

Newton School

April 2018

Readers are Leaders and Mathletes Count

Phone: 413-772-1370

Principal: Melodie Goodwin



Greetings from Newton School,

Spring is finally here! We have exciting events planned for the month of April. On April 5th the third and fourth grade will travel to Greenfield High School to see the Symphony perform. On Thursday April 12th we will have a Celebration of the Arts from 6-7 pm. On Friday April 13th we will have another celebration of the arts at our All School at 8:30 am. We hope you can join us for one of our special celebrations.

English Language Arts MCAS Next Generation testing takes place for third and fourth graders in April. The third grade testing dates are April 10, 11, 12 and the fourth grade dates are April 26, May 1 and May 2. It is important that children are well rested and ready for testing. We will do many activities to get our young children ready for this test. We will do a practice test and talk about great testing strategies.

April vacation is April 16-20! Happy Spring!

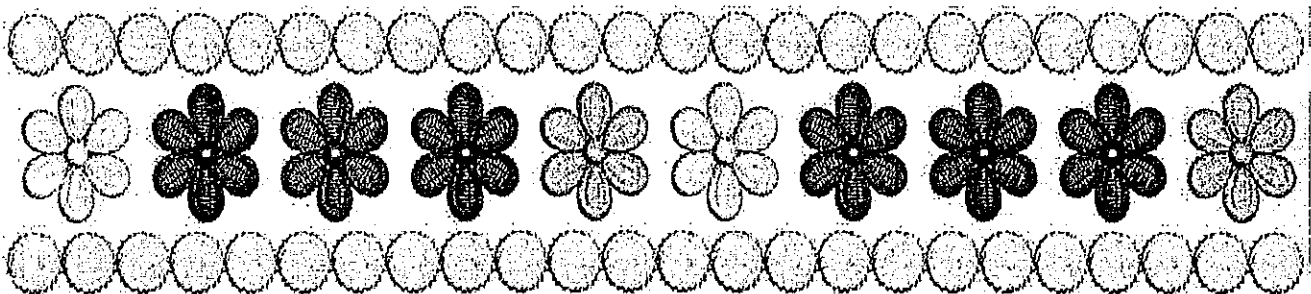
Reminders

- School starts at 7:50
- Drop off is at 7:30. We are unable to care for children before 7:30. Thank you!
- School dismissal is at 3:45. Staff are not responsible for students after this time.
- Please send a note with your child or call the school before 2:00 if he or she has a change of dismissal
- At dismissal parking is allowed on the school side of the street only

From the Health Office

Please pack a spare pair of clothing in your child's backpack. Spring is in the air and the playground can be a muddy place to have fun. The health office is looking for donations of boys clothing to have on hand for students if needed during the school day. If you have any clothing your child has outgrown your donation would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you, Jennifer Paulin RN



Upcoming Events

- ❖ April 5th 10:00 GHS Symphony Grades 3/4
- ❖ April 10th-12th 3rd Grade MCAS ELA
- ❖ April 12th Freedom Credit Union Banking
Celebration of Arts- 6:00-7:00
- ❖ April 13th 8:30 Celebration of Arts Assembly
- ❖ April 16th-20th - Spring Break
- ❖ April 26th 4th Grade MCAS ELA
- ❖ April 27th Tanglewood Marionettes
- ❖ May 1st-2nd 4th Grade MCAS ELA
- ❖ May 8th-9th 3rd Grade MCAS Math
- ❖ May 22nd-23rd 4th Grade MCAS Math

Kindergarten Team News

Kindergartners continue to be very busy. They are excited to be improving their reading and writing. They love learning new games and sight words that help them with this skill, so please continue to do LEXIA at home to keep their skills sharp! If you need the log-in and password, please send a note to your classroom teacher.

In April, as Earth Day approaches, we will explore some ways that we can help take care of our beautiful planet. We will also be going outside to observe the many changes that have taken place now that spring is here –finally!

