

**F. A. Day Middle School
Newsletter**
November 24, 2019



Quotes of the Week

“We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.”

— John F. Kennedy

“Practicing gratitude invites joy into our life.” ----Brene Brown

Days of the Cycle Week of 11/24/19

Day 6, Day 1, Day 2 (Early Release Day)

No late bus except for school activity

Can you please put in your weekly update that athletes need to have an updated physical and register via family ID in order to try out. Thanks:)
Sandy

THIS WEEK'S QUOTE

The annual celebration of Thanksgiving over the years has risen above its controversial historical origins to become a designated time in our busy lives when we realize the importance of gratitude and giving thanks. It is a brief moment when we all carve out time in our schedules to come to the same table and share ourselves with the people in our lives. Unfortunately the opportunity to sit together for a daily meal is becoming almost extinct in our busy lives, and yet the power of this simple act should remind us of its importance. It is a time to share our family stories, our shared values and our laughter. Similarly Thanksgiving is an annual reminder to all of us about the capacity of practicing gratitude to bring joy into our lives. When we take a moment to express

gratitude, we rise above our daily routines and self-involved lives to push aside our focus on what we are lacking to appreciate all that we have, and with that one act, we discover the joy that can be elusive in our daily lives.

On this Thanksgiving I want to share my gratitude for all of you, the supportive families of Day, and the children that you entrust to our care every day. Enjoy your families!! Happy Thanksgiving all!

EARLY RELEASE THIS WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday, November 27th is an early release day to begin the Thanksgiving Break. Dismissal is at 11:30 a.m. **NO LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. THERE ARE NO AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES OR LATE BUSES. THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL CLOSE BY 12:00 p.m. ON WEDNESDAY.**

NO SCHOOL FOR THANKSGIVING RECESS

There is no school on Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th for the Thanksgiving Recess. School resumes on Monday, December 2nd.

DAY STUDENT FEATURED AT TODAY'S PATRIOTS GAME

You may recall that some of our Day Middle School students were featured in a Channel 10 news story several weeks ago due to their demonstration of inclusion and kindness to their teammate, Patrick Devlin, also a Day Middle School Student on their Newton Mustangs football team. Below is the link in case you missed the story.

<https://www.nbcboston.com/news/local/Autistic-Teen-Who-Suffered-Devastating-Loss-in-Fire-Gets-Recruited-to-Play-Football-564118991.html>

Today Patrick has been invited to kick a field goal at the 4:30 p.m. Patriot's Game. Join us by tuning in to cheer on Patrick.

CRADLES TO CRAYONS

Cradles to Crayons is excited to be moving to Newton by Spring 2020! Please drop off your new and like new clothing (size newborn up to an adult size medium), shoes, and books at school from December 2-13. The donation bin will be clearly marked in our school lobby.

For more information about items accepted by Cradles to Crayons [click here!](#)

Cradles to Crayons hopes you will join them at their upcoming community service events to quality check, sort, and package your donations! The events will take place on Tuesday, December 10, from 1pm-3:30pm at Newton City Hall's War Memorial Auditorium and on Saturday, December 14, from 10am-12pm at the Scandinavian Cultural Center in W. Newton. If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact [Marci Shyavitz](#).

UPDATE ON OUR GYM FLOOR

I am pleased to report that the repairs on our gym floor are scheduled for completion upon our return from the Thanksgiving break. I would like to extend my gratitude to our P.E. teachers for working to create opportunities for our students to continue with their curriculum during these repairs by maximizing our outdoor spaces and creatively finding indoor spaces on inclement days.

In addition to being able to again hold our PE classes in our gym, we look forward to resuming our morning gym in the regular upstairs gym on December 2nd as well as our regularly scheduled boys' and girls' basketball tryouts.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

Just a reminder... the boys' basketball tryouts will begin on Monday, December 2nd and run for three days. The girls' basketball tryouts will begin on Monday, December 9th.

All physicals must be completed as well as the concussion protocols prior to the tryouts. All questions can be directed to the head coaches:

Boys' Basketball: wachtelhaussent@newton.k12.ma.us

Girls' Basketball: [Sandra calabro@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Sandra_calabro@newton.k12.ma.us)
Michelle_barry@newton.k12.ma.us

WINTER BASKETBALL LEAGUE AT THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Our community partners at the Boys and Girls Club are pleased to announce registration for its winter basketball league. See below:

Our link to Basketball registrations is: <http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-5090639/winter-basketball-registration-form-2019-20>

Link to become a member is: <https://www.newtonbgc.com/club-membership-form>

CABARET

Congratulations to Mr. Demarest, the cast and crew of the Cabaret for another year of amazing performances. Thank you to everyone who showed their support by attending this past week's performances.

