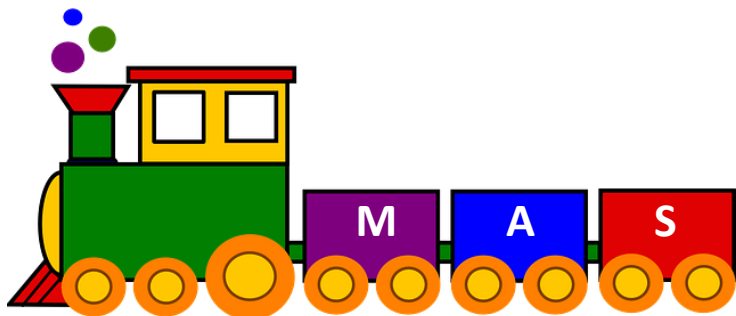


# THE MILTON EXPRESS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2019



## Message from the Principal

I would like to once again welcome you to another exciting year at Milton Avenue School! We are off to a fabulous start, and I am looking forward to a year full of growth and development on the part of the students. It's always so memorable to see the eager looks on the students' faces as they come through our doors on that first day of school!

There are many things that happen behind the scenes that allow for such a successful start to the school year. Words cannot describe the amount of thanks that our secretaries deserve in preparing for opening day. They worked many hours to ensure the successful transition to a new school year, and they continually demonstrated hard work and dedication in preparing for the first day of school. BRAVO!

Milton Avenue School is a great place to be and it shows. Our custodians did a fabulous job getting our building prepared for the first day of school. Whether it was stripping and waxing the floors, moving classrooms, or working on numerous projects in our building over the summer, our custodians worked hard in creating a safe and clean environment for the students and staff.

Our PTO continues to provide support for the students and staff at Milton Avenue School. I know there is a lot of planning involved in enhancing the experiences for our learning community, and our staff is truly grateful for their tremendous generosity!

Last, but not least, our teaching staff... Whether it's the school nurse, case managers, related arts teachers, guidance counselor, related services staff, or classroom teachers, everyone continually strives to discover ways to enhance the students' learning experiences in anticipation of this new school year. Our paraprofessionals further promote the learning that occurs in the classrooms by supporting the students and the classroom teachers.

The month of September brought about many memorable events for our Milton Avenue School learning community! The first day of school opened the doors for students to engage in meaningful learning experiences in all content areas, including Readers Workshop and Writers Workshop. The families in our community were welcomed through such great events as the Welcome Back to School Picnic. Back-to-School Night on September 19 allowed the opportunity for parents to visit their children's classrooms to learn more about the wonderful experiences they are able to encounter each and every day. Our first Milton Monthly Meeting, held on September 26, allowed all of us to come together as a learning community to acknowledge the many accomplishments of our students. Students in grades 1-3 were given the opportunity to earn awards in the areas of art, music, physical education, library, and Design & Technology. In addition, one student from each grade level was recognized as the Student of the Month for that grade level. Be sure to check out the "Milton Meeting" section in this issue of the Milton Express for the names of this month's recipients!

I look forward to working with the staff, students, and parents in continuing to make the 2019-2020 school year a success! My door is always open so please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Nick Andrezza



**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.**

**FRIDAY IS SPIRIT DAY!**

**EVERY** FRIDAY IS MILTON SPIRIT DAY!  
WEAR YOUR **MILTON** GEAR OR **BLUE AND WHITE** EVERY FRIDAY TO SHOW YOUR SPIRIT.



**OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS**

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

- ◆ **After School Enrichment** begins on October 1.
- ◆ We are very excited about our **Artic Adventure Book Fair** beginning on Tuesday, October 1. **Family Night** at the Book Fair is Wednesday, October 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ We will have our first **Walk-to-School Day** on Wednesday, October 2.
- ◆ Our children can focus on getting physically fit by taking part in our annual **Duathlon** on Saturday, October 5.
- ◆ We will celebrate the **Week of Respect** in the state of New Jersey from October 7-11.
- ◆ Students **do not have school** on Wednesday, October 9 (Yom Kippur) and Monday, October 14 (Teacher Professional Day).
- ◆ Please be sure to attend the **PTO meeting** at 9:00am on Thursday, October 10. Mr. Visitacion will be our guest speaker and will discuss the new things he is incorporating into this years physical education program.
- ◆ **Pizza Parlor Day** is scheduled for Friday, October 11.
- ◆ Smile pretty! **Picture Day** is October 17.
- ◆ The **Third Grade Pretzel Sale** is scheduled for after school on October 18.
- ◆ Be on the lookout for a flyer to outline the details of the Halloween parade which will be held this year on October 31.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

Keep up to date on the latest happenings in the Chathams! Check out the [Milton website](#) as well. You'll find information about:

- Girl Scout Registration
- CMS House Tour

A Special Education Program  
After School Strings Program

**BE AN UPSTANDER!**

**Week of Respect is October 7-11**

Monday, October 7 is the start of Milton's Week of Respect. Lets show our support of anti-bullying and being an upstander by sending a powerful message! All parents, students, staff and friends are asked to join Milton students as they take a stand against bullying by wearing blue on Friday, October 11.

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

**PRE-SCHOOL:** September has been a very exciting month for our preschoolers! The preschool classes had their introduction to school with the Beginning The Year Study. They spent the first few weeks getting to know each other, learning about their new classrooms and materials, and meeting school staff members. They began learning to follow class rules and routines and have enjoyed playing with their new friends. The preschoolers are looking forward to beginning the Tree Study in October! They will be exploring the characteristics of trees, how trees grow and change, what grows on trees and who lives in trees. The preschoolers look forward to observing the trees as they change outside their classrooms this fall!



**KINDERGARTEN:** September has been all about making new friends and learning about how to work together in the classroom. Our classroom routines are falling into place throughout each subject area. In math, we are beginning to learn all about numbers through counting and cardinality. We are beginning our "We Are Readers" unit in reading workshop and looking forward to reading words and pictures both independently and with a reading partner. We are excited to kick off October with the book fair!

**FIRST GRADE:** First graders are learning the routines and procedures of a full day of school! They enjoy going to specials and eating lunch at school. They are learning the importance of listening from our Second Step Program with *Ears Listening, Eyes Watching, Voices Quiet and Body Still*. First graders are learning addition and subtraction strategies, and they have been excited to use their own assigned chrome book to play different addition and subtraction games. Students are also learning good habits as readers, such as taking a sneak peak at a book, setting goals, and keeping track of our reading. We are learning that these are habits that we use through our whole lives as readers! Students are also learning about writing workshop by being authors and illustrators. We made our heart maps to give us great ideas to write about. We are looking forward to the month of October with our first field trip to the Reeves Reed Arboretum in Summit.

**SECOND GRADE:** Welcome back to school! Second grade readers have been practicing their daily routines and expectations, building their stamina, and filling their book boxes with "just-right" books. Second grade writers have been collecting ideas to write about small moments in their lives. As scientists, students have been carrying out Science and Engineering Practices as they ask questions and gather information during explorations. As September comes to a close, we will be exploring Topic 1 in Math. The focus of this topic is to provide students with strategies to build fluency with adding and subtracting within 20. Next month we will build upon our knowledge and strategies from Topic 1 and add numbers within 100. In social studies we are learning about communities and in October, we will think about how communities are different. We will also begin our character education program, Second Step, which gives students the tools to manage social and emotional situations. In conjunction with these lessons, growth mindset lessons will be infused as well.

**THIRD GRADE:** Third Graders were eager to get back into the school routine this September! They have been working hard across all areas of the curriculum. As writers, students have been focusing on small moment writing and using workshop skills to write personal narratives. As readers, students have been building reading stamina, choosing a variety of books to read, and recording thoughts about books along the way. We are looking forward to delving into character studies in the near future. In math, students are working on multiplication strategies. The focus of New Jersey in Social Studies has already taken us through map skills and community. We will soon start to research the explorers who helped to find New Jersey, as well as the American Revolution. In Science each class has been exposed to some basic knowledge of what a scientist does and are looking forward to exploring weather instruments and conditions. We encourage you to ask your children about the questions they are solving through the science and engineering process!



