

Thursday, October 26, 2017

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

Mr. Bagnato, Principal

Student led conferences went very well. Anecdotally, it seemed that students were proud of the work they shared and parents were pleased to discover more about what their children were learning and experiencing at Newton. Many parents filled out a paper survey, but for those of you that missed it, please complete it [here](#). We will use this information next Friday in an effort to improve the conferences. Thanks to the PTA for organizing two tasty dinners and thanks to many middle schoolers who helped watch the younger students.



Four of the middle school volunteers

### **Athletics and School Events:**

This past Tuesday the Soccer Banquet was held at Barrett Hall. It was wonderful to consistently hear coaches praise their players with accolades such as "*team player, hard worker, always looking to involve teammates, willing to play out of position*". During the year, I watched every team and was proud of how they worked together and had fun. Huge Thanks to Coaches Alex, Sylvia, Jolene, Brett, Sean and Scott!

**Saturday 10/28** - The Newton School 5/6 Spelling Bee Team will be competing at a regional competition. Good Luck Road Runners!

Basketball and Middle School Nordic Ski Team will start up after Thanksgiving Break. For basketball teams, we are planning to have 3/4 boys and girls, 5/6 boys and girls, and 7/8 girls teams.

**Friday 11/27** - Faculty Inservice (No School)

For school and athletic events, please visit the calendar on our [website](#).

## ***K News***

Ms. Kicza

At forest day this week kindergarten collected, sorted, and counted natural objects. Each collected rocks and leaves on their way to the

forest. We discussed everyone's ideas of how to sort them. Then students worked in small groups to sort them different ways including by what the object was, by color, and by size. After sorting them three ways, we estimated then counted the amount in each group. Finally when a student wondered how many we had in all, we counted them all to get a final count of 62 natural objects. They did great thinking, discussing, sorting, counting, and working together!



## ***Middle School News***

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

**Conferences:** A big thank you to all our students who did such a wonderful job at the conferences. We hope that parents were able to get a sense of the learning their students have been engaged with so far this year.

**Fundraising:** It's not too late to sign up for the bake sale on November 11th at Coburn's via Google docs. It looks like we're off to a good start but still need ingredients (for those who prefer not to bake) and more baked goodies. Thanks so much for your support.

### **Play:**

We are off to see the Wizard.....

Starting this Monday, October 30th, the middle school students will be beginning a twelve-day intensive drama experience to create, practice, and produce their play, ***The Wizard of Oz***.



For the past couple of weeks, students have been working hard memorizing their lines. Meg has been planning with several teachers in order to organize this intensive. We have never done the play this way before, but we feel it will be a fantastic experience.

A few things of note:

1. Students should have their lines memorized by **Monday, October 30**. They have been working on them at school, we hope they are ready.
2. Middle School teachers will be **limiting student's homework**. Students with smaller roles will have more time at school to complete work. Students with larger roles will have less time than they normally have. **Please be in contact with your child's teacher if you have any concerns.**
3. For the next few weeks, we are hoping that students stay as healthy as possible. They will be working hard and need rest and good nutrition.
4. Performances are scheduled for Wednesday, November 15th and Thursday, November 16th. On both days, there will be a day and evening performance.

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## ***Middle School Fundraising News***

Heather Waterbury

Fundraising activities are underway. The recycling center is ongoing and your child can sign up for a Saturday on google docs or, your child can sign up through their homeroom teacher. Remember a parent also needs to chaperone this event.

Look for information on a bake sale November 11 at Coburn's. Bakers and kids to work selling items will be needed.

Speak to Ms. Kanoff if your child can work to assist Strafford neighbors with outside chores, such as raking leaves or stacking wood. She has a few jobs available.

Strafford gear coming soon! Don't know what to get your mother-in-law for the holiday? These products will make great gifts.

Lastly, look for information regarding the Barrett Hall Holiday sale. We'll have raffle tickets to sell with various products and kids to be present at Barrett Hall. More to come. Questions? Email Heather Waterbury at [heatherlwaterbury@gmail.com](mailto:heatherlwaterbury@gmail.com) or call at 785-3145.

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

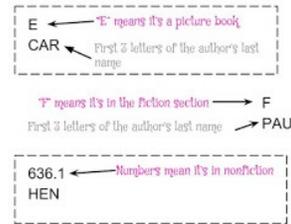
Ms. Simone Pyle

In 1st and 2nd grade library, we are learning about how libraries use call numbers to make books easier to find. Grade 1 is understanding that pictures book are in a section together, and are arranged alphabetically by the author's last name. Grade 2 is learning about how the call numbers on spine labels are a "secret code" that tell us where to find picture books and fiction books (as well as other kinds of books, like graphic novels and nonfiction). We will be working on these library skills more over the next couple of weeks!

The 6th grade tech class got to look at some of the important parts of a computer that the 7/8th grade elective removed from old computer towers. Using diagrams that the 7/8th graders made, grade 6 identified the parts, and got to read about what each part does.

## How to Read Library Call Numbers

A quick guide



Other Call Numbers to Know  
 GRA (graphic novel) 32 (only readers) 3 (biography) (A young adult- grades 6-8 only)



<b>Heat sink</b> cools the other part of the computer that make heat	<b>Power supply</b> is the heart of the computer and supplies every other part of the computer with the electricity	<b>Optical drive</b> reads DVDs, CDs, and Blue-Rays and sends the video to the monitor so you can see it	<b>R.A.M</b> Is a type of memory that helps make the computer run faster	<b>C.P.U</b> The brain of the computer that runs all the other parts of the system and it processes all the information from the other parts	<b>Hard drive</b> Store all of your information and cannot be deleted unless you destroy the hard drive.	<b>Motherboard</b> Connects all the parts of the computer and all the information goes through it to get to other areas
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Zeke's computer parts diagram

## Art News

Ms. Emily Girdwood

Art 10/19 & 10/24

	<p><b>K: Collage &amp; Shapes</b> (organic shapes, geometric shapes)  <b>Spooky House!</b> We read the story <i>Ghosts in the House!</i> By Kazuno Kohara. This book has beautiful linocut illustrations and features a little witch who buys a house with ghosts. She rounds up all the ghosts, tosses them in the washing machine and uses them as tablecloths and curtains. We reviewed shapes and noticed that if you put shapes together you can make pictures (a collage!). K kids made some houses (geometric shapes), adding ghosts (organic shapes) and pumpkins and bats. (artwork by Aubrey)</p>
	<p><b>1/2 : Where the Wild Things Are</b>        We watched the classic video, <i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> (to a chorus of "I know this book!"). We are making some paper bag puppets of Wild Things. I asked the students to think about monster textures and showed them how to create patterns with shapes and lines. Next time we meet, we will be adding some amazing details....        (artwork in progress by Will)</p>
	<p><b>3/4 :CLAY DRAGONS!</b> (Inspired by Ms. Catalano's stories and the students' wish to make dragons.)        Today, we reviewed states of clay (these students are catching on fast) and created clay dragons. I talked about how dragons are from imaginations all over the world and throughout time. We learned how to make coils and slip and score to attach clay pieces. They created textures for dragon scales and started to think about what kind of dragon they were making. We listened to an audio book about dragons while we worked.</p>



#### 5: Clay Play

This week, we reviewed terms and setting up materials for clay. I want the students to be aware of the limits and possibilities of clay. We talked about the "cowabunga rule" (nothing thicker than a thumb or thinner than a pinkie) and I shared the story of how clay is an early form of art, probably discovered when a mud lined basket was left too close to a fire. We talked about slip (scratch to attach) and how clay is "plastic" when we are able to mold it. Clay is fired when it is "bone dry". The students worked from imagination and references to create a piece of their choice. (Esme's bullfrog)



#### 6: Sculpture Center

This week, we continued working in art centers. I opened a sculpture center with hot glue, craft sticks, cardboard and recyclables. We talked about keeping reflection folders in Art. The students fill out a description of their work and process at the end of class. I respond to each student, giving them individual feedback (encouragement, asking questions, clarifying thoughts, etc). The students are making authentic choices about their work, which is important to developing student ownership over their own learning. (Chenoweth and the craft stick picnic table in progress)



#### 7/8 Elective: Alternative Materials (last week!)

We are working on the themes of trash and transformation. I shared the artwork by Vik Muniz and his portraits in garbage. Muniz worked with trash pickers in the world's largest landfill, creating portraits that mimic famous artworks. This story is documented in the movie Wasteland- of which we watched the trailer.

