



Newport Elementary

SCHOOL NEWS

January 2018



Newport Elementary School
851 6th Avenue
Newport MN, 55055
School hours: 7:55am-2:25pm

Main Office: 651-425-4300
Health Office: 651-425-4302
Attendance Line: 651-425-4306
Transportation: 651-425-5303

Principal's Corner:

Newport Elementary "Beating the Odds" School!

We at Newport are excited that the Star Tribune newspaper has recognized Newport Elementary School as one of 75 schools in the state of Minnesota as a "Beating the Odds" school. These schools have shown a strong academic achievement level despite being identified as a high-poverty school. Newport Elementary School was recognized for math achievement by doing significantly better than predicted.

I want to thank the staff, students, and Newport parents for making this happen. It is truly an honor and we are so thankful for the recognition.

Monthly Morning Meetings

This year students have been attending a school-wide morning meeting once a month. Each themed meeting has a character trait that is discussed through songs, videos, and activities. The character trait is then used to help determine who gets chosen for Student of the Month recognition. Below you will see the traits we have discussed and learned so far. Take some time to speak with your child/children about these traits and what they mean to you as a family.

September-Friendship	October-Acceptance	November-Gratitude
December-Generosity	January-Honesty/Responsibility	February-Compassion
March-Perseverance	April-Service	May-Cooperation

Mr. Rich Romano
Newport Principal

Meet the Staff:

Grade		
Pre-K	Brittany Vasecka Amanda Paulson	425-4359
Kindergarten	Ryan Heyer	425-4355
	Karen Mendez	425-4356
First	Lori Bertrand	425-4353
	Pam Fabano	425-4354
Second	Natasha Snyder	425-4358
	Heather Trok	425-4352
Third	Sara Bonine	425-4351
	Amy Kestner	425-4350
Fourth	Kim Anderson	425-4366
	Anita Perkins	425-4367
Fifth	Ann Madden	425-4369
	Colleen Galloway	425-4368
Occupational Therapist (O.T.)	Lori Corey	425-4328
Social Worker	Tracy Iaria	425-4324
Psychologist	Kelly DeGezelle	425-4308
Special Ed Teachers	Tori Kulick-Carlson	425-4301
	Sara Arthur-Noble	
	Hallie Neuhaus	
	Bob Dilla	
	Carolyn Tollefson	425-4363
Art	Matt Howie	425-4371
Orchestra Band	Greg Margot	425-4375
	Mary Slette	425-4375
Music	Shannon Wood	425-4361
Media Specialist	Stacy Curry	425-4311
Phy Ed	Tania Ferderer	425-4373
Basic Skills Teachers	Kathy Koch	425-4370
	Kathy Lamoureux	425-4336
Title One Teachers	Maureen Garrett	425-4374
	Sue Wilson	425-4349
	Jacqueline Stangl	425-4349
	Sue Winkler-Paraprofessional	
Reading Specialist Reading Recovery	Jane Endres	425-4365
Kitchen Manager	Tara Swedzinski	425-4310
Kitchen Cook	Kelly Gaspard	425-4344
Kitchen Cashier	Jacquie Lindstrom	425-4309
Kids Club	Marie Humble	425-4346
	Stephanie Berg	
	Bonnie Karas	

Custodian-day	Tony Reed	425-4305
Principal	Rich Romano	425-4303
Nurse	Tammy John	425-4302
	Jaci Eischen	425-4302
Education Paraprofessionals	Kris Richard	Sara Avise
	Bonnie Karas	Glenda Kemmet
	Joan DeVito	Terri Frederick
	Corina Phillips	Chelsea Pederson
	Heidi Gulbrandson	Angela Raverty
	Melissa Ingemann	

Parents requested to update Emergency Card/Census Verification information online

Typically, Emergency Cards are provided yearly to parents so the district can verify student(s) information is current and accurate. The district has determined that the best way to ensure accurate information in a timely way is to have parents complete the changes to their family (and children) accounts through the Parent Portal in Infinite Campus.

When signed in to the [Parent Portal](#), the subject areas below can be found and clicked on to first verify the information, and second, to make any needed changes to the emergency/census information for your family.

- **Demographics:** Updates can be made for student and non-household contacts. Non-household contacts include emergency contacts, doctor, dentist and hospital information.
- **Household Information:** Updates can be made for home phone numbers and address change can be requested here. In order for the district to make a change to an address proof of the move is needed.
- **Family Members:** Updates can be made for any member of the immediate household here. Examples would be parent cell phone numbers or email address.

No computer/internet access?

Families without access to a computer can call the district's Student Information Department at 651-425-6236 to be put in contact with our census contact, Tracy Ulik.

No current Parent Portal account?

Families without a parent portal account must request one. Email ICSupport@sowashco.k12.mn.us and enter the student(s) name, the school the student(s) attend, the student(s) home address and your (the parent/guardian) name.

Looking ahead:

January 2018

- 3 School resumes Wednesday January 3rd
- 15 No School-MLK Holiday
- 16 Title 1 Family Night 4:30-5:30pm
- 16 Family Fun Night 5:30pm-7:30pm
- 16 PTO Meeting 6:15pm
- 31 Band & Choir Concert at Newport 1:15pm & 7pm

February 2018

- 5 Family Fun Night 5:30pm-7:30pm
- 5 PTO Meeting 6:15pm
- 8 Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-8pm
- 13 Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-8pm
- 15 Spring Pictures
- 18-24 Perkins Restaurant fundraiser
- 19 No School-Holiday
- 21 Registration for 2018-2019
 - Pre-Kindergarten 4:30-5:30pm
 - Kindergarten 5:30-6:30pm
- 26-3/2 "I Love to Read" week

Keep these numbers handy:

Rich Romano Principal

651-425-4303

Tracy Ulik Office

651-425-4300

Attendance Line

651-425-4306

Kitchen

651-425-4309

Jaci Eischen Nurse

651-425-4302

Tracy Iaria Social Worker

651-425-4339

Transportation

651-425-5303

Newport Elementary Updates:

5th Grade News:

The Newport fifth graders recently wrote letters and created care packages for active service men and women. The letters and care packages were recently sent and should be arriving before the holidays. The care packages included gum, snacks, and other fun things for the soldiers. A big "Thank You" to the Newport 5th graders for recognizing the service of our military men and women.

Band/Choir/Orchestra Announcement:

Congratulations on a fabulous December Orchestra concert! I am very proud of your accomplishments and your talents. Keep up the great work!

The Winter Band and Choir Concert is coming up, January 31st at 1:15 and at 7pm. Students should plan to arrive at 6:40pm for the evening concert dressed in white tops and black bottoms for both choir and band. Students may also wear this during the day, or bring their outfits to change into after lunch.

Ms. Shannon Wood
Elementary Music Specialist
Newport and Crestview Elementary Schools
Newport: 651-425-4361

Physical Education News:

Thank you to all the parents and students that participated in our Scooter Town Fundraiser Night! The money raised will go towards our Roller skating unit in PE in March!

Save the Dates:

Our next Family Fun Night in the gym and game night is **Jan. 16th**!

It is a FREE event 5:30-7:30! Please enter through the gym entrance.

Can't make that date? Our last one is **Feb. 5th**! Hope to see you there!

Bring your tennis shoes for the gym and your favorite board game to play if you want!

Feb. 10th is the next TCM kid fun run! It is 9-noon at the U of MN indoor track. Students can run ½ mile or mile. Look for a blue flyer to come home soon with information to register online only. Scholarships are available for students that receive free/reduced lunch. See Mrs. Ferderer for more details.

Floor Hockey Intramurals will start the week of Jan. 15th! Grades 2-5 only.

It will run 10 sessions Mon./Tues. after school 2:25-3:25. Register through community education. There is no bus service for Intramural Activities.

February 16th will be our annual Jump Rope for Heart event! Students will be on the prowl for heart health! It is a great event where all week students will learn about their heart and how to keep it healthy but also learn about what warning signs to look for heart attacks and strokes. Fundraising for the American Heart Association is completely optional. However, all students will do their part by jumping rope to help others!

Please remind your child to put their tennis shoes in their backpack every day for PE.

:) Mrs. Ferderer-Newport PE

Academic Hall of Fame Wall:

Do you know someone that has “graduated” from
Newport Elementary and is attending/graduated from a
post-secondary school?

If so, email their picture and which school they are attending/graduated from to

Mrs. Madden. amadden@sowashco.org

How much homework should my child have?

The Newport staff recognizes the importance of balancing homework and family life. This homework policy should serve as a guideline for finding a balance between family events and homework.

- Extend learning and/or provide practice in applying concepts initially presented in the classroom.
- Provide opportunities for enrichment and independent work.

Following are guidelines for homework assignments:

- Students in Grades K-2 will have an approximate daily time limit of 10-20 minutes of homework.
- Students in Grades 3-5 will have an approximate daily time limit of 30-50 minutes of homework.
- Homework will be meaningful (not busy work) and homework will be an extension of learning.
- Homework will be differentiated as needed (appropriate to the abilities of the student).

If a student is unable to complete a homework assignment due to a lack of understanding, or if the child has worked hard for the entire time guideline and is not finished, parents will note this on the homework or contact the child’s teacher.

Students, who have the ability but refuse to complete homework or schoolwork, may be kept in from recess. Parents will be notified that day when students are kept in from recess. Students who struggle academically with the homework or schoolwork will be given support or work at their academic level. Parents who object to missing recess will work with the teacher and Principal to create an alternative plan.

EL News:

ACCESS testing starts the last week of January for Kindergartners (1/29-2/2/18). More testing for all EL students will be in February. Get a good night’s sleep and express yourself in English!

Carolyn Tollefson
EL Teacher
Newport School
(651)-4363

Reading Corner:

PAWS to READ

Willow, the golden retriever therapy dog, would really like some readers to come read to her at the Newport Public Library on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30.

Come relax and read with Willow, the tail wagging friend, on Tuesday nights and you will get a signed book marker from Willow (PAW PRINT) and you can get your picture taken with Willow.

I will hang your picture in the hallway at school, and you will get a McDonald's free cone certificate the following day at school from me.

Even if you prefer not to read to Willow, you will still get the free cone reward for going to the library to read a book.

Join in the fun at the Newport Library on Tuesday nights!

Ms. Endres

Thank you to all parents, grandparents, day care providers, siblings, and others in the community that are reading each night and setting examples for our students! Your hard work and dedication at home is making a difference here at Newport Elementary! Our students and staff are very proud of the level of excellence that has been placed on literacy in our school.

Our Newport Staff and students are believers of this motto:

Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader!

Ms. Endres

Reading Specialist