



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: 4

DATE: 9-12-25

HEADLINES

WEEK AT A GLANCE

PICTURE DAY

UPDATES

KINDNESS CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Week at a Glance

Reading Initiative (Flex Friday) -- -- NMS Reading Challenge will begin today, 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](#)

Virtual Author Visits (9/16) -- NMS has five virtual author visits hosted by Kwame Alexander (author of The Crossover) for the 6th grade. They will be reading The Crossover this fall with our ELA classes, so this is pretty exciting! The first meeting is on Tuesday, September 16th @1:00PM (Literacy Pep Rally).

Author Study with Kwame Alexander is an interactive, virtual author visit series that brings Kwame Alexander and other notable authors into classrooms. And while it's fun for students, Author Study supports literacy learning goals. Most important, it celebrates the power of words and individual expression. Research shows that interaction with authors boosts students' motivation to read and write on their own. And agentive reading and writing leads to higher literacy achievement across subject areas.

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.

Peggotty Beach (9/26) -- 8th grade students will be exploring erosion at Peggotty Beach on Friday, Sept 26th, rain date Monday, Sept 29th.

Red Team students will go to Peggotty beach in the morning and the Blue team students will leave from the cafeteria after lunch for the rest of the day .



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Updates

Picture Day -- NMS Picture Day was 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"



PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY will be on Wednesday, October 29th

Picture Day



PTO

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 second PTO meeting of the year is FRIDAY, October 3rd @ 9:15am in the NMS Cafe or on ZOOM.

Veronica Carney & Ren Layne Co-Leads

CALENDAR

September

- 15 School Committee Mtg 7PM
- 16 Late Buses Begin
- 16 Virtual Author Visit
- 17 Back-to-School Night 6 - 8PM
- 25 Norwell Cares Day (Elementary only)
- 26 Peggotty Beach (8th Grade)
- 30 School Council 2PM

October

- 1 Early Release / PD
- 3 Interim Reports Due
- 3 PTO Mtg @ 9:15AM

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

KINDNESS CORNER

"Perhaps we all need some measure of unmerited grace." - Bryan Stevenson

So many shout outs to start off the year. Thank you to Dean Godin for always helping clean up in the cafeteria. Thank you to Elsie Spera and Madelyn Smith for making room at their table at lunch, and to Ryan Long, Nick Pasquale, Nate Bateman and Donald Charlebois for doing the same. Thank you to Isabella Lang for being kind by helping out a classmate in Foods. Thank you also to Finlay Crosby and Claire Natale for being inclusive in during an activity in their Science class.

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

NMS Acts of Kindness



Picture Day



Picture Day



Author Study w/ Kwame Alexander

Author Study with Kwame Alexander is an interactive, virtual author visit series that brings Kwame Alexander and other notable authors into classrooms. And while it's fun for students, Author Study supports literacy learning goals. Most important, it celebrates the power of words and individual expression.

Author Visits

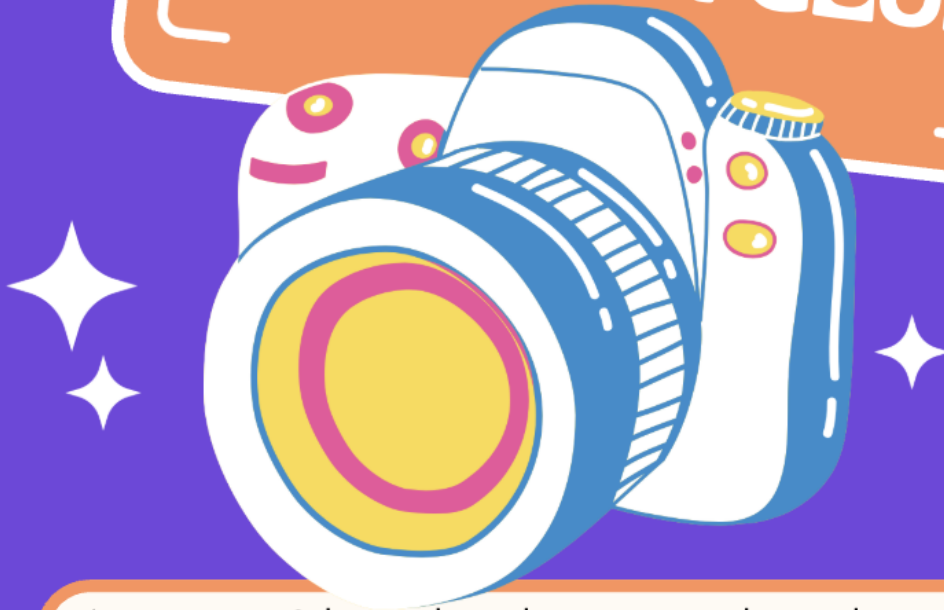
During every 45-minute virtual live stream, students learn directly from celebrated, published authors. Each session includes...

