

The Newton School Newsletter

Friday, September 23, 2016

School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal

Over the summer I sent out a survey asking for feedback on topics you would like discussed during principal chats (usually 5:30 first Tuesday of every month). The topics that received more than 50% of respondents votes were: [Act 46](#), [Managing Screen Time](#), [Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards](#), [Outdoor Education](#), and [Grading and Habits of Learning](#).

The [September Principal Chat](#) focussed on the 2016-2017 school goals. This included some information on outdoor education and our Habits of Learning. The next principal chat (*Monday Oct 3rd at 7:30*) will be regarding managing screen time. On *October 4th* at 7:00pm Vermont Law School (Oakes 007) Newton School and the PTA is sponsoring a screening of "[Screenagers](#)". We are partnering with other area schools and expect a packed house. More information will be coming out shortly on this. I highly recommend attending.

Sat Sep 24	9:00am – 10:00am	⊕ 1-2 Soccer ☐
Mon Sep 26	4:30pm – 6:00pm	⊕ 7/8 soccer @ TSA - TBD
	5:00pm – 6:30pm	⊕ 5/6 soccer vs. Randolph C - Field of Dreams
Tue Sep 27	5:00pm – 6:30pm	⊕ 3/4 soccer vs. Randolph B - Field of Dreams
Wed Sep 28	3:15pm – 4:45pm	⊕ 5/6 Soccer Practice (Filed of Dreams) ☐
	4:30pm – 5:30pm	⊕ 7/8 soccer @ Bethel - Bethel Soccer Fields
Thu Sep 29	5:00pm – 6:30pm	⊕ 3/4 Soccer @ Barnard - Barnard Elementary School
Fri Sep 30	12:30pm – 2:00pm	⊕ 7/8 Soccer Practice (Murray Field) - Murray Field ☒
	5:00pm – 6:30pm	⊕ 5/6 soccer vs. Barnard - Field of Dreams

K-2

Ms. Longcore, Ms. Kicza, Mrs. Robinson

The K-2 cluster's tradition of Community Sing brings us together in the middle of each day to learn songs and poems, practice literacy skills, get

moving, and have fun together. It is a classroom job for first and second graders to choose a song each week, and a teacher chooses a song, often tied to content or seasonal learning. This week we sang "Building Bridges," "Can Cockatoos Count by Twos?," and "Alligator in the Elevator." Listen for new and favorite songs your child brings home each week. Starting back up in October the K-2 will sing to the senior citizens at their lunches once per month at Barrett Hall-a favorite activity for both groups!

KINDERGARTEN FOREST DAY BLOG

Middle School

Ms. Kanoff, Ms. Tieff, Mrs. White

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.

We still need volunteers to help at the Recycling Center. There are openings on several Saturdays, from October 12 through January 24. This is an opportunity to not only raise money (\$197 last week) for our trip, but also for community service. You may contact Diane White to sign up your child.

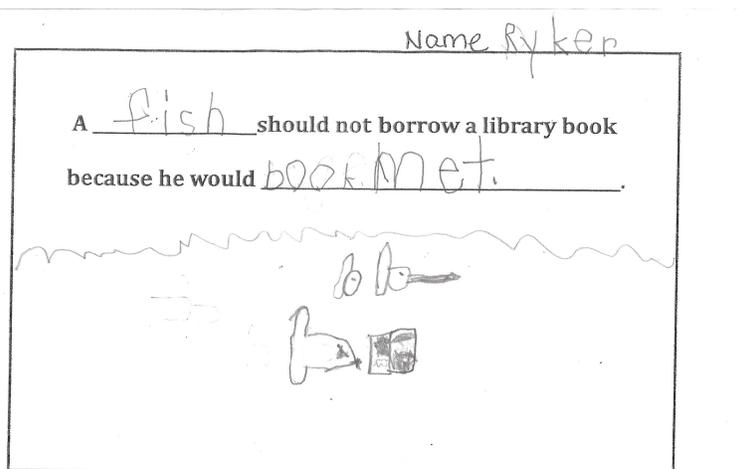
[Classroom News](#)

Library & Technology News

Ms. Simone Pyle

In our K-2 classes, we've been talking about all the ways we care for our library books! Kindergarteners became honorary members of the Library Patrol, and first graders wrote about an animal that should NOT borrow a library book...for instance, a fish would get the book wet!

