Marlboro Elementary School

THE MES TIMES

June 2026

MS. AMODEO

FROM LEARNING TO TEACHING TO ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Zoey Bagatta and Amelia Lawrence

Ms. Amodeo has been at Marlboro Elementary School for an exceptionally long time. She was a student, learning here for 6 years. She then came back as a teacher for 17 years and most recently she has been the Assistant Principal for the past 4! Ms. Amodeo has a lot of experience with kids and this building. As Assistant Principal, she still gets to work with kids, but not just one class, the ENTIRE school and all of the staff! She plans a lot of the activities like Bus of the Month and Class of Month. She deals with all discipline issues and supports teachers in getting extra help for their students.

When asked Ms. Amodeo said the best thing about teaching was "watching them learn and grow." When asked what is the best thing about being an assistant principal, she said "getting to work with all of the students." Another question I asked her: what was the most challenging thing about changing from teaching to assistant principal? She replied with: being responsible for a small amount of children to a big amount of children.

The last question I asked her is: how has the school changed since she was a student? She had answered with: It has gotten a lot bigger and more fun and challenging.

FUN FACTS

- **DURING HER FIRST YEAR OF TEACHING, SHE TAUGHT IN A 2ND GRADE CLASSROOM THAT SHE LEARNED IN.**
- Next year wil be Ms. Amodeo's 27th years walking the halls of Marlboro Elementary School (including her time as a student)
- Many of Ms. Amodeo's colleagues were her former classmates growing up.



THEN & NOW



BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE 5TH GRADE TALENT SHOW

Valerie Espinal

Many people have been wondering what really happens behind the scenes of the talent show. The talent show been going on for longer than Ms. Johnston, our music teacher, has been working here at MES. Ms. Johnston gave us the scoop of what happens.

Everyone wants to know what is the criteria or the key to get in the talent show. What could they do to boost their chances of making the cut? Ms. Johnston said during auditions she likes "To see how prepared you are, your stage presence, the quality, accuracy, creativity, and how engaged you are with the audience." Ms. Johnston said "I like having a variety of acts that showcase the 5th grade as a whole. I do take it into consideration the skills and the talent of each act." Once Ms. Johnston has seen all the acts, they will make their final cuts and post the results to show who got in. Lastly, Ms. Johnston will make sure everyone has a job and is prepared for the BIG show.

The talent show takes a lot of effort and many hands working together to make it the great that it is today. According to Ms. Johnston the backstage crew helps with the props and gets everything ready for the show. Mrs.Willams, our art teacher, works with the art crew. They help with the decorations and posters that get hung on the curtains for the show. The MCs are the announcers. They announce every act that is going up next. Finally, the clean up crew cleans up after the show.

Now we know the whole story of what goes on behind the scenes of the 5th Grade Talent Show. A special shoutout to Ms. Johnston for taking time out of her busy day to meet with me. We are so excited to see the show this June.



SUMMER READING

Amelia Lawrence

Got free time this summer? Read a book! Everyone needs reading, reading comes with many benefits. Some benefits include better sleep, happier mood, improvement in mental health, more words in your vocabulary, less stress, better focus, and enhanced cognitive function. I find reading important because when I read it makes me feel relaxed, calm, and peaceful. Not reading often results in poor mental health, less sleep, no development in vocabulary, and low empathy.

Some good summer reads have been recommended by Mrs. Stalter. For all the kindergarten, first graders, and second graders is: *Our Pool*.
Our Pool is a new title and is the perfect summer read. "It has so many vibrant colors," said Mrs. Stalter. Read *Our Pool* to find out about this summer fun in the pool.



The next book is another new title and is for third and fourth graders it's called: *Wombat Waiting*. *Wombat Waiting* is a story that is written like a poem and is perfect for third and fourth graders. "I'm gonna be reading this one over the summer," said Mrs. Stalter.

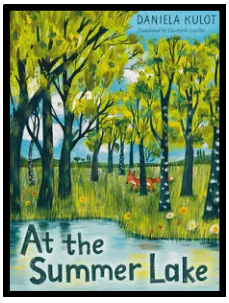
The final story for summer is recommended for fourth and fifth graders and isn't a new title but is a good read. The last book is: *The Trouble with Heroes*. *The Trouble with Heroes* is about a boy who is clumsy and knocks over a dead old lady's headstone and her daughter says, "If you walk my mother's dog over all 46 Adirondack Mountain peaks then she will forgive him". "This book never stays on the shelf long," said Mrs. Stalter.

