



The Newbury Elementary School

Newt-paper

October 4, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 5

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|-----|
| NES 6th Graders become the teachers... | 1 |
| NES Technology Committee | 1 |
| Our Moving Pick Up Line | 1 |
| Fourth Grade Update | 2-3 |
| Thank you! | 3 |
| Newbury Town Library Book & Bake Sale | 3 |
| PTA News | 4 |
| Calendar | 5 |
| Who's Who | 5 |

NES 6th Graders become the teachers...

Have you ever wondered about the elements of a story? Well, our NES 6th graders have been studying elements like plot, character, setting, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action, resolution, and theme. They have extended their study into figurative language, simile, personification, alliteration, and onomatopoeia.



To complete their study, they have become the experts and on Wednesday visited the third graders and shared what they have learned. Each sixth grader became the teacher and read a picture book to a third grader. They pointed out all of the story elements, shared vocabulary cards and a plot poster. They even gave a "quiz" afterwards to check for understanding.



All students involved were engaged and enjoyed this authentic learning experience. A measure of true understanding is to be able to teach someone else what you know.

NES Technology Committee



The NES Technology Committee will meet to assess the technology needs for the school and develop a technology plan that aligns with the District Technology Plan.

The committee will meet for an hour once a month and will consist of three teachers, three parents, two district technology staff, a PTA representative and an administrator. We are still in need of one more parent representative and a PTA representative. If you are interested, please e-mail Amy Pasquarello at apasquarello@trsd.net.

Our Moving Pick Up Line

For the safety of all of our students, please follow the NES procedures when picking up your child from school.

- ◆ All parents should stay in their car, as it is a moving pick up line.
- ◆ Have your family sign clearly visible to NES staff.
- ◆ Please do not stop in the crosswalk as we need to provide a safe place for all to cross.
- ◆ Slow down, we have a large student population and during drop off and pick up it is extra important that we watch our speed and keep all safe.



Thank you for supporting our efforts to keep everyone safe!

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



Fourth Grade ELA



Fourth grade students began the year by working on their very own, personalized newspapers, which allowed the students to share some fun facts and favorite things with their teachers and classmates. In addition to allowing the students to get a jump start on some of the reading and writing skills they will be working on in fourth grade, it allowed each fourth grade class to begin to build classroom communities by learning about one another. Once the *Extra! Extra!* assignment was completed, fourth grade began a new writing program: *Empowering Writers*. So far, fourth grade students have learned about the three different types of writing: expository, persuasive, and narrative. For each of these types of writings, fourth grade students have learned the structure and characteristics. Most recently, fourth grade students have been studying how to build interesting and detailed sentences. Throughout the past month, fourth grade students have also been introduced to different vocabulary and comprehension-building activities, such as scaling words, the foursquare box, and pick, list, and choose webs. Fourth grade students have just begun their reading groups and are starting to learn about the different levels of questions that can be asked when interacting with literature. Fourth grade ELA is off to a stellar start!

Fourth Grade Math

Fourth grade students began the year in math by studying place value. Students learned to identify the value of numbers in every place value up through the millions. In order to interact with place value and develop stronger number sense, fourth grade students practiced building large numbers. From there, students learned about the different ways that numbers can be written:

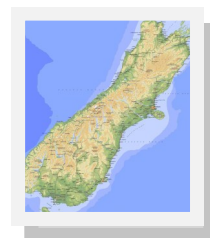
standard form, word form, and expanded form. After some practice, fourth grade students moved on to rounding and learned several different methods in order to round: the hill method, the number line method, and the boss number method. Fourth grade students particularly enjoyed an activity in which they made a “human number line” and had to place the number they were rounding on the number line, thereby seeing to which point on the human number line their number was closest. Fourth grade students have also been practicing their math facts! They have just begun using Xtramath.com, an online program, in order to practice their math facts. Students were sent home with their online codes so that they may access the site and their account from locations outside of the school building. Fourth grade students have also been testing their knowledge using Rocket Math, Number of the Day, and other assorted practice methods.



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.

