



The Newbury Elementary School

Newspaper

November 15, 2013

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Scholastic Book Fair at NES

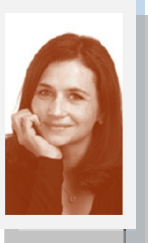
Many thanks to the NES PTA for their efforts in organizing and hosting the Scholastic Book Fair. Students were able to select books from a wide variety of genres. Thanks to the preparation of Ms. Brown, the students were well prepared to select quality books that they will enjoy. Last week, during library class, Ms. Brown reviewed the art of book selection and the differences between libraries and book fairs with the students. She also previewed books that would be at the book fair.



Thanks to our wonderful volunteers, who assisted with book selection and check out, our book fair ran smoothly and was a tremendous success! The proceeds of the book fair will provide new books to our school library.

NES will host Educational Speaker Sarah Ward

The Newbury Elementary School PTA will present a workshop, "Executive Function in Elementary School Students" by Sarah Ward on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7-9 pm, in the Newbury Elementary School Auditorium.



Parents, teachers, and professionals will learn how to work with and coach students to effectively balance and manage academic work, time and materials. Participants will leave with ready-to-use strategies and tools for teaching children how to develop independent executive function skills, including how to: create a homework space, organize personal and school materials, record assignments and create a schedule, and manage time, tasks and completion of long term projects.

A popular speaker, Sarah Ward is a speech and language pathologist who regularly presents on the topic of executive functions to a variety of professional and parent organizations. Her innovative and effective approaches have been featured on National Public Radio and she is the recipient of multiple awards, including the Massachusetts General Hospital Expertise in Clinical Practice Award and Faculty in Excellence Award. In addition to working directly with students in her private practice, she has presented to and consulted with more than 350 public and private schools across the United States and internationally on how to implement executive function strategies into the classroom setting.

The workshop is open to the public but RSVP to newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com to ensure handouts will be available.

NES Practiced Lockdown Procedure

On Friday the NES community practiced our lockdown procedure.

Once the procedure began, students found the designated safe place in their classroom and waited quietly for the school to be cleared. Students handled themselves calmly and appropriately. Newbury Police and Fire Departments then walked through the building with the office staff to take notes and check that all of our safety measures were in place. A big thank you to all that help to keep NES safe everyday!



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NEWS FROM MRS. PETERSON IN THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Kindergarten: In Kindergarten we are doing a variety of activities that emphasize singing, movement and listening. We use Beanie Babies to match vocal pitch, solo sing our names, explore movement games and songs with teddy bears, and play with jingle bells and rhythm sticks. We also learned some Halloween songs and games. A "star of the day" is chosen each week. Each child will have a turn! Watch for your child to come home with the "excellence in music" star.



First grade: In first grade we continue using Beanie Babies to match vocal pitch and take turns solo singing our names at the beginning of every class. First graders also sing a two line solo where I listen for their pitch, tone, diction, rhythm, volume and watch for "good singing posture". We have learned a line dance, "The Chimes of Dunkirk", a hand clapping game, "Alligator Pie" and a circle singing game, "The Old Brass Wagon". We also took the story "Caps for Sale" and had fun adding musical parts to this story with xylophones, metallophones and unpitched percussion instruments. We also had fun with new Halloween songs.

Second grade: In second grade we still enjoy using Beanie Babies to match vocal pitch and solo sing our names. They also sing a short two line solo and I listen for their pitch, tone, diction, rhythm, volume and watch for "good singing posture". We have also sung the first section of "You're a Grand Old Flag" with solos, danced to "Everybody's Body is an Instrument", played xylophones and did a clapping game to "It's Fun to Be in Newbury", played the tubano drums to "Tiny Surfer", and have just completed many Halloween activities.

Third grade: In third grade we have been doing some singing and mostly have focused on receiving and learning to play our recorders. Every child should practice at home about four times a week for at least 5-10 minutes per day. All children played "Mary Had a Little Lamb" to receive their white belt. Our next belt, the yellow belt, is made up of two parts, a rhythm part, on p. 14 in their books and playing "Jingle Bells". So far, the children can play G, A, B, C, and high D. Our next notes are low E and low D where we use our right hand. The orange belt will be our next belt. Happy practicing!

