



Quote of the Week

“There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it’s going to be a butterfly.”

-----Buckminster Fuller

Days of the Cycle Week of 9/30/19

Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4

THIS WEEK’S QUOTE

Buckminster Fuller was an architect born here in Massachusetts and in his 88 years, became known for his ability to see possibility where no others did, and as such this inventor was often referred to as a “futurist”. I love Fuller’s quote and his idea of seeing the possibility where others do not, because it reminds me of what we do as middle school educators. Middle school children are often those caterpillars just on the cusp of their evolution into the butterflies they will become. Quite often they do not see the potential in themselves, and it is our role, similar to that of Fuller’s, to see what they cannot – the beauty of their potential, and to create the opportunities and pathways for them to grow into all that they are promised to become. It is what inspires and draws us to work with children as they navigate these three critical years. Our role as a school community and as educators at the middle level is to create a climate through our language and interactions with our students that fosters and promotes their natural growth. When others question why we choose middle school, often known as the most challenging years, we counter with a vision of our role as “futurists” in the world of education.

THIS WEEK'S PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE ON NEW SAFETY PROTOCOLS
Principal's Coffee: Thursday, October 3, 2019 on Safety Protocols

Thanks to the generosity of our PTO, we are sponsoring our first in a series of Principal's Coffee on Thursday evening, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Day Library. I will be discussing the modification of our NPS Safety Protocols, which we will be practicing with your children later in the month of October. Please join us for this very important discussion on how our school community will manage various emergency responses including evacuation, shelter in place, lockdown and hostile events.

SAVE THE DATE: 6th GRADE SOCIAL

The annual PTO 6th Grade Social is Thursday, October 10th from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. More information will follow.

PICTURE DAY

The make-up day for pictures is November 13, 2019 first thing in the morning. We will announce to students to report to a central location that morning for any picture make-ups or retakes.

CLUBS AND AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS UPDATE:

We are excited to announce our new list of clubs this fall. See the dates and meeting times below. Parents should access our club sign-up online by following the link below. There is a one-time fee of \$60, which allows students to participate in as many clubs as they would like for the year.

<http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/Page/142>

Financial aide is always available. No child should be excluded from participation due to financial need. The form for financial aid can be found by following the link below:

<https://www.newton.k12.ma.us//site/Default.aspx?PageID=1073>

Fall clubs are starting up - the full list is on our website: <https://sites.google.com/newton.k12.ma.us/eee/clubs-information> Some clubs will be starting up soon (ASL club, Chinese Yoyo, and Robot Battle are all in the works) and new clubs can be added as well.

Anime Club- Advisors: Hoermann - Room 102 on Thursday *first meeting 10/10

Students gather to watch Japanese Animation together, as a way to make friends with similar interests, and use popular culture as a jumping off point to learn about Japanese culture

Day Diversity Club- Advisors: Ms. Wong & Ms. Bernier - Room 205 C (in the Library) on Thursday *first meeting 10/3

This club acknowledges and values the richness of our cultural backgrounds and identities. Meetings will include activities that bring different communities together through discussions, guest speakers, pot luck dinners, field trips, and participation in events that acknowledges and celebrates cultural diversity in our school community.

Day Student Council- Advisors: Ms. Besse & Ms. Armstrong - Room 312 *Info Session Thursday 9/19

Be a leader and make a positive difference in our ay Middle School community and beyond. Open to all Grades. Lets make this a great year at Day Middle School!

Girls Who Code - Advisors: Ms. Carlin & Ms. Kerner - Room 104 on Mondays

Girls Who Code Club meets after school Mondays in room 104 and is open to girls in all grade levels. Did you know that less than a quarter of technology jobs go to women? Let's start changing this in middle school! In this club girls work together to learn coding by having fun, eating snacks, and completing a project that helps the community.

GSA-Advisor- Advisor: Mr. Landau- See Mr. Landau for more information.

The Gender and Sexuality Alliance is a national organization focused on creating inclusive school environments. This club will provide a safe space to discuss issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity.

Homework Club- Advisors: TBA - Library - Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

This club is for students who want a quite place to do their homework, read, work on projects, or use the computer. Their is no user fee for this club.

Improv Club - Advisor: Mr. Barr - Room 314 on Thursdays *first meeting 10/3

Calling all improvisers! This is a club for students who want to learn how to do improv comedy. We'll learn different improv skills throughout the year and have a showcase at the end. To join this club, you need a good sense of humor, a comfort level performing in front of others, and a willingness to learn the techniques of good improvisation. In order to build a strong club community, any new students need to join by the end of October and commit to coming at least twice a month.