## Counselor Corner Carole Soder csoder@chatham-nj.org

Welcome back to a new school year and a special welcome to our new Milton students and their families. I had the pleasure of meeting all of our new students personally by inviting them to my office and we spent some time getting to know one another.

September social emotional learning has begun. Throughout the school year, I teach character education to all K-3 students using the Second Step Curriculum. Our first lesson was about skills we need for learning and focused on good listening skills. I will continue with the lessons every month. Other topics we explore include Empathy, Problem Solving Skills, and Emotional Management.



### MILTON MEETING

We celebrated our students at the first monthly Milton Meeting on September 26. Mr. Andreazza explained the Milton Meeting and rules associated with being a good audience. He complimented students on a great start to the new school year and showed the slide show from Back to School Night.

The winners of the Artic Bookmark contest were also announced. Congratulations to Paige Bojanowski (Mrs. Fanning), Ellison Plaushinat (Mrs. Trauger), Eva Kovaleva (Mrs. Pinto) and Alexandra Horwitz (Mrs. Rockoff). Congratulations to all of our students who were recognized at our first Milton Meeting!

**Principal's Student of the Month Award:** Brendan Urie, Aidan Livermore, Gavin Nylas, and Max Keltz

**Outstanding Artist:** Hana Daya, Avery Latourelle, and Gregory Tomasulo

**Marvelous Musician:** Brynn Grady, Maggie Quon, and Ariana Buchberger

**MVP Award:** Desmond Bazadona, Christina Stepanian, and Brody Ulrich

**Library Legend:** Benjamin Bordens, William David, Dylan Fischer, and Christian Nieves

**STEM Superstar:** Logan DeWaltoff, Andrew Stein, Carys Aue, and Ava Bell



### MUSIC NOTES Veronica Maldonado, vmaldonado@chatham-nj.org

We've had a lot of fun in our September music classes! **Kindergarten** has been learning about the four types of voices in music - whisper, talk, shout, and sing! Practicing singing voices and steady beat have been our focus this month. **First grade** started with some listening games, singing voice games, and songs. They are working on matching pitch while singing and will start learning about quarter note and eighth note rhythms very soon! **Second grade** is reviewing pitches and rhythms from last year with fun singing games like "Apple Tree." **Third grade** learned a fun singing game called "Zudio" and are learning about our national anthem!

We have also begun to prepare for **Holiday Concerts** in December! The children are excited to share these songs with you, so you might hear your child singing about winter already. Please see the Milton calendar for concert dates and times!

**Quaver Music:** Your child(ren) may be interested in signing up for a free account on the [Quaver-Music.com](https://www.quaver.com) website. Children will need parental assistance signing up, as a free account does require a parent email address and an access code from Mrs. Maldonado. From Quaver Street, students can explore several activities (games, songs, videos, music genres, etc) within each area: the Quaver Music Shop (including the Studio and Music Lab), the Music Room, the Metro, and Student Interactives. [Directions to sign up](#) can be accessed from the Milton Related Arts webpage. Email Mrs. Maldonado with your child's name and class to receive a class QuaverCode or ask any Quaver questions!



## The Stetho-Scoop

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

***Report absences  
via ParentPortal***

Welcome new families and welcome back all students and MAS staff! Please review our Health Services and Attendance policies in the [Student Handbook](#) or on the [Milton Avenue School website](#).

\*Please update your child's Emergency contacts in the Parent Portal. We need to have an alternate contact besides the student's primary caregiver in case of a medical or unforeseen emergency.

**Contagious Illnesses:** 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

### **ATTENTION ALL 2<sup>nd</sup> GRADERS and THEIR Families**



October 16, 2019, 5:30-6:30p.m at CMS Upper Gym

\*We would like to invite all 2nd grade students and their families to participate in a Family Fitness and Health Night.

Family fitness games will be played so bring your running shoes.

