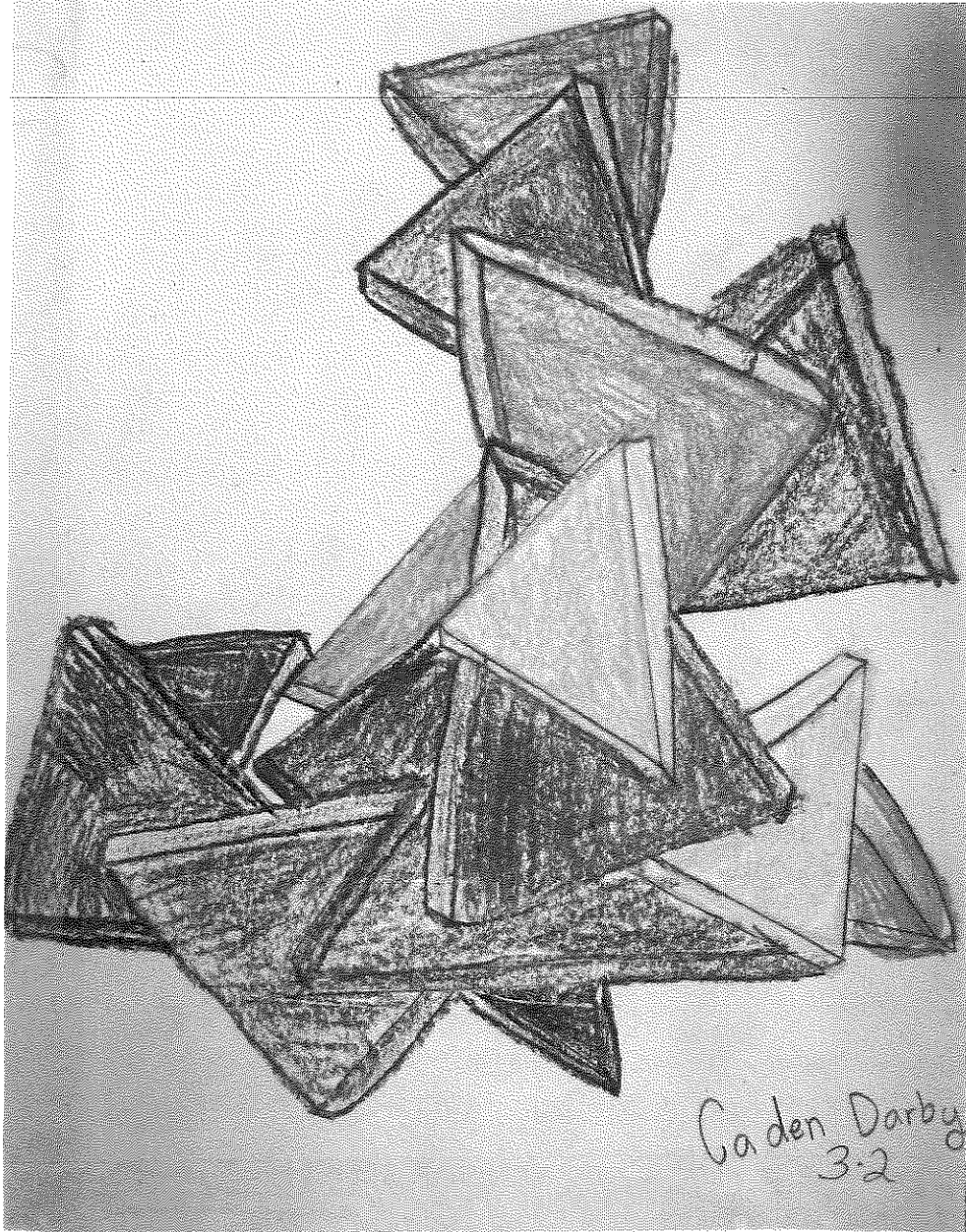
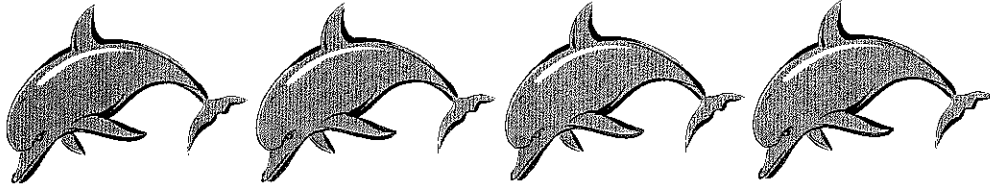


MBS NEWSLETTER

***MONMOUTH BEACH SCHOOL, 7 HASTINGS PLACE
MONMOUTH BEACH, NJ 07750***

December 2015



Cover Designed by Third Grader Caden Darby

DECEMBER 2015

Greetings to all of the families in our Monmouth Beach School community! In addition to having the first marking period completed, everyone at MBS is in the midst of the annual holiday season as well. Needless to say, this is both an exciting and hectic time of the year for everyone. I tell people that once Halloween arrives, things don't calm down at school until January, and then our biggest concern is snow, but that's a topic for another time. For now, we will focus on finishing the calendar year on a positive and productive note as we also do our part to celebrate the season with our annual Winter Concert on December 10.

