

THE WASHINGTON POST



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians of Washington Elementary Students:

It is unbelievable that we are already beginning our third month of school; time really does fly when you are having fun. Washington Staff and students have been actively engaged in exciting, meaningful lessons around equivalent fractions, fall poetry, phonics, measurement and much more. The hands on/interactive lessons that the Washington teachers develop, give our children many opportunities to practice their skills and share new knowledge with their peers.

On October 8th we had a PTA meeting and elected a new board for the 2014-2015 school year. Congratulations to the following: Jen West, President, Sara Austin, Vice President, Betsy LaRose, Secretary and Kate Kantrow, Treasurer. This new board has already gotten the ball rolling with amazing ideas. Please become a member of the PTA, the cost is \$6 per person and the money can be left in the PTA mailbox in the main office.

I want to remind you that school breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m., but if your child does not have breakfast at school, then they are allowed to enter the building at 8:45 a.m. If you need before school care, please call MELC for information, 860-647-9659.

As the weather begins to cool, dressing appropriately is very important! The first thing we think about as the weather cools down is the holidays which makes us tempted to send snacks to school for celebrations. We will be enforcing the healthy snack policy throughout the holiday season. Thank you for your continued support with this district policy.

The teachers and myself look forward to seeing you December 2, 3 and 4th for report card conferences. Please be sure you have a convenient time set up with your child's teacher.

If at any time you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me. Stay Warm!!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Karen Gray

Principal

Important Phone
Numbers

Mrs. Karen Gray

Principal

(860) 645-4813

b59kgray@manchesterct.gov

Mrs. Joan Charnas

Assistant Principal

(860) 647-3336

b21jchar@manchesterct.gov

Ms. Elisabeth Heil

Social Worker

(860) 647-5018

Carla Trovato

Secretary

(860) 645-4813

Ms. Mindy Olson

Nurse

(860) 645-4813

Cafeteria

(860) 647-3338

Attendance Line

(860) 645-4813

After School Program

(860) 647-6973

PTA President

Jen West

PTA Vice President

Sara Austin

Attention Parents/Guardians

A reminder – if you are dropping your child off for breakfast, please be sure to arrive at 8:30 – the rec door will be open at that time. For those not requiring a school breakfast, children should be dropped off between 8:45-8:55 so they can get to class and be in their seat, ready to learn at 9:05.

A reminder – the school day ends at 3:25. If your child has a medical appointment and needs to be dismissed early, please send a note for the teacher.

Thank you to all who have completed your registration verification (infosnap). We have made good progress, but still have many parents that have not yet completed this required process. We have computer available if needed, just call the office to schedule a time (860-645-4813).

A reminder – to call your student in absent, please call the main number (860-645-4813) for the attendance line. You can also reach the nurse or office through this line, just follow the prompts.

Important numbers: Washington Elementary: 860-645-4813 (nurse, attendance, office)

First Student Bus Company : 860-645-5500

After School (Mr. Hassan): 860-539-5221

MELC: 860-647-9659



Library Events

Tails of Joy Presents R.E.A.D. to the Dogs – The dogs from Tails of Joy return to the Mary Cheney Library Building on Saturday, November 8th from 1 – 3 pm. Beginning readers through middle school students may sign up to read to a Reading Education Assistance Dog (R.E.A.D.). Registration is required – please call 860-645-0577 or visit the library beginning October 20th to reserve your timeslot. Location: Mary Cheney Library Building, 586 Main St., Manchester, CT 06040

Bilingual Storytime – The Association of Puerto Ricans and Latinos United of Manchester will present a bilingual storytime on Saturday, November 15th at 10:30 a.m. This fun storytime will take place at Cheney. Call 860-645-0577 for more info. Location: Mary Cheney Library Building, 586 Main St., Manchester, CT 06040





