

# The Newton School Newsletter

## Friday, September 16, 2016

### School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal



by Laura DeCapua

Our first 5 day school week and school is rolling right along.

Four full days of school and one day of field trips (Tunbridge Fair for K-5 and FLEXN for 6-8). It is hard to believe that the end of the quarter is only six weeks away.

As the days progress, most clusters are finalizing their classroom expectations. This year there will be more specific feedback to students and parents

on certain habits or skills. The skills that the staff have decided are most important are being **collaborative**, **engaged**, **responsible**, and **respectful**. Being an "engaged" student means that, at some point, the child will need to persevere through a difficult situation. Read this [article](#) to find out how to help your child with this important skill.

### Athletics and Activities

We are trying to create two spelling teams. There will be a 5/6 team and a possibly a 7/8 team. If you have a child that is interested, please let Ms. Kanoff or Mrs. Hill know. These teams will need to meet some days after school.

Below is next week's schedule. All calendar items can be found on the [school website](#).

<b>Mon Sep 19</b>	5:00pm – 6:00pm	☒ <b>5/6 soccer vs. Randolph A</b> - field of dreams
	5:00pm – 6:00pm	☒ <b>7/8 soccer @ Lyme</b> - lyme
<b>Tue Sep 20</b>	5:00pm – 6:00pm	☒ <b>3/4 soccer @ Tunbridge Central School</b> - Tunbridge Central School
<b>Wed Sep 21</b>	3:15pm – 4:45pm	☒ <b>7/8 Soccer Practice (Murray Field)</b> - Murray Field ☒
	5:00pm – 6:00pm	☒ <b>5/6 soccer vs. Sharon</b> - Field of Dreams
<b>Thu Sep 22</b>	4:00pm – 5:30pm	☒ <b>3/4 soccer vs. Thetford</b> - Field of Dreams
	5:00pm – 6:00pm	☒ <b>7/8 soccer vs. TSA</b> - Murray Field
<b>Fri Sep 23</b>	12:30pm – 2:00pm	☒ <b>7/8 Soccer Practice (Murray Field)</b> - Murray Field ☒

## **K News**

Ms. Kicza



Kindergarteners listen to a story before taking a Listening Walk around the school.

### **KINDERGARTEN FOREST DAY BLOG**

## *1/2 News*

Mrs. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson

First and grades want to thank everyone who helped us go to the Tunbridge Fair! It was a beautiful day and everyone saw some very neat things.

## **3-5 Cluster**

Ms. Cote, Ms. Hill & Mr. Walker

The third week of school has been a busy one. The students brainstormed what a safe environment at school should look and sound like. After our discussion, the cluster came up with classroom rules that will help us all have a wonderful year together. In science, the third and fourth grade students have been studying heredity with Ms. Cote and the impacts that humans have on a river with Mr. Walker. Our Bridges Math program is off and running with the students playing math games, having discussions around different concepts, and problem solving.

A big thank you to the parents who joined us at the Tunbridge Fair as chaperones. Students were all able to enjoy a beautiful day at the Fair with fun things like the Pig Races combined with learning on Antique Hill. Before heading to the Fair on Wednesday, students learned about what school was like over 100 years ago by listening to the book "My Great Aunt Arizona" read aloud and partner reading a mock letter from a student written 100 years ago. While at the Fair on Thursday, they visited the Schoolhouse on Antique Hill and collected evidence on how schools today are both the same and different

from schools of the past. On Friday, 4th and 5th graders used the information they had collected to write an informational essay prompt comparing similarities and differences between schools in the past and schools today.

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## ***Middle School***

*Ms. Kanoff, Ms. Tieff, Mrs. White*

Just a few reminders for parents: There is a fundraising meeting that will be held on Wednesday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m. We need your great ideas so that we can raise enough money so that students will pay a small portion for the New York trip. The trip includes visits to Ellis Island, the United Nations and a Broadway show. Hope to see you there! Please let Diane know if you can't attend but have ideas for fundraising or would be willing to volunteer to coordinate a fundraiser.

In the meantime, we still need volunteers to help at the Recycling Center. There are many openings on several Saturdays. This is an opportunity to not only raise money for our trip, but also for community service. You may contact either [Diane White](#) or [Scott Moore](#) to sign up your child.

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Students are studying the election of 2016. They are learning about the history of elections and the process itself. We will also be looking at the issues and where the major candidates stand on them. On November 8th, our students will be participating in a mock election which will be held throughout the country with other students.

Sixth grade students have done activities around growth mindset, grit, and the power of Yet. They are in the process of constructing a bulletin board which demonstrates how to change fixed mindset beliefs to growth mindset beliefs.

