



MINUTE

A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING @ NMS

"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

VOLUME: 1 / ISSUE: 26

DATE: 3-8-24

HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE

NEON DANCE

GEO/HISTORY BEE

SPELLING BEE CHAMPION

KINDNESS CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safety Drill 3/12

In coordination with the Norwell Police Department, the Norwell Middle School will conduct a lockdown drill on Tuesday (3/12). This lockdown drill has been planned for several weeks and is not in response to any particular concern or information. This PLANNED EVENT is part of our efforts to ensure a safe environment for students and staff. We will discuss the drill with all students on Monday.

The Norwell School District continues to focus on the safety and security of our students and staff.



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a glance

- **Assistant District Attorney (3/13)** -- Amanda Fowle will speak to all NMS students next Wednesday, 3/13, about online safety and responsibility. Cyber Sense, the internet safety presentation from the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office, informs and educates students on risks from both access by predators through social media and from materials the children might post online. Topics covered include digital footprint, anonymity, online predators, cyber bullying, sexting, and legal penalties.
- **3 on 3 Basketball Tournament** -- Tuesday to Thursday, March 12-14 2-4:00 PM, 3-4 Players per team, \$5 per player, Every team guaranteed at least 2 games.
 - 8th Grade : Tues 3/12, 7TH Grade: Wed 3/13, 6TH Grade: Thurs 3/14
- **Course Information Meeting** -- Curriculum & Scheduling Informational Meeting for 6th and 7th grade will be on Thursday, March 14th, during Flex time. This event is designed for students to learn more about the curriculum and courses they will be taking next year at Norwell Middle School.
- **Pep Rally** -- On Friday, March 15th, NMS will have our annual March Madness pep rally. Students and staff will take center court to decide who will be crowned the 2024 NMS March Madness champion. The students are the defending champions, but will they keep the title? [Pep Rally Bell Schedule](#)
- **Clothing Drive (Cradles to Crayons)** -- Brianna Yee, this year's Project 351 ambassador, will be leading a clothing drive for Cradles To Crayons to help kids 0-12 with clothing insecurity. The drive will be from March 18th to the 28th. On MLK weekend, Brianna went to Boston with 350 other representatives across the state to engage in a day of service to help and support families in need. Brianna said, "The day brought everyone joy!" "People needed help, and we were helping, making a difference in their lives." Brianna worked with Cradles to Crayons. Please help Brianna continue on her path to support families in need, by bringing in clothing, starting on March 18th.



The ALL SCHOOL Neon Dance (3/15) is only one WEEK away!!!!

Tickets will be on sale on Monday, March 11th to Thursday, March 14th during Flex. All proceeds will go to the Best Buddies after school club. The dance will begin at 6:30PM on Friday (3/15) night. (6:30 to 8PM)

THE FIRST ANNUAL NMS GLOW DANCE!!

\$5 entrance fee will be collected

3/11 - 3/14 during FLEX

students WILL NOT receive a ticket to enter the dance - there will be a list of names at the door

\$5 Glow Bags will be sold

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students will receive their glow bag at the dance
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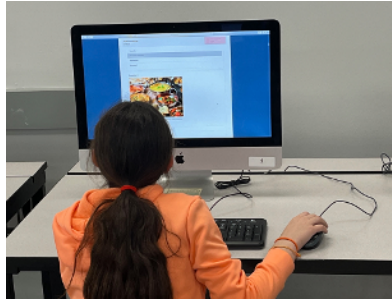
HOSTED BY NMS STUDENT GOVERNMENT... LET'S GLOW!!!



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- **National Geo/History Bee** -- NMS students took a qualifying online assessment on Thursday, March 7th, in the computer lab after school for the National Geo and/or History Bee with Mr. Gray. The following students qualified for the Regional Competition on April 7th:
- 6th: Angelina Hutchinson, Devan Parmar, Theodore Griffin, Eli Eliodor, Ava Finn
- 7th: Ruoyuan Li, Leo Bretsch
- 8th: Thomas Donovan, Jack Rohrbach

Congratulations to our students!!



Geography / History Qualifying Exam



Spelling Be Champion

CONGRATULATIONS TEDDY BETTENCOURT!!!

You are moving on to the Regional Bee!!!! The Regional Spelling Bee is on March 19, 2024 at the Lynn Memorial Auditorium, 3 City Hall Square, Lynn, Massachusetts. Let's all wish Teddy well at the Regional Bee! DC will be next!

NMS Outreach -- The NMS outreach to School Committee is on Monday, March 11th at 7pm. Robert Doran and Matthew Luccarelli (8th grade social studies teachers) will discuss the civics project, Tabitha Finn (Art teacher) the NMS art show, Jessica Johnston (ELA Coordinator) reading initiative, and Carol Petrell and Cynthia Debenedictis (Spotlighters Advisors) the student performance in Disney. Each teacher will also have students presenting to share their experiences with the learning activities.

Thank you to all the teacher and student volunteers!

