Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

PTA

- Last Call for Spirit Wear: Our Member Hub store has a limited supply left.
 Here is the link with the size, color and price details:
 https://tinyurl.com/DNSPIRITWEAR2022. The online Member Hub store is only open until 10 p.m. tonight. For questions email
 DutchNeckfundraising@gmail.com.
- Book Fair starts next week! Our in-person Scholastic Book Fair for students starts April 4 and ends April 8!
 - Please sign up <u>here</u> if you would like to volunteer during your child's teacher's allotted slot.
 - We encourage you to sign up for ewallet, it's an easy and worry free way to send money with your child to shop at the book fair: https://tinyurl.com/EWALLET-DN.
 - You can view the interactive flier here.
 - Your children are welcome to bring a monetary donation for their respective class teachers which will be used by their teachers to purchase books for the class library. Please ensure that the donation money is in a separate envelope with the child's name, teacher's name, and grade on it. Please ask your child to give the envelope with the donation directly to their teacher.
- **Dutch Neck Garden:** Spring is finally here and the Green Committee will start working in the garden soon! If you would like to join the Green Committee to help with the garden this spring and summer, please email dutchneckpresident@gmail.com.
- **Yearbooks Now On Sale:** Order your copy of the Dutch Neck Yearbook today! It is a full color, softcover book with over 100 pages of school memories to keep forever! The price is now \$32. The yearbooks will be delivered to school and distributed to the students by their teachers.
 - Please see this <u>flyer</u> for more details.
 - <u>Click here</u> to order yours today!

- For any questions, please email yearbookdn@gmail.com.
- Yearbook links to upload photos: Thank you to all of the families that
 have been uploading photos to help make this year's yearbook special!
 Please keep uploading more of your fun, and creative photos (JPEG format
 ONLY please).
- To upload the photos, <u>click here</u>. This link has all the folders. Kindly upload your photos directly into the appropriately named folder instead of the main yearbook folder.
 - Please note that some folders will be closed when there is no space left. We want to ensure that your photos can get in.
 - Please feel free to upload spirit days pics as you take them at home with your kids. Spirit day photos can be <u>uploaded here</u>. School spirit days can be found on this <u>calendar</u>.
 - Please name the image file as studentname_grade_teacherlastname.jpeg.
 - For any further questions, please contact us at yearbookdn@gmail.com
- International Carnival: The ten teams of third graders were amazing last night! We had an excellent panel of judges: Jyotika Bahree, President of the Board of Trustees for The West Windsor Arts Council; Anthony Jones, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator for WW-P; and Dr. Dan Tamayo, Astrophysicist at Princeton University.
 - Special thanks to our dedicated team of mentors: Nidhi Sabarwal, Geeta
 Mahajan and Zunobia Memon for their valuable time and guidance!
 - The winners will be announced next week.
- Coffee with the Principals Update: We had a great meeting Tuesday, March 29, with our special guest speakers, Dr. Melissa Pearson, Supervisor of Mathematics for K-5, and Mrs. Marie Bresnahan, Teacher Resource Specialist for Curriculum and Instruction! Click here to see the recording. They provided these useful resource links in the meeting.

Important Dutch Neck PTA Links:

• **Dutch Neck PTA Membership:** For details, <u>click here</u>.

- Donate and Make a Difference: For details about JWAC (Just Write A Check), https://tinyurl.com/JWAC-DNschool.
- **Amazon Smile Support:** Find instructions for AmazonSmile <u>here</u>. Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at <u>smile.amazon.com</u>.
- 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 Meeting** (April 28, 7 p.m., West Windsor Library) Join us for a PTSA meeting followed by a presentation from prominent marketing professional and disability advocate, Mark Brugger, who will conduct a simulation to better understand language processing challenges from the perspective of those experiencing them. This interactive workshop provides insight as to how family and friends can better support their loved ones facing these issues. For questions and to RSVP by April 20, contact Kathleen at kkz4@verizon.net
- **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 note that registration with your child(ren) school PTA/PTSA or having your child classified or "registered" with Special Services does not qualify as membership with SEPTSA. There are many volunteers available for our members ranging from 1 hour total to 1 hour per month commitments. Please click here for more information about SEPTSA.
- WhatsApp for Special Ed Families Join us on WhatsApp to connect with other WW-P families of special education students. <u>Connect with WWP special ed parents</u>