Jazz Band - Advisor: Mr. Brown- room 222 on Mondays

Band students interested in Jazz band should see Mr. Brown to sign up. The first Jazz reading will take place on Monday, October 7th. Students who wish to participate must be able to commit to each rehearsal.

Lettering Club - Advisor: Ms. Marx - Room 229 on Mondays

Come learn creative lettering/calligraphy, work on your personal bullet journal, draw, or bring another craft--friendship bracelets, knitting, whatever you're working on.

Magic the Gathering Club - Advisor: Mr. Lynch - Room 214 on Thursdays

In this club, the members play games of their choice using their Magic deck cards. We welcome all skill levels and members are willing to train new players. Bring your deck and join in the fun!

**Morning Gym- Mr. Powell, Ms. Teague, Mr. Wachtelhausen, Ms. Church-
M, T, W, TH**

Day students are welcome to participate in morning open gym from 7:30-7:50 AM.

Intramurals: There are two informational sessions for after school intramurals sports this Monday, September 16th.

Badminton and Ultimate Frisbee: Monday, September 16th after school in Room 117

Flag Football Team: The Day Flag Football Team is still accepting members. It is open to all students in grades 6-8. See Mr. Thompson, Mr. Peng or Mr. Roberto with any questions.

SPORTS GAME SCHEDULE THIS WEEK:

Cross- Country

Thursday, October 3, 2019 Home vs. Needham at 3:30 p.m.

Soccer

Girls'

Thursday, October 3, 2019 Home vs. Bigelow at 3:30 p.m.

Friday, October 4, 2019 Home vs. Oak Hill at 3:30 p.m.

Boys'

Thursday, October 3, 2019 Home vs. Bigelow at 4:30 p.m.

Friday, October 4, 2019 Home vs. Oak Hill at 4:30 p.m.

PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED INFORMATION

(Each week I may continue to publish information that was in last week's newsletter in case it was missed, but I will note that this is "previously published" so that parents can skip over it if they have already read it.)

PARENT VISITING DAYS

We have scheduled our annual Parent Visiting Days in October again this year. Each grade level will be assigned a morning when they will be invited to observe their child's classes in action. More information will be sent home about this event. For now, please save the dates below:

8th Grade Parent Visiting Day: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 from 7:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

7th Grade Parent Visiting Day: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 from 7:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

6th Grade Parent Visiting Day: Thursday, October 17, 2019 from 7:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

We look forward to opportunities such as these throughout the school year to strengthen our home/school partnership in support of our children.

Future Principal Coffee and Parent Forum Topics

Our PTO and School Council are interested in finding out what other topics you are interested in discussing and hearing more about. As you may be aware, in addition to the monthly coffees, the School Council sponsors an annual parent forum in the spring where parents can select topics of interest related to their middle school children. Please help us in planning both events by taking a moment to take the brief survey below:

<https://forms.gle/rFBZRJTTPdv3QDfV7>.

8th GRADE D.C. TRIP PARENT NIGHT DATE CHANGE

This coming week's 8th grade Parent Information Session about the annual trip to Washington, D.C. has been rescheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Day Auditorium.

MATH FEE THIS YEAR

The Illustrative Math Program at the middle school level requires online resources and/or consumable workbooks for each unit. For this to be sustainable over time, the district is charging \$12.00 per student per year, which will help to offset the consumable costs of the program. **The payment of \$12 should be sent in to your child's homeroom teacher by Friday, September 27th.** Checks should be made out to Day Middle School. Cash can only be accepted if you send in exact change. **Financial assistance is available by contacting your child's math teacher or guidance counselor.**

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

FLU CLINIC AT DAY

Seasonal flu vaccination clinics will be held during the school day at the Day Middle School on November 1, 2019. Students in Kindergarten through grade 12 may receive vaccine.

The **FILL IN YOUR SCHOOL** clinic will be on **FILL IN YOUR DATE HERE**. Each student to be vaccinated must have a parent/guardian complete two forms:

1. Consent/Screening form

2. Vaccine administration record/Insurance form.

Forms are available in the school nurse's office, or may be downloaded at www.newtonma.gov/flu. You may electronically complete the form, print, sign and return. Forms are due to the School Nurse **FILL IN YOUR DUE DATE HERE**.

Only the flu shot (no nasal spray) will be offered at school this year. The Vaccine Information Statement about the flu shot, and additional information for families including tips on preparing kids for a shot is available at www.newtonma.gov/flu or in the school nurse's office. There is no cost to receive the vaccine, but insurance information is requested. All students, regardless of insurance status, are invited to receive vaccine with parent permission.

