



# The Newbury Elementary School

## Newspaper

May 30, 2014 Volume 1, Issue 34

**Inside this issue:**

Thank you to the NES PTA!	1
Trees for the Future	1
Instrumental Music Update	1
Third Grade Update	2
From the Health Office	2
PE Update...	3
Library Update...	3
PTA News	4-6
Calendar	7
Who's Who	7

### Thank you to the NES PTA!



On Thursday, the NES PTA sponsored healthy lifestyles by Mark Rothstein's World of Jump Roping. Mark is a Guinness World Record Holder and a National Fitness Hall of Fame Inductee. As a pro-athlete, educator, role model and entertainer, Mark presented an inspirational elementary school assembly for all ages. He has performed more than 10,000 shows since the 1980's. His program consisted of high-energy rope jumping exhibitions, coupled with enjoyable and interactive character building skits.



### Trees for the Future By: Isabella R. and Jessica C. (3BW)



Countries all around the world have had recent earthquakes, hurricanes, droughts and tornados. These countries are having a hard time repairing their land. Fortunately, a group of people formed an association called Trees for the Future. This group collects donations from people all around the world to grow trees for these struggling countries. Our class, 3BW at Newbury Elementary, is collecting donations for this society. So far we have collected about \$45.00 sending 100 trees to Honduras, 100 trees to Brazil, 100 trees to Haiti, and 100 trees to Cameroon. We collected all these donations in only 3 weeks. We are going to go on with this and this time maybe we could collect even more donations! If you have any interest in this organization, please bring your donations to room 142. There is a bucket outside of our door.

Thank you

### Instrumental Music Update...

Congratulations to all instrumental students for their fabulous performance at our Spring Concert on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>! It has been a privilege working with the band students. Many students have earned their white, green, red, and blue badge. This is a huge accomplishment and I am so proud of all our students! Thank you again to the NES PTA for providing the Advanced Band with the funds to purchase the music to "Happy".

The Stage Band has been preparing three songs for a performance at the Mass Bay Music Festival which is an all day event on May 30<sup>th</sup>. These students will be adjudicated on their performance, enjoy an on stage clinic, participate in a master class on their specific instrument, and then celebrate their achievements on the Boston Duck Tours. Many thanks go out to the Triton School District for funding this trip.



Newbury Elementary School  
 63 Hanover Street  
 Newbury, MA 01951  
 (978)465-5353  
 Fax: (978)463-3070  
 Website:  
<http://newbury.trsd.net>  
 Blog:  
<http://newburylementaryupdate.blogspot.com>

## Third Grade Update...

Third Graders have had a fantastic year! We utilized a variety of new programs including Reflex Math and Empowering Writers. We visited Old York Historical Society and had an excellent in-house program from the Museum of Science. Third Graders have grown so much in their reading and math. We are hoping they can maintain during the summer and even get a jump start on 4th Grade! We recommend continuing to read aloud to your child during the summer. Reading aloud can be a great bonding experience as your child gets older and doesn't seem to need so much of your attention. We recommend the classics old and new: [The Wizard of Oz](#), [The Secret Garden](#), [Encyclopedia Brown](#), [The Magic Treehouse Books](#), and [The Wind in the Willows](#). This is also a great age for hooking your child into historical fiction and nonfiction series as they are becoming interested in history and science topics at this age. We also recommend a variety of digital resources:

- You can access Tumblebooks all summer directly from Mrs. Raycroft's site: [www.eraycroft.homestead.com](http://www.eraycroft.homestead.com)
- Sheppard Software is a great site with videos and educational games that support learning across the curriculum. This site is great for getting a head start on learning U.S. States and Capitals. [www.sheppardsoftware.com](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com)
- Khan Academy is an excellent resource for video tutorials as well as practice areas. You can create a login for free and this will track your child's new skills. [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)
- Reflex Math has been an excellent resource for many 3rd graders this summer. An individual login costs \$35 per year, a good value for a student who needs to practice math facts. [www.reflexmath.com](http://www.reflexmath.com)
- [www.brainpop.com](http://www.brainpop.com) and [www.brainpopjr.com](http://www.brainpopjr.com) will remain active through the summer. The NES login is "newburyses" and the password is "brainpop." As the BrainPop people say, "The more you know, the more you know!" The third grade teachers would like to thank all of our amazing volunteers who supported our classrooms this year. We really appreciate all of your time and effort on behalf of the students.

-The Third Grade Team-

## From the Health Office...

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Triton Regional School District's Wellness Committee is in the process of gathering information about a district-wide Health and Wellness Curriculum. We are asking for your valuable feedback regarding what health-related topics you would like to see your child(ren) learn about at Newbury Elementary.