I hope you consider reading one of these books over your summer break.

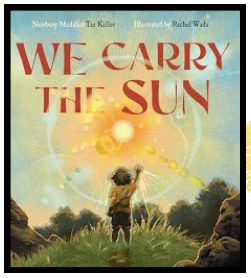




Mrs. Stalter's Summer Reading Picks
- At the Summer Lake
- A Hero's Guide to Summer Vacation
- The Blossoming Summer
- We Carry the Sun









SUMMER SAFETY FACTS

Bianca Massarone

- **UV RAYS CAN SHINE THROUGH CLOUDS SO WHEN YOU GO OUTSIDE, EVEN IF THERE ARE CLOUDS OUT, MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SUNSCREEN ON SO YOU DON'T GET A SUNBURN.**
- Water reflects the sun's rays so this creates a "double dose" of sun exposure. So when you are swimming, relaxing by the pool, or fishing be sure to always put on sunscreen.
- Use SPF 30 or higher because a lower SPF can cause a really bad burn. Be sure to apply 30 minutes before you head outside and reapply every 2 hours or right after swimming.
- **IF YOU ARE IN THE SUN FOR A LONG TIME YOU CAN GET DEHYDRATED AND IT CAN CAUSE HEADACHES, EXHAUSTION, AND DIZZINESS. TO STOP THAT FROM HAPPENING PLAY UNDER TREES OR UMBRELLAS. REMEMBER THE SUN IS THE STRONGEST BETWEEN 10 AM TO 4 PM.**
- Always be safe as you go from place to place!

IS 67 DEAD?

Lucy Lennon

6-7. One of the most controversial topics in today's society. If the 2 numbers are said anywhere near each other, people start talking. At least, that's what we thought. Is this popular meme still going strong, or did some "great meme reset" swoop in and snatch it away?

In the crazy world of trends and memes, there is something called "The Great Meme Reset." This is the change of all of the old memes, trends, and fandoms to the newer ones.
These new internet memes have gained a lot of popularity, but does that mean the old ones are dying off? The only way to figure it out is to ask kids' opinions. I took a poll of my entire class, which is filled with average kids.

So, what did they think? Is it over for these popular numbers? Well, the very simple answer to this very complicated question is "YES". Based on my results, 81% of children said yes. Let's put that into perspective. 81% is 8/10 people saying *"I hate 67!" "67 is over!" "Out with the old, in with the new!"* Clearly, your average 5th grader has an opinion. y class has spoken, but that might not be your belief. You may think this high riding trend is still going strong. You may also think that it is dead, and is just becoming annoying when people say it. What are your thoughts? Is 67 dead in your mind?

GOODBYE, MES FROM THE 5TH GRADE CLASS OF 2026!

Lauren Tubbs

I recently interviewed 5th graders Jack Manning, Jase Bulson, Evelyn Beck, Addison Dabroski, Brynn Dabroski, Thomas Mullen, Owen Kramer, and Giavanna Scatturo asking them what some of their favorite parts of MES have been.

They gave me their honest opinions on what they were asked. Most people chose P.E. as their favorite special, they will miss their team of teachers in 5th grade, and are going to miss all the teachers they met at MES.

Jase Bulson said "Ms. Cunningham was my favorite teacher." His favorite MES memory was the 3rd grade field trip and he liked everything about 5th grade.

Jack Manning said his favorite teacher is Mrs. Rooney, his favorite MES memory was going to the planetarium in 1st grade, his favorite thing about 5th grade was he liked getting different teachers, and he is going to miss the teachers at MES the most.

Evelyn Beck said her favorite teacher has been Mr. Beck, she loved 5th grade science the most, and her favorite MES memory was meeting her friend, Samantha Piazza.

Owen Kramer said his favorite teacher was Mrs. Barletta and his favorite MES memory was the Cereal Run, he will miss the nice teachers about 5th grade.

Addison Dabroski said her favorite teacher is Mr. Budryck and she liked recess the most.