FA DAY SNOW SPORTS

It is that time of year again for the Day Snow Sports Club. Applications are now available in the main office, Mr. Murphy's room (#318), or on the F.A. Day web site. **Applications are due by December 5th**. This year there will be six trips to Wachusett beginning on January 8th.

SIGN UP FOR PARENT CONFERENCES ENDS TOMORROW!

The online portal to sign up for parent conferences will be closed tomorrow, so if you have not done so already, please sign up using the information below:

Parent/Teacher Conferences begin again this year in November. Please see the information below.

The purpose of conferences is to offer parents and teachers opportunity to share and discuss student achievement and progress. At the middle school level across Newton, conferences are held once per year in November, December, and January.

Here at Day we have a series of Tuesday afternoons available for these conferences. These meetings are designed as 10 minute check-ins with teachers to discuss your child's progress. **You must choose either your child's Science and English Teacher Pairs or the Math and Social Studies Teacher Pair - Not Both.** Unfortunately, given the number of conferences requested, we can only accommodate a meeting with one of the teams pairs. The teachers that you will be meeting with will be prepared to talk about your child's progress in all team subjects. If you book a conference with all 4 team teachers, one pair will be chosen for you, no exceptions. You also will have the opportunity to meet one on one with any of your child's special education teachers and/or multi-team teachers (e.g. world language, fine arts, music, physical education, etc.).

We strive to ensure there is full communication between you and the teachers. If you need any assistance or if the conferences prove to be unacceptably limiting given your child's needs, please do not hesitate to call your child's guidance counselor.

How To Sign-Up For Parent-Teacher Conferences

Sign-ups will begin on Monday, November 11th at 8:00 a.m. and will end on Monday, November 25, at 8:00 p.m.

Parent Conference Dates are (all Tuesday afternoons) November 26, December 10, January 14, and January 28th. 10 Minute meeting time slots beginning at 2:00 p.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m.

Log online to: <http://www.virtualparagon.com/day/conference/>. Enter the Password: **Daydragons** (case sensitive).

Follow the instructions on how to create your own account and to choose a conference time. If you need further assistance, please call your child's guidance counselor at 617-559-9123 or the main office at 617-559-9100.

WASHINGTON D.C. ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

I have asked E.F. Tours to extend the deadline for enrollment for the 8th grade Washington D.C. Trip from 11/22 to **Friday, December 6th**. This is because I have not yet been able to meet with the 8th grade teams to talk about the trip. I expect to meet with all four teams prior to Thanksgiving Break. The link to enroll your child in the trip is:

<https://www.efexploreamerica.com/tour-website/2278388JR>

DC Scholarships:

We have learned that there was difficulty in accessing the DC Scholarship portal in order to make a donation to the Washington D.C. Scholarship Fund. Please try the link below:

[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd= s-xclick&hosted_button_id=LJZ9C5R2V8XSG&source=url](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=LJZ9C5R2V8XSG&source=url).

If you have trouble accessing this link, please email Gayatri Aryan or Jennifer Bentley directly at:

Gayatri Aryan: gayatri.aryan@gmail.com

Jennifer Bentley: bentleyhouston@hotmail.com

As a reminder, families in need of a scholarship should reach out to one of the 8th grade guidance counselors, Ms. Fiske or Ms. Bernier.

All students will receive new schedules this Friday for Term 2, which will reflect a change in their arts rotation classes. All other classes remain the same.

PARENT SCHOOLGY

In an effort to enhance our home/school partnership, NPS Technology Department has offered us information on how parents can create their own Schoology account so that they can access their child's curriculum information for each class.

To create a parent account, please follow the directions below on the Schoology help center below. You will need the course access code from each of your child's teachers.

<https://support.schoology.com/hc/en-us/articles/201000823-Sign-Up-as-a-Parent>

Please note a few things...

1. Many, but not every teacher utilizes Schoology
2. Parents will have access to curriculum but not ongoing grades

SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday, November 26, 2019: Day 1 of Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 27, 2019: Ocean Team to West Newton Cinema

Wednesday, November 27, 2019: Early Release for Thanksgiving Break – No Lunch

Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th, 2019: No School Thanksgiving
Wednesday, December 4, 2019: Early Release dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, December 10, 2019: Day 2 of Parent Conferences 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 12, 2019: Principal's Coffee in the Library at 8:00 a.m.
Week of December 16, 2019: Term 2 Progress Reports
Monday, December 23, 2019 – Wednesday, January 1, 2020: Winter Recess No School

All the best,

Jackie Mann
F. A. Day Principal
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