



# TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWBURY • ROWLEY • SALISBURY

*From the office of Dr. Sandra J. Halloran*

## News of the Week

November 6, 2009

**Triton Varsity Football will take on the Newburyport Clippers this Friday, at Triton beginning at 7:00 pm. Please come and support our team!**

### Influenza Update:

Each week I will provide an update of the total confirmed student cases of H1N1 for each of the schools. In addition, I will provide the average number of students who were absent for the week due to influenza-like illness (ILI). If you have any questions about this information, please contact your child's principal or school nurse. Thank you for your continued support.

	NES	PGS	SES	TMS	THS
Confirmed H1N1	6	0	1	2	6
ILI	45	22	14	3	12

**Please refer to the last page of this newsletter for a comparison chart delineating the differences between the common cold, seasonal flu and H1N1 flu.**

### Upcoming School Committee meetings:

**December 9, 2009: 6:30 PM, Pine Grove School All Purpose Room**

Students will give a guided tour of their school.

Thank you to Newbury Elementary School student ambassadors Michelle Martens, Gwennethe Glickman, Gwen Norton, Byron Popp, Casey Brown, Benen Weir, Emma Pickett, and Dana Rybicki who offered the school committee and administrators a very informative tour of their school.

Also, thank you to the NES choir for the gift of your beautiful voices as you sang The Path to the Moon and The Wind on the Hill. All of you helped to make us feel welcome.

Congratulations to you for being excellent representatives of Newbury Elementary School.

**School Choice Announcement:** We have been working diligently to inform parents of the benefits of a Triton education. We are pleased to announce that this year we have a total of **14 choice students in kindergarten attending all three schools.** We only have lost a total of six kindergarten students; five to River Valley Charter School and one child to Ipswich whose mother is an Ipswich teacher.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mr. Sydney's 8th grade English students, Meliza Phoummavong, Deanna Donahue, Taylor Martens and Jacqueline L'Heureux. These students won a persuasive essay contest to attend the Media Matters Conference at UMASS/Boston on Friday, November 6, 2009

**The Triton HS Media Students** have begun webcasting their weekly **Viking Television Show.** Catch the latest episode LIVE on the web starting at 9:45am (Triton Standard Time) on Wednesdays at the following link: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/vtv-viking-television>. VTV is a ten-minute news magazine show that features a blend of entertaining and informative segments geared toward the students and staff at Triton High School. The next episode will air on Wednesday, November 18th due to the Veteran's Day holiday.

### **BOOK FAIR NEWS:**

***NES Book Fair:*** We are planning a Family Reading Night on Wednesday, November 18, with Lisa Oliver. It will be in the Story Room at 6:30 pm. The Book Fair will be open that night as well from 6 - 8 pm. The hours of the book fair will be Monday, November 16 - Thursday, November 19 from 8 am - 4 pm, and Friday, November 20 from 8 am - 11 am, with the additional night time hours on Wednesday, November 18. Also, in keeping with the book fair theme of Destination Book Fair, the PTA is sponsoring a geography contest on Monday, November 9 and Tuesday, November 10. We will be asking our students to answer a geography question in order to be entered into a drawing for a certificate good for one book at the fair. There will be one certificate awarded for each grade level, on both days. (FYI - we thought the points for the event and theme would cover the fourteen books nicely). We are planning a teacher preview on Friday, November 13 for the teachers to complete their wish list requests.

***PGS Book Fair:*** The PTO is running a Scholastic Book Fair from Tuesday, Nov. 3- Monday through Nov. 9 in the library. The students are very excited about the book selection and there will be plenty of volunteers on hand to help each child make a good choice.

**In art class at PGS,** Jen Dubis' 6th graders are filming their claymation movies and uploading the pictures onto the computers in order to create their short films. Each film is based on an idiom and they are working in groups of four to six, assigning tasks such as director, animator, set design, photographer, etc. The result will be a DVD for each student with their group's movie and all of the movies from their peers. It is quite an exciting undertaking! The final DVD will be shown during Parent Conferences as well as during lunches in the cafeteria. Cannot wait to see the finished movies!

**Parent Outreach @ SES: Parents are invited to attend a “Coffee Time”** on Thursday, November 12th at 6pm in the school library. Mr. Montanari and Ms. Maher will offer parents the opportunity to chat openly and honestly. This conversation time will be followed, at 7PM, by **“Everything you wanted to know about MCAS but was afraid to Ask” Workshop** with Mr. M and Ms Maher.

**TMS** will be having its annual Veteran’s Day assembly on November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30pm in the auditorium. Students will be doing readings, singing the national anthem, playing taps and a **WWII Air Force veteran will speak to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.**

**Ms. Winter’s 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class at NES** celebrated the Mexican holiday...el dia de los muertos...the day of the dead on Thursday. They had an ofrenda table set up with Mexican foods and pictures of their loved ones who had passed away. They participated in activities around this holiday during that day -writing....crafts....reading....plus learning about the culture and trying to speak as much Spanish. In the plans for next week: Colonial America. They will be visiting York Historical Society in York, Maine and will spend a whole day living like they did in the 18th century. They will also dress in costumes of that time. The third grades also have been studying tall tales and will now will write their own tall tale with the students as the main characters.

**SES 6<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser was huge success!** Thanks to one and all for your support. They made almost \$2,000 for camp and they are off to Ferry Beach the week of November 16 - 20.

**The ONLINE Winter Viking Corner Store is NOW OPEN!!!** Check it out and do some Holiday Shopping On-Line from November 2-29, 2009. To access the on-line store, click on to the **Triton High School Website, Click-"About TRHS", Click--Viking Corner Store On-line!!** Payment is with a credit card and deliveries will be made to your home from December 14-18. All items can be seen in the high school lobby store.

**The THS Wind Ensemble and Choir** will be performing at the upcoming tree lighting on the Green. Date will be announced. Also, the **annual Winter Music Concert** will be on **Tuesday Dec. 8th at 7:00.** The ensembles performing are the **Wind Ensemble, All District Stage Band, Choir and Chorus.**

**The NES computer lab has been very busy...**2nd and 3rd grades have leaped into computers with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade away at camp! On Monday, all five of the second grades were in the library to watch a Brain POP short movie about fossils; what they are, how they are made and how old they are. Some children were already quite knowledgeable about fossils, especially dinosaurs, but they learned that there can be fossils of just about anything. Teacher, Brittany Williams, showed them the internet site where many fossils are found, and the 2nd graders were ready to start digging for fossils to find real ones in the buckets of dirt which came from the mines in the internet site. After finding many fossils, the children are now filling up the computer lab and trying to match their real fossils with many online pictures of real fossils. The 3rd grades have

been using the lab to find minerals in the home, like what kind of mineral is in your refrigerator, the porcelain of your bathtub, and the stuff in your pencils. They have also been using research to grade the hardness level of each mineral.

[In addition...Grade 2 at NES](#) is concluding a fantastic science unit on Earth's Materials. They have been practicing paleontology as they investigate fossils. They have an upcoming presentation on wind power from Mark Ritchey of Mark Ritchey Woodworking in Newburyport. You have probably seen the huge Wind Turbine near the traffic circle. In Math they are continuing the unit on Coins, Coupons and Combinations with a focus on reading and solving story problems. [They are beginning a program called Online Math League for high achieving math students. The students are excited to compete in competitions against other second graders across the country.](#) In Writing they are working with the trait of "Ideas." Students have written a variety of pieces using their own ideas, and ideas borrowed from published authors.

[The Pine Grove School Student Council](#) is sponsoring a PGS Community Gathering on November 12<sup>th</sup> in which all students and staff will be planting daffodil bulbs on the lower slope of the PGS playground. 700 Daffodils will be up in the spring dotting the area known as "[The Birthing of the Daffodils.](#)" This project is being lead by Kathie Mackie, Student Council Advisor and Elena Stasey, grade 5 teacher. This is phase one of a two to four year project with the student council in which they are working on beautifying the grounds and going green with the future additions of raised flower beds, a compost area, and a green house.

