



MINUTE

A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING @ NMS

"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

VOLUME: 3 / ISSUE: 20

DATE: 1-24-25

HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE

CEREAL BOX CHALLENGE

MIDDLE OF MIDDLE

KINDNESS CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Middle of the Middle Event

Team Navigators



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a glance

- **Report Cards Issued (1/24)** -- Just a reminder, Term II report card grades will be posted to Aspen for parents to review today, Friday, January 24th. Parents and students should review the report card together to discuss the student's progress. Grades are a reflection of student achievement in content knowledge and skill development as measured by work accuracy, quality, and timely completion. No matter the grade for the term, students should be reflecting on their strengths and areas for growth.
- **Project 351 (1/25)** -- On Saturday, January 25th, Tom Wilson (NMS Project 351 Rep.) will go to Boston with the other representatives across the state to Launch the Service Day. I am thrilled to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Tom on being selected as the Project 351 Ambassador for Norwell Middle School! Each year, one student is chosen from every school district across Massachusetts to participate in this prestigious program.
- **Early Release Day (1/29)** -- On Wednesday, January 29th, NMS has an early release 1/2 Day. We dismiss at 10:58AM.
 - [Early Release Day Bell Schedule](#)



NMS WINTER DANCE

January 24th 6:30 - 8:00 NMS cafeteria

\$5.00

ADMISSION TO DANCE MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

PTO -- We are excited to announce our 1st Parent Social of the year!.... Please join us at ALBA after dropping your students off at the Winter Dance...or please join us even if they aren't going to the dance!

As a parent of a NMS Student, you are automatically part of the NMS PTO. There are many ways to contribute to the PTO including Student Dues (\$40 per student suggested), as well as chaperoning PTO events, helping with Teacher Appreciation breakfasts, lunches and fun events, as well as joining one of our fundraising teams throughout the year. The PTO is made up of Parent Volunteers LIKE YOU!

Together, let's make the NMS experience the best it can be!!

The next PTO meeting is on Friday, February 7th at 9:15AM.

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CEREAL BOX CHALLENGE

The cereal boxes are piling up - thank you!! We're 1/2 way to our goal of 500 and there's still time. We're extending the deadline to Wednesday 1/29 - let's gooooo!!! Click on the link below for the flier and video example:
NMS Cereal Box Challenge 2025



Middle of the Middle / Navigators Breakfast



CALENDAR

January

24 Report Cards Issued
24 Winter Dance 6:30 to 8PM
27 School Committee @ 7PM
29 1/2 Day Early Release @ 10:58 AM
29 PD Committee Mtg

February

1 SEMSBA Auditions
3 Strategic Planning Committee
10 School Committee @ 7PM
14 Geography Bee
17-21 February Vacation

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



Ratatouille

One of my favorite movies and French cuisine comes to NMS!

Students in French class were working hard today recreating French culture and cuisine (Ratatouille)! Thank you to the students and to Mrs. Kelly!

