N MINUTE

A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING @ NMS

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

VOLUME: 4/ ISSUE: 3
DATE: 9-5-25

HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE
TEAM DAY
UPDATES
KINDNESS CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a Glance

Picture Day -- NMS Picture Day is on Wednesday, (9/10) for all students. To order

Scan the QR code, or go to www.coffeepond.com and click the red banner that says "Order School Portraits & shop our exclusive products"

Reading Initiative (Flex Friday) -- -- NMS Reading Challenge will begin on Friday (9/12). We are encouraging NMS students to read more! To help along the way, we will be devoting Friday Flextime to independent reading.

Late Nights & late buses will begin the week of September 15th. Late nights are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information about late buses see our **website**

Back-to-School Night (9/17) The Norwell Middle School's Back-to-School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. This important program will provide parents with information about grade level courses, teams, middle school programs, extracurricular activities, and many other important aspects of Norwell Middle School. Parents will also have an opportunity to meet with the middle school counselors and NMS administration. This evening is a great opportunity for parents to learn more about Norwell Middle School. Parents and guardians are asked to come directly to the cafeteria at 6:00 p.m. for the beginning of the evening's activities. At approximately 6:20 p.m., the auditorium presentation concludes, and you will proceed to your child's classes.

Team Day

We were thrilled to welcome everyone back with our Team Day event on Friday, September 5th! The day was filled with excitement, music, and games.

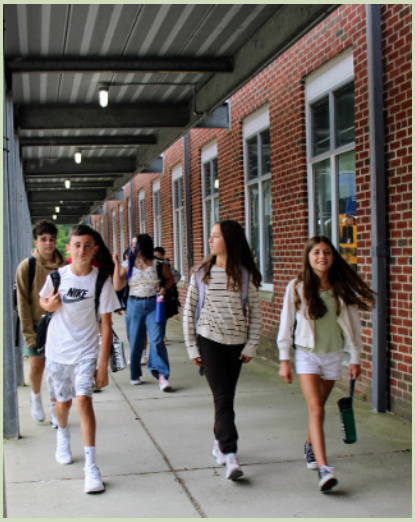
Students had a blast participating in a wide variety of fun and competitive activities. From high-energy inflatable games to classic field favorites, there was something for everyone—including the chance to challenge friends or even a teacher! It was a fantastic way to kick off the new school year—full of laughter, teamwork, and school spirit!

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Updates

6th Grade Fun Day -- The excitement was in full swing for our 6th graders on Friday afternoon! Students took to the field for an action-packed Fun Day, diving into obstacle courses, throwing footballs, hitting volleyballs, and dancing at the DJ booth. (See page 3,4 and 5 for more!)

We're Back!



CALENDAR

September

10 Picture Day

12 PTO Meeting 9:15 AM

15 School Committee Mtg 7PM

17 Back-to-School Night 6 - 8PM

25 Norwell Cares Day (Elementary only)

26 Peggotty Beach (8th Grade)

29 School Council 2PM

October

1 Early Release / PD

3 Interim Reports Due

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

PTO

We had a great day on Friday supporting teachers, staff and students at TEAM DAY! The first PTO event of the year (6th Grade Fun Fest on Friday) was very successful as well thanks to our PTO and Parent Volunteers!

PTO DUES -- We are requesting a contribution of $50 per child. 100% of student dues are directly applied to support the school, our staff, and our students. Learn more on our Website: NorwellMiddleSchoolPTO.org or on our Norwell Middle School PTO FacebookPage or Instagram!

The PTO spends an average of $68 per student each school year, but thanks to the annual NMS Turkey Trot 5k (on Sunday, November 23rd), we are able to keep our student dues relatively low, while providing support to our students, staff and NMS families.
The first PTO meeting of the year is THIS FRIDAY, Sept. 12th @ 9:15am in the NMS Cafe or on ZOOM.

PTO Meeting Zoom Link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87054621092?pwd=b42Em903ROpbVbSFqd0bqBxbqHAbXS.1

Zoom Meeting: 870 5462 1092 Password: 02061

Veronica Carney & Ren Layne Co-Leads

KINDNESS CORNER

Work Hard. Be Kind. Help Others.

