



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: 21

DATE: 1-26-24

HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE

READING INITIATIVE

GLOW DANCE

RECYCLE

KINDNESS CORNER

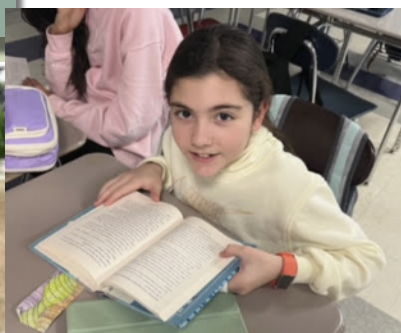
ANNOUNCEMENTS



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a glance

- **Term II Report Cards** -- Just a reminder, Term II report cards were posted to Aspen this afternoon.
- **Reading Initiative** -- NMS Reading Challenge began on Friday (1/26) during Flex (1/26). The classrooms were warm and inviting as students were busy reading from their favorite books. We are excited to encourage our students to read more!
- **NMS Yearbook** -- The NMS yearbook is now on sale and can be ordered using the following link: [NMS YEARBOOK](#). The cost of the yearbook is \$35 until 1/31/24. Sales will still be accepted online after this date, however, no personalization or icons may be purchased after 1/31, and the price to purchase a yearbook will increase after that date. Please contact Mrs. Kinsman if you have questions.
- **Fastbridge** -- We will be administering the Winter cycle of Fastbridge Math and Reading on Tuesday, January 30, 2024. We will have an extended homeroom and utilize Flex time, as we have done in the past. Fastbridge is a screening tool that we administer three times/year to monitor student growth in reading and math.
- **Spelling Bee** -- The NMS spelling bee is on February 2nd. Students will be competing to be the next NMS Bee champion. The Bee contestants are:
- Gr 8 -- Elin Gorman, Topher Young, Nicholas Boyden, Daniel Britton, Nicholas Leahy, Thomas Donovan
- Gr 7 -- Freddy Anderson, Zack Simo, Teddy Bettencourt, Trystan Sheridan, Tyler Gotta
- Gr 6 -- Finn Thompson, Katie Collins, Chase Wolbach, Kellen Blair, Hudson Frenette



NMS Reading Initiative in full swing!

Students actively read throughout the building for 25 minutes during Flex today.



NMS Glow Dance (3/15)

SAVE THE DATE!!

FIRST ANNUAL NMS GLOW DANCE ON 3/15.

GET READY TO BREAK OUT YOUR BRIGHTLY COLORED T-SHIRTS, SHORTS, LEGGINGS, AND.... IF YOU HAVE 'EM.... LEG WARMERS FOR THIS MEMORABLE SCHOOL WIDE EVENT.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE INFORMATION FROM THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT IN THE COMING WEEKS!



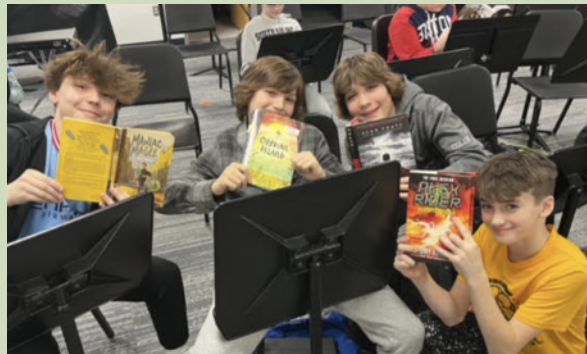
CALENDAR

January

- 26 Report Cards Posted (Q2)
 - 29 School Committee Meeting
 - 30 Fastbridge Testing
 - 31 Playbook Initiative
- February
- 1 Student Government Mtg.
 - 2 Spelling Bee
 - 6 Math Team Competition

"Identify your problems but give your power and energy to solutions."

Reading Initiative



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 box is located in front of the NMS main office.

PTO

- PLEASE join our Facebook page - to share information on events + opportunities to volunteer [PTO Facebook](#)
- Any questions or interest in joining, email us at nmspto@gmail.com

KINDNESS CORNER

"Don't wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person." - Mother Theresa

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

We had two teachers notice students that stood up to mean behavior, thank you to Nate Bateman and Jackson Polcari who showed their friends that doing the right thing isn't always easy, but it's always right. Fisher Gagnon held the door in the morning for staff that had their hands full, and Mason and Kristina Crane were both given accolades for their kindness and hardwork. Keep it up!

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



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!





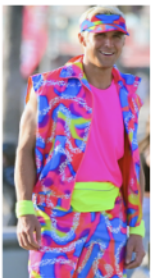
Open Chess in room 208. Free for all students, every Thursday throughout the school year.

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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.

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

HAVE USED OR UNWANTED MARKERS, PENS

WOODEN OR MECHANICAL PENCILS?

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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

A free webinar sponsored by the Falmouth, Hamilton/Wenham, Hingham, North Andover, Northbridge, Northboro/Southboro, and Norwell SEPACs

"Anxiety in Relation to Learning/Developmental Disabilities and How to Address in the IEP"



Join Pediatric Neuropsychologists Dr. Erin Gibbons and Dr. Moira Creedon from NESCA's Plainville and Hingham locations for a free webinar and live Q&A

Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Time: 7:00PM - 8:30PM ET

Register: https://nesca-newton.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_lttkLAtCTbCe99-KljmckA

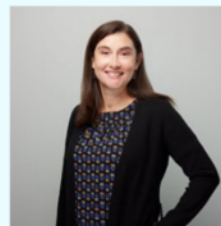
Anxiety disorders are becoming increasingly common among children and adolescents, especially in the wake of the pandemic. Given the rising numbers of affected children and adolescents, it has become increasingly important that a student's emotional health is addressed both at home through private counseling, as well as through the provision of school-based services. When students experience a high level of unmitigated anxiety throughout the day, they are less able to learn and meet their potential. This presentation will discuss the overlap between anxiety and learning challenges and how to seek services for anxiety through the school district.

About the Presenters



Erin Gibbons, Ph.D., Pediatric Neuropsychologist; Plainville Office Director

Dr. Gibbons evaluates children presenting with a range of attentional, learning, and developmental disabilities. She has a particular interest in children with autism spectrum disorders, intellectual disabilities, and those with complex medical histories.



Moira Creedon, Ph.D., Pediatric Neuropsychologist; Hingham Office Director

Dr. Creedon offers her expertise in evaluating children and teens with a variety of presenting issues. She is interested in uncovering an individual's unique pattern of strengths and weaknesses to best formulate a plan for intervention and success. She tailors each assessment to address a range of referral questions, such as developmental disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorder, learning disabilities, attention challenges, executive functioning deficits, and social-emotional struggles.

NORWELL WOMEN'S CLUB



SWEETHEART DANCE

A **free** event for the community

FEB 10 | 5-7PM

**NORWELL HIGH SCHOOL
GYM**

Corsages | Boutennieres |
Candygrams | Teddy Bears

purchase here

