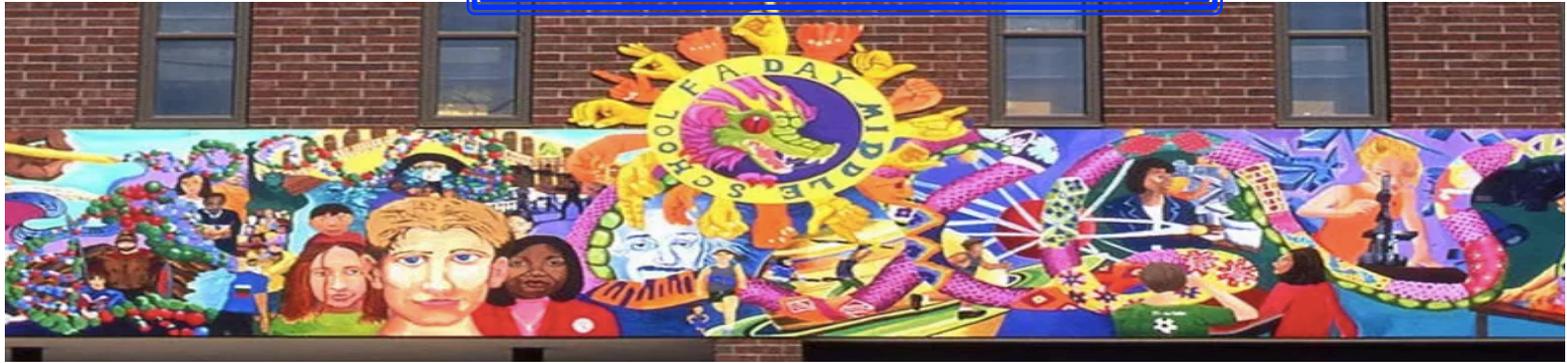


**F. A. Day Middle School  
Newsletter**  
*January 12, 2020*



**Quote of the Week**

**“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”**

**---Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Days of the Cycle Week of 1/13/20**

**Day 5, Day 6, Day 1, Day 2, Day 3**

**THIS WEEK'S QUOTE**

Dr. King is most known for his quotes and of course, his leadership around justice and equality that frame the work that we do today around equal access and equity. This work, however, has its foundation in the basic human tenet of love and kindness, which is why today, in anticipation of Dr. King's birthday, I am sharing his quote about the power of love (and kindness) as a counter to hate.

The influence and power of love and kindness is particularly relevant at the middle level where students are struggling to find their identity and place in the community and to see their worth reflected in the eyes of their peers. In my decades at the middle school level, I have witnessed countless students uplifted by authentic acts of kindness. The healing power of love and kindness never cease to amaze me. Developing empathy and kindness in our children and future leaders is one of the social emotional learning goals of our Roundtable program, and it is something that can be fostered from home as well. Below is a link to an article in Inc.com that highlights the work of Harvard Psychologist, Richard Weissbourd, founder of “Making Caring Common”,

who describes the five things that parents do to have their kids grow up kind. Please join us in honoring the legacy of Dr. King in fighting hate through the creation of a kinder and more loving world by beginning with our children:

<https://www.inc.com/scott-mautz/want-to-raise-kind-children-a-harvard-psychologist-says-do-these-5-things.html>

## **ROUNDTABLE LESSONS THIS WEEK**

In an effort to strengthen our home/school partnerships and so you can reinforce our work around social-emotional learning from home, I will continue to share the subject of the upcoming Roundtable Thursday lessons. See the description of this Thursday's lesson below:

### ***Roundtable Lesson on Thursday, January 16, 2020***

In honor of the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, this Thursday's Roundtable discussion will prompt students to use quotes from his famous "I Have a Dream" Speech to discuss how that dream impacts us today. Here are some of the guiding questions that Roundtables might address:

- He mentions the "American Dream." What do you think it is? Does everyone have an opportunity to achieve it today?
- The enslavement of people in the USA ended in the 1860's and this speech is from the 1960's: what does he mean at the end when exclaims, "Let Freedom Ring"
- How does race affect identity still? What diversity do you see in your community beyond skin color?
- How have relations between different races changed since 1960's? How still the same?
- **Required Question: What dreams about the future do you have for our world?**

## **CONCERTS THIS WEEK**

Please join us for the upcoming winter concerts this week:

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. – Day Orchestra Concert

Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. – Day Choral Concert

## **UPCOMING PRINCIPALS' COFFEE**

### **January 23, 2020 at 8:15 a.m. in the Day Cafeteria**

*Updates on the happenings at Day Middle School and Q &A with Day Principal Mann.*

### **March 4, 2020 at 8:15 a.m. in the Day Library**

*Q&A with Newton North High School Principal Dr. Henry Turner about the transition to high school. Particularly geared toward 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents*

## **SIGNS OF SUICIDE**

Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders at Day are again participating in the important Signs of Suicide Program (S.O.S.) S.O.S. is a suicide prevention program utilized by thousands of schools throughout the country and at the secondary level here in Newton. 7<sup>th</sup> grade families should have received a direct email on January 3<sup>rd</sup> about this program and screening. More information is available through the parent link below and from the parent letter attached:

<https://sossignsofsuicide.org>

The username is: dayms-par

Password: daymiddleschool

This is an “opt in” program so students are not able to participate unless they return their parent/guardian permission slip with the identified level of participation **NO LATER THAN** this Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Please direct any questions to Dr. Meghan Hudson, who is overseeing the program here at Day.

