**Nettle News**

Nettle Middle School… *Home of the Knights!*

October 1, 2023

**Important Dates**

**Tuesday and Wednesday**

**October 3 and 4**

After school basketball clinic

Open to all students 3-4:30

**Monday, October 9**

No School

**Wednesday, Oct 11**

Site Council Meeting 5pm - 6pm

**Monday, October 16**

PTO Meeting (4-5)

**Wednesday, Oct 25**

Early Release

**Thursday, October 26**

Parent Teacher Conferences

| **Soccer**  **Monday**: Practice 3-4:30  **Tuesday**: Game against Whittier but @ Consentino 3:15 Boys play first  **Wednesday**: Game @ Consentino 3:15 Girls play first  **Thursday**: Game @ Consentino 3:15 Boys play first | Afterschool Basketball Clinic - all students are invited. Tuesday, October 3 and Wednesday, October 4 from 3:00-4:30 |  |
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**From the Principal’s Desk**

Good Morning Nettle Families! As a reminder, beginning in October, in conjunction with our community safety agencies, Nettle Middle School will be conducting A.L.I.C.E. drills. We completed our Fire Drill completed successfully last week.

MCAS scores will be coming out within the next two weeks. In an effort to improve achievement and help students close the learning loss during COVID we have made *READING AND WRITING* across all curriculums a renewed focus for this school year. Our Success Block period will be a six-day rotation with 2 days to focus on Math intervention, 2 days to focus on Reading intervention and 2 days of DEAR (drop everything and read).

You will hear teachers this year referring to our CER (Claim, Evidence and Reasoning) rubric for writing. Please encourage your students to talk about how they are using this rubic in school. I would suggest incorporating this dialogue with your students even when discussing everyday events … *explain to me your claim, evidence and reasoning for why you should be allowed to stay up late tonight … have a friend over …* Together we can do this!

Just a reminder, when you attend your child’s sporting event it is helpful if you model good behavior. Please do not harass the game officials.

**Eighth-grade students are trying to raise funds for the 8th-grade trip to Washington DC in the Spring. Bring your clothing donations to Nettle Middle School! Help us raise money for our 8th graders' Washington, D.C. trip!**

**Drop off clothes between August 28th - January 12th in the Nettle Café.**

**Guidance**

The LEAD team started a Nettle School Food Pantry. If you or any families you know are interested in accessing the food pantry, please email us at nettlefoodpantry@gmail.com

**Grade 8 Families**

Mrs.Crowley is in the process of meeting with all 8th graders regarding high school options and the transition to high school. All of the information presented to the students will be posted in the Grade 8 School Counseling Google classroom.

If your child is planning on applying to private high schools, please email me directly at mcrowley@haverhill-ps.org as soon as possible in order to meet all deadlines.

**ELA Coach**

Hispanic Heritage Month - here are some recommended books for your students to read from our ELA staff:

Ninety Miles to Havana by Enrique Flores-Galbis Marcus Veiga Doesn’t Speak Spanish by Pablo Cartaya

Mercy Suarez Changes Gears by Meg Medina My Year in the Middle by Lila Quintero Weaver

The Other Half of Happy by Rebecca Barcarcel Sal & Gabbi Break the Universe by Carlos Hernandez

Steff Soto, Taco Queen by Jennifer Torres The Dreamer by Pam Muniz Ryan & Pete Sis

**Math Coach**

This year we have adopted a new math curriculum - Eureka Math Squared. Here is a link you can follow to learn more about the program. [Eureka Math](https://greatminds.org/math/eurekamathsquared/family-engagement). After reviewing many math programs in conjunction with the math teachers we settled on this high-quality instructional material that is recommended by DESE and has been successful in other districts in Massachusetts. One of the reasons this program was chosen is it has a “paper and pencil” component in the form of workbooks for each unit. When you come visit your child’s teacher for Parent Conferences on Thursday, October, 26th ask to see the new materials.

**From the Nurse**

You should have received packets from your child with information about Polish Dental. They will be coming to the school on October 30 and 31 to do teeth cleaning for anyone who fills out the forms distributed to your child. Reach out to your child’s homeroom teacher if you did not receive the packet.