



[Art News](#)

[Counseling News](#)

[Library News](#)

[Math News](#)

[Music News](#)

[P.E./Health News](#)

[Science News](#)

[Spanish News](#)

[Instrumental Music News](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Technology News](#)

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## Art News

Thank you so much for your support of our Annual Art Walk! It's a true celebration of your child's creativity. In the Meramec art room, each student is treated as an artist. Artwork on display is accompanied by an artist statement that gives a glimpse into your child's thinking about his/her art.

Kindergarten art portfolios not picked up at the Art Walk will be brought home by your child. Celebrate the artistic accomplishments of your young artist. A few remaining projects will trickle home over the next few weeks.

Meramec artists are creating in clay. We do 'Clay in May' in the Meramec art room. Watch backpacks over the last two weeks of school as projects come home. We will gladly accept your discarded bubble wrap to protect clay projects on their journey home.

Over the summer, collect those corks, bottle caps and styrofoam egg cartons.

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## Counseling News

[Please click on this link](#) to read the May *Home and School Connection*. This month features Month by Month Learning, Gaining Life Skills and Wrapping it Up.

Please consider [checking out these tips](#) for supporting your child's transition to summer in order to reduce anxiousness around the end of the school year.

For those families who are moving away, [review this resource](#) to support your child and family in making this transition. We will miss you and wish you the very best!

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## Library News

This year has been an exciting year for our library as kindergarten through fifth grade completed assured experiences on research, literature appreciation and library resources. As I reflect upon progress made by your children I am grateful for the resources we can provide our community of learners. Our generous range of fiction and nonfiction books, along with experienced hands-on support, helps to make the Meramec community an awesome place to read, learn and grow.

### Your Link to Summer Reading

[Click here](#) to view an excellent parent newsletter about summer reading strategies and resources. [Click here](#) to learn about the St. Louis County Public Library's summer reading program that begins May 21. [Click here](#) for other links I've collected of the newest suggestions, best sellers and resources for all ages.

### End of Year in the Library

Relax & Read is next week for our final week of checkout. Children are invited to bring a favorite stuffed friend to the library on their checkout day.

**Please help students return all of their library books before the end of the school year. All books are due on May 23. Thank you!**

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## Math News

At the end of this school year, students will again be given math practice packets for the summer meant to review the skills they learned this year. A cover sheet will be included with the packet on which an item analysis will have been done of questions missed on their End of Year assessments. This can help guide them as to which sections of the summer packets they should give more attention to when working. Answers are included in the packet to give immediate feedback.

Suggestions of websites that can be useful for practicing math skills can be found by navigating the [elementary math section of the District's website](#). Summer math packets can also be found on the website in case packets get misplaced.

Have a safe and relaxing summer break, and consider how you can incorporate math skills, like time and money, into your daily routine!

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## Music News

Meramec musicians are doing a unit on keyboards/piano. Students learn the basics of how the keys are arranged, finger numbers and a few simple songs. In kindergarten and first grade we focus on the black keys. Students in second through fourth grade learn songs on the white keys.

Fifth-graders are working on their songs for the promotion ceremony.

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## P.E./Health News

Meramec students finished their softball/baseball skills unit. Next, the students will be doing Fun in the Sun activities (Frisbees and foxtails). Also, students will be practicing events for Meramec Field Day to get ready for the big day. If you would like to volunteer for our **Meramec Field Day on Friday, May 25**, please turn in a volunteer form to the office. Let's hope for a warm, sunny day! Have a great summer!

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## Science News

Congratulations to the following scientists who proudly represented Meramec very well at the Greater St. Louis Science Fair!

### Blue Ribbons:

- Noah Falkoff - Kindergarten
- Charlie Grebel - First Grade
- Mia Downs and Harlow Lander - First Grade
- Max Keough - First Grade **\*Also won a special award from the Missouri Botanical Garden\***
- Agastya Diwan - Third Grade
- Vivian Cessna, Sari Gross and Claire Downs - Fourth Grade
- Samantha Cohen - Fourth Grade
- Louis Blackmoore - Fifth Grade

### Red Ribbons:

- Colin Purcell - First Grade **\*Also won a special award from the Greater St. Louis Dental Society\***
- Hollis Gracie - Third Grade
- Cole Craig - Fourth Grade
- Tierney Butler - Fifth Grade

### Green Ribbons:

- Theertha Nair - First Grade
- Olivia Lucas and Sabrina Perng - Second Grade
- Luke Purcell - Third Grade

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## Spanish News

This month all second- through fifth-grade classes will acquire more geographical knowledge using the Stack the Countries app on iPads in Spanish class once a week.

Please ask students to share what they've learned. Remember to keep practicing Spanish AMAP this summer and watch some Spanish acquisition videos as a family. ([Videos by grade levels.](#))

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## Instrumental Music News

The Bach Buck event is this Saturday, May 12, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Glenridge Elementary gym for any elementary student currently enrolled in strings class. It's a stop and shop event, so students do not need to stay the entire time. This will be a student's only chance to use their Bach Bucks this year.

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## Technology News

Looking back at our school-wide use of technology this year, I'm filled with happiness and pride as our staff has worked collaboratively to support the implementation of the District's Technology Toolkit to benefit student learning. Thanks to our District's technological resources, we have been able to expand our students' use of technology tools from our primary use of desktops and iPads to include that of Chromebooks and Mac Airs. Preparing our students for their technology-rich future as we build fluidity and integration in support of teaching and learning will further prepare our students to take giant leaps in our desired areas of growth for them.

This summer, remember, it's our job to make sure students learn how to navigate the internet in a safe and healthy way. Teaching our children about being great citizens is just as important as teaching them to be great digital citizens. We have to treat the media they are exposed to as you would any other environment in their life.

If you haven't done so, please consider visiting [NetSmartz](#), a website that we use at school to teach digital citizenship, as a resource in navigating digital opportunities this summer. You might also want to check out education writer Linda Stade's [Top 10 Tips for Keeping Kids Safe Online](#). For older students, Stade offers recommendations for [developing a Social Media Contract](#).

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## Calendar

[View Meramec Elementary's upcoming events and activities.](#)