A nutritionist from Shop Rite and Mrs. Erin Zotti, RN will present *Healthy Habits for Fall*. Please RSVP to [ezotti@chatham-nj.org](mailto:ezotti@chatham-nj.org) by Oct. 9th

**From the Art Room**  
**Kenji Hasegawa**

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



**Kindergarten students** have been introduced to line, shape and color, and had fun creating owls.

**First graders** are working on creating mountain landscapes. We talked about line as an important element of art. Students learned how to draw lines across the paper to represent overlapping mountain peaks and valleys and are enjoying adding a variety of color to their drawings.

**Second graders** are learning how to draw a pumpkin that appears three-dimensional. We talked about how shadow and highlights on a drawing can give a sense of dimension or form. Students sketched pumpkins on orange paper and used crayon to create shadow and white oil pastel to make highlights. The work is stunning!

**Third graders** have been learning about radial symmetry. Radial symmetry is when an image is the same on either side (left and right) as well as top and bottom. Students folded a square paper in half vertically and horizontally and used initials from their name to create a simple design. Their design was then reflected and sketched on every other side of the fold to create a beautiful unified design.



## ON THE RUN...

Marty Vistacion / Doug Finken

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

We have been busy the month of September in Physical Education. **Kindergarteners** are working on gross motor skills by practicing jumping, hopping, skipping and running. The **first grade** students are getting used to the routines and procedures that they can expect in class. We have worked on the concepts of personal space and safely sharing general space within the gym, and students have also worked on some cooperative activities with the parachute. We've also done some basic throwing and catching activities. Please be aware that students are expected to wear sneakers to class when they have PE.

The **second and third grade** students have signed a class promise to demonstrate sportsmanship, best effort and respect during physical education classes. We reviewed each term and how it applies to having a fun, fair and safe environment during PE. Lessons have emphasized teamwork skills. The **Second Grade Bike Test** was held and we look forward to seeing lots of bikes on the bike rack out front.

**Our annual Milton's Duathlon** is set for Saturday, October 5, at 8:00 a.m. at Chatham Middle School (check in begins at 7:45 a.m.). Students will complete a 15 minute bike ride followed by a 10 minute run! The bike ride will be for Milton students only, but parents are encouraged to run with their child during the running portion. For the safety of all students, we will only allow bikes. The children must have a helmet, a bike (in good condition), and a water bottle. A flyer was sent home in September for sign ups.

**Second Grade Families:** Milton Family Fitness and Health Night is October 16! Second grade students are invited to participate in family physical education and health class! Parents should wear appropriate clothing for movement and exercise! Please RSVP to [ezotti@chatham-nj.org](mailto:ezotti@chatham-nj.org) by Oct. 9th

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HEALTH

Doug Finken, [dfinken@chatham-nj.org](mailto:dfinken@chatham-nj.org) / Marty Vistacion, [mvisitacion@chatham-nj.org](mailto:mvisitacion@chatham-nj.org)

**Kindergarten** : Students are learning about personal hygiene skills like washing hands and brushing teeth and why it's important to practice these skills.

**First Grade:** We discussed health-enhancing behaviors that contribute to wellness and identified self-care practices that support wellness. We talked about the 5 senses and what the brain controls.

**Second Grade:** The weather is still nice for riding bikes, so we covered bike safety and the rules of the road. The students have also learned about the "Dimensions of Health." These are the 5 branches of health and wellness: Physical (body), Emotional (feelings), Social (relationships), Spiritual (values) and Intellectual (learning). The main idea for this concept is for the students to realize that Health is more than just taking care of your body. Covering this concept allows students to make connections and see the big picture.

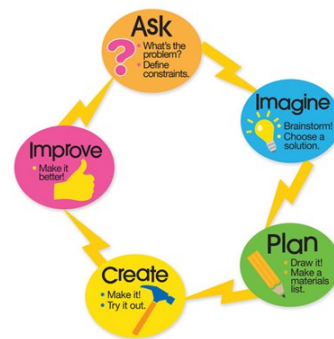
**Third Grade:** The students began the year by reviewing the Dimensions of Health (physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and intellectual). These dimensions of health allow the students to see how other things besides physical health choices can play a role in their overall health and wellness. The students are off to a great start this year and are already showing a solid grasp of this concept.



