



Fall 2022

Newmark K-8 News

NEWMARK
K-8 School



Ms. Borea, Gianna and Andrew on the first day

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2022-2023 school year! Our K-8 students have completed their first month of school and settling in nicely. The students have shown genuine happiness to be back in school with their peers, catching up with old friends and making some new ones. They have also shown enthusiasm for learning in the classrooms, getting to know their new teachers and setting a strong base for this year.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff members: Mrs. Heather Demko, Teacher in HR 150 teaching Math & Science; Mr. Kevin Kerby, Teacher in HR 152 teaching Math & Social Studies; Ms. Gabriel Manetta, Teacher along with Ms. Caity Shannon, Instructional Paraprofessional in Mrs. Necci's Classroom; Mr. Cody O'Connor, Physical Education; Mrs. Lisa Purvis, Instructional Paraprofessional in Mr. Cebula's Classroom; Ms. Isabella Greer, Teacher working in Mrs. Arnao's classroom; and Ms. Theresa Chaman, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction. We are pleased and excited that they are a part of our Newmark Family.

It was so wonderful to see and talk to so many of you at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 22. Back To School Night provided parents an opportunity to meet with our staff and begin to cultivate the relationship essential to provide school-family bonds that are so important to our children.

We were so excited to see our families at our "K-8 Fall Celebration" on Saturday, October 1. We had so much fun watching our families socializing and connecting with one another and especially seeing our students having fun, playing games and activities with friends.

Thank you for all of your support, communication and cooperation in getting the year off to a great.

We are looking forward to a great year!!!

Sincerely,

Gina M. Borea
Principal

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Newmark K-8 School:

Ms. Gina M. Borea
Principal

Dr. Regina M. Peter &
Ms. Cynthia Allman
Executive Directors

Spotlight News

SUPPORT NEWMARK'S 2022 ANNUAL FUND

Every fall, we ask Newmark family and friends to consider donating to our Annual Fund to support the programs and services that are the hallmark of Newmark.

This year, we recognize that Newmark must continue doing what we do best – educating and providing emotional and social connections for our families and students.

Covid-19 has had a major impact on all of us. Perhaps the hardest hit has been our Newmark students' ability to enjoy typical childhood activities. We believe that our students need to play and have a more joyful childhood experience. This year our school theme is *Passionate People At Play!* The goal is to offer more social connection opportunities and school-wide events to help promote the physical, social, emotional and mental health of our children.

While routines for special needs students are vital to their social, emotional and academic success, the element of play and team building help provide important social connections. For outdoor play, we have invested in new natural playground equipment with log climbing frames to provide a range of play activities, including climbing, balancing and jumping.



We need your financial support to continue the important work we have set in place for the 2022-23 school year. Please help us reach this year's goal of **100% parent participation**. If you value the education and experience provided by Newmark for your child, please donate to the 2022 Newmark Annual Fund today. Whether you can donate \$100, \$500 or even \$5,000 – we value that every contribution. Your tax-deductible gift will make a great difference for all the students at Newmark!

How To Donate:

- **By Credit Card:** visit www.newmarkeducation.com/ways-to-give/annual
- **By Check:** send check payable to **NextMark Foundation, 1000 Cellar Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076**
Attn: Newmark Annual Fund

2022 Newmark Annual Fund Appeal ends October 31, 2022

Thank you!

NextMark Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting Newmark Education and Teacher Training.

Disclaimer: Your donation will be acknowledged as "Student's Last Name" Family for the newsletter and donor wall (ex. Jones Family). If you wish to be acknowledged differently, please email Sandra at slevy@newmarkeducation.com or indicate preferred Recognition Name with your donation.

Community Service

Ms. Hartman



Moshe at the Pretzel Sale

Community Service is already well underway at Newmark. Monthly pretzel sales are back, with our September sale raising \$95 for Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). Our first event, Blankets of Hope has also begun. The entire student body watched a set of important videos from this organization, teaching empathy and kindness. With so many Americans experiencing homelessness, it is imperative that now, more than ever, Newmark lets our local homeless population know that they are not alone by giving them brand new blankets. For only \$5, students will be invited to write an encouraging note, which will be attached to a blanket that will be used to help keep someone warm this fall and winter.

