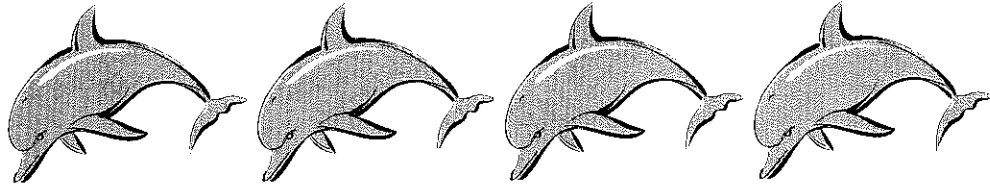


MBS NEWSLETTER

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

MARCH 2016



Cover Designed by Third Grader Cami Grella

MARCH 2016

Greetings to all MBS families! As we enter the month of March, our thoughts are focused on many things; one being the first day of Spring! Although this winter has not been as cold as the previous two, everyone at MBS is excited about the idea of having consistently longer and warmer days. With any luck, we will be able to confirm the Groundhog Day's report that promised an early Spring this year.

I think we would all agree that MBS is an excellent school for many reasons. First and foremost, we deliver a comprehensive curriculum at every grade level where students are encouraged and inspired to become active learners. From PK-8, teachers strive to develop the foundational skills students need to move forward along with critical thinking skills that will enable our students to meet the demands of the 21st Century. Additionally, our entire staff is dedicated to meeting the social and emotional needs of our students by establishing and maintaining close working relationships with the parents and families in our community. In order to help promote all of the wonderful aspects of our school, I am proud to announce that we have planned an Open House event for Tuesday, March 8, from 9:00-10:00 a.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m. for all new families in town. Our goal is to provide an overview of our programs and practices in hopes of attracting more families to register their children at MBS. Those that attend will have the opportunity to learn more about our school from the MBS administration, faculty, PTO President, and two of our eighth grade students.

At this time last year, students and schools all over NJ were about to begin their first of two rounds of PARCC testing. Based on the feedback given to the NJ Department of Education by districts all over the state, including Monmouth Beach, the PARCC testing experience has been reduced to just one week for the students in grades 3-8 this year. Our testing window will open in late April and remain open until testing is complete in mid May. Like last year, notices will be sent home to remind families of the testing dates as we get closer to that time. These dates can also be found on the MBS home page. Looking back at last year, I know that our

teachers and students worked diligently to prepare for this new testing experience. Overall, our school's performance at all grade levels was impressive. Results in both ELA and Math for all grades levels 3-8 can be found on the district's website under the parent tab. In general, MB students significantly outperformed the NJ state averages in both subjects at every grade level. Furthermore, when compared to the other twelve districts in the county that are similar to us in terms of socio-economic status, MB ranked #2 in ELA and #4 in Math, and our current eighth grade students scored #10 in the entire state of NJ last year on the ELA section! Congratulations to our staff and students for their performance!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly.

Respectfully,
Michael E. Ettore
Principal/Superintendent

DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 2 – Jump For Heart (2:45 – 3:45)
- March 3 – Kindergarten Registration
- March 4 – Brain Show Assembly
- PTO Family Fun Night
- March 8 – MB School Open House
9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- March 10 – PK Registration
- March 15 – PTO Meeting (8:45 a.m.)
- March 16 - BOE meeting (7:30 p.m.)
- March 24 - Spring Dance (6-8)
- March 25 - April 1 – School Closed

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 Peter Bruccoleri at 732-222-6139 ext. 251.

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

The Monmouth Beach Class of 2016 wants to thank our school community and friends who generously supported our fundraising at our Pasta Dinner on Sunday, January 31, 2016. Our dinners were cooked to perfection by Chef Paul from Beach Tavern. We raised \$4,000 to help us on our way to visit Boston, Massachusetts, in June. We especially want to thank Mrs. Levy, Mrs. Riepl, Mrs. Henning, Mrs. Trimble, and all our parents.

We are working hard at our studies and fundraising. Please support our pizza lunches on Wednesdays and Jersey Mike's subs on Thursdays.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Monmouth Beach Student Council's February fundraiser "Pennies for Patients" for the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society came to an end on February 29. We haven't finished counting coins, but we are hoping to pass our previous year's goal. The class with the highest amount earns a pretzel party.

Student Council has planned another "Bring a Friend Welcome to Spring" Dance on Thursday, March 24, 2016, from 7-9 PM for grades 6 – 8. Bring your friends to welcome Spring and our Spring Break.

Spring is just around the corner, and Earth Day is April 22, 2014, so Earth Day T-shirts will be on sale from February 26 – March 4. Shirts are \$10 each and will be personalized with "Monmouth Beach School" to show our support in protecting the earth. Order forms are on the school website and in the main office.

ON THE COVER

On the cover of March's Newsletter is a Rainforest Crayon Resist designed by one of our many talented third graders, Cami Grella. As you can see, this is a reflection of a panda bear in a tropical rainforest. After a lesson on the subject of the rainforest, all of the third graders created their own reflected animal in water found in a rainforest (either tropical or temperate). Cami's work is beautiful! Way to go Cami!