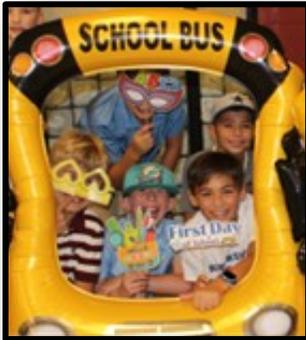




LADSBS News...



Important Dates:

- 1,2 Duck Pond Walk,
Grade 4
- 3,4 Rosh Hashanah
Schools Closed
- 11 Fire Safety Program
LADSBS
- 14 Columbus Day
Schools Closed
- 15-18 District Spirit Week
- 19 Homecoming
Parade 1:00 pm
Game 2:00 pm
- 22 Bronx Zoo Field Trip,
Grade 5
- 22 MPPTO Halloween
on the Farm
- 22-25 LADSBS PTO Book
Fair, in-school
- 25 Safe Halloween
MPHS
4:00-7:00 pm
- 26 MPPTA Harvest Fest
- 30 Board of Ed Mtg
8:00 p.m., MPHS
- 31 Halloween

Dr. D'Aversa & Ms. Cucinello would like to share...

We cannot believe how fast the first month of school flew by! We have truly enjoyed every day of September with the children and seeing their smiling faces throughout the building has been the highlight of the day. We have been spending time getting to know your children and building relationships with them.

In September, the "Start with Hello" initiative took place. Students enjoyed all of the activities planned throughout the week which included "hey day", neon day, and trusted adult day. Officers from the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department came to visit the students to discuss kindness and anti-bullying. They even enjoyed a few games of kickball with the children.

October will bring a new round of fun educational events and activities. We will be hosting Fire Safety Day on October 11th. We encourage families to participate in Spirit Week and our Homecoming parade on October 19th. Our fifth graders will be taking a field trip to the Bronx Zoo and grade four students will be taking a walking exploratory lesson to the Miller Place Duck Pond. The Fall PTO Book Fair will take place from October 22nd—25th so be on the look out for your child's classroom date.

We are looking forward to celebrating Halloween, and we welcome your children to wear school appropriate costumes. During all lunch/recess periods, students will be able to show off their costumes through a variety of games and activities themed for Halloween. All students who dress up must adhere to the following guidelines:

- *Students should be able to use the bathroom easily while dressed in their costumes.*
- *Students may only wear costumes that they can safely and easily enter and exit the bus with nothing dragging on the floor, nothing too big to fit in a seat, and no blow up costumes.*
- *No character masks, hats, crowns or makeup that can impair their sight or be easily lost.*
- *No props associated with costumes may be brought to school (weapons, wands, broomsticks, pets, etc.).*

Throughout the school year, please remember, the faculty, staff and administration are always available to help. We want to extend our gratitude to all the parents, teachers, and students for your continued support and dedication to our school community.

Third Grade Thoughts...

Our third graders are off to a great start at LADSBS! As third graders, they are busy being introduced to their new teachers, staff and friends. They are quickly becoming acclimated to their new learning environment.



In math, students are learning the foundations of multiplication and division. Students are creating arrays, equal groups, and number bonds to demonstrate math problems. In reading, students are beginning the first module of the *HMH Into Reading* program. Students are focusing on character analysis and development through realistic fiction texts. In Social Studies, we are reviewing our map skills and where we live in the world! Additionally, our students have begun attending health classes to learn about how to keep their bodies healthy, and learn good habits.

Third graders are having a fantastic start to the school year, and we can't wait to see how much they will accomplish this year!

Fifth Grade Flash...



The fifth grade teachers and students are all very excited to be back in school! Everyone has been busy establishing routines, procedures and expectations after being out of the school building for summer break. We love getting to know all of our students and hearing about their summer and backgrounds! As a fifth grade team, we are dedicated to creating a classroom environment where all students can thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Academically, we have been diving right into the curriculum! We have begun year three of our new reading program, *HMH Into Reading*, and have been working hard this past month with place value in our Module 1 math curriculum. Our fifth grade students love learning about the Solar System and Earth's place in this universe. We have also been traveling back to ancient times to learn about the first people in the western hemisphere in Social Studies.

