



The Village Bluebird

Sunshine, Smiles, & Summer Wishes

As the 2025-2026 school year comes to a close, we are filled with gratitude for the learning, growth, and connections shared throughout our school community. This year would not have been possible without the dedication of our students, staff, families, and community members who make our school such a special place. We extend our deep appreciation to our PTA Co-Presidents Ms. Danielle O'Connor and Ms. Kathryn Worland, and all of our parent volunteers whose time and talents helped create meaningful and memorable experiences for our students. We look forward to working with our newly elected presidents, Mrs. Sarah Fallon and Ms. Jennifer Volfson.

Throughout the spring, students engaged in learning that celebrated and honored a range of cultures, identities, and histories, including Arab American Heritage Month, Autism Acceptance Month, Deaf History Month, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and Jewish American Heritage Month. Students also reflected on Memorial Day through age-appropriate lessons on service and sacrifice.

In June, we will celebrate Pride Month by fostering kindness, belonging, and respect for all, and we will also honor Juneteenth and its historical significance in recognizing the perseverance, courage, and contributions of African Americans. VES is participating in Montgomery's 250th anniversary recognition of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, while also acknowledging its contradictions as systems of bondage continued to exist. We celebrate the diversity of contributions to American culture and the ideals of freedom, equity and justice through a school-wide Star-Spangled Challenge. Each class is creating a collaborative artwork inspired by this milestone, with student voting and a community display at the township library.

These experiences continue to build compassion, understanding, creativity and school community. June will also bring favorite end-of-year traditions, including art showcases, musical performances, Fun Day, 4th grade clap off and our schoolwide sing along. In addition, students are enjoying meaningful field experiences. Our 4th graders will visit Turtle Back Zoo in June, while our 3rd graders are visiting the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in May/June.

To our fourth graders, we are proud of you and excited for your next chapter at LMS. We look forward to welcoming our new and returning students when school resumes on Thursday, September 3rd. Wishing all of our families a safe, restful, and joyful summer. We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Principal Susan Lacy and The VES Team

Stay up to date with visits to the [VES](#), [MES PTA](#), and [MSEPTA](#) websites, follow our [Instagram feed](#) for pictures of the latest activities at school, and check out dates and other happenings in this issue.

Before You Trade Pencils for Pool Floats...

Mark These Dates!

[Updated District Calendar](#) | [VES Calendar](#) | [June Spirit Days](#)

Friday, June 5th: District Art Extravaganza, Montgomery High School, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Saturday, June 6th: District Art Extravaganza, Montgomery High School, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Monday, June 8th: [Virtual](#) MES PTA Meeting, 7:15-8:00 pm

Friday, June 12: [Fun day](#) (Rain date - Tuesday, June 16th). [Fun Day Volunteer Sign Up](#). Check out the information on [Fun Day Popsicles](#) below!

Monday, June 15: 3rd Grade Trip to MHS for their Children's Theater production

Thursday, June 18: 4th Grade Moving Up Party at LMS, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM [4th Grade Moving Up Party Page Sign Up Info](#)

Thursday, June 18th or Monday, June 22nd: Class end of the year parties

Friday, June 19: Schools closed to commemorate Juneteenth

Tuesday, June 23rd: Last day of school, 4th grade clap off and school wide sing along (1:25 pm is parent pick up, 1:35 pm is bus dismissal)

Wednesday, September 2nd: VES Open house - Students and parents/guardians are welcome to meet their teachers and see their classrooms.

Thursday, September 3rd: First Day of School

Thursday, September 17th & Friday, September 18th: School Pictures

Wednesday, September 23rd: 3rd Grade Back to School Night

Thursday, September 24th: 4th Grade Back to School Night



Savor the Summer: Fun Day Popsicle Paradise Awaits!

Our MES PTA is providing our students with a refreshing treat this year at the end of Fun Day on June 12th. [Please see this link for Flavor Ice nutrition information.](#)

Reach out to your student's classroom teacher if you **do not** want your student to have a popsicle, and send your student in with an alternative snack.

Students should wear sneakers and may also want to wear sunscreen on Fun Day!

Parents/Caregivers can sign up here to be a [Fun Day Volunteer](#). Click here to [purchase a yearbook](#) for the Fun Day yearbook signing station!



A Sunny Thank you to our MES PTA!

VES proudly recognizes the outstanding dedication and generosity of our PTA Co-Presidents, Ms. Danielle O'Connor and Ms. Kathryn Worland, along with their executive board, committee chairs, and volunteers. Their ongoing commitment has greatly enriched our school community this year through events such as International Night, student assemblies, staff appreciation celebrations, the exciting launch of our new yearbook, and valuable grant funding, among many other contributions.