Second graders are learning about reading the library's "secret code"--the call numbers that help us find books in the library!



Health News

Nurse Ellen

Ticks

A friendly reminder about deer ticks. Since fall is warmer than it used to be we have ticks and tick nymphs well into November and the beginning of December. Check out "[Tick Smart](#)" 50% of deer ticks now carry Lyme Disease. If you have a question or a tick you are worried about please see Nurse Ellen. Save ticks by taping them to a piece of paper for easy identification.

Immunizations

Please get immunization information to Nurse Ellen if your child had a shot over the summer. There is no longer a philosophical exemption. If your child is not caught up (the schedule is in the handbook) please talk to Nurse Ellen before October 1st. Thanks.

Art News

Ms. Janet Cathey

It's great to be back, supporting your children as they exercise their creativity and build their maker skills. Most of our first art projects of the school year relate to apples, in preparation for display at Morrill Homestead's Apple Fest on September 25. Sixth grade students are creating apple head dolls. The apple heads they've carved are already aging nicely! Third and fourth graders have painted Strafford landscapes the way the land looked in the 1800's, and are using wool to weave trees in the foregrounds. 1/2 artists are closely observing natural objects around them, such as leaves and apples, and drawing them in detail. Kindergarten students are getting used to art class by exploring materials with their fingers, and feeling their various textures: glue, clay, beads, acorns, weeds, beans, etc.

Photography is the first quarter art elective for 7/8 students. We've barely begun, but I can tell that most students have experience and are ready for some fun and challenging photography and photo editing assignments.

School Counselor News

Mrs. Michelle Pringle

This week I was able to go into the 1st/2nd grade and see their Listening Larry pictures that Mrs. Longcore and Mrs. Robinson introduced to them. Some of the students explained to me the important parts of being a good listeners with Larry as the model. Next week I will be reading K-2 the book "Cowboy and Octopus" by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith. It is about an unlikely friendship and showing that while we may be different from each other, we can still be friends.

In 5th grade we worked on empathy and feelings. We used a fun charades game to act out verbal and nonverbal cues. Ask your 5th grader some of the feelings they came up with and acted out!

I am continuing to see individual students and students as pairs along with classroom guidance lessons. Please reach out to me if you would like to check in or to have your child visit with me.

PTA News

Amy Donohue/Shannon Varley

The PTA is holding a fall fundraiser selling bulbs for your spring garden! Orders are placed online or through a Newton school student and bulbs are delivered straight to your doorstep.

We have set a fundraising goal of \$1,000 and need your support to reach it. Newton PTA receives 50% of the proceeds!!!!

Please feel free to share the online ordering link with friends and family out of town.

Place online orders through October 7th here:

http://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/campaign?campaign_id=24240&user_campaign_id=519294

Thanks so much for your continued support!

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

One Planet

Kiersten Harlow

Session One started Monday and the kids have really been enjoying our special programs. They have done a great job getting used to our new schedule and routine. One of our highlights from the week was roasting and eating corn with Mr. Paul!



Announcements and Upcoming Events

[Seven Stars Art Center](#)

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

Newton 7/8 Soccer team takes on The Sharon Academy Middle School this Monday, Sept 26th at TSA. Game starts at 4:30. The concession stand will be open and the wood-fired pizza oven will be hot and ready to make made-to-order pizza. The dough is handmade using King Arthur Flour and the sauce is homemade using organic vegetables from Tunbridge Hill Farm.

Come watch a great game and take a pizza home for dinner. All proceeds support The Sharon Academy Athletic Booster Club."

Greg Bagnato, Principal

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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