

November 2021

MILESTONES

Milestones Matters Quarter One: Fall Edition



Elementary &
Middle 2 & 3

High School
& PHS 4 & 5

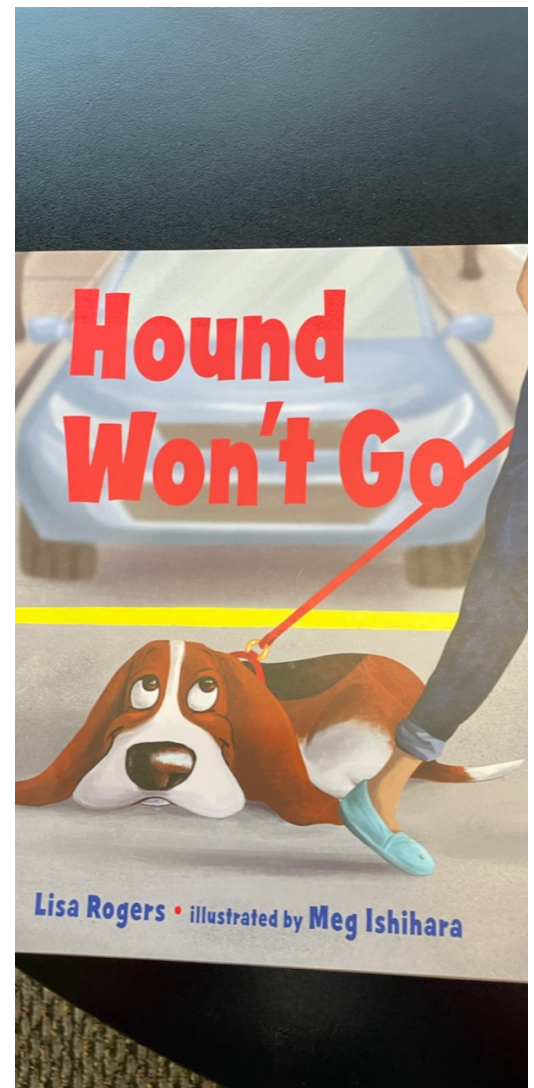
Community
Spotlight 6

PAG
& Reminders 7

ELEMENTARY

by Karen D'Ortenzio *Reading Specialist*

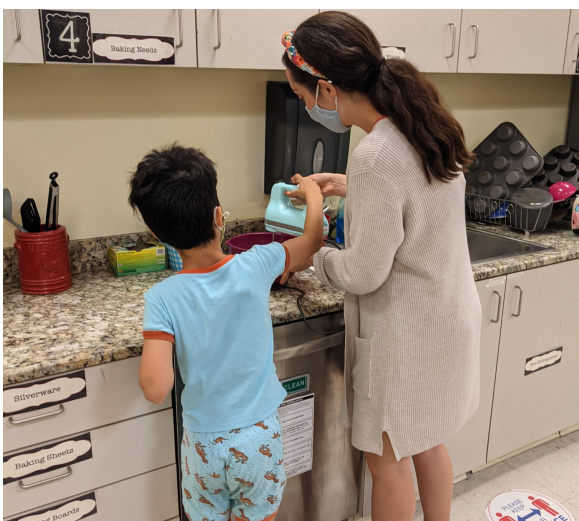
The elementary students enjoyed a virtual visit from author Lisa Rogers. Lisa read from her book Hound Won't Go. She talked about how it was based on her dog, who sometimes would not move when it was time to go on a walk. The elementary students were able to ask questions and interact with Lisa during our time with her. The students were given activities to work on as Lisa read the book. Students were able to guess how the Hound felt in different situations and they were able to come up with a name for the dog. Some of the names suggested were Spot or Dog.



ELEMENTARY

by Emma Riemer *Science & Math Teacher & Sara Brodeur Counselor*

Our elementary students hit the ground running this fall learning the routines, practices, and expectations here at Milestones! They worked hard to earn whole class & individual rewards by earning Scholar Dollars for the first month of school. Students earned various rewards such as baking, movie & PJs day, as well as free choices out of the class prize bin. Wales has moved onto a marble jar reward system and are doing a wonderful job working hard to earn their marbles towards pizza parties, movie days, and even a pie-your-teacher day!



