

Fall 2024

Newmark K-8 News



NEWMARK
K-8 School



Luca, Ms. Borea and Amy on the first day of school

Principal’s Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Our K-8 students have made a smooth transition and are off to a wonderful start. Our focus this year is to intellectually challenge our students, support their social development and foster independent thinking and problem-solving skills. We are dedicated to promoting healthy growth in all areas of our students’ lives, encouraging them to make thoughtful decisions that lead to positive and healthy outcomes.

It was so nice to see all of you who attended our annual Back To School Night on Thursday, September 26. The event offered a valuable chance for parents to gain insights into their child’s educational experiences, get to know the staff, and become active participants in their child’s education. It is a great way to foster a sense of community and shared responsibility for the student’s growth and development.

We are thrilled to announce that on October 23, author Cynthia Lord will visit our school to speak with our K-8 students about her books that they enjoyed as part of Newmark’s summer reading program. We are all eagerly anticipating this special event!

Thank you for your continued support, communication, and cooperation in making this a fantastic start to the school year! We are looking forward to a great year!!!

Sincerely,

Gina M. Borea
Principal

In this Issue

Principal’s Message	1
Spotlight News	2
Community Service News.....	3
This Month In Pictures.....	4-5
Counseling News	6
Nursing News	7
Students of the Month	8

Newmark K-8 School:

Ms. Gina M. Borea
Principal

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

Spotlight News

SUPPORT NEWMARK'S 2024 ANNUAL FUND

Every fall, we ask Newmark family and friends to consider donating to the Annual Fund to support the many innovative programs and services at Newmark.

Parent financial support has gone a long way in giving students the opportunity to go on educational field trips, providing high schoolers with work experience, delivering necessary staff training in reading and writing programs for our young students, modernizing our facility to include the latest technology and fielding an E-Sports Team.

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

As we all know, school funding is limited, and Newmark will only be as exceptional as we, as a community, decide to support it.

Thanks to parents and friends who have contributed in the past, we are able waive the annual book fee for all families this fall!



Every tax deductible gift counts. Our goal is 100% Parent Participation! Please consider giving at least \$1 for every school day your child is at Newmark, or a total of \$180. Your tax-deductible gift will make a great difference for all the students at Newmark!

On behalf of all the students at Newmark, we thank you for your support of the 2024 Newmark Annual Fund. The 2024 Newmark Annual Fund Appeal ends Monday, October 28, 2024.

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



Kai, Ms. Grossmith and Liam getting pretzels

Newmark Community Service for 2024-2025 is well underway. Our first Pretzel Sale made \$75 for Newmark High School's Future Business Leaders of America club. In only one week, students purchased an amazing \$166 worth of dog and cat products through the Animal Drive in the School Store. All products will be donated to the Plainfield Area Humane Society or Cause 4 Paws, a local cat rescue. The next School Store Drive will be Toys for Children and items will be donated to St. Joseph's Social Services Center.

We welcome back the collection drives, but this year Market Street Mission is benefiting from our first collection. They host an annual Winter Gear giveaway in Morristown, but always run out of accessories. So please send in new or gently used warm hats, scarves, and gloves from October 7 through October 24.

Our Snack Sales will run throughout the year, starting with a favorite, Donuts for Dogs on October 23, 2024. Brownies and Breads, a new theme, follows shortly after on November 21. Please watch the Friday Backpack News for the link to sign up to donate. Our parents and students were so amazingly generous last year, we are excited to help many organizations!



Anthony donating to the Pet Drive

Watch for more sales and updates about other community service in the Friday Backpack News and on the Newmark Website.

Fall 2024 Announcements

Upcoming K-8 Student Socials

K-8 Kids Afternoon: For students in Ms. Fagan/ Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Activities begin after dismissal from 2:45-4:00 PM. Fee: \$25 per date. Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:00 PM. Individually wrapped snacks and water will be provided to all participating students.

- Friday, December 6, 2024
- Friday, February 28, 2025
- Friday, May 9, 2025

K-8 Teen Afternoon: For students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Activities begin after dismissal from 2:45-4:30 PM (unless noted). Fee: \$25 per date. Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:30 PM. Individually wrapped snacks and water will be provided to all participating students.

- Friday, November 22, 2024
- Friday, February 21, 2025

Upcoming K-8 After School Clubs & Programs:

- **Session I:** Ends November 6, 2024
- **Session II:** Begins week of November 18, 2024 through January 23, 2025
- **Session III:** Begins week of February 10 through March 27, 2025
- **Session IV:** Begins week of April 7 through May 22, 2025

Upcoming School Events

- **K-8 Movie Night:** Friday, October 18, 2024 – 6:45 PM
- **K-8 Holiday Show: Tuesday, December 17, 2024** – details coming soon

All dates subject to change.

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

First Day of School



Silly Faces!



Best Buds on the First Day



First day, here we come!



Newmark Staff ready for a brand new year!



We are ready for 8th Grade!



So excited to start the year!



Nothing but smiles in Room 151!



It's going to be an awesome school year!

Healthy U Kickoff



Go, go, go!!!



Liam trying Horseshoe Hula Hoops



What's your favorite GO Food?



Mr. O'Connor talking about Whoa, Slow and Go foods



Gaga



Mr. Kerby's Class



Room 148 enjoying Striker Ball

Counseling News

Ms. George, Mrs. Jernigan, Ms. Rentrop and Ms. Grossmith

Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year! The Counseling Team looks forward to a productive Fall season! We are excited to share some counseling team offerings with you.

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. The PINS Program ceremonies occur four times per year. The deadlines for the PIN submission forms are below:

- **Friday, November 1, 2024**
- **Friday, January 10, 2025**
- **Friday, March 7, 2025**
- **Friday, May 9, 2025**

World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day is celebrated every year on October 10. Newmark celebrated this important day by engaging in a variety of mental health-related activities, including wellness stations with mental health-themed activities and practices. Students and staff talked about and celebrated the importance of mental health-related topics by participating in this special event.

Teambuilding

On October 21 and 22, K-8 students will participate in Teambuilding which occurs four times throughout the school year. This month's Teambuilding will focus

on learning how to work with new classmates and peers in a team, learning to become open to new experiences and transferring these skills into academic and social settings.

Healthy U Kickoff

With Mr. C. O'Connor

On Wednesday, September 18, 2024 our K-8 students were introduced to the Healthy U curriculum with a Kickoff to Health Event! Students engaged in various fitness activities such as Roll & Run, hula-hoop horseshoes, strikerball, cone shift, Gaga and tossing and catching. Students also learned about living a happy and healthy lifestyle, the importance of physical activity and completed an activity about a healthy diet using the "Go," "Slow" and "Whoa" foods.



Cole and Xavier participating in a cone relay race



Mr. C. O'Connor and students from 151-154



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your children back to school and touch base on a few things!

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent, please remember to report this to our Main Office at absence@newmarkeducation.com.

Medication/Health Issues:

It is also 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 throughout the year. If your child also needs any medication, be it prescription or over-the-counter medication, while in school, I will need a Medication Release Form filled out by their physician and parent to dispense it in school. The Medication Release Form is on the Newmark website under School Nurse under "Our Services," as are other health forms. My email is ecarroll@newmarkeducation.com if you have any questions or concerns.

Sports Physicals

If your child is interested in participating in one of our interscholastic sports programs in the middle school, they will need to have their physician complete the Sports Physical Form. The student will need a Sports Physical to participate in a sporting event at Newmark. If your child has had a physical done on March 1, 2023 or after, their doctor just needs to fill out the forms. You can find the Sports Physical Forms on the Newmark website under School Nurse, as well as the Concussion, Sudden Cardiac Death and Opioid Misuse Forms that are needed in order to participate.

Personal Hygiene and Your Child

Monitoring your child's personal hygiene is important from a social as well as healthful 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 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.
- Clothing should be changed on a daily basis. Clean cotton socks are the best for feet because they absorb moisture.
- 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



Jovanni, Mr. Osiadacz



Magnuson, Ms. Pantano



Preston, Mrs. Necci



Tristan, Mr. Kerby



Harry, Mr. Cebula

Congratulations!