

# Messages from Mittineague



## News from Mrs. Penna... Class of 2028

Grade 4 has had a great start to the school year! I am so excited to work with each and every one of you. Your child has already started to listen to our first read aloud which is a book called Wonder. I'm pretty sure they probably already started talking to you about it at home!

Your child has already started a chapter book and they are buddy reading right now so that I can assess each and every one of them as the reader that they are coming into 4th grade as.

We have started homework and I am hopeful that week one will be productive and that it was a stress-free situation for you at home.

Please remember that I am working with you in your child's education. Email me at any point in time if you ever have a question or concern.

[penna@wsps.org](mailto:penna@wsps.org)

Each time that I send information home in the form of the newsletter, I will always pose a question to you as parents. Please send me a quick email with your response...

This week's question- we have been working on different ways that you can show a number in math. Ask your child to tell you the different ways you can show numbers. They may want a piece of paper to show you what they know. I'm looking for the math language that describes the different ways that we show numbers. Email me with your response!

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**Thank you all for coming to Open House!!**

**It was lovely to see all of you!**

**#MittineaguePride #BeTheChange**

## News from Mrs. Canon: Class of 2030

Welcome to Second grade!! We are off to a great start! I hope you all enjoyed Open House last Thursday. Please look over all the papers you received that night and let me know if you have any questions. I try to do a book order once a month. Everytime you order we get new books for the classroom too. Book bags are starting Monday. Please look for a paper explaining the book bags.

Things to remember: snacks need to healthy, names on everything!, only refillable water bottles, check Classtag daily, empty and check take home folders daily (even on Fridays).

September is a busy month. It's hard to get back into routines but your child will succeed with a routine. Bedtime routine, homework routine, breakfast routine etc. Establishing it now will pay off in the long run. We are working on school routines and expectations: in the classroom, lunch room, bathroom, hallway, and playground.

Thanks for a great opening to our school year! It's going to be a lot of fun! Happy Fall!

## News from Mrs. Florek & Mr. Preye: Technology

Welcome Back! We hope everyone enjoyed their summer and did a bunch of fun things. We are off to a great start to the school year. First grade students are learning how to log on and off of the chromebooks. This takes a lot of practice and patience as sometimes the devices have a mind of their own. They will be learning about the keyboard and positioning their fingers on the home row keys when they type. This will be a skill that is reinforced and reviewed each year.

Second through fifth grade students are completing their beginning of the year assessments. Once those have been completed all grades will be discussing and learning about internet safety which includes proper care of the chromebooks, safe internet searching, cyberbullying, and digital citizenship.

We would appreciate help from home with keyboarding practice. Mr. Preye and I have several links for keyboarding posted on our websites. A little goes a long way!

For your Calendar	September 23 All School Read Kick-off	September 27 School Pictures	October 2 PTO	October 4 Evacuation Drill	October 14 No School	October 24 Family STEM Night
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### News from Mrs. Kavaris, our nurse... Welcome Back!!

Please make to complete the Pink Emergency Cards and return them to school as soon as possible. It is important to update contact numbers if there is a change so that parents/guardians may be reached quickly in case of illness, injury or an emergency. Please update the school nurse if there has been any change in your child's medical condition and throughout the year as needed.

As a reminder, if your child needs medication administered at school, a doctor's order and written parental permission are required. Please call the nurse's office if you need a form sent home. For safety reasons, medications should not be brought to school by students.

The Mobile Dentist is scheduled to come on **October 24th**. Permission forms have been sent home. If you would like your child to be seen by the in-school dentist, please fill out the form and return it to school. You may also sign your child up online at [www.MySchoolDentist.com](http://www.MySchoolDentist.com). If you have any questions please call Mrs. Kavarakis at 263-3373.

Please check out the new District Health Services web page. To access, please go to the West Springfield Public Schools website at [www.wsps.org](http://www.wsps.org). Under the tab "Families and Community" there is a drop down link to Health Services. There you may access some useful tips, information and forms. This site replaces the former "Nurse's Corner" that was available on the school website.

### News from Mr. Rathaus: Art

Hello! Hope your summer vacation was great! I am excited to join the Mittineague staff as a full-time traveling art teacher. We are starting the 2019-2020 academic year with a month of fun projects that all revolve around the role of line in art.

The first and second graders will be exploring the world of line and pattern with silly line people and patterned monster projects. Third graders are starting their imaginary house projects, which investigate the concept of defining form through line and integrating themes such as the ocean or space into their houses. Fourth grade is brainstorming fantasy machine sketches for the Leonardo Da Vinci project. Fifth graders are delving into the work of Alexander Calder, with an abstract collage and contour line piece.

Going forward, October will highlight the use of shape in art with a plankton project, and students will discover that plankton are not only beautiful but serve an important role in the ocean ecosystem. We'll have a unit on exoplanets so students have the opportunity to imagine and paint their own solar systems. Also this month, we'll have a fun unit inspired by Dia de los Muertos, the Mexican holiday. Students will create masks and skeletal figurines in the vein of the Mexican printmaker, José Posada.

Please feel free to visit the art room on Tuesdays to look at the students' wonderful work!

### PTO

The next PTO meeting of the year is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 2, 2019**, from 5:00-6:00. We would love to welcome even more new members! Please come if you can!!

PTO President: Robin Sayward  
Co-Vice Presidents: Nancy Bowie, Anne Lacienski  
Treasurer: Kristy Morrissey  
Secretary: Donald Houle

CONGRATULATIONS to our Guessing Jar winners:

Justin A: Bow tie jar... exact guess! (gift card)  
Declan R: First Aid jar... (gift card)  
Kieran B: Math Rod jar (gift card)  
Addison L: Math Rod jar... (movie)  
Josey L. : Letter Cube jar... (movie)  
Liliana G.: Goldfish jar... (gift card)  
Mason H.: Bonus Math ... (gift card)  
Mario C.: Bonus Math ...(gift card)

### Word of the Week responsible

"To carry out a duty or task carefully and thoroughly"

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Winning doesn't always mean being first. Winning means you're doing better than you've done before." - Bonnie Blair



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