

CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

March 2, 2025

Important Links

<u>District School Calendar, School Hours, Cliffwood Morning Music Requests</u> Cliffwood Family Connections <u>8/25</u>, <u>9/2</u>, <u>9/8</u>, <u>9/15</u>, <u>9/22</u>, <u>9/29</u>, <u>10/6</u>, <u>10/13</u>, <u>10/20</u>, <u>10/27</u>, <u>11/3</u>, <u>11/10</u>, <u>11/17</u>, <u>11/24</u>, <u>12/1</u>, <u>12/8</u>, <u>12/15</u>, <u>12/30</u>, <u>1/5</u>, <u>1/12</u>, <u>1/19</u>, <u>1/26</u>, <u>2/2</u>, <u>2/9</u>, <u>2/16</u>, <u>2/23</u>

Fundraiser to Support the Hoffman Family

We are deeply saddened to share that one of our own, Ben Hoffman, a student at Matawan Aberdeen Middle School, has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. As a close-knit community, it's time for us to come together and show our support for the Hoffman family during this difficult journey.

Ben's mom, Melissa, is a teacher at Cambridge Park, his brother Ethan attends Matawan High School, and his younger sister Rebecca is in kindergarten at Cliffwood Elementary. The Hoffman family has deep ties to our district and has always been "ALL IN" Matawan. Now, it's our turn to offer them support.

To help ease the burden of medical travel, meals, and other daily expenses, we are asking for donations of gift cards from any of the businesses listed in the attached flyer. Your generosity will help provide the Hoffman family with more quality time together as they navigate this challenging experience.

In addition, on Wednesday, March 12th, we invite all students, families, and Cliffwood staff to wear black and white to show our support for Ben and his family. Ben has a special love for penguins, so if you have a shirt with a penguin or just want to wear black and white, please join us in this special show of support for Ben.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity during this difficult time. GoFundMe





To Support the Hoffman Family



Melissa Hoffman, a teacher at Cambridge Park Elementary & her family have recently found out that their son Ben, a student at MAMS, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Ben is currently undergoing tests to determine a treatment plan and has been transferred to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

We are collecting gift cards to help with expenses as Melissa & her husband, Steve, travel back and forth to care for Ben as well as their other two children; Ethan attends MRHS and Rebecca is attends Cliffwood Elementary School.

Gift cards in any amount to the following places are greatly appreciated and will provide assistance for meals for their family during this difficult time.

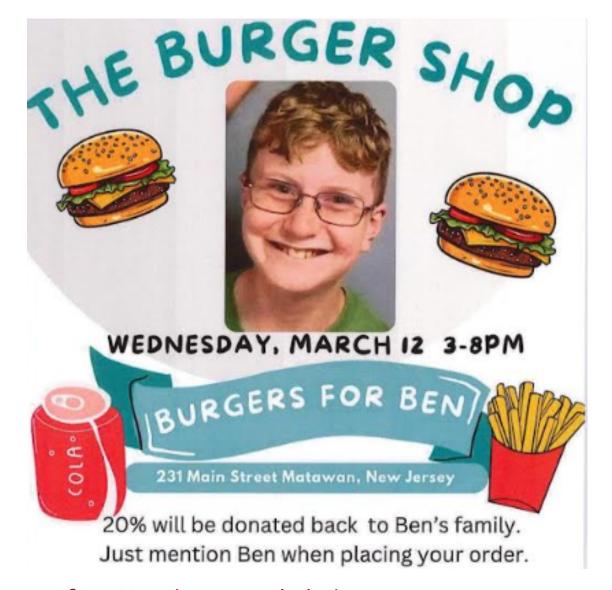
- Wawa Gas
- Shoprite
- Door Dash
- Visa

- CostcoDunkin
- Attilio's Pizza

FOR DISTRIBUTE on Bestonal School De Park

Please include the amount on each gift card ~ Cash donations are appreciated too

Please bring donations to your school's main office



Message from Mrs. Cherence, Principal

Read Across America Week & Spirit Week

This week, we are thrilled to celebrate Read Across America Week! We have invited special guests from our community to read to our students, spreading the joy of reading and storytelling. To add even more fun, we will be celebrating Spirit Week with daily themes that encourage students to dress up in ways that match reading-related activities. Be sure to check out the attached Spirit Week flyer for all the details!

SEL Day - Monday, March 3rd

On Monday, March 3rd, we will celebrate SEL Day, a day dedicated to Social and Emotional Learning. The focus will be on mindfulness, empathy, and building strong connections within our school community.

In-Service Day Reminder

Please note that school will be closed on Wednesday, March 5th, for an In-Service Day, so plan accordingly.

