



THE VILLAGE BLUEBIRD

Village Elementary School

Volume 12, Issue 5

Summer Wishes

Dear Families,

The Village School is grateful to our parent community for your involvement and support this year. It has made our efforts to support student learning especially meaningful.

We are especially grateful for our PTA presidents, Mrs. Chenette and Mrs. Shlossberg, their executive board and team of volunteers for enhancing our lives with social and cultural activities that support our school programs. We appreciate the tremendous amount of effort and enthusiasm that you put into all you do for VES.

We are also grateful for our VES staff and student body for their hard work, and dedication! We will celebrate our year and wish our 4th graders well during the clap off and full school gathering on the last day of school.

In August, remember to look for placement and school and staff information for the 2015-2016 school year. Additional updates as well as report card access information and supply lists for next year are included in this issue.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

IMPORTANT DATES:

May 12: BOE Meeting UMS 7:30

May 18-22: Staff Appreciation Wk.

May 19: BOE Meeting UMS 7:30

May 20: PTA meeting, OHES, 9:45

May 25-26: Memorial Day - Schools Closed

May 27: 4th Grade NJ ASK Science Test (Makeups 5/28)

May 29: 4th Grade Movin' On Up Party, LMS 6:30-8:30.

June 2-3: 4th Grade Music Concerts, MHS, 7

June 4: 3rd Grade Music and Art Shows, 6:30 & 7:30.

June 9 BOE Mtg., UMS 7:30

June 10: Fun Day, Grades 3 & 4

June 11: Fun Day Rain Date

June 12 - June 18: MAP Testing

June 16: BOE Mtg., UMS, 7:30

June 17: PTA mtg., VES 9:45. 3rd Grade Parent Instrumental 7.

June 23: Last day of school (1:30 Dismissal) Report Cards Available Online

June 24: Staff Development

July 2: VES Office closed.

Aug. 26: VES Open House, Grades 3 and 4, 8:30-12:00

Aug 26: OHES Open House, Grades 1 and 2, 8:30-12:00

Aug 26: LMS Open House, Grade 5, 9:30-11:00

Sept. 1-3: Staff Development

Sept. 8: First Day of School

Sept. 14: School closed

Sept. 17-18: Picture Days

Sept 21: 3rd Grade Back to School Night, 6:30

Sept. 23: School closed

Sept. 24: 4th Grade Back to School Night, 7:00

Sept. 29: 5th Grade Back to School Night, 6:30

Suggested Summer Reading

~Mrs. Antoniewicz, Media Specialist



Suggested reading lists for 3rd and 4th graders are available on the VES homepage for your review.

Outgoing 4th graders may also find summer reading selections at the LMS Homepage. Choose "Summer Reading Suggestions."

These will be available in June.

Report Card Access

3rd marking period report cards will be available online starting June 23rd at 1:30pm. They will be available to view, print, and save.

To log in:

- 1) Visit <https://parents.mtsd.k12.nj.us>
- 2) Enter your username, which is your email address, and your password. If you forget your password, use the "Forgot My Password" link just below the Login button. Your password will then be sent by email in a few minutes.

If you unable to log in or do not have an account, please contact Jaime Velez at jvelez@mtsd.us



Arrivederci, Montgomery!

Teaching is one of the noblest and most rewarding professions. Where else can one's life work be found helping young people grow academically and socially, achieving great things and modest successes? When I have been asked what I do for a living, I customarily begin by saying that I was a teacher for twenty-two years, and then an assistant principal for fourteen. I am proud of both roles that I have played during my career and have been fortunate to have spent time with so many fine people, especially the thousands of staff and students with whom I have had the privilege of working.

Montgomery Township, where I have been living for thirty-two years, has been much more than a place of work and a home for my family. It is a community that has steadfastly valued education by supporting its outstanding schools. Montgomery has also created recreational opportunities for young and old while still preserving a third of its land as open space. What a special place! I will be forever grateful for having had the opportunity to serve the students and families of Hamilton and Montgomery Townships and I thank you for the respect and trust that I have been accorded over the years. I am certain that Village School will continue thriving under the extraordinary leadership of Ms. Susan Lacy and my successor, Mrs. Jaime Maccarone. Best wishes for a wonderful future!

