Newton School

November Newsletter

NOVEMBER 1, 2026



Dear Newton School Families,

October was a fabulous start to fall at Newton School! From the wonderful events provided by our amazing PTO, like the Touch-a-Truck and Spirit Week, to the Fall Festival and All-School Assembly, October was filled with opportunities to come together and celebrate our amazing school community. Now, we are on to November and looking forward to continuing working together to make Newton School the place where everyone wants to be! Thank you for your support and your commitment to your children's education and well-being.

In service and partnership,
Principal Kristen Heath

Keep reading to find out more about:

- I**mportant Dates to Remember**
- **The Importance of Being at School**
- **Family Reminders**
- **Student Work**
- **November Lunch Menu**

GPS Social Media

Join our Facebook and Instagram community where we share even more stories from across Greenfield Public Schools.
Facebook | **Instagram**

Follow us on Social Media!





Important Dates in November

- 11/1- Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 11/3- NO SCHOOL- Election Day and teacher in-service day
- 11/11- NO SCHOOL- Veterans Day
- 11/25- Early dismissal at 11:55 am
- 11/26- NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Day
- 11/27- NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break



School Council

We are currently looking for family and community members who would be interested in participating in the Newton School Council. We will meet once each month after school for about an hour. Please contact Kristen Heath if you are interested or would like more information.

The Importance of Being Present at School



Did you know...

- in Massachusetts, a student is considered chronically absent when they miss 10% or more of school days? That is 18 days for a student enrolled the full 180 day school year. This includes ***all*** absences, whether they are excused, unexcused, or due to disciplinary reasons.
- absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year? Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- by 6th grade, chronic absenteeism becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school?
- research shows that missing 10 percent of the school year, which is 18 days, negatively affects a student's academic performance? That's just two days a month.
- when students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating?
- children who are chronically absent for multiple years between preschool and second grade struggle significantly with reading at grade level by the third grade? Chronically absent kindergarteners also show lower achievement in later grades.
- research shows that high rates of chronic absenteeism in an elementary classroom create a "spillover effect," lowering overall test scores and pacing for the rest of the students in that room?

We want to partner with all students and families to help remove any barriers that may be preventing students from being in school regularly. If you need assistance getting your child or children to school, please contact Principal Heath. We are all here to help.





