



## Important April Dates:

- 2 Family Fun Night, Grade 5  
6:30 p.m., LADSBS
- 3 Meet the Instruments,  
Grade 3, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 4 Athletes Helping Athletes  
Program, Grade 5
- 4 Autism Acceptance &  
Awareness Spirit Day
- 8 Financial Literacy Workshop,  
MPHS visits Grade 3
- 8, 10, 11 Brookhaven National  
Lab Field Trip, Grade 5
- 9, 10 Spring Pictures, LADSBS
- 10 LADSBS Beginner's  
Strings Concert, 6:30 p.m.  
MPHS
- 14-18 Spring Recess,  
Schools Closed
- 22, 23 NYS Math Assessment
- 23 Board of Education Meeting  
8:00 p.m. MPHS
- 23 [Grade 5 Moving Up T-Shirts  
Order Deadline](#)
- 24 LADSBS Beginner's  
Band Concert, 6:30 pm  
MPHS
- 30 [LADSBS Yearbook  
Order Deadline](#)
- 29 LADSBS Art Show  
5:00-7:00 p.m., Café
- 29, 30 NYS ELA Assessment

MILLER PLACE U.F.S.D.

April 2025

## LADSBS News...



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

#### Welcome to Spring!

As we head into this busy time of year, we'll continue to keep you informed about upcoming activities and events. We've been hard at work planning Field Trips, End-of-the-Year Celebrations, Moving Up Ceremonies, and Field Day. Please keep an eye out for more details in the coming weeks.

We concluded our building-wide "March Book Madness Tournament" in which, Beautiful Oops, took the title of book of the year! It was great to see the students excited and talking about books and reading.

April is Autism Acceptance, Action, and Awareness Month, a perfect opportunity to reach out and support our community. Throughout the month, hearts will be displayed around the school. Additionally, Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School will host a spirit day on Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, to promote inclusion and show support for the Autism community. On this day, students are encouraged to "share their hearts" by wearing the color red or clothing that celebrates their individuality and uniqueness. Thank you for supporting our efforts to create connections and empower individuals with Autism.

Our Beginner's Strings Recital (Grade 4) will take place on April 10<sup>th</sup> and our Beginner's Band Recital (Grade 4) will take place on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Both concerts will take place at the Miller Place High School Auditorium and begin at 6:30 p.m. We will be hosting our LADSBS Art Show on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in our cafeteria. A piece of artwork from every child in Grades 3–5 will be on display for your viewing pleasure! More information will follow.

Our Spring Pictures will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The class schedule has been posted on our website for your convenience.

As the spring weather allows us to spend more time out at recess, this becomes a critical factor in ensuring everyone enjoys their time to play and unwind. Please speak to your children about how their kindhearted and inclusive efforts will benefit everyone!

Just a friendly reminder that school will be closed from April 14<sup>th</sup> - April 18<sup>th</sup> due to Spring Recess.

## Fourth Grade Focus . . .

As we enter the third trimester, it's time to finish this year strong! Our fourth graders have been resilient, motivated, and flexible throughout the year, and we are incredibly proud of all of them.

In Math, the students have just completed Module 4 of the Eureka Squared curriculum, which focused on fraction equivalence, ordering, and operations. They have now started Module 4 from the original Eureka Math curriculum, which dives into geometry, angle measurement, and plane figures.

In ELA, we continue to explore stories from the *HMH Into Reading* curriculum. Some of the texts we will be reading this month include the diary-autobiographical fiction, My Diary from Here to There, the informational text, Who's a Hero?, the fairy tale, Prince Charming Misplaces His Bride, the informational text, Smokejumpers to the Rescue!, and the myth/play, Perseus and the Fall of Medusa. Through these texts, we will focus on target comprehension skills such as elements of drama, figurative language, point of view, theme, and the relationship between text and graphic features. Students are also working on their research skills in writing, specifically focused on their biographies. Students will use their research skills to create an essay including an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion. We are looking forward to their final products!

