



TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWBURY • ROWLEY • SALISBURY

From the office of Dr. Sandra J. Halloran

News of the Week November 16-24

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	1	2	0	0	0
ILI	16	6	1	1	20

[A turkey recipe that can't miss!](#) Ms Dennehy's 2nd grade class at SES brainstormed the steps to cooking and serving the perfect turkey this holiday. You may need this information if you are having Thanksgiving dinner at your house! Not only will your taste buds be awakened, but you will be able to present yourself in the height of fashion...

How to Cook a Turkey

Buy a turkey at the store.

Peel off the feathers.

Keep a feather for your hat.

Go in the turkey and take EVERYTHING out!

Take the bones out and save them for your dog.

Poke holes in it and put garlic in it.

Put gravy inside it.

Make the stuffing with: mashed potatoes, corn, carrots, peas, rice, green beans, peppers, and onions.

Take your hand and put the stuffing in.

Cut the stomach open and stitch it up after.

Put it in the oven at 136 degrees for 12-20 minutes, and take its temperature!

ENJOY & Happy Thanksgiving!

The Triton High School Freshmen Team held their first Awards Ceremony of the year on Friday, November 20, 2009. Freshmen students who had any of the following: perfect attendance, perfect homework completion in all academic subjects or made the honor roll for first quarter were acknowledged by their peers and recognized by their teachers at this assembly. Congratulations go out to all the students who received these awards as they have demonstrated a commitment to learning and achievement. We encourage all freshmen (and all students) to continue to work towards success and continued achievement throughout the school year.

SES celebrates Family Literacy Month: The **SES K-1 Parent Literacy Workshop** had a great turn out this past week. It was held after school and parents loved that babysitting that was available and shared only positive comments. Parents can't wait until another is offered!

SES is having a contest of who has the most Royal Readers (Parents, community members) in this month to read, as well as who has the most Family Literacy opportunities being offered in their classroom. The class with the most will win a classroom basket of goodies! Teachers are showing great participation!

Missed an episode of Triton High's weekly Viking Television show? Catch up online 24 hours a day at www.ustream.tv. Type "VTV Episode" in the search window, then select "Recordings" from the options. ENJOY!

TMS Students learning French on Team 7-3 have been acting out skits in French. They recently filmed some of the skits and put them on youtube so students could show parents at home. It would even be better if we could get someone to help them put some future skits on the school channel. Any volunteers- Please email Kim Kudym!

[The SES Kids Club](#) continues to build their relationship with the senior citizens at the Salisbury Hilton Center. Kids Club will be sending homemade brownies along with colorful Thanksgiving placemats to wish everyone a happy & healthy Thanksgiving.

The Kids Club annual food drive begins Monday Nov 30th. Last year students brought in 208 food items, this year their goal is 225. Donated food is then delivered to the Pettengill House. If their goal is reached, the children will be treated to ice cream party, compliments of Office Mike of the Salisbury Police Department. Thank you in advance Officer Mike!

[Newbury Elementary School's Wind Ensemble and Choir](#) will be performing at the annual Newbury Tree Lighting ceremony at the Newbury Green at 4pm on Sunday December 6th.

[TMS 21st Math League News:](#) After one meet the Triton A Team is in Second Place in the Dolciani Division of Intermediate Math League of Eastern MA (IMLEM). That is after being raised two levels from last year's winning team. Lynnfield scored 94 points, Triton A scored 90. The other teams in the division in standing order are: Rockport 82, Stoneham 76, Swampscott 74, Triton B 50, and Beverly Briscoe 48. **The next meet is at Triton on Dec. 3rd.** [Congratulation Mr. Wilson and TMS Math League Team GO TRITON!](#)

[News & words of thanks from PGS:](#) Congratulations to Jillian Pinto (4th Grade teacher) and her fiancé Joe Cronin, they will be married on Sunday December 6th, 2009.

Congratulations to Mr. Herbert (aka: Skip) Pearson on his upcoming retirement November 30th, 2009. Relax and enjoy your retirement!

