



# The Newbury Elementary School

## Newt-paper

April 4, 2014

Volume 1, Issue 27

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## NEWBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

63 HANOVER STREET  
NEWBURY, MA 01951  
978-465-5353

Beth Yando  
Principal

Amy Pasquarello  
Assistant Principal

April 1, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is hard to believe that we are heading toward our last trimester of the 2013-2014 school year. During this time parents begin to look ahead to their child moving up to the next grade level, and with that come many questions about student placement. I am writing to explain the process that is used so that you will have a better understanding as to how the decision is made.

I want you to know that this is a long, thoughtful process and my greatest priority is to balance the classrooms in order to provide the best possible learning experience for all the children. Creating class lists is a complex process that the staff and I take very seriously. Although the principal is responsible for approving the class assignments of children, I spend a great deal of time with staff carefully weighing the following factors before we make a decision.

- special needs
- instructional groupings
- learning styles
- student interests
- boy/girl distribution
- special situations
- student abilities
- student academic needs
- heterogeneous balance
- peer relations
- work habits
- class size
- social dynamic
- parent letters

We use existing assessment data, as well as teacher input during this process. The last consideration is the actual classroom teacher. My experience has been that children adapt to new classroom environments extremely well. However, occasionally there are a few children that require special consideration and there is a need to carefully place a child in a particular setting. We deal with these instances as they arise.

I ask that if you wish to share in a letter addressed to me any particular information you believe is important to your son or daughter's placement that you do so by **Thursday, May 1, 2014**. I will **NOT** honor any request for a particular teacher. However, you are encouraged to describe your child as a learner and the type of classroom you believe he/she would most benefit from. If there are students who have a documented history of struggling socially with another student and you do not want your child placed in the same classroom, you should communicate this concern directly to me in a letter. I will do my very best to honor the request, however, with a limited number of classrooms I cannot make guarantees.

Please understand that once classes are created the decisions are final, unless new information warrants a change. The entire staff works incredibly hard to honor this process so that we create well balanced classrooms for the children. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Beth Yando  
Principal  
[byando@trsd.net](mailto:byando@trsd.net)

Amy Pasquarello  
Assistant Principal



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## First Grade Update

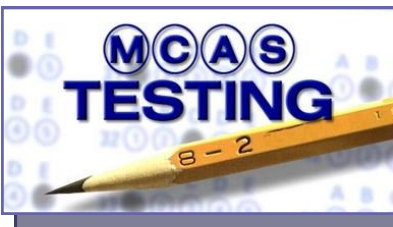


First graders are becoming poets this month! We are busy reading poems by famous poets and learning how poets can turn ordinary things into extraordinary things. Poets we love so far are Shel Silverstein and Jack Prelutsky. We are also busy writing our own, original poems. We have written about our favorite colors, special people in our lives, fellow classmates, favorite foods and animals. A special corner of our first-grade classrooms has been transformed into a Poetry Museum to provide us with inspiration when we can't think of a topic for a poem. Finally, we are busy practicing how to memorize and say a poem aloud with expression and pizzazz. We will share this special poem with our families on Poetry Day, April 17th. This has been a Newbury Elementary School tradition for a long time and we are so excited to share and celebrate our hard work!



## NES student participate in the District Science Fair!

Congratulations to the NES students who participated in the District Science Fair! They represented our school well and made us very proud! Well done!



MCAS ELA testing is over. We are so proud of how hard the NES students in grades three, four, five, and six worked over the past two weeks. We would also like to thank the parents for supporting your child through this testing. Making sure students are well rested and come to school on time with a healthy breakfast in their bellies help to prepare them for success.