In Social Studies, we have just finished our unit on Native Americans and European explorers. Looking ahead, our fourth graders will begin studying colonial New York. They will learn how the colony of New York grew quickly, with immigrants shaping its culture through their contributions, as well as how governing and trade functioned within the colony.

In Science, we are currently working on our unit, *Riding the Waves of Information*, which explores wave motion. Students will describe patterns of waves in terms of amplitude and wavelength, as well as understand that waves can cause objects to move up and down without any net motion. Additionally, students will learn how waves are used to communicate information. They will understand how waves can be coded with information that can be converted into pictures or sound. Students will develop and use models, construct explanations, and design solutions to transfer information using waves.



Our Fourth Grade Field Trip to the Vanderbilt Planetarium was a huge success! Students took a tour of the night sky through an interactive, live star talk, shown in the dome theater. Through the *We Are Guardians* program, students took a journey into, under, and around the many ecosystems across our planet. They learned about how with the help of satellites and scientific study, we can understand the links between human activities and climate change and what we can do to work together to improve the health of our shared home. This was a very exciting day for our fourth grade students and it certainly was a trip to remember.



This is going to be a great month of growth and learning for our students. We hope everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable spring break!



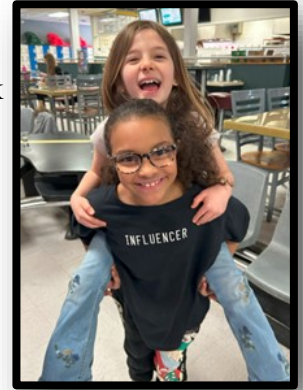


## Third Grade Thoughts . . .

Happy April! Now that Spring is here, we are able to enjoy the warmer weather along with the many exciting things that are happening in third grade. The “March Book Madness” competition was a huge success. The students loved having the chance to hear wonderful books and vote on their favorite in hopes that it would be the big winner. On March 13<sup>th</sup>, third graders were able to come back to school in the evening for our *Spring Into Reading* event! Students were able to travel to different countries in the world, listen to a story, then complete a craft to take home. LADSBS was filled with many smiling faces!



This month, we are working on fractions in Math, spending time gaining a strong understanding of the concept. We will also begin to work on collecting and displaying data with graphing. In Social Studies, we will be focusing on China, comparing China to other world communities. In connection to our *Invisible Forces* science unit, we went on a field trip to Port Jeff Bowling Alley! A great time was had by all! We will be starting our Butterfly unit soon which is an exciting unit for the students. They will have the opportunity to watch butterflies go through their life cycle right in the classroom! We are full steam ahead in ELA, continuing our journey exploring stories and plays and our students are loving it!



The New York State ELA Assessment is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, and the NYS Math Assessment is scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>. We are continuing to reinforce concepts that have been covered throughout the year as well as introduce new ones through our daily lessons.

## Fifth Grade Flash. . .

March was an exciting month filled with engaging activities! Our students participated in “March Book Madness” (the masked reader version) and enjoyed dressing up for Spirit Week. We also celebrated Women’s History Month, recognizing the incredible contributions of women throughout history and today.



In Math, our fifth graders worked on multiplying and dividing fractions and decimal fractions as part of our pilot of the new Eureka Squared curriculum. We will continue this work into April before beginning our unit on volume and area of figures and shapes.

In ELA, students explored the novel, [Hatchet](#), while also engaging with various genres in our *HMH Into Reading* modules. They continue to strengthen their comprehension skills across all texts they read.

In Science, students learned about Earth’s spheres and how they interact in our *Got Water* BOCES science unit. As we move forward, we will begin preparing for the science assessment by reviewing key concepts from both the current and previous years.

In Social Studies, we have been studying the geography of the Western Hemisphere, focusing on how its diverse physical characteristics influence where people live, how they earn a living, and their daily lives.

As we approach the final months of the school year, it is amazing to see how much our students are learning and growing each day. April will be a busy month—please be sure to order a [5<sup>th</sup> Grade Moving Up T-Shirt](#) and [LADSBS Yearbook](#) as soon as possible. We hope you and your family have a fun and relaxing Spring Break!

## Marvelous Math . . .

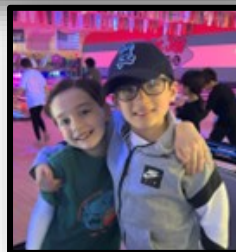
Students from the **LADSBS Math Olympiad Team** participated in **MathCON**, a national online math competition for students in Grades 4-12. This challenging competition tested students' problem-solving skills in algebra, geometry, number theory, and logic.



Competing after school, students worked through a series of timed, high-level math questions designed to encourage critical thinking and mathematical reasoning. We are proud of our students' hard work and dedication, and we look forward to seeing their results!

## Field Trip Fun...

Our Grade 3 Field Trip to Port Jefferson Bowling Alley was a fun and exciting adventure! The students were eager to try something new and spend time with our friends outside of the classroom. There were plenty of laughs, high-fives, and friendly competition as we cheered each other on.



This field trip was not only a fun experience, it also connected to our science unit on motion and force! As we rolled the bowling balls down the lane, we got to see firsthand how force affects motion. We learned about how the ball's speed and the angle at which it's thrown can influence how many pins are knocked down. The trip gave us a chance to apply the concepts we had been studying, like velocity, friction, and momentum. It was a great way to see science in action while having a blast with our classmates!

## Responsibility...



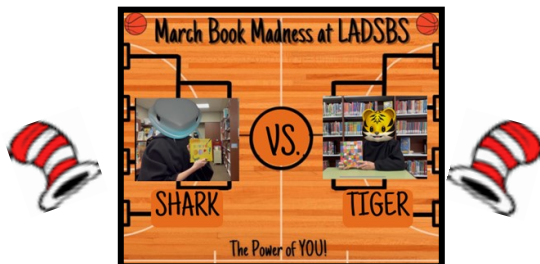
# Spring into Reading . . .

Throughout the month of March, students enjoyed a fun-filled and engaging time celebrating the importance of reading with a variety of exciting activities, including Dr. Seuss' Birthday celebration, Spirit Week, Spring Into Reading, and our annual March Book Madness Tournament. These events sparked enthusiasm and creativity, inspiring a love for reading in all participants. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and helped make these activities such a success. Your continued encouragement of reading and literacy—both in the classroom and at home—is invaluable in fostering a life-long love of books and learning.



## March Madness

The results of our March Book Madness Tournament are in! It was a great matchup between Beautiful Oops (read by the *Shark*) and Elmer (read by the *Tiger*)! However, with 74% of the school-wide vote, the WINNER of our 2025 March Book Madness Tournament is... "Beautiful Oops" (read by *Shark*). Our Runner-up Masked Reader (behind the Tiger) was Ms. Craddock, our Assistant Superintendent, and our Champion Masked Reader (behind Shark) was Ms. Warren, 5<sup>th</sup> grade!



*Congratulations to our March Book Madness Prediction Contest Raffle Winners:*

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Chloe Arnette & Aiden Delaney
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Aria Koch & Benjamin Velasquez
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Hazel Kamath & Jay'son Armstrong



## Club Corner...

The month of March brought an end to our morning clubs, but we hope students continue to enjoy all of the new interests and hobbies that they discovered. We had approximately 220 students participate this year and could not have done it without your support!



## Art-I-Facts...

Please join us for our annual LADSBS Art Show on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. The doors to the cafe will be open from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Bring family and friends and be prepared to be floored at the level of talent our artists have displayed!