We are also sincerely grateful to the MES PTA for more than \$16,000 in financial support! This year, they contributed \$8000 for author visits, the 4th Grade Extreme Science Assembly, outdoor plants and transportation for field trips, significantly reducing expenses for families. Their Grant program funded more than \$1000 in classroom/school initiatives and more than \$7000 purchased weather resistant picnic tables and native pollinator plants for our Bluebird Garden and Audubon Society Eco School goals.

We deeply value our strong partnership with the MES PTA and encourage all families to remain involved and continue supporting their important work.

Please be sure to review the June 2026 newsletters from the MES PTA and visit their [website](#) for the latest information on upcoming events, activities, and ways to get involved.

End-Of-Year Safety Reminders + Your Support

As we approach the final weeks of school, your partnership helps us maintain a safe and positive environment for all students.

Parent Drop-Off

For the safety of our students and staff, please keep children in their vehicles until school doors open at 9:25 am. When exiting, students should always leave the vehicle from the sidewalk side of the car rather than the traffic lane.

Toys from Home

We kindly ask that toys remain at home. While we understand students may be excited to share special items, toys can become distractions during learning time and may lead to lost or broken items, causing misunderstandings among peers.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us finish the school year safely and successfully!

One Last Splash Through the Lost + Found Before Summer!

The Lost and Found in the cafeteria is overflowing with jackets, water bottles, lunchboxes, and other forgotten items! Please encourage your child to stop by and check for anything they may be missing before the final day of school. Any unclaimed items remaining after the school year ends will be donated. Help us send these lost belongings home before summer vacation begins!



Turning Compassion Into Action!



On June 1st, VES students participated in a special assembly featuring community member Mr. Fallon in support of The Seeing Eye organization. Following the presentation, we are collecting donations throughout the month of June to support the incredible work The Seeing Eye does in helping individuals who are blind or visually impaired. We look forward to coming together as a school community to learn, give back, and make a difference! Last year our students raised \$600 to support The Seeing Eye. Can we top this?

Here Comes the Sun... and Your Report Card!

End of year report cards will be available online starting June 23rd at 1:30. They will be available to view, print and save.

To log in:

1. Visit <https://parents.mtsd.k12.nj.us>
2. Enter your username (your email address), and your password. If you forgot your password, use the "Forgot My Password" link just below the Login button. Your password will be sent by email in a few minutes.

If you are unable to log in or do not have an account, please contact genesissupport@mtsd.us



Don't Lose Your Summer Vibe, or Your Student ID!



Please remember your student ID cards should be safely secured during the summer. Students will need them again in September until new ones are issued. All students will receive new IDs after the start of the school year, once they are processed after our school picture day.

In the event your ID is lost, there will be a \$5.00 replacement fee. Payment must be made through your PaySchools Account, and you must fill out the Google Form below to alert the office:

- o VES [Google Form](#)
- o LMS [Google Form](#)

Preparing for Next Year: Classroom Placements

As we approach the end of the school year, planning for student class placements is underway. Ms. Lacy and Mrs. Glover collaborate closely with teachers, school counselors, and supervisors to thoughtfully place current 3rd and 4th grade students.

Please note that some 4th grade students may be placed in a departmentalized model, where they will have one teacher for language arts and another for mathematics, science, and social studies. In this structure, students remain with their homeroom class while rotating between teachers, who work together as a collaborative team.

For current 2nd-grade students, placements into 3rd grade are coordinated by OHES administrators, Mr. Van Hise and Mrs. Caudill, with support from Ms. Lacy and Mrs. Glover. Additionally, Ms. Lacy and Mrs. Glover will be a resource for Mrs. Romano and Mr. Pachuta at the Lower Middle School as they will be placing current 4th grade students into 5th grade.

All students are placed in heterogeneous classrooms designed to provide a strong academic and social match, paired with highly qualified and caring teachers. Academic needs identified by current classroom teachers are carefully considered first in the process. While we are unable to honor requests for specific teachers or classmates, we do review information regarding special circumstances or relevant updates that may not already be on file. Any new or updated information must be submitted via email by June 23rd.

We appreciate your trust in this thoughtful process. Our goal is to ensure that every student is placed in a setting that supports their academic growth, social development, and overall success. Final placement information will be shared in August.