Our next testing dates for mathematics and science are below. Please make sure your child is in school on time as testing will begin promptly at 9:00 am.

|                     |                       |  |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Tuesday, May 6th    | <b>Grades 3 and 5</b> | Mathematics (Day 1)                        |
| Wednesday, May 7th  | <b>Grades 3 and 5</b> | Mathematics (Day 2)                        |
| Monday, May 12th    | <b>Grade 5</b>        | Science, Technology, & Engineering (Day 1) |
| Tuesday, May 13th   | <b>Grades 4 and 6</b> | Mathematics (Day 1)                        |
| Wednesday, May 14th | <b>Grades 4 and 6</b> | Mathematics (Day 2)                        |
| Thursday, May 15th  | <b>Grade 5</b>        | Science, Technology, & Engineering (Day 2) |

The NES Newt –  
paper is published by  
Amy Pasquarello on  
a weekly basis. If  
you would like to  
submit something to  
be included in the  
NES Newt-paper,  
please email your  
information to  
[apasquarello@trsd.net](mailto:apasquarello@trsd.net)  
by the Wednesday  
before the  
newsletter is  
published.

Workshop Arts Inc. presents

# SWEETLY EVER AFTER

An Original Script Directed by  
STACEY APRIL FIX

**SHOW TIMES**  
**THURSDAY** APRIL 10th 7 PM  
**FRIDAY** APRIL 11th 7 PM  
**SATURDAY** APRIL 12th 7 PM  
**SUNDAY** APRIL 13th 1PM

**APRIL 10th - 13th**

TICKET INFORMATION | [twsboxoffice@gmail.com](mailto:twsboxoffice@gmail.com)  
 Newbury Elementary School • 63 Hanover Street • Newbury, MA

THEATER WORKSHOP IS A WORKSHOP ARTS INC. PROGRAM.  
\*THE NEWBURY TOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE NEITHER SPONSORS NOR ENDORSES THE INFORMATION IN THIS NOTICE OR THE PUBLISHER\*

Rapunzel  
and  
me

April 4th & 5th  
7:00  
Admission  
\$5.00

TRITON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

“Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardour and attended to with diligence.”

-Abigail Adams

# APRIL VACATION BLITZ!

at the **THE NEWBURY TOWN LIBRARY**

Come to one or more of our April vacation week BLITZ of programs at the Newbury Town Library! We'll be showcasing old favorites and new programs that are offered regularly throughout the year, as well as having the fabulous Mudeye Puppet Company out to do a show and puppet making craft for the whole family! AND... learn more about what's coming up for summer ( the Museum of Science is coming to the Newbury Library in June to kick off Summer Reading!).

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12pm TWEEN Intro to Summer Book Club (Grades 5-8)</li> <li>• 1pm Tissue Paper Flower Making with Miss Ruthie</li> <li>• 5pm TEEN Intro to Summer Book Club (Grades 9-12)</li> </ul> | <p><b>23</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:30am Do Drop In to Playtime (Ages 0-4)</li> <li>• 1p On a Whim Crafternoon (Ages 3-6)</li> <li>• 2:30p TEEN Movie Matinee (Catching Fire)</li> <li>• 3:30pm Beginner Knitting (All Ages)</li> </ul> | <p><b>24</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4p TEEN Intro to Yoga Workshop (Grades 9-12)</li> <li>• 6p NTL Book Group (Adults): David Sedaris' When You Are Engulfed in Flames - copies at the Circulation Desk!</li> </ul> | <p><b>25</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1p MUDEYE PUPPET SHOW AND PUPPET MAKING!!</li> <li>• 3:15p TWEEN Movie Matinee (Surf's Up!)</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|--|

For details on these programs, check out our calendar online at [newburylibrary.org](http://newburylibrary.org)

### Please Take Our Fast Survey

## PTA News...

The PTA is creating a budget for the next school year. We have asked teachers for their thoughts on where we should focus our funds and now are asking our parents and guardians for their views. Please answer this simple two-minute survey; results will guide us but not be binding. Please complete the survey by Friday, April 11th.

Find the survey online at: [PTA Spending Survey](#)

### Volunteer at the Fiesta Book Fair

It's going to be a Fiesta, April 14th-18th, when all classes visit the Scholastic book sale. A family night will held on Thursday, April 17th. Volunteers are needed to help at the book fair during the day and evening; please sign up at [Book Fair Volunteers](#) or email [newburyptainfo@gmail.com](mailto:newburyptainfo@gmail.com). All proceeds from the book fair are used to buy new materials for our own NES library.