- A book talk and read-aloud from a favorite book
- A brief writing craft lesson - with a handout emailed to registrants before and after
- A conversation with a special guest author (sometimes two!), with time for questions from students
- A live Q&A session with Kwame, taking select questions from attendees in the chat.

Research shows that **interaction with authors boosts students' motivation** to read and write on their own. And agentive reading and writing **leads to higher literacy achievement** across subject areas.

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 during 8th grade flextime on Tuesday, 9/23, in Mrs. Higgins' room 242. Or, contact Mrs. Higgins or Mrs. Finn.

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](#).

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 cafeteria 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.

Norwell Middle School

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM *Celebration!*

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 22
2:20 PM

NORWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL
328 MAIN STREET
NORWELL, MA

PLEASE JOIN US
FOR A SHORT CEREMONY TO
CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF THE
NORWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL
OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

GIFTED BY THE JOHN W. HUGHAN FOUNDATION





1st

Special Education Parent Advisory Council **MEETING**

Connect with Other Parents and Learn How to
Support Your Child's Growth!



Meet and talk
with other
families



Discuss your child's
needs



Generate new ideas

Monday, September 22nd

7:00 pm–8:00 pm

Norwell Middle School

Community Room

328 Main Street



For questions contact: thenorwellsepac@gmail.com

**NORWELL
SEPAC**

THE SOUTH SHORE'S CAN'T-MISS EVENT



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.

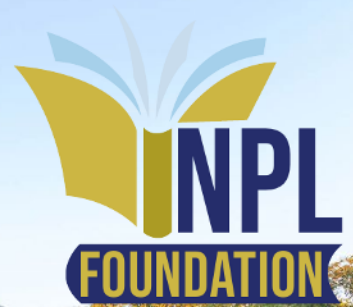
10AM to 1PM - **Loco Larry's Taco Truck**, food provided by Conservation for the first 50 people (while supplies last!!).

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



Norwell Public Library's
50th
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
SAVE THE DATE:
Sat, October 18, 2025
2:00 – 3:00pm
For all ages! Join us for cake, balloon animals,
face painting, and more!

The poster features a festive design with a light beige background covered in small, multi-colored confetti. At the top, a string of colorful triangular bunting flags (red, yellow, green, blue) hangs across the width. Two large, round balloons with green and white vertical stripes are positioned on either side of the central text. At the bottom corners, there are illustrations of red party hats with colorful streamers. The text is centered and uses a mix of blue and red fonts, with the '50th' being particularly large and stylized.



GET LOUD AT THE LIBRARY!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18th
5:30-7:30 pm

**Please join us for an adults-only event to re-launch
the Norwell Public Library Foundation!**

- ➔ AGE 21+
- ➔ MUSIC
- ➔ FOOD
- ➔ RAFFLES



... and ALL SORTS OF OTHER TYPICAL LIBRARY NO-NO'S!

CHEERS TO 50 YEARS!
Celebrating Norwell Public Library's Golden Birthday

HAVE USED OR UNWANTED MARKERS, PENS

WOODEN OR MECHANICAL PENCILS?

The Norwell Recycling and Sustainability Committee sponsors a project to recycle used or unwanted crayons, markers, pens and wooden, colored and mechanical pencils. We are working in partnership with Staples, as these materials are part of their extensive list of materials that can be dropped off at their stores for recycling.

Collection boxes are located at-

Grace Farrar Cole School

William G. Vinal School

Norwell Middle School

The Accord School

First Parish PreSchool

Ridge Hill School

Norwell Public Library

Norwell Council on Aging