



MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

June 8, 2025

Important Links

[District School Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Cliffwood Morning Music Requests](#)

Cliffwood Family Connections [8/25](#), [9/2](#), [9/8](#), [9/15](#), [9/22](#), [9/29](#), [10/6](#), [10/13](#), [10/20](#), [10/27](#), [11/3](#), [11/10](#), [11/17](#), [11/24](#), [12/1](#), [12/8](#), [12/15](#), [12/30](#), [1/5](#), [1/12](#), [1/19](#), [1/26](#), [2/2](#), [2/9](#), [2/16](#), [2/23](#), [3/2](#), [3/9](#), [3/16](#), [3/23](#), [3/30](#), [4/6](#), [4/21](#), [4/27](#), [5/4](#), [5/10](#), [5/18](#), [5/26](#), [6/1](#)

Message from Mrs. Cherence, Principal

Our third-grade students had an absolute blast on their trip to the spray park! They soaked up the sun, enjoyed time with their friends, and made wonderful memories to wrap up the school year. A big thank you to the Cliffwood PTO for providing fun tattoos and organizing snacks and t-shirts for all the students. We are also so grateful to all the families who donated snacks – your support made the day even more special!

On Thursday, June 5th, we were proud to celebrate our Governor's Educators of the Year for the 2024–2025 school year. I had the honor of recognizing two of our very own: Mrs. Gilbert and Ms. Tara, a dynamic Pre-K duo who consistently go above and beyond for our students.

Be sure to check out the PTO section for a recap of all the incredible events and activities from this school year. From festive celebrations to creative learning experiences, so much has been made possible thanks to the PTO's dedication and the support of our families.

Looking ahead, on Wednesday, June 11th and Thursday, June 12th, Jersey Mike's is teaming up with the Cliffwood PTO to support Mrs. Anderson's Road to Recovery. When you dine at Jersey Mike's in Cliffwood on Rt 35 on those days, 20% of your purchase will go directly toward her fundraiser. Let's come together as a community to support one of our own!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support!

**Congrats Mrs. Gilbert & Mrs. Tara-Governor's Educator of the Year
2024-2025**

Michelle Gilbert - Cliffwood, Preschool Teacher

She is a kind, energetic, and passionate educator who brings joy to her Pre-K students every day.

A true team player, she is deeply committed to collaboration and the success of our school community.

Michelle has been a dedicated member of the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District for the past four years. Prior to joining MARSD, she taught at a private preschool in Brick for over 20 years.

Tools of the Mind Pre-K Twitter Teacher of the Month for February and March '24, January '25.

Michelle is an active member of both the Title 1 Committee and the Climate & Equity Committee.



Tara McCormick - Cliffwood, Pre K Instructional Assistant

Governor's Educational Service Professional of the Year

- Full of energy, joy, and always dancing — a true “dancing machine”!
- Greets everyone with a smile — it's contagious!
- Seen dancing daily at bus duty and dismissal
- Kind, caring, and beloved by all students and staff
- Active in all school events: Harlem Wizards game, Battle of the Faculties
- Started as a long-term sub at CP in 2017
- Became district preschool staff with grant funding
- Joined Cliffwood in 2021 as part of the preschool expansion









