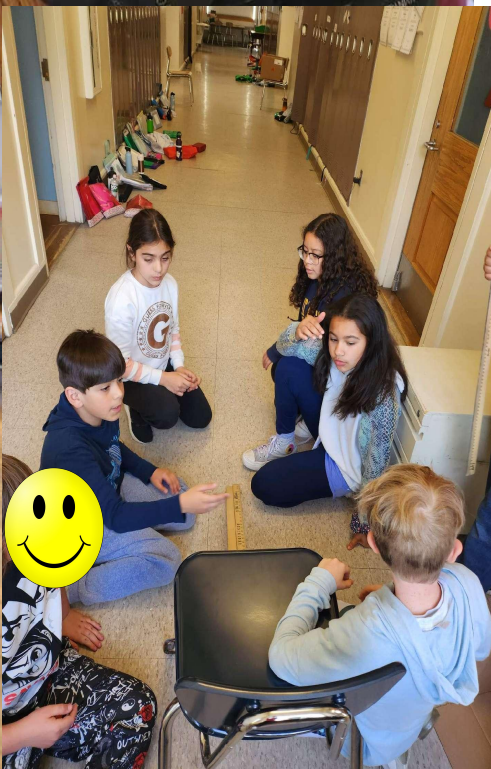




Backpack Thursday



Pictures Week of 5/8 4th Grade Science



4th Grade Science



4th Grade Science



3rd Grade

Partner Sharing



2023 END OF YEAR EVENT ANNUAL BASKET RAFFLE

We are excited to announce this year's basket raffle themes. The proceeds from each year's raffle goes to funding the following years event.

Each year the End of the Year Event is a celebration of the conclusion of a successful school year. Hosted by the PTA, it is an evening for students, staff and families to come together and have lots of fun.

We will have a huge raffle table set up and included in the raffle are the amazing classroom baskets! We appreciate your help donating items for your child's classroom theme.

Your room parent will be reaching out to you soon. They will keep track of all donations being made. Boxes for donations are outside the classrooms. Please contact Amanda at alb122188@aol.com if you have any questions about raffle basket donations.

Please send in donations: May 8th – June 6th

Basket wrapping night in the school library: Tuesday June 6th

Year End Event: Tuesday June 13th

Preschool – Baking with Kids

K: Mrs. Yasick – Family Movie Night

K: Ms. Boudreau – Arts & Crafts ages 3-7

K: Mrs. Foster – Stuffed Animals

1: Mrs. Hughes – Books level PreK-2nd

1: Mrs. Widing – Outdoor Fun

1: Mrs. Campbell – Picnic in the Park

1: Mrs. Londergan – Beach Day

2: Mrs. Wawrzynaik – Red, White, and Blue 4th of July Cookout

2: Mrs. Murphy – Science Fun

2: Mrs. Johnson – Ice-Cream Party

3: Mrs. Penney – Sleepover Party

3: Mrs. Stratton – Family Game Night

3: Mrs. Connor – Fidget Craze

4: Mrs. Lemay – Arts & Crafts ages 8+

4: Mrs. Miller– Cooking with Kids

4: Mrs. Avery – For the Dogs (Pets)

5: Mrs. Bjorklund – Pool Party

5: Mrs. Brancaleone – Sweet Tooth

5: Mrs. Conway – Disney

Food Drive to Help WB!



The Major Edwards PTA will be holding our annual C.A.N.S. (Children and Needy Sharing) Food Drive from [Monday May 1st through Friday May 12th](#).

We have been collecting canned goods and other non-perishable items for distribution to local food banks for over 30 years. This year we are focusing on filling the West Boylston Food Pantry.

Suggested items include condiments, salad dressing, canned meals, juice, pasta and sauce, tuna, rice mixes, and paper products.
NO GLASS containers, please.

Items can be sent to Major Edwards School with your child at any point during this period. There will be boxes by the classrooms for donations. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about giving to others and helping our local community.

Questions? Contact Moira Johnson at moshwalker@hotmail.com

Thank You!





Thursday, May 11th!

**Pinecroft Dairy is graciously sponsoring the
West Boylston PTA**

**Dine-in or Carryout event on Thursday, May 11th!
All Day! (they are open from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm)
Go for lunch, dinner, or just ice cream.**

How it works:

**You can either choose to dine-in the restaurant or carryout.
Pinecroft will generously donate 15% of the proceeds to the West
Boylston PTA. You MUST present or mention the flyer for your
order to count.**

**Pinecroft Dairy and Restaurant
539 Prospect St
West Boylston, MA 01583**

INTRO TO OUTDOOR SKILLS

You and your girl are invited to join us at a free Intro to Outdoor Skills Event. Your girl will earn her first Girl Scout patch while learning basic campfire building techniques, first aid, and jackknife safety.