Mr. Hadinger

Mrs. Jaime Maccarone, VES's New Vice Principal

Village School is pleased to introduce Mrs. Jaime Maccarone as our new vice principal. She is well known to many families and staff in the Montgomery Township school community. Mrs. Maccarone has been a teacher at Orchard Hill and Village Schools for fifteen years. She received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Rider University, earning summa cum laude honors in her Educational Administration and Supervision program.

Mrs. Maccarone has participated in and/or led many district professional development initiatives, including the Danielson Evaluation Model, District Strategic Planning, Assessment for Learning, Science Curriculum Revision Committee, Everyday Math Assessment Team and the Culture and Climate Committee. She has been a Fourth Grade Team Leader and is a Certified Responsive Classroom® Consulting Teacher. In this last role, Mrs. Maccarone has trained the majority of teachers in grades kindergarten through six in the philosophy and practices of Responsive Classroom. She is highly respected by our school community and will be a terrific leader for our school in the years to come. Congratulations!

Best Wishes from Mrs. McCarthy

Dear Parents,

I am sad to inform you that at the end of the school year I will be relocating to Ithaca, NY. My husband recently accepted a professorship at Cornell University. While we as a family are excited about this opportunity, I regret having to leave the wonderful students, families, and staff with whom I have worked over the past two years. As a former Montgomery student, it has been a special experience to work in the district and I will sincerely miss everyone. I am thankful for the collaborative partnerships I have formed with many of you to support our students. I am happy to know that the students will be in excellent hands with Mrs. Fornal and my replacement, and wish them many years of continued success!

Best,

Heather McCarthy, School Counselor

2015-2016 Placement Process

As the end of the year approaches, plans for classroom placements are being made. Mr. Hadinger, Mrs. Maccarone and I will work closely with teachers, supervisors, and guidance counselors to place current 3rd graders into 4th grade. OHES principal, Mrs. Scotti will place current 2nd graders into 3rd grade with our assistance. We will place all 4th graders into 5th grade classes with assistance from Lower Middle School principal, Mr. Mike Richards. All students will be placed in heterogeneous classes with the best possible teacher match, a positive group of classmates, and a few familiar students from previous classes. Any specific academic needs will be taken into consideration first. Students are identified for special instructional models during the summer using multiple classroom assessment measures administered during the course of the school year.

Parents of current 3rd and 4th graders are welcome to share any vital information with me that the school does not already have. This information must be in writing and may not include requests for specific teachers. Please note that pertinent information shared with me in previous years must be resubmitted. Letters or emails must be received by June 12, 2015.

Please trust us to make the best placement possible for all children. It is important to us that students have successful academic and developmentally appropriate experiences in school with talented and caring teachers. Final placement information will be available in August.

Ms. Lacy



Visit the district homepage at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us to register your child for the S.O.A.R. Summer Program which includes academic and recreational classes.

Online Tools to Prevent Summer Regression

This summer our schools are providing free access for every student to two electronic resources that can help them to counteract summer regression: *Raz-Kids* and *Compass Learning Odyssey*.

Raz-Kids is a reading program that will differentiate reading instruction for your child by providing access to hundreds of animated leveled books. Students can listen to books for modeled fluency, read books with pronunciation and vocabulary support and record their own reading. They are able to complete interactive quizzes at the end of the book to check for understanding. Your child should have received his or her login and password already. If not, please check with your child's teacher.

Odyssey is another web-based resource available to help students review content and practice skills in Math, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts. Student logins have already been provided, and Village School students have been using it both at school and at home. Differentiated Learning paths are pre-programmed and available for each student to use this summer.



Raz-Kids and *Odyssey* can be accessed from our school website at <http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/student> along with several other recommended web-based educational programs.

