

#### The Northeast Elementary School Newsletter sponsored by the PTA

## PTA Board 2017/18

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Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the deadline for the next Northeast Link is Tuesday, November 21.

It will go home in backpacks on Friday December 2. Please email your submissions to cmbarry@icloud.com Thank you!

From the Principal

## Greetings, Northeast Families –

As we waltz into November, we're looking forward to sitting down with each of you during Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 9. There is no school for students on this day, as educators meet with caregivers (and in some cases, students!) to discuss the successes, challenges and next steps for your delightful young people thus far. Some of our teachers have been working with children to implement student-led conferences, as well. This is powerful for students, as they reflect on and report out on their own progress.

Over the past few weeks, staff have spent time collaboratively diving into student work and student learning information (a.k.a. "data") to set goals and begin to design learning opportunities to help students meet those goals. These "Data Days" serve as an opportunity to thoughtfully plan for differentiated instruction, an approach that allows us to give all kids access to the general education curriculum while also pushing their learning, from wherever they may be. For example, our 1st grade team has created groups based on strategy



need for reading. After careful examination of reading assessments, teachers determined the most important strategy goal for each student. Some of the strategies that students will be learning (in small, flexible groups) are "chunking" words, backing up and re-reading, cross-checking for visual, meaning and grammar, checking the first letter, and more. The 1st grade team then looked at all of the needs across the entire grade, and are implementing a "walk to learn" model, where kids learn in heterogeneous groups in 1 of the 4 classrooms, which may or may not be their homeroom. This kind of collaborative creativity, flexibility and targeted strategy instruction means that we can be responsive to the variety of kids' needs. We use this approach in tandem with our case study interdisciplinary work. This is exciting for students and their learning!

Our Site-Based Council will begin meeting again this year, starting on Thursday, November 16, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in room A14. Site-Based Council is a

Continued on page 2



## Upcoming Events

**Scholastic Book Fair** 

November 6 - 9

See page 5

Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 9

No School For Elementary Students

See page 1

**Veterans Day** 

November 10

No School

Silver Graphics Order Deadline

November 13

See page 6

**Picture Retakes** 

November 14

See page 5

Site Based Council Meeting

November 16

See page 1

**Basketball Forms Due** 

November 17

See page 9 & 10

Movie Night

November 17

See page 6

Thanksgiving Break November 23, 24 & 25

No School

Family Picture Day

December 2

See page 5

**PTA Meeting** 

December 4

See this page

For more information about these events, please visit our website, northeastpta.com.

#### Continued from page 1

decision-making body, consisting of caregivers, educators, community members and the principal. Anyone is welcome to join, just stop by. We discuss everything from family engagement to safety. This year, we're going to start with a focus on our Northeast website, and making it more and more user-friendly. We hope you'll join us.

A couple of other updates to know about: all of our students are learning a dance called the lindy! Be sure to ask your child/children to show you this wonderful dance, which everyone (including staff) is learning with Ms. N. our general music teacher. Another important note: your children are deciding on our new school mascot. We collected many ideas, and narrowed it down to the most popular options: wolves, dragons, owls or foxes. We'll keep you posted on the ultimate decision, as we're voting as a whole school...

If you haven't yet, please join our PTA listserv by visiting *www*. *northeastpta.com*. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on events and issues at our school. Also, stop by, email or call me any time – I welcome your thoughts, questions and concerns. Thank you for your commitment to our children's education.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lily Talcott, Principal

#### Dear NE Community,

Our next PTA meeting will be Monday, Dec. 4th at 6:30pm. We will be discussing our after school Enrichment program and its future. We'd like to hear your opinions!

Thank you! —Eglantina

## Missing Items?

Check the "Lost and Found" located just inside the cafeteria. We have collected jackets, sweatshirts, hats, water bottles, lunch boxes and more!

## Please Label All of Your Child's Belongings!

Now that the colder weather is here, teachers and staff need your help matching jackets, mittens and hats to the children they came to school with. Mark jacket labels with your child's name, add a tag to jacket, snow pants and backpack zippers or tie matching ribbons to all of your child's clothing.

You can also purchase printed labels through "Label Daddy" at www. NORTHEAST.labeldaddy.com be sure to include the Promo Code: NORTHEAST when you check out and you will receive 10% off of your order. And Label Daddy will donate 15% of your purchase price to our PTA. Detailed instructions can be found on the PTA website (northeastpta.com) on the Virtual Backpack page.

