

MATHEWS

MESSENGER



Principally *hi!* SPEAKING

Grace Martino-Brewster, *Principal*

Hello wonderful Mathews Community! It's hard to believe that it's October already – time really does fly when you're having fun! We're now six weeks into the school year and completely focused on providing rigorous and engaging lessons for our students while continuing to build on their Social Emotional Learning.

I want to talk a bit about resilience and hope for our students. The Gallup Group is conducting research on some of the “soft” skills necessary for success in school and beyond and have found that hope is actually a better predictor of success in college than test scores. Let me say that again – the amount of hope a child feels is a better predictor of college success than test scores. This is a pretty powerful statement and one to which we need to pay attention. Stanford University has even started a Resiliency Project to help their students recognize the importance of learning from their mistakes.

We know that learning new skills and concepts requires brain power and sometimes that hard work isn't enjoyable. We also know that pushing through those difficult times is rewarding and that mastering new ideas often becomes fun. We sincerely hope your child is growing academically and socially and finding the fun in success at school.

This year, the Mathews teachers and staff are committed to helping our children become resilient learners. We want to foster in them a sense of confidence in their own abilities to master new ideas and concepts – not because it's easy but because they were

able to dig down deep and work through any challenges. We are having deliberate conversations with each other and our students about mistakes and “failure” and reframing these terms in a more positive light. Mistakes become data. Analyzing the data helps us figure out a better way to solve the problem, edit our writing, conduct a better experiment. One of our teachers makes a point of finding the best mistake made in class each day. Why? Because we learn the most from the mistakes, or as we like to refer to them, the prototypes we make. When our children realize they can grow from their mistakes, that they can become better learners, they build confidence in themselves as problem-solvers. This confidence then gives them hope in the knowledge that they have the skills necessary to push through difficulty and forge ahead.

Children are naturally risk takers. We want to make sure we're not squashing their willingness to take risks with academic learning. So, at Mathews, we'll continue to focus on creating safe spaces to ask questions, to make mistakes, and to grow as students and scholars. We'll continue to encourage our students to push through difficult challenges. And we'll continue to learn more about how to foster resilience and hope in our children and ourselves. How can you help your child become more resilient and grow hope? Encourage your child to try new things and experience safe challenges. Even when it seems the questions are never ending, allow them to explore their curiosity and cheer them on when they struggle.

Let's build that hope together!



www.Mathews360.com

Directories, Calendars, School Supplies, Articles, and More

mathews MUSIC

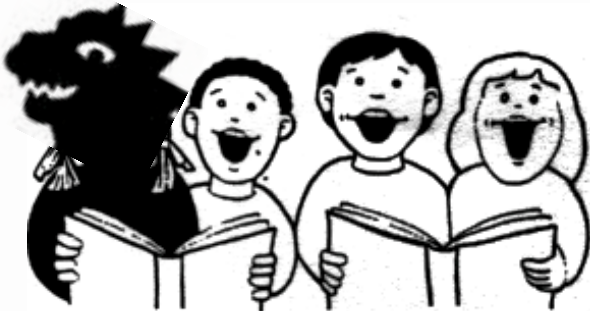
Amy Goode, Music Teacher

Lots of lovely sounds are happening in music class! The Kinder students are looking for and using "found" instruments (think car keys and wooden kitchen spoons).

1st Grade is listening for one and two sound rhythm patterns in music. There are so many singing games and poems that use one and two sounds!

The 2nd through 5th grade classes are expanding their melodic vocabulary, using songs that add new pitches for each grade (2nd – do, 3rd – combining mi re do patterns with so and la, 4th – reaching for high do, 5th – major scale).

The 5th grade classes will soon begin work on songs for the Mathews Musical. The musical is scheduled for Thursday, November 14th. There will be a work day to prep the set on Saturday, November 9th. More info about the musical coming soon!



