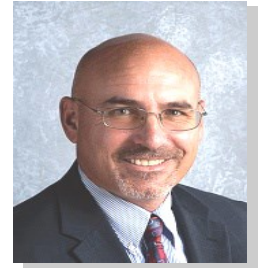




Special Points of Interest:

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- ❖ Yearbook - Page 9



Principal's Corner

A message from Thomas Einhorn, Principal, Newtown Middle School

As January comes to an end so does the first semester, which also is the halfway point of the school year. You may access your child's grades via the Parent Portal of PowerSchool. Our students generally do very well. Most will probably indicate successful academic achievement over the first half of this school year.

However, if your child is struggling in an academic area, this is a great time to develop a plan for improvement. What should be your next steps as parents? Access the Parent Portal of PowerSchool and review the list of assignments for the class with your child. Ask your child to identify why they think their grades have been negatively impacted. Have your child develop a plan of action. However, what if your child says he/she has no idea what happened? Your child's teachers are key in supplying the necessary information about the "why" the grade was earned, as well as vital in helping to suggest how to fix the problem. Please call, email or set up an appointment to come in and talk with your child's teacher. At the middle school, in addition to quality classroom instruction, we have a comprehensive variety of services available to help our adolescent students. They may include the following:

- Before/after school assistance from teachers
- Homework help two afternoons each week for those who qualify, in-

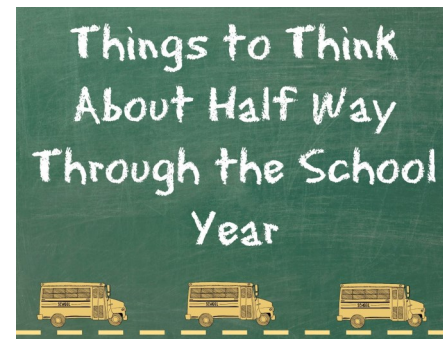
cluding a late bus on Mondays and Wednesdays

- Access to the Parent Portal for students and parents, to ensure regular monitoring of your child's academic success.
- A full staff of counseling professionals, who are valuable resources in helping our students.

Please take a close look at this report card on the Parent Portal. Grades are important indicators of learning, and good grades can open doors of future opportunity for your son or daughter.

All the best!

Tom Einhorn, Principal



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Assistant Principal's Message

By James Ross, Assistant Principal



January, 2018 Rotary Winner

Grade 7

Nate L.

Nate is the epitome of a gentleman and caring citizen. He routinely says "good morning" and "thank you" to his teachers and is consistently respectful of his peers. Aside from his polite nature, Nate has high expectations for himself and works very hard to complete all subject's assignments to his high standard. He also has tremendous class participation and brings an unparalleled air of enthusiasm to class discussions. Nate is a kind soul who cares deeply about others, his community, and the environment. He has a mature outlook that goes well beyond his years on the issues facing our world such as polluted oceans and species' extinction and raised other's awareness through his recent My Generation Monument Project. Nate has demonstrated his dedication through volunteer work in both bat counting and bird banding at The Bent of the River Audubon Center and nature sanctuary. Nate is also a whiz at geography as demonstrated at our cluster's recent Geo Bee. It wouldn't surprise us if in the near future he is instrumental in developing global solutions that benefit all of humanity and our environment.

Congratulations Nate on being an outstanding 7 Blue and global citizen!

Assistant Principal's Message *(Cont.)*

Junior Advisory - January

During January all students engaged in a wonderful lesson on identifying emotions. Students learned how to recognize their emotions, identify signs of their different emotions, and most importantly how emotions can impact decisions and behaviors. Students analyzed the spectrum of emotions and reviewed different scenarios that may impact their emotions. During February's Junior Advisory student will learn how to best communicate their feelings.



Nurse's Office



8th Grade Field Trip to Washington D.C. Medication Information

If your child is going on the 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. in April and will need to take daily medication or need to bring “as needed” over-the-counter medication, it is required that a medication authorization form be completed and signed by the child’s physician and parent. The medication authorization form can be picked up in the health office or downloaded from the school website under “department” then drop down to “health office”. This includes “over the counter” types of medication, such as Claritin, Zyrtec, Benadryl, vitamins, hydrocortisone cream. Controlled medication will need to be kept with the nurse assigned to your child’s cluster and will be administered at the prescribed time. All other daily medication or “as needed” medication will be kept with the nurse as well, unless the physician and parent feel the child can carry their medication and self-medicate, if so, the physician and parent must sign the agreement at the bottom of the medication authorization form.

All medication must be sent in the original container or package and only the amount needed for the duration of the trip should be sent. Parents should administer AM dose on the day of the trip. It is not necessary to send Tylenol, Ibuprofen or Tums if you have already given the health office permission to administer as we will supply those medications. If your child already has medication in the nurse’s office, we will send the medication and the nurse will carry the medication. Remember, medication forms must have both MD and parent signature so it is recommended that enough time is given to complete this process. **ALL FORMS AND MEDICATION ARE DUE NO LATER THAN APRIL 3, 2019.**

Please call the health office with any questions or concerns so that we can help you and ensure that your child will have a safe and enjoyable trip!

Andrea Trager, RN
Jocelyne Taweh, RN
(203)426-7636

March Book Fair Coming Soon to Newtown Middle School!

The Follett Book Fair is back in March! The book fair will be held during the week of conferences, March 12 through March 15. Come shop an awesome selection of titles, from a wide range of publishers.