We are wrapping up the elective with a few rounds of reflection (HALs, which students complete in all of their classes, and a self-reflection rubric about Studio Habits of Mind).

(group photo with artwork- notice Emma's trashion dress!)



On our last day, the students wanted to pick names and create work for their another student. This was a sweet, thoughtful, and surprisingly creative way to end our elective. I am just going to leave this piece of amazing right here. Have I said that I will miss this group of students?!

(Artwork designed for Zeke by Mary Gage)

## Spanish

### Seniorita Pratt

Hasta pronto, clase...

Spanish classes will resume after the play, but I, señorita Pratt will be available for short personal Spanish conversations during MS Play practice. I really enjoyed meeting many parents during the conferences and seeing how proud you were of your Spanish speakers!

In the mean time, please enjoy some pictures of the 6th graders practicing numbers 1-31 in Spanish through an interactive game of Quizlet Live.



## ***Counselors News***

**Ms. Michelle Pringle**

Middle School Parents and Guardians-

Our designated high school, Thetford Academy, will be participating in a high school fair on **December 5th** at Lebanon High School (**snow date is Dec. 6**). Some high schools that are participating will also later host Sending School Nights, where sending school families can get further information.

Please contact [me](#) for further information or with any questions.

## ***Health News***

**[Local Resource Information Sheet](#)**

## ***Hot Lunch News***

**Gret Hewes**

News from the Lunch Room

Fruit of the Week: Mangos!!!

Mangos are a juicy stone fruit that made there way into our fruit salad and fruit tray this week. Native to South Asia these trees can fruit for over 300 years. They are the national fruit of India, Pakistan and the Philippines. Forty-three millions tons of mangos are grown and cultivated every year.

They are full of Vitamin C and quite tasty. The students eyes always light right up when mangos are on the menu.

Next week: The Great Pumpkin!!!

Please feel free to contact me with any ideas of fruits and/or veggies you would like to see the kids trying. My email address is [ghewes@newtonschool.org](mailto:ghewes@newtonschool.org)



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## ***PTA News***

**Christine Bailey-Kellogg & Shannon Varley**

Halloween - October 31st - 4:30-7:00

Halloween is almost upon us! [Here's a full list of events and times.](#) We hope to see you at one or more of the events!

There are several ways that you can help:

- Donate a bag or two of candy to the box at Coburn's. The candy will be distributed to the residents in the villages who will get trick-or-treaters.
- Help at the spaghetti dinner at Barrett Hall. We still need a few people to help with food prep and serving. Contact [Amy Donohue](#) if you can help.
- Donate supplies to help the 8th graders create a great haunted house upstairs in Barrett Hall. They are looking for scary, creepy, and gross items, as well as costumes. They can also use large pieces of cardboard and large pieces of dark fabric (that you won't want back). Contact Roberta Martin (765-4437, [sterob22@excite.com](mailto:sterob22@excite.com) if you have

something to donate.

## Teacher Meals

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Teacher Appreciation dinners this week during Parent Teacher conferences. It helped the teachers during the long days, and showed our appreciation for all they do.

Next PTA meeting - Tuesday, November 7th at 6 in the Newton library  
We will be assembling our annual appeal mailing, so we can use many hands!

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## Announcements and Upcoming Events

[Seven Stars Community Halloween Party](#)

[Halloween Hoops Fan Fest @ Dartmouth](#)

[Free Flu Shots](#)

[Classes at Seven Starts Art Center](#)

[The Secret Life of Caterpillars](#)

\*No School on Friday, November 10th.

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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

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