## **SAVE THE DATE: 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE SOCIAL**

The PTO is sponsoring the annual 6<sup>th</sup> grade social on the evening of Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> in the Day Cafeteria. This is an opportunity for 6<sup>th</sup> graders to gather for an evening of fun, games and food. More information to come.

## **FAMILY PIZZA BOWL**

Day families are invited to the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Boston Pizza Bowl on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 12:15 p.m. Join Day families and faculty for an afternoon of bowling and pizza at the Boston Bowl, 820 Morrissey Blvd., Boston. This event is free to all families thanks to the generosity of the PTO and the Day Diversity Club, but your must R.S.V. P. by January 24, 2020 by following the link below:

***(You need to cut and paste the link below into your browser)***

<https://dmspizzabowl2020.eventbrite.com>

**See the attached flyer for more information**

### **MORNING ROUTINES**

You may have learned from your students that last week we changed the time that students are allowed to head to homeroom from 7:50 a.m. to 7:55 a.m. Prior to 7:55 a.m. students will continue to report to the cafeteria where they can obtain passes to visit the library, gym or classrooms based upon prior arrangement with teachers. Morning gym begins at 7:15 a.m. We ask that students do not arrive before 7:15 a.m. and not before 7:30 a.m. if they are not attending morning gym, as there is no supervision in the cafeteria until 7:30 a.m.

This DOES NOT change the time that the school day begins. Homeroom continues to begin at 8:05 a.m. and students are expected to be in their seats for homeroom by 8:05 a.m. or they will be marked late.

### **DROP-OFF ON LINWOOD**

The Newton Police has asked me to notify our school community that parents dropping off their students on Linwood should require their child to cross the street at designated crosswalks and that parents should be cognizant of the crossing of elementary students who are now also crossing here due to the relocation of Horace Mann. It is preferable to drop off students on Albemarle, as it is safer and less congested. Students can follow the walkway cross the field and enter school through our mural entrance.

Also, please also remember that no cars are allowed down Minot Place AFTER 7:30 a.m. unless they have a pass issued by our nurse or front office due to a medical need. Cars traveling down the front driveway on Minot cause a safety hazard for our students walking to school. Similarly no cars can pick up in front of the school after 2:00 p.m. (on all days by Tuesday) and 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, without a similar medical pass as there are vans picking up students and students walking up Minot Place.

### **SAVE THE DATE: SCHOOL COUNCIL/PTO EVENT MAY 14<sup>th</sup>**

The Day School Council and PTO are again collaborating on an annual event on parenting your middle school child on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. For now, please save that evening, and more information will follow.

## **BASIC RIGHTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESENTATION**

Please join the Newton Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) for a presentation and discussion about **Basic Rights in Special Education** with Tim Sindelar, Newton lawyer specializing in representing children and adults with disabilities. This event is geared towards parents new to special education, and for those who would like to know more about their basic rights.

Wednesday, January 15, 2020  
7:30-9:00pm  
Newton Education Center  
100 Walnut Street  
Room 210

No RSVP necessary. Questions? Please contact Newton SEPAC Board Member Eliza Spaulding at [spaulding@newtonsepac.org](mailto:spaulding@newtonsepac.org).

## **PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED INFORMATION**

### **TERM 2 REPORT CARDS**

Report cards for Term 2 will be posted on January 31, 2020

### **PARENT CONFERENCES**

Parent conferences conclude this month on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 and Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

### **DAY SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The next meeting of the Day School Council is on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Student Services Conference Room.

### **PRINCIPAL COFFEES IN THE NEW YEAR**

Below are the dates of the Principal's Coffee for the remainder of the school year:

Thursday, January 23, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 4, 2020 with Dr. Henry Turner, Principal of NNHS: 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, April 16, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 21, 2020: 8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

## **TEEN SPEAK-OUT**

Teen Speak-Out is an event where we gather a diverse group of 100-Day Middle School students and lead them in community building and in conversations about our school community. The conversations and team building take place at a daylong event at the Boys' and Girls' Club on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. Faculty members will be paired with last year's ADL peer facilitators to co-lead "village" discussions with 10 students and also participate in whole group community building.