It was so nice to see everyone in-person this year for our open house. We love to have face-to-face communication with our parents and we appreciate everyone taking the time out of their busy schedules to allow us to introduce ourselves and our classrooms with you.

All students are up and running with their google classroom log-ins and are acclimating well to using the new Classlink. Fifth graders seem to be well adjusted to the technology we are using daily.

We also kicked off September with Start with Hello week! This is a week where kids learn how to make new friends and participate in community building activities. The students are very excited to head to the Bronx Zoo on October 22nd. It will be a nice memory for the students to remember their last year in elementary school. We are looking forward to a wonderful fifth grade year!



Fourth Grade Focus...



Fourth graders are excited to be back in school and everyone is looking forward to an outstanding year together! The first few weeks of school were a great success, full of establishing new routines and reviewing safety measures, and it was an absolute pleasure welcoming such amazing students into our classrooms. Open School Night was also a big hit and it was great meeting such delightful parents and family members!

Grade four teachers have begun working on the foundation for our reading and writing workshops, and we're excited to continue implementing our new, comprehensive *HMH Into Reading* program for ELA. So far, our students have enjoyed reading Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, responding to literature, and listening to many wonderful read alouds, which will also enhance their listening skills.



Fourth grade classes have also begun working on place value in math, and problem solving is a strategy that will be emphasized throughout the year. Students will always be reminded to show their work and label their answers. The students should also be encouraged to practice their math facts on a nightly basis as part of their homework routine. In Social Studies, map skills begin the curriculum, and the study of New York State will be the central theme for grade four. Science topics at the beginning of the year include learning about ecosystems, internal and external structures of plants, and how animals use their senses to take information from their surroundings and process it through hands-on activities and experiments.

Parents can help their fourth graders by signing organizers and planners, looking over homework assignments, encouraging students to read each night, and helping them remember to pack all of their belongings needed for each school day. Students know they are responsible for remembering to bring their instruments on the day of their music lessons, and are held accountable for any work they miss while they are out of the classroom.

Grade four teachers and students have had a wonderful start to the school year, and we are looking forward to many more exciting learning adventures!



Art-I-Facts...

What a month it's been! Students were welcomed back to Art with a brand new room! There was lots of buzz and excitement about all the changes that were made and how spacious the new room is. We opened the year by "waking up" our creativity. Students were given four basic guidelines to adhere to, but the rest was up to their imagination. We all marveled at how different each piece of art looked, despite having to follow the same criteria.

In October, fifth graders will be partaking in a challenge called "Is It Clay?", where they'll have to sculpt a food item to look exactly like its real life counterpart. Fourth graders are reviewing color theory with a lesson on sneaker design and third graders are working in mixed media to create sun reliefs.

Character Clips...

This year, LADSBS students and staff celebrated “Start with Hello” week. The goal of “Start With Hello” is for everyone to understand that they have an important role in making our school community a friendlier place by following three simple steps:

- 1. See Someone Alone
- 2. Reach Out and Help
- 3. Start with Hello

This wonderful program reminds all of us how powerful a simple hello and smile can be. Celebrated during the week of September 16th– September 20th we invited students, staff and teachers to do different things each day to promote a positive school climate.



Each day of the week focused on a different activity which promoted empathy, kindness and inclusivity. We kicked off the week with “Hey Day”, where everyone wore name badges so when they said hello they would also know their name. It was fun to see our students proudly wearing their name tags and making new friends just by reaching out to someone to say, “Hi”.