With an entire quarter of the academic calendar complete, I am happy to report that students in all grade levels are off to a great start with regard to their progress and performance in the classroom. In just a few short months, students in grades PK-2 are building on their foundational reading skills and moving towards becoming independent readers and moving up on their individual reading levels that were assessed in September. Students in grades 3-5 are working hard to expand on their knowledge base as young writers and also learning how to make connections in math to help improve their number sense and critical thinking skills. In addition to our middle school students delving deeper into each of their subject areas, they are constantly being encouraged and challenged to refine their organizational skills that will ultimately enable them to make a successful transition into high school. ALL of our teachers and aides deserve a great deal of credit for investing so much time and effort into helping the students make such impressive progress in such a short period of time.

Although I had hoped to share PARCC test data with staff, students, and parents before winter break, I recently learned that districts will likely not receive scores from last spring until early to mid December. Once the data arrives in the district, Mr. Bruccoleri and I will analyze the scores carefully, then share the information with our staff.

Ultimately, I will share the information publically at a Board of Education meeting in either January or February. Additionally, Mr. Bruccoleri and I are planning to facilitate parent meetings where we will explain the data and help parents interpret the results. Notices for all of these meetings will be sent home as we get closer to those events.

As we get closer to our Winter Break, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season. Knowing that this should be a time for friends and families to spend time together, I sincerely hope everyone is able to make the most of the time away from school and work, and that you all have a happy and healthy New Year!

Respectfully,
Michael E. Ettore
Principal/Superintendent

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 2 – Picture Retake Day
Dec. 7 & 8 - PTO Holiday Boutique (Grades PK–5)
Dec. 9 - BOE meeting (6:30 p.m.)
Dec. 10 - Winter Concert (7 p.m.) 12:30 Dismissal
Dec. 18 - Holiday Bring a Friend Dance
(Grades 6-8)
Dec. 23 – 12:30 Dismissal
Dec. 24 - Jan. 3 - Winter Break
Jan. 4 – School Reopens

SCHOOL REMINDERS

- Please remember to update your phone information in the Honeywell System, which is on the school website, so you receive emergency alerts regarding school closings.
- Remember to refer to the calendar found in your Parent/Student Guide for the dates of our school activities and events.
- Homework assignments may be found on line on each individual teacher's page or calendar created in Real Time.
- School Safety remains a number one priority and we ask that everyone continue to use the front door to request admittance to the school – before, during, and after school. Please do not knock on any other door and ask a student, or a staff member, to grant

you access. They have been told NOT to let anyone in the building. Everyone is asked to use the main entrance – even at 2:45 p.m. to gain entry into the school. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

- To keep arrival safe and working effectively, please drop off and continue to move through the drop off zone. Students should always get out of the vehicle on the curb side.
- The “anti-bully” campaign is ongoing throughout the school year. The policy regarding Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (H.I.B.) is located on the front page of the website. Included is a “Hot Line” to anonymously report behavior that may be considered bullying. The Hot Line number is 723-222-6139 ext. 500.
- Be sure to visit our school website, www.mbschool.org for valuable school information, events, and dolphin news!
- **Be sure to activate your log-in on RealTime!**

PARENT CORNER

HIB (Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying)

As you know, the school has been taking major steps to ensure that bullying does not occur and your child feels safe. The NJ State Law mandates the school to investigate all instances where bullying may be present. This includes emails from parents, students saying that they are getting bullied, or teachers suspecting that bullying is going on. The necessary steps need to be taken and are as follows:

1. Written report from the person reporting the bullying.
2. Thorough investigation done by the HIB coordinator or specialist.
3. HIB team meeting to look at all the results to determine if the incident(s) are considered HIB.
4. Report to the Board of Education about the incident and the findings.

We strive to have our students feel safe and comfortable in the school setting. Please visit the school website for more information.

Attention Child Find

Each year the school district of Monmouth Beach seeks to identify and evaluate children ages 3 to 14 who may be experiencing physical, sensory, communication, cognitive or social difficulties. This search includes migrant and homeless students, two year-olds reaching the age of three within 120 days, preschoolers between three and five, and school aged children who are not currently receiving school services.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Peter Bruccoleri at 732-222-6139 ext. 251.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

The Monmouth Beach Class of 2016 is busy fundraising for our Boston, Massachusetts, trip in June. Please support our Snack Shack at the home games under Mrs. Rempel and our pizza lunches on Wednesdays and our Jersey Mike's subs on Fridays.

As always, we appreciate your support.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Monmouth Beach Student Council sponsored our annual Holiday Hunger Challenge for the Monmouth and Ocean County Food Bank. Our thanks to all who donated to those in need, as well as our wonderful PTO parents for dropping off the food.

Students are in the process of planning our next fundraiser, Project Little Soldier, to donate gift cards for children of our military families. Gift cards to local stores in the amount of your choice will be collected from November 23 through December 11.

Students are also planning our Holiday Bring a Friend Dance on Friday, December 18, for grades 6 to 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. with music by DJ Johnny.

MUSIC NEWS

Please join us as Monmouth Beach School presents the 2015 Winter Concert: "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year". This performance will feature all grades as well as Junior Band, the combined Intermediate & Senior Bands, Strings, and Chorus. The concert will take place on December 10, 2015, at 7 p.m. in the All Purpose Room. We hope to see you there!

ON THE COVER

This month's newsletter was carefully designed and colored by the very talented 3rd grader, Caden Darby. The project was an illusion design of 3-D colored triangles. The students were introduced to shading in this lesson and all did a beautiful job creating wonderful "floating" 3 dimensional triangle designs. Way to go 3rd grade and congratulations Caden for doing such fine work!

Wishing all of the families in Monmouth Beach a wonderful Holiday Season and winter break! Have fun and be safe!