

Nov. 20, 2020

## **Dutch Neck Elementary School**

**All schools on Wednesday, Nov. 25 will operate on a half-day schedule. WW-P will be closed Nov. 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving Break. The District will move to a full-remote model beginning Nov. 30-Dec. 9. There will be NO newsletter sent on Nov. 27.**

### **IMPORTANT:**

- Grade level schedules for the Nov. 25 half-day schedule, are linked below. This schedule applies to both hybrid and all-virtual students.
  - Maurice Hawk [half-day](#) preschool is closed.
  - Elementary schools will operate on a [conference day schedule](#) allowing students to experience all classes in the morning.
  - Middle schools will operate on a [half-day schedule](#).
  - High schools will operate on a [40-minute six period-half day schedule](#) allowing students to experience all scheduled classes for that day in the morning.
- The District will be closed Nov. 26-27 for the Thanksgiving Break.
- WW-P will move to a temporary full-remote model after the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Beginning Nov. 30 - Dec. 9, the District and all instruction will remain fully remote.
- The District will resume in-person for those students who participate in the hybrid and all-in instruction models with [Hybrid 2 on Thursday, December 10, and Hybrid 1 on Monday, Dec. 14.](#)
- Upon the conclusion of Winter Recess (Dec. 23, 2020 – Jan. 1, 2021) the district will observe a 14 day temporary move to full-remote learning beginning Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, through Monday, Jan. 18.
- To read the full message that was sent to all WW-P families and staff on Friday, Nov. 20, please click [here](#).

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### **PTA**

**Celebrating Creativity** (*Order keepsakes of your child's artwork*): Parents can view their child's artwork come to life and order custom keepsakes for the holiday season.

Our art teacher, Mrs. Cruzado has been teaching students in grades 1-3 the [Sunflower Art](#) (feel free to upload any other art too that you would like to order). Students in kindergarten can work on independent art projects at home.

- **How to order?** Please see [the flyer](#) for details on how to order before Nov. 30, 2020. Share your pictures [here](#) with us for the yearbook. Kindly name the image file as studentname\_grade\_teacherlastname.jpeg.

**Robotics and Science Exploration Classes** - Dutch Neck PTA has partnered with Kiddie Kaleidoscope to offer one-of-kind robotics and science explorations classes beginning the week of Jan. 5, 2021. Their unique robotics and science kits would be mailed directly to each child with all the materials needed to build/experiment with the teacher during the virtual classes. The deadline to register for all the classes is Dec. 18, 2020.

- [Robotics registration details for K and 1st graders](#)
- [Science Exploration registration details for K and 1st graders](#)
- [Science Exploration registration details for 2nd and 3rd graders](#)

To view the Nov. 19, 2020, **Dutch Neck PTA Meeting**, please click [here](#).

#### **IMPORTANT DNPTA LINKS:**

- For questions, please reach out to [dutchneckevents@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckevents@gmail.com).
- **DNPTA Membership/Donation:** For details, [click here](#).
- **Amazon Smile Support:** Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).
- **Box Tops Support:** Download the Box Tops App, create your account and select Dutch Neck Elementary. Scan your receipt for quick, direct addition of Box Tops to your account or email your e-receipt to [receipts@boxtops4education.com](mailto:receipts@boxtops4education.com).

#### **SEPTSA**

- **WW-P Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association (SEPTSA):** WW-P SEPTSA exists to support students and families of students with IEPs and

504 plans. Please join SEPTSA to be added to our mailing list and be sure to hear about upcoming events and speakers! Membership is open to all parents and families, older students (6th grade and above), and faculty and staff who support students with special needs. Please click [here](#) for more information.

