

Dec. 3, 2021

Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

PTA

- **Engineering, Science and Robotics Virtual Classes with Hands-on Kits:**

Dutch Neck PTA has partnered with Kiddie Kaleidoscope for a second year to offer one-of-kind engineering, science exploration and robotics enrichment classes beginning the week of Jan. 10, 2022. Their unique engineering, science and robotics kits will be delivered directly to the school for each student with all the materials needed to use with the instructor during the virtual classes. The deadline to register for all the classes is Dec. 20, 2021.

- [Kaleidoscope Jr. Engineers registration details for K-2nd graders](#)
- [Science Exploration registration details for K-1st graders, and 2nd-3rd graders](#)
- [Kiddies Jr. Robotics registration details for K-1st graders](#)

- **Toys for Tots Update:** Thank you to all of the generous families who helped spread cheer and show the true meaning of giving this holiday season by donating so many thoughtful gifts! The Marine Corps picked up the box and will be distributing all of the toys to children in need throughout Mercer County.
- **Panera Bread Fundraiser to support Dutch Neck School - Save the date:** Friday, Dec. 17, 2021, from 4 - 8 p.m. Enter code PRFUND when ordering online. See details in the [flyer](#).

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](#)

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

SCHOOL

- **Outdoor Recess:** Old man winter is right around the corner! As autumn begins to dwindle and with winter fast approaching, the cold winter air is waiting to break through. We remind you to send your child/children to school each day with appropriate dress. This includes jackets, gloves, scarves and hats. Throughout the winter months, we will make every attempt to send the children outside for recess whenever possible. If going outside is not an option due to the temperature or inclement weather, appropriate indoor activities, projects and games will be provided for the children. Children will not be permitted to go outside if they are not dressed in proper attire for the cold weather.
- **Children's Sweatpants Donations Needed:** The nurse's office is looking for donated sweatpants. We are looking for children's sizes 5-12. We will gladly accept new or lightly worn sweatpants. Please send in donations with your child or drop-off with the security officer at the main entrance doors. We thank you in advance for your generous donations!
- **Third Grade Choral Concert:** We are excited to be able to provide a performance opportunity for our elementary music chorus students this year. Our goal is to provide a meaningful concert experience for students while keeping everyone safe. To that end, our concerts will look a little different. We appreciate your support as we prepare to share these performances with you. Our chorus concerts this winter will be recorded live during the school day and shared with you to watch at your convenience. It is our goal to have these daytime performances attended by a small audience of students so the performers can

experience applause and audience appreciation. The exact logistics will be different for each school based upon the number of performers and size of the performance space. Regardless, the performance experience for students will be consistent across the district. The Dutch Neck students will be performing their winter choral concert Dec. 7. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's chorus teacher, Mr. Tony Kovatch.

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- **Winter Break:** All WW-P schools will have an early dismissal Thursday, Dec. 23. No food service will be provided. Half-day preschool at Maurice Hawk Elementary School is closed Dec. 23. All WW-P schools and board offices are closed Dec. 24, 2021, through Jan. 2, 2022. Schools and board offices will reopen Monday, Jan. 3, 2022. 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, Dec. 3.
- 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".

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

- The **West Windsor Health Department** has an upcoming COVID-19 and flu vaccination clinic Dec. 14. [Click here](#) for more information.
- 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](#)