

**Friday, February 3, 2017**

## ***School Notes and Athletics***

**Mr. Bagnato, Principal**

One of the best things about being a small school principal is that I am able to interact with students on a regular basis. I have snack with Students of the Week, I am able to join morning meetings, I visit classes and ask students about their work, and, of course, I conferences with children who have been sent to my office. Regardless of the circumstances in which we meet, I always try to listen to and make connections with all the children at our school.

Having respect, illustrating responsibility, and developing empathy are essential goals I hope all students develop while at Newton.

It is difficult to read so much of the news today as it seems to contradict with the values we have as individuals and as a community. We must stay strong with who we are and reflect on our beliefs often. Recently, the Secretary of Education sent out a memorandum to educators in response to the recent federal immigration order. Whether or not we agree with our president, the message of this [memo](#) is one that helps us remind us of what we stand for, the importance of education, and the necessity for hope.

**Athletics and Upcoming Events:**

<b>Mon Feb 6</b>	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ <b>3/4 Girls Basketball Practice</b> 🗓️ 📅
	4:20pm – 5:20pm	⊕ <b>5/6 Boys Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	5:00pm – 8:00pm	⊕ <b>7/8 bball @ Bethel, girls 5pm, boys 6:30pm</b> - Bethel
<b>Tue Feb 7</b>	9:00am – 11:30am	⊕ <b>3-5, Story Pirates @ Lebanon Opera House</b> - Lebanon Opera House
	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ <b>5/6 Girls Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	3:30pm – 4:30pm	⊕ <b>SNAP</b> 📅
	4:20pm – 5:20pm	⊕ <b>3/4 Boys Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	5:25pm – 6:25pm	⊕ <b>7/8 Girls Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	5:30pm – 6:00pm	⊕ <b>Principal Chat</b> 🗓️ 📅
	6:00pm – 7:30pm	⊕ <b>PTA Meeting</b> 📅
	6:30pm – 7:30pm	⊕ <b>7/8 Boys Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	<b>Wed Feb 8</b>	8:30am – 10:30am
12:30pm – 2:30pm		⊕ <b>NAEP TEST 8th Grade</b>
3:15pm – 4:15pm		⊕ <b>3/4 Girls Basketball Practice</b> 🗓️ 📅
5:00pm – 7:30pm		⊕ <b>7/8 bball vs. Lyme, girls 5pm, boys 6:15pm</b> - Rosa Tyson Gym
5:30pm – 7:30pm		⊕ <b>5/6 bball @ SoRo, girls 5:45 &amp; boys 6:45</b> - South Royalton School, 2
<b>Thu Feb 9</b>	3:00pm – 4:30pm	⊕ <b>Mask Making PTA Event</b>
	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ <b>5/6 Girls Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	3:30pm – 4:30pm	⊕ <b>SNAP</b> 📅
	5:25pm – 6:25pm	⊕ <b>7/8 Girls Basketball Practice</b> 📅
	5:30pm – 8:00pm	⊕ <b>3/4 bball @ Tunbridge, girls 5:30pm, boys 6:30pm</b> - Tunbridge Cent
6:30pm – 7:30pm	⊕ <b>7/8 Boys Basketball Practice</b> 📅	

For more basketball information please go to our [Google Calendar](#)

## ***Kindergarten News***

**Ms. Kicza**

Kindergarten celebrated learning all their letters and sounds with alphabet noodles cooked over the fire outdoors, a silly letter story told aloud, stomping out letters in the snow, and using squirt bottles with colored water to write letters in the snow.

## ***1 & 2 News***

**Ms. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson**

First and second graders had another visit from our friend Hannah with VINS this Wednesday. Since we had finally gotten some fresh snow we decided to go to the meadow and check our plots for signs of animals. After a lesson inside on what to look for, we bundled up and headed outside. As it was still snowing a bit, we did not see many fresh tracks, but we found some other treasures including nibbled twigs, worm homes, and maybe even a porcupine home! Check out some photos from the excursion.



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## **3-5 News**

Ms. Cote, Mrs. Hill & Mr. Walker

While the weather has been cold outside, things have really been heating up in the classroom. The students have been working on a number of projects that range from designing posters, studying rocks, to tiling floors on paper. In 5th grade math, the students have been learning the importance of multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals. They have also been involved in a series of problem strings. These problems strings are designed in order for students to internalize a concept and then verbalize their thinking. The third graders have been learning about rounding, fractions, and lines of symmetry. The fourth graders have been spending a lot of hands on time exploring equivalent fractions as well as adding and subtracting fractions.

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## **Library & Technology News**

Ms. Simone Pyle

First graders practiced reading for information, using a 3-2-1 Strategy Chart with the Red Clover Award nominee *The Blue Whale* by Jenni Desmond. We read this picture book twice, and students recorded three things they discovered; two things they found especially interesting; and one question they still had. The students picked one item from their chart *and* their favorite page, and we made of a video!



## First Grade 3-2-1 Strategy

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### ***Health News***

Nurse Ellen

We continue to see students with an upper respiratory illness and a significant cough as well as a stomach bug. A friendly reminder that having your children get extra rest and staying well hydrated is helps children who are sick. Please call Nurse Ellen if your child is diagnosed with a bacterial infection and started on antibiotics.

We are in our second week of the Passport to Winter Fun. Encourage your children to draw a picture of the activity they do each day and don't forget the programs they can participate in as they reach the indicated milestones. Have fun.

### **[Local Resources for Families Information](#)**

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### ***Art News***

Ms. Janet Cathey

K students have been discovering color mixing in a variety of ways, and a Valentine's Day gift will soon make its way home.

1/2 students have created mixed media artworks that incorporate a number. I interviewed each student to discover why their chosen number is personally meaningful. Read their explanations in the hallway.

3/4/5 students have shown perseverance and are excited to be almost finished sewing stuffed animals and monsters. 6th graders are also sewing; they are creating beautiful optical illusions of parabolas using only straight stitches of thread.

7/8 students have begun the Design Thinking in Art elective. So far they have designed motorized drawing machines, and are learning how to create art that literally lights up using electricity. We will continually be circling back to the idea of Empathy, and how important this concept is in the design process.



## ***PTA News***

**Mrs. Amy Donohue & Ms. Shannon Varley**

Mardi Gras!

The PTA is collaborating with the Universalist Church and One Planet on the upcoming Mardi Gras event to make masks after school on Thursday, February 9th 3:00-4:30. We are in need of two volunteers to help with this fun event. Please contact [Amy Donohue](#) if you are able to help.

Next PTA Meeting - February 7th, 6pm, Newton School Library

We will be planning Winter Carnival (March 10th, 11th, & 12th) and Town Meeting Lunch (March 7th). We need many volunteers to help with these events, please come to the meeting to see where you can help or email [Amy Donohue](#) if you can't attend the meeting but would like to help.

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**[Earn-A-Bike](#)**

**[Winter Break Camps](#)**

**[2018 Paris France, Switzerland, The Alps and Germany](#)**

**[Revels Kids 2017/Revels Kids 2017 Traditions of Zimbabwe](#)**

**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