- Is your special needs child interested in working with a Girl Scout on a STEM Lego robotics activity? We will provide the materials and then work with your child(ren) over Zoom. Siblings, including those not on an IEP, are also welcome to be involved. You must be a SEPTSA member to participate in this program. Contact Kathleen Moriarty at [wwpsepts@yahoo.com](mailto:wwpsepts@yahoo.com) for more information.
- **WWP Special Education Parent Advisory Group (S.E.P.A.G.):** To support parents of students with an IEP or 504 plan, and to provide input to the district on special education issues, the WWP SEPAG meets regularly throughout the school year. Additionally, SEPTSA/SEPAG hosts monthly "office hours" (now virtual!) for informal conversation and advice regarding issues around IEPs/504 plans. Upcoming dates include Nov. 22, Dec. 20, Jan. 24, Feb. 21, March 21, April 18, and May 23.
  - All times are Sundays from 4-6 pm. Please contact Jennifer Riccards at [jenballen@yahoo.com](mailto:jenballen@yahoo.com) for more information or to receive the Zoom link. (If you cannot make one of these times and would like support or to connect with other families dealing with similar situations, please feel free to contact Jennifer at any time.)

**Links:** [SEPTSA Facebook Page](#) | [SEPTSA Website](#) | [Membership Form](#)

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## School

During this season of thanks, we want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for the ways in which the school community has partnered together to support our students, especially in the face of the many challenges related to COVID-19. Here are some specific ways we are especially grateful:

- Creating "virtual" classrooms/work areas for students so that they can do their best learning
- Communicating directly with teachers regarding student successes and needs
- Following all safety protocols and procedures to ensure our students and staff are as safe as possible

- Sharing words of encouragement, support, or gratitude with teachers, secretaries, counselors, nurses, and any Dutch Neck staff members
- Building routines for your children so that they develop positive habits related to staying engaged during virtual learning
- Going above and beyond to find creative ways for your children to socialize safely with friends and family members

Our hope for our Dutch Neck families during this time is that you get to recharge, spend time together in safe ways, and, despite the challenges we are all facing, have a moment to acknowledge the gifts in your lives.

#### Other Reminders:

- [This message](#) was sent to all families regarding technology helpful tips and best practices. If you have not had the opportunity to read the letter, please take the time to familiarize yourself with these tips and practices.
- We are looking forward to continuing with ["Screen-Free" Wednesdays](#) through Dec. 16. Grade 1, grade 2 and grade 3 classes will end at 1 p.m. AM Kindergarten will be on a regular schedule with some asynchronous learning and PM Kindergarten will go from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. with some asynchronous learning. Please remember to have your child(ren) enjoy a variety of non-screen activities.
- Important Media Information/Accessing Library Books for Second and Third Graders- Please refer to the [Parent Letter](#).

#### Upcoming Events

- Nov. 30: Last day to order art keepsakes

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**District:** [WW-P District Website](#) | [Academic Calendars](#) | [Events Calendar](#)

#### Reminders

- **The week of Nov. 23 is Hybrid Week 2.** Please click [here](#) for the Nov./Dec. Hybrid Week Calendar as well as grade level Sample Rotations and Schedules.
- To view the **2020-21 school year calendar**, please click [here](#).

- **Screen-Free Wednesday afternoons:** Click [here](#) for upcoming dates as well as each school's modified morning schedule on Screen-Free Wednesdays.
- **Health Screening:** Please remember to complete the Daily Health Screening form for your child(ren) on the days they will be in-person. The form is located under the Forms tab in [Genesis](#).
- **Masks:** Please also be advised that neither neck gaiters or valve masks provide appropriate protection and are not permitted for use on school or district grounds. Please use a mask with two or more layers that fits snugly over the nose and face. If a student does not have an appropriate mask, one will be provided by the district upon request.
- **Contact Information:** Is your contact information up-to-date in Genesis? If your email or phone numbers have changed, please make sure to update your information in Genesis. If you would like to opt-in to receive SMS text messages from the District, please text "Yes" to "67587" from a cell phone that is listed with your contact information in Genesis. Text messaging rates may apply. For additional details, please click [here](#).
- **HSS PTSA SPONSORED:**
  - Holiday Poinsettia Fundraiser - Purchase for yourself or send a gift of appreciation to any WW-P staff member. Gifts to WW-P teachers and/or staff will be delivered with a note showing the sender's appreciation. Please click [here](#) for the order form
  - It's the **HAPPY BIRTHDAY LAWN SIGN!** Celebrate your birthday to help us celebrate the graduating seniors. For more information and to reserve your date, please click [here](#). Available districtwide.

