

March 7, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a great first two weeks here at Merrymount. Thank you for helping to make my transition a smooth one. I look forward to working with you and your children. Please feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

- Monthly Character Theme: The monthly character theme for the month of March is Fairness. A student that represents this character trait will be picked by their classroom teacher and acknowledged on Friday, March 29, 2019 at a school wide assembly. The definition of fairness along with examples and quotes will be discussed during morning announcements for all students to hear.
- PBIS - Positive Behavioral Intervention Systems
We are very excited as a staff to implement PBIS. We will hold our first school wide assembly on Friday, March 29, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. During this time we will sharing the school wide initiative with our students. We will recognize students that have exemplified the monthly character trait of Fairness as well as those with perfect attendance for the month of March. I look forward to sharing more information on PBIS with parents at our next PTO meeting.
- MCAS Infrastructure (Grades 3-5):
Grades 3-5 will be taking the MCAS Infrastructure (Practice Test) next week. This is a great way to have students get accustomed to the on-line tools that they will be using and how questions will be formatted.
The MCAS Infrastructure will run on:
Monday, March 11, 2019 - Grade 4
Wednesday, March 13, 2019 - Grade 5
Thursday, March 14, 2019 - Grade 3
- MCAS Testing: Below are the dates for grades 3-5 MCAS:
4/1- Grade 4 English Language Arts
4/3- Grade 5 English Language Arts
4/4- Grade 4 English Language Arts
4/5- Grade 5 English Language Arts
4/8- Grade 3 English Language Arts
4/11- Grade 3 English Language Arts

4/29- Grade 3 Math
5/1- Grade 5 Math
5/2- Grade 3 Math
5/3- Grade 5 Math
5/6- Grade 4 Math
5/8- Grade 4 Math

5/9- Grade 5 Science and Tech Engineering
5/10- Grade 5 Science and Tech Engineering

A message from Ms. Collins, School Nurse:

It has been a tough winter for colds and the flu. Here are a few reminders of our guidelines. If your child has a fever, they need to be fever free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school. Any vomiting or diarrhea follows this same guideline, free of symptoms for 24 hours before coming back to school. If a doctor puts your child on an antibiotic for strep throat or pneumonia (for example) the child needs a full 24 hours of the antibiotic, as well as be fever free before returning to school. Students should not be given Benadryl for rashes before school as it has different side effects which can affect a child's ability to learn and participate in school. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,
Ms. Mitchell
Acting Principal