

## *The Newton School Newsletter*

**Friday, October 21, 2016**

### **School Notes and Athletics**

**Mr. Bagnato, Principal**

With one week left in the first quarter, we are starting to plan for conferences. In an effort to help parents, middle school 7th and 8th graders are organizing a schedule in which they can watch younger children during conferences.

This year parents will find that teachers will be giving feedback on student's Habits and Attitudes of Learning. There will be a cover letter with report cards explaining this initiative more. I will also host a principal chat on Nov 1 at 5:30 in the library on this topic.



We will miss our 8th graders next year!

Newton School students and teachers should be proud of their results in last year's SBAC results. Eight of our Twelve classes (3rd through 8th grade math and reading) achieved an average score that was a top ten result in the state of Vermont. More information can be found at [VT. Digger](#).

### **Athletics and Activities:**

Today, marks the last day of the soccer season. For the first time in four years we had a K-2 soccer team meet on Saturday mornings. We had full 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8 teams. In fact we had over 50% of Newton Students participate in the school soccer program. 32 games were played and our school record was 20 wins, 10 losses, and one tie. Huge thanks to coaches (Kiersten Harlow, Jolin Eastman, Jolene Cadwell, Sean Lewis, Jere Linehan, and Scott Traudt) and referees (Hilary Linehan, Keefe Traendly, Ever Tofel, Grace Lewandowski, Ben Plottner, Erik Younce, and Taj Bagnato). Hilary Linehan also scheduled every game.

**We will recognize the 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8 teams during our soccer banquet at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, Oct 26th in Barrett Hall.** Please make sure your child's uniforms are returned as soon as possible.

If you have not already, please fill out [this form](#) in order to sign up for winter sports as soon as possible.

### **PE NEWS**

**Mr. Casey Grimes**

K,1,2's have been working on dribbling basketballs and shooting.

3,4,5's have been working on dribbling, passing and shooting basketballs. Working towards a more cleanly played game.

6,7,8's have also been working on dribbling, passing and shooting basketballs. Also, working towards a cleaner game.

Team Sports last week is next week. We played some basketball games this week. Next week we will play Omnikinball.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the snow.

Casey

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## **K,1,2**

*Ms. Kicza, Ms. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson*

Kindergarten, first, and second graders took advantage of the beautiful weather Thursday afternoon and walked through the fields up to the town pond to watch the 7th graders launch boats made out of cardboard and tape. These were the result of a challenge to make boats that float using only these two materials. It was a great opportunity for our K-2 to connect what the older kids do for STEM projects with what we have done, and what we could do in the future.

### **KINDERGARTEN FOREST DAY BLOG**

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## **3-5 News**

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

This week our students processed the harvest from our gardens. They were divided up into groups and were given tasks to do such as washing, peeling, and cutting up squash, collecting seeds for the 2017 gardens, and processing onions, herbs, and black beans. They also harvested corn and strung up the stalks to dry.

A huge thanks goes out to our wonderful Farm to School coordinator, Cat.

Attached are a couple of photos showing the students planting this year's crop and one of the outcomes of their hard work.



**3rd Grade Hood Trip Visits:**

**4th & 5th Grade Hood Trip Visits:**

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## ***Middle School***

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

The mission of the Newton school is to develop each child's potential for academic success, engagement and overall well-being. With that in mind, the school plans to introduce 47 students to New York City. The exciting adventure includes visits to Ellis Island, a guided tour of The United Nations, a visit to the 9/11 Memorial and a Broadway show. Many of these children will be traveling to NYC for the very first time. The cost for each child to go on this trip is \$370, so we need to raise more than \$15,000. This covers all costs including hotel, transportation, and all of the great NYC destinations. Any donation will help make this one dream of 47 kids possible and is greatly appreciated. We have included the link to the NYC Go Fund Me Trip. Any donations will be great appreciated. Thank you!