A Big Thank you to Jen Dubis PGS art teacher for all her hard work in raising money with the Silent Auction for the Link Art Gallery. This was a great success and all monies for the silent auction will be put back into updating the PGS Link Art Gallery. Great Job!

The annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday December 5th from 9-3, this fair takes over the entire school along with the PTO bake table (proceeds go to our PTO) and lunch being served in the cafeteria by parent volunteers (all proceeds going to the 5th grade environmental camp for next year). Come to the fair and shop for the holidays!

TMPO parents would like to thank all that came by with their recycled items on November 14th. They raised a little over \$3,000! This money will go towards the cost of the much needed curtains on Triton's stage and for the TMPO scholarships. Thanks again for your support!

The THS Boys Soccer program **qualified** for the **state tournament for the sixth year in a row**. The team captains were Dan Norton, Justin Paquette, and Collin Smith. At the team banquet, held last week at the Back Nine Restaurant in Rowley, award winners were: Most Improved - Andrew Fitzgerald, MVP - Collin Smith, Best Offensive - Ed Hargreaves & Justin Paquete, Coaches Award - Dan Norton & Pat Martin. Nominated to the Eastern Massachusetts Soccer Coaches Association (EMSCA) All-Star Team - Collin Smith. Selected as team captains for the 2010 season - Pat Martin, Matt McWeeney, and Eric Peterson.

SES student council news: Capri-Sun brigade is well underway. Six hundred pouches were sent in the first shipment and today 680 more were sent. That's \$25.80 so far and just think... all those drink pouches are not going to end up in the landfills. The Student Council sent in \$260.00 to UNICEF.

The Food drive for Pettengill House has been completed and a good supply will be donated for the pantry shelves. Student Council will visit the Pettengill House to present a food basket and learn about the services provided there on December 11th. All donations are welcome- please contact Pat McGranahan at pmcgranahan@trsd.net

Student Council is selling raffle tickets for American Girl Doll, Rebecca, and a giant stocking to benefit Santa's Helper. You can buy tickets at the school, during the Whoville Fair and during the Holiday concert.

Thanksgiving Dinner invite: The Newburyport Lions Club will be holding their annual Thanksgiving Day dinner on Thanksgiving Day at the Immaculate Conception School in Newburyport from 11AM - 2 PM. Families can expect to be seated at tables set for the holiday and served a delicious and hearty Thanksgiving dinner, plus dessert.

THS Teachers & staff support struggling learners: Triton High School has instituted a student mentoring program with a focus on making small changes in student's lives while striving to significantly impact student success and learning.

Volunteer adult mentors work with one or two students and provide encouragement, support, and attention to students who are experiencing problems that might impact their performance. These adult mentors take a special interest in their student mentee. They make a sustained effort to connect with their mentee to discover his/her concerns and interests, and to establish a positive personal relationship. The mentors work with the students and guide them as they attempt to carry out their responsibilities as students. The mentors get to know each of "their" mentees personally, monitor attendance, grades and progress reports, intervene and assist when they are experiencing difficulties, and become creative in meeting the student's needs.

Keeping our students from failing will take a concerted, school wide effort on the part of all the adults in the building. The volunteer mentors have chosen to be part of a solution to the problem of students who are struggling – whether they are struggling academically, behaviorally, or socially/emotionally. They are to be thanked and applauded for taking on this serious role in a student's life. By giving of their time and energy to support each and every student to achieve and learn – they will be making a significant difference in the life of an individual student.

PGS has openings in their Kids Club before and after school program. Please email Karen Miele at kmiele@trsd.net for more information.

THS Robotics!

THS Robotics program will compete again this year in the **FIRST Robotics competition**. They began the school year with \$741.00 in the Robotics Team account and have successfully raised and additional \$6000.00 for the competition. The *FIRST* Robotics competition does cost \$5000.00 to enter and they will incur an additional material's cost of a few thousand dollars. They happily report that they are still anticipating additional funds from a few other corporations. Some corporations who were not able to donate this year have asked us to contact them next year.