We celebrated “Stand Out Against Bullying” by inviting students to wear neon colors to stand out proudly. On Wednesday, students “Walked for Kindness” by designing their own sneaker on a coloring sheet that has been displayed throughout the building. On Thursday, two officers from the Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department visited LADSBS and spent time with students eating lunch in the cafeteria, playing kickball at recess, and speaking with them about the importance of finding a trusted adult. Finally, on Friday, we ended the week with “Be a Team Player” by wearing school colors to show that we are all at the same team at LADSBS. Thank you to all the students and staff for making a promise to keep the Start with Hello Spirit going all year long ...All you have to do is “Start With Hello”!



Library Media Center...

New school year, new books! Classes are coming to the library once a week for book exchange and library instruction. We have kicked off the year learning how the library works, exploring genres and finding books to check-out. Fifth graders showed off their library knowledge with a round of Library Jeopardy and the third and fourth graders visited the “Cafe de LADSBS” for a book tasting. Looking ahead, during the month of October, students will learn about Digital Citizenship and how to safely and responsibly use their devices. We are looking forward to a fun-filled, enriching year ahead in the library!



Thank you to all of our students who participated in the LADSBS Summer Reading Challenge this year. Students read a variety of books and completed a choice board of activities. Each student participant was sent home with a goodie bag and one student from each grade level was selected by raffle to win a book bundle donated by the MPPTO from Scholastic. Our grade level winners are:

3rd Grade Helen Zane
4th Grade Erin Colantuoni
5th Grade Skylar Thompson



Marvelous Math ...



Welcome to another wonderful school year! Math lab is well underway and it has been a pleasure getting to know our new students. This year’s focus will be on fluency with math facts, building number sense, and bridging those gaps for students so that they can be successful in the classroom. Research shows that students who can automatically recall math facts are more capable problem solvers, learn new math skills more quickly and are more likely to succeed in their future mathematics courses. The National Math Advisory Panel and other major educational organizations highlight math fact fluency as a central pillar of every student’s mathematics education.

Some of the ways that we are working on fluency is with number talks, using math manipulatives to play games, videos and fun media content, as well as some computer programs. One program that has shown great results is called *Reflex*. Students should have their usernames and passwords at this point. *Reflex* is an adaptive online system that helps students to become fluent with their math facts. Students work on answering basic math fact questions correctly in order to earn their “green light”. The more the students can practice, the better off they will be as they embark on solving more complicated problems. We look forward to lots of progress in the math lab this school year!



School Spirit...

Welcome back LADSBS Family! We've had an amazing start to the school year. Our hallways are once again filled with the excitement of new classrooms, teachers, friends and plenty of smiling faces. Our students and staff really enjoyed participating in all of the Start with Hello Spirit Week activities. Way to show your Miller Place pride!



Kindness Corner ...

The LADSBS School Kindness Initiative continues to thrive, kicking off the kindness during our Start with Hello Spirit Week! Throughout the school year, students who display superior character and kindness may receive a coupon. The coupons are entered into a monthly raffle to win a token to use on the Book Vending Machine.

Congratulations to our September raffle winners:

*Peter Sikora, Cassie Spena, Taylor Farrell
Grace Georges, Hannah Partlow and Angelina Tarabocchia*



In honor of Patriot's Day, our third-grade classes created a remembrance chain. The students learned about the impact this day had on America and the importance of remembering and honoring our loved ones. Every student selected a chain-link of their choice to decorate. The chain-links band together just as the Americans did on September 11, 2001, showing that together we stand strong and will never forget!



Staff Spotlight...

We are pleased to welcome Mr. John McMorris, School Counselor, to the LADSBS family this year! With over 24 years of experience with students and families in the Miller Place School District, Mr. McMorris has been visiting all our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classrooms the past few weeks to discuss important topics such as anxiety, especially as students transition back to school with new teachers, friends and routines.



Also, our LADSBS Behavior Counselor, Ms. Danielle Tonso, is excited to welcome students back to school and has been hearing all about their summer adventures. She is looking forward to getting to know our students through character lessons, lunch bunches and much more.