- NMS Motto

Thank you to Mason Crain who helped clean up the lunch table when others were not volunteering to do so. Thank you Amy Guman and Ryan Gouthrofor putting yourselves out there and being our featured artists. Thank you to Brooks Mullen for always saying hello to staff in the hallways. A shout out to Elena Charon who was supportive to a classmate in need and to Eden Dell'Olio for also helping out a classmate. Patrick Hadley also got a shout out from a classmate for being a good friend. Andrew (Drew) Ribeiro was recognized by his friends for always being able to make them smile and always having something nice to say.

Don't forget to fill out the form below to give your friend/classmate a kindness shout-out!

NMS Acts of Kindness

Also, click HERE to see the latest edition of the Student Newsletter

Team Day

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Picture Day is coming!

Picture Day is Wed, September 10th

We have made it easy for you to place your portrait order online! Just follow these simple steps:

1. Scan the QR code, or go to www.coffeepond.com and click the red banner that says "Order School Portraits & shop our exclusive products"
2. Using the drop-down menu, select the city and state where your school is located, then select the name of your school.
3. Enter your child's information, including full first name (as it appears in the school's registry).
4. Select your packages and add them to your cart.
5. If you have more than one child attending this school, click "Order for Another Child" and repeat the steps above.
6. Once you've added packages to your cart for all your children, you're ready to check out! Follow the prompts to enter your contact and billing information. Once all your information has been entered, and you've reviewed your order, just be sure to click "Submit Order"!

Orders placed after Picture Day may be subject to a $8 handling fee.

Need assistance? Email lifeguards@coffeepond.com or call (508) 907-6633 ext. 0

Technology Fee Payment

Norwell Public Schools will continue offering an optional Technology Fee Program for iPad repairs and replacements. This program is geared toward quick and efficient student iPad replacement by swapping out the iPad within a 24-hour period. This fee is only for students in Middle and High School.

The fee is $50.00.

The initial Technology Fee can be paid online HERE or by check made out to the Town of Norwell with "tech fee and the name of the student" in the memo line.

The deadline for the 2025-2026 school year is September 30, 2025. The option to pay will not be available after that date.

Families have the option of obtaining private insurance coverage for iPads or selecting no coverage at all. To see the details for each of these coverages, please click HERE.

Norwell Middle School

YEARBOOK CLUB

Are you an 8th grader who enjoys taking photos? Are you artistic? Do you like designing things on a computer? Want to leave your mark?

Join the Yearbook Club!

What is it?

A group of creative 8th grade students who will build the NMS yearbook from the ground up by taking photos of school activities and events, designing the yearbook pages and cover, and helping market and distribute our yearbook.

If are interested in being a part of the yearbook, join us for our first meeting after school on Monday, 9/22, in Mrs. Higgins' room 242. Or, contact Mrs. Higgins or Mrs. Finn.

9/11 Remembrance

9/11 Remembrance

On Thursday, I will speak to the school about 9/11. During homeroom, I will say the following,

"Today, September 11th, 2024, our nation marks the 24th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that forever changed our country and the world. Although all of you, as students, were not yet born… we, and all Americans will never forget what happened that day.

Over the last two decades, the September 11th anniversary has become a day to honor and remember those we lost, those who answer the call to serve in the military, and as First Responders."

Pause for a moment of silence

I will then pause for a moment of silence in memory of the lives lost on that day and continue reading the following:

"September 11th has touched the lives of each of us and our families. Many people will share stories of where they were before they learned what happened, and what unfolded in the minutes and hours after. It was a day that had a lasting impact on all of us and forever changed the path of our nation moving forward.

In the weeks that followed, something truly amazing happened… a remarkable spirit of patriotism and compassion united our country. American flags appeared everywhere you looked… and it had nothing to do with political affiliation.

During Flex, or when time exists in your classes, take a minute to ask your teachers, ask adults in your life, and most importantly… ask your parents about where they were on the morning of September 11th. Listen to their stories... and hear their accounts of the uplifting patriotic pride, compassion, and collective support that persevered.

Through the sharing of these stories, we will always remember the events of September 11th.

