

NEWSOME PARK PRESS



March 2019

Oriel Robinson-Taylor, Principal
Ebony Parker, Assistant Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 20	Move It, Move It, and Learn It! SOL Kick-off Family Night 5 -6:30 PM
March 27	Heart Work Chat & Chew 10 - 11 AM 5- 6:30 PM
March 29	Half Day for Students
April 1-5	Spring Break School Closed
April 16	Report Cards Issued
May 27	Memorial Day School Closed

Congratulations to our Security Officer, Officer Daniels, for being awarded one of Virginia's Most Outstanding Crossing Guard of 2018. We are Navigator Proud!



From the Principal

Greetings Navigator Parents, Students, and Friends!

Its nearly March and we are rapidly making our way through the 2018-2019 school year. Please be reminded that the 3rd Marking Period ends on March 29 and it is critical that students maximize each instructional day until then. Please take every effort to ensure students are coming to school each day ready to learn, and when absent, all notes are turned in to the main office! We are also closing in on the coming SOL assessments and are working to ensure that daily opportunities and experiences are created to maximize student success.

A special congratulations to our 2nd and 3rd grade students who competed in the NNPS STEM Engineer Design Challenge in February; thank you for representing NPES well, and for your hard and diligent work—keep striving! Also parents, our monthly Chat & Chew will be held March 27 at 10a and 5pm, here at NPES. I look forward to meeting and greeting each of you and discussing how we can continue to collaboratively support our students and our school.

We are also excited about our PTA kick-off and ask that you leave your name and contact information in the main office if you are interested in working with the NPES PTA. Ms. Suzanna Bryant is our new PTA President and she brings an abundance of energy and ideas to our school. Be on the look-out for upcoming dates and experiences, and remember there is something for everyone here at Newsome Park. Everyday...**Respectful, Responsible, and READY TO LEARN!**

We appreciate you!

O. Robinson-Taylor, Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Dear Parents,

Navigators model the way with helping hands. Parents, join us in our Hand Are for Helping campaign by reminding your child that hands are not for hitting (Agassi, 2000). Hands Are for Helping aims to teach students that violence is never okay. Newsome Park is committed to teaching students how to manage their strong feelings without hitting, pushing, shoving, or throwing. Even in times of stress, frustration, or anger, hands are capable of positive, supportive actions. Instead of hitting, students are encouraged to solve their problem a different way:

1. Talk about it
2. Listen for understanding
3. Walk away
4. Get help from an older person

Join us as we stress hands are for helping, hands are for caring, hands are not for hitting.

Mrs. Parker, Assistant Principal

From the Guidance Department



From the Clinic



Information on Influenza

The “flu”, also called Influenza, is a very contagious respiratory disease caused by a virus. It starts around November and is usually seen up through March. It can be mild in nature or very severe, requiring hospitalization. It is different from a cold in that it usually comes on suddenly. Common symptoms of the flu are as follows:

- *Fever or feeling feverish with chills—not everyone will have a fever
- *Cough
- *Sore throat
- *Runny or stuffy nose
- *Muscle and body aches
- *Fatigue (tiredness)
- *Headache
- *Children may have vomiting or diarrhea, not common in adults.

Usually, when a person gets the flu they can recover in a few days or up until 2 weeks. However, pneumonia is a complication of the flu and can be life-threatening. Other complications from getting the flu are bronchitis, sinus infections, and ear infections. The flu can also make certain health conditions worse. For example, adults and children who have asthma will most likely have more asthma attacks because of having the flu.

Flu is spread to others up to 6 feet away by droplets when a person sneezes, coughs or talks. Another way the virus spreads, though not as common, is through touching surfaces with the flu virus and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes. Washing hands or using alcohol-based hand rub is the single best method for preventing spread of the flu.

Those at higher risk for getting the flu are the elderly, people who have chronic medical conditions, pregnant women, and young children. Influenza is unpredictable, it varies from person-to-person and one season to another. Vaccination is one of the best ways to avoid the illness. If you or your child gets the flu, please stay home until the fever is gone without the use of medicine for at least 24 hours. Limit contact with others and wash your hands often.

Please see http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/freeresources/family/a_flu_guide_for_parents.pdf for further information for parents and having a child with influenza.

Reading

Engaging your child in meaningful conversation is a great way to support both reading and writing development! Did you know that your child's ability to speak in age appropriate complex sentences impacts the types of sentence structures your child can easily understand when reading? Did you know it also impacts the complexity and number of sentences your child can easily write in a story? Having conversations with your child, where both of you take turns sharing thoughts and adding details to your thoughts, promotes oral language growth.

This conversation can be as simple as looking out the car window and discussing what you see and how it makes you feel. You might discuss what you would see, smell, or hear if you were outside in that spot. Ask your child if they agree or think the same way that you think. Ask them to tell why they agree or why they think another way. Not only will you be encouraging oral language development, but you will be teaching the art of conversation along the way!

From Our Family and Community Engagement Specialist

A big shout out to our dads and dad-like role models who came out for the ALL PRO Dads Breakfast. A huge thank you to Newsome Park Elementary community partners: ALL PRO Dads, Mathnasium of Yorktown, Caley Wilson of World Financial Group, 2nd and Charles, Starbucks (5030 W. Mercury Blvd.) and McDonalds (2601 Jefferson Ave.) for their help in making this a memorable event.



Upcoming Activities

Hampton- Newport News Community Services Board
Strengthening Families Program Children Ages 6 - 11

Denbigh Community Center (Partnership with Newport News Parks, Recreation & Tourism)

Fridays March 22-May 31 (Excluding Friday April 5)

5:00-8:00pm

Registration brochure will be available in Newsome Park Elementary Main Office.

For more information, please contact:

Emily Peele, Family and Community Engagement Specialist at (757) 897-7253.

1st Grade

FIRST Grade News

This month in first grade, our focus for reader's workshop is fiction and non-fiction pairs. Some skills we will be working on are retelling stories and events, identifying character feelings, identifying the main idea and key details as well as asking questions about what is read. In math workshop, we will be introducing fractions (halves and fourths), continuing to practice skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s to 110, as well as counting like collections of pennies, nickels and dimes up to 100 cents. At home, please encourage your child to continue practice counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s to 110. In writer's workshop, the children will continue writing friendly letters, as well as begin writing opinion letters. Please continue to complete homework every night and read for at least 20 minutes!

2nd GRADE

SECOND Grade News

We have finished our math unit on double digit addition and subtraction and have begun studying plane and solid shapes, as well as lines of symmetry. In our literacy block we continue to focus on word study through small group instruction. Students have selected a topic for their research project. They are excited to be researching and working towards their final research project!

3rd Grade

THIRD Grade News

Breaking News! Third grade will be visiting the Virginia Living Museum on March 26th! We will be focused on Virginia habitats and animal adaptations as we explore the exciting exhibits. March is a month full of opportunities for third graders to demonstrate their learning. Students will be taking common assessments in math and reading, as well as benchmark testing for both reading and math. Third graders will continue investigations into graphing, probability, and measurement. During reading, third grade students will explore functional texts such as advertisements, recipes, menus, and directions. Third graders will be busy composing, revising, editing, and publishing, their non-fiction reports in preparation for their presentations.

4th GRADE

FOURTH Grade News

Fourth grade has been very busy this 9 weeks! We have been learning all about fractions in math. We have also been learning about the pioneers moving West. We have just begun to learn more about poetry and the Civil War. We are excited to continue learning!

5th Grade

FIFTH Grade News

Congratulations to all of the fifth grade students for a wonderful presentation of the Black History Wax Museum! Students worked very hard to create a presentation, written report and poster. In the upcoming months we'll be doing a lot of spiral review to prepare for the upcoming SOLs. This month we're working on fractions, measurement and angles in math. In Science, we've begun having a program called 'Mad Scientist' come to us on Fridays and present fun, hands on experiments for our students. We will continue that as we study light and sound this month. At home, please talk with your child about the book we've been reading as a school. Each morning, we discuss the chapter and answer trivia questions in our morning meetings. Thank you parents for your help with the museum and continued support this school year.

21st Century After-School Program

February was an exciting month for our 21st Century students! Our students presented a musical selection on the keyboards as the opening act for 21st Century Black Wax Museum Evening. 21st Century students learned how to play the keyboards from one of the business partners, Mr. Head and the EMA Company. The evening continued with a stroll past the wax exhibits. Ella Fitzgerald, Barack and Michelle Obama, Venus Williams, Babe Ruth, and many other famous African Americans were on display. 21st Century students researched and became the person for the evening with their fantastic speeches and artifacts. Our 21st Century students were fabulous wax presenters!!

21st Century students are currently learning how to play golf during our Saturday ELAPS sessions with our PE Teacher, Ms. Burgett. 21st Century students enjoyed their PGA (Professional Golf Association) Camp! Here comes our next professional golfer....., possibly the first professional golfer from Newport News!



21st Century Fifth Grade Keyboard Performers



S. Willingham - Ella Fitzgerald,



Ms. Burgett and 21st Century Golfers