Attached are links to two surveys on SurveyMonkey: one is a parent survey and one is a student survey. The health topics on these surveys were taken from the Massachusetts Comprehensive Health Curriculum Frameworks. The surveys will take less than five minutes to complete and your responses are completely confidential. Your responses will provide the Wellness Committee with valuable feedback regarding health-related topics you deem important.

Parents/guardians, if you could complete your brief survey and then assist your child(ren) in completing their survey, it would be greatly appreciated. If you have more than one child at Newbury Elementary, each one may complete their own survey. **The deadline for completing the surveys is June 6, 2014.**

I would like to thank you in advance for your participation in these surveys. Your feedback is important and appreciated!

### Student Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6CPKL89>

### Parent Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/62GN2NT>

Warmly,

Emily Kay-French MS, RN, School Nurse, Newbury Elementary

"Wisdom begins with  
wonder."

-Socrates

## PE Update...

Spring PE activities in grades K-2 included a review of the use of space and creation of pathways. The use of space and pathways was then transferred to game play in "Stripe Tag" and "Interplanetary Tag." Frisbee throwing technique and throwing at targets such as bowling pins, nerf balls balanced on cones and boxes were lower grades manipulative activities. K-2 also began basic juggling with light, colorful juggling scarves.

Grades 3-6 have completed the NES Fitness Challenge which included the following – choice of the Mile Walk/Run or the "PACER," (a 20 yd. shuttle cardiopulmonary assessment with a decreasing time element), slide crunches and pushups. Benchmarks are pulled from the "Fitnessgram", a national assessment. Students will be recording their scores in the following weeks to take home.

## Library Update...

In Kindergarten students made comparisons between Pete the Cat and Splat the Cat after listening to stories with both characters. Students voted for their favorite cat and Pete the Cat was the winner! In the coming weeks, students will discover the work of author/illustrator Jan Thomas and create original stories based on her books.

First grade has been comparing different versions of folk and fairy tales, including *Goldilocks and Just One Bear* and *The Three Javelinas*. Students shared shorter versions of fairy tales by reading in small groups and sharing which elements of a fairy tale they found in their story. Grade one will soon become Mo Willems experts, he is our featured author for our final author study!

Grade Two completed an author study of Robert Munsch. We learned he was a storyteller before he was an author and would tell his stories again and again, sometimes hundreds of times, before his stories became books. He is one of our favorite authors on Tumblebooks. We return to focus on finding "just right books" to help prepare for independent summer reading selections.

Grade Three has been creating nonfiction superheroes. Students are working with partners and becoming "nonfiction" experts in a specific section of the collection and then creating a superhero based on the nonfiction area. Their superhero will protect the library collection from any villains that may cause chaos in the stacks!

Grade Four shared their original stories based on Jon Scieszka and Mac Barnett's book *The Birthday Bunny*. Some of the re-written titles included Music Bunny, Robot Bunny, 80's Bunny, Burglar Bunny, Mexican "Fiesta" Bunny, Beauty Bunny, and many more original re-telling's. Grades 4-6 will be introduced the Massachusetts Children's Book Award Nominees for the 2014-15 school year. Students who participate in the program are encouraged to read some of the nominees this summer!

Grade Five students created Wordles ([www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)) based on a selected genre. Students brainstormed descriptive words for their genre and five book titles to include in the word cloud. The Wordles will be displayed in the library for other students to read and will serve as a readers advisory tool in the future.

Grade Six students have been researching an author of their choice, gathering biographical information and interesting facts to share with classmates. We will be sharing reading ideas for summer reading and learning more about author R.J. Palacio, the author of *Wonder*.

A list of Summer Reading suggestions can be found on the library webpage: [www.neslibrary.weebly.com](http://www.neslibrary.weebly.com). Students are encouraged to select books that interest them and to create a reading routine during the summer months. The public library will be the place to discover fantastic book selections and activities. The Newbury Town Library will kick off their summer reading program on June 25th, learn more at <http://newburylibrary.org/youth-summer-reading/>.

To help keep the momentum of summer reading going, NES students are invited to participate in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, an online reading program that invites children to log their reading minutes to help set a new world record for summer reading. The goal this year for schools around the world is to break last year's reading world record of 176,438,473 minutes! To learn more about the program visit the Summer Reading Challenge link located on the library webpage. For more information about summer reading suggestions, please feel free to email [jbrown2@trsd.net](mailto:jbrown2@trsd.net).