### School Store



Don't forget to send your kids in grades 1-6 with money for the school store on Fridays. Any time there in a full day of school on a Friday, the store is open. In the past few years the school store has raised anywhere from 1-2 thousand dollars for the PTA-money that goes right back into the classrooms. All those quarters, dimes and nickels add up!

The final six days of the store for this school year are as follows: April 11 and 15; May 9, 16, and 23; and June 6.

### Save the Date!

NES GROWs Clean-Up and Play Day!

Friday, May 16th from 5-8 PM in the NES Schoolyard

Free Admission and Fun For All Ages!!

Rain or Shine

Come plant a seed, create art from recycled goods and natural objects, play games, enjoy food for sale, learn from local organizations, build a fairy house, or purchase plants for your garden.

And, at the same time, do your part: weed gardens, lay mulch on the new nature trail, and rake the new rain garden.

A limited number of yard sale tables are available for a small fee.

We need volunteers! Please contact Eileen Wallwork or Sally Milliken at [nesgrows@gmail.com](mailto:nesgrows@gmail.com) for more information or to get involved. All proceeds to benefit NES GROWs, a PTA Committee, working to improve outdoor learning, teaching and playing opportunities on the NES grounds.

*We are looking for the following donations:*

clean 5 gallon buckets

1-3 gallon black landscape plant pots

large plastic totes

bags of potting soil

Clean 2 liter soda bottles

plastic caps and covers

old beach pails and shovels - good condition

small child play kitchen and accessories

egg cartons

## PTA News Continued...

### Not your Average Tuesday!

Treat your family to a meal out--and treat the PTA to some easy funds! Not Your Average Joe's Restaurant, 1 Market Square, Newburyport, has selected NES to be their "Not Your Average Cause" fundraising beneficiary *every Tuesday during April*.

Just bring the certificate found at the end of this newsletter and present it to your server and our PTA will receive 15% of your total purchase. Valid days are April 8, 15, 22, and 29 between 11:30 AM and 9:00 PM. The restaurant offers dine-in, carryout, and curbside pickup. You can find their menu at [Menu](#).

### Another Successful Restaurant Fundraiser

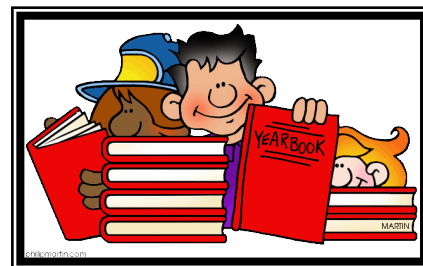
Our school turned out for our March fundraiser at Rowley House of Pizza. Thanks to you and the restaurant, we earned about \$250 for the PTA. Thanks!

### Order your yearbook now

Work is underway on this year's NES yearbook. The yearbook is \$15 and includes 64 full color pages of life at NES, with pictures of all students and staff, Pre-K through grade 6.

Order yours online at [NES Yearbook](#) or via the paper order forms sent home with students. The deadline for ordering is May 12th.

If you have any questions, contact Maddy Judkins at [nesyearbook2014@gmail.com](mailto:nesyearbook2014@gmail.com).



### Yearbook Photos Needed



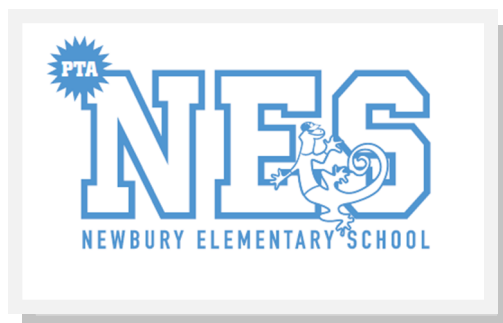
Photos for the yearbook can be submitted at [Yearbook photos](#). Just use upload code NES2014 and follow the easy onscreen instructions. Find your best pictures of students and staff that capture the fun experiences at NES!