3rd Grade Spray Park Picnic







































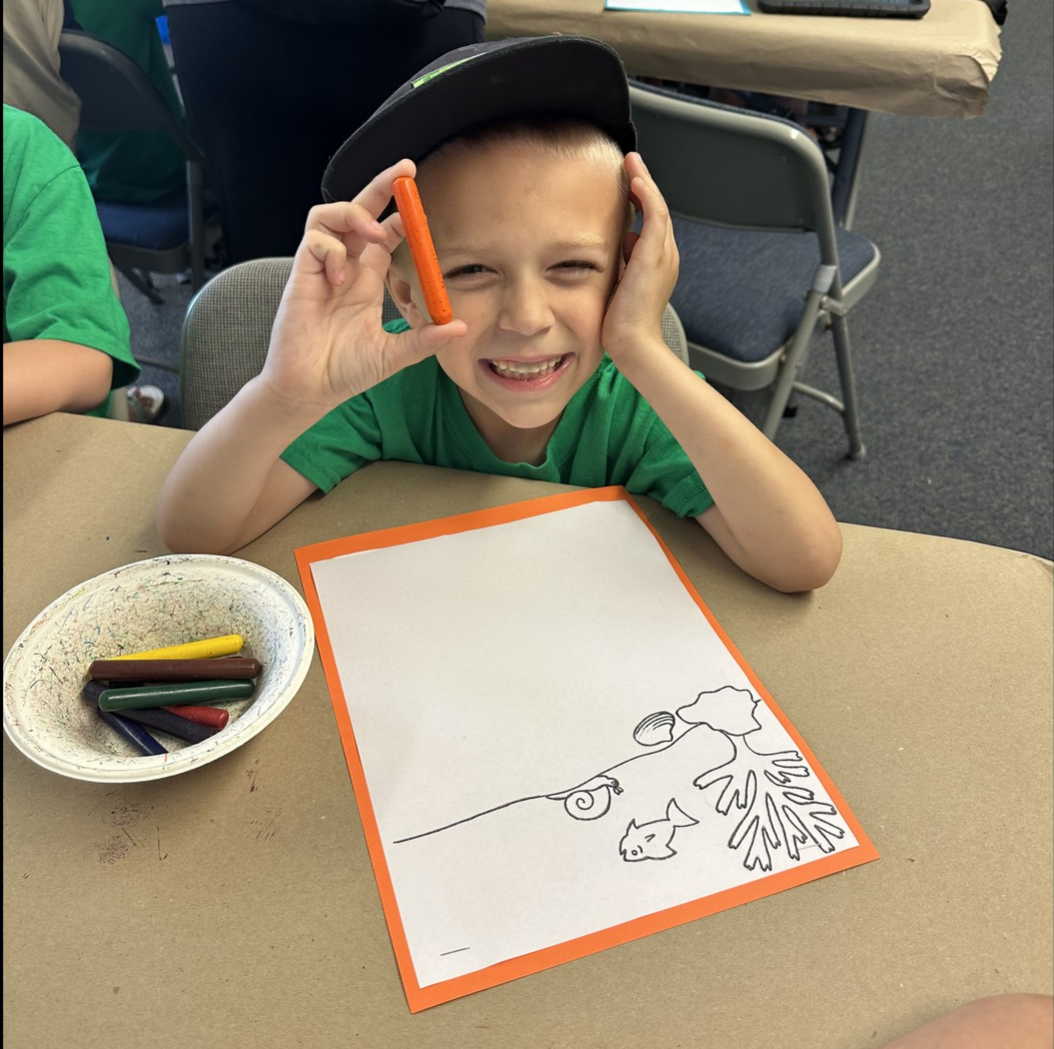






Kindergarten Trip to Seven Presidents Beach









Main Street Donuts Shark Run 5K

Join us for the Main Street Donuts Shark Run 5K! [Link to Register](#)

My daughter and I will be there, and we'd love to see you too! Come out on June 14th at 8:30 AM for a fun and meaningful 5K through Matawan, honoring the historic 1916 shark attacks that inspired *Jaws*.

Proceeds benefit the MRHS Theater, so it's all for a great cause!

👕 Shark shirts (while supplies last)

🏅 Shark Donut Medals

🍩 Delicious Shark Donuts

👨👩👧👦 Stroller friendly, families and walkers welcome!

Main Street, Matawan, Register now and be part of a unique and fun-filled day!



Information about Excused/Unexcused Absences



Attendance Matters

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!**

June Breakfast & Lunch Menu


Link to the [Menu](#)

June 2025

Cliffwood ES
Breakfast

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 • Mini Cornbread Loaf	3 • Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun	4 • French Toast Bites	5 • Sausage, Egg & Cheese on a Bagel	6 • Whole Grain Donut Bites
9 • Mini Maple Pancakes	10 • Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun	11 • Fluffy French Toast Sticks	12 • Sausage, Egg & Cheese on a Bagel	13 • Mini Maple Chip Waffles
16 • Mini Cinnamon Crumb Loaf	17 • Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun	18 • Apple Frudel	19 • Sausage, Egg & Cheese on a Bagel	20
23  • Apple Frudel	24	25	26	27
30				

*Menu is Subject to Change





"MASCHIO'S IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER."



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?
Please call us at (973) 598-0005 to speak to one of Maschio's Registered Dietitian Nutritionists.










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Healthy meals grow
healthy kids!