### PTA Walk-A-Thon on Friday, June 6th

## PTA News...

The NES PTA is proud to announce our seventh annual PTA Walk-a-Thon on Friday, June 6th. This is our last fundraiser of the year. We have two goals for this event:

Encourage students to be active

Raise funds for technology at NES

On the day of the Walk-a-thon, students will walk a marked course on school grounds with adult supervision. All students are encouraged to walk or run at their own pace and enjoy themselves while working together for the good of the school.

Walk-a-thon sponsors pledge a flat amount to support your child's participation and school in this event. *The money raised will be used to purchase laptops and a mobile charging cart for use in classrooms at NES.*

We need your help in three ways:

Please help your child obtain sponsors. You can call or email friends and family to ask for their support. As always, door-to-door solicitation of sponsors is strictly forbidden. If you would like to provide a letter for your potential sponsors, please refer to the Sponsor Letter in this newsletter and at <http://www.newburypta.com>. Our goal is for each student to receive \$30 in sponsorships.

Please submit the sponsorship form and all monies in an envelope marked "PTA Walk-A-Thon" by Friday, June 6th, to your child's teacher. Checks should be made out to "NES PTA". If your sponsor prefers to send a check directly, ask that they use the main address (63 Hanover Street, Newbury, MA 01951) and mark the envelope "NES PTA Walk-a-thon". Additionally, credit card donations may be made online at <http://www.newburypta.com>.

Come out on the day of the PTA Walk-A-Thon to cheer on your child and their classmates during their recess time or help as a volunteer. Please sign up at [www.newburypta.com](http://www.newburypta.com) to volunteer.

All participating students will receive a wristband donated by the Greater Boston Running Company in Newburyport. The ten students who raise the most money will be entered into a drawing to win three gift certificates to local merchants.

Thank you for your support! Questions? Email <mailto:newburypta@gmail.com>.

### CAN YOU HELP?

The PTA welcomes Abigail Boughton to our board as the secretary for the 2014-15 school year. Additionally, Belen Wieler-Hawes has volunteered to be the Coffee House Organizer and Allison Grossman will lead Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you!

We still need a few roles filled. We are actively recruiting for:

Book Fair Co-Chairperson – work alongside experienced chairs to operate book fairs in the fall and/or spring.

Fall Fundraiser Manager – Work as the business manager for the kickoff fundraising event. We'll be working with a well-established company known for making coordination easy.

Want to learn more? Email [newburypta@gmail.com](mailto:newburypta@gmail.com)

### YEARBOOK ORDERS

It's not too late to order a yearbook! The yearbook is \$15 for 64 color pages of Pre-K to grade 6 students and staff. It will arrive mid-June. Pick up an order form in the school office.

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.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

PTA News Continued...

It's hard to believe the end of the school year is almost here. In response to your requests, we launched the NES PTA Annual Fund last fall. It was designed to enable NES community members and their families to make a tax deductible donation each year in order to support key initiatives that aren't otherwise covered in the regular school budget.

Your donations can be targeted to specific areas like technology, enrichment activities or other areas of your choice. In fact, we received a \$12,000 anonymous donation to enhance the Grades 1-6 playground. As a result, new swings and a few other repairs will be added over the summer.

In addition to the anonymous \$12,000 donation, we've raised an additional \$5,000 to support next year's school activities.

Our goal is to raise another \$2,500 before the end of the year to support technology needs at our school next year that otherwise won't happen.

Donating to the annual fund is easy:

Go to: [www.newburypta.com/donate](http://www.newburypta.com/donate) and enter "annual fund" in the message. Or, write a check payable to the NES PTA, place "annual fund" on the memo line, and return it to the PTA box in the school office.

Thanks in advance for your donations--they will help make our children's future even brighter at NES.

Questions, please contact Belen Wieler-Hawes, our Annual Fund Chair at [belenwieler@gmail.com](mailto:belenwieler@gmail.com)

SCHOOL STORE'S LAST DAY

The school store's last day is next Friday during recess! We have lots of great school supplies.



PTA Walk-A-Thon

Dear Sponsor:

On June 6, 2014, I am participating in the Newbury Elementary School Walk-A-Thon. This is a direct fundraiser for our school PTA and the proceeds will be used to purchase laptops and a charging cart for student use.

I hope you will consider sponsoring me; donations can be sent to me or directly to my school using the form below. You can learn more about my school at <http://newbury.trsd.net> and learn about our school PTA at [www.newburypta.com](http://www.newburypta.com).

Thank you so much! Your donation is greatly appreciated!

Yours truly,

Your Newbury Elementary School Student

Please make a sponsorship online at [www.newburypta.com](http://www.newburypta.com) or return this form with your donation by Friday, June 6. Please make checks payable to "Newbury Elementary School PTA" and mail it to the following address:

Newbury Elementary School PTA Walkathon  
63 Hanover St  
Newbury MA 01951

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support!



