



MARION CROSS SCHOOL

PTO **May 2017** NEWS

Upcoming PTO Events

May 1st - May 26th - Final food drive of 2017 - Silent Warriors

Wednesday, May 10th - Bike to School Day - 7:30am at Huntley Meadow & Norwich Library

Friday, May 12th - PTO Meeting - 8:15am in the **MCS Multi-purpose room**

Friday, May 19th - Final Celebration Books - All forms due by 3:00pm

Important MCS Reminders

Thursday, May 25th - May Fest - 12:45pm on the Green

Monday, May 29th - Memorial Day - No School

Thank You Pie Day Organizers and Bakers

A big thank you to Corin Benedict and Tamar Schreiber for once again orchestrating a beautiful and impressive display of pies in the Multi! And thank you to the 60 volunteers who baked over 80 pies for the MCS staff. There are some impressive pie-baking skills in the MCS community! The staff at MCS was very appreciative. Thank you Corin and Tamar for continuing this wonderful tradition.

Bike to School on National Bike to School Day, Wednesday, May 10th

The MCS Bike to School Day will take place on Wednesday, May 10th. There are two starting points: Huntley Meadow and the Norwich Public Library. Older riders will start at Huntley Meadow while younger riders are encouraged to meet at the Norwich Public Library and join the end of the bike parade as it passes. All children in 1st grade and below must be under the direct supervision of an adult and all riders must wear helmets. Riders should assemble at 7:30am at both sites with a planned departure from Huntley Meadow promptly at 7:40am. Anyone interested in volunteering to help stop traffic at intersections to ensure participant safety, please contact Dan McGinley-Smith at mccinleysmith@gmail.com.

Food Drive

First and foremost, a HUGE THANK YOU to all of the MCS families for donating throughout the year to our many different collections. Every organization we collect for is very grateful to receive the donations. We couldn't make this program work without all of you!

Our final food drive of 2017 will run from May 1st - May 26th and will benefit Silent Warriors, a small non-profit in our area that supports the homeless. Silent Warriors of NH/VT is a local non-profit organization that was founded by Bev McKinley in 2012.

Their mission is to help the Upper Valley's homeless population. The goal is to provide each homeless individual with a sleeping bag, tent, tarp, rope, personal hygiene items, and food items. The organization has been very successful the last few years helping those in need but they rely heavily on donations. Silent Warrior beneficiaries are referred from other non-profits such as The Haven, Vermont Department of Family Services and The Family Place. A flier was sent home on Friday with a list of items needed. Feel free to contact Megan Anderson or Maya Barnes with any questions. Thank you.

Celebration Books make excellent end of year teacher gifts

It is never too early to think about end of the year teacher gifts and what better way to honor a special teacher than with a Celebration Book or three? Celebration Books make a great year-end gift from an entire class as well as from individual students.

To allow Mrs. B. time to process all these year-end gifts, we need all Celebration Book forms turned into the MCS office by 3:00pm on Friday, May 19th. The last day to select a book is Monday, May 22nd. How do you participate? It is easy, just download a Celebration Book form from [here](#) today, or pick up a form in the Celebration Books drawer in the MCS office, turn it back to the drawer and we take care of the rest. Questions? Just ask the Celebration Books Team: Cara Liu, Justine Fahey, and Lisa Christie

Box Tops Spring Break-to-Break Challenge

The Break-to-Break Box Tops Collection challenge has officially concluded. Because the results were still being tallied when this newsletter went to press, we are unable to report the final numbers and class standings. However, after all the classroom reps submit their final accounting, the results will be announced to the students at a full-school Rep, so stay tuned!

Although the Break-to-Break challenge is over, we will still be collecting BTE coupons (and dimes) until the end of the school year. So, please continue to send your non-expired BTE coupons and random dimes into the school... every penny goes to support the work that the PTO does to support the children and faculty at Marion Cross. One last note, Katie Kitchel and Jo Ellen Gardner have been at the helm of the BTE program for seven years now, and are looking to "pass the scissors" on to new leadership. If you are interested in getting involved in the organization and management of the Box Tops for Education program, please contact Katie at kkitchel@me.com. Thanks for your support of this fun, FUNdraising program.

Your Box Tops Divas: Katie Kitchel, Jo Ellen Gardner, Brie Swenson, and Laura DiPiazza

Marion Cross School Business Partners

This month's Marion Cross Business Partner is the Blue Sky Restaurant Group, or as we know and love them, Jesse's and Molly's!!! May in the Upper Valley also means CRABFEST at Jesse's! See below for some exciting things on offer this year.

How many years has Jesse's had a Crabfest in May?

Jesse's has held our annual Crabfest every May for the last 20 years. This has most certainly become our most popular month long promotion, as we receive numerous phone calls every spring from guests looking forward to it.

What are some of the favorite menu items for Crabfest?

We have added and changed the menu over time to always try to offer our guests the absolute best selection of crab specials for the month. Last year we added the Colossal King Crab, which was a great hit with the guests (many kids found themselves in awe over the size of those crab legs). I would say one of our most popular specials each year is the Soft Shell Crab, which comes into season and is available to us about mid way into the month. We receive many requests for soft shell crab and often sell out of them on the nights they are available.

Can we expect any new offerings this year?

Our Chef is always creating to find new ways to bring more crab onto the menu during May, this year he will be offering some new recipes for some old favorites that are sure to delight. In addition, both Jesse's and Molly's will be introducing their new summer menus in May, so be on the look out for some new favorites.

What new seasonal cocktails or beers will be on Jesse's menu this summer?

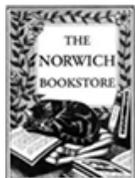
With 16 taps at Jesse's we are constantly adding and changing our beer selection to offer some of the areas best craft beers. The new summer menu will also feature great new additions to the Martini menu such as the Raspberry Lemon Drop, Lime in the Coconut, The Gin Sipper, the LoCo Nut and the Lemon Ginger Martini.



What is Blue Sky's favorite local charity?

While we try to support as many Upper Valley, non-profits and charities as possible, our favorite has to be the Friends of the Norris Cotton Cancer Center. Along with the excitement of Crabfest, we also do our largest Prouty fundraiser at both Jesse's and Molly's in May each year by partnering with Harpoon Brewery to offer Prouty Pints. All the proceeds from the sale go directly to the Friends of the Norris Cotton Cancer Center. Our team gets involved in the Prouty each year as part of the Blue Sky Riders and Striders team (we even had one of our team members daughters bike the 50 mile Prouty course at the age of 8 alongside Marc Milowsky, the President of the Blue Sky Restaurant Group.

Marion Cross School Business Partners



Thank you, business partners!