We enjoyed seeing so many parents for Parent-Teacher conferences. If you haven't scheduled one yet, please email, call or send a note to your child's teacher.

Happy Spring!

Ms. Swist, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Encarnacao

Dear First Grade Families,

Did somebody say it was spring? No, not yet! We are still faced with cold temperatures, wind, and even some snow! Please continue to send in cold weather gear for our outdoor Playworks.

We have been lucky to have new opportunities at Newton- the Rocket Dome Theater was exciting, and Dining for a Cause was a treat. Our end-of-the-year field trip is in the works! Stay tuned!

In math, we are taking a closer look at the hundred-twenty chart as we continue to develop our number sense to 120. Skip counting, number patterns, ten more and ten less, one more and one less, tally marks, and tens and ones(place value), are all components of this unit. We have also added a technology component- Fastt Math is a wonderful online practice tool for math fact practice. Your child can access this at home as well.

Our current Language Arts unit has examined: compound words, plural es-ending, r-controlled vowels, summarizing stories, and distinguishing between fact and opinion. It is a fun unit to discuss all kinds of changes happening to us and around us every day.

We hope you continue to enjoy quality reading time with your child at home each day! Thank you for continuing to send in your signed reading logs. As always, continue to practice your addition and subtraction facts regularly up to twenty with your First Grader.

Think Spring!

Ms. Warren, Ms. Hayes, Mrs. Thurston

Dear Second Grade Families!

Spring is finally here and hopefully some warm weather will come with it! Second grade will be focusing on nonfiction texts, practicing the use of text features such as headings and captions to help us understand what is happening. We will also be learning how to write a strong response to a comprehension question using text evidence and close reading strategies. In writing, we will also be working on some more nonfiction writing and how to take notes on a subject to teach a reader. In math we will be continuing work on 3-digit subtraction and addition with regrouping. We encourage families to practice basic addition and subtraction facts at home to support the work we are doing at school. Many students understand the subtraction and addition process but get stuck when they don't know a fact. We will continue to learn about materials and matter and do some really cool experiments to explore these subjects! Remember to read each night for 20 minutes, and to practice addition and subtraction facts whenever possible!

-Ms. Power and Mrs. Palermo

Dear Third Grade Families,

We are working so hard in third grade! We are working on our good test taking skills and preparing our brains for long days of testing ahead. Testing days are April 10th, 11th, and 12th for ELA. Please make sure your child is well rested, dressed comfortably, and has a good breakfast on those three days!

This month Ms. Skiff's class is swimming at the YMCA, make sure that you remember to bring your swim gear. They will be going Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays each week.

Just a reminder that Spring Break is the week of April 16-20th. Please have your child read and practice their math facts over the break. We look forward to seeing your students back on April 23rd.

Any questions, contact your child's teacher.

Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms. Lively, Ms. Skiff

Greetings 4th Grade Families,

The fourth grade team is gearing up for testing season! April and May will usher in MCAS testing. In fourth grade, our hope is students practice doing their personal best and feeling successful in their best effort.

In reading we are exploring extreme settings. Students are enjoying Mountains by Seymour Simon and will soon start Hatchet by Gary Paulsen. They are writing beautiful narratives utilizing thought shots and snap shots of writing. This unit also revisits "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening" and "Dust of Snow" to make connections with poetry.

In math, we've made a huge leap into math with division, fractions, and angle study. Students are working hard to show models of division through the area model, the distributive model, and the standard algorithm.

We are planning a great end of the year field trip, more information will follow, and we are hopeful that the sun will join us for longer and longer as we love to get outdoors.

Peace, laughter, and learning,
Mr. Proulx, Mr. Stone, and Ms. Witherell

School Adjustment Counselor

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today." -H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

The month of April signals the start of MCAS testing for third grade. MCAS testing will continue in May for both third and fourth grades. All exams are computerized and students will have as much time as they need to complete them.

Although the tests won't be timed, standardized tests can produce anxiety and stressful feelings for students taking them. Here are a few suggestions to reduce anxiety and help your child get through the test taking process.

1. She/he should get plenty of sleep the night before the test. At least eight hours is recommended and be sure to turn off the tv, computer, tablet and video games an hour or more before bedtime to facilitate quality sleep.
2. Make sure your child eats a filling, nutritious breakfast in the morning before taking the MCAS test; this will help with focus and attention. Avoid foods high in sugar. All students receive breakfast at school every morning, so if you do not have breakfast at home, all children have the opportunity to eat when they get to school.
3. Arrive on time for school. Start off test day the best possible way by getting here on time. You should make sure your child gets up early enough so that they will be on time. Arriving late can make your child feel rushed and nervous, heightening their anxiety.
4. Allow time for your child to exercise after school to burn off energy. In addition, let them relax for a few hours before bedtime. This is a great opportunity to practice relaxation exercises with them. These don't have to be complicated- it can be as easy as deep breathing or sitting quietly with your eyes closed for a few minutes.
5. Talk to your child about the test because this can relieve stress and help them process the day. Offer your support and encourage them to do better if they feel they didn't do well.
6. Keep a positive attitude! Children model their parents' behaviors and attitudes, so if you stay calm and focus on the positives, your child will too.

Katie Irizarry, LICSW

PTO News

Thank you:

- To all families who came to our March ice skating event. We had over 50 people attend!
- To all families, friends, and teachers who came or donated for our 99 Restaurant fundraiser!

Reminder:

- Original Works Fundraiser due 4/6
- Next PTO Meeting is April 12 at 6pm. All are welcome!
- Don't forget to send in your box tops!
- If you have questions, ideas, or would like to volunteer, please contact us on Facebook @FriendsofNewtonSchool or email newtonPTO@gmail.com.

READING REMINDERS:

"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers." — Charles William Eliot

Some suggestions are just worth repeating, and this is one of them...Familiar books are books that children have read before. It is important to read easy books repeatedly so that they become 'fluent,' or smooth and quick. Reading should sound like talking, and the books that children have read previously are the ticket to practicing putting phrases together and adding expression to what they read. This leads to good comprehension and continued progress.

Thank you for being our partners in your child's future. Happy Reading☺

Your Title 1 Reading Teachers,

Ms. Weissman, Ms. Sherry, Mrs. Miller, and Ms. Blanchard



News from the Specialists



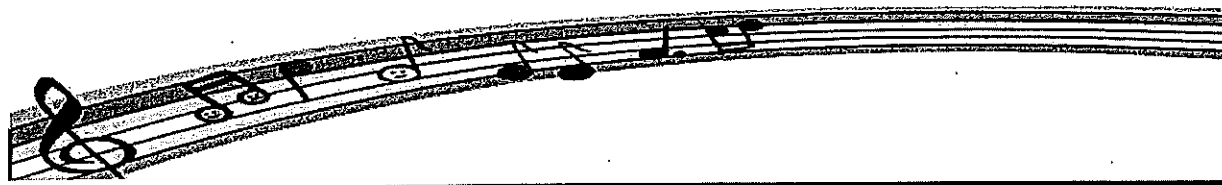
Hello,

We would like to invite you all to our Celebration of the Arts Night at Newton School on April 12th from 6PM-7PM. We will gather in the gym where each grade will perform one song they have been working on in music class. The fourth graders will also be performing a brand new Drumming Alive routine and the third graders will showcase their recorder skills for the very first time! There will also be a performance from our chorus.

Everyone is then welcomed down the hallway to the cafeteria which will be transformed into our very own art gallery for the night. Children have been working hard to finish their projects in art class so everyone can have a piece of artwork showcased.

Please join us for a fun family event!