General 2015-2016 Supply List For Rising 3rd Graders

Dear Incoming Third Grade Students and Families,

In an effort to make your supply shopping easier, the third grade team has come up with a list of supplies that you can begin to look for. We have chosen these items carefully and feel that they enhance our instructional program. **Toward the end of the summer, additional information regarding specific items needed for your classroom will be made available on our website.**

- 12 sharpened pencils (non-mechanical pencils preferred)
- 1 set of crayons OR colored pencils (keep to no more than 24 colors)
- 2 rolls of scotch tape in individual plastic dispensers
- 4 dry erase markers
- 1 pencil box (standard plastic rectangular one)
- 1 highlighter
- 4 Post-It note pads
- 4 composition notebooks
- 1 one-subject spiral notebook
- 2 glue sticks
- Comfortable headphones (preferably not earbuds) in a Ziplock bag with your name on it – for your personal use

As you shop for a backpack, please **DO NOT** buy one with wheels. Your choice of a backpack must fit easily into your cubby in the classroom.

Remember to be on the lookout in August for a letter from your classroom teacher with some additional supplies as well as a warm welcome to VES.

Enjoy your summer and we will see you in September!

Sincerely,
The Third Grade Team



General 2015-2016 Supply List

For Rising 4th Graders

Dear Rising 4th Grade Students and Families,

In an effort to make your supply shopping easier, the fourth grade team has come up with a **starter list** of supplies that you can begin to look for. We have chosen these items carefully and feel that they enhance our instructional program. **Toward the end of the summer, additional information regarding specific items for your classroom will be available on our website.**

Sharpened pencils – enough to last a while

Soft pencil case

Scotch tape

Post-it Notes with lines (not the “Super Sticky” variety)

Comfortable headphones (preferably not earbuds) in a Ziplock bag with your name on it – for your personal use

Dry erase markers and an eraser

Reminder: complete your school shopping using your classroom teacher’s supply list, which will be available this summer

Feel free to bring in your own scissors, colored pencils, crayons, etc. Each classroom will have a supply, but many students prefer to have their own.

As you shop for a backpack, please **DO NOT** buy one with wheels. Your choice of a backpack must fit easily into your cubby in the classroom.

Enjoy your summer and we will see you on September 8th!

Sincerely,

The Fourth Grade Team



General 2015-2016 Supply List For Rising 5th Graders

Attention 4th Grade Parents – Order Back to School Supplies by June 30th

To help students and families with the transition to 5th grade, LMS is excited to announce a partnership with *1st Day School Supplies* offering parents the opportunity to purchase their rising 5th grader's general supply list and have it delivered directly to their classroom on the first day of school.

The general supply list contains all the supplies 5th graders will need regardless of which team they are placed on this summer. Parents can pre-order their back to school supplies by clicking the link found on the Lower Middle School Homepage. All orders must be submitted by June 30th and parents will receive an email confirmation along with a reminder that their school supplies have been ordered later this summer.

Parents taking advantage of this service can take comfort in the fact that they are not overbuying, or under buying on school supplies as every effort was made to create a list that was common to all teams. The goal was to limit the amount of shopping to a few items specific to individual team requests once students learned of their placement in August.

Parents are invited to visit the Lower Middle School's 5th Grade School Supplies webpage <http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/Page/9720> for a comprehensive view of general and team specific supplies needed for 5th Grade. Have a safe and enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing everyone in September!



Movin' On Up Party

Friday, May 29th from 6:30-8:30pm at LMS

All of the fourth graders from VES are invited to a MOVIN' ON UP PARTY at their new school – LMS! This a free event where our 4th graders can get more familiar with their new school! Your child must be registered in order to attend. Every child must be walked in by a parent or guardian and checked in at our registration table in order to participate.