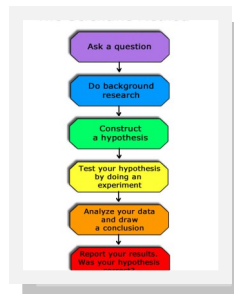
Fourth Grade Social Studies

Fourth grade students have been learning all about maps. They have become cartographers! Students have been learning all about maps, what features are placed on a map, and the different purposes maps are used for. After learning new map vocabulary, the students completed a “Map Museum Scavenger Hunt” during which they quietly searched for their vocabulary terms to see how they were represented on different maps. Fourth Grade students interacted with maps of Disney, maps of the Lowell Mills, maps of the world, and maps of the Civil War battlefields. After the students completed their scavenger hunt, they began the unit’s culminating project: Equaprime Island. The students were asked to create their own islands based on a theme of their choice. The project is meant to synthesize student understanding of the concepts they’ve been learning about maps. The students were also introduced to the skill of referencing a rubric when working on a project to see what is necessary for success. This project was a hit, and we had several very creative and colorful islands! The students walked away with a more thorough understanding of maps and map features as a result of their creations.



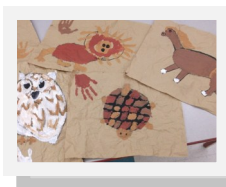
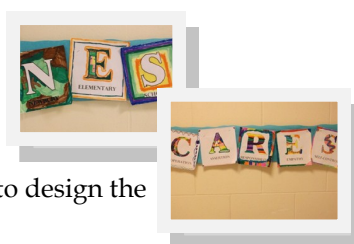
Fourth Grade Science

In science, fourth grade students have been learning about the scientific method and the states of matter. Science began when the students wondered about what a scientist is, what a scientist does, and what a scientist looks like. After a brainstorming session, students were introduced to pictures of modern scientists on the Smartboard. Fourth grade students were guided to the realization that scientists don't always work in labs and that they aren't the picture-perfect mad scientist that so many students pictured. Moving forward, students learned about what scientists do: follow the scientific method. Students were introduced to the scientific method, and then began their exploration of the states of matter. Students were given groups of items and asked to identify the commonalities among them, which eventually yielded the conclusion that the groups represented the states of matter. After more discussion of the states of matter, students will be conducting an experiment with oobleck in the upcoming week.



Fourth Grade Art

Grade 4 students began the year learning about positive and negative space. They designed a letter from the slogan "NES CARES". They could choose to design the positive or negative space of the paper.



Most of this year students at this level will be studying Art History. We have *time-traveled* back 35,000- 12,000 years and have looked at Cave Paintings from Lascaux France. We read the fictional story of a young girl, Mishoo, in the book First Painter by Kathryn Lasky. Thus inspired, the students are currently painting animals on large paper to simulate cave painting.

Next, we will learn about the development of language through symbols. Then it's off to Ancient Egypt and beyond!

Join us for our

Annual Book & Bake Sale Fundraiser and Autumn Harvest Festival!

When: Saturday, October 12th, 10AM-2PM (for book and bake sale) and 10AM-12PM (for Autumn Harvest Festival)

Where: The Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt Street, Byfield, MA 01922

What: A fundraiser by the Friends of the Newbury Town Library. All funds go back to the library for goods, services, and events.

Drop by to browse and buy books, enjoy a tasty baked good, and meet your neighbors. There will be fun for all ages, as children and their caregivers are welcome to enjoy the Autumn Harvest Festival in the Youth Services' area with pumpkin decorating, a photo booth, songs, music, and more.

We will have hundreds of books of all varieties and for all ages.

We welcome gently-used book donations beginning the week of October 7th at the Newbury Town Library. Donations of baked goods will gratefully be accepted beginning on Friday, October 11th at the Newbury Town Library.

We hope to see you there!

For more information, please visit our web site: <http://fontl.wordpress.com/> or send us an email: fnewburytownlibrary@gmail.com

Thank You!

A big thank you goes out to Michelle Walsh for all of her



hard work with the school gardens and grounds. Have you noticed the beautiful display in front of the school? If not, take a look!



PTA News...

Come have some spooktacular fun!

The Annual PTA Halloween Party is

Friday, October 25, 5:30-7:30 pm

Free admission; all students must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

Costumes are highly encouraged.

Celebrate while enjoying:

- Music and dancing with Metro Mass Entertainment
- Games
- Crafts
- Face painting

Pizza from Rowley House of Pizza, popcorn (nut-free), drinks, and baked goods will be for sale.

Volunteers will be needed for set-up, the party, and clean-up. Sign-up information is coming soon.

