

Respect

Achievement

Citizenship

Karen J. Cahill
Principal, ext. 5503

MILTON HIGH SCHOOL
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January 29, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Students and Families,

I hope everyone is well and staying warm and safe!

Congratulations to...

Congratulations to MHS Senior Jazz Ensemble member Philip Phan for being selected to the 2021 All Eastern Division Jazz Ensemble. Eastern Division is comprised of the finest high school musicians from Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington D.C and Europe. Philip went through three rounds of auditions and an application process which started in the Fall of 2019 when Philip was selected as a member of the Massachusetts Eastern District Jazz Ensemble. He was then selected to participate in the Massachusetts All- State Jazz Ensemble in March of 2020, paving the way for his eligibility to apply for All Eastern.

Philip will represent Milton High School as the vibraphonist in the All Eastern Jazz Ensemble. He is one of 18 students who were selected to be in the Jazz Ensemble and will be participating in a "Virtual Weekend" experience March 4-6, 2021 that will include keynote speakers, masterclasses with professional musicians, rehearsals with a world class conductor, as well as opportunities to learn and network with colleges and universities of various types and participate in mock auditions. This experience will culminate in a virtual concert which will be premiered on April 23rd at 8:30pm.

Bravo Philip!

Thank you to the Class of 2023...

From December 15th - January 8th, the Class of 2023 Student Government Officers organized a "Giving Tree" community service to benefit the homeless at Father Bill's shelter in Quincy, MA. A small tree with gift tags was placed in the foyer of the Milton High School, asking students to choose a tag and to donate much needed new winter items in order to support the homeless during the cold winter months. Thanks to the generosity of Sophomore families, we were [able to collect over 40 assorted items](#), including new winter coats, fleece tops, sweatpants, mittens, hats, sweatshirts, socks, soap, and sanitizer. The Class of 2023 Class Officers would like to send out heartfelt thanks to all the Sophomore families for their benevolence, giving to those in need during such trying times.

Mia Gilmore, President
Lok Ye Young, Secretary
Jayme Lo, School Committee Rep
Iris Trafton, GBRSA Rep

Michael McDonnell, Vice President
Nessa Malin, Treasurer
Kiera Glazer, Site Council Rep
Ms. Brenda Redding, Class Advisor

Seniors...

Mr. Devlin sent [this email](#) about scholarships to our Class of 2021 yesterday. We also sent [this letter](#) to our Class of 2021 and their families yesterday.

Friendly Reminder for MHS Remote Classrooms

- Attendance in all live remote Google Meetings is mandatory.
- Be on time for class and stay for the entire class period
- Try to create a learning space where you will be free from distractions (put away your cell phone, turn off the television etc during class).
- Have class materials ready and nearby before class begins.
- Dress appropriately - no pajamas, no hoods; school dress code applies (see handbook for specifics).
- Your icon should be school appropriate and represent you. We recommend a headshot picture.
- Your screen names must be your first and last name.
- Mute your microphone unless you are talking.
- Indicate that you want to speak by raising your hand, using the chat, or the NOD extension (when available).
- The chat will be used for class related discussion only, as allowed by your teacher
- If you are having technical issues, contact your teacher via email or Google Classroom to explain the circumstances.
- All of the following cases will result in you being marked absent:
 - You never sign in to the Google Meet
 - You are signed in to the Google Meet but fail to actively participate in class
 - You are signed in to the Google Meet but leave the session or leave the computer for a significant portion of the class.
- Your icon should be school appropriate & represent you. We recommend a headshot picture
- Your screen names must be your first and last name.

Class Attendance & Cameras

As more students are required to live stream into class due to being in quarantine we are asking that all students keep their cameras on. This benefits your teachers and your learning experience. With new features in Google like Background Blur and the ability to select a new background, leaving your camera on has never been easier. It will help with classroom engagement and hopefully provide more interaction with other students and MHS staff. When students' cameras are turned on, teachers are able to more readily facilitate classroom dialogue, check for students' understanding of the lesson being presented, and monitor students' progress.

Please check in with your child to see if their camera is on during class, if it isn't, ask why. While we do understand that some students may be uncomfortable with their camera on, most are not and it does help with engagement, helps facilitate classroom discussions and interactions with their peers.

If you wish to have your child excused from being expected to have his/her camera on during remote instruction, please complete this linked authorization [form](#) Only parents/guardians who wish to excuse their child from using their camera need to complete this [form](#).

COVID Testing

On Sunday, January 17 Milton hosted their eighth free COVID testing day. To date, nearly five thousand tests have been administered to help stop the spread. Recently, the Town of Milton Select Board unanimously approved two additional test dates: Sunday, February 7 and Sunday, February 21, from 10am to 3pm, at the Department of Public Works (DPW) yard at 629 Randolph Avenue.

Educational Equity

[Somaly Prak-Martins](#), Senior Director of Educational Equity, shares the following: [Please see this link to read our February issue of the Behaving Equitably newsletter](#). Inside, you will find updates and information on the upcoming Quality Review from an Equity Lens, Black History Month, Curriculum, Community Partnerships, and more.

Food Service

Farmers to Families Boxes are back! Starting next Wednesday, February 3rd, we will again have Farmers to Families Boxes to distribute at our weekly food service drive through. Boxes will contain a variety of: 12 lbs of fruits and vegetables; 1 gallon of milk; 5 lbs of cheese and other dairy items; 5.5 lbs of fully cooked meat; 2 lbs of liquid eggs.