Fourth grade: In fourth grade we have been doing lots of lessons with Orff instruments (xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels). "Chattanooga Choo Choo" helped us to learn the sixteenth notes. We also learned

about drumming with tubanos and unpitched percussion instruments added as ostinati. We also had fun using various Orff instruments to accompany Halloween songs.

Fifth grade: We began the year with an Orff lesson, singing and dancing to the Simple Gifts tune, (also known as Lord of the Dance). We have also reviewed many rhythms in a variety of forms using a game called "Zip Around". In October, we sang and played many Halloween songs, including listening to Camille Saint-Saens "Danse Macabre", following along to his orchestral composition with our own listening maps. If anyone owns "Danse Macabre" and they want their own listening map for home listening, please feel free to ask Mrs. Peterson for a copy.

Sixth grade: We began the year with a lesson called "Pizza Rondo" which reviews whole, half, quarter, eighth and sixteenth notes. In this lesson we construct a multi-layered felt pizza and we sing and use Orff instruments. Next, we did several lessons on African music. We learned a rock passing game, a dance and a song with movement, and African instruments. In October we learned some Halloween songs with Orff arrangements.

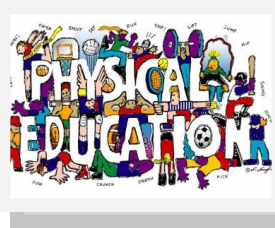
Chorus and Choir: Just a reminder that our winter concert will take place on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7:00 PM. Remember to wear white shirts and black pants for the boys and black skirts for the girls. The children are asked to arrive at 6:30 PM and the concert begins at 7:00 PM. We are looking forward to sharing our wonderful music with you!

4th grade beginner trumpets, flutes and

clarinets: We have begun our instrumental lessons with our very own instruments! Everyone is doing a great job. Don't forget to mark down the minutes that you practice every day in your lesson book. If you practice four times a week for 10 minutes per day, then I will give a sticker on the practice chart in my room. When you have five stickers, you earn a bead. These beads will be put on the colored belts that are earned for playing songs and rhythms, (similar to the belts that we earned for recorder playing last year). Keep up the good work!



Physical Education classes are rolling along into a great year!



Kindergarten students began with learning class procedures and the uses of general and personal space through imagery and imagination. Gross motor movements and creating individual pathways have also been explored. Grades 1 and 2 also reviewed use of space. Kindergarten children, grades 1 and 2, designed a chalk board Venn diagram of two overlapping circles that showed the differences between “Stop,” (an individual choice), and “Freeze,” (Mrs. Mollesso’s signal), as well as similarities between the two. The use of “Whole Body Listening” is being introduced to Kindergarten children. First and second grade students are working to master the skill of listening to others using still body parts as well as their brain and a caring heart. Manipulative activities this fall have included – overhand throw with nerf balls, underhand toss, beanbag games and challenges. Catching with scoops and hula hoop work will bring us to the winter break.

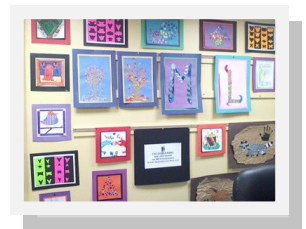
Students in grades 3-6 are once again using the system of Basic Goal Setting to set individual cardiopulmonary fitness goals. The “What, Why, and How” are discussed in class using a chalk talk format to explain the method. Students are also encouraged to apply this system to achieve other personal goals, either in or out of school. Correct technique in basic pushup position, (hollow tight belly, back flat, head in neutral position in line with spine), in order to strengthen not only upper body, but core and torso as well, have been another focus. Students have been challenged in performing reverse pushups while maintaining correct body alignment, slowly lowering to the floor to a prone position by a count of ten.

The first two months of school for grades 3-6 were spent in game units of Pillo Polo, Football basics, and Halloween holiday games. 3rd – 5th grade students worked one week in a racquet/striking unit while the 6th grade was at environmental camp. Upon their return, 3rd grade through 6th grade will learn to play an activity called “4 Corners Team Handball,” with modifications appropriate to each grade level.