#### From the PTA

Dear NE Community,

November brings with it the American holiday of Thanksgiving. For many families, this is a time to gather around a meal and reflect on what they are thankful for. This year I find

Thanksgiving

myself in the unique situation of being in my final year at NE, and also having the

perspective of being a couple

of years out with my eldest. I have been reflecting a lot on my children's educational experiences and opportunities. This perhaps was prompted by the realization over the summer that a large part of my child's personality and time is dedicated to the cello.

I've asked parents whose children are in middle school and high school what they are grateful for, and most have the same fond memories that I do. I'm including two reflections at the end of this note about children who went through NE.

There have been a number of programs that have shaped my children education, engagement and how they see themselves. More often than not their participation has led to dinner conversations or challenged them to do something new. Here are a few opportunities that I am grateful that my kids got to enjoy: participating in the MLK Contest, the Iditarod unit, the Beauty and the Beast Storytelling and Artist's Writer's workshop, the unity on the Iroquois and the Hangar Theater play on electricity, the clay animation project on human rights.

But these are just a few of the many programs that could impact your child's engagement. Whether it's tea time and poems, a mystery reader, a band concert, basketball program (it's awesome to see the kids work together and share in their school spirit), Enrichment classes, International Night and Carnival... jump in with both feet and embrace the experience!

Happy Autumn!
—Eglantina

## A note from Tal Cohen:

This is my oldest's last year of high school. Aya started at Northeast, first grade, 12 years ago knowing no English. We could not have asked for a more welcoming and educating environment. From the fantastic ESL program offered, to learning public speaking through beauty and the beast, to being able to sing Happy Birthday in almost any language, to the great projects every year. Building a Native American home, learning electric circuits, writing poems and drawing the seasons, and so much more. We have had happy times, and sad when we lost a teacher. We have welcomed new staff and said goodbye to retiring staff. We have celebrated so many holidays, events and PTA events over the past 12 years. 2 girls have moved on to high school, and we are grateful to still have 1, who gets to enjoy Northeast School. Thank you to the amazing 80 person staff that make it all happen.

Thank you to all the wonderful people who donated items for the Houston hurricane relief.

— Eglantina

C D E F G A B C The sounds of the C major scale have been drifting down the halls at Northeast, as our young musicians learn to play the scale from music notation, on bells, keyboards and ukuleles. We plan to learn some familiar tunes by Thanksgiving vacation, as we begin to work on music literacy— and we'll compose our own music in January!

Perhaps you might also hear the sound of dancing feet as your pass the Music room: we've been learning singing games and dances, including the Lindy! Singing games reinforce a strong sense of

the beat, of phrasing and form, and help in passing on cultural traditions. Also: they're very fun!

As always, we welcome visitors to our General Music classes—no need to call ahead, just come—join in the fun!

Karla Notarianni Northeast School General Music Teacher

SPRING CONCERTS, 2018					
Kindergarten	Thursday, May 17th	1:15PM			
Grade One	Thursday, May 24th	8:15AM			
Grade Two	Thursday, April 12th	6:30PM			
Grade Three	Thursday, April 19th	6:30PM			
Grade Four	Thursday, April 26th	6:30PM			
Grade Five	Thursday, May 10th	6:30PM			

### A reflection about a treasured school program:

My child cellos. If English is not your first language, you may find it peculiar how often nouns become verbs. I grew up hearing this with some degree of disapproval. But now, I find it endearing to use "cello" as a verb. In my mind, it reflects the relationship he has with the activity and the instrument.

He started playing in 3rd grade. For the first three years, he only received a short lesson at school. It is amazing to me how this experience opened a new world to him. He often goes to his cello not out of the need to check something off his homework list but out of a need to work on something, to hear his cello, to play around with a phrase, to try something new....

Today, I have a child who loves to play on his own, in an orchestra, in small groups, who practices because that's part of being a cellist, who composes because that, too, is part of being a musician. I have a child who doesn't know exactly

what he wants to study in college, but knows he is taking his cello with him and finding a group to play with. Words can't express how amazing it is to me that this wooden instrument is part of his present and future. It provides the medium to learn a new language, relax, create, and so much more... ultimately, allow part of himself to be the cellist he was meant to be.

I am eternally grateful to ICSD for the strings program. It gave us the opportunity to discover the cellist in my child and to nurture it. This is the best gift non-musician parents could get. My child's dedication and love of this instrument were forged in those three years. Thank you, Mr. Schlenker for inspiring this child!

I would encourage everyone to give our orchestra and band programs a try. You never know if your child will find a true love!