Our students have been so generous in our past school store donation drives. The first drive of the year will benefit the Plainfield Area Humane Society. Throughout the month of October, students will be using

their school store points to purchase toys, treats and food for cats and dogs at the shelter.



Isaiah, Avery and Sean enjoying a pretzel

Other upcoming FBLA fundraisers include the Pay to Play Dodgeball Event, Wreath Sales and more Pretzel Sales. Please be sure to check the Friday Backpack News and the Newmark Website for details on Community Service happenings.

SAVE THE DATES

Fall 2022 Announcements

Upcoming K-8 Student Socials

K-8 Teen Afternoon: For students in Ms. Greer, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Mastrogiovanni and Mr. Cebula's classes. From 2:45-4:30 PM. \$20 Fee - Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:30 PM.

- Friday, January 20, 2023

K-8 Kids Afternoon: For students in Ms. Fagan/Ms. Halma, Ms. McCarty, Mrs. Necci and Mrs. Demko's classes. From 2:45-4:00 PM. \$20 Fee - Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:00 PM.

- Friday, January 13, 2023

See Friday Backpack News or website for Permission/Payment Forms.

Upcoming K-8 After School Clubs & Programs:

- Session I: Ends November 9, 2022
- Session II: Begins week of November 28, 2022 through January 26, 2023

First Day of School



Best Buds on the First Day



Silly Faces!



8th Grade here we come!



Ms. Fagan's class is excited for the First Day!



First day, here we come!



Nothing but Smiles in Room 150!



It's going to be an awesome school year!

Family Fun Day



Harrison, Tyler, Parker and Elijah having a blast



Simon Says, raise your hand!



Best Buds



Ari trying to keep up in Simon Says



Myles showing off his craft



We love Family Fun day!



Timmy enjoying the day

Counseling News

Ms. George, Mrs. Jernigan and Ms. Rentrop

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We are excited for a great year ahead. The Counseling Department would like to share some important information about upcoming events and key dates for you to be aware of:

Virtual Parent Counseling Nights

Counseling is an integral part of the student experience at Newmark School just as communication between home and school is an integral part of your child's education and well-being. To effectively share information concerning your child, we provide parents an opportunity to connect with the Newmark counselors on the second Tuesday of every month. We encourage you to schedule an appointment for one of our monthly counseling nights to discuss any issues or concerns you may have or just to touch base about your child's progress.

All counselor meetings will be held virtually via telephone. To schedule an appointment, please contact Colleen Reape-Fay at 908-753-0330 or email at creapefaye@newmarkeducation.com Individual appointments are 30 minutes, and we have the following time slots available: 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30 and 7:00 PM.

Our K-8 counselors are Ashlie Jernigan, MS, NCSP, Alyson Rentrop, MSW, LSW and Cathleen George, LCSW.

The dates for the 2022-2023 school year are listed below:

Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Tuesday, December 13, 2022
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
Tuesday, April 18, 2023
Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Community Connections PIN Program

The Community Connections PIN Program recognizes students who demonstrate personal and social growth by participating in meaningful community-based experiences. Community-based experiences can include the following categories: Community Service, Sports, Volunteering, Music/Performing Arts, and Clubs (including Scouting).

Nominations can be submitted by a parent, teacher or member of the PIN Committee. Once the nomination has been approved, the student will receive a special pin commemorating their achievement with a ceremony in their honor.

