



MLS Messenger




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- June 18: Last day of school



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for updates and the latest
work of our students!



@MLSatGemmaServices



@Martin_Luther_School

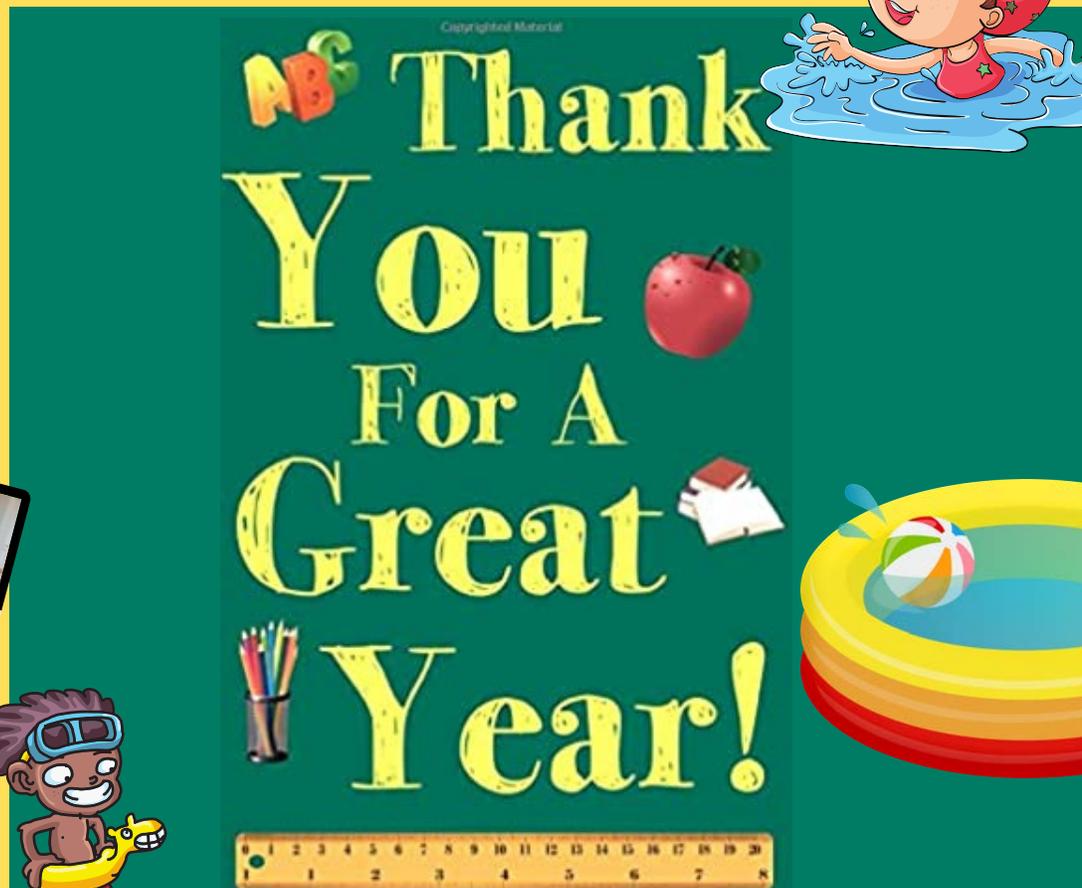
From the Desk of Ms. Eva

This issue of the MLS Messenger is entirely dedicated to you -- the students, staff, and families! The last 15 months of COVID-19 have been one of the most challenging and remarkable events in our lifetime. And yet, we stayed true to our mission, vision, and values. Together, we confidently engaged in personalized, purposeful learning, joyfully celebrated individual and collective success, and respectfully challenged ourselves and others to grow!

Respectfully,

Eva R. Morrison

School Director



MLS SPOTLIGHT



Written with love by each TEAM

Fritz Family (Grades K-3)

This year the Fritz Family has exemplified determination, curiosity, creativity, and GRIT! Students started off their year exploring our local communities and our role within them! Next, we discussed our theme of Superheroes both in real life and fantasy. We focused on what characteristics make up a superhero and channel our inner superheroes from within. We challenged students daily to fill others' buckets and find their hidden strengths or "superhero strengths"! Later in the year, we traveled the world virtually! From Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa, to Buckingham Palace in England. Students have made connections to other continents, cultures, and how others may live differently than us. Most exciting was watching how math instruction sprouted many critical thinkers. From number talks, Desmos to student-led discussions. Students have adapted to this new way of exploratory talk! We have learned to LOVE math and know that we all can be awesome at it. Overall in the virtual year of 2020-2121, our students enjoyed learning how they play a role in this BIG world. They realized that no matter what or where we come from, we should always be kind, accept others, and be our best selves!

Masterminds (Grades 4 -5)

During the 2020-2021 school year, the Masterminds employed their curiosities to learn about themselves. This was demonstrated by students who traveled the world with Carmen Sandiego to embrace and celebrate different cultures. In the 2nd trimester, they analyzed perspective through the book Restart, examined the judicial process, and participated in a mock trial. To finish off the school year, students read The One and Only Ivan, inspired by the true story of Ivan the Gorilla. Following in Ivan's footsteps, students explored social causes to learn how they can become agents of change. In math, they demonstrated a tremendous amount of grit by taking risks and rising to the challenges of the problem-based Illustrative Math curriculum. All in all, the Masterminds took part in a year of self-reflection and realized their place in the world and how they can contribute.