MIDDLE SCHOOL

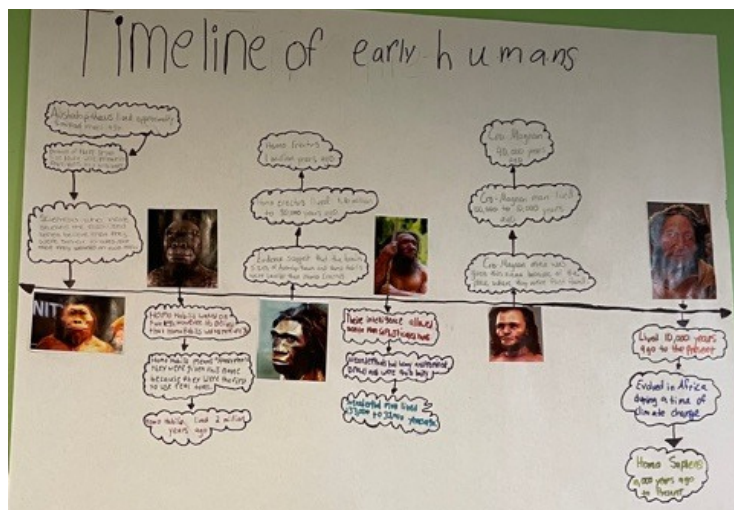
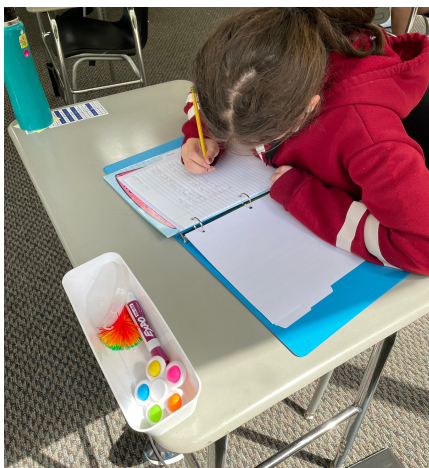
by Brandon Ouellette *ELA Teacher*

The middle schoolers of Norway had an excellent week planning and creating their own “Stages of Early Humans” timelines. Students would read about 6 of the early human stages and create a timeline based on each stage including interesting facts, time periods, and pictures to represent how the world’s first humans evolved to what we are today (Homo Sapiens).

MIDDLE SCHOOL

by Kayla McCluskey *ELA Teacher*

The middle school students with support from their ELA teachers began the school year off writing PenPal letters to students overseas in Norway. Students were each assigned a PenPal and wrote introductory letters to their PenPals as a year long unit on writing, addressing and mailing letters. This is a part of the middle school goal of bringing in more opportunities to provide students with access to different styles of writing.



HIGH SCHOOL

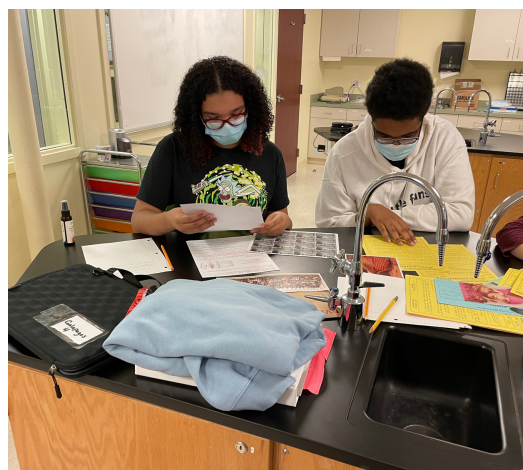
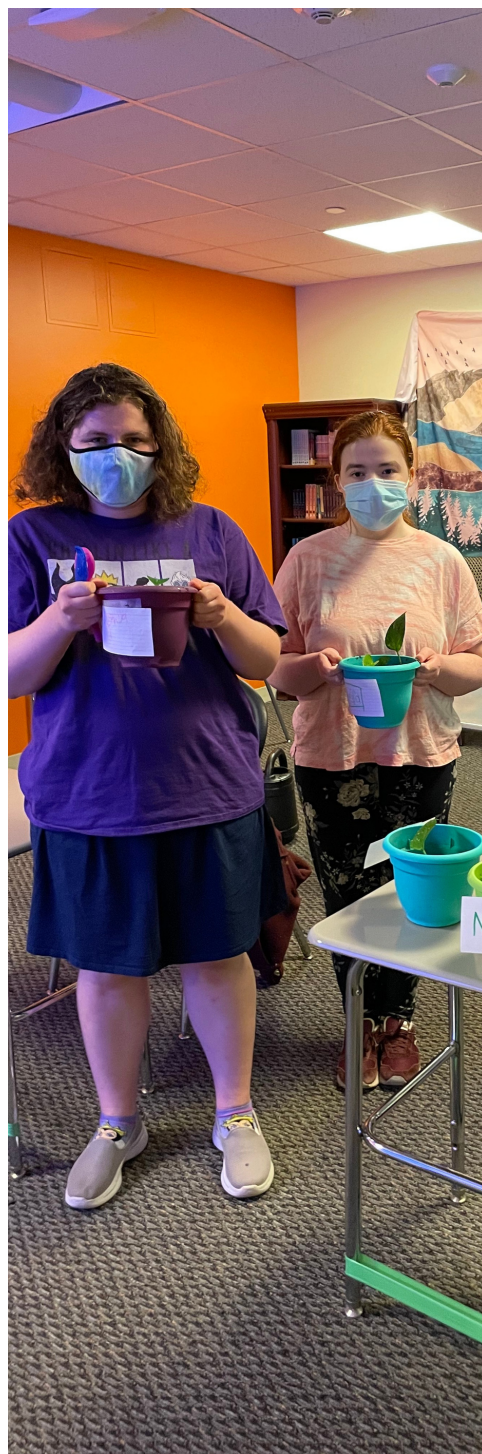
Community Based Instruction by Marianne Walker
Occupational Therapist