Included in the show will be our current projects. Fifth grade is completing realistic grid drawings in grayscale, a challenging but rewarding project. Fourth graders just wrapped up a fun printmaking unit inspired by Finnish design house, Marimekko. They learned how to create a repeat to make their individual prints fit together like a puzzle! Third grade students are working on a textured and manipulated paper collage inspired by artist, Terri Tsu. We can't wait to show you all our hard work!



## Music Musings . . .

**Fifth Grade Chorus: Two Parts Become One** Our Fifth Grade Chorus continues to shine as they refine their vocal technique and ensemble skills! This month, students have been learning to sing in two-parts, or in harmony. Through discovering these harmonies, we are developing individual ear training and vocal independence to create a full and powerful choral sound that highlights their voices. We would also like to congratulate Ainsley Baron who was selected for and performed in the SCMEA All County Division I East Chorus this past March!

**Fifth Grade Orchestra: Strengthening Ensemble Coordination** The Fifth Grade Orchestra is intently working on listening across sections and becoming a unified ensemble. We have been focusing on our intonation and tuning, reviewing ways that we can use our instrumental technique in both hands to create clear and full sounds. Our Fifth Grade Orchestra is blending beautifully as we watch our concert program come to life! We would also like to congratulate Autumn Anderson, Avery Joyce and Malia Viola who were selected for and performed in the SCMEA All County Division I East Orchestra this past March!

**Fourth Grade Orchestra: Becoming Performance Ready** The Fourth Grade Orchestra is recital ready! They are growing confidently as performers, refining their recital pieces, and learning performance techniques and etiquette that add to the beautiful music they are making. Our fourth graders are very excited to share their hard work and dedication in their Beginner's String Recital on Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Miller Place High School. We hope to see you there!

**General Music: Classroom Instruments and Reading Music** In General Music, each grade is focusing on a different unit that is expanding upon their musicianship and music literacy skills. Third grade is in their recorder unit! Students have received their recorders and have begun exploring the instruments, learning notes, and even a little *Hot Cross Buns* to start off their recorder karate! Fourth grade students of Ms. Rowburry are strumming along in their ukulele unit. We are learning the parts and strings of the ukulele, working on our beginner strumming techniques and even learning a few basic chords that can be strung together to create songs! Fifth grade students are expanding their music literacy skills, learning the meanings behind the markings we see in music and making connections to the music they are playing or singing in their ensembles.

**Fourth & Fifth Grade Band:** The Fourth Grade Band is so excited for their recital later this month. The Fourth Grade Band Beginner's Recital will be held at Miller Place High School on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Students will be playing small selections with their peers in their lesson groups. The Fifth Grade Band wants to congratulate 5<sup>th</sup> grader, Cyrus Lindemann, on being selected to perform at the SCMEA music festival last month. He performed with students from all over Long Island in this honors band. Congratulations Cyrus on this extremely impressive achievement!

## Kindness Corner . . .

Congratulations to our March Kindness Coupon Raffle winners:

***Aubree Danchalski, Jonathan Acosta  
Grace Georges, Nicky Pinola  
Tyler Wolters, Jaxson Garboski***

Thank you all for keeping up the kindness!



EVERY STUDENT MATTERS ... EVERY MOMENT COUNTS!

## NYS Testing Reminder...

NYS Grades 3-8

ELA, Math and Science Assessments are approaching.

Math—April 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

ELA—April 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

Science (Gr. 5 only) —May 7<sup>th</sup>

### Board of Education

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**Citizenship...We help others!**

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### LADSBS Field Day 2025...

The LADSBS Field Day will take place on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> (rain date of May 22<sup>nd</sup>). Parents are welcome to attend and cheer on their children as they compete in various games against other classes. To help you plan, please note the scheduled times for each grade level. We hope you can join us to support the students!

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 1:10 - 2:40 p.m.**

Parking can be found in the lower lot between AMPS and LADSBS or the upper lot between LADSBS and NCR. We can't wait for a day filled with excitement and fun!



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