With so many resources available to support our students emotionally, socially and academically both at home and in school, we encourage students and families to reach out to any member of our team with any questions or concerns. For example, did you know that the North Country Road Middle School houses a food pantry used by district families throughout the year? If you would like to make a donation, you may drop off food at the NCR vestibule. If you are in need of food assistance, please call LADSBS and speak with Ms. Tonso.

We are excited to work together and can't wait to see all the amazing things they can do this year!

Music Musings...

General Music Classes are buzzing with energy as students think, play, and perform both collaboratively and individually! We're diving into essential skills like teamwork, tolerance, accountability, and respect—all through the incredible world of music. Students are exploring digital tools to compose and discovering the rhythms that make up the musical language. And get ready—soon we'll be pounding out some serious beats on bucket drums! This month, we're asking, "How can you respect music?" What would your answer be?

Orchestra The new school year is kicking off with enthusiasm as string lessons begin! Our fifth graders are receiving their instruments this week and gearing up for their orchestra rehearsals. Rehearsals are every Monday and Wednesday. Remember, student drop-off is at 7:20 a.m., with a prompt 7:30 a.m. start time. It's going to take some time to dust off the cobwebs and get our muscles back in shape, but this group is going to dominate this year.

Meanwhile, our fourth graders can hardly wait to get their hands on their instruments! They'll be learning essential skills like note-reading, bow hold, and proper instrument care before taking them home. It's shaping up to be an incredible year for our string program, and the excitement is contagious.

Chorus The school is buzzing about our Fifth Grade Chorus. The group already boasts over 100 students and it's growing every day. Our first rehearsal was a blast, with students diving into their winter concert songs and singing their hearts out without a hint of hesitation. The energy is contagious and we are sure to rock the house at our first concert. Rehearsals are every Friday at 7:30 a.m., with drop-off at 7:20 a.m.

Band We are so excited to get things underway here at LADSBS! The Fourth Grade Band students are so excited to begin playing their instruments. We will spend the month of October learning how to assemble our instruments, take care of them, and begin playing our first songs. Students should be practicing a little bit every day at home in order to get comfortable with these new instruments. Our Fifth Grade Band is beyond thrilled to begin their musical adventure. Morning rehearsals are a blast getting to play with all of the different instruments in the band. We are excited to begin learning some more complex and familiar pieces this year. We hope to fill your homes with music this school year!



Board of Education

Lisa Reitan, President
Bryan Makarius, Vice President
John Galligan, Trustee
Andrea Spaniolas, Trustee
Johanna Testa, Trustee

Save the Date...



District Office Administration

Seth A. Lipshie, Superintendent of Schools
Susan G. Craddock, Assistant Superintendent
Sandra A. Wojnowski, Executive Director for Educational Services
Colleen V. Card, School Business Official
Christopher J. Herrschaft, Director of Human Resources
Ron Petrie, Administrator for Physical Education, Health, Athletics and Intramurals
Kurt Roth, Administrator for Instruction and Data Reporting
Barbara A. Weir, Director of Technology
Dennis Warsaw, Director of Facilities
Jeremy Koch, Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services

Miller Place UFSD Job Opportunities...

Part Time Aides: Our school district is hiring part-time aides at minimum wage with flexible hours, with opportunities available at Andrew Muller Primary School, Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School, and Miller Place High School—perfect for those seeking a rewarding role supporting students!

Full Time Aides: Our School District is seeking Full-Time Aides (10-month position) to assist teachers and support students throughout the school year. This role offers a comprehensive benefits package and the opportunity to enroll in the state retirement system, with a schedule that follows the district's calendar. Applicants should have strong interpersonal skills and a passion for working with children.

If you are interested in the opportunities above please fill out the Civil Service Application listed on our website at the following link: <https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/departments/personnel/employment-opportunities> and email it to personnel@millerplace.k12.ny.us



"The sum of us is greater than all our parts."
Maya Angelou