News from the Art Department...

This year artworks from the different district schools will be hung at Central Office on a rotating monthly basis. The month of November features the art of NES students and has garnered many compliments. The next display will be in April.



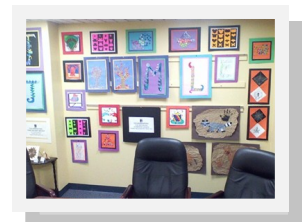
There are two big artful events to look forward to this year. The first is the **District Arts Festival** to be held on **March 13th** at Triton Regional High School. This year’s art exhibit will feature demonstrations and a raffle of artwork created by district teaching staff. The proceeds will benefit a charitable organization.

The second event is the **NES All School Art Exhibit** to be held on **April 17th from 6-8 pm**. At least one artwork from EVERY student at NES will be displayed along with reproductions of artwork from a famous artist as yet to be determined.

“You are never too old to
set another goal or to
dream a new dream.”

-C.S. Lewis

Most art teachers are pack-rats and I am no exception. I welcome your donations of clean yogurt cups (especially the large size) and egg cartons. If you work for a printing company or paper company, I am always happy to receive paper of any kind.



Technology News...

The computer lab is busy with classes, independent research and practice. Many classes are using the lab for practice of math/language skills using some expertly developed computer database programs which tracks their progress with ease. A list of these programs are on my website: <http://eraycroft.homestead.com/> as links. Go to the first page under the icon for Khan Academy. Many are available online for free if your child's class is already signed up for the program. Some are completely free and some you can pay a small fee to use at home, all are high quality.



I have just returned from a technology conference with our Assistant Superintendent, Director of Technology, and other tech teachers in the district. It was hosted by Mass Computer Using Educators (Mass Cue) and I am inspired by the energy of using technology in a more widespread way. There were many workshops on using tablets and examples of Google schools, where the schools use Chrome Books and are able to tap into the many free resources that Google has for education. As usual, money is the key ingredient, and our new technology committee is trying to analyze and quantify what we need and how to get it.

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 by the Wednesday before the newsletter is published.

6th grade- Has completed a series of lessons on internet safety with a focus in 6th grade about digital footprints. Through a series of videos and activities, we begin to understand what can happen to information you share through games, websites, e-mail, and social media. Planning what you do ahead of time is tantamount to making good choices in a real life situation.

5th grade- Also has just finished a unit on internet safety, focusing on the risks and rewards of everything we do, but specifically how it relates to online behavior. They are also working on different cyber bullying scenarios and planning a series of choices and actions they can take in any situation. They are learning that whether they are the bully, the victim, or just a person witnessing an event, what they do, or not do is important.

4th grade- We are just beginning to learn some of the magic of the Microsoft Excel program. Excel is a useful tool for the rest of their school and life. We are learning how to enter data and create appropriate graphs for many different purposes.

3rd grade- We continue to spend our time learning to type using the correct fingering. The program, Type to Learn, is a paid online program that is a complete typing program, if followed in its entirety. I will soon be sending the information home so that students can access and practice at home as well. There simply is not enough time in school to become a proficient typist, and considering how much time we now spend on computers, it is a very necessary skill.

2nd grade- They are enjoying using Google satellite maps to find their home and school. They are learning how to have Google mark out a route from their home to school. The final project will involve them using writing and describing their route in words in the Word program.

1st grade- They have just completed a unit on graphing using a program called The Graph Club. They started by collecting data from an online spooky walk, tallied up their sightings and finally set up and graphed the results. We have just begun another computer program called Kidspiration, which allows children to sort for attributes.

Kindergarten- Are exploring many different websites from my website. They are learning how to navigate inside websites while focusing on the kinder skills of recognizing letters and sounds.

PTA News...

First Restaurant Fundraiser was Fun!

Our first restaurant fundraiser night on Tuesday, November 12th, was lots of fun and a great success. Many thanks to Flatbread in Hampton for hosting us, Mrs. Williamson for organizing the event, and everyone who came and grabbed dinner.