The high schoolers have worked very hard this quarter in planning their first community trip! We spent time in the classroom working on our core values and explicit instruction on how to transition our values and expectations into the community. We chose Wilson Farms as our first trip which was a huge success! We discussed time management, executive functioning, self regulation and our social skills. We had the opportunity to make small purchases and practice our functional money skills in a natural environment. We are looking forward to continuing to explore the community and increase our level of independence in a variety of areas.

HIGH SCHOOL

Case Base Forensic by Katharine O'Brien & Mike MacDonald *STEM High School Teachers*

The 12th graders have been applying their years of math and science knowledge to an interdisciplinary STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) class. This semester, the theme of the class is forensic science. The students have participated in mock investigations, solving cases in teams by analyzing simulated evidence. They are also studying the techniques used to achieve justice in true cold cases.



PHS GATEWAY CAFE

by Hayley Comer *PHS Counselor*

Students have been gaining hands-on “barista” experience in our Gateway Cafe. Between gathering orders, making coffees and smoothies, managing the cash flow and register, taking inventory, restocking items, and hand delivering items to staff around the school - students have been able to see the hustle and bustle that comes with working in a coffee shop and running a small business. Gateway Cafe interns have been brainstorming new seasonal items to feature on our menu for the fall & winter months, and have been able to utilize their budgeting and financial literacy skills by keeping costs down and revenue up.