Parent-Teacher Conferences - March 11th & 12th

Our Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Tuesday, March 11th (evening) and Wednesday, March 12th (afternoon). Students will be dismissed at 1:20 PM on both days. If you haven't scheduled your conference yet, please log into the Parent Portal to select a time. If you need any assistance, feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or the Cliffwood School main office. Wiz Fit Fundraiser Update

The Wiz Fit fundraiser was a huge success! We will announce the winners in next week's newsletter. Here's a quick recap of the exciting prizes:

- Overall Individual Winner: The student who raised the most money will become Principal for the Day.
- Class with the Most Funds: This class will get to tape Mrs. Cherence to the wall at the Harlem Wizards vs Cliffwood Staff Game on May 15th. Be sure to grab your tickets! The flyer is attached.
- Second-Place Class: An Ice Cream Party will be awarded.
- Third-Place Class: A Pizza Party will be awarded.

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity!

We look forward to another exciting month of activities, learning, and community spirit. As always, thank you for your partnership in making Cliffwood School a wonderful place for our students to learn and grow.

Thank you for your continued support and compassion for the Hoffman family and our entire school community.

Cliffwood PAWS Winners!



Message from School Counselor, Ms. Pietrangelo



Cliffwood Counseling Newsletter



MONTHLY LESSON

MARCH

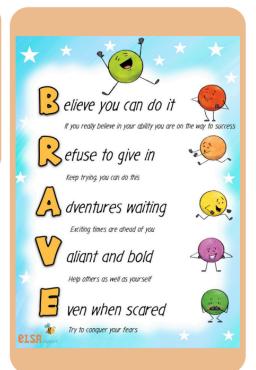
HI EVERYONE! FOR THE
MONTH OF MARCH MY
LESSON WILL BE ON
COURAGE. COURAGE IS THE
ABILITY TO DO WHAT'S
RIGHT EVEN WHEN YOU'RE
SCARED OR FACING
OBSTACLES. IT'S ALSO
KNOWN AS BRAVERY.



CONTACT ME!

EMAIL
MPIETRANGELO@MA
RSD.ORG

PHONE 732-705-5630





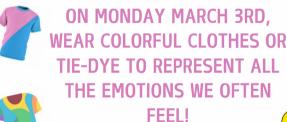
SEL DAY

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING MARCH 3RD, 2025

WHAT IS SEL?

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) IS THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING SKILLS AND AWARENESS TO MANAGE EMOTIONS, BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, AND MAKE RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS. IT'S AN ESSENTIAL PART OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION.

STUDIES SHOW THAT SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS- SUCH AS PROBLEM SOLVING, SELF-REGULATION, IMPULSE CONTROL, AND EMPATHY- HELP IMPROVE ACADEMICS, REDUCE NEGATIVE SOCIAL BEHAVIORS LIKE BULLYING, AND CREATE POSITIVE CLASSROOM CLIMATES. SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SKILLS HELP KIDS SUCCESSFULLY MANAGE EVERYDAY LIFE. THEY HELP STUDENTS FOCUS, MAKE GOOD DECISIONS, AND BECOME SUPPORTIVE MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMUNITY WELL BEYOND SCHOOL.













Read Across America Spirit Week

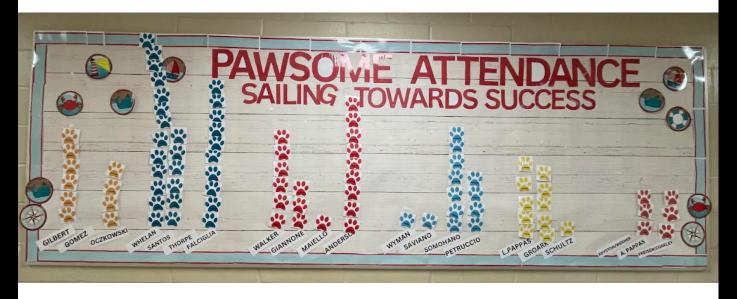




Monday, March 3rd	Tuesday, March 4th	Wednesday, March 5th	Thursday, March 6th	Friday, March 7th
DR. SEUSS'S BOOK OF COLORS	IF I RAN THE ZOO	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	THE HAIR BOOK	CAT IN THE
SEL Day! Wear tie dye or colorful clothing	Wear animal print or camouflage	In-service day for teachers	Wear mismatched clothes or wacky hair	Wear red, white, black or stripes
Dr. Seuss's Book of	READING	Reminder: No School!	In Columnitive Authority Hobers Syrver	

Attendance Matters

Attending school regularly is essential for academic success and helps students stay engaged in their learning. To encourage great attendance, the homerooms with the highest attendance in each grade for the month will earn extra recess time. The top classes will be announced at the beginning of each month!



MOST Program- Free for Matawan Aberdeen Students

<u>Click Here to Register</u> 2024-2025 MOST Mentor Form



Mentoring Our Students Together







The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is proud to announce the return of the M.O.S.T. program to the Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School.