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


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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2  • Fluffy Buttermilk Pancakes • Juicy Breakfast Sausages • Crunchy Hash Browns	3 • Seasoned Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla • Black Bean and Corn Salad • Apple Filled Churro	4 • Cheese Manicotti Marinara • Freshly Prepared Rainbow Chopped Salad • Garlic Bread	5 • Meatball Parm Hero • Panko Crusted Green Beans  • Strawberry Salsa with Cinnamon Tortilla Chips	6  • Bella's Cheese Pizza • Freshly Prepared Maschio's House Salad
9  • Juicy Bacon Cheeseburger on a Bun or • Juicy Hamburger on a Bun • BBQ Baked Beans	10 • Italian Sampler with Breaded Ravioli, Mozzarella Sticks and Marinara Sauce • Roasted Garlic Green Beans	11  • Bacon, Egg and Cheese on an English Muffin • Crunchy Tater Tots	12 • Crispy Chicken Sandwich • Steamed Corn	13  • NY Style Bella's Pizza • Freshly Prepared Cucumber and Tomato Salad
16 • Beef Nacho Platter • Fiesta Corn	17 • Bacon Chipotle Grilled Cheese Sandwich • Spiral Fries	18 HALF DAY NO SWAP OUTS • Golden Crisp Waffles • Juicy Breakfast Sausages • Crunchy Hash Browns OR • Chicken Nuggets OR • Muffin Bag Meal	19 HALF DAY NO SWAP OUTS  • NY Style Bella's Pizza • Freshly Prepared Maschio's House Salad OR • Chicken Nuggets OR • Muffin Bag Meal	20 
23  • Creamy Mac and Cheese • Steamed Broccoli • Soft Pretzel Stick	24	25	26	27
30				

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Healthy meals grow
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Swap Outs-Elementary Breakfast: Assorted Cereal Bar Graham Crackers , with Assorted Cereal Graham Crackers ,

Cliffwood PTO NEWS

On Wednesday, June 11th and Thursday, June 12th, Jersey Mike's is teaming up with the Cliffwood PTO to support Mrs. Anderson's Road to Recovery. When you dine at Jersey Mike's in Cliffwood on Rt 35 on those days, 20% of your purchase will go directly toward her fundraiser. Let's come together as a community to support one of our own!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support!

JERSEY MIKE'S FUNDRAISER

June 11 & June 12 • All Day



Good goes beyond the sub! Visit our store or order on our app using promo code **JMGIVES** on June 11th & June 12th—and we'll happily donate 20% of your sale in support of **Mrs. Anderson's Journey to Recovery with the Cliffwood Elementary PTA**. Enjoy some great subs and help Jersey Mike's support this worthy cause.

VALID ONLY AT: 311 ROUTE 35 • CLIFFWOOD, NJ • 732-497-4500

Valid in app with promo code JMGIVES or when you present this flyer at register. 4484

Cliffwood Elementary School PTO

2024-2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

HOW WE RAISED FUNDS THIS YEAR:

FUNDRAISERS:

- PTO MEMBERSHIP DUES
- COOKIE DOUGH & CHOCOLATE BAR SALES
- SPIRIT WEAR SALE
- BAKE SALE
- MUMS FUNDRAISER
- PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER
- WIZFIT FUNDRAISER
- MONTHLY SCHOOL STORE
- TRICKY TRAY
- DINE-OUT NIGHTS
- HOLIDAY SHOPPE
- COIN WARS

DONATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY



CLASSROOM & TEACHING RESOURCES

- CLASS CASH FOR EACH HOMEROOM FOR NEEDED SUPPLIES
- EDUCATIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS- SCHOLASTIC NEWS LEAFLETS
- NEW LIBRARY BOOKS, STEM MATERIALS, LIBRARY SHELVING & COMFORT ITEMS FOR THE MEDIA CENTER
- BOOKS FOR EACH CLASSROOM THROUGH SCHOLASTIC REWARDS
- SUPPLIED SCHOOL NURSE WITH NEEDED CLOTHING ITEMS



