

Nov. 19, 2021

Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

All WW-P schools will have an early dismissal Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021. Half-day preschool at Maurice Hawk is closed. All WW-P schools and board offices are closed Nov. 25 and 26, 2021, for Thanksgiving Recess. There will be no newsletter sent Nov. 26.

PTA/PTSA

Homefront Helpers: The Dutch PTA would like to thank our wonderful volunteers **Jalpa Dave and Vinithra Rangarajan!** Both of them picked up the 30 boxes of donated food from Dutch Neck and delivered them to Homefront.

Dutch Neck PTA Holiday Toy Drive with TOYS FOR TOTS: Please help us spread cheer and show the true meaning of giving this holiday season by participating in our Dutch Neck PTA holiday toy drive with "[TOYS FOR TOTS](#)." Toys for Tots is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The donated toys will be distributed to children throughout Mercer County. Our toy drive is a great way to teach our children the joy of giving and compassion. A U.S. Marine Corps officer will come to Dutch Neck Dec. 3, 2021, to pick up the box filled with toys. For more information contact dutchneckpresident@gmail.com

- The toy drive will run **Nov. 16 - Dec. 2, 2021.**
- Please do not include any toys with real food or any realistic-looking weapon toys.
- Toys should be **new, in the original box and NOT GIFT WRAPPED**
- Toys should be for children ages **0-12 years old.**

- The collection [box](#) where children can drop off the toys is located by door #5 near the gym and parent pick-up entrance.

Thank You: We would like to thank you all for being an important part of the Dutch Neck PTA family by becoming members, supporting, volunteering and participating in PTA and school events with so much enthusiasm. Wishing you all a **HAPPY THANKSGIVING, have a wonderful and safe holiday!**

Coffee with the Principals and the Counselor: Dec. 3, 2021, at 10 a.m.:

Please save the date for our next virtual PTA general meeting with a guest speaker, our guidance counselor Mrs. Dunne. Please [click here](#) to share what issues you wish to hear discussed at the meeting.

Important Dutch Neck PTA Links:

- **Dutch Neck PTA Membership:** For details, [click here](#).
- **Donate and Make a Difference:** For details, [click here](#).
- **Amazon Smile Support:** Find instructions for AmazonSmile [here](#).
- Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at 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.
- **Visit Our Website:** <https://dutchneckpta.org/>
- **Visit Our Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta>

SEPTSA

- **SEPTSA Membership** - Our PTSA 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 available 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.
- **WhatsApp for Special Ed Families** – Join us on WhatsApp to connect with other WW-P families of special education students. [Connect with WWP special ed parents](#)
- **SEPTSA Reflections Participation** – We're offering the Reflections program to all special education students with IEPs and 504s. The theme for 2021-22 is "I Will Change the World By....". Please refer to the following link for more

information: <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>. Email your entries or questions to: septsa.reflections@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is Dec. 1, 2021.

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

SCHOOL

Dear Dutch Neck Families,

November is the month of sharing gratitude. People share countdowns on Facebook, families declare them at the table (and hope no one brings up politics), children count their blessings on turkey feathers... We want to take a moment to extend our gratitude to you, the parents and caregivers of our students. We are fortunate to work in a community where education is valued and celebrated, where parents and caregivers work together with our teachers in order to make the school experience the best it can be for our students. We should never underestimate the impact we have on the lives of children through our words and actions.

Often sentences are started with 'We have to...' "We have to make dinner." "We have to get the kids to soccer." "We have to go to work." During this season of thanks, may we be mindful of our blessings and all of the great things we **get to** do. We get to make dinner and enjoy it with friends and family. We get to go to soccer and see our children play. As educators, we get to go to school and share our days with our wonderful students and equally amazing colleagues. We are truly blessed to work with such caring, dedicated teachers and staff who care deeply about the social/emotional well-being and academic success of each child.