M.O.S.T. will be held on Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons from 3:00pm to 6:00pm in the <u>Matawan Aberdeen Middle School</u> Cafeteria

November	November 5,12,13,19,20 January 7,8,14,15,21,22		3,4,10,11,17,18
January			4,5,11,12,18,19
March	March 4,11,12,18,19,25,26		1,2,8,9,29,30
May	May 6,7,13,14,20,21		TBD

Click Here to Register

Attention High School Students...

If you are interested in volunteering and serving as a mentor please complete the 2024-2025 MOST Mentor Form

For additional information please call the MRHS Information Desk at 732-705-5200 or via email at mrhsinfo@marsd.org or Daphne Ramcheran @ 732-567-0036

Husky Touchdown Club Tricky Tray



Please list all members of your party. 1st person listed will be contacted to confirm reservation of the group. (1 form per group) 10 people max at a table.

A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR	PHONE	EMAIL
1.		
2.		
3.		
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10.		
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$
PAYMENT CAN BE MADE IN THE FORM C CASH OR CHECK HUSKY TOUCHDOWN CLUB VE 'ALSO' ACCEPT' VENMO SKYTOUCHDOWNCLUB@GMAIL.C HUSKY TOUCHDOWN Club	SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO (FORMS CAN ALSO BE EMAILED)	MATAWAN REGIONAL HIGHSCHOO ATTN: HUSKY TOUCHDOWN CLL 450 ATLANTIC AV ABERDEEN, NJ 0774
@Husky-touchdown-Club		7.22.22.3, 1.0

Preschool and Kindergarten Registration



PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025/2026



OUR PROGRAM

Classes





Eligibility Steents must be 5 years old on or bafore October 1, 2025 to enter preschool.







For additional information about registration, please visit https://www.marsd.org/parents-students/central-registration



For questions or additional information, please call (732) 705-4079.



Information about Excused/Unexcused Absences



Every student. Every day.

The New Jersey Department of Education recognizes only six allowable reasons for an "excused" absence; these reasons are listed below.

- 1. Religious holidays (Each year, the State Board of Education votes on a list of approved religious holidays for observance upon the written request signed by the parent.).
- 2. Participation in observance of Veterans Day.
- 3. Participation in district board of election membership activities.
- 4. Take Our Children to Work Day.
- 5. College visit(s), up to three days per school year for students in grades 11 and 12.
- 6. Closure of a busing school district that prevents a student from having transportation to the receiving school.

Being present and on-time to school each day is extremely important for students' success and well-being. School attendance is a powerful predictor of student outcomes; data shows that, when students are present daily, they learn better and are generally healthier. **Attendance matters and every school day counts!**

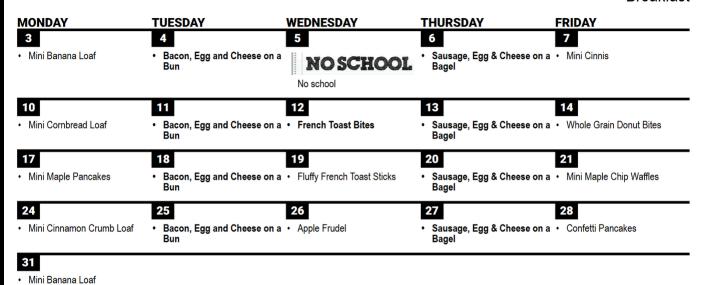
March Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Link to the Menu

March 2025

Cliffwood ES

Breakfast



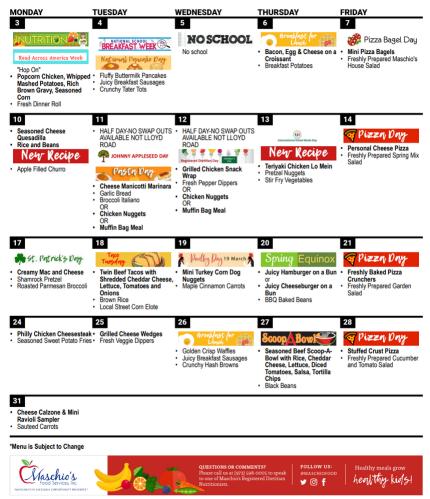


Swap Outs-Elementary Breakfast: Assorted Cereal Bar with Graham Crackers , Assorted Cereal with Graham Crackers , Assorted Pop Tarts with Graham Crackers , Bagel with Cream Cheese

Swap Outs-Elementary: Muffin Bag Meal, Cereal Bag, Chicken Nuggets with Dinner Roll, Bella's Cheese Pizza

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March 2025 Cliffwood ES



Swap Outs-Elementary: Muffin Bag Meal , Bagel Bag with Cheese , Chicken Nuggets with Fresh Dinner Roll , Bella's Cheese Pizza

Cliffwood PTO NEWS Cliffwood Book Fair



Dear Families,

Get ready—the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! This is a great opportunity to connect with your child over the thrill of bringing home new books to dive into again and again. Studies show that kids read more when they choose books for themselves. A love of independent reading boosts academic success, plus children who read more frequently also report improved mental health.