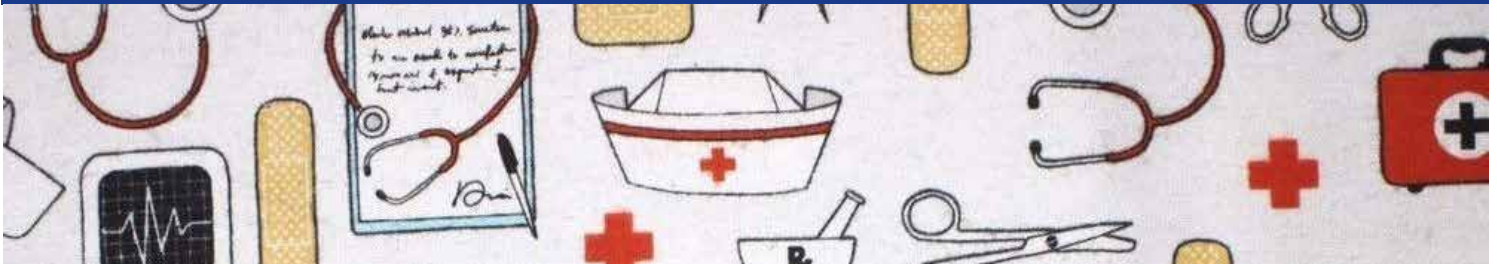
PINS Program ceremonies occur two times per year (at the awards assemblies). PINS Form submission deadlines are:

Monday, November 7, 2022
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
Monday, March 20, 2023
Monday, May 15, 2023

• More information, and digital nomination forms, can be found on the Newmark Education website: <https://www.newmarkeducation.com/our-schools/pins>



Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Kerby's class talking about Healthy U



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child back to school and to touch base on a few things! Just a reminder to please fill out our Daily Wellness Screening form each morning before sending your child to school. We want to keep a healthy environment at school and keep our students safe. If you are not sure if you should keep your child home, please feel free to contact me at ecarroll@newmarkeducation.com.

Medication/Health Issues:

It is important for me to know if your child is on any medication and, if so, what type and dosage. Please also keep me up-to-date with any medication changes. If your child also needs any medication, be it prescription or over the counter medication, while in school, complete and submit the Medication Release Form on the Newmark website under School Nurse, along with other health forms.

Health Screenings:

We have a new school physician, Dr. Pallay, for our students in the middle school and high school wishing to participate in interscholastic sports. At this time we do not have a scheduled date that he or one of his associates will be here but hope to in the near future. We will keep you posted. Your student will need a sports physical to participate in a sporting event at Newmark. If your child has had a physical done on 3-1-22 or after, their doctor just needs to fill out the forms. You can find the sports physical forms on the Newmark website under the School Nurse.

Personal Hygiene and Your Child:

Monitoring your child's personal hygiene is important from a social as well as health point of view. Maintaining personal hygiene enhances an individual's physical and

emotional wellness. While most children age 9 and older are able to attend to their own daily hygiene, supervision is still necessary in order to ensure that good habits develop. Here are some basic tips that you may want to discuss with your child to promote good hygiene:

- A balanced diet is the foundation for overall good health. A diet that includes all the food groups and one high in fruits and vegetables is recommended. Eating a healthy diet has shown to improve a child's ability to learn in school.
- A bath or shower using a mild soap is needed daily for middle school and high school age students. Hair should be washed at least twice a week or more frequently depending on your child's activity level. A deodorant/antiperspirant is usually needed daily.
- Teeth should be brushed at least twice a day to prevent decay and to maintain healthy gums. Flossing is recommended daily, if used.
- Clothing should be changed on a daily basis. Clean cotton socks are the best for feet because they absorb moisture. As well as daily mask cleaning and replacing disposable ones daily.
- Coughing and sneezing into a tissue and properly disposing is a good hygiene practice, or sneezing into your arm, then washing your hands after.
- Regular handwashing should be emphasized since this has been identified as the most important practice for preventing illness.

At Newmark School we encourage all children to develop good grooming practices. We believe that good hygiene promotes independence, self-confidence and self-esteem, and builds a foundation for lifelong healthy habits.

Students of the Month



Ashlynn, Ms. Fagan and Ms. Halma



Zoey, Ms. McCarty



Mason, Mrs. Necci



Jake, Mrs. Demko



Omar, Ms. Greer



Andres, Mr. Kerby



Reba, Mrs. Mastrogiovanni



Nicco, Mr. Cebula

Congratulations!