



NEWMARK K-8 SCHOOL  
**FRIDAY BACKPACK NEWS**  
Friday, September 8, 2023

Dear Newmark K-8 School Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 School Year! We are excited to welcome parents to several fall events. Please mark your calendar for the **K-8 Back To School Night** on Thursday, September 28, 2023 and the **Newmark Fall Celebration** on Saturday, October 14, 2023.

Stay connected! Keep checking your email every week for important Parent Alerts and Friday Backpack News. You can always access past issues archived on our [website](#).

### School News & Information

#### Contacting the Main Office: Absence / Late Arrival / Early Pick Up

- To report a student absence, late arrival or early pick up during the 2023-24 school year, email [absence@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:absence@newmarkeducation.com) or call the Main Office at 908-753-0330 by 8:00 AM each morning.
- If you are picking your student up at the end of the school day, contact the Main Office by 12:00 PM noon, otherwise the student will go home on the bus as planned.
- If your student will be late and ordering a school lunch, you must contact the Main Office by 8:00 AM. No lunch can be ordered after 9:00 AM per our catering company.

**September Menu and Flexible Meal Packs:** Flexible 10 and 20 Meal Packs can be purchased in advance each month. [View](#) September Lunch Menu and Flexible Meal Packs options

**Nut Allergy Notice:** Help us keep all of our students safe at Newmark - [View](#) Notice from School Nurse

**NWEA Testing Begins:** Week of Monday, September 11, 2023

**Mandatory New Parent Meeting:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 - 9:30 AM onsite  
Newmark, 1000 Cellar Avenue, Scotch Plains - [for new parents only](#)

**Functional Living Skills Survey Due:** All [new](#) parents (grades 5-8) must completed a  
Functional Living Skills survey for your child by Friday, September 15, 2023 - [Survey](#)

**K-8 After School Clubs - Session I:** Begins week of September 18, 2023. Registration  
is now open - [View](#) Clubs & Programs to register.

**K-8 Back To School Night:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 - 6:00-8:00 PM - Event will  
be onsite at Newmark - [Read](#) Principal Letter

**K-8 School Picture Day:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 - [View](#) details

**Student Social - K-8 Teen Afternoon:** Friday, September 22, 2023 - For students in Mrs.  
Arnao, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Mastrogiovanni/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula's classes only.  
Activities begin after dismissal from 2:30-4:30 PM (unless noted). *Fee: \$25 per date and  
\$1 cash only snack.* - Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:30 PM -  
[View](#) Permission Form

**Student Social - K-8 Kids Afternoon:** Friday, September 29, 2023 - For students in Ms.  
Fagan/Ms. Shea, Ms. Halma, Mrs. Necci and Mrs. Demko classes only. Activities begin  
after dismissal from 2:30-4:00 PM. *Fee: \$25 per date and \$1 cash only snack.* Parents  
need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:00 PM - [View](#) Permission Form

**Save The Date! Newmark Fall Celebration:** Saturday, October 14, 2023 - 11:00 AM-  
2:00 PM for K-8 families - *details coming soon*

## Spotlight: Independent Practice (IP)

### What is Independent Practice (IP)?

Newmark offers the opportunity for students to practice their academic skills away from  
the classroom. Independent Practice is given nightly. Independent Practice is important  
because it helps students develop and refine intellectual skills, develop into independent  
learners and nurture an identity as successful learners. The purpose of Independent  
Practice is to check whether the student understands a concept or skill; to practice a skill  
learned in class; to preview something he/she will learn in class soon and to review for a  
test or quiz.

### How much IP should my child have?

Research recommends the 10-minute rule for Independent Practice, which means that for  
whatever grade your student is in, he/she will receive 10 minutes of practice. For  
example, if students are in 3rd grade, they will receive no more than 30 minutes of  
Independent Practice per night.

Although Independent Practice is an informal assessment for feedback, all assignments  
are reviewed with an Independent Practice rubric and included within the course grade as  
a percentage of the grade for data tracking purposes. The IP rubric is discussed with  
students to provide guidance on assignment completion. Parents can view the IP rubric  
within the student's Schoology courses in the parent resource folder.

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### **Newmark K-8 School 2023-24 School Year (SY) - Begins Fall 2023**

#### **Student Hours**

**Student Hours - 8:45 AM – 2:30 PM**

*(Early Dismissal: 8:45 AM - 12:45 PM)*

#### **Newmark K-8 School**

1000 Cellar Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

908-753-0330

newmarkeducation.com

Contact Newmark Main Office

Absences, late arrival, early pick up, any transportation changes, etc.

[absence@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:absence@newmarkeducation.com)

Colleen Reape-Fay - [creapefay@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:creapefay@newmarkeducation.com)

Maria Caggiano - [mcaggiano@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:mcaggiano@newmarkeducation.com)

General Information: [info@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:info@newmarkeducation.com)

Forms: [forms@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:forms@newmarkeducation.com)

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