Also, the Mathews Choir begins rehearsals on Monday, September 30th. The choir students will meet each Monday until December 9th. The Mathews Choir will join the 6th grade band and orchestra for a concert on Thursday, December 12th. The choir students will also be 'touring' some of the community business that help support Mathews School. ♪

"So let me say that I would rather be a part of Mathews Elementary!" ♪

• POP QUIZ •

Can You Name 50 Great Things About Mathews?

Check out what the teachers and staff have to say:
www.Mathews360.com

MATHEWS LIBRARY

Laurie Harwell, Librarian

Things are moving right along in our library! Last week we had 34 students dancing, eating ice cream, doing limbo and hula hoops and our newest game craze "pin the book in Mrs. Harwell's hands". It was so much fun and the kids were very excited to be involved. Hopefully we'll have even more participation this coming summer!

In October we will have 3 special presentations:

1. On October 9th, we will be hosting local author Jacqueline Kelly, who will visit with our 5th graders.
2. On October 23rd (tentative at the moment) we should be hosting author Lee Bacon for 4-6th grades.
3. On October 30th, we will have storyteller Bernadette Nason telling her "not so spooky" tales for kindergarten.

Book Fair will be fast approaching (Nov. 12-19) so watch for more info in the next few weeks. Also coming in November will be **No TV Week** (same week as book fair!)

*We have so much to do and so much to read!!
October will be an exciting month!*

COMPUTER LAB CLICKS

In the lab we are focusing our attention on "Cyber Safety", "Cyber Bullying", and Keyboarding.

This week I am introducing the Mathews Computer Lab website to the students. The site is set up for easy navigation for all grade levels and for use while in the lab. The younger students would like for you to bookmark it for home use.

We will be using it through out the year to indicate projects grade levels will be working on. Feel free to take a look at the site!

<http://mathewslab206.weebly.com/index.html>

C I N D Y
B R Y A N - S A N D E R S
T E C H N O L O G Y
T E A C H E R

What's up with
OCTOBERAMA
you ask?

Here are some thoughts...

Pre-order your
tickets by turning
in your form to
office and skip the
line on Oct. 19th!

Art Project Work Days
Saturday, Sept. 28
from 9am-12
and Sat., Oct. 5th
from 9am-12

Authentic
♪
FAMILY FUN TIME!

Donate your toys,
reusable bags, and
old coffee cans!

OCTOBERAMA!

11AM TO 3 PM

★
October 19th

Ask local businesses
and establishments if
they would like to sponsor
or donate to Octoberama.

Please sign up at
tiny.cc/octvol
to volunteer for your class!
We need help from everyone!

Donate to your class basket!

- Pre-K – Caffeine Crazy
- Kinder – Imagination
- 1st grade – Legos
- 2nd grade – Austin Local Love
- 3rd grade – Mom's Day Off
- 4th grade – Education
- 5th grade – Rainy Day Fun
- 6th grade – Longhorn Fans

**Any questions? Contact the
Octoberama Co-Chairs:**

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ARTiculations

Sara Belknap, Art Teacher

Many thanks to all the Mathews families who joined us on the blacktop last Saturday the 28th, to make bowls for the Empty Bowl project. Our PTA / Artists Liaisons, Sonia Hoepner and Brooke Gassiott spear-headed the event, as many cheerful contributors pitched in to help make it another unforgettable happening at Mathews. (The 6th graders even served up breakfast!) Bowl makers have the option of buying their bowl at Mathews, with each \$20 purchase going to the Capital Area Food Bank's Kids Café. If you missed out on the art therapy Saturday, you can still mark your calendar to help glaze all these bowls on November 2nd, or to attend the official Austin Empty Bowl Project on Sunday, November 24th.

Emily Johnson and Jennifer Binford are extraordinary artists/parents who are the fearless leaders of the mosaic stepping stone project for the Octoberama silent auction. Many happy parents joined us on some steamy mornings in the courtyard during 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade art classes, creating whimsical and wildly varied stepping stones that will add to the silent auction revenue for future PTA and Mathews projects. Grouting was carried out last Saturday by more volunteers, (who can now tackle that next bathroom remodel with confidence). Look for your chance to snatch up one (or six) of these

square foot masterpieces at our legendary silent auction on the 19th, in the gym.