Thomas Mullen said his favorite teacher is Mrs. Young, he liked the book fair the most about MES, and he liked the freedom he got in 5th grade.

Brynn Dabroski said Mrs. Bogaczyk is her favorite teacher, her favorite MES memory was the 1st grade Halloween parade, and she will miss her 5th grade teachers and the staff members of MES the most.

Finally, Giavanna Scatturro said Ms. Cunningham was her favorite teacher, she liked the 1st grade Halloween parade, she liked the teachers at MES, and has enjoyed her entire 5th grade year.

Our entire 5th grade class will miss all the people and memories we made during our time at Marlboro Elementary School.



SUMMER IN MARLBORO

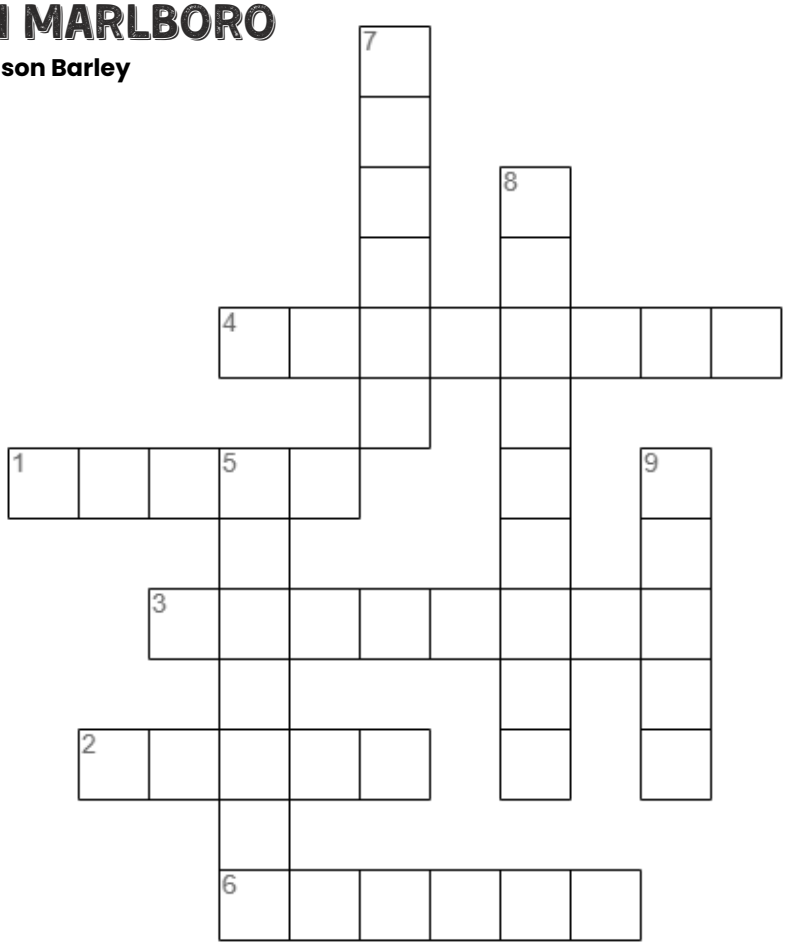
Hudson Barley

ACROSS

1. Lawrence, Overlook, and Porpiglia grow a lot of this
2. Cracolici puts these in all over town
3. Kids sell this drink to get money in the summer
4. At night, go to Mary Jane's with your family to get this
6. Look to the West when you are driving on Ridge Road on a summer night to see this

DOWN

5. A cool treat on Field Day
7. Go to Caradonna to get stuff for this
8. Trapani Farms has one of these for fresh fruits and veggies
9. Hudson Wildflower Co. has one of these to grow flowers



COMIC CORNER

Hailey Kotchie



SQUISHIES: THE NEW CRAZE

by: **Logan Simmons**

Have you ever seen kids obsessing over and talking about squishies? Or, maybe you have bought a squishy dumpling? Or a squishy stick of butter? Squishies are the thing everyone's talking about. Read on to find out the most popular.

NeeDoh – 2017: It was originally called the "Groovy Glob". They come in many colors, sizes and textures. Tristan Sapida says "They are squishy, they help with stress, the colors are also really nice.

