



The Newbury Elementary School

Newt-paper

September 27, 2013 Volume 1, Issue 4

Inside this issue:

We are off to a great start!	1
Grade 5 and Square 1 Art	1
Fifth Grade Update	2
PTA News	3
The SEPAC was formed!	3
Calendar	4
Who's Who	4

We are better together!

The home-school connection



Thank you to all of the families that joined us for the Grades 3-6 Open House on Thursday night. Again, it is wonderful to be part of such a supportive community. We want to also thank all of the teachers for putting together such wonderful presentations about the important work we do here at school. We are off to a great start and look forward to a terrific year!

The number of families that attended the last two open houses was fabulous. It is so important to keep the home-school communication going. Remember there are several opportunities to stay in touch with what goes on here at NES.

Visit our Website:

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

Blog: <http://newburyelementaryupdate.blogspot.com/>

Read the weekly Newbury NEWT-paper: <http://newbury.trsd.net/?Page-Name='SchoolPublications'&CategoryID='3809'&SubCategoryID='21262'>

You could e-mail your child's classroom teacher: <http://newbury.trsd.net/?PageName='Teachers'>

PTA's website: <http://newburypta.com/>

Grade 5 and Square 1 Art

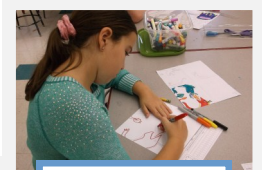
Beginning in 2005 the art department (Mrs. Merluzzi) and the PTA joined together to offer grade 5 students an opportunity to leave a legacy behind at NES.

Students are invited to design a picture during Art class. These pictures are sent off to a company called Square 1 Art. Square 1 Art will print these designs on a wide range of products. Especially interesting to me were the ceramic tiles they offered.

The PTA has agreed to purchase a tile for each child in the fifth grade. These tiles have been mounted and are now permanently displayed in the cafeteria at NES. Children are proud to see their work displayed in this way and they sure brighten the place up!

At the same time, these designs are offered to parents, should they want to purchase merchandise from Square1 Art. The money earned from these sales offsets the cost of the tiles.

Now it's your child's turn to join the tradition at NES. Order forms should come home with your student around the middle of October. The sticker sheet enclosed with the order form is yours to keep. There will be a display of products in the case down by Art Room if you are interested in seeing any of the merchandise first hand.



Creating tile designs



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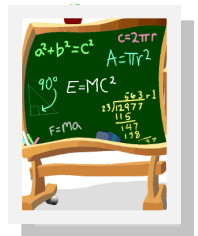
Social Studies Grade 5



After getting our feet wet with the organization of our social studies texts, we dove right into discovering how the first people of North and South America lived. We learned that the Maya lived in the rainforests of Guatemala and built stone cities without the use of the wheel. The powerful civilization of the Aztecs, living in the Valley of Mexico, believed that war played a part in their religion and unfortunately for weaker and nearby people, participated in human sacrificing. The Andes Mountains were the home of the Incas who discovered the first type of terraced farming and a system of irrigation. We practiced finding the main idea and details through our readings and will further explore these civilizations with narrative writing in the language arts area. The growth of these civilizations is what leads us to extended exploration and the meeting of the two different worlds of Europe and the Americas.

Math Grade 5

Fifth graders have completed all their beginning of the year assessments and are now into their math concepts. The students started the year working collaboratively thinking like mathematicians, asking questions, surveying their classmates and collecting data. Their final product was to construct graphs with their data which are on display in the 5th grade hallway. In math this year the students will be using the GO Math program and Jump Math program as supplemental materials to the current Investigations program. The standards we have covered so far are recognizing that in a multi-digit number, a digit in the ones place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and 1/10 of what it represents in the place to the left. The next standard we covered was being able to explain patterns in the number of zeroes of the product when multiplying a number by powers of ten, and use whole-number exponents to denote powers of ten. Next, we will move to multiplication and long division. It would help your child tremendously to continue practicing their multiplication facts at home.



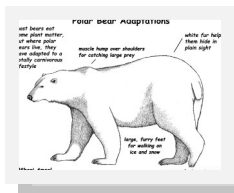
ELA Grade 5

What's black and white and read all over? Our 5th graders' writing! During ELA, we've been working on Opinion Writing, Friendly Letters, and Personal Narratives so far this year. We'll be exploring each of these in more depth as our year progresses. With these writing pieces, students have been using the writing process: prewrite/brainstorm, draft, edit/revise, and publish. Another big component of 5th Grade ELA is the Conventions of Standard English--in a nut shell, students must demonstrate understanding of standard grammar and capitalization, punctuation, and spelling within their writing. Lastly, our students will be acquiring new vocabulary strategies through Greek & Latin Roots.