[Last Monday night, the Triton Field Hockey team](#) joined with field hockey teams from across the country to [raise awareness about breast cancer](#) by participating in the national "[Play 4 the Cure](#)" movement. It was a great evening complete with pink hair ribbons, pink shoe laces, a pink game ball and even the officials wore pink jerseys. A total of \$152.14 was collected in donations from both the Triton and Pentucket fans and will go to the Susan G. Komen National Breast Cancer Foundation. The field hockey team was excited to be a part of hosting their own breast cancer awareness event and it was a great way to wrap up their season. It is a new tradition we intend to carry forward and grow in the years to come. For more information or to make a donation visit [www.play4thecure.com](http://www.play4thecure.com).

[Ms. Towne's 4th Graders at NES](#) are becoming cartographers over the next few weeks. Students have explored and learned about the essential elements of maps through many types of mapping activities. With their knowledge of these essential elements they have been given the "Cartography Challenge." This is where students produce their own map based on an island they created using their imagination and creativity to demonstrate their comprehension of mapping skills.

**Congratulations to THS students Sierra Wear and Cam Loughlin** who have been selected as semi-finalists for their artwork which was submitted to the **Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE Institute 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2010 Calendar Art Contest**. Sierra and Cam's artwork was selected from among 1,000 submissions that were received from preK -12 students in public, private, and parochial schools throughout New England. Public receptions for and exhibitions of the finalists and semi-finalists illustrations will be at Boston's Children's Museum and Peabody Essex Museum (Salem, MA). Congratulations to both Sierra and Cam on their work as artists, and for their declaration and vision of a world without prejudice.

**Congratulations to the Triton Cross Country Team who EARNED the Cape Ann League Sportsmanship Award** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row and the fourth time in the past six years! **YOU DO TRITON PROUD!**

**PGS says "Thank you" to:**

**Chickadee Hill Farms** and parent, Jeff Head, for donating pumpkins to our student council.

**Ms. Anne O'Brien** for Pine Grove's Book Fair being held from November 3<sup>rd</sup> thru November 9<sup>th</sup>

**Amesbury Rotary Club** for the donation of dictionaries to students in Grade 3.

**News from Mrs. Fraser's room. Grade two @ N.E.S.** We reinforced the math concept of doubling that was introduced through our Math Investigations program by writing Halloween Doubling Pot stories. An inspiration for student writing was the story Two Of Everything by Lilly Toy Hong which was presented as a read aloud. Generating lists of nouns, verbs, and adjectives that would make our writing *spooktacular* created quite a stir among our writers! The children were excited to receive their very own little doubling pot as they embarked upon this math/writing connection. Student warned others to beware of the powers of the magic pots that were displayed outside our classroom for all to enjoy. Foundations is really fun when you make bats that soar with examples of words from our Foundations Language Program. Words that followed the Closed Syllable Exception Type were generated through a cooperative learning group activity. Students were then able to make their own word choices that were written and placed on these high flying bats.

What do you do with left over Halloween candy?

Make a math comparison chart comparing how many more of one type of candy than another. Students write about the strategy that they used to solve this challenge. They are now drooling over their projects and waiting for the day they can take them home!

**THS School to Career Events:**

**November 13--Tech Career Fair at Northern Essex Community College.** (This replaces the Tech Career Fair on April 7) Time: Bus leaves at 9 a.m. and will be back by 11 a.m. Students will have a permission slip to be signed. This is for juniors and seniors interested in technical and one or 2 year programs after high school.

**December 3--Morning -- Local Author's Career Day--** Brunonia Barry, author of the New York Times best selling novel, The Lace Reader, will be our speaker. The book also landed on

international best seller lists and received rave reviews from publications such as Time Magazine, People, Elle, The Washington Post and a long list of others. The book is published in 30 languages, named a People magazine People Pick, a two time Borders Book Club selection, Barnes & Noble New Reads pick, and an Amazon.com Best of the Month to name just a few. Brunonia is from Marblehead and Salem, MA. She is a graduate of Green Mountain College in Vermont and UNH, where she studied literature and creative writing. In addition she studied screenwriting at NYU and screenwriting and story structure with Hollywood icon Robert McKee, becoming one of nine writers in his Development Group.