Join us and discover creative ways to form a new troop together.

**Beaman Memorial Public Library
8 Newton Street, West Boylston**

Wednesday, May 10, 6:00PM

For girls entering grades K & 1 in the fall, who are not currently Girl Scouts.

RSVP by May 6:

<https://bit.ly/oswestboylston>

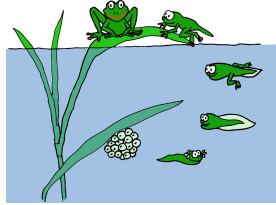
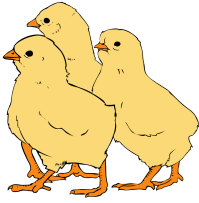
Questions: tgilpatrick@gscwm.org

girl scouts

of central & western
massachusetts

For more information about Girl Scouts, gscwm.org





We have so many exciting things happening in Kindergarten!

We began talking about life cycles and that all animals grow and change over time. We have also learned that animals and plants need food, water and air to survive. We planted flower and grass seed and are caring for it in the classroom and watching them grow. We are now in the process of incubating chicken eggs and are eagerly awaiting the chicks to hatch while learning all about their life cycle. We will be candling the eggs to see how the chicks are growing inside!

Our tadpoles and froglets have just arrived and we will be watching them grow and change while caring for them in our classrooms. In June, we will work on a force and motion unit.

In writing, we have moved into our Narrative writing unit. Students will plan, organize and write about an event using first, next, and last. We will also continue to work on sentence structure.

We always continue to revisit our decoding strategies, making connections with stories, and using our schema to understand what we are reading.

In Math, we are exploring 2d and 3d shapes and then we will begin a unit on measurement. We continuously work on number writing and counting to 100!



Can you believe it is already May? This year has flown by. We have seen so much growth and progress in our students, both academically and socially! It has been exciting to watch them mature over the course of the year.

In math we are working on counting money, telling time to the nearest half-hour, geometry (basic introduction to 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes), fractions, measurement, and data (reading simple graphs and charts). It is a busy end of the year. These are also great, everyday skills that can be reinforced at home. Have your child practice counting coins or telling time using both digital and analog clocks! Keep it fun and entertaining for them.

In Foundations we are working on suffixes -ed and -ing. We are also going to be starting words with long vowel sounds and silent-e and multi-syllable words. These skills will also be reviewed in second grade. We are continuing to work hard on our reading and writing skills. These are also skills that can be reinforced at home.

The end of the year is chock-full of fun activities. We have just sent home a form explaining the First Grade Recycling Project with a focus on inventions. They are due on May 17th and will be kept here and shown at the Arts Festival on May 31 (with a rain date on June 1). We will be going on a walking field trip to the Beaman Library on Friday, June 2nd (with a rain date on June 9th). Our field day will be held on Wednesday, June 7th (with a rain date on June 8th). The PTA Year-End Festival will be held on Tuesday, June 13th from 5-8 pm.

We try to go outside for recess every day. As the weather gets sunnier and warmer, you may want to think about applying sunscreen to your child before school, as we can't apply it in class. You can also send your child in with a hat or sunglasses as needed. And don't forget those water bottles!!!

As the year is winding down you may notice that your child is very excited, but also very emotional or nervous. This is natural as they start looking towards moving onto the next grade. Please reassure them that, even though they may have a new teacher next year, they will still see us in the hall and can drop in for a visit from time-to-time. We never forget our first graders and love watching them grow-up!

Second Grade News May/June

The second grade students are currently learning about animal habitats in science. At home, they are constructing animal habitat dioramas. They excited to bring their projects to school on May 11th as they will be sharing their dioramas with their fourth grade buddies!

The excitement continues in second grade as we will be heading to the Ecotarium Science Museum in Worcester on Friday, May 12th for a fun-filled field trip! Students will explore the laws of motion and learn which parts of a rocket are built to propel, streamline and stabilize. They will design and test their own model spacecraft then launch it skyward or toward a target. If the spacecraft does not hit the mark, they will be able to redesign and improve their model.

In Readers' Workshop we will begin our fairy tale unit which involves identifying various traits of fairy tales, comparing and contrasting similar stories, and having fun with some readers' theater scripts!

In math we are currently working on chapter 14 focusing on working with money and telling time. We will then move on to our geometry unit to finish the school year.

During the summer, we recommend that our students practice addition and subtraction facts in order to obtain "Fact Power" (fluently adding and subtracting within 20). We also encourage them to read daily!

It is hard to believe the school year is almost over! We are very proud of our second graders for all of the progress they made this year!

We wish you all a happy, healthy summer vacation!

It is so hard to believe that there are less than 30 days left of school! Now that we have warm weather and thoughts of summer fast approaching, oftentimes it is difficult for the kids to stay focused this time of year. We still have so much curriculum to present. It is vitally important that students stay alert and realize that their job is not over yet—even though many of them would like it to be. Believe me, we get it!

Our super students really worked so hard to prepare for all of the MCAS testing. Thank you, thank you, thank you parents and guardians for the motivational notes you provided your kids. It makes such an impact when they can see we are all routing for them at the same time. So now our MCAS is over...deep breath...We can enjoy ourselves a bit more. Phew!

English Language Arts, we are moving on to explore biographies. Good readers create a timeline of their subject's life.

We also plan to circle back and talk about poetry again. We wanted to give the students the chance to write and present some of their own poems.

Math we have covered everything in our curriculum but we will be going back over some of the trickier concepts that we covered this term. We will revisit, quadrilaterals, area and perimeter, graphing, telling time and elapsed time as well as liquid volume and mass.. As we said, there is still some work to be done!

For as long as we can remember, decades even, the Beaman Oak Garden Club in West Boylston has been donating plants to distribute to each Grade 3 student with a brief presentation on the care and importance of plants and trees. We plan this event right around Arbor Day. We will be getting a visit and a tree on Monday, **May 9th**.

We cannot say thank you enough to the PTA for all of the programs they have provided our 3rd graders this year. They also most generously paid for our incredible Tanglewood Marionettes puppet show. We have a guest presenter coming to visit **on May 12**. Annawon Weeden is a brilliant presenter sharing his first hand experiences with the Wampanoag way of life. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated and caring group making up the PTA who are always pulling for all these great things for our kiddos.

The third grade team has been meeting with the lovely folks at the West Boylston Historical Society to arrange our Third Grade Walking Tour Field Trip of the town. The proposed date for this is **Thursday, June 1st**. We will make some really great stops along the tour and learn some really useful history about our awesome town. Now when you drive past something special and historic, your third grader may have some more to add about how it all came to be. More information to follow of course...VERY exciting!

Thank you all for your ongoing support and generosity.

The Third Grade Team

May/June Newsletter~Fourth Grade

Language Arts



"There is no substitute for books in the life of a child."
~ Mary Ellen Chase ~

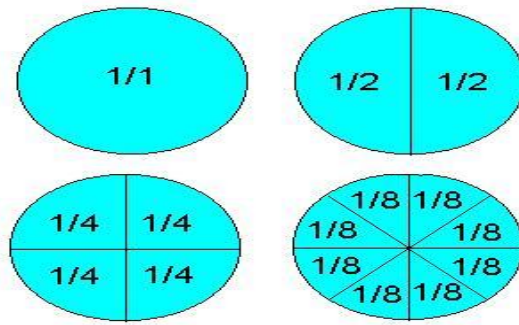
ELA: During the month of April, students were working diligently to learn the elements of writing a strong essay based on articles they have read in class. They have been answering text dependent questions and using specific evidence from the articles to support their thinking. Students are doing a great job of using the POW and TIDE graphic organizers in their work as they become more effective writers. In April and May, we will use these same strategies to develop opinion essays.

In May, students will learn about immigration to the US. Students will also learn specific text features and structures to help them become better readers of nonfiction books. These will include: problem & solution, cause & effect, compare & contrast, chronological order, sequencing and description.

Students are also doing a tremendous job reading those EAR books! They have explored many different genres this year and discovered personal preferences for the types of literature that they relish the most. Take a few minutes each day to talk with your children about the stories they are enjoying. We will finish the year with our poetry unit. We will learn about several different types of poems such as cinquain, acrostic, haiku, etc. Students will write their own poems that will be displayed at the end of the year arts festival!

I've traveled the world twice over,
Met the famous; saints and sinners,
Poets and artists, kings and queens,
Old stars and hopeful beginners,
I've been where no-one's been before,
Learned secrets from writers and cooks
All with one library ticket
To the wonderful world of books.
~ Anonymous ~





MATH

It's hard to believe the end of the year is already here! During the months of May & June we will cover a variety of topics. We will be wrapping up our fractions and decimals units, and will continue to explore geometry and measurement for the remainder of the year. Solving multi-step word problems using all four operations and fractions will also be incorporated into our daily lessons. Please encourage your child to review their math facts and practice their basic skills this summer so that they're ready for fifth grade!