Here's everything you need to know about the Book Fair:

Dates: Tuesday March 11th, Wednesday March 12th & Thursday March 13th

Location: Cliffwood Elementary School Media Center

Students shop during school with their class on a designated day and time Families may shop after school during conferences

There's even more info on our school's Book Fair homepage: https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/cliffwoodelementaryschool

While you're there, set up a Book Fair eWallet, the digital payment account that allows your child to shop for books at the Fair without cash. Then share your eWallet link so friends and extended family can add funds.

When you fund an eWallet, you'll have the opportunity to contribute to a giving initiative called Share the Fair™. Your contributions directly support our students who need help buying books from the Fair.

Many of us still remember the rush of finding the perfect book at a Scholastic Book Fair. I hope you'll join your child at our school's Fair and share a reading experience they'll remember forever.

Happy reading,

Principal Cherence



PS: Need one more reason to visit the Book Fair? Every purchase at the Fair benefits our school!

TO THIRD GRADE PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

Baby Pictures Needed!







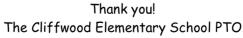
Our third graders only have a few months left at Cliffwood School before they move on up to the 4th grade at Lloyd Road.

The PTO would like to showcase in this year's yearbook just how much they have grown.

Please send in your child's baby picture (2 years old or younger) to:

cliffwoodyearbook25@gmail.com

Please send in by April 1st
Include child's full name and teacher in the email.







Join Us this Month for Our March PTO Meeting



Who?:

Parents/grandparents, teachers, administrators, support staff



When?:

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 5:30-6:30pm

(before star student ceremony)

Where?:

Cliffwood Elementary School Cafeteria

Find ways to get involved with Cliffwood Elementary School! There are many opportunities to volunteer and we are always welcome to hear your concerns, questions, ideas, and feedback.

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Spring events and the yearbook!

You do not need to be a member to attend meetings!

Email questions to cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com







Spring Tricky Tray

Hosted by the Cliffwood PTO

Saturday, April 5, 2025 Cliffwood Elementary School



Doors Open 4 PM Calling starts promptly at 5:30 PM

Admission: Cash, Check (made out to Cliffwood PTO)
or Venmo (@cliffwoodelementarypto)
\$20 pre-sale
\$25 at door

Admission includes 1 sheet of lower level raffle tickets, coffee/tea, and dessert
Please provide name and contact # with payment









Must be at least 18 years old

email cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com with any questions







Spring Tricky Tray

Hosted by the Cliffwood PTO

We are accepting donations to support our Tricky Tray fundraising event. Whether you are cleaning out those unwanted holiday gifts or buying new items, we are grateful for any and all donations. Donations can be dropped off at the main office.



Items we are accepting include:

Unopened bottles of liquor/wine

New ladies items

Housewares

Toys

Gift Cards

Lottery Tickets









Call or text Barbara Elmendorf at (646) 312-9997 with any questions.



Save the Date! Thursday, May 15, 2025







The Harlem Wizards vs. Cliffwood Elementary Staff Game proceeds will be used to benefit our school!

The World-Famous Harlem Wizards want to invite you and the whole family to join them for a night of tricks, hoops, and alley-oops!

DATE: 5-15-25

Please join us at Matawan High School, located at 450 Atlantic Avenue.

The game begins at **6:00 PM** and the doors will open at **5:00 PM**. Be sure to purchase your tickets in advance.



Student -\$20
General Admission - \$25
Reserved Student - \$35
Reserved Adult - \$35
Courtside Plus Student - \$50
Courtside Plus Adult - \$50



Scan QR code to purchase tickets



Food, drinks, snacks, and souvenirs available for sale on Game Day



Dates to Keep in Mind

3/3-3/7- Read Across America Week

3/5- School Closed-Inservice Day

3/11 & 3/12- Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal for

students, students dismissed at 1:20 PM

3/12- Show support for Ben & the Hoffman family, wear black & white (penguins)

- 3/12- Burgers for Ben Fundraiser at the Burger Shop
- 3/19- Early Dismissal for PreK Students Only
- 3/19- Cliffwood PTO Meeting 5:30 PM in the Cafeteria
- 3/19- Star Student Ceremony 6:30 PM in the Cafeteria
- 4/3- 3rd Grade Concert
- 5/15- Harlem Wizards Game
- 4/3- School Picture Day
- 5/23- Fun Day
- 6/13- PreK Promotion
- 6/17- Kindergarten Celebration



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES





Matawan-Aberdeen Regional

School District

