



NEWMARK K-8 SCHOOL
FRIDAY BACKPACK NEWS
Friday, February 7, 2025

Dear Newmark K-8 School Families,

What a super fun School Spirit Week at Newmark! Go Lions! This evening, we cap off our **School Spirit Week** with the **Annual Newmark Spaghetti Dinner Night**. The event is from 5:30-8:00 PM at Newmark, 1000 Cellar Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ. Tickets must be purchased in advance - *still time to get your tickets!*

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

Annual Spaghetti Dinner Night: Friday, February 7, 2025 from 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Tickets are \$25 per adult and \$10 per child (18 and under) and includes dinner, beverages and dessert. *Tickets must be purchased in advance by 1:00 PM today!* [Purchase Tickets](#) **** Please bring a non-perishable food item to support the Community Services Food Drive tonight!**

February Lunch: [View](#) menu

Community Service Ice Cream Sale : Wednesday, February 12 & Thursday, February 13, 2025 - students can purchase one bowl of ice cream for \$1. Fundraiser to benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

We Need Your Help! Parent Volunteer Survey - 2025 Spring Events: Please complete [Survey](#) by Thursday, February 13, 2025

School Closed for Winter Recess: Friday, February 14 and Monday, February 17, 2025

Student Social - Teen Afternoon at the Movies Friday, February 21, 2025 - For students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's

classes only. Activities begin after dismissal from 2:45 until 6:00 PM. Fee: \$30 includes private showing of *Captain America: Brave New World* at Cinemark. Students must be picked up by parent/guardian at 6:00 PM from Newmark. [View](#) Permission Form

Student Social - Kids Afternoon: Friday, February 28, 2025 - For students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz and Ms. Pantano's classes. *Activities begin after dismissal from 2:45 until 4:00 PM. Fee: \$25 per date. Individually wrapped snacks and water will provided to all participating students.* Parents need to provide transportation home promptly at 4:00 PM. [View](#) Permission Form

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

Community Service / FBLA

- **Community Service Food Drive:** Through February 13, 2025. Students are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food including cereal, shelf stable milk, peanut butter, jelly and canned goods like meat, fruit and vegetables. Items collected will benefit Fanwood Presbyterian Church Food Pantry and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Scotch Plains. *Collection box in the school foyer.*
- **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
- **Pay To Play Dodgeball:** Thursday, February 20, 2025. K-8 students can participate in the Dodgeball Tournament to help raise money for the Newmark High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). Cost is \$5 per student. [Read](#) Letter / Permission Form
- **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 Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park in Edison.

Spotlight: K-8 After School Clubs & Programs

Registration for Session III is 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: 15 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NEW! CHARACTER DESIGN 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 – 12 participants

Description: The Character Design Club welcomes students who enjoy creating and drawing characters. The Club will focus on the fundamentals of character design including anatomy, expressions and storytelling. Each Thursday, participants will have instructional time to work on drawing techniques, followed by opportunities to develop ideas and collaborate with fellow peers. Join us to develop your artistic skills, unleash your creativity and bring your characters to life! **Character Design 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: Ms. Kang – jkang@newmarkeducation.com

[Register for Session III](#)

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

Contact Newmark Main Office

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

absence@newmarkeducation.com

Maria Caggiano - mcaggiano@newmarkeducation.com

Linda Tiner - ltiner@newmarkeducation.com

General Information: info@newmarkeducation.com

Forms: forms@newmarkeducation.com