In science class, we are finishing up with the lab equipment and safety unit. The seventh and eighth graders will be introduced to their first earth science project on buoyancy. The sixth graders will be doing a few hands-on activities investigating more about how the scientific method works.

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## ***Spanish News***

*Ms. Beatrice Pratt*

Bienvenidos! - Welcome!  
Hola Parents and Guardians of Newton School,

My name is Ms. Beatrice Pratt and I will be working with your students this year to learn Spanish. Last year, I worked at Southwick Regional School in Massachusetts teaching both seventh and eighth grade students.

Hopefully, by now you have heard a bit about our Spanish Class from your students and how the "profesora" speaks only in Spanish and that we are doing lots of acting, moving, and repeating in class. This year, we are going to implement the **Organic World Language** learning style which allows students to take ownership for their own language acquisition and also mimics a full immersion.

It is my goal that the students gain confidence in their communication abilities and learn techniques that will help them if they ever found in a situation where asking for a translation is not an option.

!No se preocupen! Soon, we will have a few days in class to ask questions, go over and practice completing assignments, and discuss the requirements and expectations of the classroom... in English! Then, it will go back to full time learning, talking, playing, and producing in Spanish.

¿Preguntas? If you have any questions or concerns for me, please feel free to email me at [bpratt@wrvsu.org](mailto:bpratt@wrvsu.org) .

Gracias,  
Ms. Beatrice Pratt

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## ***PE News***

Casey Grimes

K,1,2's have been working on their foundations of movement (skipping, hopping, jumping, galloping, walking, running, side shuffling and leaping) and focusing on staying in their space.

3,4,5's have started the year off with soccer and are doing really well.

6,7,8's have been working on team building activities and will be moving into Ultimate Frisbee.

### **Jump Rope for Heart information:**

I have all of the supplies that the students earned. I have misplaced my list of who gets what and the totals that the students have raised. I have talked to most of the students but I wanted to check with the parents too. Please email me if you remember your child's totals at [cgrimes@newtonschool.org](mailto:cgrimes@newtonschool.org)

Thank you for your understanding.  
Respectfully,

Mr. G

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## ***Art News***

Ms. Janet Cathey

Your students' online art gallery, Artsonia, is up and running. You may still view all artwork from last year, and in the next few days, I will be posting the first batch of student art of Fall 2016. [ARTSONIA](#)

Ms. Cathey

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## *Farm to School News*

Cat Buxton

Start the Year Right Night was a big success for our Farm-to-School team thanks to our enthusiastic and talented students and parents! We hope you enjoyed tasting the fruits of our labor from the school gardens. Be sure to take a self-guided tour using the portable guide located at the pallet-wallet garden in front of the library.

Over the next several weeks we will be harvesting with students, and then cooking and processing the treasures we grew together. We welcome parents to join in on this most fun part of Farm-to-School! We'll gather mostly between 12-2:45 on the following dates:

**Tuesday September 20**  
**Thursday, September 22**  
**Tuesday, October 4**  
**Tuesday, October 18**  
**Wednesday October 19**  
**Tuesday, October 25**  
**Thursday, October 27**  
**Tuesday, November 8**  
**Thursday, November 10**  
**Tuesday, November 29**  
**Saturday, December 3 is the Craft Fair!**

For specific project details, to get in on the action or if you'd just like to receive updates from our team, be in touch with Cat Buxton, or FTS Coordinator. Email Cat at [cat@growmorewsteless.com](mailto:cat@growmorewsteless.com).

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## *PTA News*

Amy Donohue/Shannon Varley

September is PTA membership drive! If you haven't already, please fill out this [form](#) and let us know how you can help with all [these wonderful programs](#) at Newton.

We are looking for someone to organize a fall bulb fundraiser. We raised approximately \$1,500 last time we did this fundraiser in 2014. It would involve sorting packets and distributing, speaking briefly in the classroom about how the fundraiser will work, collecting forms and submitting. It would maybe be an hour or two at most work and all bulbs are shipped directly to purchaser. Please contact [Amy Donohue](#) if you are able to organize this.

Next PTA Meeting: October 3rd @ 6:30 in the Newton School Library

Please remember to get your Newton School Directory forms turned in! You can either return your form to school (Eleni has spare ones if it has gone walkabout) or simply email me at [elysabethbray@yahoo.com](mailto:elysabethbray@yahoo.com) with whatever information you would like included in the directory. Thank you, and have a wonderful weekend!

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

Thetford Academy Open House will be held Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30pm. More information to follow.

[Seven Stars Art Center](#)

[Cub Scout Announcement](#)

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Phone: 802-765-4351/Fax: 802-765-4785

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**Stay Connected**



"The strength of the team  
is each individual member.  
The strength of each  
member is the team."

- Phil Jackson