



NEWMARK K-8 SCHOOL  
**FRIDAY BACKPACK NEWS**  
Friday, January 10, 2025

Dear Newmark K-8 School Families,

We are so excited to welcome new and returning Newmark families to the **Annual Spaghetti Dinner Night on Friday, February 7, 2025 from 5:30-8:00 PM**. This popular school event brings Newmark K-8 and High School families together to share a meal. Tickets must be purchased in advance - see *details below*.

Stay connected! Keep checking your email every week for important Parent Alerts and Friday Backpack News. You can always access past issues archived on our [website](#).

### School News & Information

**January Lunch:** [View](#) menu

**Community Connections PIN Nominations Deadline:** Friday, January 10, 2025 - [View](#) Nomination Form

**Community Service "Chips For Children" Sale:** Thursday January 16 & Friday, January 17, 2025 - Students can purchase small bag of chips for \$1, max of 2 bags - Sign up to [contribute](#) items for sale.

**School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day:** Monday, January 20, 2025

**K-8 After School Clubs - Session II:** In Progress through January 23, 2025. See below for Session III Registration

**Annual Spaghetti Dinner Night:** Friday, February 7, 2025 from 5:30- 8:00 PM - This popular school event will bring Newmark K-8 and High School families together for dinner and a chance to connect with other Newmark families. There will be fun activities for students. Parents are invited to bring a bottle of wine. Tickets are \$25 per adult and \$10 per child (18 and under) and includes dinner, beverages and dessert. *Tickets must*

be purchased in advance before Thursday, February 6, 2025 - [Purchase Tickets](#)

**Save the Date: Newmark Annual Art Show - Newmark Celebrates the Arts:** Friday, May 16, 2025

### **Community Service / FBLA**

- **School Store Military Drive:** Through Friday, February 21, 2025 - Students will be able to use their School Store points to "purchase" Military Drive items from the School Store. All donations will go to the New Jersey Veteran's Memorial Home at Menlo Park in Edison.
- **FBLA Coffee Cake Fundraiser:** Through Tuesday, February 18, 2025 - Help support the Newmark High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter. Students are raising money to participate in statewide conferences and leadership programs during the school year. Great coffee cake choices! [View Coffee Cake Order Form](#)

## **Spotlight: K-8 After School Clubs & Programs** **Registration for Session III is Now Open**

Newmark K-8 School is excited to offer Session III After School Clubs and Programs specifically designed to meet the age interests and needs of our students.

### **How To Register:**

- **Register [online](#)** to pay by credit card (\$3.00 fee), check payable to Newmark School (Checks/cash can be sent in to Main Office).
- **Register early** - space is limited!

### **Session III: Begins week of February 10 through March 27, 2025**

#### **LEGO CHALLENGE | \$100 per session | TUESDAY | ONSITE**

**Session III:** 2/11/25, 2/18/25, 2/25/25, 3/4/25, 3/11/25, 3/18/25, 3/25/25

*Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Minimum: 6 participants, Maximum: 12 participants*

**Description:** In this club, students will build on creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking skills and cooperation in order to use Legos to build solutions to various engineering design challenges. Lego Challenge is designed to reinforce STEM concepts, encourage innovative thinking and cooperation/collaboration. **Lego Challenge runs Tuesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.** Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**Questions:** Ms. Finelli – [jfinelli@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:jfinelli@newmarkeducation.com)

#### **ADVANCED ART | \$100 per session | TUESDAYS | ONSITE - BY INVITE ONLY**

**Session III:** 2/11/25, 2/18/25, 2/25/25, 3/4/25, 3/11/25, 3/18/25, 3/25/25

*Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Minimum: 6 participants*

**Description:** Advanced Art offers your child a small group/one-on-one art classroom environment for them to grow and learn more about art and their drawing skills. The program focus will be on the technical skills of drawing and sketching. Students will practice drawing from life and review the elements of art along with the principles of design. **The Advanced Art Program runs Tuesday afternoons immediately following after dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.** Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**Questions:** Mr. Sykes – [jsykes@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:jsykes@newmarkeducation.com)

#### **CHESS CLUB | \$100 per session | TUESDAYS | ONSITE**

**Session III:** 2/11/25, 2/18/25, 2/25/25, 3/4/25, 3/11/25, 3/18/25, 3/25/25

*Open to students in Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz, Ms. Pantano, Mrs. Necci and Mr. Kerby's classes. Minimum: 6 participants, maximum: 12 participants*

**Description:** The Chess Club is open to students of all skill levels interested in learning and playing chess. Our after-school sessions focus on teaching the basics of the game, including the pieces, how they move, and various strategies. Each meeting provides

instructional time to broaden your knowledge, followed by opportunities to play against fellow club members. Join us to develop your chess skills, challenge your mind and enjoy friendly competition! The club runs Tuesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**Questions:** Ms. Bosie – [sbosie@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:sbosie@newmarkeducation.com)

### **GAMER'S GUILD CLUB | \$100 per session | WEDNESDAYS | ONSITE**

**Session III:** 2/12/25, 2/19/25, 2/26/25, 3/5/25, 3/12/25, 3/19/25, 3/26/25

*Open to students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Minimum: 6 participants*

**Description:** Students will be introduced to a variety of new games where they will develop an understanding of rules within an engaging and enjoyable environment.

Students will work collaboratively through fantastical worlds like Dungeons and Dragons, as well as learn the value of partaking in friendly competition during card games. **The Club runs Wednesday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.** Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**Questions:** Ms. Finelli – [jfinelli@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:jfinelli@newmarkeducation.com)

### **INTRAMURALS | \$100 per session | WEDNESDAYS | ONSITE**

**Session III:** 2/12/25, 2/19/25, 2/26/25, 3/5/25, 3/12/25, 3/19/25, 3/26/25

*Open to all K-8 students. Minimum: 10 participants*

**Description:** The Intramurals Club is designed to allow all students to participate in a variety of activities with their friends, while learning game fundamentals in a fun and lightly competitive environment. **Intramurals is offered on Wednesday afternoons**

**immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.** Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**Questions:** Mr. C. O'Connor – [coconnor@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:coconnor@newmarkeducation.com)

### **MINECRAFT EDUCATIONAL CLUB | \$100 per session | THURSDAYS | VIRTUAL**

**Session III:** 2/13/25, 2/20/25, 2/27/25, 3/6/25, 3/13/25, 3/20/25, 3/27/25

*Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. Minimum: 6 participants; maximum; 15 participants*

**Description:** Microsoft Minecraft is an educational game-based learning platform that promotes collaboration and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment. It enhances creativity, self-direction, and other life skills. Virtually, Microsoft Minecraft complements reading, writing, math, and even history learnings. Importantly, Minecraft also instills business principles, STEM knowledge and a global perspective. Before registering, please understand participating students must own the Minecraft and have it downloaded. **Minecraft is offered virtually on Thursday afternoons and will run from 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM.**

**Questions:** Mr. Osiadacz - [POsiadacz@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:POsiadacz@newmarkeducation.com)

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB | \$100 per session | THURSDAYS | ONSITE**

**Session III:** 2/13/25, 2/20/25, 2/27/25, 3/6/25, 3/13/25, 3/20/25, 3/27/25

*Open to students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Minimum: 6 participants; maximum; 15 participants*

**Description:** The Computer Science Club offers students the opportunity to delve into engaging topics like game design and web development, fostering creativity and critical thinking in a fun and supportive environment. Students will benefit from targeted instruction as they explore the exciting world of coding and technology. Participants can look forward to hands-on projects, collaborative learning experiences, and the chance to unleash their potential in the field of computer science. **Computer Science Club is offered on Thursday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking their child up promptly at 4:00 PM.** Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**Questions:** Mr. Rose – [trose@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:trose@newmarkeducation.com)

**[Register for Session III](#)**

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**Newmark K-8 School 2024-25 School Year (SY)**

**Student Hours:** 8:45 AM - 2:30 PM

**Early Dismissal:** 8:45 AM - 12:45 PM

1000 Cellar Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

908-753-0330

[newmarkeducation.com](http://newmarkeducation.com)

**Contact Newmark Main Office**

Absences, late arrival, early pick up, any transportation changes, etc.

[absence@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:absence@newmarkeducation.com)

Maria Caggiano - [mcaggiano@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:mcaggiano@newmarkeducation.com)

Linda Tiner - [ltiner@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:ltiner@newmarkeducation.com)

Forms: [forms@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:forms@newmarkeducation.com)

General: [info@newmarkeducation.com](mailto:info@newmarkeducation.com)

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