PTA Walk-A-Thon Sponsor Sheet

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name	Pledge Amount
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this to your student's teacher by June 6 to be considered for the top fundraiser drawing. Write checks payable to "NES PTA" or make a credit card sponsorship at [www.newburypta.com](http://www.newburypta.com).

Thank you for your support!

## PTA News Continued...

### Why are we funding Chromebook computers?

The PTA Walk-a-thon on June 6<sup>th</sup> will raise money for Chromebook laptop computers and a portable charging cart. With tight school funding and aging computers in the classrooms and technology lab, the NES Technology Committee identified Chromebooks as the most efficient way to provide our students with the technology tools they need. Wi-fi is coming to all district schools, but money has been allocated in the district budget for the computers in the coming school year. Therefore, the PTA has pledged to support this important initiative.

### *Google Chromebook Benefits*

The NES Technology Committee has selected Google Chromebooks as the best value for NES's needs. Instead of having the traditional hard drive, Google Chromebooks are laptops that primarily store programs and applications in a technology cloud, accessible from anywhere there is Internet. Their relatively low price (around \$300) plus minimal technical support needs have made them the choice for many schools, including NES. The PTA's vision is to initially provide one portable charging cart with 30 Chromebooks at a cost of about \$10,350.

You can learn more about Chromebooks at [Chromebook information](#).

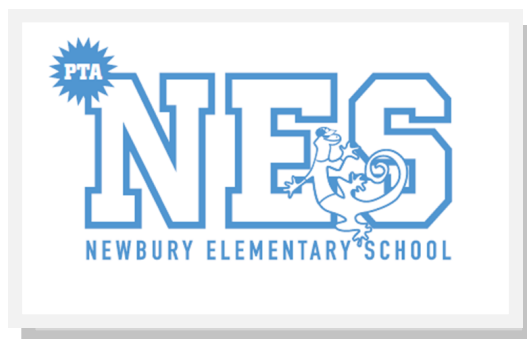
### *Value: On-the-spot learning*

The portable Chromebook cart will be available for students across grade levels. The computers can go into the classroom for whole group, small group, or individual lessons. Individual log-ins, data collection, and virtual desktops will customize learning experiences to meet each student's needs. Cloud technology ensures students can access their documents from anywhere within the school as well as at home, a library, or anywhere with internet access.

In addition, projects and assignments will be designed to promote higher-level thinking and problem-solving strategies using computer skills. NES students will use technology to collaborate and create projects to demonstrate their knowledge and develop their communication skills.

### *Prepare our students for the future*

NES and the PTA are committed to readying our students to thrive in the global economy, and technology is an essential tool. With Chromebooks, students and teachers will enhance the curriculum, research, create, and connect. We hope you will donate to this project. Support a student through the Walk-a-thon or donate online to the Annual Fund via [www.newburypta.com](http://www.newburypta.com).





June 2014

# NES Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 4:30 School Council 6th Grade Meet & Greet	3 7am Student Council	4 6:30/ "Storm Surge" Community Infor- mation Night	5 6-7:30pm 6th Grade Poetry Night	6 NES Walk-a-thon	7
8	9	10 NES Field Day	11 10:00 Pre-K Show Step Up Day 7pm School Committee	12 Pre-K Shows 10am and 1:45pm	13 8:45-10:00 3Winter Author's Tea 1:30pm 2nd Grade Portfolio Share	14
15	16 Grade 4 Science Fair 1:45/Kindergarten graduation	17 9am Awards As- sembly 6:00 Grade 6 Graduation/ Recognition and Dance	18 6:30/ "Storm Surge" Community Infor- mation Night	19 Last Day of School Half Day Have a wonderful summer!	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## Who's Who at Newbury Elementary School

Visit us on the web!  
<http://newbury.trsd.net/>

### Cultural Enrichment Representative – Zoe Fogarty

Have you heard about all of the wonderful cultural enrichment programs we have had during the 2013-2014 school year? NES has been fortunate to have cultural enrichment programs throughout the year to support our C.A.R.E.S. initiative and enrich the curriculum. All of the planning and organization of bringing in these wonderful presentations takes a lot of time and effort. We are fortunate to have a Cultural Enrichment Representative from the NES PTA who researched and organized all of the programs. A special thank you to Zoe Fogarty for finding and bringing such wonderful programs to NES throughout the year. Zoe is the mother of two NES students and lives in Byfield. She is always looking for other parents who would like to help out and who are interested in getting involved with the enrichment team for next year.

