

# THE WASHINGTON POST



## Principal's Message

Important Phone

Numbers

Mrs. Karen Gray

Principal

(860) 645-4813

[b59kgray@manchesterct.gov](mailto:b59kgray@manchesterct.gov)

Mrs. Joan Charnas

Assistant Principal

(860) 647-3336

[b21jchar@manchesterct.gov](mailto: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

Dear Parents/Guardians of Washington Elementary Students:

Our school year is off to a terrific start! Thank you for helping us transition the students back into their scholastic routine. As a result of this combined effort, the first month of our school year ran very smoothly. Your attendance at Open House was superb! Your adherence to the healthy school policy has students enjoying a healthy snack and able to maintain their focus on school subject matter. In addition to your support of our healthy food initiative, Washington School has been given a grant that provides every child with a healthy fruit or vegetable each day. These snacks include such foods as carrots, pears, bananas, celery, apples, pineapple and other alternatives. Some of these snacks may be new to your child(ren). If your child(ren) should come home and ask for a food you normally don't serve for dinner or snack, please keep in mind they may have been introduced to it through the school's healthy snack program.

Our staff has successfully established daily routines for their students and the students and the students have not only embraced these routines, but are on task with classroom expectations. I can't express enough how wonderful it is to see them actively participating and learning as I visit their classrooms! I would like to reiterate that the school doors open at 8:45 a.m. Please remember there is no supervision outside; please be mindful of this when they are getting dressed in the morning and might need a heavy coat or umbrella.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss any questions you may have. Thank you for all of your help, suggestions and support. Our students hold so much promise for a better tomorrow be working together.

Sincerely,

Karen Gray

Principal



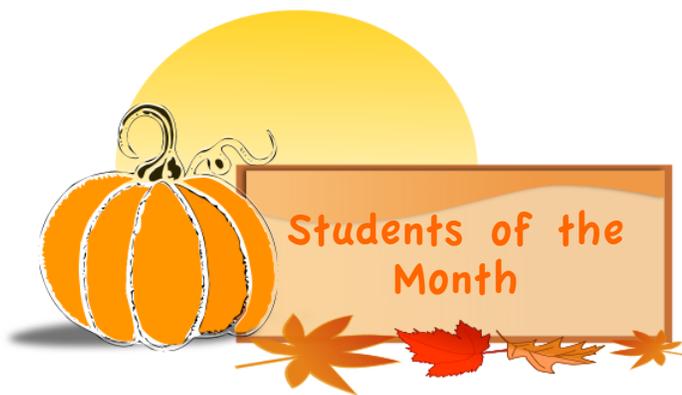
## October Good Deed Doers



**Cencir Harvey, Na'Zariyah Delemos, Britney Hodge, Gwen Robbins, Vivian Truong & Tayshaun Parkman**

**This month's art kit was presented to Vivian Truong!**

**Congratulations to you all! Keep up the good work and remember YOU can get caught doing the right thing too!**



**Kindergarten ~Elijah King, Da'sharria Gordon & Jameson Kozikowski**

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade ~ Christian Franco, Jamari Penrice & Antwone Miller**

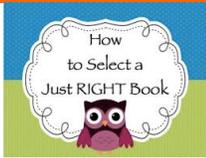
**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade ~ Mayte Palomino, J'Roose Orbe, Joeynix Garcia Oliveras & Mikaela Knight**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade ~ Tatianna Negrón, Na'Zariyah Delemos & Alicia Lavado**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade ~ Jayden Collier, Jawon Miller & Conner McLaughlin**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade ~ Daunte Ayala, Jeremiah Carrasquillo & Kellan Stewart**

**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 September honorees and good luck in October!**



## Choosing the Right Books for Your Child

Finding books for your child to read that are not “too hard” or “too easy” can be challenging at times. Follow this simple advice below to help your child find that “just right” book!

### 1. Survey Your Child’s Interest:

- Is there a topic of interest to your child?
- What authors does he/she like to read?
- Is there a series that your child is interested in?

### 2. Preview the Book with Your Child:

- Read the front and back covers.
- Read the chapter titles or the table of contents.
- Check out the illustrations in the book.

### 3. Use the Five Finger Rule:

- Have your child read the second page.
- Have your child put up a finger for each word he/she is not sure of or does not know...



1 finger  
**too easy**



2 fingers

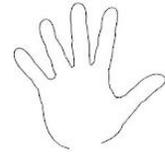


3 fingers

**just right**



4 fingers



5 fingers

**too hard**

- If your child still thinks it is not too difficult, have him/her try this strategy on two more pages, he/she should ask:
  - Did I understand what I am reading?
  - Do I know almost every word?
  - When I read it aloud can I read it smoothly?
  - Will I have fun reading this book?

\*If most of the answers are **yes**, this will be an easy book for your child to read independently.

\*If most of the answers are **no**, this book will be too hard; suggest you give the book another try at a later date or get the book to read aloud to your child.

Choosing just right books that your child is interested in will make reading a fun and enjoyable activity!

Next month I'll share tips on reading with your child.

Happy Reading!  
Dr. Fiano, Reading Consultant

## Second Grade News

Second Grade had a Super September! We can not believe the month of October has already arrived. Second grade has been so busy reviewing and learning basic addition and subtraction math strategies. We have enjoyed Henry and Mudge stories, and have just started a new book called Clementine. She has been making us laugh everyday! While we enjoy these books we answer lots of questions, and share discussions with each other. Second graders have also begun writing small moment stories. We are having lots of fun getting to write about things that have happened in our very own lives.

