

Evesham Township School District

Meland Administration Building, 25 South Maple Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053 www.evesham.k12.nj.us · (856) 983-1800 · Fax # (856) 983-2939

Dr. Justin Smith, Superintendent Mr. John Recchinti, School Business Administrator Ms. Danielle T. Magulick, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Mr. Richard G. Dantinne, Jr., Director of Personnel

May 21, 2021

Dear ETSD Families,

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."
-- Helen Keller

<u>Highlights this week</u>: Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; Vaccination Opportunities for Ages 12+; Prince of Peace Summer Meals Program; DEON Book Drive Update

Points of light appear each day as we continue back to life as we've known it. This week, DeMasi Middle School and Marlton Middle School held their 6th Grade Orientations in person, and it was wonderful beyond words to host students and parents together on our grounds. We are so excited for this season of end of year activities, even when necessarily modified for health and safety during the pandemic. Many thanks to our staff in all our schools and to our PTAs/PTO for their incredible work in helping it all happen!

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

May is Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month! This website <u>Asian Pacific American</u> <u>Heritage Month 2021</u> provides helpful resources and information about this important time. In case you missed it, last Sunday's Asian/Pacific American Festival at the Gibson House, hosted by our Mayor and Township Leadership, was a wonderful event, showcasing performances, exhibits, and clubs involving students from our district and from Cherokee. Attending as well was Aneesh Kanthan, who is the first Asian-American to serve on our Board of Education and, in that capacity, is the first Asian-American elected official in Evesham history. He also serves on our township's Human Rights Advisory Council.

Vaccination Opportunities for Ages 12+

Sharing these points of light from our County Health Department! Walk-in (no appointment) vaccinations for ages 12+ at locations around our county this weekend through next week

Walk-In COVID Vaccinations Ages 12+

Walk-In COVID Vaccinations Ages 12+ and 18+

FREE Mobile COVID Testing



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Prince of Peace Summer Meals Program

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is preparing for the fifth year of their Free Summer Meals Program. This year, the Summer Meal Program will run from June 21st to September 2, and families can pick up their bagged meals at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church during normal food pantry hours: Monday from 5 - 7 pm or Thursdays from 9 -11 am. The Free Summer Meals Program provides students with bagged breakfast, lunch, and snacks for five days a week, replacing meals they would ordinarily receive at school. All food is individual serving size and shelf stable. Also, please note, Prince of Peace's regular food pantry is open during those same hours above to all families needing food security, and all are welcome, no questions asked. Tremendous thanks to Prince of Peace for providing this amazing service for our children and families!

DEON Book Drive Update

At the halfway mark today, over 175 books have been collected, making amazing progress towards the goal of at least 250 books total. This <u>DEON Press Release 5.21.21 (Book Drive).pdf</u> provides key information. Please consider giving towards this great cause!

Of particularly special significance, today, May 21, marks the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, a day set aside by the United Nations as an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live together in harmony. Here are links with more information about this day: https://www.un.org/en/observances/cultural-diversity-day
https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/culturaldiversityday

The Book Drive will culminate in coordination with our town's <u>first-ever</u> Juneteenth Celebration (<u>Juneteenth Event Flyer</u>), with local food, art, poetry, and speakers including Deputy Mayor Heather Cooper, Councilman Eddie Freeman, and Fire Commissioner Christian Smith as well as Samuel Still from the Still House in Medford and others.

It's going to be in the 90's tomorrow and Sunday. Beautiful weekend to you all!



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Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools