



## Bucketful of News...



## Francis T. Bresnahan School

333 High Street Newburyport, MA 01950

### Important Dates:

#### January 30-

#### February 17

Preschool and Kindergarten  
Registration

#### January 31st

TOT's Performance at 7:00  
PM at NHS

#### February 1

Bring Your Parent to Lunch  
Day, Grade 1:  
Mrs. Harrington, Mrs. Dow,  
Mrs. Mailloux

#### February 2

##### **Early Release**

##### **Dismissal Times:**

**Preschool: 11:15 AM**

**K-Grade 3: 11:40 AM**

**No PM Preschool**

#### February 3

All School Patriot's Day!  
Please encourage your  
child to wear Patriot's  
colors or Patriot's attire to  
school on Friday. Go Pats!

#### February 13

School Council, 3:15 - 4:30

#### February 20-24

No School,  
February Winter Break

#### March 1

Preschool Lottery Drawn

#### March 2

Early Release Day

### Principally Speaking...

We are looking forward to a seasonable week ahead so our students can enjoy outdoor recess each day as this is the time of year that they need to release energy, as well as interact, learn and grow with one another in a positive and engaging manner. Please ensure your children are dressed appropriately each day for outdoor play.

Looking ahead, our students and school community have so much to look forward to throughout the next few months. The PTO will host a Ho Down for grades 1-3, Bingo Night for K-3 students, Cultural Night, for all grades and two Oregano's Night fundraisers for Bresnahan School.

The Teams of Tomorrow Demonstration Team will perform this evening at the the high school girl's basketball game at halftime. If you can't make it tonight, they will also perform at the Harlem Globetrotters on Sunday, March 5th at 1:00 PM in Boston. Please join us for an enjoyable family/school event. Tickets are still available.

February 24 is "World Read Aloud Day". This is a day that calls attention to the importance of reading aloud and sharing stories. Please join us by sharing a special book with your child this week. We celebrated World Read Aloud Day for the first time last year. Ms. Mascia is posting weekly updates on our Bresnahan Facebook page regarding each week's theme leading up to this special day. This year the entire school is participating by reading theme-based books and decorating classroom doors. The themes selected for each of the grade levels and additional programs include:

- **PreK: Friendship**
- **Kindness: Kindergarten**
- **Belonging: First Grade**
- **Confidence: Grade 2**
- **Courage: Grade 3**
- **Hope: Title I & Special Education Programs**

Teachers may be seeking guest readers leading up to World Read Aloud Day or they may invite guest readers in for the special day itself.

Students and teachers are having great fun with this already. Take a peak at some of the decorated doors on the following page completed by our students. They're great!!

This week is **Confidence Week**.

Some ways to bring attention to confidence in literacy:

How have you grown stronger as a reader?  
What makes you proud of your reading?  
Describe when you felt confident during reading time.

Here are some ways I show my confidence:

- I talk about my opinions on favorite books.
- I present my writing to the class.
- I share how I feel about different characters.

### March 5th

TOT's perform at Harlem Globetrotters at 1:00 PM - tickets are still available

### March 6-April 10th

PTO ASEP begins.  
Stay-tuned for more details.

### March 8

Save the Date! More Information to Come...  
Bring Your Parent to School and Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day for Mrs. Herzig, Mrs. O'Malley and Mrs. Ouellette's Kindergarten Classes.

### March 10-April 1st

Young and Budding Artists Exhibition at Newburyport Art Association ~ Look for more details in **Take A Look Tuesday**

### March 15

Save the Date! More Information to Come...  
Bring Your Parent to School and Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day for Mrs. Carroll, Mrs. Duguie, Mrs. Gershuny and Mrs. Leahy/Natario's Kindergarten Classes

### March 16

Professional Development Day, No school for students

### March 20

- Progress Reports, Grades 1-3
- Scholastic Book Fair is Coming! Stay tuned for the details!

### March 22

Save the Date! More Information to Come...  
Bring Your Parent to School for Miss Sue, Miss Sam and Miss Karen and Miss Jessica's Preschool Classes. Bring Your Parent to School and Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day for Miss Giovanna and Miss Tanasi's PK Classes.

### March 30

Coffee with the Principals, 7:00 PM

- I read aloud to others.
- I share an idea I found in a text and build upon it.
- I invite others to share ideas.
- I learn about facts and use them to have a point of view in my conversations.

In closing, please note that Thursday, February 2nd is an early release day.

Warmly,

*Amy B. Sullivan*

Principal of PK/K

*Kristina Davis*

Principal of 1-3

*Karina Mascia*

Assistant Principal

## *Spotlight on... Additional Handicap Parking*



Last week we were able to add an additional handicap parking spot to accommodate students in preschool who enter and exit at Door #4 (closest to Murphy Ave). The new parking space in the front row, facing the school and closest to the last crosswalk near Door #4. We were very grateful to add this spot which is now in addition to the four HP parking spaces located across from Door #2.

The Bresnahan is an inclusive school that also is home to our integrated preschool program. Many of our students and families have physical needs and rely on these handicap spots on a daily basis. Recently we have observed cars parking in the handicap spots illegally. Perhaps those using the spots are people who are just running in for a second or do not plan on being at the school that long. While this may seem innocuous to some, it sets a terrible precedent. The same rules apply on the school site for our HP spots as they do elsewhere in our community. Parking in them without a placard or permit is illegal. Being at school does not somehow change the rules and make it acceptable. It sets a bad example for our children. It also takes away the parking space for someone who actually needs it.

Additionally, the striped area between the HP spaces are in place for a specific reason -- NOT for parking. Parking on the "zebra stripes" is just as much of an offense as parking in an HP spot without a placard. The lines are there to allow for sufficient area such that a van or vehicle may be safely unloaded/loaded without the individual having to be in another parking space or in a traffic area.

The school is aware of these recent violations and is working to help discourage this practice, but recently it has become even more rampant.

Please, do not park in a designated HP spot unless you have a placard or permit. If you see someone parking in an HP spot without appropriate permits, consider politely mentioning to them that they may be ticketed.

Those families who require a handicapped parking placard wish that they did not in fact need the accommodation.

Lastly, we know the drop-off and pick-up queue can be tricky at times in terms of the flow of traffic with frequent stops. Please be mindful to not idle/park/or stop your car on the crosswalk as it blocks the ramp for people with disabilities who use it daily.



Please be mindful. Please be respectful. Please follow the law.

# PTO Highlights

1. ASEP Registration will begin on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm. Session runs weeks of 3/6 - 4/10.
2. Tuesday, February 7, Opportunity Night at The Poynt! A percentage of their sales from the evening will be donated to the NBPT PTO! Please come in with your family or get a dinner out with your spouse! Dine-in or take your food to go...maybe enjoy a quiet drink at the bar while you wait!
3. Interested in helping with the Spring 5K? Email [amanda.bugli@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.bugli@gmail.com) to find out more!
4. PTO is in need of an IT coordinator, an Assistant Treasurer, AND someone to take on the After School Enrichment Program next year. Contact [amanda.bugli@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.bugli@gmail.com) with questions about these positions.
5. Can YOU represent your country of origin at the PTO Multicultural Night? Volunteers needed for Country Booths!
6. Winfrey's Valentine's Day Fudge Fundraiser! Orders and payment are due to your child's teacher TOMORROW, February 1st.
7. Leary's Fine Wine and Spirits is donating 50% of proceeds for the month of Feb to the PTO. Make sure to tell the cashier that you are there for the PTO fundraiser!
8. Join us at the home of PTO member and mom Nicole DePena for a Girls Night Out. Come for cocktails, appetizers, and to learn about the safest personal care and home care products on the market. 25% of all sales from the party will be donated to the Newburyport Elementary PTO! This will be set up as a mystery host event so anyone who places in order will be entered to win host rewards from the party.
9. Save the date for the Grades 1-3 Dance! Friday, March 10th - Details to follow.