



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: 19

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HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

PLAYBOOK INITIATIVE

WINTER CONCERT

KINDNESS CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS



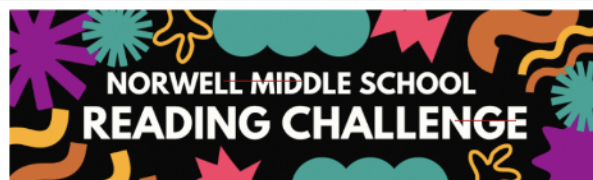
Dungeons and Dragons
Pizza Party



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a glance

- **Project 351** (1/13) -- Brianna Yee is our Norwell Middle School representative for 2024. On Saturday, January 13th, Brianna Yee will gather in Boston with the other representatives across the state to Launch the Service Day in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King!
- **Quarter II Ends** (1/19) -- Just a reminder, quarter II ends on Friday, January 19th. Report cards will be posted in Aspen and emailed home on Friday, January 26th.
- **Reading Initiative** -- NMS Reading Challenge will begin Term 3 (1/22). We are encouraging NMS students to read more! To help along the way, we will be devoting Friday Flextime to independent reading. Please see additional information on the reading initiative on page 3.
- **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.



After School Activities

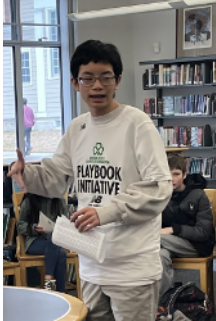
We are excited to present our after-school offerings for the winter. Students can spend their time before and after school playing Jazz, learning about wellness and self-care, creating code, playing cornhole, kickball and more! To register for one of these exciting programs, simply click on the link below and that will bring you to our [Activities Page](#) on the NMS Website. (See page 4)



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Playbook Initiative (Wednesday 1/10)

The Playbook Initiative helps to build a more inclusive community by eliminating hate speech and other acts of discrimination and bias. The goal of these workshops is to empower young people to build more inclusive communities in which everyone feels welcome and celebrated. Ben Nguyen and Amaya Parmar (NHS students) facilitated activities and discussion on Wednesday designed by students to help students navigate situations and difficult issues they may encounter in middle school and beyond. I would like to thank Ben, Amaya, Mrs. Flanagan, Mrs. Marani and all the participants for their dynamic and meaningful discussions.



CALENDAR

January

15 No School MLK

17 Best Buddies Mtg

19 Quarter 2 Ends

26 PTO Mtg @ 9AM

29 School Committee Meeting

31 Playbook Initiative



Winter Concert

The sixth grade band and chorus and the NMS Jazz Band performed on Thursday night to a packed auditorium at NHS. Great performances and fantastic solos!



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

PTO -- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon



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

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

"You can never do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Teachers were proud to talk about Justice Boone this week and all of the different ways that he shows kindness throughout his day. He is helpful to classmates and greets everyone with a smile. Sherman Roche set a good example when he accidentally spilled water in the hallway and immediately took ownership over the spill and helped clean it up. Thank you to Adella McInnis and Josh Connor who were both seen holding the door for students and teachers as they entered the building with full arms in the morning.

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!





After School Activities

We are excited to present our after-school offerings for the winter. Students can spend their time before and after school playing Jazz, learning about wellness and self-care, creating code, playing cornhole, kickball and more!

To register for one of these exciting programs, simply click on the link below and that will bring you to our [Activities Page](#) on the NMS Website. Use the link to download and print the registration form. Students should then bring the form and payment to the main office no later than January 12, 2024. Some activities fill up quickly, so return your forms as soon as possible. Activities will begin the week of January 17, 2024. **Forms should be turned into the Main Office.**

If you are having any trouble accessing the form or website, feel free to reach out to the main office.

Thank you,

NMS Faculty & Staf

Full year activities will continue on, as well as the Service Clubs listed on the website.



Starting Thursday, November 30th Open Chess in room 208. Free for all students, every Thursday throughout the school year.

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



Please join Norwell SEPAC and The Autism Resource
Center of The Arc of South Shore

Stephen Abreu
DDS South Coast Area Director

You are invited to Norwell Middle School

Stephen Abreu, Department of Developmental Services
Area Director, will discuss DDS, the application process, and
how the transition from school to DDS adult services works.

Plenty of time for Q & A.

Light refreshments will be provided by The Autism Resource
Center of The Arc of the South Shore.

Date: Wednesday, January 24th
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Norwell Middle School 328 Main St.

Google Meet Link for parents who can't attend in-person:

SEPAC DDS Presentation

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 · 6:00 – 8:00pm

Time zone: America/New York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/erc-tsiy-koe>

Or dial: (US) +1 929-324-2658 PIN: 297 178 881 #

All are welcome! We hope you can join us!