendous, and I can say that we have some serious sluggers here at Milton Avenue School.

**Second and Third Grade** students have been practicing team sports. Practicing appropriate and safe behaviors while participating in and viewing games, sports, and other competitive events contributes to enjoyment of the event. They discussed what it means to demonstrate good sportsmanship and how it relates to games. .



## THE STETHO-SCOOP

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

***Report absences  
via ParentPortal:***

***DO NOT email  
teacher!***

**BIKE AND SCOOTER REMINDER:** Students may not ride a bike or a scooter down the hill on school property. Please WALK your bike down the hill to the bike rack. This is for the safety of riders and walkers. Also, a helmet must be worn when riding a bike or scooter.

**SANDAL SEASON:** Inappropriate footwear is a concern as the weather becomes warmer and our students are on the equipment and playground. Children need to feel free to run, jump, and climb without fear of injury due to inappropriate footwear, therefore, footwear such as socks and sneakers or sandals that are secured by a strap around the heel are recommended. Accidents can occur on the playground and climbing equipment due to inappropriate footwear. Remember, sneakers are the best footwear in terms of support and safety for your child's active play.

**EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR:** If your child requires that emergency medications be on hand while they are in school, such as an EpiPen and/or a rescue inhaler, you will need to submit updated doctor's orders and the prescribed medications **PRIOR** to the beginning of the new school year.

If your child currently has medication in the health office, please stop by to collect it on the last day of school **June 20, 2019**. Medications **cannot** be left in the cabinet over the summer months and will be discarded if not collected. All medications must be collected by a responsible adult and cannot be sent home with your child in their backpack.



**Veronica Maldonado, [vmaldonado@chatham-nj.org](mailto:vmaldonado@chatham-nj.org)**

The Third Grade had a wonderful concert in April, showcasing their great talent! Thank you to all those who supported our music making this year.

First, second, and third grade students have been learning about music written during the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic eras and the characteristics of music during these time periods. The children have been learning about great composers, such as Mozart, Beethoven, Vivaldi, Bach, and more! We enjoyed listening to famous pieces such as Bach's

"Tocatta and Fugue in D-minor" and Beethoven's "Fifth Symphony."

Third graders will attend an assembly in May to hear various string and band instruments they can play next year.

**Second** graders can learn a string instrument in the third grade after school strings program, playing violin, viola, or cello. We will also talk during music classes about Chorus and Chimes available in third grade. (While sign-ups for third grade strings occur in the spring of second grade, sign-ups for Chorus and Chimes occur in September of third grade.)

**Third** graders can sign up to play band instruments in fourth grade at LAF or play a string instrument in the LAF orchestra. Chorus is also available in the fourth grade schedule!

This is a great opportunity and we hope you will encourage your child to try a music ensemble!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

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



**First Grade:** First graders recently discussed medicines related to concepts of personal health. Topics included how medicines come in a variety of forms (prescription medicines and over-the-counter medicines), are used for numerous reasons, and should be taken as directed in order to be safe and effective.

**Second Grade:** The students recently learned about the lungs and how the respiratory system works. We introduced some terminology and learned about how breathing works. I continue to be impressed with their ability to take in the information that we have covered so far this year.

**Third Grade:** The students learned about first aid and handling emergencies. We watched a few videos from the Red Cross showing how to handle situations like: burns, bleeding, broken bones, choking, asthma attacks, and other emergency situations. Nurse Zotti joined us and made some first aid kits that she showed to the students, and she gave some great tips on handling first aid situations safely.



## FROM THE ART ROOM

Kenji Hasegawa [khasegawa@chatham-nj.org](mailto:khasegawa@chatham-nj.org)

**First graders** have recently completed symmetrical butterfly artworks. Students learned about symmetry and then traced 1/2 of a butterfly in crayon on drawing paper. After folding the paper closed and rubbing the back with a ruler, students were able to create a mirror image of the first half. After painting the butterflies with bright colors, students cut them out and glued them to a colorful background paper.

**Second and Third graders** are working on symmetrical bugs. Similar to how the butterflies were created in first grade, students sketched 1/2 of their bug in crayon, then painted over the lines, closed the paper, and opened to reveal a mirror image of their half bug body. Students studied references and then created their own original bug. Next we will add color.



## Library Lore Jill Mills

[jmills@chatham-nj.org](mailto:jmills@chatham-nj.org)

April included National Library Month AND National Poetry Month AND Earth Day! What a fun time to embrace literature and the written word! All classes explored humorous poetry and nature-themed poetry, tying our conversations to our research projects.

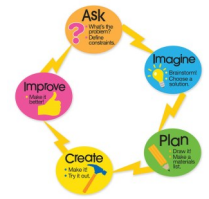
In **second and third** grade, we used a digital tool, Biteable.com, to create "Poetry in Motion." Students are encouraged to continue to use this tool for written expressions. For more information and how to log on, please visit the library website.