Thank you for being part of this remembrance and listening to the stories you will hear from the people in your life."

Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures and Helpful Tips

Morning Drop-Off Information and Procedures

- ❏ Parents can drop-off students as early as 7:00 AM as there is supervision by NMS staff in the cafetorium beginning at 7:00 AM
- ❏ Students need to be in their homeroom by 7:25; traffic has been heaviest at 7:20.
- ❏ Dropping students off earlier is recommended.
- ❏ When traffic is heavy, cars should pull as far forward as possible around the curve to the end of the canopy (closer to the Sparrell building). Students do not need to be dropped off right in front of the door.
- ❏ No car should park in the drop-off lane nor should a driver leave their car. If a student needs help carrying items into the school or the driver needs to exit the car, the car should be parked in the designated lot.

Afternoon Pick-Up Information and Procedures

- ❏ The school day ends at 1:58 PM. By nature of their schedule and location in the building, sixth grade students tend to leave the building first and seventh and eighth graders whose lockers are upstairs tend to leave the building a little later.
- ❏ Students exit from the front door or the cafetorium. Parents do not need to come into the building to pick-up their children after 1:58; students may exit the building for their ride.
- ❏ You do not need to pick-up your student right at 2:00. In the past, traffic has been heaviest between 1:50 - 2:10. If you can pick-up between 2:10 and 2:15, your entry and exit from the school parking lot will likely be quicker and you will contribute to less traffic.
- ❏ If arriving before 1:58, please follow traffic patterns and pull as far forward as possible to accommodate more cars.

Additional Information

- ❏ As always, please drive slowly and cautiously. Be aware of students crossing the road to the parking lot areas.
- ❏ Be careful entering the school driveway from Main Street as cars leaving and turning left are in a left turn lane in the middle of the driveway.
- ❏ Drop-off and pick-up in front of the Sparrell building and on Main Street are not allowed.

THE SOUTH SHORE'S CAN'T-MISS EVENT

Flannel Fest

Saturday, Oct. 4

3:-7:00 PM

The Tinker's Son

(inside and out)

🎶 Featuring Live Music: Wesley, The 155s & Road Soda

🎉 A Night of Great Fun!

🍹 21+ Event | 🎟️ $25 Tickets

✨ Raffles • Delicious Food • Good Vibes ✨

💥 Sponsorships available! Contact president@norwellboosters.org

Third Annual Norwell Conservation Day

Saturday September 27th 9AM to 1PM at Jacobs Pond

Exhibit Tables: learn more about the environment & these local groups

Blue Stem Natives - Creating wildlife friendly green spaces, using plants native to our area

FoxRock Farms - Educating the importance of natural habitats, pollination systems, & organic practices

Appalachian Mountain Club: Southeastern Chapter - Offering outdoor activities, including conservation, hiking, biking, paddling, skiing, & more!

Mass Audubon - Protecting the nature of Massachusetts for people & wildlife

WildCohasset.org - Saving native plants & the wildlife that rely upon them

Four Corner Supply Co. - Providing the community with sustainable products & bulk options

Norwell Recreation - Year-round activities for all ages

Norwell Public Library - Committed to conservation through its seed library, events, & art exhibits

Join the many outdoor & hands on Activities to experience all that Jacobs Pond has to offer

South Shore YMCA Nature Center - Edge of Pond, Hands On Ecology. Get up close with the species that live in Jacobs Pond. This is great activity for young explorers.

9:30AM and 11:30AM - Join **Mass Audubon** for an educational nature walk around Jacobs Pond (~45-minute walk, max 20 people per walk).

Join the **Norwell Historical Society** for the Grand Opening of the **Joshua Jacobs Homestead Trail** & learn about the history of the farm and the property.

Learn about fire and outdoor safety, come touch-a-truck, & more, with **Norwell Police & Fire**.

9AM to 1PM - **Face Painting** with **Natali Eaton**.

10AM to 1PM - **Live Music** from **Joe Armstrong** & his students.

10AM to 1PM - **Loco Larry's Taco Truck**, food provided by Conservation for the first 50 people (while supplies last!!).

Hosted by Norwell Conservation Commission & the South Shore YMCA Nature Center