

Wildcat World Newsletter

October 5, 2011

Takila Curry, Principal
Teresa Sauls, AP



October Upcoming Events

- ◆ October 5- Picture Retakes
- ◆ September –Oct. 7- Benchmark testing
- ◆ October 7- Fall Festival 5:30pm to 8:30pm
- ◆ October 10-14- Book Fair
- ◆ October 11- PTO Parent Meeting
- ◆ October 14- Early Release Day @11:15am/Report Cards Issued
- ◆ October 14-Parent Conferences 11:30am-4:30pm
- ◆ October 19-21- Fall Break/No School
- ◆ October 25- Student of the Month
- ◆ October 27- 3rd and 5th Grade Title I Promotion/Retention Meeting
- ◆ October 31- Storybook Character Dress Up Parade

Making the Shade Grant and volunteer opportunity!!!

- ◆ We need volunteers to help plant trees at West Newton on November 22. We received a grant that will assist us in beautifying the campus. If you are interested please contact Dr. Curry to have your name added to the list.

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that we have almost completed the first nine weeks of school. Our teachers and staff have been working hard to build positive relationships and provide quality instruction. As I visit classrooms, I am pleased to see research based instructional strategies being implemented.

Our faculty and staff are committed to ensuring that your child reaches his/her full learning potential in a safe and nurturing atmosphere. We look forward to working with you throughout the year. We encourage you to visit our school often, participate in school activities, and communicate frequently with your child's teacher throughout the school year. Parental involvement is critical to your child's educational success. We welcome your concerns, comments and/or suggestions. We would like to congratulate our October employees of the month Mrs. Chansley Wren and Theresa Button. We appreciate what they both bring to West Newton.

I would thank our many volunteers that came out to support our students and staff during the month of September. We are also appreciative of each fourth grade parent that took time to come to the fourth grade parent meeting on September 29. The parents received valuable information about student progress and what parents can do to support students in class and at home. Parents if we all work together every student will be successful this school year.

Our PTO has planned an exciting Fall Festival for Friday, October 7, from 5:30pm-8:30pm. The students will have an opportunity to participate in the following

Art

This fall it is getting colder outside, but it is getting warmer in the art room! Students are in the process of making ceramic sculptures and I will be very busy loading and unloading the Kiln.

Southern Heartland Arts Guild is having an art event on October 20 (southernheartlandart.com) and the Oxford College is sponsoring a culture fest on the 15th on the square newtoncountyarts.org.

Support the Art Dept. by volunteering or donating supplies! Or come by and say hello at the face-painting booth during the Fall Festival!

Mrs. Johns

activities: horseback riding, Wii game challenge, Video game bus, karaoke, bingo, grade level games and much more. The cost of the event is \$12 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child. Children under the age of 3 years old will not have to pay for a ticket but will have to pay for food.

We will have our first book fair October 10-14. We encourage our students to purchase books to build their home libraries. Reading is such a valuable skill and we want our students to be well equipped with plenty of books to help them continue to build their reading skills.

Parents we look forward to seeing you October 14 for parent conferences. It is our goal this year to keep you abreast of your child's progress. The teachers will be prepared to tell you how your child is performing in all subject areas and in the area of behavior. We ask that you take the opportunity to drop in regardless of how your child performs academically.

Finally, we are looking for parent volunteers to help us beautify our campus by planting trees on November 22. If you would like to volunteer please contact me and I will add your name to our volunteer list. Additional information will follow once we accumulate a list of at least 20 volunteers.

Parents as always we appreciate your support.

Always Keeping Children First
Takila Curry, Ed. D.

PE

Thank you so much for supporting the PE program at West Newton. We are having an exciting year! Please continue to encourage your children to exercise and spend time getting daily physical activity.

It is so important that they exercise or play for at least one hour a day. "Those who think they have no time for exercise will eventually have to make time for illness." –Edward Stanley

Thank you,
Mr. Matthews



Thank you to all the volunteers that took time out of their busy schedules to support the students and staff at West Newton during the week of September 26, 2011.

“Children are the world’s most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.”
John F. Kennedy

Kindergarten News- Class of 2024

We’re “falling” into learning in Kindergarten! In **Phonics**, we will continue to identify our letters and sounds, as well as blend letter sounds to read and write words. In **Reading**, we will focus on predicting, inferring, sequencing, summarizing stories, and recognizing similarities and differences. We are learning about the roles the characters and settings play in the stories we read too. In **Language Arts**, the students will continue learning to write meaningful sentences. You can help by reminding your child that all sentences begin with a capital letter, make sense, and end with the correct punctuation mark. In **Math**, we will continue to identify our numbers to 30, count to 100 by 1’s, 5’s, and 10’s, compare sets to determine greater/more, fewer/less, and equal/same. We are also

reviewing 2-D shapes and position words (above, beside, etc). At home, continue to work on forming letters & numbers correctly, fluency/mastery of letters/sounds, number recognition, high frequency words and our classroom rules and routines daily. Please don’t forget to sign and return the agenda each day. Thanks!
The Kindergarten Team

First Grade News- Class of 2023

Dear Parents,
The first grade team would first like to extend a warm thank you to all of you for helping the students with the community projects. The students did a fabulous job and we appreciate you working with them at home. We will be bringing you upcoming news on our next project next month.
We will be focusing on the following skills in each subject area for this month:

Reading: Making predictions/inferences in a story or passage, comparing and contrasting information from a story or passage, building background knowledge relevant to stories/passages, and using questioning techniques when reading a story/passage.