- Mrs. Quinn, Miss Evans, and Mrs. White



Newton School

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 Grades 3 & 4 Pioneer Valley Sym- phony	6	7
8	9	10 ELA MCAS Grade 3	11 ELA MCAS Grade 3	12 Celebration of the Arts 6:00-7:00 PTO Meeting 6:00 Freedom Credit Union Banking ELA MCAS Grade 3	13 Celebration of the Arts Assembly 8:30	14
15	16 No School Spring Break	17 No School Spring Break	18 No School Spring Break	19 No School Spring Break	20 No School Spring Break	21
22	23	24	25	26 ELA MCAS 4th Grade	27 Tanglewood Marionettes	28
29	30					

April 2018

Elementary Menu

Monday

BBQ Chicken Grinder
Cape Cod Chips
Veggies & Dip
Fresh Fruit

2

Tuesday

Delj Melt
Baked Beans
Fresh Veggies & Dip
Assorted Fruit

3

Wednesday

Chef Sami's Chicken
Teriyaki & Vegetables
Brown Rice
Fresh Veggies & Dip
Fresh Fruit

4

Thursday

Chef Sami's Pulled Pork
Tacos
Homemade Colelaw
Fresh Fruit
Chocolate Pudding

5

Friday

Stuffed Crust Pizza
Side Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

6

Chicken Nuggets
Smilie Fries
Veggies & Dip
Assorted Fruit

9

Pasta & Meethalls
Homemade Broccoli Salad
Fresh Fruit
Garlic Knot

10

Brunch for Lunch!
Pancake w/
Syrup
Scrambled Eggs
Hashbrowns
Cinnamon Apples

11

Hot Soup
Grilled Cheese Sandwich
Veggies & Dip
Assorted Fruit

12

Cheese Pizza
Veggies & Dip
Assorted Fruit

13

Spring Break

16

Spring Break

17

Spring Break

18

Spring Break

19

Spring Break

20

Chicken Patty w/ Lettuce
& Tomato
Oven Baked French Fries
Veggies & Dip
Fresh Fruit

23

Sausage Grinder w/
Peppers & Onions
Sweet Potato Fries
Assorted Fruit

24

Chef Sami's Pasta
Pomodoro
Side Salad
Garlic Knot

25

Beef Tacos w/ Shredded
Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese,
Salsa, Sour Cream
Spanish Rice & Beans
Assorted Fruit

26

French Bread Pizza
Side Garden Salad w/
Garbanzo Beans
Fresh Fruit

27

Chicken & Cheese
Quesadilla w/ Lettuce,
Tomato, Salsa, Sour
Cream
Spanish Rice & Beans
Assorted Fruit

30

Did You Know...

The Romans called this month Aprilis which may derive from the verb aperire meaning "to open", referring to flowers and fruits opening.

Entrée

Alternates

Mondays: Bagel & Yogurt, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

Tuesdays: Ham Sandwich, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

Wednesdays: Nachos, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

Thursdays: Tuna Sandwich, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

Fridays: Turkey Sandwich, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

Milk Offered Daily

Fruit & Veggie Bar Offered Daily

Menu Subject to Change

April 2018

Breakfast in the Classroom



Have a wonderful Spring Break!



Nutrition Tip: Practice stealth health - sneak veggies into favorite foods. Go light on the meat and top your pizza with vegetables like tomatoes, onions, bell peppers, mushrooms, zucchini, and artichoke hearts.



Assorted Cereal
Fruit Delight Bar
Fresh Fruit
Chilled Juice
Milk

Sweet Potato Cinnamon
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Maple Burst Pancakes
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Banana Bread
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Bagel w/ Sun Butter
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Whole Grain Muffin
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Zucchini Spice Bread
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Assorted Cereal
Fruit Delight Bar
Fresh Fruit
Chilled Juice
Milk

Sausage Egg & Cheese
Breakfast Slider
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

UBR Breakfast Round
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Spring Break

Spring Break

Spring Break

Spring Break

Spring Break

Assorted Cereal
Granola Bar
Fruit Cup
Chilled Juice
Milk

Maple Burst Pancakes
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Banana Bread
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Whole Grain Muffin
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Mini Eggo Waffles
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

Bagel w/ Sun Butter
Fresh Fruit
Milk
Chilled Juice