~The Second Grade Team~



## Thriving Third Graders ~ What's New in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade?

Third Graders are taking off! In writing students, are beginning to develop their personal narratives. This story will capture a small moment in their lives. Students will learn to include details in the story so readers can create a mental movie in their mind while reading it. In Math, students have been working on place value and are beginning to learn about rounding. They will learn to round to the nearest ten and hundreds place. It is important that students are also practicing their addition and subtraction fact fluency every single day for at least 5-10 minutes. In reading, students are working on building their stamina and writing about their reading in their new reading journals!

We are excited for another amazing month in third grade and to enjoy the crisp, fall air!

Love,

Your Third Grade Teachers

Mrs. Salerno, Mrs. Steffenson, Ms. Herchuk



## Attention Parents & Caregivers

If you have not already gone online to complete your returning student verification, please do so ASAP. It is vital that we have updated emergency information as well as consents signed off for the year. These are the items that previously went home the first day of school and must be updated each year and now are completed online. If you do not have internet access, please call the office to schedule a time to use a computer in our library.

Directions:

Go to: <http://publicschools.manchester.gov/>

Click on Registration

Click on RETURNING STUDENT VERIFICATION

Enter your student's SNAPCODE. If you do not have the SNAPCODE (which was mailed, emailed, and given to your student, please call the office). Once complete you will see "successfully submitted". If you do not see this message, please check to see what is highlighted in red that needs to be corrected or answered.



## FRANK RIZZA ELEMENTARY CROSS COUNTRY CHALLENGE

**October 4, 2014**

**9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.**

**134 E. MIDDLE TPKE.**

**MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL**

**MANCHESTER, CT**

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## Grade 4 ~ October News

Grade four is super excited that the school year has kicked off! At this point our friends have been reminded how to select appropriate books that are just right; like the perfect shoes for an outfit! We have been slowly building the minutes of silent reading and encouraging STAMINA! Friends and families don't forget to log the books you read because it is our goal to read multiple genres by the end of the school year; and it is our fourth grade friends responsibility to keep up with their assigned tasks. In writing we are putting together our "Personal Narratives" we have been focusing on bits and pieces like great authors do for example; selecting a special small moment, developing believable characters with real struggles and motivations, and structuring the arc of our stories by stretching and showing NOT telling about that special moment in 2-3 captions. Soon our drafting will be complete and the revising process will begin. Every special written piece takes time and heart! In math we are using past knowledge of the place value system an applying it to bigger numbers through the millions place. We are encouraging our friends to focus on the process not the answer. Explanation using math language is a key concept so please remind our little friends to continue to explain their thinking and not be afraid to pose a mathematical argument!

Mrs. Flynn

Ms. Giaquinto

Ms. Ramsey



## Manchester Public Library Events

Visit the Mary Cheney Library Building for a special fire safety storytime during Fire Safety Week. This storytime will take place Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Call 860-645-0577 for more information. Location: Mary Cheney Library Building, 586 Main St. Manchester, CT 06040

On Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, visit the Mary Cheney Library Building at 10:30 to meet Llama Llama! Listen to a story, make a craft and have the opportunity to take a photo with Llama Llama. Remember to bring your camera! Call 860-645-0577 for more info. Location: Mary Cheney Library Building, 586 Main St., Manchester, CT 06040

The Late Fall Storytime session at Manchester Public Library will begin on October 27<sup>th</sup> with programs for children from birth through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Storytimes are offered for infants, one-year olds, two-year olds, three-to five year olds and elementary age children. Registration begins October 20<sup>th</sup> for Manchester residents and October 22<sup>nd</sup> for non-residents. Please call 860-645-0577 for more information and to register; or visit our website at <http://library.townofmanchester.org/childhome.html> for info.



## F.R.C October Playgroup Dates

Infant/Toddler Playgroup ~ October 1, 8, 15, 22

Preschool Playgroup ~ October 2, 9, 16, 23

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## Important Dates To Remember



**October 4<sup>th</sup> - Cross Country Challenge 9:00 a.m.**

**October 6<sup>th</sup> - Fire Prevention 9:30 Gr. K-3**

**October 7<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Mystic in house A.M. only**

**October 8<sup>th</sup> - PTA Meeting - 7:00 PM**

**October 13<sup>th</sup> - No School - Columbus Day**

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Early Dismissal 1:17 - Professional Development**



Washington Elementary School – School Governance Council  
2014-2015 Nomination Form (Parents)

(From Karen Gray, Principal)

**Purpose of a School Governance Council:**

School Governance Councils were created by the state's recent education reform law (Public Act 10-111) to enable parents, school staff, students (where appropriate) and community leaders to work together to improve student achievement. School Governance Councils serve in an advisory capacity and are charged with assisting the school administration in making programmatic and operational changes to improve the school's achievement.

Please nominate a parent or parents for the Washington School Governance Council. You may nominate yourself or other parents. **Please return to your child's teacher or the Washington Office by 4:00 p.m. Friday, October 10, 2014.**

All parents nominated will be called by Karen Gray to see if they wish to accept the nomination. All parents who accept the nomination will be placed on an election ballot that will be sent home on Tuesday October 14 and due on Friday October 24, 2014. There are three parent openings that can be elected for a two year term.

I suggest the following parent(s) to be nominated for the 2014- 2015 Washington School Governance Council:

1.

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2.

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**Please return to your child's teacher or the Washington Office by 4:00 p.m. Friday, October 10, 2014.**