## Let's Peek Inside... Design & Technology

*Amanda Turton, [aturton@chatham-nj.org](mailto:aturton@chatham-nj.org)*

Design & Technology at Milton Avenue School is off to a great start this year! The MAS engineers are beginning to explore how they can use the Engineering Design Process to solve real-world problems. We are excited that all students now have 1-to-1 chromebook access, which will enable all K-3 learners to incorporate technology tools into their STEM design challenges. 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

- What is Design and Technology? What are engineers and what do they do?
- How can we solve problems by designing and building different solutions?
- Back Scratcher Tool Design Challenge.

### First Grade

- How do engineers solve problems?
- Why do engineers brainstorm multiple solutions to the problems they need to solve?
- Yertle the Turtle Tower Design Challenge.

### Second Grade

- Asking questions like an engineer: HOW and WHY things work.
- How can we use Clever and Google Classroom to share ideas and resources?
- Little Piggy House Design Challenge.

### Third Grade

- How can we use our STEM notebooks like engineers?
- Why is the improve step so important in the engineering design process?
- Gummy Bear Parachute Design Challenge.

### **LIBRARY LORE** *Jill Mills, [jmills@chatham-nj.org](mailto:jmills@chatham-nj.org)*

Welcome back to another exciting school year! It was wonderful to see so many people stop by for Back-to-School Night! Thank you for taking the time to visit. We have great things planned for the year, so I hope you will keep a look out for Library updates in the Milton Express and on our website.

The Birthday Book Program will be running again this year and a flyer was sent home. Please consider donating a book to the library in honor of your child's birthday. Ever year, we receive over 120 books to add to our collection through this program. Students love to find their names in books year after year. I would like to thank Christine Walter and Suzanne David for working with me another year to coordinate all of the library programs. Their support is invaluable in keeping the library running!

Our Author's Day is scheduled for Friday, March 27, 2020. I am so happy to announce that New Jersey author, Tara Lazar, will be visiting Milton Avenue School and bringing with her her humor, wit, and wordplay! To find out more, please check out her website [taralazar.com](http://taralazar.com)

Finally, it is my hope that every student comes to the library feeling safe and confident and prepared to explore. With that intention, I have practiced a mantra with the students (some were more comfortable than others in repeating this, but I will still say it to them throughout the year):

*We will wonder because we are wonderful;*

*We will try because we are brave;*

*We will ask because we are curious;*

*We are curious because we are safe;*

*We are safe because we are loved!*





## MESSAGE FROM THE PTO PRESIDENT

The 2019/2020 school year is in full swing, and we are all getting used to the new fall schedule! It has been really nice getting to know so many new people at Milton this year. There have been numerous new parents interested in volunteering and reaching out to lend a hand with various activities. Thank you so much to all the families that donated to our General Fund and PTO Dues. I know there are many costs associated with fall activities and the start of the school year, so we **really** appreciate your generous contributions. Thank you to our Vice President, Nicole Mahoney, for handling this and helping us raise over \$16,000 so far! That's amazing!

It has been a busy September for our PTO volunteers, and I would like to thank some individuals that have been going above and beyond for our children. The Back to School Staff Luncheon was a success thanks to Courtney Walker and Lindsay Grady. The Welcome Back to School Picnic and New Family Playdate were a lot of fun thanks to Debbie Hunter, Jamie Kocis, and Renae James. These events were very well attended.

Our morning drop-off line has kicked off successfully thanks to Andrea Koulichov. The drop-off line is a huge convenience to all of us so please thank the wonderful parents who volunteer for this every week. Thank you to Carrie Carpenter, Nicole Mahoney, Elena Kovaleva, Erica Wu, Renae James, Debbie Hunter, Katie Hindelong, Laurie Nyilas, Megan Keltz, and Pam Grundy!