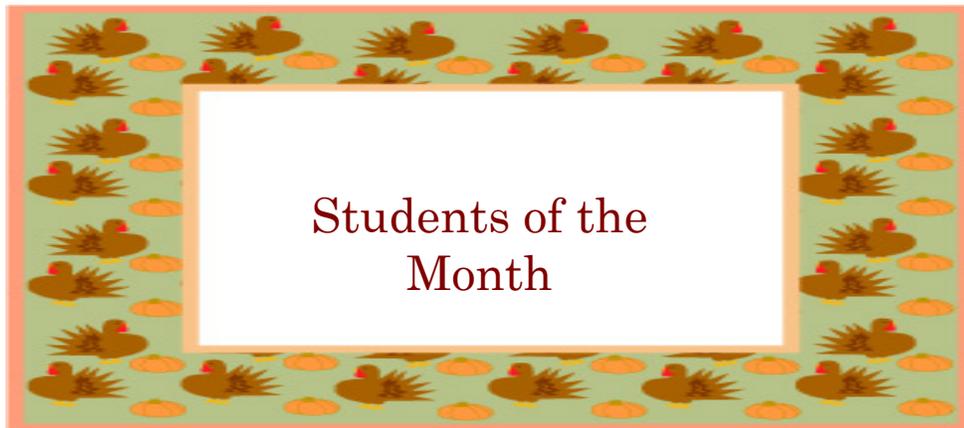
November Good Deed Doers



Logan Robbins, Chaz Simmons, Jessie Medina, Chance Clark, Jayden Collier, Jessica Turcotte, Ta'shawn Mellette, Nathanael Hernandez & Zayda-Lyn Downes

This month's scented markers were presented to Jayden Collier!

Congratulations to you all! Keep up the good work and



Kindergarten ~ Evelyn Derosier, Christopher Negron & Emma Binette

1st Grade ~ Melinda Benitez, Julianna Haviland & Katya Wright

2nd Grade ~ Lillian Jones, Alexander Genego, Olivia Aiken & Anthony Johnson

3rd Grade ~ Jovan Davis, Xavier Reyes & Britney Hodge

4th Grade ~ Madison Violette, Sanai Worrell & Julissa Hidalgo

5th Grade ~ Caytlyn McLaughlin, Zayda-Lyn Downes & Ashley Colon

Remember, YOU can be Student of the Month in your classroom too! Washington Scholars who are Safe, Smart and Respectful are always eligible to be Student of the Month. Congratulations to all of October honorees and good luck in November!

Picture Retakes – Nov. 3rd

Lifetouch School Portrait Co. will be here on Monday, Nov. 3rd from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. for photo retakes. If you were not satisfied with your child's photo, please return entire photo envelope and your child's picture will be taken again. Also, students who were absent on 9/09/14, the original photo date, should be photographed on Nov. 3rd also and those who were not enrolled here on 9/9/14.



November F.R.C. Dates

Infant/Toddler Playgroup – Nov. 5, 12, 19

Preschool Playgroup – Nov. 6, 13, 20

Girls Club – Nov. 18th

Boys Club – Nov. 20th

Kindergarten Lunch Bunch – Fri. Nov. 14th

1st Grade Lunch Bunch – Fri. Nov. 21st

2nd Grade Lunch Bunch – Mon. Nov. 10th

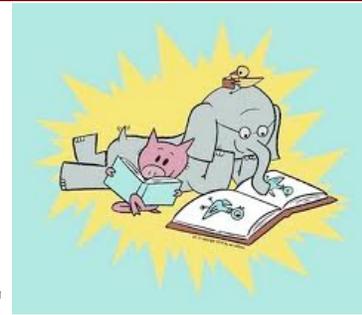


Invention Convention/Science Fair

Information Session

November 6, 2014 6pm at Illing Middle School





Reading Together How to Read with Your Child

Becoming a successful reader and developing a love of reading begins in the home. Here are some fun ways you can help your child become a lifelong reader by sharing reading together.

