



# THE VILLAGE BLUEBIRD

Village Elementary School

Volume 11, 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 thankful for PTA presidents, Mr. Swerdlow and Mrs. Chenette, their executive board and team of volunteers for enriching our lives with social and cultural activities that support our academic programs. We appreciate the tremendous amount of effort and enthusiasm that you put into all you do for VES.

We are also grateful for the VES staff and student body for their hard work, and enthusiasm! We will celebrate our year and wish our 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2014-2015 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!

*Ms. Lacy and Mr. Hadinger*

### IMPORTANT DATES:

May 22: PTA meeting, VES, 9:45

**May 26: Memorial Day - Schools Closed**

May 27: BOE Mtg, UMS 7:30

May 27 - June 3: MAP Math Testing

May 29: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Pennsbury Manor

June 2-3: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Concerts, MHS, 7

June 10: BOE Mtg, UMS 7:30

June 11-12: Fun Days

June 17: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Parent Instrumental Music presentation; BOE Mtg., UMS, 7:30pm

June 19: PTA mtg., OHES 9:45

**June 20: Last day of school** (1:30 Dismissal), Report Cards Available Online

June 23 & 24: Staff Development

Aug. 27: VES Open House, Grades 3 and 4, 8:30-12:00

Aug 27: OHES Open House, Grades 1 and 2, 8:30-12:00

Aug 27: LMS Open House, Grade 5, 9:30-10:30

Sept. 2-3: Staff Development

**Sept. 4: First Day of School**

Sept. 10-11: School Pictures

Sept 15: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Back to School Night, 7:00

Sept. 17th: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Back to School Night, 6:30

Sept. 23: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Back to School Night, 7:00

Sept. 25: Rosh Hashanah, Schools Closed

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## 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. Go to: *Departments – Language Arts*, then *Food for Thought & Resources* then *Mrs. Strawn's Summer Selections*

## Report Card Access

3rd marking period report cards will be available online starting June 20th 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](mailto:jvelez@mtsd.us)

# 2014-2015 Placement Process

As the end of the year approaches , plans for classroom placements are being made. Mr. Hadinger 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 13, 2014.**

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

Ms. Lacy



Visit the district homepage at [www.mtsd.k12.nj.us](http://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. Data from our MAP assessments will be used to create newly differentiated learning paths in *Odyssey* for all VES learners.



*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 2014-2015 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
- 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 2014-2015 Supply List For Rising 4th Graders

Dear Rising 4<sup>th</sup> 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 in September!

Sincerely,

*The Fourth Grade Team*



# General 2014-2015 Supply List For Rising 5th Graders

Attention 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents – Order Back to School Supplies by June 30th

To help students and families with the transition to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, LMS is excited to announce a partnership with *1<sup>st</sup> Day School Supplies* offering parents the opportunity to purchase their rising 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 underbuying 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 5<sup>th</sup> Grade School Supplies webpage <http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/Page/9720> for a comprehensive view of general and team specific supplies needed for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Have a safe and enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing everyone in September!



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](mailto:lbidetti@mtsd.us).

## A Note From The Health Office

~ Mary Ellen Foley, RN CSN ~ Phone (609) 466-7606 Fax (609) 466-7190

Health forms for the 2014-2015 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 20th 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 4pm on June 20th 2014 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.

Regards,  
Mary Ellen Foley, RN, CSN



## YMCA Afterschool Program at VES

For the 2014-15 school year, the YMCA of Princeton will be providing before and after school care for the students of OHES, VES, LMS (and UMS if there is sufficient interest—after school only). 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](http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us) and click on *Before and After School Care for 2014-2015*.

## 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 20th** to do so. Thank you!

