

NEWFIELD NEWSLETTER



Newfield Central School District

November 2018



S.O.S. PEER LEADER TRAINING

Sources Of Strength (SOS) trained 17 new and returning Peer Leaders on the morning of October 15th! Our Peer Leaders, a diverse group of students from grades 9-12, gathered together for four hours of training on the eight sources of strength to dive deeper into the messages and goals of the program, to identify and plan activities and events and to explore the strengths they each use to get through tough times. We are excited for another great year of working together to spread hope, health, strength and connection throughout our school and community!

—Mr. Pawlewicz and Mrs. McCaffrey, SOS Advisors



LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Community,

"It is not the critic who counts; not the (person) who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the (person) who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again... who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly."

— *Theodore Roosevelt*

It is so easy to have all the answers from the sidelines, isn't it? Those of you who have dared to jump in and help understand that true answers rarely come from the sidelines. Positive change comes from people who are not afraid to do the work, who are not afraid to fail and to try again, and who do not make excuses or cast blame. Instead, people who succeed are eager to learn and eager to try and keep trying. They rejoice when others are successful. They are delightful to be around because of their positive outlook, even when they fail, and their continual encouragement when others around them fail.

One of the best ways to maintain a positive outlook is to be thankful for the good things in your life. Try starting every day by adding to your "I'm thankful for" list. Even in the most difficult times there is always something to be thankful for. At the end of the year you'll have at least 365 things on your list and be feeling very fortunate indeed!

--Dr. Cheryl Thomas, Superintendent

The TLC and other elementary classes recently visited the high school biology classroom to see newly hatched ducklings. They were able to pet the baby ducks as well as the guinea pig who resides there. All the students, young and old(er), thoroughly enjoyed the experience!

RED PAW PROGRAM UPDATE

Nathaniel Ellison Jr and Martin Zavatski, our Red Paw winners from October are pictured below with Cornell Squash Team volunteers! Both Nathaniel and Martin are in Mrs. Martin and Mrs. LeViere's 4th grade room.



3 Red Paw winners from September who were given their awards by 3 Red Key Athletes from CU at our PBIS assembly: (Mitch, from Men's Hockey, Sarah from Women's Lacrosse, and Adam from Baseball).

- Julianna George** in 1st grade
- Joey LeViere** (little blonde girl) in Kindergarten
- Analiz Romero** in 5th grade



NEW THERAPY DOG AT SCHOOL: FENNICK!

We are excited to announce a new addition to our staff: therapy dog, Fennick!



Fennick is a 17 lb. Pomeranian mix and a rescue from Kentucky. He was carefully and lovingly selected and trained this past Summer and early Fall by Mrs. McCaffrey, School Social Worker, with the generous help of Nancy Given of Pet The Pet Therapy. Fennick has transitioned into his new job with flying colors, spreading joy and comfort and has been especially helpful for some students in calming anxiety. Fennick is just one more reason why coming to school at Newfield is fun. Stay tuned for a contest coming soon: Guess Fennick's Breed! Students will have the opportunity to engage in a science activity to guess which breeds might be in Fennick's DNA.



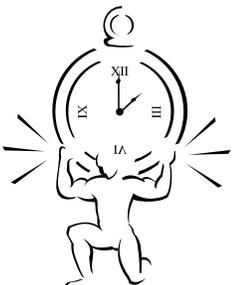
Nurse Notes

Vision and hearing screenings have begun for students in PK, K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th & 11th grades. Students who have not been evaluated by a doctor will be screened by the school nurses. Parents will be informed of any questionable findings.

PLEASE, NO COUGH DROPS IN SCHOOL!

Due to concerns about choking, children wanting them like candy, and their lack of any noticeable effect, cough drops are not permitted in the Elementary School. Cough drops will not be dispensed and they are not to be sent into school from home. The school nurses will provide salt water gargles and/or ice water to students having difficulty with coughing. We suggest that parents dispense cough medication before school. If the cough is so severe that it will be disruptive, please keep your child at home and follow up with your child's doctor.

High School and Middle School students may have cough drops, BUT a note from a parent or guardian must be given to the school nurse.



Don't forget to turn the clocks back on Sunday, Nov. 4!