KINDNESS CORNER

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. - Mother Theresa

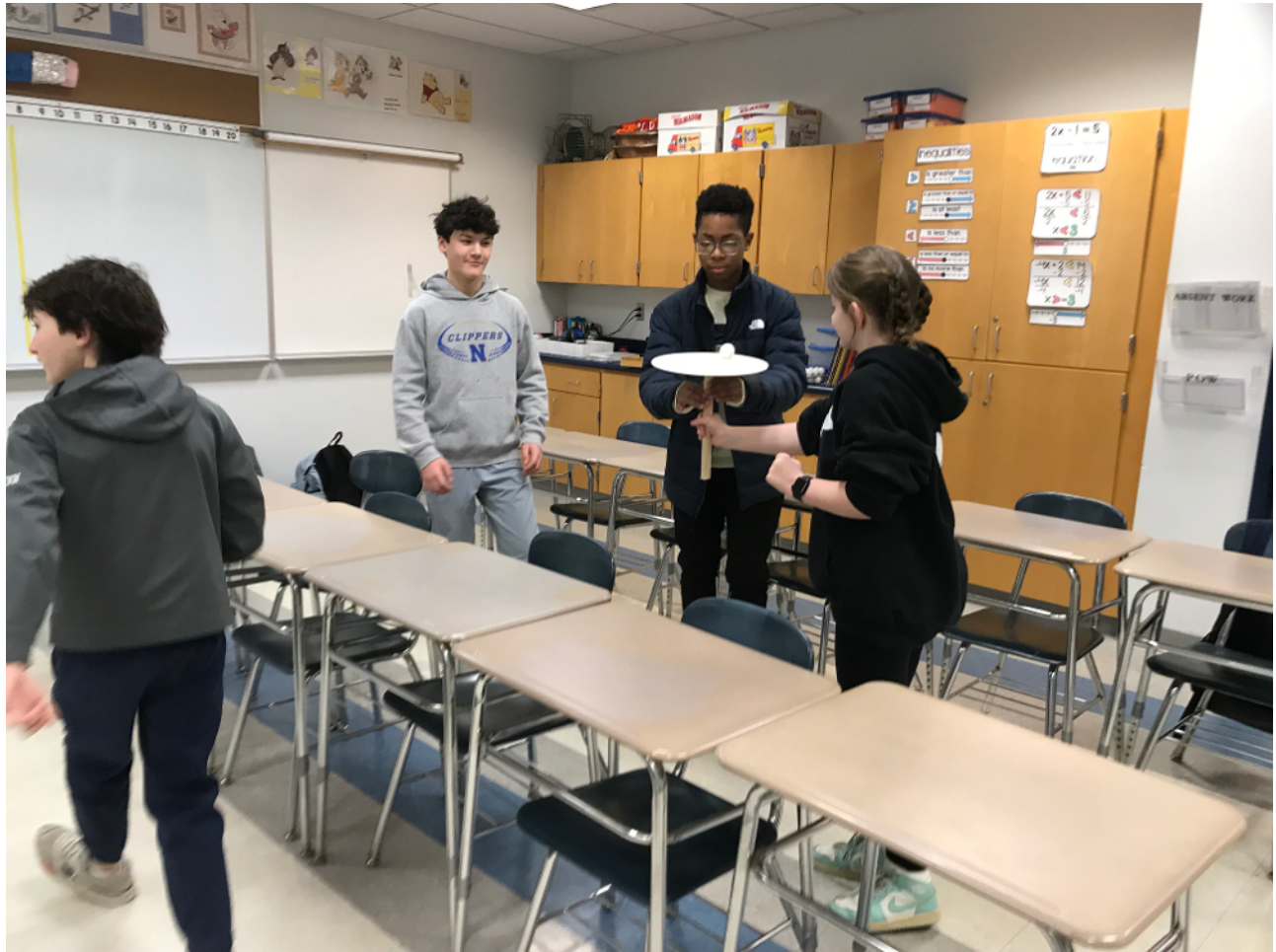
Thank you to Brooks Mullen for being kind and saying hello to several staff members in the hallways. Thank you also to Miles Creedon for helping a friend who is currently on crutches.

Rumor has it we have some great siblings in this building, thanks to Alson Djamchebi and Matt Adams, Evangeline Lydon and James Barry for being supportive older siblings. We know there's more out there and we always love a good sibling shout-out!