Enjoy your summer break! You've earned it!

SCIENCE

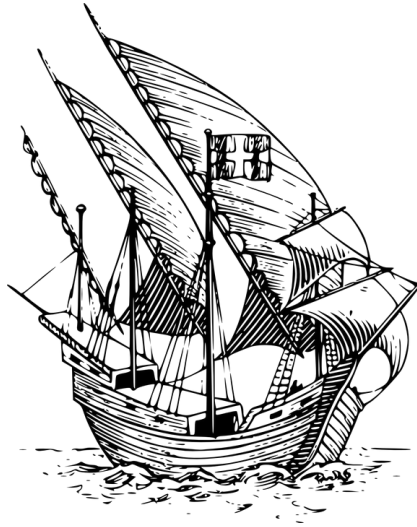


Happy spring! Our Scientists are deep into our study of Energy. We've been discussing potential and kinetic energy, force and motion, the many different types of energy such as chemical energy and electrical energy, and the difference between renewable and nonrenewable energy resources. Students enjoyed playing various games and building ramps for hot wheels cars to help reinforce their learning, especially of potential and kinetic energy. They also took on the 30 Plant Challenge to help them further understand how we use chemical energy.

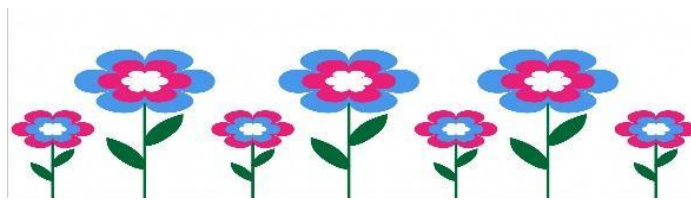
In May students will have a second visit from the MA Audubon Society. The program will focus on birds and migration. We thank the PTA for sponsoring this program for our students! We will also have a performance, sponsored by Eversource, called The Power Squad. This program will be presented by The National Theatre for

Children. It will focus on Energy - what it is, energy resources, how energy is wasted and how it is conserved. We are looking forward to these special programs!

SOCIAL STUDIES



Our next unit covers the Age of Exploration. Students will learn about the European explorers who headed west and the results of their journeys. They will think about how the actions of the Europeans affected the land and people of both the Americas and Europe. We plan to complete a short project focusing on one explorer.



***** REMINDERS *****



Monday 5/15

Grade 4 - Math (part 1)

Tuesday 5/16

Grade 4 - Math (part 2)

Thurs & Fri 5/18 & 19

Make-up - Math

On each test day, students may bring in a healthy snack, a water bottle and sugarless gum or hard candy. No sharing is allowed. Nothing chewy/sticky/messy, please. We request that students please have an early bedtime. It is also important that your child has a full, healthy breakfast on each of these days. Thank you for your support!

Field Trip!

Grade 4 students will be attending the Baseball in Education program at the Worcester Bravehearts on Wednesday, May 24th.



STAY TUNED....

Watch for information on upcoming events such as Field Day, the Arts Festival and more!

Homework

- **DAILY** homework will be given each weeknight, M-Th.
- These class assignments should be written in your child's planbook for easy reference.
- Independent reading should be completed **at least** 4 days a week.

Have a wonderful summer break, and we'll see you next year!



5th GRADE

newsletter

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING:

Reading: biographies about Wax Museum Figures

Math: decimals, volume, graphing and measurement

Science: reviewing 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade science topics for MCAS. Then Human Impact on Earth and Inventions and Innovations

Writing: research about Wax Museum Figure; writing an open response linked to math and science topics

PLEASE RETURN

- signed orange behavior contract
- grade 6 course selection sheet
- completed Nature's Classroom paperwork (if your child will be attending)

WAX MUSEUM - WEDNESDAY, MAY 31 FROM 4-5PM

Please join us for our annual Wax Museum! Students have been working hard at school to learn about their chosen Figure. Students should arrive at school no later than 3:45pm.

If you would like your child to stay after school the day of the Wax Museum instead of going home in between, please email one of the fifth grade teachers.

UPCOMING MCAS

Math MCAS

Wednesday, May 10

Thursday, May 11

Science MCAS

Wednesday, May 17

Thursday, May 18



END OF YEAR EVENTS

May 31 (4-5pm) - Wax Museum

June 5 - Field day for grades 2-5

June 13 - PTA End of Year Festival

June 15 - Fifth grade cookout (students only)

June 20 - last day of school (1/2 day)

Happenings during Major Edwards Specials

May/June 2023

A Message from Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Brainard, and Mr. Cyr

Hello Major Edwards Families!!! Field Day and the Arts Festival are quickly approaching and we are all very excited to share what the students have worked so hard on all year.