TEACHER OF THE MONTH



Mrs. Jenny Stamp was selected as Teacher of the Month for October. She works with the PBIS team, brings in authors to speak to students, runs two book fairs each year to get books into the hands of students, integrates technology into her classes, and is a presenter at the Library Media Specialists regional meetings. In addition she will be supervising both libraries this year. Even with all of this work, Mrs. Stamp is never without a smile and a kind word. She cares deeply about the students and staff and gets the job done! Thank you, Mrs. Stamp!



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mrs. Amy Porter has been selected as Employee of the Month for October. Mrs. Porter will do anything that is needed including monitoring students on the bus. Much of the artwork in the elementary main hallway has been done by Mrs. Porter. She fills in where needed in a variety of jobs and does it cheerfully. She has a good attitude and can be counted on. She has helped by organizing staff to fill in gaps in coverage. Mrs. Porter is greatly appreciated!



PTA Update

This Fall the PTA has donated funds to the third grade to be used toward their reading incentive, to the Art Club and to the high school towards student awards.

The PTAs next meeting will be held **November 15th at 4:30 in the Elementary School Library**. We would love for anyone to join us! Contact us at Newfieldpta@gmail.com.

JUNIOR AREA ALL-STATE HONOR CHOIRS



The Music Department congratulates ninth graders **Sebastian Rainbow and Jessikah Russell** on their acceptance into the 2018 Junior Area All-State Festival (Grades 7-9). Both students were selected from among the best singers in Central New York based on last spring's NYSSMA vocal solo scores. Each will have the opportunity to participate in an honor choir on November 2nd and 3rd at Ithaca High School. Sebastian will represent Newfield in the Mixed Chorus and Jessikah will perform with the Treble Chorus. A culminating concert will be held at Ithaca High School on Saturday November 3rd at 3pm. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

“Don’t be distracted by emotions like anger, envy, resentment. These just sap energy and waste time.”

– Celia Bader (Mother of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, US Supreme Court Justice)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg...

- Lost her mother the day before she graduated high school.
- Started Harvard Law School with a 14-month old daughter.
- Was 1 of 9 women in a male-dominated class of more than 500 (in the 1950s).
- While attending school, she took care of her daughter and her husband who was recovering from cancer.
- When her husband graduated from Harvard, he accepted a position at a law firm in New York and she transferred to Columbia University to finish school.
- Graduated first in her class and went on to be turned down for work by 14 law firms. “In the fifties, the traditional law firms were just beginning to turn around on hiring Jews... But to be a woman, a Jew, and a mother to boot, that combination was a bit much.” – RBG
- Went on to clerk for a district judge, taught at Rutgers Law and Columbia Law, and argued 6 cases before an all-male U.S. Supreme Court on gender equality (1959 – 1979).
- Appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals in 1980.
- Confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1993.
- Diagnosed with colon cancer (1999), had surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy while still working.
- Diagnosed with early-stage pancreatic cancer (2009), had surgery during the court’s month long recess, and went back to work when it resumed (18 days after surgery).
- Continues to serve at the age of 85.

From: InspireYourPeople.com



Senior Graduation Cap, Gown, & Announcement Orders

If you have to order graduation supplies, please visit www.nygrad.com.

End of the Marking Period

The end of the high school twelve-week marking period is Friday, November 30. High school report cards will be mailed home Friday, December 7. Please call the office, 564-9955, extension 3131 if you do not receive the report card.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



**Ashlee Merriman, Grade 8
Student of the Month
September 2018**

The eighth grade team is proud to award **Ashlee Merriman** the Student of the Month award for September in recognition of her perseverance both in and outside of the classroom.

Ashlee has started off the year remarkably well and has already shown great promise in her work. She remains positive and is always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need of support and guidance. She has been able to work through problems in a creative fashion and has put in the extra effort to complete very quality work in all of her classes.

Congratulations Ashlee!



**Ulric Claar, Grade 7
Student of the Month
September 2018**

Ulric Claar is a dedicated student who never accepts less than his best from himself. He is so helpful and respectful to his peers. In turn, he is well respected by his classmates. If he sees another student struggling near him, he offers his assistance with an enormous amount of patience.

As a student, he is a perfectionist and takes the very few times he has not succeeded in his eyes as opportunities to learn and improve. He knows when he has not achieved to the level he sets for himself and wants to correct it immediately. Ulric jumps in to help students and teachers whenever he sees a need.

Congratulations Ulric!