Sun, Fun + a Quick Health Reminder from the VES Health Office

If your child currently has medication in the health office, plan to stop by anytime on or prior to June 23, 2026 to pick it up. **Any medication not picked by the end of the school day on June 23, 2026 will be discarded in compliance with state regulations.** New Jersey State law prohibits public schools from storing medications in the health office over the summer. This includes Epi- Pens, inhalers, insulin, eye drops, prescription and non- prescription medications such as Tylenol, Advil or Benadryl. If you need to pick up your child's medication outside of normal school hours on June 23, 2026, you can arrange a time with the nurses to possibly do so. Please call the nurse to make these arrangements. (609) 466-7606 ext. 2500 or 2600.



Students are not allowed to carry any medication home in their backpacks per Montgomery Township School District Policy. Exceptions cannot be made to this policy.

The nurses would also like to remind parents that as students are enjoying the last days of school filled with activities, it is important that students wear sneakers or appropriate shoes for running and playing. Crocs and sandals are discouraged.

All the best,
Mrs. Cizin and Ms. Tang

Soak Up the Sun, Then Stock Up on Supplies!

General Third and Fourth Grade Supply Lists 2026-2027

Dear Incoming Third & Fourth Grade Students and Families,

In an effort to make your supply shopping easier, the [third-grade](#) and [fourth-grade](#) teams have created a list of supplies you can begin to look for. We have chosen these items carefully and feel they enhance our instructional program. As you shop for a backpack, please be sure to select one without wheels, as it must fit comfortably inside your child's classroom cubby.

3rd Grade

- 1 set of coloring supplies (your choice...crayons, colored pencils, etc)
- 4 dry-erase markers
- 12 pencils (pre-sharpened, if possible)
- 1 pencil box (box or pouch)
- Whiteboard eraser/clean sock
- 1 pair of child-sized scissors
- 2 pocket folders (for Health and Spanish classes)
- Comfortable over-the-ear headphones (no wireless) with a [3.5mm](#) jack in a Ziplock bag with your name on it for your personal use

4th Grade

- 1 set of coloring supplies (either colored pencils or markers, 8 count or more)
- 6 dry-erase, **LOW ODOR** markers
- 1 whiteboard eraser
- 24 pencils (pre-sharpened, if possible)
- 1 hand-held pencil eraser
- 1 hand-held pencil sharpener
- 2 highlighters
- 1 black or blue Sharpie marker
- 2 rolls of clear tape on a tape dispenser
- 1 large or 2 small glue sticks
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 ruler
- 2 packages of 3" x 3" post its
- 1 pencil box (box or pouch)
- 4, 2-pocket folders (Includes Health and Spanish)
- 1 package of wet wipes
- 1 box of tissues
- Comfortable over-the-ear headphones (no wireless) with a [3.5mm](#) jack in a Ziplock bag with your name on it for your personal use

Later this summer, you will receive a letter from your child's classroom teacher with additional supply information and a warm welcome!

Wishing you a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,
The Third & Fourth Grade Teams

General Fifth Grade Supply List 2026-2027

Please visit [this link](#) for the 2026-2027 fifth grade teacher team supply lists.

The Fifth Grade Team

Books Make the Best Summer Adventures!

Make reading a part of your child's summer fun! While school is out, continuing to read can help keep reading skills strong and imaginations soaring while opening doors to new worlds and exciting adventures. Whether it is at the beach, in the backyard, in a cozy reading spot, or before bed, books are always a great companion. Here are some reading suggestions to help your child find stories that match their interests: [VES 2026 Summer Reading Suggestions](#). You will find a variety of authors, series, and titles in many genres that are perfect for summer reading. Enjoy the summer break with some fantastic books. I look forward to hearing all about your child's summer reading adventures!



Warmly,
Mrs. Franey, VES Librarian

Plan Ahead This Summer: A Message From the YMCA

Hello Montgomery Families!

We're excited to announce the Princeton YMCA is open for registration for our Before and After School Programs serving the Montgomery School District! Flexible 3- and 5-day options are available for families for before and after care at our locations listed below.

Program Locations:

- **Orchard Hill Elementary** - Before & After School
- **Village Elementary** - Before & After School
- **Lower Middle School** - After School Only

Program Hours:

- **Before School:** 7:30 AM until school starts
- **After School:** From dismissal until 6:00 PM

 Programs take place **on-site at your student's school** and are also offered on **half days**.

 On full **days off from school**, care is provided **off-site at our Princeton YMCA building**.

 While spots do fill up quickly, **registration will remain open all summer!**

We look forward to a fun and enriching school year with your student! If you have any questions about the program, feel free to reach out to Lindsey Williams (lwilliams@gscymca.org).