CALENDAR

March

8-9 SEMSBA (Music)

10 Daylight Savings

11 PTO @ 6PM

11 School Committee @ 7PM

12 Safety Drill

12 3 on 3 B-ball Tourney (8th)

13 Speaker, Amanda Fowle (6,7,8th)

13 3 on 3 B-ball Tourney (7th)

14 Course Selection Mtg (Flex) w/ 6th+7th grade students

14 3 on 3 B-ball Tourney (6th)

14 PTO March Madness Luncheon

15 Norwell Pride Day

15 Pep Rally (March Madness)

KINDNESS CORNER

"People grow through experience if they meet life **honestly** and **courageously**. This is how character is built." - E. Roosevelt

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

We received several shout outs this week from staff. In the 8th Grade, Tighe Greene and Molly Stevens were given praise for how they treat their classmates and teachers. Then, in seventh grade James and Cole McMahon and Caroline Johnston continually stand out for their kindness towards those around them. The sixth grade has no shortage of students doing good deeds. Chase Wolbach was seen helping a friend in the cafeteria and Molly McNamara continually knows how to put a smile on a friend's face when they need it most.

Every day there are small acts like these that add up to make a big difference. THANK YOU!



3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT 2024

Tuesday- Thursday, **MARCH 12-14** 2-4:00 PM

3-4 PLAYERS PER TEAM • \$5 PER PLAYER • Every team guaranteed at least 2 games

8TH Grade : Tues 3/12. 7TH Grade: Wed 3/13. 6TH GRADE: Thurs 3/14

Registration / Payment Due by Friday March 8.

Cash or check made out to Norwell Middle School

Tournament Game Rules

- Games will be played on side courts
- *All teams play initial game(s), bracket will then be seeded based on record / points differential*
- Every basket counts as 1 pt
- Clear outside white line on every change of possession
- Possession change after a made basket ("losers take")
- 5 minute games
- If score is tied, then next point wins after regulation (1:00 sudden death OT)
 - If no score in 1:00 OT, "home team" (top team based on bracket) shoots a free throw
 - Make=Win
 - Miss=Loss

Championship Round Game Rules

- Games will be played on end courts
- Every basket counts as 1 pt
- Clear outside 3-point line on every change of possession
- Possession change after a made basket ("losers take")
- 5 minute games
- If score is tied, then next point wins after regulation (1:00 sudden death OT)
 - If no score in 1:00 OT, "home team" (top team based on bracket) shoots a free throw
 - Make=Win
 - Miss=Loss

Top teams (girls and boys) in 8th grade will play 5v5 DURING SCHOOL Friday 3/15 against the Faculty All-Star Team

Pick up / hand in your registration form at the Main Office, OR

Mr. Doran's Room (8th Grade- Room 241)

Mr. Gray's Room (7th Grade- Room 217)

Mr. Brust's Room (6th Grade- Room 113)

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Reminders

Absence Reporting

- Please report student absences to the office as soon as possible.
- You can report absences by
 - calling the absence line: 781-659-8814 x1206 and leaving a message.
 - sending an email to the Main Office at nms.mainoffice@norwellschools.org.

Dismissing a Student during the School Day

- Please send a note to the office the morning of the dismissal.
- If there is not a note, parent/guardian will need to enter the building to sign their student out.
- Please provide a written note if somebody other than a parent/guardian is picking up a student during the day for dismissal.

Forgotten Items

- When bringing in a forgotten item for a student, please leave it with a label on the "I Forgot It" table by the front lobby.
- It is a student's responsibility to check the table for the forgotten item.
- If a student does not call home for the item, please do not bring the item to school as they likely do not need it.

Cell Phones

- Students' cell phones should be off and in their locker or bag during the day.
- Parents / guardians should not text or call their students' cell phone during the school day as it disrupts the class. Messages can be left at the office for students.



We are excited to tell you about a school-wide Reading Challenge starting Term 3. For terms 3 and 4, we are encouraging your students to read **more!**

To help them on their way, we are devoting Friday Flextime to independent reading. **They** choose the books or magazines that they want to read.

And we could use your help!

According to [research](#), “effective programs include active parent involvement, partnerships among community institutions, and collaboration among significant adults in students’ lives.” Your help and support at home is a crucial factor in supporting reading development. So how can you help?

1. PUT BOOKS IN THEIR HANDS

Get books, magazines, and graphic novels that match your student’s interests. Head to the library. Hit a bookstore. Buy Lacrosse or Fortnite magazines—*whatever they’ll read!*

2. ENCOURAGE READING IN FLEX TIME

According to the research, reading is positively correlated with [a strong vocabulary](#), [higher math scores](#), [higher science and history scores](#), [strong writing skills](#), [higher scores on standardized tests](#), [reduced levels of stress](#), [increased empathy](#), [more brain connectivity](#), and [even a longer life!](#) Please encourage your student to read during Flex Friday.

3. KEEP IT GOING AT HOME

We know life is busy! We get it! But where could you encourage more reading? Before bed? Before screen time? On a long car ride? Read the same book as your child and watch the movie after finishing the book? Gift a grandparent the same book and do a child-grandparent book-club date? Think creatively to get students engaged with reading more at home!