See you there for a frightfully good time!

Mixed Bags

Our Mixed Bags fundraiser is underway! Shop the catalog that came home with students and send in your paper order form, or shop online. Go to www.mixedbagdesigns.com

Enter our fundraiser ID: 144227. Sales tax is not charged.

Thanks to the Bank

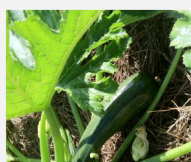
Institution for Savings donated the proceeds from their August Coins for a C.A.U.S.E. (Coins Add Up to Support Education) program to our PTA. The funds, totaling \$1,146.47, are a result of 100% of the coin counting fees collected at the banks branches. A big thank you goes out to the Institution for Savings for supporting our efforts and students!

Interested in the outdoors?

The NES PTA Outdoor Grounds Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 16, at 7 pm in the school cafeteria. All are welcome to attend to share ideas and learn how they can be involved. Contact Sally Milliken at Milldoo@comcast.net or Emily Sullivan at dws.emily@gmail.com with questions.

Grow, Grow, Grow

Have you seen the garden beds around the school? We are off to a great start to bring fresh, organic food into school and help stu-



dents learn the joy of donating to food pantries.

The PTA garden efforts were expanded this fall, helped by receiving a Voots "Get Kids Growing" grant which included a vegetable bed and growing light, currently being used in the kindergarten. Thanks to Eileen Wallwork for her grant writing!

Michelle Walsh, parent volunteer extraordinaire, brought grades Pre-K to 4 outside to learn about plant development, nutrition, and giving back to the community. She helped each grade plant a crop:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Pre-K: spinach | K: peas |
| 1: fall broccoli raab | 2: peas |
| 3: carrots (hopefully to | 4: fall broccoli |

donate to the Pettengill

House Thanksgiving baskets)

Grades five and six will plant spring bulbs shortly. Next week some students will harvest green beans, zucchini, and yellow squash. There are some dreams of having cold frames to keep the gardens growing as long into the colder weather as possible.

Some parent volunteers are needed to help maintain the garden program. Please email Michelle Walsh at mwalsh9@msn.com if you are interested or have questions about the gardening efforts.

The Annual Fund is Underway

The new PTA Annual Fund received its first donations after being unveiled at our Open House nights. Thank you to those generous donors!

The Annual Fund gives you the chance to make one tax-deductible donation to the PTA to support our efforts rather than participate in the fundraising efforts throughout the year--without guilt!

You can donate now and make your child 's future bright by going online to: www.newburyPTA.com or you can send a check made out to NES PTA with annual fund in the memo line. The PTA currently spends about \$75/student each year.

What a team!

Thanks go out to second grade teacher Mrs. Kelly Williamson for volunteering to organize restaurant fundraiser nights! This is a new effort that will allow families to gather for a fun meal out while earning money for our school. If you'd like to assist Mrs. Williamson, please email newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com.

We still need someone to organize some casual parent meet and greets during the year, and someone to organize the Penny Challenge. This takes place in the spring and does not require an ongoing time commitment. Learn more about these roles by emailing newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com.



NES Calendar

October 2013

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----|
| 29 | 30 | 1 6:30 PM— Instrumental Rental Night-Auditorium | 2 School Pictures | 3 School Pictures 7:00 PM-PTA Mtg. | 4 HALF DAY | 5 |
| 6 | 7 4:30-School Council | 8 7:30 AM-Student Council 6:00 PM-Gr 6 Parent Camp Mtg. | 9 7:00 PM-School Committee | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 NO SCHOOL | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 6:00 PM-SEPAC Mtg. | 22 7:00 PM-Town Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 5:30 PM-NES PTA Halloween Party | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 NES Halloween Parade | | |

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

Who's Who at Newbury Elementary School



Ms. de Stadler

Newbury Elementary School's Adjustment Counselor

Ms. de Stadler is very happy to be part of the NES community as the Adjustment Counselor for the past 20 years. She especially enjoys working with students in all grades and watching them grow during their time at NES and working closely with families and teachers.

Ms. de Stadler lives in Newburyport with her husband. They have two sons, a daughter

-in-law, and one daughter, all in their 20's. Ms. de Stadler enjoys time with her family and friends, traveling, and taking walks.

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

- Maya Angelou

Respect—Integrity—Excellence for All