REGISTER HERE: <http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/Page/11671>



We need lots and lots of parent volunteers to make this event a success. Please consider helping out --- it will be a blast! All volunteers will need to arrive by 5:40pm sharp except registration volunteers need to arrive by 5:30pm. (You can bring your 4th grader with you.) DADS are encouraged to volunteer!!! ☺

Please email Jackie Barth at jackiebarth@comcast.net if you can volunteer and specify your area of preference from list below. Anyone who doesn't specify an area will be assigned to wherever there is the biggest need. Please include your name, email, your child's name and child's teacher(s).

1. Music - kids learn song to be sung at end of evening
2. Art - kids make 4 giant hanging canvases which will hang outside the LMS cafeteria next year
3. Amazing Race - basically a scavenger hunt where kids go around the school finding clues.
4. Minute to Win It Games in the cafeteria
5. Runners -- available to help wherever needed that evening
6. Chaperones needed to travel with each class -- two per classroom

* Student Registration Volunteer-- need to arrive by 5:30pm; check-in each child; when registration is over, if possible, move to another area

* Volunteer Registration -- need to arrive by 5:30pm; check-in each volunteer; when registration is over, if possible, move to another area



Lemony Snicket's *The Composer is Dead!*

— PLUS —

Bewitching music of Harry Potter and Baba Yaga!



Saturday May 16, 2015 2:30pm

Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Richardson Auditorium

\$10 Adult, \$5 Child Tickets: princetonsymphony.org or 609 497-0020

Prelude Event at Princeton Garden Theatre **Saturday May 9 10:30am**

Movie showing: A Series of Unfortunate Events

PSO BRAVO!



princetonsymphony.org

Village Elementary School
100 Main Blvd.
Skillman, NJ 08558



MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as a forward-thinking community is to ensure that students grow into confident, compassionate, and successful learners in a global society by providing engaging and challenging educational experiences in a student-centered environment.

SUSAN LACY, PRINCIPAL
EMAIL: SLACY@MTSD.K12.NJ.US
ALFRED HADINGER, VICE PRINCIPAL
EMAIL: AHADINGER@MTSD.K12.NJ.US
Phone: 609-466-7606
Fax: 609-466-7196

Get the latest weather updates and information from our VES weather station by clicking on WeatherBug at the VES site!

Moving?



If your family is moving out of district, to any other address within district, or if your child will not be returning to Montgomery Schools next year, please notify Mrs. Bidetti in the main office as soon as you have finalized your plans. Mrs. Bidetti can be reached at 609-466-7606 or lbidetti@mtsd.us.

A Note From The Health Office

Patricia Cizin - Phone (609) 466-7606 ext. 2600 Fax (609) 466-7190

Health forms for the 2015-2016 school year will be sent to parents electronically this year. Please log onto your Parent Resources account to ensure the email address on file reflects a current working email address.

If your child currently has medication in stock in the health office, plan to stop by anytime on June 23th to pick it up. New Jersey State law prohibits public schools from storing medications in the health office over the summer. This includes Epi- Pens, inhalers, insulin, eye drops, prescription and non- prescription medications such as Tylenol, Advil or Benadryl. All medications not picked up by a parent by 1:30 PM on June 23, 2015 will be discarded in compliance with state regulations. Students are not allowed to carry any medication home in their backpacks per Montgomery Township School District Policy. Exceptions cannot be made to this policy.



I wish you a warm, healthy and relaxing summer.

Patricia Cizin, RN, CSN, MSN



YMCA Afterschool Program at VES

For the 2015-16 school year, the YMCA of Princeton will be providing before and after school care for the students of OHES, VES & LMS. To view the YMCA's program information for Montgomery, please visit their website at <http://princetonymca.org/programs/afterschool/montgomery.html>.

For details visit the district homepage at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us and click on *Before and After School Care for 2015-2016*.

Lost and Found Clothing Donation

Please be aware that the PTA will be donating unclaimed student clothing such as jackets and sweatshirts to a charitable organization at the close of the school year. Stop by the lost and found in the cafeteria to reclaim any clothing your child may have left at school. You will have until **Friday, June 19th** to do so. Thank you!

