September Weekly Vinal Voice

Week of Tuesday, September 3 - Friday, September 6, 2024.

Principal's Update

Welcome back!

We had an exciting and busy return to school last week! Mark your calendars for our upcoming Open House! PreK and kindergarten families already had their Open Houses, and on Thursday, September 19th, 1st - 5th grade families are welcome to visit their child(ren)'s classroom and meet their teachers. Due to our limited parking, please plan to visit based on the parameters below:
*Families with last names beginning with A - L: 5:00 - 5:45
*Families with last names beginning with M - Z: 6:00 - 6:45

Arrival/Dismissal

We need your help in ensuring the safety of our students. Please follow these requests when entering and/or leaving Vinal School:

1. Pull all the way up when dropping your child off in the morning. No door-to-door service, please.
2. Do not park in front of the school during arrival/dismissal times, or in unmarked areas. Please park your car in the parking lot if you need to enter the building for any reason.
3. Post the last name of your child in the passenger window for pick up.
4. If you are picking up for dismissal and arrive before 3:15, please park your car in the parking lot. We experience a backup that often blocks our Pre-K parents from accessing the Pre-K pick up loop.
5. Refrain from using your cell phone while in the dismissal line so that all attention is placed on safe driving around the 80-150 students that are being dismissed on a daily basis.
6. Adults should remain in their vehicle during arrival/dismissal. Please do not exit your vehicle. If you would like to walk your child(ren) to the front door, please park in a designated space.

School Improvement Council

Every school in the state of Massachusetts has a School Improvement Council made up of staff, parents, and a community representative. Vinal School is in need of a new community representative (resident of Norwell & no children at Vinal) and a new parent representative. We

meet monthly for one hour. If you are interested in joining our school council, or know someone that is, please email nathan.thorsteinson@norwellschools.org.

Snack at Lunch

Beginning on Monday, 9/16, students in grades 2nd - 5th will be able to purchase snacks during lunch. Snacks are not included with the universal free lunches, so if you want your child to have the ability to purchase a snack, money must be added to their account. You can add money on our Food Services site HERE, or send money in with them. Kindergarten and first grade will be able to purchase snacks later in the school year once lunchroom routines have been firmly established.

Picture Day

We have partnered with a new picture company, Inter-State Studio. We are excited for this new partnership with a locally owned company, and with more affordable prices.

Breakfast & Lunch Menus

September Menus



5th Graders Created Welcome Back Messages for Students & Staff



5th Graders Created Welcome Back Messages for Students & Staff



#Vinal Rocks



Read Aloud in 1st Grade



Kindergarten Visiting the Office



Fun in the Gym

Upcoming Dates

9/9: Strategic Plan Focus Group for Parents, 6 PM at NHS
9/10: First Day of PreK
9/19: Grades 1-5 Open House
*Families with last names beginning with A - L: 5:00 - 5:45
*Families with last names beginning with M - Z: 6:00 - 6:45
9/20: School Picture Day
9/23: 5th Grade Instrument Rental Night

9/26: Norwell CARES Day
10/2: Elementary Early Release, 12:20
10/2: PTO Stay & Play
10/6: Mom's PTO Kickball Game

Updates from Nurse Kristen

Welcome back!
If you are thinking about keeping medications for your child at school we will need a new MD order for the school year. Additionally, any medication **must** be brought in by the **parent/adult** so that I can sign the medications in, and the pharmacy label on the medication must have the child's name on it. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.
I am still missing some EpiPens and new MD orders for some students with life-threatening allergies so please do your best to get those to me at your earliest convenience.

Vinal PTO

Vinal PTO Corner

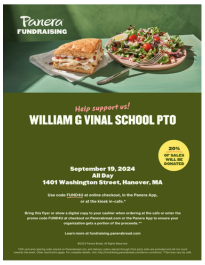


The role of the Vinal PTO is to support and enhance the educational experience of all of our students, and to strengthen the sense of community among all members of our school. We invite you to join us in all of our upcoming activities!

A few upcoming dates and reminders

- **9/19** - The same day as Curriculum Night at Vinal we have a **Panera Restaurant Fundraiser** -- if you use the code FUND4U at the Hanover location of Panera, 20% of sales will go to the Vinal PTO!
- Late September will be our Vinal vs. Cole **Moms Kickball Game--**details coming soon but start training asap
- **10/2** - Our first **Stay & Play** of the year will be on Oct. 2nd from 12:30 - 3pm during the early release day. Plan to come to the Vinal playground to enjoy a school-wide celebration with an inflatable, pizza, and more!
- **10/23-10/25** - During Parent Conferences, we will be hosting the **Annual Book Fair!** This year we are thrilled to share that we are partnering with Buttonwood Books to facilitate the fair. We are excited to enjoy better quality books while supporting a local business! This is a fun event for the kids and a great fundraiser for the Vinal PTO so get ready to shop. We'll also need lots of volunteers so keep an eye out for the signup genius.
- If you haven't already, please join our **Facebook Group** and Instagram. Our website is up to date too! Check it out vinalpto.com!
- You can learn more about the PTO Leadership Team on our website here.

If you are interested in getting more involved, we'd love to have you! Please email us at vinalpto@gmail.com.



Community Information

Norwell Conservation Day 2024

Saturday September 14th 9AM to 1PM at Jacobs Pond

Exhibit Tables	Activities
South Shore Natural Science Center **Edge of Pond, Hands On Ecology**. This is great for young explorers.	**9AM** - **History of Jacobs Pond and the Historic Jacobs Farm West Fields** with **Wendy Bawabe**, a local Historian of the Norwell Historical Society.
Learn about the **Norwell Grange.**	
Talk to **Appalachian Mountain Club Southeast Chapter** and learn about their conservation efforts and the local activities	**10AM** - **Kayaking Tour** with **NSRWA**. Please meet them at **945AM** if interested. Stop by their table to learn about their watershed work as well.
Learn about the importance of natural habitats, pollination systems, and organic practices at the **FoxRock Farms** booth!	
Native Plant Sale and information from local growers **Blue Stem Natives.**	**10AM** - **Guided Insect Walk** with Entomologist Extension Educator **Blake Dinus.**
Learn about fire and outdoor safety, come touch-a-truck, and more, with **Norwell Police & Fire**.	**11:30AM** - **Plants for Birds** - Discussion and short walk with **Lisey Good** of Wild Cohasset.
Learn more about **Norwell Recreation and Conservation**	**10AM to 1PM** - **Live Music** from **Joe Armstrong.**
10AM to 12 PM Face Painting with **Natali Eaton.**	**9AM to 1PM** - Lolly Jolly Food Truck.

Come walk, kayak, and explore Jacobs Pond while learning about conservation efforts and environmental issues. Stop by **Hornstra Farms** for ice cream and other treats afterwards and visit **Cross St Flower Farm** across the street for flowers and bouquets.



Nathan Thorsteinson

Nathan Thorsteinson is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters