

Nettle News

Nettle Middle School... *Home of the Knights*



September 29, 2024

Important Dates

Thursday, October 3 Drama Club initial meeting 2:45 - 3:45 (in cafe)

Monday, October 7

Cross Country Meet for grades 6-8

Tuesday, October 8

First Day of Discovery Club

Friday, October 11

Attendance Breakfast

Monday, October 14

No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day

Wednesday, October 16

Cross Country Meet for grades 4 and 5

Thursday, October 17

Parent Teacher Conferences (5:00 - 6:30)

Monday, October 21

PTO Meeting (4-5pm) in cafe



Boys & Girls Soccer

Games:

Boys Soccer Team: Make sure you check our Google Classroom for schedule changes!

Monday: Practice 3-4:30

Tuesday: Game at JGW v JGW

Wednesday: Game or Practice

TBA

Thursday: Game at JGW v

Consentino



Cross Country Team

Meets:

10/7 Monday non-scoring meet for grades 6th -8th

10/16 Wednesday meet for 4th and 5th grades.

10/24 Thursday Scoring meet for grades 6th -8th

10/28 Monday Meet vs Methuen and North Andover

Practice:

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:50-3:45

Happy Fall Everyone!

The MCAS scores were released this week and we are very proud of our students' efforts! Although our achievement wasn't what we had hoped for, we had amazing growth in some areas:

- Our percentage of 5th and 8th students Meeting or Exceeding the Science Standards increased by 11%.
- Our Chronic Attendance rate has decreased by 11% this year (and last year), over 20 percentage points in 2 years.
- Our Accountability score (think of it as a state-wide ranking) has increased over the last 3 years from 5th percentile (2021) to 12th percentile (2022) to the 19th percentile (2023).
- 5th grade ELA Achievement scores improved by 4% while growth in grades 6,7 and 8 all exceeded the State.
- Our Growth and Achievement scores in Math improved in all grades with over 60% growth in grade 7.
- Our progress towards our State-assigned targets was in the 72nd percentile - we have made "substantial progress" toward our targets according to Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Here is a [link](#) to our school profile.

Our goals this year include continuing to lower our Chronic Attendance rate, increase our students' academic achievement, increase parent and family engagement as we evolve into a Community School, and increase our use of restorative justice practices to improve equitable access for all students to the curriculum.

You will be getting you individual child's report in the mail in the coming weeks.

Discover Club applications are now open and will start meeting on October 8th. Please use this link to apply [Discovery Club](#)

Grade 8 Families - 8th Grade Washington, D.C. Trip

Hello 8th Grade Families.

Please look at the linked Slides with updated info on the following:

1. Dates, Cost, Payment Schedule
2. Upcoming Info Sessions with Rich Poor the district coordinator
3. Fundraising Dates & Fundraising Requirements
4. Steps to Register - Beginning 9/23

If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Hodson at melanie.hodson@haverhill-ps.org or Liz McCarron at elizabeth.mccarron@haverhill-ps.org

Clubs

GSA will meet in Mrs. McCarron's room 203 on Wednesdays at 2:45-3:15 starting on 9/18. Any questions please ask Mrs. McCarron at elizabeth.mccarron@haverhill-ps.org. Looking forward to meeting everyone!

Chess Club will meet on Thursdays from 3-4PM. Come to room 505 to join.

Guidance: From Mrs.Crowley

I'm in the process of meeting with all 8th graders to discuss high school options and the transition to high school. If your 8th-grade 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 the application deadlines. I will also be meeting with all 7th graders at the beginning of October to discuss high school options. Please remind all 7th graders how important this year is for their future high school plans. Attendance, grades, and behavior all matter in middle school!

Math Coach

Eureka Math Tips for Parents.

Grade 5: [Topic A](#), [Topic B](#)

Grade 6: [Topic A](#), [Topic B](#)

Grade 7: [Topic A](#), [Topic B](#)

Grade 8: [Topic A](#), [Topic B](#)

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

[Mercy Suarez Changes Gears](#) by Meg Medina

[The Other Half of Happy](#) by Rebecca Barcarcel

[Steff Soto, Taco Queen](#) by Jennifer Torres

[Marcus Veiga Doesn't Speak Spanish](#) by Pablo Cartaya

[My Year in the Middle](#) by Lila Quintero Weaver

[Sal & Gabbi Break the Universe](#) by Carlos Hernandez

[The Dreamer](#) by Pam Muniz Ryan & Pete Sis

Health Class Next Week:

Homerroom 203 has started its Reproductive Systems. Please contact maeve.torres@haverhill-ps.org with any questions.