Schedule of planning for this event:

- ***January 8<sup>th</sup> – January 31<sup>st</sup>:***  
We will be collaborating with guidance counselors and teachers on inviting 100 students from all three grades to participate in this event on Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. If your child might be interested in attending, please reach out or have them reach out to their guidance counselor. Participation will not involve any training but will involve missing school on February 12<sup>th</sup> and making up any missed work. We are looking for a diverse group of Day students who have different experiences and perspectives about our school community so that we can get the feedback necessary to strengthen our school and create a more inclusive community going forward. Permission slips and invitation sent out the last week of January
  
- ***January 31<sup>st</sup>:***
  - Next training full day training for 8<sup>th</sup> grade student facilitators in the library
  
- ***February 5<sup>th</sup>:***
  - Full day combined training for faculty and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student facilitators
  
- ***February 12<sup>th</sup>:***
  - Teen Speak-Out event at the Boys' and Girls Club

***This program is made possible through the generous funding and sponsorship of the Day PTO and the Boys' and Girl's Club.***

## **BASKETBALL GAMES SCHEDULE THIS SEASON**

Please join us in cheering on the boys' and girls' Day Dragons Basketball Teams at their games this season:

**GIRLS BASKETBALL – GRAY TEAM**

**COACHES: MR. BECKER AND MS. FLAHERTY**

**GAME SCHEDULE:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1/6/20	4:45	Brown Middle School
1/13/20	4:45	Day Middle School
1/23/20	4:45	Day Middle School
1/27/20	3:45	Wellesley Middle School
1/31/20	3:45	Needham Middle School
2/3/20	3:45	Day Middle School
2/10/20	3:45	Day Middle School
2/13/20	3:45	Weston Middle School

**GIRLS BASKETBALL - BLUE TEAM**

**COACHES: MS.CALABRO AND MS. BARRY**

**GAME SCHEDULE:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1/8/20	4:45	Day Middle School
1/9/20	4:45	Day Middle School
1/13/20	4:45	Bigelow Middle School
1/24/20	4:45	Needham Middle School
1/27/20	3:45	Day Middle School
1/30/20	3:45	Wellesley Middle School
2/3/20	3:45	Oak Hill Middle School
2/10/20	3:45	Weston Middle School
2/13/20	3:45	Day Middle School

**BOYS TEAM 1**

**COACHES: TYLER WACHTELHAUSEN AND JACOB MAEL**

**GAME SCHEDULE:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
-------------	-------------	-----------------

1/8/20	3:45	Day Middle School
1/9/20	3:45	Day Middle School
1/13/20	3:45	Bigelow Middle School
1/24/20	3:45	Needham Middle School
1/27/20	4:45	Day Middle School
1/30/20	4:45	Wellesley Middle School
2/3/20	4:45	Oak Hill Middle School
2/10/20	4:45	Weston Middle School
2/13/20	4:45	Day Middle School

## **BOYS TEAM 2**

**COACHES: NATHAN CAMERON AND ED PANG**

### **GAME SCHEDULE**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>LOCATION</u></b>
1/6/20	3:45	Brown Middle School
1/13/20	3:45	Day Middle School
1/23/20	3:45	Day Middle School
1/27/20	4:45	Wellesley Middle School
1/31/20	4:45	Needham Middle School
2/3/20	4:45	Day Middle School
2/10/20	4:45	Day Middle School
2/13/20	4:45	Weston Middle School

### **LATE BUS ONLY FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Beginning this month, Day Middle School will be aligning our late bus policy with that of the other middle schools in the district by allowing late bus access only to students who are staying after school for school-based activities such as clubs, sports or school-sponsored events. We are making this shift to not only align with district practice, but to ensure the safety of our students. There have been several instances when parents were under the impression that their child was staying after school for a school-sponsored event when in fact that child was not on school premises, returning only to take the late bus. As you can imagine, this poses a safety risk for middle school students. Please help us reinforce with your child that the late bus is only available for students who are staying after school for a school-sponsored activity.

## **EXTENDED ABSENCES**

With the vacation and holiday season upon us, more parents are excusing students from school for extended absences. While this is not officially an “excused absence”, we also acknowledge the value and importance of travel and connecting with family. If your child is going to be out for a planned absence for more than a day, we ask that you send the following email:

To: Ms. Gandolfo in the front office: [gandolfo@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:gandolfo@newton.k12.ma.us)  
as well as to your child’s teachers and guidance counselor.

The email should include the days that your child will be absent and the reason for the absence.

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

Tuesday, January 14, 2020: Parent Conferences

Tuesday, January 14, 2020: Winter Orchestra Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 16, 2020: Winter Choral Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 20, 2020: No School - MLK Holiday

Wednesday, January 22, 2020: Mint Team to the Kennedy Institute

Thursday, January 23, 2020: Evergreen Team to the Kennedy Institute

Friday, January 24, 2020: Emerald Team to the Kennedy Institute

Friday, January 24, 2020: Term 2 Ends

Monday, January 27, 2020: Ivy Team to the Kennedy Institute

Week of January 27, 2020: 7<sup>th</sup> grade SOS Screening

Tuesday, January 28, 2020: Parent Conferences

Friday, January 31, 2020: Teen Speak Out Facilitator Training

Week of February 3, 2020: I-Ready Literacy Assessments

Wednesday, February 5, 2020: Teen Speak Out Facilitator Training

Wednesday, February 12, 2020: Teen Speak Out Event at the Boys and Girls Club

Wednesday, February 12, 2020: Day School Council at 6:00 p.m.

February 17 – 21, 2020: February Vacation

All the best,

Jackie Mann

F. A. Day Principal

[jacqueline\\_mann@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:jacqueline_mann@newton.k12.ma.us)

(617) 559-9109