4. DONATE BOOKS

If you have upper elementary school and/or middle school books and magazines that you are no longer using, we’ll take them! Drop donations in the READING PROGRAM BOX at drop off; we will shelf them around the school for students to use during Flex Friday!





THURSDAYS IN THE ART ROOM

2:00 TO 2:45 PM

Are you looking for a place where you will be **accepted no matter what...**
a place where you can safely **express your individuality**?

If you answered yes, **SAGA** could be the right place for you!

SAGA is a **welcoming** group, **run by students** and overseen by teacher mentors, creating a **safe space** for discussing similarities, differences, and personal **well being**. **SAGA** is a place that creates a **peaceful** environment **for everybody** no matter their identity. **SAGA** is open to all middle school students who are on a journey of **self discovery** and **acceptance**.

If you're interested, meet us in the Art Room on Thursdays after school.
Feel free to show up with any questions, no sign up is necessary.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

HAVE USED OR UNWANTED MARKERS, PENS

WOODEN OR MECHANICAL PENCILS?

Last year the Norwell Recycling and Sustainability Committee successfully initiated a project to recycle crayons and continues to collect used or unwanted crayons. We are now adding markers, pens and wooden and mechanical pencils to our collections for recycling. We are working in partnership with Staples, which has recently added them to their list of materials that can be recycled.

Collection boxes are located at-

Grace Farrar Cole School

William G. Vinal School

Norwell Middle School

Norwell High School

New Nursery School

First Parish PreSchool

Ridge Hill School

Nature Center PreSchool at the South Shore Science Center

Bright Horizons

Norwell Public Library

Norwell Recycling Center

Chess

Open Chess in room 208. Free for all students, every Thursday throughout the school year.

Please see Mr. Fraser if you have any questions.





Basic Rights: Evaluation and Eligibility

A Free Virtual Workshop for Parents and Professionals

Basic Rights: Evaluation and Eligibility provides an introduction of the complex special education laws and procedures.

Workshop Topics:

- *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Massachusetts Laws*
- *Evaluations and Referrals*
- *The Team Meeting*
- *Individualized Education Program (IEP) and 504 Plans*
- *Effective Progress*
- *Transition*
- *Review of Important Timelines*
- *Strategies for Success and more!*



About Your Host:

The Norwell SEPAC is a group of parents who meet regularly to discuss the needs of our students and improve special education in Norwell. We provide a space for families to content and education on topics relevant to our community. Contact us at TheNorwellSEPAC@gmail.com

Handouts will be provided to registered attendees on the day of the virtual presentation.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Date: March 27, 2024

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Registration Link:

https://fcsn-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpfuqpg_T4qH9Lm8JKeTCZ4VYzx8-BTOq7-

For more information about the educational workshops available from
The Federation for Children with Special Needs,
please visit us at fcsn.org/ptic/workshops or email: workshops@fcsn.org

The NORWELL SOFTBALL SEASON is here!

Please visit the website at www.norwellgirlssoftball.com and follow the link to our registration page. The season runs from early April through mid-June, with girls second grade and older playing 2 games during the week. Divisions are based on the 2023-24 school grade.

For the upcoming 2024 season we will follow the same format as last year. We will be offering a K-1 Program, a Grade 2-3 (Division 1) coach pitch program and a traditional program for grades 4-8 (Grades 4-5 Division 2 & Grades 6-8 Division 3).

K1 Program: (Kindergarten – 1st Grade) - \$95

- Plays Friday evening – starting after April School Vacation
- All games are played in Norwell
- Tee Ball format

Division 1 (2nd Grade - 3rd Grade) - \$165

- Plays Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 PM
- Games are played in Norwell, Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, or Hull
- Practice likely to be 1X/week
- Coach Pitch format.

Division 2 (4th Grade - 5th Grade) - \$215

- Plays Monday and Wednesday from 6-8 PM
- Practices are typically held 1-2 day/week and scheduled by coaches
- Games are played in Norwell, Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, or Hull

Division 3 (6th Grade - 8th Grade) - \$215

- Plays Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 PM
- Practices are typically held 1-2 days/week and scheduled by coaches
- Games are played in Norwell, Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate, or Hull

Additionally, a \$50 discount will be automatically applied for the third or fourth child registered in the D1-D3 divisions. Please consider registering early so we can get an early read on how many teams we will have for the year to ensure we have enough coaches in place and get our uniform order in.

Thank you!

Norwell Girls Softball



The Norwell
Garden Club
Presents

6 Steps for Growing Successful Roses

Learn the simple steps for
planting & growing beautiful
roses that will thrive for
years to come.

Norwell Public Library
Thursday March 14th
10:15 AM





Babe Ruth League, through its national mission statement, is committed to "skills, mental and physical development, a respect for the rules of the game, and basic ideals of sportsmanship and fair play."

Our goal in establishing a Babe Ruth League program in Norwell is to provide a fun, competitive and instructional baseball experience for players age 13-15 so those players may continue to have the ability to participate in a recreational baseball program until they reach high school.

Registration will be closing soon, please login to your account at norwelllittleleague.com.

If you have any questions about Babe Ruth baseball please email norwellbaseball@gmail.com.