Sensational Sixers (Grade 6)

We listened to their voices while reading The Crossover.
 We cultivated their differences while discussing Class Act.
 We supported their struggles while reading Refugee.
 We encouraged them to take risks while introducing reflections in writing.
 We open the doors to thinking and learning while introducing them to Illustrative Math.
 TEACHERS REALLY DO CHANGE THE WORLD!!



Allstars (Grade 7)

The 7th grade Allstars have spent the year exploring new technologies and learning virtually! We started off the year by reading the poetic novel Crossover by Kwame Alexander. The 7th graders created odes to celebrate things in their lives that they love and presented the poems beautifully in our Trimester One showcase. We have also explored grade-level math content. The 7th grade worked through many problems about scaled copies and proportional relationships. Finally, in Trimester Three, we took on our most exciting challenge yet- the science fiction novel Maze Runner! The Allstars took a deep dive into the elements of science fiction novels and made connections between science fiction novels and real-life events!

Overall, it was a challenging year! Learning virtually was no easy feat. The 7th grade Allstars displayed that, even in the face of great uncertainty, we can still have grit, be curious, and learn!

Dream Team (Grade 8)

2020-2021, also known as, the year of virtual learning, problem solving, self discovery and muted mics. You haven't truly experienced virtual learning if you haven't talked while having your mic muted. The eighth graders have displayed a tremendous amount of grit, determination, grace and teamwork throughout the year as influenced by Kwame Alexander's The Playbook. The students then traveled to Alaska to witness self-discovery and personal growth as presented in Touching Spirit Bear. Concluding the ELA journey, the students read several short stories allowing them to make connections between the characters and themselves. The eighth graders will never forget Desmos, math talks, rigid transformations, self reflections and Blooket. Our students have proven that no matter the distance, they remained MLS strong.



What's Happening

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Developing a Growth Mindset



Having a growth mindset means understanding that you can learn, improve or build skills with hard work, persistence and effort. People with a growth mindset learn from their mistakes, are responsive to feedback and face challenges head-on.

Helping your child develop a growth mindset will prepare them to face the challenges of the future. Here are some suggestions to help your child develop a growth mindset:

- Praise effort, not results. For example, "I can see that you worked really hard on putting the pieces together."
- Look at failures or mistakes as an opportunity to grow and learn.
- Recognize that hard work is more important than talent.
- Use the word "yet." This word encourages you to think you can achieve something despite obstacles. For example, "I can't do that, yet" versus, "I can't do that."
- Model optimism and positive thinking.

by Sue DeFeo, MLS SEL Facilitator

Final Showcase Dates:

Thursday, June 3, 2021

9:30a.m.-10:15a.m. - Sensational Sixers: Hess 7 and Hess 9
12 noon. - 1:10p.m. - Masterminds: Hess 1B and 2

Friday, June 4, 2021

9:30a.m.-10:15a.m - Sensational Sixers: Hess 8 and 10
12 noon-1:10 p.m. - Masterminds: Hess 3, 4, and 5

Monday, June 7, 2021

8:45-9:45 a.m.- Allstars- Hess 12 and 14
10:00-10:45 a.m. - Dream Team HR 21 and 22
12:10-1:10 p.m. - Fritz Family Fritz 21 and 22

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

8:45-9:45 a.m. Allstars- Hess 11 and 13
10:00-10:45 a.m. - Dream Team HR 23 and 24
12:10-1:10 p.m. - Fritz Family Fritz 12 and 19

PSSA Specifics:

English Language Arts and Mathematics will take place the following dates and times:

- **June 10 and 11: Grades 7 and 8: arrival time/snack 8:30; testing: 9:00 - 12:30**
- **June 14 and 15: Grades 5 and 6: arrival time/snack 8:30; testing: 9:00 - 12:30**
- **June 16 and 17: Grades 3 and 4: arrival time/snack 8:30; testing: 9:00 - 12:30**
- **Science and makeups will take place the following date and time:**
- **June 18: Grades 4 and 8: arrival time 8:30/snack; testing: 9:00 - 12:30**

All students are required to bring charged Chromebooks for PSSA testing. All Chromebooks will remain on campus following Day 1 of testing. Following Day 2 of testing, students will take the Chromebook home. Additionally, all parents/guardians will remain in the Harrison parking lot until their student completes the test.

ESY Update

As we close our exciting School Year 20-21 chapter, we are gearing up for an exciting and adventurous Extended School Year 20-21! This summer for in person Extended School Year we will be striving to reach the top of everything with a curriculum based on the *Guinness Book of World Records!* We have outdoor activities, swimming, dancing and fun, fun, FUN coming your way. Get ready to work hard AND play hard with your Martin Luther School family! Emails to families/guardians with additional ESY information will be sent home mid June.

1. Dates: July 6 - August 6
2. Times: 9:00-1:30
3. Programs: In-person and virtual
4. In person program: Monday-Thursday face to face, Friday virtual
5. Virtual Academy: Monday-Friday virtual



2021 - 2022
New School Year
Important Dates
to Remember

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2021
LABOR DAY, NO SCHOOL

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021
ROSH HASHANAH, NO SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021
VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION, EARLY DISMISSAL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021
VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION, EARLY DISMISSAL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021
VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION, EARLY DISMISSAL



*Have a
great
Summer!*



OUR VALUES

Trust * Relationship * Grit * Respect * Commitment * Courage * Belonging * Creativity * Curiosity

Instruct the Mind



Engage the Heart



Empower the Will