—Eglantina



## Scholastic Book Fair at Northeast

Save the date! Shop hundreds of titles at the Scholastic Book Fair which will be held in the main lobby on the following dates:

Monday, 11/6: 8am – 10:45am; 12pm – 2pm

Tuesday, 11/7: 8am – 10:45am; 12pm – 2pm

Wednesday, 11/8: 8am – 10:45am; 12pm – 2pm; 5pm – 7pm

Thursday, 11/9: 8am – 2pm

We still need volunteers for the book fair! Please contact Abby at abigailthomaslac@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer"

Questions? Contact Abby Thomas-Costello at the email address listed above.

(Note: Parent/Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, November 9, there is no school for Elementary students. School is closed in Friday, November 10 for the Veteran's Day holiday.)



## **Support Reading: Donate Books!**

We are always in need of gently used books. Please drop them in the red box by the Bright Red Bookshelf. We appreciate all the books that have been donated.

Thanks to your generosity, Northeast kids have enjoyed hours of reading.



### Picture Retakes

#### Tuesday, November 14

Iust a reminder that on Tuesday, November 14th, Lifetouch will be taking pictures in the staff lounge, of any student who missed Picture Day or who would like his or her photo retaken. If your child's photo needs to be redone, please return your child's original portrait package to the Lifetouch photographer on Retake Day. If your child was absent, please send in an order form with payment to Lifetouch (extra order forms are available at the front office) or order online at my lifetouch.com

Please feel free to email Kelly Boyko at *kboyko@ gmail.com* or call Lifetouch at 800-852-0674 with any questions. Thanks!

## Family Portrait Fundraiser

Family portrait day will be Saturday, Dec. 2nd, from 10am – 3pm.

We will have professional photographers set up in the cafeteria to take your family pictures.

Your \$10 donation to the NE PTA will buy you a 15 minute studio session and one 8 X 10 family portrait You will also have the option of purchasing all the digital images of the session. Sign up information to follow soon!



# Northeast Credit Union is Open!

Our volunteers are set up every Wednesday morning from 7:40 – 8am in the lobby to help students make a deposit (no matter how small) and assist with setting up new accounts.

For more information, please contact *Tina*Bauersfeld: tinabauersfeld@
yahoo.de

## Send In Photos for the Yearbook!

NEPTAPICS@gmail.com
Please make sure, the
resolution is between
550kb and 10Mb and
please add a quick note
about the date/event/
classroom.

## Silver Graphics

Your student's art has been shipped an you will be receiving order forms via backpack mail in early November. Order deadline will be November 13th to ensure timely delivery before the December break.

Product samples are in the display case in the main lobby or visit: https://www.silvergraphics.com/art-based-school-fundraising/



Friday, November 17, 2017 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Join us in the Northeast cafeteria for the first PTA movie night of the year! We'll enjoy a screening of Pixar's "Monsters, Inc." (rated G), as well as pizza and snacks. The movie is **FREE** to attend, and concessions will be sold at very affordable prices. Doors open at 6:00, and the movie will begin around 6:20;

there will be a brief intermission.

Younger/older siblings are welcome to attend. All children must be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for them throughout the entire event. Please, no drop-offs!

Feel free to bring blankets, chairs, sheets, pillows, or towels to sit on for extra viewing comfort.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Please contact Chris Pollock at *chrispollock@gmail.com* if you can provide baked goods to sell, help set up beforehand, or clean up afterwards.

### A Huge Thanks to CHFD for Teaching the first CPR Class!

We will be scheduling a second class for December. The date will be announced on the listserv and a sign up sheet will be posted.

—Eglantina

## Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The number one question I get as a Literacy Specialist from parents is, "How can I help my child?" My response to that is, THANK YOU parents, you are already on the right track by asking what you can do, and underlying that question is a genuine value of your child(ren)'s education. Here are a few things to get you started.

#### TOP TEN Ways to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader and Writer

Listen to your child read every day. If your child is struggling with reading, or just becoming a reader it is a great opportunity for you to see how your child is doing. Remember to encourage and listen to them. No need to correct them unless they ask for help. If you are unsure how to help if they keep making common mistakes check in with a teacher and ask about this.

Read to your child every day. All people like to be read to. It is a wonderful model of fluent reading. If your child is reading independently it is still a great idea to read to him/her. It is a great time to catch up on the day and enjoy a book at the same time.

Remind your child to "use their strategies" when they read. Children are learning skills to become independent readers, so remind them to use the strategies that they are learning in school. This works for word attack strategies, comprehension, and much more!

Find small ways to have your child write. Write letters to relatives or friends that have moved away, help with the grocery list, have fun with this, you'll be amazed how many fun ways you can have your child practice writing.