Art

The end of the year is near and we are working on getting our artwork ready to showcase in the Arts Festival on May 31st. Students have been working on 2-D and 3-D pieces to put on display. They are so excited and proud of the art they have made this year!

The end of the year Arts Festival will be taking place on May 31st from 4-6pm with a rain date of Monday, June 5th. Please save the date. :)

Music

We have traveled from Broadway to Tatooine (Star Wars Planet) during music classes. While visiting Broadway we learned the different jobs that are involved in producing a Broadway show. We also learned how performers props and costumes work. Students listened to performances from The Lion King, Wicked, Shrek, Spongebob the Musical and The Phantom of the Opera. For Star Wars week we helped the Mandalorian return Grogu to the Jedi by completing rhythms which included dotted quarter notes and learned the term "Vivace" means to play lively & quick. We also boogied with Storm Troopers. Our Major Edwards 4th and 5th grade chorus has been working hard rehearsing songs to perform at the Arts Festival! We can't wait!

Physical Education

Hi families! Luckily we have had some good weather to start the spring season and all students have had the opportunity to enjoy their Physical Education block outside on the blacktop or fields. When taken outside, 5th and 4th grade classes have played Kickball, Soccer, and Hockey. Other students used their imagination playing in the sand, playing with Hopper Balls, and other equipment. On days where we stayed inside all of the students learned new tag games including SuperHero Tag and Plank Tag. Tag variations are a fan favorite throughout the school and all of them can be modified to fit grade level performance or individual programs. The Rock Climbing wall has been a big hit as well. Some climb to the top and back down while others make it a competition to see how fast or how far they can climb across the wall. Over the next few weeks the focus of PE classes will be to prepare for our Field Day in June.

Keep your eyes open for upcoming after-school opportunities and spring events.

Please email any of us with any questions:

Physical Education:

tylercyr@wbschools.com

Music:

amandabrainard@wbschools.com

Art:

leiaroberts@wbschools.com

Reading Corner



May/June



Springtime is a season to appreciate new growth. With spring comes rain to wash away the winter dirt, replaced by signs of green grass, leafy trees, and colorful flowers. Other signs of growth take place with the help of books, as our readers have grown their reading skills throughout the school year. They may be able to recognize new sight words, apply the sounds they have learned to blend an unknown word, figure out how to divide a longer word into syllables independently, talk about a theme in a story, or give a summary of a book with confidence.. Students may have increased their reading stamina since the beginning of the year, or have acquired new favorite genres or authors. It has been wonderful to see all of our students bloom as readers, and we hope they will continue to cultivate their reading growth with many different types of reading over the summer. An optional summer reading challenge will be shared next month.

[Your Guide to the Best Children's Books for Kids Book Lists on Imagination Soup](#)

[Books Like Dog Man: 11 Series for Fans of Dav Pilkey](#)

[Action-Packed Adventures for Fans of The Last Kids on Earth](#)



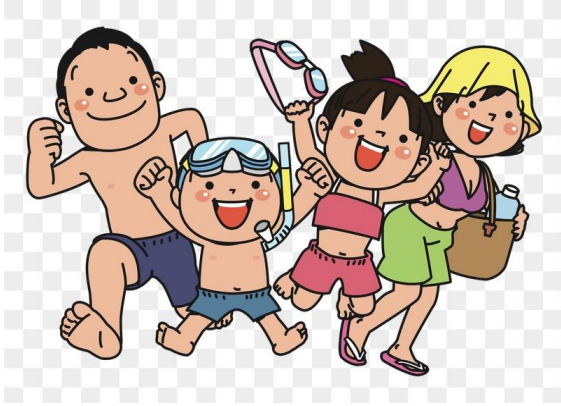
Mrs. Bokankowitz

sharonbokankowitz@wbschools.com

Mrs. Gangai

michellegangai@wbschools.com

Math Newsletter May/June



Wow, can you believe we just returned from spring break and now the end of the school year is right around the corner! We are pleased to announce that coupled with this year's summer reading there will be a math calendar for July and August. This calendar will be designed to review

students' current grade level math with fun daily activities and prepare them for their new incoming grade in September. As we all know math is always more enjoyable when we are engaged in a playful task. Keep a lookout for it coming home the last week of school!

Happy Summer,
Rose DiBenedetto