

Newmark K-8 Friday Backpack News - 1/9/26

From Newmark Education <SLevy@newmarkeducation.com>

Date Fri 1/9/2026 9:00 AM

To Sandra Vollero-Levy <SLevy@newmarkeducation.com>



NEWMARK K-8 SCHOOL **FRIDAY BACKPACK NEWS** Friday, January 9, 2026

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 6, 2026 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 2026 Lunch: [View](#) menu

Community Connections PIN Nominations Deadline: Friday, January 9, 2026 - [View](#) Nomination Form

Community Service "Chips For Children" Sale: Thursday January 15 & Friday, January 16, 2026 - 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 19, 2026

K-8 After School Clubs - Session II: In Progress through January 22, 2026. *See below for Session III Registration*

Annual Spaghetti Dinner Night: Friday, February 6, 2026 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 5, 2026 - [Purchase Tickets](#)*

Save the Date: Newmark Annual Art Show - Newmark Celebrates the Arts: Friday, May 15, 2026

Community Service / FBLA

- **FBLA Coffee Cake Fundraiser:** Through Tuesday, February 17, 2026 - 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: After School Clubs - Session III

Registration Now Open - Begins Week of February 9, 2026

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 9 through April 2, 2026

ART CLUB | \$100 per session | TUESDAYS | ONSITE

Session III: 2/10/26, 2/17/26, 2/24/26, 3/3/26, 3/10/26, 3/17/26, 3/24/26, 3/31/26

Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz/Ms. Mazzeo and Ms. Pantano's classes. Min 6 participants; max 12 participants

Description: Open to all lower school students, Art Club focuses on building fine art skills through fun, hands-on projects. Students will explore drawing, painting, clay and other creative activities while reinforcing skills learned in art class. **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: Mr. Sykes - jsykes@newmarkeducation.com

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

Session III: 2/10/26, 2/17/26, 2/24/26, 3/3/26, 3/10/26, 3/17/26, 3/24/26, 3/31/26

Open to students in Ms. Fagan/Mrs. Bain, Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz/Ms. Mazzeo and Ms. Pantano's classes. Min 6 participants; max 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

CHESS CLUB | \$100 per session | WEDNESDAYS | ONSITE

Session III: 2/11/26, 2/18/26, 2/25/26, 3/4/26, 3/11/26, 3/18/26, 3/25/26, 4/1/26

Open to students in Ms. Halma, Mr. Osiadacz/Ms. Mazzeo, Ms. Pantano, Mrs. Necci and Mr. Kerby's classes. Min: 6 participants; max: 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 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. Kang - jkang@newmarkeducation.com

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

Session III: 2/11/26, 2/18/26, 2/25/26, 3/4/26, 3/11/26, 3/18/26, 3/25/26, 4/1/26

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

Description: Gamers' Guild is designed to introduce and build concepts of collaborative and imaginative play within a group setting as students are introduced to fantastical worlds within tabletop games such as Dungeons & Dragons and Daggerheart. Students will work alongside each other to overcome challenges, create strategies and learn improvisation. **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: 2/11/26, 2/18/26, 2/25/26, 3/4/26, 3/11/26, 3/18/26, 3/25/26, 4/1/26

Open to all K-8 students. Min: 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

IMPORTANT UPDATE - NOW ONSITE! MINECRAFT EDUCATIONAL CLUB | \$100 per session | THURSDAYS | ONSITE

Session III: 2/12/26, 2/19/26, 2/26/26, 3/5/26, 3/12/26, 3/19/26, 3/26/26, 4/2/26

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

Description: Microsoft Minecraft is an educational, game-based learning platform that promotes creativity, collaboration and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment. It enhances self-direction and other life skills. 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 runs 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. Osiadacz - posiadacz@newmarkeducation.com

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

Session III: 2/12/26, 2/19/26, 2/26/26, 3/5/26, 3/12/26, 3/19/26, 3/26/26, 4/2/26

Open to students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Min: 6 participants; max: 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 Club runs Thursday afternoons immediately following dismissal and will end at 4:00 PM. Parents are responsible for picking up their child promptly at 4:00 PM. Snacks and drinks will be provided.**

Questions: Mr. Rose - trose@newmarkeducation.com

CHARACTER DESIGN CLUB | \$100 per session | THURSDAYS | ONSITE

Session III: 2/12/26, 2/19/26, 2/26/26, 3/5/26, 3/12/26, 3/19/26, 3/26/26, 4/2/26

Open to students in Mrs. Necci, Mr. Kerby, Mrs. Klier/Mr. S. O'Connor and Mr. Cebula/Ms. Kang's classes. Min 6 participants; max 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 2025-26 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

Forms: forms@newmarkeducation.com

General: info@newmarkeducation.com

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