## Health and Safety

- Please click [here](#) to read the Nov. 13 Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold.

## Counseling and Wellness

- **Virtual Parent University:** "Coping with COVID: The Impact of Social Media" will be held Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. For more information and to register, click [here](#).
- To view past Parent University presentations, click [here](#).

## Curriculum and Instruction

- Have a question about Google Classroom? Not sure how to use Zoom? Check out these [resources for support](#) in the Families and Caregivers Tutorial Helpdesk.

## Community Education

- **Extended Day Program:** EDP is being offered for K-5 students. Morning and afternoon care is available five days a week at your child's school. Full-day care is also available for your child's non-in-person week. Care is available until 3:45 p.m. or 6 p.m. For more information: [EDP General Information](#).
- **EDP Drop-In Days:** Need care only once in a while? Register through [Community Pass](#) under *2020-2021 EDP Drop-In Days* for the type of care that is needed. Full day, before or after school options are available. Registration closes each day at 12 p.m. for the following day.
- **EDP Full-Day Care** [during full-remote learning](#) is available at Village School for students in grades K-8. Full-day is offered Monday through Friday.
- Registration for Virtual Winter Afterschool Enrichment and Weekend Programs is open now! Community Education has added early evening and weekend classes to better suit your child's schedule. Check out the brochure here: [2021 Winter Program Guide](#).
- To register for Community Education programs, visit the [Community Pass Registration Link](#).

## Food Services

- Distribution for WW-P students who currently receive food benefits will now occur on a **weekly basis**. The distribution will be held Mondays at High School North from 3-6 p.m. Families who receive benefits will continue to receive emails asking for a response regarding participation for the coming week. Completing the registration form in the weekly email is required prior to pick up.
- In conjunction with the federal government and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, a waiver has been issued that allows school-aged children access to nutritious meals. As a participant in the National School Lunch Program, all WW-P students are extended the opportunity to receive free breakfasts and lunches due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency. Click [here](#) for more information. Please register [here](#) by 12 p.m. Nov. 25, for the TUESDAY, Dec. 1 distribution.
- Reminder: Registration for the Nov. 23 distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the Nov. 23 meal kit pickup, it will be held from 3 -6 p.m. at High School North.
- To view this month's menus, please click [here](#).

## Technology

- WW-P students who need to request a device or with Chromebooks/iPads that are damaged or in need of repair should complete this [Google form](#) (students must log in to their Google account to access the form) and then come to High School North on Tuesday or Thursday from 12:45-3:15 p.m. There will be no Technology hours on Thursday, Nov. 26 (Thanksgiving).

## District Communication

- WW-P uses SchoolMessenger as our [district communication tool](#). It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis.

### **Virtual Community Events**

- Click [here](#) for upcoming virtual events and activities from community groups and organizations.

### **WW-P Education Foundation**

- This holiday season, please join us in celebrating our incredible WW-P faculty and staff. Now is the time to acknowledge and appreciate their efforts with a 'STAR' certificate. The Education Foundation is accepting requests through Dec. 18, 2020, for the **STAR Campaign**. Give a STAR to honor your child's teacher, guidance counselor, principal or staff member who makes a difference in their lives. Your donation helps fund grants that enrich your child's education. During this challenging time, the Education Foundation continues to provide grants that are used to purchase items to enhance both virtual and hybrid learning in WW-P. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **WW-P Board of Education**

- Check out the upcoming [Board of Education Meeting](#) dates. Agenda and materials for Board Meetings are published after 3:30 p.m. the Friday prior to the meeting.

### **Follow the district on WW-P's official social media pages.**

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Youtube](#)