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- STUDENT INCENTIVES- PAWS WINNERS, PERFECT ATTENDANCE REWARDS, OSOB/WINTER BREAK/SPRING BREAK PRIZES
- ALL FIELD TRIPS FOR EACH GRADE
- PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION SNACKS & GIVEAWAYS
- PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN PUMPKINS & ACTIVITIES
- ASSEMBLIES: PLANETARIUM & DINOSAUR ROCKS
- FUN DAY: INFLATABLES & ICE POPS, TEES FOR ALL STUDENTS & STAFF
- WIZFIT & COIN WARS PRIZES (PIZZA & ICE CREAM PARTIES FOR WINNING CLASSES)
- FUNDRAISER KICK-OFF ASSEMBLIES
- 3RD GRADE PICNIC- TEE SHIRTS, SHAVED ICES, TATTOOS, & BEACH BALLS
- CATERPILLARS FOR PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN CLASSES
- PURCHASED CLIFFWOOD FLAGS DESIGNED BY MRHS STUDENT
- WIZARDS GAME GIVEAWAYS & FREEBIES



HOW WE USED THOSE FUNDS:



STAFF SUPPORT

- LUNCH/DRINKS/SNACKS PROVIDED FOR TEACHER, PARAPROFESSIONAL, SECRETARY, CUSTODIAN, & BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAYS
- GIFT CARDS PROVIDED FOR TEACHER INCENTIVES/CONTEST PRIZES
- VOLUNTEER WORK IN LIBRARY
- PURCHASED ACCESSORIES FOR SPRING CONCERT, FIELD TRIPS
- ITEMS PURCHASED TO SUPPORT WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD
- SNACKS & PRIZES PURCHASED FOR TITLE 1 EVENTS



FAMILY & COMMUNITY EVENTS

- BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY
- TRUNK-OR-TREAT- A FREE EVENT!
- VETERANS PINNING- A FREE EVENT!
- WINTER FESTIVAL
- TRICKY TRAY AUCTION- OPEN TO COMMUNITY
- ICE CREAM SOCIAL- A FREE EVENT!
- WIZARDS GAME
- CHALK THE WALK- A FREE EVENT!



SCHOOL UPGRADE

- \$20,000 RAISED TOWARD GOAL OF REFINISHING OUR PLAYGROUND WITH SPONGE FLOOR
- UMBRELLAS PURCHASED FOR TABLE SHADING
- VOLUNTEERS PLANTED IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL AND HELPED IN THE GARDEN
- ITEMS PURCHASED FOR INDOOR/OUTDOOR DECOR



ADMINISTRATIVE

- PTO INSURANCE PURCHASED
- ANNUAL NON-PROFIT RENEWAL FEES

2024-2025 Yearbooks



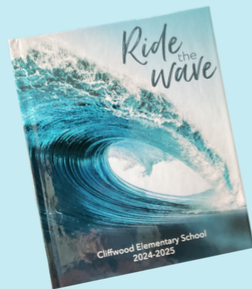
Cliffwood Elementary's 2024-2025 yearbooks are in! Yearbooks were distributed the end of last week. If you ordered and paid for a yearbook and did not receive one, please email us @ cliffwoodPTO422@gmail.com

Some yearbooks (softcover) are still available for purchase. They are \$25 each. You can pay by cash, check (made out to Cliffwood PTO), or Venmo @cliffwoodelementarypto

To order a yearbook, email cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com with your student's name and teacher.

Thank you for an awesome year!

❤️ Cliffwood PTO





Join Us for Our June PTO Meeting



At our last meeting we voted for the 2025-2026 School Year's PTO Executive Board. I want to congratulate our new President Kelsey Sobin & Co-President Kristina Acosta! Thank you for all the help you did this year and for stepping-up to do it all again!

We are still finalizing our board and committee members. There are many positions still available! Please come to our meeting if you are willing to volunteer or help plan out next year's PTO events & activities.

Who?:

Parents/grandparents, teachers, administrators, support staff

When?:

*Wednesday, June 11, 2025 from 5:30-6:30pm
(before star student ceremony)*

Where?:

Cliffwood Elementary School Cafeteria



Email questions to cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com

Our Final School Store of the School Year

Wednesday, June 11th &
Thursday, June 12th



Students grades K-3 may shop during lunch periods.
Send in ziplock or envelope labeled school store with child name
and teacher. Items range from 25 cents to \$3.50



LET'S CHALK THE WALK!



BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL, FAMILIES CAN WRITE
ENCOURAGING MESSAGES OR DRAW PICTURES TO
CONGRATULATE AND CELEBRATE AN AMAZING YEAR IT HAS
BEEN FOR OUR CLIFFWOOD STUDENTS!
LET'S SAIL INTO SUMMER!