Our weekly Food Service drive-through continues to be open every Wednesday, including during February vacation week.

Weekly Pick Up: Weekly pick up is available at two different times on Wednesdays. Come to MHS 9:30-10:30 or 12:30-1:30 (please don't arrive before 12:15 to allow for MHS pick up) to pick up 7 days of breakfast and lunches and a fresh produce box.

Grab and Go: Available each day as your student leaves school. Multiple breakfasts, lunches, and snacks are included in each bag. Students can take a grab and go bag with several breakfasts and lunches as they leave school each day.

Transportation

Second notices regarding outstanding bus fees were emailed at the beginning of this week. **All payments are due in full by February 1st. Please note that unpaid bus fees will result in bus passes being invalidated and students being removed from the bus.** Please email bus@miltonps.org with any questions or if you have a financial hardship.

Applied Lessons

The Milton Instrumental Applied Lesson Program has openings for beginning students for Session 2 starting the end of this month! The program has spots available on the following instruments: Violin, Viola, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone and Tuba. If you have a student who would like to start taking lessons on one of these instruments, please contact Rebecca Damiani – rdamiani@miltonps.org. Information for Session 2 can be found here: [ALP Session 2 Registration](#) All information for beginning students can be found here: [ALP Beginner Registration](#)

Covid-Related Absences & Live Streaming

As more students need to quarantine due to being a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case you should inform Nurse Coughlin ASAP via phone at 617-696-4470 x 5537 or via email at kacoughlin@miltonps.org. We continue to ask that parents/guardians contact Nurse Coughlin or the main office about requesting your child to stream into classes so we can notify your child's teachers. **Students cannot ask teachers to attend remotely for covid or non-covid related absences; all requests are to be made by parents/guardians.** Teachers are being asked to forward any requests they receive from students or parents to Nurse Coughlin and the main office so students are marked appropriately in attendance and so we communicate with home about next steps. I truly appreciate your help and cooperation with this.

AP Payments are Past Due

Online Exam Payment will remain open. Any AP students who have not paid will be contacted by your teacher/main office and may be expected to pay a late fee. Students requiring financial assistance should contact Mr. Kelly, bkelly@miltonps.org, in the MHS Main Office. In order to pay, students must know their Student ID #. We know that parents may desire to pay for their students' exams but we strongly recommend that parents and students are both present to ensure that the correct exams are paid for. Using the drop down menu please select all AP exams you are enrolled in and will be taking in May, and enter the number of exams in the quantity field.

The [MPS Online Payment Center](#) (UniBank) can be found on the www.miltonps.org website.

Take care and have a nice weekend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Cahill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen J. Cahill

Principal

kcahill@miltonps.org

617-696-4470 x5503

Reminders Important Links and Reminders from Past Newsletters:

National Honor Society Tutoring

The National Honor Society will be offering free virtual tutoring from 3:00 - 3:45 pm on day 1 and day 3 afternoons. All MHS students are welcome to join to get help on any of their subjects! More information can be found [here](#)

Guidance Department Presentations

[MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OVERVIEW](#) - Christopher Horn, Associate Director of Admissions, Massasoit Community College

[PARENT AND STUDENT GUIDE TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES](#) - Bridget Canty, MHS Special Educator

[POST-SECONDARY PLANNING FOR STUDENTS WITH IEPs AND 504's](#) - Gabriella Diller, MHS Team Chair

[HISTORICAL BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OVERVIEW](#) - Stephanie Gray, MHS Guidance Department

[NCAA ATHLETICS](#) - Ryan Madden, MHS Athletic Director

[FINANCING HIGHER EDUCATION](#) - Todd Weaver, Senior Vice President, Strategies for College, Inc.

[NAVIANCE OVERVIEW](#) - Scott Devlin, Lead Counselor, MHS Guidance Department

[COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING](#) - Drew Heilpern, Summit Educational Group, Inc.

[MILTON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PRESENTATION](#) - Allison Sherlock, Regional Associate Director of Admission, Saint Michael's College

Milton Public Library

In the "Library of Things" Collection at the Milton Public Library they have chromebooks with hotspots. More details can be found [here](#).

Milton Foundation for Education

[Please consider making a donation to the MFE at this link to continue this critical work this year, as this will likely be our only fundraiser.](#)

User Fees for Clubs & Activities

Please use the [MPS Online Payment Center](#) on the www.miltonps.org website to pay all Club & Activity User Fees, if you have not done so already. Students who have qualified for Free/Reduced Lunch are not required to pay club fees.

Technology

Don't forget to check out our [Family Technology Support page](#) for helpful tips on technology issues. Bookmark this page for up to date information!

Food Services

Just a reminder that **any** student at MHS can pick up a FREE lunch or breakfast [without even signing up](#). If you think your family may qualify for free or reduced lunch please complete [this application](#).

Health Check Before School

Please continue to use the [Pre-Screening Checklist](#) prior to sending students to school. Parents/guardians, please call the Main Office at 617-696-4470 to document the absence, and if you/your student has any of the symptoms listed on the daily health screen checklist, please reach out to MHS Nurse Kim Coughlin (kacoughlin@miltonps.org).

Principal's Corner

Did you miss a newsletter? Take a look at the [Principal's Corner](#). You can find this tab on our MHS homepage.