Science Grade 5

Science in fifth grade in is off to a great start this year! In their first unit of study, students in the fifth grade are studying the adaptations of living things. We are in the process of learning how plants and animals are adapted to their environments, how organisms are able to survive in harsh environments, how plants and animals change their environment, and why adaptation occurs in the first place. Students have been building their non-fiction reading skills to learn about the differences between behavioral and structural adaptations, land and water adaptations, and adaptations for climate. This week, students will write a letter to a polar bear thinking about moving to a desert and constructing arguments why this animal would not be adapted to this hot, dry climate. As the unit rolls on, we will be engaging in hands-on ex-



plorations called the bird beak lab. By collecting data on which instruments worked the best for each food source in the lab, students will be able to analyze how the shape and size of a beak can determine the diet of different species of birds. The unit will culminate in students designing their own organism, complete with many types of adaptations and how it interacts with its environment.



PTA News...

PTA meeting Tuesday

Our first general PTA meeting is Tuesday, October 3, 7-8:30 pm in the school library. Hear what is going on in school from Principal Yando and learn about the PTA plans for the year. All are welcome to come, even if you are not a PTA member.

Free child care is available for kids in kindergarten and older but must be reserved by emailing newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com.

PTA Halloween Party

Get ready to delight, dazzle, and scare in your costumes at the annual PTA Halloween Party on Friday, Oct.25, 5:30-7:30 pm. More details and a plea for volunteers will come soon!

Mixed Bags

Your student should have come home with an envelope full of information about the PTA's first fundraiser of the year. Mixed Bags offers very stylish recycled bags, purses, scarves, lunch boxes and many other accessories! Start your holiday shopping early and support the NES PTA. Visit www.mixedbags.com and use our school ID 144227 at checkout. Please consider sending this link to out of town relatives.

Questions? Please contact Ellen Hazo

at hazofamily@comcast.net

Or Emily Abt at emilyabt72@gmail.com

BoxTops deadline

BoxTops are counted and sent in twice a year. Please send in any BoxTops you have right away for our October collection, but keep saving them and sending them in year-round.

T-shirts are coming!

If you haven't already sent in your child's t-shirt size, please email their name, teacher, and size today to efec-teau@trsd.net.

The NES PTA annual fund: make your child's future bright

Fund the PTA through the new Annual Fund! We are accepting annual donations in order to continue to provide grants, enrichment activities, and community building and family fun events at NES. You can make a donation at www.newburypta.com/donate or write a check payable to NES PTA (write annual fund on the memo line) and send it to the school office.

Donations are tax-deductible, plus many companies will match your donation. Contact newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com for help with learning how to arrange corporate matching.

Grounds Update

The NES Grounds Committee is off to a great start this year. The rain garden construction was completed in late August thanks to the generosity of several local businesses, the town of Newbury, and volunteers. Now, we are waiting for the grass to grow around the perimeter and will soon plant native plants in the garden bed. We also set up several new vegetable garden beds for teachers to use with their classes. Many, many thanks to Michelle Walsh for coordinating the gardens and helping some of the classes plant in the beds this fall.

Soon we will be seeking volunteers to help plant the rain garden, build a bridge, and help with vegetable planting, plus other projects. Look for signup information soon, or email newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com to express your interest.

A master plan for our grounds is being developed. There is a facebook page devoted to our ideas. Follow it here:

<https://www.facebook.com/NewburyElementarySchoolyard>

Stay in touch with the PTA:

Email: newburyPTAinfo@gmail.com

Website: <http://newburypta.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nesppta

The SEPAC was formed!

The Triton SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council) officially formed last week! This district-wide group meets monthly and will advise the district on matters pertaining to special education and work to improve the understanding of children with special needs. Teachers, parents, guardians, and community members who have an interest in special education are encouraged to get involved.

The SEPAC will meet on Monday, Oct. 21, at 6 pm at NES (room TBA). All are welcome. Officers will be elected at the meeting, and David Magee, administrator of special education, will present information about the district. As we get established, we hope to have workshops, speakers, support groups, and policy discussions.

To get involved with the SEPAC or receive a copy of the by-laws, please email SEPACtriton@gmail.com.

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.



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	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. Nixon, Ms. Walsh, Mr. Hunt, and Ms. Pollard

Newbury Elementary School's Cafeteria Team

Charlene Walsh lives in West Newbury with her husband Tom. She has a son, a daughter, a son-in-law, a grand daughter and grandson. She loves getting together and cooking for her family. She enjoys camping, walking, biking and fall is her favorite time of the year.

Dot Pollard loves quilting and spending time with her grandchildren. She enjoys sporting events and concerts.

Maria Nixon loves working with kids and her job here at NES. She enjoys apple picking and spending time outdoors, particularly biking and running.

Scott Hunt is a resident of Newbury for the last 20 years and has been working at NES for 14 years. He likes animals, gardening, and working with computers.

"Perseverance is falling 19 times and succeeding the 20th."

- Julie Andrews

Respect—Integrity—Excellence for All