THIS IS A FREE EVENT BUT PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CHALK!

GUIDELINES:

COME ANY TIME ON SUNDAY 6/22 TO PARTICIPATE. FIND AN OPEN
SIDEWALK SQUARE OR AREA ON THE BLACKTOP TO WRITE YOUR
MESSAGE.

ALL CHALK MUST BE WATER BASED

ALL DRAWINGS MUST STAY WITHIN A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF
SPACE SO ALL CAN PARTICIPATE



SUNDAY, JUNE 22 UNTIL 7 PM

MATAWAN-ABERDEEN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS PRESENT

MATAWAN ABERDEEN DAY AT THE JERSEY SHORE BLUECLAWS

Tickets
\$18
plus fees

SUNDAY
JUNE 22
1PM

**HUDSON
VALLEY
RENEGADES**

VS

**JERSEY
SHORE
BLUECLAWS**

SCAN TO PURCHASE

**SHORETOWN
BALLPARK
2 STADIUM WAY
LAKEWOOD, NJ**



Made With PosterMyWall.com

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/Matawanaberdeen25>



JANUARY 2025 EDITION

BOX TOPS

Easy ways to make a difference for your school.



BONUS OFFER BONANZA



Buy 3, Earn 6
on Gushers, Fruit
by the Foot and
Fruit Roll-Ups*†



Buy 2, Earn 6
on Pillsbury
Cinnamon Rolls*†



Buy 2, Earn 6
on Annie's
snacks*†



Buy 2, Earn 5
on Cheerios*†



Buy 2, Earn 5
on Fiber One
+ Protein One*†



Buy 2, Earn 5
on Cascadian
Farms*†



Buy 2, Earn 5
on Muir Glen*†



Buy 2, Earn 5
on Nature Valley*†



Buy 1, Earn 5
on ratio*†
(excludes dairy
products)



Buy 4, Earn 20
on ALL participating
Box Tops
products**†



EARNINGS GOAL

Goal: \$500.00
to help fund classroom
art supplies

\$80.25



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25 Bonus Box Tops.

3 EASY WAYS TO EARN FOR OUR SCHOOL



SCAN

Qualifying receipts
in the app



SUBMIT

Qualifying digital
receipts in the app



CONNECT

Your Walmart and
Box Tops accounts

*Offers are valid in a single transaction between 1/1/2025-1/31/2025.

**Offers are valid in a single transaction between 1/1/2025-2/14/2025.

†Must submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Limit 5 claims per receipt.

**DON'T HAVE THE
BOX TOPS APP YET?
DOWNLOAD IT NOW:**





HUSKY TOUCHDOWN CLUB

PRESENTS



1 VETERANS WAY PORT MONMOUTH NJ 07758

RAFFLE DRAWING 7PM TICKET PRICE \$40 5PM-10PM

INCLUDES A SHEET OF TIER 1 TICKETS COFFEE TEA AND DESSERTS PROVIDED

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD - CASH BAR NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL

TABLES OF 10 REGISTRATION CAN EMAIL TO HUSKYTOUCHDOWN@GMAIL.COM
OR MAILED TO MATAWAN REGIONAL HS 450 ATLANTIC AVE ABERDEEN NJ 07747

TICKET ADM CAN BE PAID BY CASH,

CHECK (MADE OUT TO HUSKY TOUCHDOWNCLUB) OR VENMO @[husky-touchdown-club](https://www.venmo.com/husky-touchdown-club)

Dates to Keep in Mind

- 6/6- Third Grade Spray Park Trip
- 6/9- Rain date for Third Grade Spray Park Trip
- 6/10- Literature in the Cliffwood Garden 6-7 PM
- 6/11- PTO Meeting
- 6/11 & 6/12- Jersey Mike's Fundraiser in Support of Mrs. Anderson's Road to Recovery
- 6/11 & 6/12- School Store
- 6/13- PreK Promotion
- 6/14- Main Street Donuts Shark Run 5K
- 6/16- Kindergarten Celebration
- 6/18- Early Dismissal
- 6/19- Early Dismissal
- 6/20- School Closed
- 6/22- Chalk the Walk
- 6/22- Blue Claws Game
- 6/23- Last day of School-Early Dismissal
- 6/23- 3rd Grade Clap Out 1:10 PM



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES



Matawan-Aberdeen Regional
School District

