

Murphy School and You



Parent Newsletter May & June 2019

7	MAY, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Grade 3 and 4 SBA Testing
8	MAY, WED	● 9 – 10:30am ● 6 – 8pm	Grade 3 and 4 SBA Testing ART SHOW at MTM and Book Fair
9	MAY, THU	● 9 – 10:30am	Grade 3 and 4 SBA Testing
14	MAY, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Grade 3 and 4 SBA Testing
15	MAY, WED	● 9 – 10:30am ● 2 – 3pm ● 6 – 7pm ● 7 – 8pm	Grade 3 and 4 SBA Testing Mary T Murphy K visitation in the Cafe 3rd and 4th Grade Spring Concert Branford High School BBOE Meeting at Murphy
16	MAY, THU	● All day ● 9 – 10:30am	Field Day/Fun Day Grade 3 and 4 SBA Testing
17	MAY, FRI	● All day	Raindate Field Day/Fun Day
22	MAY, WED	● 7 – 8pm	PTA Meeting
27	MAY, MON	● All day	No School - Memorial Day
10	JUN, MON	● 6 – 7pm	Grade 4 Step Up Ceremony at WIS
12	JUN, WED	● 1:25pm	Last Day of school 1:25 dismissal for students

Principal's Message

The home stretch is upon all of us. These last six weeks of school will fly by with all the special events, activities, and field trips that are taking place. Our students will be very busy with some research project based learning going on in all of the classrooms. Poetry has been a new learning opportunity for students and our English Language Arts based lessons. Our students have really enjoyed the change of pace this offers them in their reading and writing.

We have a very special opportunity on May 15 at 7 PM. The Branford Board of Education will be holding their monthly meeting at Murphy. We will be highlighting some of the wonderful accomplishments as we share our morning soft start during arrival time each day. In addition, students will talk about how choice and flexible seating has helped them to increase their level of engagement during the variety of academic activities that take place each day. This is an open invitation to our MTM parents to join us on this evening. You will learn about all of these things straight from our students. If you cannot attend, you can watch it on the live stream on the Branford Public Schools website from home.

Lastly, this will be my final newsletter of the year. I want to thank you for your support and continued partnership in providing tremendous learning experiences and opportunities for all of our Murphy students. With the commitment of every parent and guardian, combined with the dedication of our professional staff at Murphy, our kids will continue to experience social, emotional, and academic growth. This will support each student's quest to be a productive member of the school community.

Enjoy a healthy and adventurous fun filled summer. Robin

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Smarter Balanced Assessment for grades 3 & 4 9:00-10:30 AM May 7,8, and 9 will be the SBA for English, and May 14,15, and 16 will be the SBA for Math. The assessments will be administered in the morning from 9:00-10:30. These assessments are standardized throughout the country and provide the district and each student with important data that reflects individual student progress and trend lines for the district. Students should bring earbuds, pencils with erasers, and come to school well rested with snacks to provide thewiththebestopportunitytodotheirbestwork.



For **Murphy's STEAM Family Night** you needed your thinking cap to enjoy the night of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Families worked as one to build, create, and problem solve. Kudos to our MTM Math coach Adrienne David and the many staff members who helped. It was a great turnout and a smashing success!!

Field Day May 16th, rain date is May 17th **Volunteers Needed!!!** Looking for volunteers to help at each field day/fun day station taking place on school grounds this year. Please note Morning Session Pre K AM, K, 1st and 2nd graders come to Field Day from 9:30-11:30 and Afternoon Session for Pre K PM and 3rd and 4th graders is from 12:45-2:45. So please sign up to help us all day or just morning or afternoon! Field Day only works if we have the volunteers to run the stations!!! Only parents volunteering for the event will be permitted on school site this year. Volunteers will be given a wrist band to designate they are helping us at the events. Parents may sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30eoc4ca5a722abf94-field1>. Contact Ms. Amodio tamodio@branfordschools.org with questions.

The English Language Learning Department 7th ELL Literacy Night was a huge success! Many of our students and their families attended, They all received free books and bookmarks, and they participated in a lot of fun and educational crafts and other activities.



Second grader Hanna Haynes at R. J. Julia's performing her poem called "No Drama, Llama Mama". She came in second place in the second grade category and performed in the "Poetry Slam". She was the recipient of a \$5 gift card from R. J. Julia's. This was part of the Poetry Month competition.

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From the Math Corner: Students in all grades have been working hard to solve problems. The last unit for all grades will be applying their math skills to solve real world problems. Certain grades will need help collecting supplies; supplies will be collected through May 17th. Labeled boxes will be in the lobby for collection.

Kindergarten: Bugs and Frogs. Students will use their math skills to investigate and learn more about bugs and frogs.

Grade 1: Students explore concepts of change through motion and flight, and human growth and development.

Grade 2: Ramps! Extra supplies needed:

- Toilet paper/paper towel rolls -- empty
- Mailing tubes / Fabric tubes
- yogurt/cottage cheese containers

Grade 3: Bridges. Examples of extra supplies needed:

- Toilet paper/paper towel rolls -- empty
- Empty liter bottles / Empty .5 liter bottles
- Newspaper / cardboard/foil
- String / line / wire/ straws
- Twist ties / paper clips / rubber bands

Grade 4: Playgrounds: simple machines and forces. Examples of extra supplies needed:

- Plastic containers/plastic drink lids
- Newspapers/ cardboard
- Corks/Toilet paper/ Paper towel rolls
- Straws/spools
- Twist ties/ any objects that could be used in

constructing model playgrounds

Thanks for your support! Adrienne David, Math Coach