Links: SEPTSA Facebook Page | SEPTSA Website | Membership Form

SCHOOL

 STEAM Day is coming!: Friday, April 8, students will be engaged in presentations and activities related to science, technology, engineering, the arts

- and mathematics. We are fortunate to have many guest speakers in these fields who will be sharing their expertise in an engaging, age-appropriate manner.
- Author Day: We are excited to welcome guest author Josh Funk, author of the Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast series, How to Code a Rollercoaster and How to Code a Sandcastle, the It's NOT a Fairy Tale series, as well as several other stand-alone books. Mr. Funk will be visiting Dutch Neck students virtually Tuesday, April 12. You can check out more about Josh at https://www.joshfunkbooks.com/.
- **Mr. Argese and Mrs. Bruce Read Alouds**: One of our favorite things to do is join classrooms of students for read alouds and activities. We have recently been reading the books below and enjoying follow-up activities and conversations!
 - Kindergarten: The Way I Feel by Janan Cain
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSdSWIfCpJ8
 - We talked about the different feelings friends have every day and ways to find clues on faces to guess how people feel. Students chose a feeling and drew the feeling on a half paper plate, then tried to guess the feelings of their classmates based upon the clues.
 - First Grade: Be Kind by Pat Zietlow Miller
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCmLoRXNtao
 - We talked about all of the ways we show kindness throughout our day. Students then thought of a way they can be kind, wrote their idea in a sentence and/or drew a picture to express their idea.
 These will be displayed as a tree of kindness in the hallway for everyone to see.
 - Second Grade: Wumbers by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LH7cQQhTJ0Y
 - We came up with word/number combinations and saw how many we could include in one sentence. It was 1derful 2 see the classes come up with gr8 ideas!
 - Third Grade: *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oM3DesXftrQ
 - We talked about how each of us has a unique quality which should be celebrated. How boring the world would be if all of us were the same? We discussed ways in which students can sometimes feel different and then brainstormed ways that we can support our

friends and their differences and make them feel good and valued about those differences.

-Mr. Argese & Mrs. Bruce

DISTRICT

Links: WW-P Website | Academic Calendars | Events Calendar

Reminders

- **Spring Break:** All WW-P schools will be closed Friday, April 15, through Sunday, April 24, 2022, for spring break.
 - Should the District **NOT** require the use of an additional emergency closing day, all WW-P schools will also be closed Thursday, April 14, 2022.
- **WW-P Academic Calendar**: With the use of one emergency closing day (Jan. 7, 2022), all WW-P schools and board offices will be open April 13, 2022. Please click here for the updated 2021-22 school year calendar.
- **Staff Email Addresses:** Please note that effective Feb. 8, 2022, all staff email addresses have been updated to @wwprsd.org. Staff email addresses use the following pattern firstname.lastname@wwprsd.org (e.g., Jim Smith is jim.smith@wwprsd.org).
- 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.
- **WW-P Mobile Application:** The WW-P app is now available for download on both the <u>Apple</u> and <u>Google Play</u> app store. Designed for the school community, it features convenient links and information all in one place. Download the app using the hyperlinks above or by searching "WW-P Schools" in the Google Play Store or App Store on Apple.
- **Masks**: Masking information for the week of April 4, 2022, will be included in the April 1, 2022, Health and Safety Update and posted to the District website. It should be noted, masks must be worn by all passengers on buses, regardless of vaccination status or CALI level.
- Health Screening: For the 2021-22 school year, parents/guardians should ONLY complete a Health Screening Form in the <u>Genesis Parent Portal</u> for their child(ren) if one or more of the exclusion issues listed on the <u>School Exclusion Chart</u> 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, April 1.
- Click here to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.
- WW-P, in conjunction with the West Windsor Health Department, will hold COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinics Wednesday, April 6, and Wednesday, April 27, from 4-6 p.m. Please click here for more information and to register. Adult and pediatric doses will be available at the clinic.
- Free, optional, weekly COVID testing at High School North: The next testing date is Saturday, April 2, from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. for WW-P students and vaccinated staff. The free, COVID-19 testing program is completely voluntary and held onsite at High School North (90 Grovers Mill Rd., Plainsboro) Saturdays from 9 a.m. 12 p.m. For more information and how to register, please click here.

Counseling

• To view past Parent University presentations, please click here.