Dumpling Squishies – 2021: They are viral, slow rising, comfortable and satisfying. They also are realistic and come in a fun box. A large part of the appeal comes from the surprise factor. Many dumpling squishies are sold as "blind boxes," meaning you don't know which color or "rare edition" you are getting until you open it.





Sticks of Butter (no, seriously) early 2026

Most versions feature bright yellow foam, realistic molded edges, and even fake blue food volume/tablespoon measurement labels printed down the side to mimic a real stick of butter. They have a good "creamy" texture. Also there are different sizes. Standard pocket sized butters are 5.5 inches long although there are some jumbo ones that are 10 inches long. Let's hear what an MMS student Maggie Spaccarelli has to say, "They are cool but the foam ones are too slow rising and the hype is too big it's just a squishy." Amazing words from MMS student Maggie Spaccarelli. There is also a funny prank people are doing is putting the squishy on a plate and every buddy gets fooled!

PLAYGROUND FAIRNESS: EQUALITY OR UNJUST?

Daze Zhu

A few years ago, the school added 3 new pieces of playground equipment to the 2-3 playground. However, the 4-5 playground doesn't have very much! In fact, the younger playground has more equipment than the 4-5 playground does! They have a larger playground system, multiple slides, climbing equipment including such a huge rope pyramid, 3 spinning objects, with a blacktop and basketball hoops! Also the black top has approximately 50 feet of length and width! The more equipment, the more likely they are to get injuries. Why didn't they give new equipment to the 4-5 playground? Do YOU think this is fair?

Our principal, Mrs. Thomas has been trying to make all the playgrounds fun for all students. However, many things were unable to be added due to geographic positioning. Mrs. Thomas said "I do believe our playgrounds are fair and developmentally appropriate although they were designed and built before my time as Principal. The new swings were part of a collaborative effort of administrators using grant funding to provide more equipment. Based on geographic landscape, that was what was allowable, as we ran everything through our facilities and grounds director.

Mrs. Thomas has also been advocating for an expansion of playgrounds, including new mulch. She would like equipment that is inclusive and accessible to all students. Mrs. Thomas said "I want all students to be able to participate and utilize the equipment." Most recently our student ambassadors advocated for Buddy Benches to be positioned at each playground and unfortunately this addition did not get approved. Here are some suggestions for updates to the 4-5 playground:

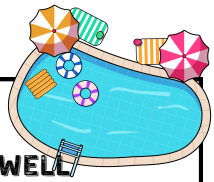
- **A PLAYGROUND SYSTEM COMPLETE WITH MORE SLIDES AND CANOPIES.**
- A basketball court Marlboro Elementary School (including her time as a student)
- Nicer soccer goals in the playground (it keeps going to the woods).





Bye School Hello Pool

BY: MARKIELIA BOSWELL



S	U	I	O	C	R	U	I	S	E	R	C	E	F
W	P	L	A	N	T	S	W	U	S	B	R	P	B
I	S	P	R	I	N	K	L	E	R	A	P	N	A
M	W	S	P	L	A	S	H	D	O	W	N	S	S
M	L	O	O	P	S	T	E	O	C	E	A	N	E
I	Y	E	K	A	L	C	A	R	S	H	O	W	B
N	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	O	A	M	A	L	A
G	H	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	U	M	L
K	R	A	P	L	N	R	H	C	A	E	B	I	L
S	N	F	L	W	U	R	E	M	M	U	S	S	B
B	H	A	P	M	S	O	F	T	B	A	L	L	S
O	G	Y	Y	L	F	E	R	I	F	F	L	U	H
A	E	O	T	L	C	A	M	P	I	N	G	U	N
T	O	S	I	M	O	S	L	U	S	H	I	E	H

BOAT
SUN
CAR SHOW
PLANTS
BEACH
FIREFLY
BUTTERFLY
SLUSHIE
POOL
LAKE
CRUISE
SPRINKLER
SPLASH DOWN
BASEBALL
FLOWERS
CAMPING
SOFTBALL
SWIMMING
PARK
SUMMER
OCEAN



Are you going to be a fifth grader in September? Are you interested in being a part of the MES Times Newspaper Club? Be on the lookout for more information and sign ups at the start of the new school year.