**[NYC Trip Go Fund Me Page](#)**

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

**Ms. Simone Pyle**

Last spring, just before school ended, students brought home a sheet with an access code and PIN for Open eBooks, a service that provides access to free ebooks on mobile devices (although a web version is coming soon). As a Title 1 school, all Newton School students have access to this program. To learn more about it, visit the [Open eBooks webpage](#); if you've lost your student's access code and PIN, [contact Simone](#).



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## ***Health News***

**Nurse Ellen**

Great turn-out for the flu clinic on Monday. If your child missed the flu clinic, Dr. McWilliams will be back **November 7th** and can give flu shots at that time. **Please get the form to Nurse Ellen by November 4th.**

### **FLU CLINIC FORM**

#### **Ski Helmets**

Ski helmets can be ordered through Molly's Place at the CHAD pediatric clinic. Please see Nurse Ellen if you are interested in the information.

#### **Fluoride**

If you are interested in having your children (1st-8th) have fluoride mouth rinse weekly; please return forms next week. Fluoride helps prevent cavities.

#### **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.

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## ***One Planet News***

**Mrs. Kiersten Harlow**

THERE WILL BE NO ONE PLANET PROGRAM **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH.**

# ***PTA News***

Amy Donohue/Shannon Varley

**Halloween Festivities** are approaching and the PTA is looking for help in a few areas.

We need help with the following:

\*Two parents to collect and distribute candy to village residents prior to October 27th.

\*Two parents to help monitor games upstairs at Barrett Hall 6:00-7:00.

Next meeting:

November 1st at 6pm in the Newton School Library.

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## ***Newton Farm to School News***

Cat Buxton

This past week, Kindergarteners painted some Tennessee Dancing Gourds, a tiny gourd that spins like a top; we grew hundreds of them this year! Some fifth graders helped with the craft project during their enrichment time.

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders prepared Owl Eye pumpkins (a golden hybrid variety) and Ancient Squash (an heirloom hardy squash) for roasting. The squash, pumpkin, and roasted seeds were served for lunch on Thursday (thanks Gret!).

The 3-5 students also harvested the popcorn (Black Dakota variety) and hung it dry, sliced some Ancient squash rings to dry, processed dried parsley, shelled our black beans, and cleaned up the onion crop for use in the school kitchen. All of this has given us a great start on garden-grown products to sell at Strafford's Holiday Craft Fair in December. Wait until you see the collection of crafts and foods we'll sell there to raise money for Farm-to-School!

Still to come, 3-5 students will thresh the popcorn (and pop some!), harvest and dry cranberry beans and scarlet runner beans, harvest turnips, beets, and kale, and dry our bird house gourds for a future art room project. Next week, we'll finish harvesting and we'll put all of our gardens to bed. Soon, we'll plant garlic outside and trays of salad greens in Mr. Walker's grow lab indoors.

Middle school students will chart our food waste through November and help us to design the compost bin shed, to be built next spring. If we can get the wood donated, we'll build a cold frame cover for one of our raised beds so that we can begin growing greens earlier next spring. If you have some lumber to donate please let Ilene or Cat know. We need light weight 2x4's and maybe a little building advice!

Thank you Mindi and Eric Goodling for donating mulch hay, Dori Wolfe for donating a scale to weigh and chart our food scraps to help us size the upcoming composting system, and to Paul Sadowski for keeping the after school program kids involved in the edible schoolyard activities!

Thank you Molly O'Hara for putting together a beautiful display of Farm-to-school photos on the bulletin board outside the library - check it out!

We're so grateful to all of our enthusiastic students and teachers and to all of the wonderful parent and community volunteers that help us achieve our garden and farm-to-school goals. Thank you!



## Announcements and Upcoming Events

**PICTURE RETAKES WILL BE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH.**

**Seven Stars Art Center**

**Family Fridays at Seven Stars**

**Fifth Grade Passport for Skiing**

**Pico Ski Pass for \$89 (VT students only)**

**Tunbridge Craft Fair**

**Greg Bagnato, Principal**  
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South Strafford, VT 05070  
Phone: 802-765-4351/Fax: 802-765-4785

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

Stay Connected



member is the team."

- Phil Jackson