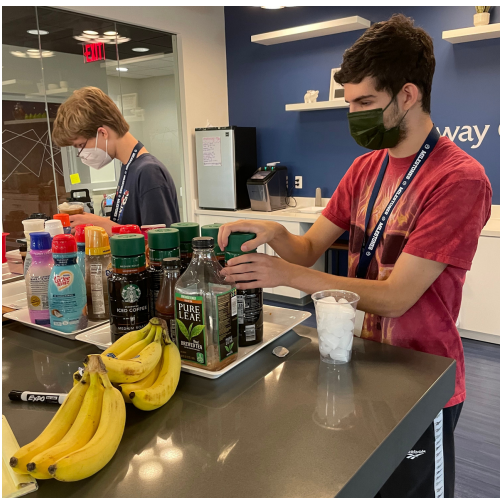
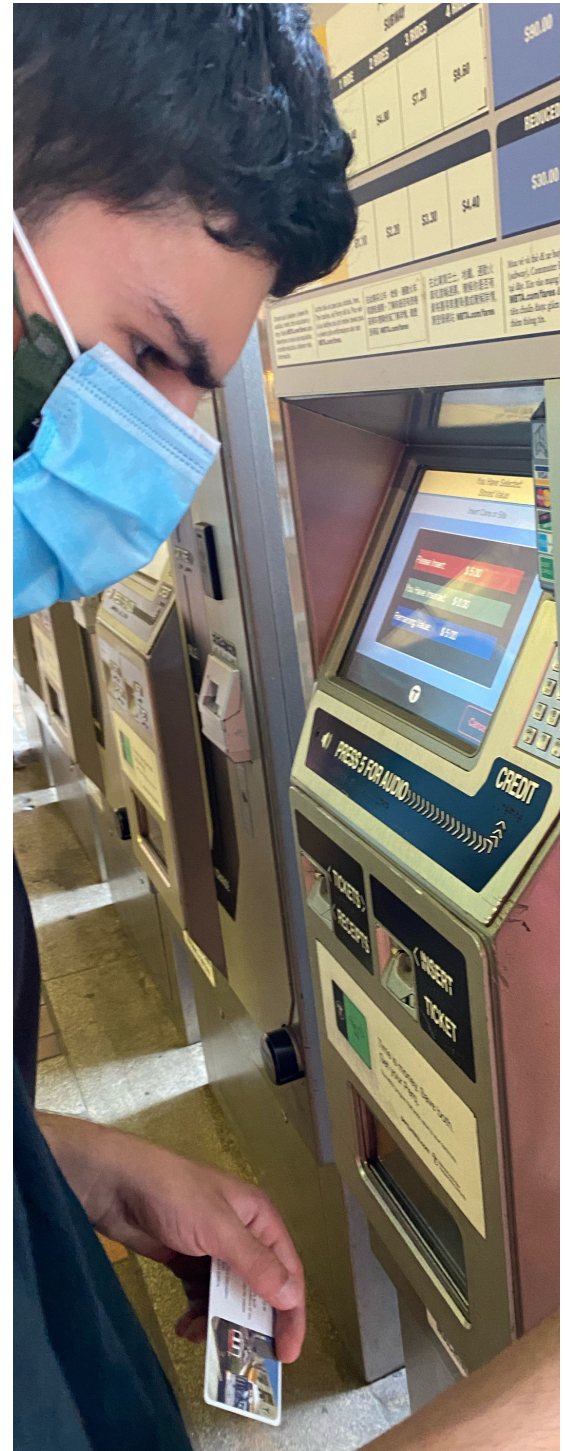
**To see all internships and activities in
PHS please check out their fall newsletter**

<https://advancingmilestones.com/parents/school-support-information/#newsletters>

PHS

by Ethan Hutner & Matthew Rego *PHS Students*

The Gateway IT Help Desk is a great learning opportunity for students to learn more about technology, gain customer service skills, and practice problem-solving in the moment. The main goals are to teach the students about technology and get them ready for real world problems or a career in IT. Some skills that the students work on are organization, inventory, patience, and call management. This can really help students in the future because it is a great thing to add to their resume. We have had lots of positive results from the Gateway IT Help Desk so far and look forward to others gaining skills.



SPOTLIGHT (MARCH-A-MILE)

by Jess Reis *School Psychologist*

Each fall Milestones students take part in a Community Service Day by walking for a great cause! The money raised from the walk is used to support the annual "Adopt A Family" initiative that takes place in December. Adopt A Family helps support families in need in the Waltham community. Milestones students help to collect funds, shop, and wrap gifts for the holiday season for families.

SPOTLIGHT (ART/MUSIC & EMOTIONS)

by Jules Lauritsen *Art Teacher* & Emily Desmond *Music Teacher*

Students began exploring how Art and Music can express as well as impact our moods and emotions. We looked specifically at the emotions Happiness and Fear. Students created art and music in their classrooms to convey these specific emotions, utilizing colors and symbols for artwork, and tones, tempo, and instrumentation for music. We also explored how personal experiences and association can affect both our art and music and the feelings we get from them.

SPOTLIGHT (WEAR RED FOR DYSLEXIA)

by Julia Kimball *Reading Specialist*

Reading specialists sent out information regarding dyslexia to staff and created a resource shelf with books for students and staff alike. Many students who receive pull-out reading services for dyslexia (31%) participated in an "I am Dyslexia" awareness project when they learned about traits of dyslexics and identified positive personality traits about themselves, that are displayed in the hallway.



PAG INFO

The Parent Advisory Group will be held virtually from 10:00-11:30 am. on the following dates:

November 12th, 2021

January 14th, 2022

March 11th, 2022

May 20th, 2022

Upcoming Dates:

Monthly Spirit Theme

December: Decade Day or Music Band T-shirt

January: Bull Dog Pride

February: Sports Jersey

Nov. 24th 12pm dismissal

Nov. 25th & 26th Closed

Dec. 1st 12pm dismissal

Dec. 23rd 12 pm dismissal

Dec 24-31st Closed

Jan. 17th Closed