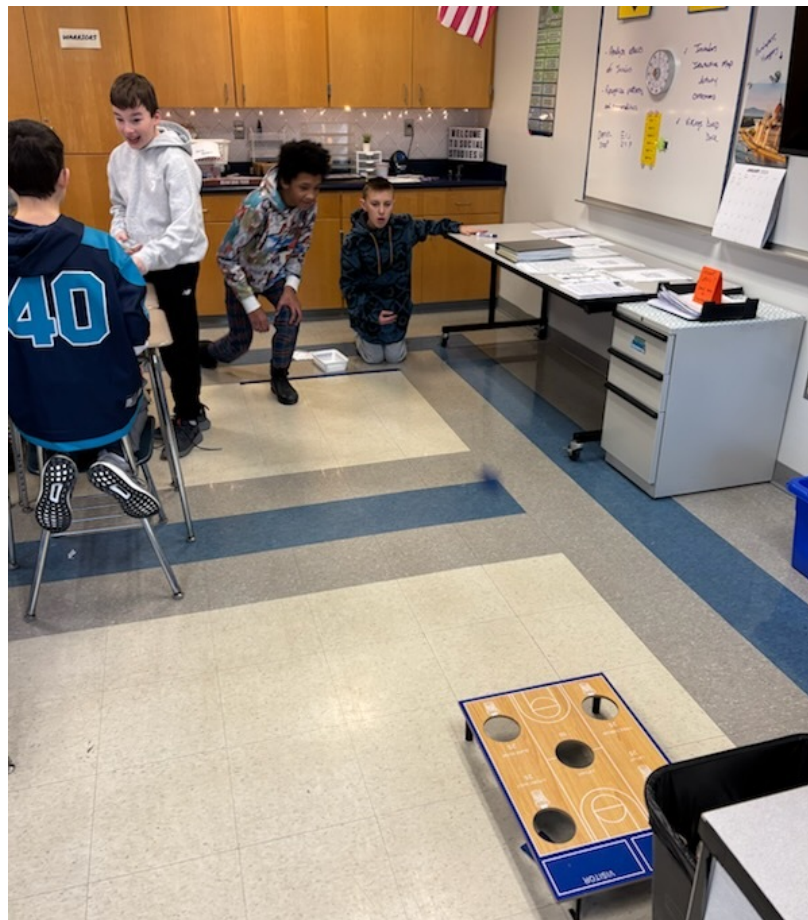
NMS Student Newsletter 1/17/25

It's the little things that help make a big difference. Thank You!

Middle of the Middle



Middle of the Middle



Calling all eighth graders for the **Yearbook Cover Design Contest**

Here's your chance to leave your mark on this year's yearbook by designing the cover! This year's theme is

Illuminate

Show us your interpretation of this theme with a design that reflects your unique vision and style. Our school name (NMS or Norwell Middle School) and school year (2024-2025) must be incorporated into your design as well as visual and design elements that reflect the theme.

Artwork can be on a letter-sized paper and can be created either by hand or digitally.

So let your imagination shine and be a part of making this yearbook unforgettable!

All designs must be submitted to Mrs. Higgins by Friday, January 17.

If you need art guidance or materials please see Mrs. Finn.

Guidance Suite

Thanks to PTO for the Furniture



After School Activities



CHESS CLUB

FREE and OPEN to all students
Thursdays in Room #208

New to the game or closing in on Grand Master status?
All are welcome to join the chess club for fun,
to learn how to play or gain new strategies.

Light hearted game play is the norm and so is the constant banter of the group.
From time to time, so legend says, a Backgammon board is broken out for a
change of pace.





NORWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE

We are excited to tell you about a school-wide Reading Challenge. Throughout the 2024-25 school year, we are encouraging our 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!

Reminders

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.

Turkey Trot

The Turkey Trot just ended, but we are looking for creative designers out there to submit entries for NEXT YEAR'S Turkey Trot T-shirt (Current 5th Graders-8th Graders are eligible!). This year, the design made it to over 350 T-shirts and hoodies...your design could be next!

- The judges will be looking for unique ideas that incorporate Running, Norwell, NMS, Thanksgiving, Fall, Turkey's, etc!
- We do ask that "Norwell Turkey Trot" and the Year 2025 is somewhere in the design.
- The Race Date has already been confirmed to be: Sunday, November 23rd, 2025. We can't wait!

The Design winner will receive a \$25 Gift Card of their Choice and their artwork will be on next year's gear!

The contest is OPEN NOW and the December/Winter Break could be a great time to work on your design! Please submit all questions or entries to: NMSPTO@gmail.com

Current 5th Graders- 8th Graders May Enter

NORWELL TURKEY TROT

2025

T-SHIRT DESIGN

CONTEST

OPEN NOW!!



Must include:

**Norwell Turkey Trot
&
2025**

**Winner
Receives
\$25
Gift Card
Your Choice!**

**Email questions or entries to:
NMSPTO@gmail.com**

PTO

The PTO received a very positive response to their feedback survey and in return, will be bringing back the Gift Card Giveaway! If you attend the February 7th PTO meeting in person or online, you'll be entered for a chance to win a \$50 gift card to ALBA! All you have to do is show up or log on! The PTO hopes that parents will continue to provide feedback and ideas to help make the NMS PTO fun, welcoming and inclusive for all! All parents are part of the PTO and we want to hear your ideas!

Geoff Gordon, a local advocate of the message from the, "Anxious Generation" book, will be presenting a few bullet points of the impact of smartphones and social media on our children's mental health and overall development at this meeting as well. There will be a few minutes for parents to voice concerns, discuss, and ask questions... But the goal is to determine if it might make sense to schedule a broader, more lengthy discussion about this topic here at Norwell Middle School.

We are also excited to announce our 1st Parent Social of the year! Please join us at ALBA after dropping your students off at the Winter Dance...or please join us even if they aren't going to the dance!

NMS PARENT SOCIAL

@

ALBA

Friday, January 24th

6:30ish