The book fair will be open during the following hours:

Tuesday, March 12	8:30am to 3pm
Wednesday, March 13	8:30am to 1pm
Thursday, March 14	8:30am to 8pm
Friday, March 15	8:30am to 5pm



We need you! Volunteers are needed for shifts during the week of the fair. Please visit <http://signup.com/go/XXMdDnS> to access the volunteer schedule. We appreciate any amount of time you can give and have flexible time slots to suit your schedule. To show our appreciation, teachers, staff and volunteers will receive 20% off of their purchases!

We are looking for a Book Fair Chairperson for the next school year. If you love books and want to help, please contact Melissa Beylouni at newtownmspta@gmail.com.

All sales benefit the school. Thanks to your support from the fall fair, over \$400 of books were added to NMS collections, and funds were raised to support numerous NMS PTA initiatives!!

Questions about the Book Fair? Please contact Stephanie Burns at stephani_burns@sbcglobal.net.

Find out more about Follett Book Fairs online at follettbookfairs.com.



Computer Education



Have you ever wanted to learn more about computer coding, but weren't sure how? Join "Code Rush," an annual coding competition that teaches beginners to advanced coders how to program. Students work in teams of 8-10 to solve as many CodeMonkey challenges as they can from March 12-April 8. Our team(s) may be one of 20 across the country to win prizes. To learn more, visit: <https://www.playcodemonkey.com/code-rush>. Mrs. Smith will announce when it is time to sign up for teams in late February. All students are welcome to participate. Does your child need a computer? Please email Mrs. Smith (smithr@newtown.k12.ct.us) to learn about our donation program.

Student Council News

By: Susan Musco, Shari Oliver, Advisors



Student Council members are busy planning our Community Days for this year. Last year we had Community Days once a month. Our members this year wanted to switch it up and decided to host a Community Activity every Friday in February. Named “Fantastic Fun Fridays”, students will be able to participate in a different activity each Friday in the cafeteria. We’ve reserved all of the tables by the windows for those who would like to participate. Those students who participate will receive a card, and each Friday they will earn a stamp for their participation. If they earn all four stamps they will win a prize!

Below are the activities planned:

- Friday, 2/1 Build It Challenge
- Friday, 2/8 Board Game Extravaganza
- Friday, 2/15 Chill Puzzles
- Friday, 2/22 “Would You Rather?” Conversation Cards

Student Council members look forward to working with the NMS classmates each Friday in February!



School Based Health Center



HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Relationships are a necessary part of living. There is no such thing as a perfect relationship. There are many qualities that make relationships successful.

A healthy relationship is when two people develop a connection based on mutual respect, trust, honesty, support, fairness/equality, separate identities, good communication and a sense of playfulness and fondness. All of these things take work. Each relationship needs to be maintained. This applies to all types of relationships, including romantic relationships. Healthy relationships should bring more happiness than stress into your life.

While in a healthy relationship one should:

- Take care of oneself and have good self-esteem independent of one's relationship
- Maintain and respect each other's individuality
- Maintain relationships with friends and family.
- Have activities apart from one another
- Express oneself to one another without fear of consequences
- Feel secure and comfortable
- Allow and encourage other relationships
- Take interest in one another's activities
- Not worry about violence in the relationship
- Trust and be honest with each other
- Have the option of privacy
- Accept influence
- Relationships are give and take. One should strive to resolve conflict fairly



The School Based Health Center believes that one of its goals is to assist our students to develop the building blocks of healthy relationships. This goal is accomplished by ongoing conversations with our students, about friendships, interactions with classmates, relationships with teachers and families as students report to us. If parents have concerns about their child's relationships, the School Based Health Center encourages them to contact us for assistance. We hope help the students to become successful in their development of healthy relationships as they continue their development toward adulthood.

As a student at Newtown Middle School (NMS), your child has the opportunity to take advantage of medical and mental health services offered during school hours, through the School Based Health Center (SBHC). To take advantage of the SBHC services, please complete, sign and return the 2-page Permission/Medical History Form on the NMS website.

Please call us with any questions at 203-270-6114.

Yearbook Club



YEARBOOK SALES ENDING SOON!

ORDER YOURS TODAY - \$38!!!

Don't miss out on the memories!

jostens.com

or 877-767-5217 during regular business hours.

Email Miss Lang if you have any questions.

February Yearbook Club meetings

We will meet every Monday in February that we are in school.

Please arrange a ride home.

See Miss Lang if you have any questions.



MR. PEACE

Reaching Hearts. Changing Lives.

Newtown Middle School

March 4, 2019

Assembly

Theme:

Positive

Life

Choices



For more information about 'Mr. Peace' visit:

mrpeace.org

Dates to Remember

Look for details in the Lion's Roar or on the NMS website: <http://nms.newtown.schooldesk.net/>

February

February 1
World Read Aloud Day

February 15
Early Release
Students Dismissed @ 12:32
Lunch Served

February 18-19
Winter Break
No School

February 26
PTA Meeting
7PM
NMS Media Center

March

March 1-8
High School Scheduling
Process for 8th Graders

March 4
Mr. Peace Assembly

March 12-15
Book Fair

March 13
Early Release
Students Dismissed @ 12:32
Lunch Served

March 14
Early Release
Students Dismissed @ 12:32
Lunch Served

March 15
Early Release
Students Dismissed @ 12:32
Lunch Served