Students are not required to receive flu vaccine, however the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends flu vaccine for all people age 6 months and up. There are many places to get a flu vaccine including at school, your primary health care provider or community clinics. For additional clinic dates for the whole family, visit www.newtonma.gov/flu.

In addition to vaccination, it is important to practice good hand hygiene and cough etiquette by washing hands often; covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the arm; and staying home when sick.

For more flu prevention tips, talk to the school nurse or check out these websites: www.newtonma.gov/flu and www.cdc.gov/flu

INTRAMURAL PROGRAM SURVEY

In an effort to make after school sports more inclusive this year, we will be offering an intramural program and would like to know what sports our students would be interested in. Please take a moment to complete a brief survey by following the link below:

Google form: <https://forms.gle/KAbMzgEacDBEewgQ7>

LATE BUS

NPS offers a late bus for students living in Newton and Boston. The late bus routes do not follow a typical bus route, and students will need to walk a further distance to their

home. The late bus is ONLY for students staying after school for clubs, athletics or teacher meetings. It departs at 4:15 p.m. every afternoon EXCEPT FOR TUESDAYS. (On Tuesdays there are no after school activities for students due to teacher professional development). We will have copies of late bus routes at the buses this week to help guide students who are staying after school for sports tryouts.

CARS ON ALBEMARLE

If you are picking your child up on Albemarle, please do not park in the bus-loading zone. Also, please do not pass the buses when they are parked in that zone as students are loading on the bus. Students cross between the buses at a crosswalk and it is a safety hazard if cars try to pass buses as students are loading. No cars are allowed to pass the parked buses on Albemarle from 2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE INFORMATION

As most of you have heard by now, we have a new food service in Newton Public Schools. My previous email had information on how to offer feedback to our parent representative on the advisory board, Allison Kessler. Allison has asked me to also share the link below where parents can view the menu for each school:

<https://schools.whitsons.com/ma/newton-public-schools?page=menu>

Finally, if your family is in need of free and reduced lunch fees, please follow the link below on the NPS web site.

https://www.newton.k12.ma.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=6739&dataid=9680&FileName=FY20_Application_Directions_FINAL.pdf

If you are not able to access the form online, please reach out to your child's guidance counselor who can offer assistance.

AFTER SCHOOL RESOURCES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS

Below is a link of after school resources for middle school students compiled by Newton Health and Human Services:

- Afterschool resource listing from Newton HHS
- <http://www.newtonma.gov/civicax/filebank/documents/84326>

See also the resource below:

The Highlands After-School Program offers an exciting option for children in middle school. HASP has great activities in the Hyde Gym and at the home base at Brigham House in Newton Highlands. Transportation is arranged from school daily. For more information, please call 617.999.4617 or visit our website: www.highlandsafter-schoolprogram.org

SAVE THE DATE:

Monday, September 30, 2019: NO SCHOOL – Rosh Hashanah
Thursday, October 3, 2019: Principal’s Evening Coffee at 7:00 p.m. in the Day Library
Week of October 7, 2019 – Mid-Term Progress Updates
Wednesday, October 9, 2019: No School – Yom Kippur
Thursday, October 10- 6th Grade Social at 6:00 p.m. Day Gym
Monday, October 14, 2019 – No School – Columbus Day
Tuesday, October 15, 2019 – 8th Grade Parent Visiting Day
Wednesday, October 16, 2019 – 7th Grade Parent Visiting Day
Thursday, October 17, 2019 – 6th Grade Parent Visiting Day
Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.: 8th Grade Trip to DC Parent Info Session
Thursday and Friday, October 24th and 25th, 2019- Fall Play
Wednesday, October 30, 2019: Early Release Day -Teacher Professional Development
Friday, November 1, 2019: Flu Clinic
Monday, November 11, 2019: No School – Veteran’s Day
Tuesday, November 12, 2019: Term 2 Begins
Wednesday, November 13, 2019: School Council at 3:00 p.m.
Friday, November 15, 2019: Term 1 Report Cards Posted
Thursday, November 21, 2019 and Friday, November 22, 2019: Cabaret at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 27, 2019: Early Release for Thanksgiving Break – No Lunch
Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th, 2019: No School Thanksgiving

I would like to wish all of our Day families celebrating Rosh Hashanah a very happy New Year!

All the best,

Jackie Mann
F. A. Day Principal

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