

Messages from Mittineague



Help us support our Girls On the Run Team!
Sunday, June 2nd at Springfield College!



News from Room 7

What a busy few weeks in third grade! We successfully completed our ELA and Math MCAS tests. I'm super proud of the diligence and perseverance that I observed while monitoring the test. I couldn't ask for anything more!

In Math news, we've been working hard to find the area of regular and irregular shapes. We are learning how to partition irregular shapes so that we can find the area of two smaller rectangles. Keeping area and perimeter can be tricky but with more practice we'll become master mathematicians. Keep working on those multiplication facts. Students are working on a few at a time, starting with the most challenging 8x8, 7x7, 6x6, 6x7, and 6x8. If your child has master those, they will move on to a new set of problems. Help your child learn their facts by practicing them daily.

In Social Studies, we have learned all about early settlers like the Puritans and are becoming experts on West Springfield History. As you drive through town, you might notice your child pointing out specific locations connected to our town history, like the Josiah Day House or even the White Church on Elm Street. Look for a town brochure, highlighting all their is to do and see, to come home in the near future.

CLARIFICATION:

The Spring Art show will be held on June 7th during our picnic and Field Day. The art work has been mounted and is on display for your pleasure. The art work will stay up after the show and will also be available for viewing on the day of the Spring Concert on June 14th!! Thank you!

News from the Library:

We are coming to the end of the school year and need to begin rounding up all the library books for the end of the year inventory! Parents, please help your children look for their missing books...some good places to look are behind or underneath beds, underneath car seats, stuck in with books in bookshelves at home, etc. If you can't find your missing book/s, the book can be replaced if you find another copy or you can send in the dollar value of the book and it will be replaced. Occasionally, children "find" their books right in their classroom. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Just a little reminder, do not forget to frequent our own town library on 200 Park Street. The phone number is 413-736-4561 if you need to call for any information. The West Springfield Public Library is open Sept. - May on Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Th. and Fri. from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and are closed on Sunday. The hours change a little bit for the summer, and are as follows: June - August, Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Th. and Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday closed.

Math News:

During the month of May, lots of us have been working with telling time and counting money. Sometimes we are asked why we teach these skills in such a digital and technological world. Most clocks are digital, and cash seems to be used less and less often as people use debit and credit cards. My response is that we need to build these foundational skills so that they are able to access more complex thinking (ie. budgeting, scheduling) in the future. Telling time, calculating elapsed time, and counting coins all deal with adding and skip counting. These are fundamental math skills. All students need to be able to count by 1, 5, 10, and even 15, 20, 25, and 30, particularly for time and money, so that more complex math tasks can be calculated quickly. Ask questions when you're paying a bill about what coins you would use to make a certain amount, or how much longer it will be until the end of practice, or what time they need to come inside for dinner, and see if they can figure out how many minutes from now that will be. Little moments like this go a long way!

For your
Calendar

May 27
No School

May 28
Banking/Chorus

May 28
7:30 AM Band
Practice

May 31
Grade 3 to
Mittineague Park

June 4
Grade 5
Plimoth

June 6
Grade 5
WSMS



News from Room 6:

Grade 4 is working on our living organisms unit and children have received their last at home project. Please help them to stay on track and use their time to complete this project. The project is due Friday, May 31st. I have sent an example of how to set up the planning of time. Please remind them of this assignment.

We are reviewing math concepts for the year and I will be sending home different math games to play over the summer. Please keep these safe at home so that they can practice them to keep the math skills sharp.

We will finish the year with a new read aloud, and an immigration unit. I would like to order each child a copy of the last read aloud that we will be doing. it is called "The Lemonade War". I will let you know how much the cost will be for that book because I will not be finishing it with the students. I am going to have the students continue to read the book over the summer. My goal is that they will be excited about this book and will want to finish it on their own. The book is also part of a series; therefore the goal will be that they will want to continue to read the other books in the series.

I will give you the option of purchasing the book and I will let you know the price. You do not have to purchase a copy of the book. I am just trying to continue to keep the students interested in reading! Please respond back through email and let me know if you would be interested in buying a copy of the book for your child.

News from the Learning Place:

The students who work on the Learning Center have been very busy. The first and second graders have been working on initial consonant blends and comprehension. The third, fourth, and fifth graders have been working on inferencing. They have been learning about inferencing while reading a series of short stories about the Slacker Family.

School News:

We are so excited to be able to recognize and honor/celebrate the (former Mittineague) 2019 WSHS graduates this year in a special visit to Mittineague School! On June 6th, the WSHS graduates will come and visit their former school in their caps and gowns! We are all excited to see them and wish them well!

Other exciting news! For the first time, Mittineague School has a Girls on the Run team! Fifteen third, fourth and fifth grade girls have been working with their coaches, Miss Shypula and Mrs. Hogan to build the skills and stamina to participate in a 5K run! The run will be held at Springfield College on Sunday, June 2nd! Please feel free to come and cheer them on!! We are all so proud of their efforts!



A huge thank you to all of you and our wonderfully thoughtful PTO for providing such a great pizza celebration for all our testers. It was delicious and the third, fourth and fifth graders are very grateful!

Reminder: Mittineague School is now offering a "Grab and Go" breakfast to all students. If your child comes in late to school, they are able to go down to the cafeteria, grab a bagged breakfast and take it with them to class!!



Word of the Week mindfulness

Aware of our thoughts, feelings, body and surrounding environment

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Do what you can, with all you have, wherever you are."
T. Roosevelt



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