We will be selling the 2013-2014 Mathews T-shirts for \$10 in the Art booth at Octoberama, with all proceeds to benefit the Art Department. Please write, phone, or surprise me in person to sign-up for a shift in the T-shirt booth, between the hours of 10 am and 2:30 pm on October 19th. The shirts were designed with help from Mathews parent, Will Heron, of Will Heron Designs.



You can find his designs through his website, <http://willheron.com> Will deserves sincere gratitude for his generous donation of time and expertise for another Mathews classic!

 **SPECIAL RECOGNITION** 

The School Directory is here!
We are so grateful to the volunteers who made this happen:

Nicole Cortez gathered and inputted contact information over the entire summer.

Katie Keenan handled all our ad sales, layout, printing, and the gargantuan task of moving us to a new software system this year.

CC Coyle did an enormous amount of data entry in an unexpected crunch. *CC Coyle* is with UT's Alpha Epsilon Delta, a service organization who has helped Mathews with many projects over the years. We are so grateful for our volunteers and appreciate their valuable efforts!

Special Thanks also to:

Cinzia Iacoponi, for once again entering our volunteer opportunities in the various volunteer sites in Austin.

Accenture, for printing the Mathews flyers!



*Former students, staff, parents,
and community friends:*

Mathews Friends for Excellence

Invites you to the annual

MATHEWS GATHERING

Friends, Snacks, and Drinks

Saturday, October 19, 2013

4 - 6 P.M.

Galaxy Café

1000 West Lynn

Please RSVP by

Monday, October 14th to:

Ruthann Rushing

(512)442-2043

rushing.rr@sbcglobal.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 14

Student Holiday / Parent Conference Day

OCT 16

Picture Day

OCT 19

OCTOBERAMA!, 11am - 3pm
Mathews Gathering at Galaxy Cafe, 4 -
6pm

OCT 28

PTA Board Meeting, 8am
CAC Meeting, 3pm

NOV 2

Empty Bowl Project: Glaze bowls on
blacktop, 9 - 11am
Building and Grounds Workday, 9 - 12pm

NOV 6

Vision & Hearing Screening

NOV 9

Paint Set for the Musical, 9 - 12pm

Mathews 2012-2013 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

ACC-Rio Grande Campus
Accenture
Alliance Abroad Group
Alpha Epsilon Delta-UT
Alpha Phi Sigma-UT
Art & Real Estate Enterprises
Austin Masonic Lodge #12
Austin Recreation Center
Austin Republican Women
BookPeople
Carter Design Associates
Circle K International-UT
Coptic Students of Texas-UT
Dance Associates
Downtown Austin Alliance
Dr. J. Fox & Associates
El Arroyo Restaurants

Enspire Learning Inc.
Forever Texas-UT
Fresh Plus-West Lynn
Galaxy Café-West Lynn
Gamma Beta Phi Society-UT
Grande Communications
Grubb & Ellis Management Services
GSD&M Idea City Advertising
Guero's Taco Bar
i9Sports
Idylwood Stables
Jeffrey's Restaurant / Cipollina's
Lighthouse Solar
Magnolia Café
Mangia Chicago Stuffed Pizza
Nau Enfield Drug
OWANA

Pizza Hut #7101
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Randalls Food & Pharmacy
St. Luke United Methodist Church
Starbucks - 5th & Lamar
Sweetish Hill Bakery
Tapestry Dance Company
Tech Connects-UT
Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Inc.-UT
Thundercloud Subs
UMOJA-UT
UT Democrats
Waterloo Records & Video
West Lynn Corner Store
Whole Earth Provision Company
Whole Foods Market Global HQ
34th Street Cafe

*We salute our community partners who provide
valuable support to our school! Please show your
appreciation to these organizations with your
patronage and words of thanks!*