### Easy ways to earn money for NES



Open a checking account at Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank and \$100 will be donated to our PTA. The first \$50 will be donated within 30 days of account opening and an additional \$50 will be given after 6 months of the account being open and active. This is a FREE checking account with no minimum balance and no hidden fees.

The first order of checks is complimentary. (The bank also matches the first \$5 in a child's new savings account plus gives the saver a Gund teddy bear.) Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank has locations in Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury, Amesbury, and Portsmouth.





**We serve creative cuisine. And worthy causes.**

Present this certificate to your server and your cause will receive  
15% of your total purchase\* every Tuesday during April.

Name of Organization:

**Newbury Elementary School PTA**

Valid:

Tuesdays in April 2014, 11:30 am – 9 pm

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\*Excludes Alcohol, Tax and Gratuity



1 Market Square • Newburyport • 978-462-3808

# NES Calendar



**April 2014**

| Sun                | Mon   | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri  | Sat                |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|--|--------------------|
|                    |   | 1 11:30-9 NYAJ Fundraiser                             | 2 9:30 Middle School visit to NES               | 3   | 4 Half Day – Professional Development                      | 5                  |
| 6                  | 7 8:50 Math Meet at SES (Gr. 5 and 6); 9:00 Kindergarten Lottery; 6:30 PreK Orientation | 8 11:30-9 NYAJ Fundraiser                             | 9 TWS School Performance; 7:00 School Committee | 10 4:00 NES Technology Committee Meeting; 7:00 PM/TWS Performance | 11 7:00 PM/TWS Performance                                 | 12 TWS Performance |
| 13 TWS Performance | 14 Book Fair; 10:15 Grade 5 Hands on History; 4:30 School Council                       | 15 11:30-9 NYAJ Fundraiser; Book Fair; Class Pictures | 16 Book Fair; Class Pictures                    | 17 Book Fair; Grade 1 Poetry Day; Grade 2 Ancestry Day (1pm)      | 18 Half Day – Holiday; Book Fair; Progress Reports go home | 19                 |
| 20                 | 21 Schools Closed – Vacation  | 22 Schools Closed – Vacation; 11:30-9 NYAJ Fundraiser | 23 Schools Closed – Vacation                    | 24 Schools Closed – Vacation                                      | 25 Schools Closed – Vacation                               | 26                 |
| 27                 | 28 6:00 pm SEPAC Meeting  | 29 11:30-9 NYAJ Fundraiser                            | 30 6-8 pm All School Art Show                   |   |  |                    |

Visit us on the web!

<http://newbury.trsd.net/>

## Who's Who at Newbury Elementary School

### Room 183

Ms. Raymond is one of the Special Education teachers here at NES. This is her 7<sup>th</sup> year working with students in Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She works with wonderful teachers and three amazing Instructional Assistants – Jean, Denise and Charlie. She lives in Newburyport with her family which includes 3 cats and a dog. She loves to garden and enjoy time with family and friends. She looks forward to many more years at NES!

Mr. LaBella has worked at NES as an IA for almost 10 years and has enjoyed every minute. He retired 10 years ago at age 58 as plant manager at Malden Mills. He works directly with three wonderful women and since he does not have any grandchildren yet, every student in this school, he tries to treat that way. He has dreams of traveling and he is getting closer to that dream.



Ms. Raymond, Mr. LaBella,  
Ms. Mahoney, Ms. Pesaturo

Ms. Mahoney started working at NES 18 years ago as an IA. She has worked with many grade levels and has enjoyed all of them. She has two grown children, Kerri and Kevin, who attended NES. She enjoys living on Plum Island and spending

her time relaxing on the beach. One of her favorite hobbies is going out lobstering with her husband Pat on their boat. She looks forward to spending many more years here at NES.

Ms. Pesaturo has been an IA at NES for 8 years. She has 2 children, Andrew, 15, who attends Triton High School, and Kaylyn who is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade here at NES. She has been married to Mic for 17 years and they have a dog, Miley, who is just the cutest dog

ever!!! She enjoys the beach, cooking, going antiquing, watching old movies and spending time with her wonderful family!

*Respect—Integrity—Excellence for All*