Focus only on the content of the writing. Oftentimes it is so easy to try to correct the spelling of your child's writing or other kinds of editing. I encourage you to focus on ideas first. Reluctant writers get bogged down by having to fix too many things. For younger writers we are encouraging stretching out the sounds that they hear, so don't worry if your child doesn't always use conventional spelling as long as they are stretching out the sounds and writing what they hear they are on the write track

Make sure the books are a "good fit book." The best way to grow as a reader is to read books that aren't too hard and aren't too easy. Think Goldilocks. You want your child to be comfortable with what they are reading. Pushing him/her to read something that is too hard will discourage them and in fact prolong growth.

Read. Reading yourself will show your child(ren) that you value reading. This helps your child see reading as a part of life and something that they should do too.

Talk about reading. Comprehension is key to kids growing as readers. It is essential that kids know what is happening in the book that they are reading. Have your child retell the story to you in their own words. If you are reading together you can take turns retelling the part you read.

Rereading books is a good idea. Many times students are rereading a book that they have already read. This helps with fluency. Reading flows when you can read the words in a way that sounds like talking. This helps in particular with beginning readers. More advanced readers like to reread books that they loved too. This is a good idea, but they should be sure to balance that with reading new books, otherwise they will never get a chance to read all the great books out there!

Make reading (and writing) fun! No matter

what you do try not to put too much pressure on your child to read or write. If your child is refusing to read or is giving you a really hard time with completing homework this is a good time to talk to your child's teacher about this. One of the most rewarding parts of my job is helping pair books with children. I find the main reason a student isn't reading is that they don't have the right book for them. Don't be afraid to ask for help with this. Everyone wants the same thing, children reading, and most importantly, children enjoying reading. This is true for writing too. If your child is having a hard time with writing let us know. We are here to help.

-Emily Snyder

## Greetings Northeast Families,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful fall season! As the year moves on and the weather declines, the need for safe, accessible, and reliable transportation becomes increasingly important. One of my roles here at Northeast is to help coordinate school-related transportation needs to and from events. Here are a few of the programs available to us in Ithaca that I can help with:

- Ridesharing: You can save time and money, and better connect to our community by sharing rides to and from events. Ridesharing also makes the parking lots safer, reduces air pollution, and helps our students be able to participate and succeed. Let me know if you would be interested in ridesharing and do not hesitate to contact me or Sophie Somerfeldt (Christophia@cornell.edu), our Way2Go expert to assist with support and coordination.
- Ithaca Carshare: Visit *ithacacarshare.org* or call 607-277-3210 to learn about affordable, self-service car use by the hour. A low-income, easy-access plan is available.
- Zimride Tompkins: The website www.zimride.com/tompkins can help find matches for sharing rides, from one-time trips to regular commutes. Visit the site to post your trips as a rider or driver to find available options.
- vRide Vanpooling: If you have a longer daily commuter, vRide can help to coordinate a door-to-door, 5 to 15-person, vanpool. Contact vRide at 800-826-7433 or visit *vride.com* for more information on costs and availability.
- R.E.D: This is an amazing volunteer driving network program. Schedule your riding needs at least 3 days in advance to a school-related meeting or event and a volunteer will pick up the job. Email redschoolrides@gmail.com or call Carrie Kerr at 607-659-5003 to request a volunteer driver.
- TCAT: We also cannot forget about our outstanding (and award winning!) local bus system. Our school is lucky to be near multiple TCAT bus stops. Please visit tcatbus.com or call 607-277-7433 for current bus routes and schedules. I also have access to free one-time bus passes if the need is school related. Please let me know if this something that would help you.
- The Way2Go Transportation Program. There are many options under the Way2Go umbrella that could help to solve many transportation problems you, or someone you know, may have. Visit <a href="http://ccetompkins.org/community/way2go">http://ccetompkins.org/community/way2go</a> for more information.



### Donations Needed for the Northeast Winter Borrowing Closet

The cold weather is upon us! Students are able to use this service if they forget or need any warm clothing. If you are replacing any winter clothing for your child this fall, please consider donating items in good condition to this important program. We are especially low on girls' coats this year.

Warm Wishes! —Kim Hall, Family Liaison, Room 104 kimberley.hall@icsd.k12.ny.us

## **Helpful Phone Numbers**

Main Office: School Fax: Attendance: Nurse: Transportation: Kids Count: 257-2121 257-8157 257-0546 266-3559 274-2128 257-9400

Less Fue

Less Pollution

ess Stree



## IYB/Northeast PTA Basketball Program REGISTRATION FORM

## Return to school with payment by **NOVEMBER 17**<sup>TH</sup>

Child's Name	<del> </del>	□М			F		
Grade:	T-Shirt Size (circle on	ie) YS	ΥM	YL	AS	AM	Al
T-Shirt # (if left blank, we will assign you one)							
Child's Birth date	Age						
Parent/Guardian Name(s):							_
Are you willing to coach /help coach your child	d's team (circle one) Ye	s / No	)				
Address:							
Phone: Email	Address(es)						
Emergency Contact (name and phone numbe	r):						_

PLEASE NOTE: The objective of this program is to allow as many students as possible to play basketball in a fun and inclusive environment.