We appreciate the generous donors for the raffle:

Anastasia's Flowers on Main Street

Eureka
Jabberwocky
Lively Kids
Ms. Yando
Mrs. Raycroft

Paws for Applause

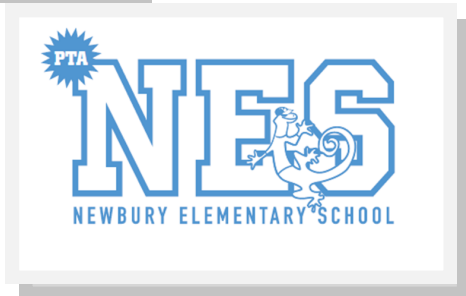
Stay tuned for an announcement about our next fundraiser night.





Patriots during the Holiday Break?

Who wants to test their luck at winning four tickets to see the Patriots play the Buffalo Bills on Sunday, Dec. 29? Tickets for our drawing are still available. Buy your chances at

<https://www-nespta.ticketbud.com/sportspackage>



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Do you want to help your students with their organization and planning skills?

The Newbury Elementary School PTA Presents:

Executive Function in Elementary School Students

A workshop by Sarah Ward, M.S., CCC/SLP
Speech and Language Pathologist

Parents, teachers and professionals: Come learn how to work with and coach students to effectively balance and manage academic work, time, and materials.


Learn how to:

- 1) Create a homework space
- 2) Organize personal and school materials
- 3) Record assignments and create a schedule
- 4) Manage time, tasks and complete long term projects

You will walk away with many simple, ready-to-use strategies and tools for teaching children how to develop independent executive function skills.

Tuesday, November 19th from 7-9 pm
Newbury Elementary School Auditorium

The community is welcome. RSVP to newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com requested but not required.





NES Calendar

November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1 HALF DAY	2
3	4 6th Grade Camp— drop off by 8:00 am 4:30 School Council	5 6th Grade Camp 7:30 am Student Council	6 6th Grade Camp	7 6th Grade Camp Grade 3— Old York	8 6th Grade Camp— pick up between 1:45-2:00 pm Grade 3 - Old York Veteran's Day Assembly	9
10	11 Schools Closed: Veteran's Day	12 Book Fair 5-9pm Flatbread Fundraiser	13 Book Fair 4-7:30 pm Family Book Fair 7:00pm School Committee Meeting	14 Book Fair	15 Book Fair	16
17	18	19 7:30 am Student Council Grade 1— Firehouse Theater 7pm Educational Speaker Sarah Ward	20 Picture Retakes 9-1	21 NES Technology Committee Meeting 3:15-4:15	22	23
24	25	26	27 HALF DAY	28 Schools Closed: Holiday	29 Schools Closed: Vacation	30

Visit us on the web!

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

Who's Who at Newbury Elementary School

NES Student Council

The NES Student Council for the 2013-2014 school year is off to an energetic and fast start. After the elections in each of the 4th, 5th, & 6th grades at the beginning of the year for two representatives to the Council, the Student Council held their own elections. Sam was elected as the President, Kylie was elected as the Vice President and Sadie was elected as the Recording Secretary. Congratulations to all of them!

The NES Student Council represents the spirit and vice of the school student body. They are given the responsibility of role models to act and more importantly be role models among their peers as well as to provide humanitarian services to outside, as well as inside groups less fortunate than us.

This year the Council has aggressively undertaken the "Coats for Kids" campaign again which is ongoing now

through the first of January 2014. Of course, the weekly recycle campaign every Friday is an important part of our school culture to protect the environment. This week the turkey baskets will be prepared to help needy families supported by the Pettingill House during the holiday season. The Student Council helps and supports our own Senior Center right here at the school throughout the year.

A few upcoming events planned for the next several months include the annual Color Spirit day fund raiser, food drive and a new program to support the breakfast program at our own cafeteria. All the students in the Student Council enjoy these activities and are always available to support the school whenever needed.



Student Council Officers

Respect—Integrity—Excellence for All