**First** grade celebrated National Library Month with a special, private visit to the Library of the Chathams! Their visit included storytelling, crafts, and a scavenger hunt! A great thank you to the library staff who stayed late to entertain our students and thank you to the PTO for sponsoring the storyteller!

**Kindergarten** enjoyed rhyming and understanding the importance of rhyme in early reading. Kindergarten students are further discovering their interests and places in the library to explore those interests!

**Preschool** classes talked about rainbows and color, learning through stories, online activities, and movement!

# A Spotlight on Design & Technology



Amanda Turton

[aturton@chatham-nj.org](mailto:aturton@chatham-nj.org)

**Kindergarten** – Build a Bird Nest Challenge: *Students have been learning how animals can be like engineers by studying how birds build their nests. They are currently planning out how to make a nest with natural materials for Robin and her eggs.*

**1st Grade** – Biomimicry Design Challenge: *Students have been learning about how animal adaptations have inspired human inventions. They then planned their own invention that could help humans solve a problem.*

**2nd Grade** – Erosion Prevention Design Challenge: *This design challenge builds off of what students have been learning about weathering and erosion in science. They have been designing and planning models of erosion prevention solutions for beaches that would be eco-friendly.*

**3rd Grade** – Human Impact Research Project: *Students have been researching different ways humans can impact the earth. They are now planning and designing their own presentations using technology-based formats through Google Apps.*



[Typing Rocket ABCYa-Kindergarten](#)

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



## PTO NEWS

### READING PROGRAM UPDATE

April was another big month of reading at Milton! Students read so many books that they earned 16 new books for the library. Class dedications to date include:

- Kindergarten has dedicated 26 books (KWAM: 4 books, KWPM: 10 books, and KFAM: 12 books)
- First grade has dedicated 19 books (1T: 5 books, 1V: 8 books, and 1Z: 6 books)
- Second grade is up to 18 books (2B: 6 books, 2M: 7 books, and 2P: 5 books)
- Third graders have dedicated 21 books (3C: 5 books, 3K: 8 books, and 3R: 8 books)

To date, 82 books have been dedicated to the library. Keep up the wonderful reading everyone and be sure to turn in your reading sheets! We will be collecting reading sheets until May 31st, and we have a limited number of books left to dedicate, so get your reading sheets in today!



**Field Day** is Friday, May 17! Students should plan to wear Milton spirit wear or blue and white. We are in need of third grade parents willing to volunteer for the famous **Field Day dunk tank**, as well as parent volunteers to take photos and distribute Snow Cones. To volunteer, please click here: <https://signup.com/go/snGZpkU>. If you have any questions, please contact Ilyse DiMarco ([ilyse1030@gmail.com](mailto:ilyse1030@gmail.com)), Tricia O'Brien ([triciaobrien10@gmail.com](mailto:triciaobrien10@gmail.com)), or Michelle Manicone ([novamich99@optonline.net](mailto:novamich99@optonline.net)).

# MORE PTO NEWS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April was a busy month. We had an exciting Weather Assembly with CBS meteorologist John Marshall to celebrate Earth Day. Dr. LaSusa was here for our April PTO Meeting with plenty of interesting information for our school parents. The Third Graders put on a delightful concert helmed by our ever patient Mrs. Maldonado. And the First Graders had a fun evening at the Library. The weather has finally warmed up and as we look forward to the end of the school year, we have so many fun events planned: Field Day, The Milton Mile, Class Picnics, Field Trips and Rubber Ducky BINGO night! Let's enjoy the beautiful spring weather!

Yvonne Greenwood  
PTO President

## WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

The PTO would like to thank the ENTIRE STAFF at MAS for all that they do for our children! May 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> is Staff Appreciation Week and Milton has the best group of people we could possibly ask for! We thank you for the time you have taken to invest in our students' future and appreciate your commitment and dedication to our students. I know how tirelessly you all work behind the scenes. We are grateful for everything you do and thank you for creating a safe and positive environment for our children. Milton's greatness is a tribute to each of you. THANK YOU!



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES INFORMATION FOR MILTON AND LAFAYETTE

### MILTON AVENUE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Attention all Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Parents- DON'T MISS OUT ON ORDERING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR! 1ST Day School Supplies is our school supply vendor. Please order your supplies for NEXT year's grade at <https://www.1stdayschoolsupplies.com/kits.php?sid=67115> by **June 15**. Kits will be delivered to your student's classroom for the first day of school.

### LAFAYETTE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Attention Third Grade Parents—School supplies for Lafayette are now for sale. The sale is running now through **June 30**. This is a hard deadline and no kits can be ordered thereafter. The website is [www.1stDaySchoolSupplies.com](http://www.1stDaySchoolSupplies.com), then enter our zip code and select Lafayette Avenue School. Any questions can be directed to me at [dawneliz30@gmail.com](mailto:dawneliz30@gmail.com)

### SAVE THE DATES!

**MILTON MILE  
SATURDAY, JUNE 1**

**PTO RUBBER DUCKY BINGO FAMILY  
NIGHT  
FRIDAY, JUNE 7**



### SUMMER CAMP LINKS

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