**Zak Roe, Grade 6
Student of the Month
September 2018**

There has been one student who consistently has shown excellent manners, genuine concern for his classmates and strives for academic achievement every day and that is **Zak Roe!**

With only one month of the school year under our belt, Zak has proven himself to be an excellent member of the 6th grade family. Not only has Zak been doing well, but he also helps those around him do better; these are the seeds of being a good leader. Congratulations Zak on being the 6th grade student of the month for September.

Congratulations Zak!



BRIDGING GENERATIONS THROUGH MUSIC

On October 12th, band students participated in the kick-off event for Harmony Bridge at the Newfield Garden Apartments.

Harmony Bridge is designed to connect band students with those in senior residences around the country. The program is headed up by Michael Levine, originally from St. Louis Park. Mr. Levine is perhaps best known for founding the Dallas Brass, which since 1983 has been one of America's foremost musical ensembles. Levine continues to serve as the ensemble's music director today.



"There was this realization that people who reside in senior living communities love music, but may not have the ability to go out to a concert, and that kids in their communities needed opportunities to perform. And equally important to the musical benefits, is to give the students an opportunity to reach out and to share; to develop compassion and empathy," said Levine.

Mr. Levine spent two days in our schools, working with band students in grades 5 through 12. Students will be performing at various senior residences throughout the school year. For more information, check out www.harmonybridge.net. Newfield's Harmony Bridge Project is sponsored by the Newfield Masons and TST BOCES.



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

The National Honor Society held their annual induction ceremony on Friday, October 26th in the Sue France gymnasium in front of the student body and invited guests. After a very entertaining and inspiring speech by Newfield alum Dr. Anthony Raggi, the new inductees took the NHS pledge to uphold the society's four pillars of Character, Leadership, Scholarship and Service.



The 2018 National Honor Society



Guest speaker and Newfield alum, Dr. Anthony Raggi



New inductees Ian Adams, LaRon Boykin, Connor Furman, Max Grochocinski, Lena Kennell-Ramsey, Reaquan McBean, Kyler McIlroy, Devon Parente, Kade Pawlewicz, Patrick Payne, Alex Schwoeble, Brooke Tyskewicz, Cameron White and Gabe Wood-Ellis



Once again this year, Newfield CSD participated in the Big Apple Crunch. This year students district-wide gathered in the elementary gym and crunched at the same time on October 25th. Apples were donated for all students, faculty and staff from Littletree Orchards and Indian Creek Farm.

The Big Apple Crunch 2018 was presented by FarmOn! Foundation in partnership with local farmers across the apple belt of New York. The goal is to bring children closer to food and farming with healthy fun, improve awareness during apple harvest and inspire us all to Eat Local with a pledge (available on their website).



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BREAKFAST AT THE MOOSE CLUB

Travel Club Fundraiser

The Travel Club is holding a breakfast at the Moose Lodge in Ithaca on **Saturday November 10th from 8:00-11:00 a.m.** Breakfast is only \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors and kids under the age of six. Please see a member of the Travel Club or Mr. Kozlowski, jkozlowski@newfieldschools.org for tickets!

Newfield Thrive and Learn Care Program with option of additional Day Care For children aged 3 by December 1st 2018

We have spaces left in our program for this year. Come join us. For further information please call Maria Lloyd-Jones at 607-564-9955ext.4103 Or e-mail: mlloydjones@newfieldschools.org



COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING

The 2nd annual Town of Newfield Christmas tree lighting will be held this year on Saturday, December 1, 2018 from 5 pm to 7 pm in front of the Masonic Temple. There will be food, drinks, singing and Santa, with the actual tree lighting at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In the event that it is necessary to close school because of an emergency such as impassable roads, as many local radio and TV stations as possible will be called. ***The district will be using School Messenger, a phone contact system, in the event of a closing or emergency.*** The notice will also be posted on the district's website.

The decision to close will be made as early as possible. The Day Care and Before/After School Programs will not be open on snow days and will close early in the event of emergency closures. Please have plans in place for these situations. Trying to make arrangements at the last minute can be upsetting for everyone.

ANNUAL "GO HOME EARLY" DRILL

We will have our required Go Home Early Drill on November 20. We will dismiss 15 minutes early (2:35) and students will ride their regular buses home. The After School Program will be available as usual.