

# The Newton School Newsletter

## Friday, September 9, 2016

### School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal



It has been great to see each cluster focusing on starting the year off with important messages.

The 6-8 cluster hosted facilitators from the Hulbert Center to work on teamwork. The 3-5 cluster did an activity to help the students think flexibly and with empathy. The K-2 each had classes in the Forest Classroom or the Pocket Park in order to explore and take risks.

Soccer is in full swing. Please look at the schedule of all school activities below:

<b>Mon Sep 12</b>	3:15pm – 4:45pm 5:00pm – 6:30pm	7/8 Soccer Practice (Murray Field) - Murray Field 5/6 game @ SoRo - Field of Dreams
<b>Tue Sep 13</b>	All day 5:00pm – 6:30pm 5:30pm – 6:30pm	Class Picture Day 7/8 soccer vs. Chelsea - Murray Field 3/4 Soccer @ SoRo
<b>Wed Sep 14</b>	5:00pm – 6:00pm 5:00pm – 6:30pm	5/6 Soccer @ Thetford - Thetford Elementary School 7/8 vs. SoRo (Hope Field) - Hope Field
<b>Thu Sep 15</b>	9:00am – 12:00pm 9:00am – 2:00pm 3:15pm – 4:30pm	6-8/Hopkins Center/FLEXN - The Hopkins Center Tunbridge Fair Field Trip K-5 3/4 Soccer Practice (Field of Dreams)
<b>Fri Sep 16</b>	12:30pm – 2:00pm	7/8 Soccer Practice (Murray Field) - Murray Field

### K-2

Ms. Longcore, Ms. Kicza, Mrs. Robinson

The K-2 cluster had a fun bonding activity this week! Thanks to the PTA, we continued our annual tradition of making matching t-shirts. This year we made tie dye shirts. On a sunny morning, all of K-2 went outside and then small groups formed to dye different patterns. We saw so much collaboration; the kids who had experience were super helpful. Our intent is that kids wear them on field trip days. Of course, we hope they enjoy them other times, too! Our first field trip is next week, to Tunbridge Fair on September 15th (for first and second graders).

**KINDERGARTEN FOREST DAY BLOG**



## ***3-5 Cluster***

**Ms. Cote, Ms. Hill & Mr. Walker**

It has been a busy week in the 3-5 cluster. All three grades have begun a new math program called Bridges. It has been nice seeing the students working together and problem solving.

We also had a read-aloud about Mr. Ferris and his invention of the Ferris Wheel for the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. Through the book, we learned how Mr. Ferris used the Habits of Mind in achieving his hope of building a ride that no one had ever seen before. The students then thought of one hope that they would like to achieve during this school year. Our goal is to, like Mr. Ferris, achieve our hopes and show that with hard work most things are possible.



## ***Middle School***

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

The year has gotten off to a good start. Thanks to all the parents who attended Start The Year Right Night.

We are excited to have our colleague Regan Tieff join the team. We welcome her energy and excitement and look forward to a great year.

Joining us as Mrs. White's student intern is Jim Burnham from UVEI who will be here until the December break. Part of his internship will be to teach our students for a few days.

Here are some upcoming events:

- Permission slips for FLEXN are due not later than Tuesday, September 13th
- Parent release form for our UVEI intern due no later than September 21st
- Fundraising Committee meeting for NYC trip (May 25-26) will be held on Wednesday, September 28th at 7:00 in Mrs. White's room Good ideas are needed!

As always, we value communication with parents, so please feel free to contact us.

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## ***Library & Technology News***

**Ms. Simone Pyle**

We're off to a great year in the library! We've added many new books to the collection...some still in boxes, awaiting cataloging. They'll soon be up on the [library blog](#), where I'll be adding new books lists and examples of student work throughout the year.

We start off the school year reviewing library procedures, expectations, and skills; how to choose a "just right" book, how to find books on the shelves, and how to take care of our library books are what we'll be covering over the next few weeks!

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## ***Health News***

**Nurse Ellen**

Friendly reminder: the Clinic Dental Trailer is here through Wednesday. Please call Nurse Ellen Monday if you would still like to sign your child up for a teeth cleaning.

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## ***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.

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## ***School Counselor News***

**Mrs. Michelle Pringle**

This week I was able to start with classroom guidance lessons. With the 1st and 2nd graders, we learned how we are all connected, and how we each hold an important part of participating and keeping each other up during our time together. Some of you may have also seen the picture of Mr. Potato Head and some of the ways a School Counselor is helpful.

I will be working with the 5th grade in their health class. We started with introduction icebreakers and a fun human scavenger hunt game to get to know each other a bit more. We will begin the "We Care" unit next week. The "We Care" curriculum was created by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (PCAVT). The curriculum has been designed to help prevent abuse and violence for those in grades 3-6. It is focused on personal boundaries and safe spaces, with friends, family, and others. Please let me know if you have any questions or want to learn more about the curriculum. If you are interested in PCAVT and what they do, their website is <http://www.pcavt.org>.

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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!

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# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## Seven Stars Art Center

**Greg Bagnato, Principal**

243 Vermont Route 132

South Strafford, VT 05070

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