We want you to know that we are grateful for your support and partnership not just in November but throughout the year. Warmest wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Kind Regards,
Mr. David Argeese & Mrs. Laura Bruce

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- **Thanksgiving Recess:** All WW-P schools will have an **early dismissal Wednesday, Nov. 24. Half-day preschool at Maurice Hawk Elementary School is closed.** All WW-P schools and board offices are **closed Nov. 25 and 26, 2021.** Please [click here](#) for the 2021-22 school year calendar.
- **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 cellphone that is listed in your contact information in Genesis. Text messaging rates may apply. For additional details, please click [here](#).
- **Masks:** All students, staff, and visitors are required to wear a mask while indoors regardless of vaccination status except under specified reasons that impact an individual's health. Valve masks and neck gaiters are not permitted for use in school or District grounds. Unvaccinated individuals are recommended to wear masks in outdoor settings.
- **Health Screening:** For the 2021-22 school year, parents/guardians should ONLY complete a Health Screening Form in the [Genesis Parent Portal](#) for their child(ren) if one or more of the exclusion issues listed on the [School Exclusion Chart](#) apply to their child(ren). Upon completion of a health screening form in Genesis, parents/guardians should keep their child(ren) home and contact their school nurse for instructions.
- **Substitutes:** Are you interested in being a 2021-22 substitute at WW-P? Please click [here](#) for more information and click [here](#) to apply.
- **Around the District News**
 - HSS PTSA fundraisers available districtwide
 - It's the HAPPY BIRTHDAY LAWN SIGN! Celebrate your birthday to help us celebrate the HSS graduating seniors. For more information and to reserve your date, please click [here](#).

Health and Safety

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, Nov. 19. Due to the short week, there will be no Health and Safety Update sent Friday, Nov. 26.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.

Counseling

- To view past Parent University presentations, please click [here](#).

Community Education

- **Winter After School Enrichment Registration Open for K-12th Grade Students:** Join Community Education for both in-person and online enrichment programs, beginning Jan. 24, 2022! Programs are again offered to elementary through high school students. Kindergarteners are now eligible to participate in select programs at each school. Check out the winter guide by clicking here: [2022 Winter Enrichment Guide](#).
- **One Day Wonders- Day Off Care:** One Day Wonders is a full-day program open to **ALL** registered WW-P students in grades K-8 on most days in which school is not in session, through Feb. 1, 2022. Students will participate in activities and enjoy special visitors while on-site at a specific school location. Limited spaces are still available for Jan. 17, 2022. More information can be found [here](#). To register for One Day Wonders, please set up your Community Pass account here: [Community Pass Registration Link](#).
- **Extended Day Program (EDP) Registration Update:** Extended Day Program (EDP) registration will be CLOSED starting Dec. 22, 2021, and will not reopen until Monday, Jan. 3, 2022. Anyone needing to register for EDP services for the beginning of January must do so on or before the Wednesday, Dec. 22 deadline. To register for any of the Community Education programs, please set up your Community Pass account here: [Community Pass Registration Link](#).

Curriculum and Instruction

- A report card is a tool to communicate from teachers to caregivers students' current progress based on grade level standards and skills. The K-5 report card was completed a few years ago and the Curriculum and Instruction Department recently had the opportunity to update it. These updates included work on some of the indicators, descriptions, skills and/or standards that appear on the report card to ensure it is the most modern and beneficial version for our students, staff, and caregivers. As we end the first trimester this school year, we will be able to use the newly updated K-5 report cards. Below you will find the links to the K-5 report card templates, summaries of each section found on the report card, and links to tools created to support caregivers/families.
 - [K-5 Report Cards and Supports](#)
 - [DLI Chinese and Spanish Report Cards K-3](#)

Food Services

- In conjunction with the federal government and the NJDOA, WW-P will be participating in a waiver that provides students access to nutritious meals at no cost.
- PaySchools Central is the new food service online system, [click here](#) for directions for creating an account.

- Interested in a part-time job serving nutritious meals to our students? Please call Food Services at (609) 716-5000 x5938, or visit www.Sodexo.jobs and search "Plainsboro".
- Wishing the entire WW-P Community a happy Thanksgiving from the Food Service Department!

Technology

- **Student Chromebook Issues:** If a student in grades k-8 has an issue with their Chromebook, they should report the problem to their homeroom teacher. All high school students who have an issue with their Chromebook should enter a tech ticket and drop off their Chromebook at the Media Center. Upon drop off, a replacement Chromebook will be provided.

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.

WW-P Education Foundation

- Join the [WW-P Education Foundation](#) in celebrating the incredible WW-P faculty and staff. Give a STAR to honor your child's teacher, guidance counselor, principal or staff member who makes a difference in their lives. The WW-P Education Foundation is accepting requests through Dec. 17, 2021, for the STAR Campaign. Your donation helps fund grants that enrich your child's education. Please click [here](#) for more details and to purchase a STAR.

Community Events

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

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.
- Board of Education meetings are held in the multipurpose room at Central Office, 321 Village Road East, West Windsor, NJ. The meetings are also live streamed via the District's [YouTube channel](#).

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

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#)