- **Book Choice** — Give your children the power of choice by taking them to the library to get their own library card and let them choose books to sign out, make a trip to buy some books at a local bookstore, or let them pick books from a school book flyer or book fair. Research shows that when children are allowed to choose their own books they are more interested in reading
- **Make Books Special** — Turn reading time into an event at home by creating special places to read, a favorite chair, tucked into bed at nighttime, or under a homemade tent. Create a special place for your children to keep their books, a spot on a bookshelf or in a basket.
- **Family Reading Time** — Have a time during the day when the whole family reads together either their own books or one book to share aloud together. Begin with shorter amounts of time 10-15 minutes to work into busy schedules and work up to longer amounts of time 30-60 minutes as it becomes a family habit like watching a favorite TV show at a certain time.
- **Take Turns Reading** — Read books together sentence by sentence, page by page, or chapter by chapter depending on the reading ability of your child. If the book has lots of dialogue pick a character part and read, even changing voices to sound like the characters for added excitement.
- **Talk About Books** — Remember to stop while reading a book and talk about what is going on in the text. Ask deeper questions like, “Why do you think Junebug did that?” “What would you do next if you were Junebug? Why?” “Why do you think the author used the word *curious* to describe Junebug?”

Remember that promoting a relaxing and enjoyable atmosphere is key to helping your child become a good reader.

Next month I'll share tips on helping your child develop his/her expressive oral language.

Happy Reading!
Dr. Fiano
Reading Consultant

Thriving Third Graders



What's Going On in Third Grade?

October has been a great month for third graders! They are working hard on publishing their small moments in the computer lab and finding new strategies on how to revise and edit their writing. In math, students have been working on solving one and two step word problems. Next up, multiplication and division! We are looking forward to seeing everyone's Map Projects and will showcase them in a classroom "museum" so all of the third graders and other staff members can see each other's work.

Below is a picture of the third graders enjoying their visit from the Lutz Museum. They learned about animal protection and a visit from a chinchilla and fire belly toad! We look forward to our next visit learning about animal adaptations.

Some Super Fun Ways to Practice Your Math Facts at Home!

1. **Play with dice.** Really. Toss the flash cards and practice adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing using the numbers you roll on the dice.
2. **Flashlight math.** Use the flashcards and flip two cards at a time. Kids shine a flashlight on the one they know and answer that one. Simple. Don't have a flashlight? Make a math wand. **Bumblebee wand**, perhaps? Use a stick or a light saber. Anything that works for your child.
3. **Use electronics.** We love **My Math Flash Card App** on the iPad and **Math Practice Flashcards** on an android phone. There are a gazillion flash card apps out there. I'm sure any would do the trick, and if you have five minutes and your kid says, "*Can I play a game on your phooone?*" Say "*Why yes you may! I'm so very glad you asked!*"
4. **Write the answer.** Or paint the answer. **Water on cement** or **chalk on sidewalk** or **window crayon on window.** One person flashes the cards and the other guy writes.
5. **Math Bingo.** Again toss the flashers and play **Math Bingo** as a way to learn and practice these numbers.

~Ms. Herchuk, Mrs. Salerno & Mrs. Steffenson





Race Date: Saturday, November 22 at 10am

Races: ½ mile, 1 mile and 2 mile (all non-timed)

Kids will receive a race bib, medal, sweatshirt and snacks

Cost: FREE! But kids are encouraged to bring 2 can goods to donate to the Manchester Food Bank

Register at <https://www.manchesterroadrace.com/>

Sponsored by





Important Dates To Remember



Nov. 3rd – Lifetouch Retakes

Nov. 4th – No School – Election Day

Nov. 6th – Information Session for Invention Convention/Science Fair @ Illing Middle School 6pm

Nov. 11th – No School – Veterans Day

Nov. 11th – Family Movie Night 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 12th – PTA Meeting 7 p.m.

Nov. 17 – 19 – 5th Grade Discovery Camp

Nov. 22nd- Little Manchester Road Race 10 a.m.

Nov. 26th- Early Dismissal 1:17 p.m.

Nov. 27th & 28th – No School – Thanksgiving Recess