Book Description: "Every gift has a price . . . every piece of lace has a secret" Towner Whitney, the self-confessed unreliable narrator, hails from a family of Salem women who can read the future in the patterns in lace, and who have guarded a history of secrets going back generations. Now the disappearance of two women is bringing Towner back home to Salem--and is bringing to light the shocking truth about the death of her twin sister.

**January 12, 2010--Grade 10 Career Exploration Fair at NECC** All 10th graders will take part in this activity which is part of their career education curriculum and guidance seminar. They will join students from Amesbury, Newburyport and Georgetown finding out about different career opportunities they would like to explore or in which they have an interest. They were able to select three different careers areas from a list of 30. The time frame is 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

**April 15, 2010--Alumni Career Day**--Morning event--more information will come as details are firmed up.

**May 6, 2010--Job Shadow Day** (mainly for freshmen and a few interested upperclassmen)  
Timeframe: 8 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

**May 5, 2010--Construction Career Day**

**"Credit for Life Program" Date--TBA--end of May:** New pilot program will be introduced to about 30/35 interested juniors this year. Details to follow.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COLD, SEASONAL FLU & H1 N1 SYMPTOMS**

<b>SYMPTOM</b>	<b>COLD</b>	<b>SEASONAL FLU</b>	<b>H1N1</b>
<b>FEVER</b>	Fever is rare with a cold.	Fever is common with the seasonal flu.	Fever is usually present with H1N1 in up to 80% of all flu cases. A temperature of 101 degrees or higher.
<b>COUGHING</b>	A hacking, productive (mucus) cough is often present with a cold.	A dry and hacking cough is often present with the seasonal flu.	A non-productive (not mucus producing) cough is usually present with the H1N1 (sometimes called dry cough).
<b>ACHES</b>	Slight body aches and pains can be part of a cold.	Moderate body aches are common with the seasonal flu.	Severe aches and pains are common with H1N1.
<b>STUFFY NOSE</b>	Stuffy nose is commonly present with a cold and typically resolves spontaneously within a week.	A runny nose is commonly present with the seasonal flu.	Stuffy nose is not commonly present H1N1.
<b>CHILLS</b>	Chills are uncommon with a cold.	Chills are mild to moderate with the seasonal flu.	60% of people with H1N1 experience chills.
<b>TIREDFNESS</b>	Tiredness is fairly mild with a cold.	Tiredness is moderate and more likely referred to as a lack of energy with the seasonal flu.	Tiredness is moderate to severe with H1N1
<b>SNEEZING</b>	Sneezing is commonly present with a cold.	Sneezing is commonly present with the seasonal flu.	Sneezing is NOT common with H1N1
<b>SUDDEN SYMPTOMS</b>	Cold symptoms tend to develop over a few days.	Symptoms tend to develop over a few days and include flushed face, loss of appetite, dizziness, diarrhea, and/or nausea and vomiting. Symptoms usually last 4 -7 days.	H1N1 has a rapid onset within 3 – 6 hours. H1N1 hits hard and includes sudden symptoms like high fever and aches and pains. Symptoms usually last 4 – 7 days and diarrhea is common.
<b>HEADACHE</b>	A headache is fairly common with a cold.	A headache is fairly common with seasonal flu.	A headache is very common with H1N1 and present in 80% of cases.
<b>SORE THROAT</b>	Sore throat is commonly present with a cold.	Sore throat is commonly present with the seasonal flu.	Sore throat is NOT commonly present with H1N1.
<b>CHEST DISCOMFORT</b>	Chest discomfort is mild to moderate with a cold.	Chest discomfort is moderate with the seasonal flu. If it turns to severe, you should seek medical attention.	Chest discomfort is often severe with H1N1.