English: Identifying verbs (Action Words), and identifying subject/predicate in a sentence.

Math: Identifying place value using tens/ones, rounding to the nearest tens, and identifying fact families related to addition/subtraction.

Writing: Writing a narrative response to literature.

Science: Magnets/magnetic field.

First Grade Team

Second Grade News- Class of 2022

Parents, for the month of October in math we will continue to use money as a medium of exchange and practice until we master counting back change. Please support us and have your child practice what they have learned each day with real currency. Check out their homework folder for ideas on what to practice at home. In math we will also learn about length, temperature and time. In Science we will learn about the physical science concept of energy. Our reading standards will cover the comprehension skills of: sequencing events, making judgments, identifying the main idea and supporting details of a passage, and problem solving. We hope you will continue to be proactive and listen to your child read each night. After your child has read to you for 20 minutes, ask them to summarize what they’ve

read. As always, please remember to check their agendas daily and supply your child with sharpened pencils. Thank you for your support.
Second Grade Team

Third Grade News- Class of 2021

Third grade students are continuing to work on multiplication. Ice-cream sundae parties will be coming soon!! As you know, multiplication is needed for almost every new mathematical topic that students will learn. These can really make or break their math confidence, so please continue to help your student master their multiplication facts. They need to continue practicing facts at home, especially during the break. Along with multiplication, please continue to practice basic math facts in addition and subtraction.

Thank You,
Third Grade Team

Also remember that reading is a very important skill for 3rd grade. Please be sure that your student is reading at least 20-30 minutes a day. If their teacher requires a reading log, please be sure that you are signing it.

Fourth Grade News- Class of 2020

Fourth grade has been off to a great start and the students are learning so much. In math we just completed a unit on decimals. Multiplication by two digit numbers is the unit we will be working on for the next 3-4 weeks. Parents please make sure your students are practicing their multiplication facts and doing homework every night.

Homework is a vital part of their education, and allows them to practice what they have been doing in the classroom. In Reading your students are learning about story elements, and correcting grammatical errors in sentences. Thank you for coming to the 4th grade parent meeting on Thursday September 29, 2011 where we discussed CRCT data, parent support,

promotion/retention and behavior. We appreciate your support!

Fourth Grade Team

Fifth Grade News- Class of 2019

Parents,
Congratulations, we would like to thank our students and parents for a successful first quarter! As we begin the second quarter our subject area focus will change slightly.

Reading- Figurative Language, Fluency, Accelerated Reader

Math- Decimal Understanding, Divisibility, Factors, and Multiples

Writing- Personal/Fictional Narrative and Informational

Fifth Grade Team

October Certified/Classified
Employees of the Month!!!!

Mrs. Chansley Wren- 3rd Grade
Teacher

Mrs. Teresa Button- Special
Needs Paraprofessional

Counselor

October is Bully Prevention Awareness Month

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Bullying is defined as follows: An act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, which:
 - a. Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
 - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
 - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Mrs. Maria Moore

ELL

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OUR MISSION:

To provide an exemplary
education for all
students to become
productive participants
in our community.

What is Hispanic Heritage Month?

Hispanic heritage Month is celebrated every year from September 15 to October 15. It is time to recognize the many contributions of Latinos to life in the United States.

One notable Mexican-American is France Anne Cordova. She was the chief scientist at NASA from 1993-1996. To honor her contributions, her name is in the Pathfinder spacecraft that landed on Mars in 1997!

Special Education

Reading is one of the most important things that we ever learn to do. It is something that we do EVERY day and it can be a tough skill to master. Encourage your children to work on reading at home by asking your child to help you read the directions or recipe when you are cooking dinner or have your child read you a bedtime story. Another great idea is to view stories online or review skills using online computer games.

Here are some sites that might be helpful:

- *www.bookpop.com
- *www.mrsp.com
- *factexplorer.com

For other sites, visit the West Newton Website and visit student resources.

Special Ed. Team

Quest

The Quest students will take a fieldtrip to Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia on November 9 to see the world's oldest mummy. The cost of the fieldtrip is \$9.00. Ms. McCoy asks that the money is paid no later than October 25. If you have any questions please contact Ms. McCoy.

Ms. McCoy

Pre-K

We have been having great times learning in Pre-K. This month we will continue learning about fall, incorporating leaves, pumpkins, and spiders into our lessons. We will end the month by making pumpkin pudding.....Yum!

We are also exploring shapes and numbers in math. Be sure to read with your child each and every night, as this will strengthen and help with the development of language and literacy awareness while spending quality time with your Pre-K child.

Thank you for your continual support.
Pre-K Team