Registration Fee: \$35. Please make checks payable to NE PTA and return with this form. If you child receives free or reduced lunch, s/he is eligible for reduced registration. Free lunch = \$14, Reduced lunch = \$24.

Practices will start the week of December 11th. Games will be played on Saturdays from January 20-March 24.

3rd grade girls - Coaches are Emily Snyder and TBA . Practices are Thursday evenings.

4th grade girls - Coaches are Anne Thomas and Ece Ince. Practices are Tuesday evenings.

5th grade girls - Coaches are Laura Dolch and Steve Johnson. Practices are Tuesday/Thursday evenings.

3rd grade boys - Coaches are TBA. Practices are TBA depending on coach availability.

4th grade boys - Coaches are Patrick Blankenship and TBA.. Practices are Wednesday evenings.

5th grade boys - Coaches are Emmanuel Vazquez and Melissa Grey. Practices are Monday and/or Wednesday evenings.

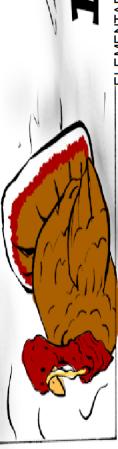
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For Ithaca Youth Bureau:

Residency Dryden	<b>: (circle one) Recre</b> Enfield Groton		: City of Ithaca Jlysses Newf		Towns of: Caroline	Danby 
Ethnicity Multi-racia	(voluntary/for statis	• /	African Americar ucasian O	Asian or Pacifi	c Islander Latino/a	
Does your Please ex	child need special as plain:	sistance due to	a disability?	_		
Basketball relieve par program.	program entails cert ticipants of the respo Note: this is not to be	ain risks and da nsibility for the interpreted as	ngers. I also und ir own safety. I a waiver of partic	lerstand that the presonagree to exercise cau cipants' legal rights.	ion in the Elementary S ence of qualified instruction and good judgment to promote community	tors does not in the
•	attach a note stating		to use photos/vid	eo/name of my child	to promote community	awareness. (II
Parent/Gua	ardian		Wor	<b>k</b> #	Home	



These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education of the Ithaca City School District, the superintendent, or this school.



ELEMENTARY LUNCH 2017

Friday	PEPPERONI PIZZA CHEESE PIZZA FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD GREEN BEANS ASSORTED MILKS	veterams:	PEPPORONI PIZZA CHEESE PIZZA FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD GREEN BEANS ASSORTED MILKS	5 <b>7</b>	
Thursday	MS PATELS RAJMA* TOASTED CHEESE FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD TOMATO SOUP ASSORTED MILKS	PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE DAY	MS PATELS RAJMA* TOASTED CHEESE FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD TOMATO SOUP ASSORTED MILKS	HAPPY THANKSGIVING	30 WAFRICAN BEANS & GREENS* TOASTED CHEESE FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD TOMATO SOUP ASSORTED MILKS
Wednesday	TURKEY WRAP POWER HUM MUS*WRAP FRESH FRIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BLACK BEAN SALAD ASSORTED MILKS	CHEESE PANINI TUNA & CHEESE PANINI FRESH FRUTT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BLACK BEAN SALAD ASSORTED MILKS	TURKEY GRAVY FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD MASHED POTA TOES ASSORTED MILKS	HAPP	CHILI CHEESE FRIES FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BROCCOLI ASSORTED MILKS
Tuesday		TALIAN CHEESE FRIES FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BROCCOLI ASSORTED MILKS	MEAT PIZZA WRAP* FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BROCCOLI ASSORTED MILKS	TACOS BEAN BURRITO FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BLACK BEAN SALAD ASSORTED MILKS	TACO SALAD BEAN BURRITO* FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD BLACK BEAN SALAD ASSORTED MILKS
Monday		GHICKEN PATTY CHICKEN PARM ESEAN FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD CARROTS ASSORTED MILKS	DELUXE BURGER  AWESOME BEANIE BURGER* FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD CARROTS ASSORTED MILKS	20 CHICKEN NUGGETS FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD CARROTS ASSORTED MILKS	DELUXE BURGER AWESOME BEAN BURGER* FRESH FRUIT/CUP/JUICE SALAD CARROTS ASSORTED MILKS

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.asc.r.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html, and atany USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint\_form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
Uson Independence Awenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 2025-09410;
(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov
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