Community Education

- **Registering for a Community Education Program:** Community Education uses a software called Community Pass. New users will need to open an account and list all program users and participants. There are specific registration deadlines and balance restrictions.
 - The Community Pass Registration site can be found <u>here</u>.
- Full-Day Programs on May 3 (5-12th grade): New Middle School and High School IN-PERSON programs are being offered May 3 at High School North.
 - Strategic Decision Making for WWP Students: Students in 6th-9th grade learn to build confidence, leadership and steps in smart decision making! <u>Check out the details here!</u>
 - CSI: How STEM is Used to Solve Crimes: Students in 5th through 12th grade can work alongside real police detectives for a day of forensic science! Check out the details here!
- **Adult Programs:** Learn about financial planning for the future or learn how to turn your beautiful voice into a profession! Or, join a class on how to safely and

effectively tie your boat up to the dock in Coast Boating School's knot tying class! Check out the details here!

- Register in <u>Community Pass</u> under 2022 Adult & Youth.
- **Saturday Youth Sports:** Basketball and tennis enrichment classes have already filled up at most schools! Sign up for Saturday programs at Grover Middle School. Programs begin May 7! Check out the details here.
 - Spaces are limited and registration closes Friday, April 29 at 12 p.m.
- **Spring Break One Day Wonders:** Full-day childcare for WW-P students will be offered between Monday, April 18-Friday, April 22, at Millstone River Elementary School. The program will begin at 7 a.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. A special visitor will be presenting to the students each day. Registration closes 3 days before the start of each program or until the program meets capacity. For more information click here.
 - o Register in Community Pass under 2021-2022 One Day Wonders.
- **Summer Programs:** Join Community Education for in-person summer programs beginning June 27! Weekly half-day or full-day programs along with extended care are being offered at Grover Middle School! Register for one week or all seven! Spaces are limited in each program, so do not delay in registering.
 - Online classes are also available. Full-day supervision cannot be provided for those enrolled in an online class.
 - Browse through the summer brochure here!
 - Register in <u>Community Pass</u> under 2022 Summer (In-person) OR 2022
 Summer (Online).
- Introduction to Discrete Math- High School Summer Course: The WW-P Introduction to Discrete Mathematics course will be in session from July 11, 2022, through August 5, 2022. Class will meet in-person from 8:30 11:30 a.m. on Monday through Friday. This class is taught by WWPRSD teachers and students will earn 2.5 math credits with no Option ii exam.
 - Spaces are limited and registration closes May 10.
 - For more information check out the <u>Frequently Asked Question</u> form. To register for the class, set up your Community Pass account and click on 2022 Summer Discrete Math.
 - To register for the class, set up your <u>Community Pass account</u> and click on 2022 Summer Discrete Math.

Food Services

- Check out the Sodexo menus and newsletter by <u>clicking here</u>.
- 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, <u>click here</u> 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.
- **Virtual Students with Chromebook Issues:** Students in grades K-8 who are currently learning virtually due to a required quarantine/isolation and are experiencing a Chromebook issue, should contact their teacher who will enter a tech ticket on their behalf. The student will then be contacted by a school staff member to exchange their current device with a new one. High school students should reach out to their assigned <u>assistant principal</u> to make arrangements.

District Communication

- WW-P uses **SchoolMessenger** as our <u>district communication tool</u>. It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis.
- The WW-P mobile application is now available for download on both the Apple and Google Play app store. Designed for the school community, the app features convenient links and information all in one place (e.g., events calendar, District notifications, news, and more). Download the app using the hyperlinks above or by searching "WW-P Schools" in the Google Play Store or App Store on Apple.

WW-P Education Foundation

- **Virtual College Alumni Event:** Get started on your college application, join WW-P alumni virtually April 2, 2022, at 3 p.m. and get answers about attending college, choosing a career path and how WW-P prepared them for success. Sign up: https://bit.ly/Alumnievent-wwp
- Virtual WW-P'S Got Talent Innovation Fair 2022: Have a skill or performance that you think will WOW your friends and family? Fill out the audition form to submit your audition video! Audition submissions are due April 14, 2022, by 11:59 p.m. The Virtual Talent Show is May 21, 2022, from 2-4 p.m.

Community Events

• Click <u>here</u> for more upcoming virtual events and activities from community groups and organizations.

WW-P Board of Education

- Check out the upcoming <u>Board of Education Meeting</u> 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.

<u>Twitter | Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn | YouTube</u>