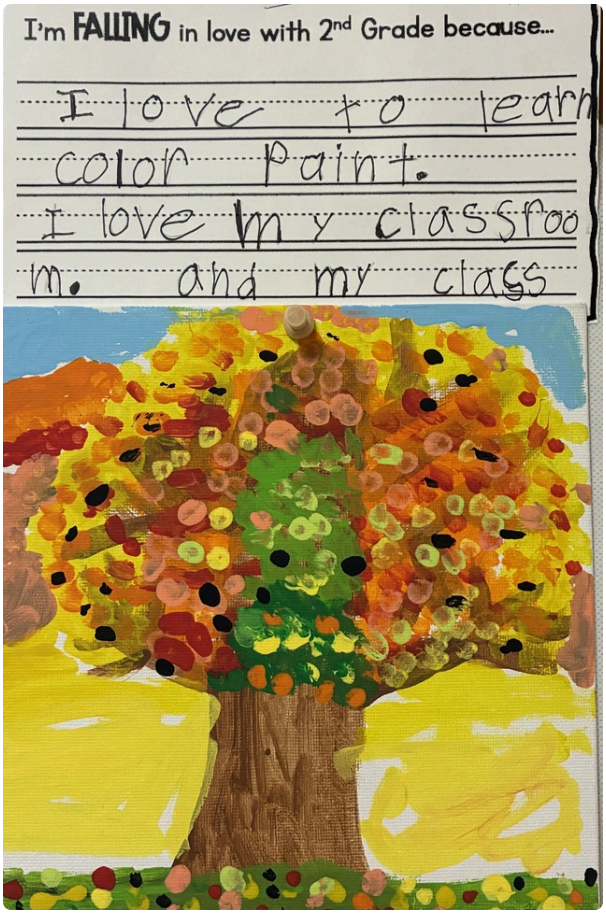
Family Reminders

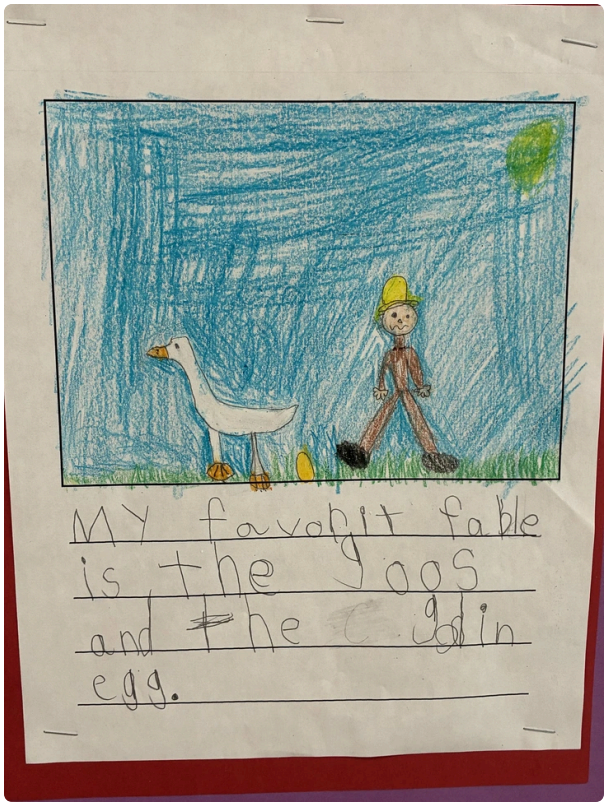
Thank you to all of our families for helping us to keep everyone safe during arrival and dismissal by staying in line and not passing other vehicles unless directed to do so. If you need extra time to fasten seatbelts or finagle with carseats, please pull up as far as possible to allow others to pass. You may also park in the parking lot and walk to the main entrance to pick up your child/ children. Students should only be exiting vehicles through the door on the sidewalk side. Parents should remain in the vehicle at all times.

We will be using carline numbers, so please have them displayed in your front windshield. If you need a number, please contact the main office.

Cold Weather

Students go outside for recess, even when the weather gets colder. If your child is in need of a winter coat or boots, please contact the office so we can help.





Second Grade Writing

Everywhere you look at Newton School there is evidence of student learning and growth. The second grade has been working on their writing and sharing what they love the most about school. Each one of their pieces of writing and art showcases what they are learning and how they are feeling about being at Newton School. A huge thank you to all of our dedicated educators for providing our students with the best possible school experience.

First Grade Fables

First graders have been learning about fables. This student shares their favorite fable after reading many with the rest of the class. It is amazing to watch students as they crack the code of reading. Teaching students to read is incredibly complex, yet our teachers make it look easy. We are so grateful that we have such skilled educators at Newton School. Our students are so incredibly fortunate to have you!

This Month's Lunch Menu

November 2026 Menu – GPS Elementary Schools

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Rebellyous nuggets dippin sauce Snap peas	3 Election Day No School	4 Chicken empanada ranchero beans	5 Orange Chicken brown rice, steamed broccoli	6 Pizza crunchers carrots
9 Cheese quesadilla salsa seasoned black beans	10 Meatball sub dark greens & craisins salad	11 Veteran's Day No School	12 Chicken pesto pasta Tomatoes	13 French bread pizza carrots
16 Burrito Bowl- Fiesta meatless crumbles, seasoned black beans, rice	17 Crispy chicken sandwich sweet potato waffle fries	18 Ham and cheese croissant Peas	19 Turkey dinner: Stuffing, gravy mashed potato, local butternut squash,cranberry sauce, roll	20 Wild Mike's pizza salad
23 Crispy & spicy Tofu bowl with brown rice, fresh cut veggies	24 Hamburger on whole grain bun baked fries	25 Early release Bag lunch- Deli sandwich, apple, carrots, fun chips	26 No School	27 No school
30 Grilled cheese sandwich tomato soup				



THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER & EMPLOYER. MENUS MAY CONTAIN ALLERGENS. MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

ALL STUDENTS RECEIVE FREE MEALS UNDER THE COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION



Every student may have 1 free lunch & 1 free breakfast each day

Alternative Meals available every day:
Sunbutter & Jelly or Cheese sandwich

Daily alternates
Monday: Nacho kit

Tues: DIY Pizza Kit

Wed:Breakfast Sandwich

Thurs:Bagel and Yogurt

Friday: Chicken Patty sandwich

All meals served with assorted fruit, vegetables, milk

-A milk with no meal: $0.60

Project Bread Food Resource hotline: 1-800-645-8333

Harvest of the Month- Butternut squash



School Contact Information

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