Our Spirit Wear sale was a huge hit thanks to Lindsay Grady. We will all look very fashionable in our new gear! We also need to give Lindsay a special thank you for coordinating all the Room Parents. Thank you to those who are volunteering to be Room Parents as well. We appreciate all the extra time you are giving to our children.

Our ASE team, Erin Bazadona, Christine Flood, Suzanne David, and Caroline Conneely, have spent a tremendous amount of time organizing and choosing classes for our children to enjoy. This is a HUGE undertaking, and I thank you ladies for doing this for our school amongst all the other things you do.

We have an exciting October planned starting with our Book Fair and Week of Respect, both beginning next week! We have a great assembly lined up on October 7<sup>th</sup>, the NED SHOW. Walk to School Day, Pizza Palor Day, Picture Day, the first PTO Meeting of the school year, the Preschool Pumpkin Patch, and the Halloween Parade are also coming up; please refer to the October highlights for the all the dates and times. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or ideas! I look forward to seeing you at all the great events we have planned. Happy Fall!

Sharon Piskadlo  
PTO President

<https://www.chathampto.com/>

## BOOK FAIR



Brrr....The Arctic Adventure book fair is coming next week! Students will be shopping on Tuesday, October 1, so keep an eye out for wish lists in their passback folder with instructions on how to purchase books. **Book Fair Family Night** will be in the Library on Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm. It will be a wonderful evening with raffles, a photo booth, and a special reading from our Principal Polar Bear. Eskimos will help you pick out books for all ages, so come stock up on your evening reading or get an early start on holiday shopping! We still need volunteers -- please go to [2019 Book Fair](#) .



# PTO REMINDERS

## MAS Volunteer Opportunities:

Remember to check out the [MAS Signup Page](#) for volunteer opportunities throughout the year. It is a great way to see your child in action and support our school.

Picture Day is Thursday, October 17th. Order forms will be sent home in passback folders in the coming days. We still need volunteers to help our students look picture perfect and to help supervise lunch and recess while our staff takes their photo. Sign up to help at [2019 Fall Picture Day](#).

## AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

October kicks off with the After School Enrichment Program. The fall session begins Tuesday October 1. Please remember to be at the front door by 4 to meet your child! Meeting dates for each class are available on the Milton [homepage](#) under Announcements.



Please join us in celebrating International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>! Why walk to school? Walking helps to improve physical fitness, build a better community, be pollution-free, reduce traffic, helps students burn energy, and improve learning! Please stop by the table on the way to the blacktop to learn how students from around the world walk to school, play a game, and earn a charm for walking to school!

## Third Grade Spirit Committee:

Each year the Third Grade Spirit Committee plans several fun events for our third graders to celebrate their last year at Milton, including a night out and a class picnic at Minisink, as well as creating a class yearbook, a slideshow and giving a class t-shirt to each third grader at the end of the year. To help fund these special events, we will be holding different fundraisers throughout the year and we will NEED YOUR HELP. Our next fundraiser features goodies from Philly Pretzel Factory--be sure to look for us after school on October 18th. Thank you for your support!

## School Mural Project

Last year, as a result of the generosity of our parents to the General Fund, the MAS PTO gifted to the school a mural that will be created by artist, Caren Frost, together with our students to hang in the gym. We are inviting our parents to join the fun in transforming our school November 12-20, 2019. There will be something for everyone--help set up, tape, paint, assist the children, and do touch ups. No artistic skills are needed--just a willingness to pitch in. Stay tuned in the coming days for our SignUp link -- remember, many hands make light work!!

## NOTES FROM THE CAFETERIA COMMITTEE

Hickory Pizza will once again be providing pizza for MAS on pizza parlor days. Pizza lunch includes a slice of pizza, fruit, vegetable, and a choice of milk or chocolate milk for \$3.50. A second slice is an extra \$1.25. Water is an additional \$.50. Payment for Pizza Parlor Day will be through each student's Pay For It account. Gluten free will also be available. Mark your calendars for Pizza Parlor Day!

October 11	November 15
December 20	January 10
February 21	March 20
April 17	May 8
June 12	