In addition, they will soon host the NES 3rd grade DI team for a mini robotics session.

The TMS in-school spelling bee will be held December 4th at the end of the day for the whole middle school. The winners so far are:

7-2

Ceili Riccio

David Kwiatkowski

Jack Rokous

Travis Mihalchik

Matt McParland

Jillian LaPlante

Arianna George

7-3

Caitlin Cole

Rachael Mahoney

Edwin Gutierrez

Scott Buckless

Kiersten Flodman

8-2

Patrick Meehan

Peyton Hunt

Kandace Demers

Kenny Mcardle

Samantha Richards

8-3

Tyler MacDonald

Kerstin Darsney

Devon Schuman

Sydney Rybicki

Jack Curley

Kelley Herrick

Lizzy Willmonton

The top 10 winners of this spelling bee will go on to compete in the first annual 21st Century Community Spelling Bee with Georgetown, Pentucket, and Nock Upper Elementary School on January 15th. A trophy will be awarded to the winning school. **GO TMS!!!**

[THS teacher, Rosemary Dowd](#) participated in the NEASC Accreditation Visit at Needham High School last week.

[Elementary Parent & Child Book Club News:](#) **SES Parent & Child Book Club** met on Thursday evening to discuss their latest book – “[The Incredible Shrinking Rat](#)” by [Lynne Jonell](#). Much lively discussion was shared by all 18 participants and they also enjoyed a snack of cupcakes decorated with “rat flags”! All participants look forward to the next month’s book club meeting.

The first PGS Parent & Child Book Club will be held on January 13, 2010. Registrations will soon be available.

The first NES Parent & Child Book Club will be held on January 21, 2010. Registrations will soon be available.

[A note from the mother of a Scholar Athlete:](#) We went to Sylvan Street Grill on Monday to celebrate the girls’ soccer season and this was my first experience at a high school banquet since I am a new high school mom. My daughter is on the JV Soccer team; the JV team received their certificate of participation but also received an Academic Excellence Team Award from the MIAA (Mass Interscholastic Athletic Association) because everyone on the team had over a 3.0 average in academics. That was very impressive and also made me very proud of all the girls because they are not only athletic, but extremely intelligent.

Signed,

Judy Warner

[Talented and Gifted \(TAG\) News, Fall, 2009:](#) This year the Talented and Gifted Program is making the transition from essentially an enrichment model to a collaboration model. The shift includes “cluster grouping” which places identified students together in classrooms with teachers who are using strategies traditionally associated with teaching gifted students. As the teachers hone their craft, they are supported by the TAG specialist in identifying and using both strategies and materials to that end. Teachers have been meeting with Ms. Church, the TAG specialist, to

develop lessons, units of study, and/or projects that offer multi-leveled options for accessing the curriculum that will address the needs of identified TAG students.

Teachers in every building have taken advantage of math extension, poetry, science, and social studies resources. The TAG grant the District received last year allowed us to purchase a variety of teacher resources about strategies for teaching and planning for gifted students. Those resources have been circulating among the elementary and middle school teachers. Math coordinators have been working closely with the TAG specialist to align extension materials with the math topic sequences. Teachers in the different buildings are sharing their pre-assessments and their enrichments, extensions, and projects. Reading specialists and classroom teachers are looking at above-level reading assessments. All these collaborations are coming together to support the learning needs of the gifted students, but have the added benefit of giving the teachers more collegial support and inter-connection. Offering extension opportunities to the class has the added bonus of encouraging students who are not identified as TAG to take the challenge.

Ms. Church has been in classrooms collaborating with the teachers who are doing group or project work, providing additional eyes and ears and support to TAG students in the cluster classrooms, or working with other students so the classroom teacher is freed-up to work closely with the TAG individuals or groups. This model keeps the enrichment and extension in the hands of the classroom teacher and makes depth and complexity part of the regular school experience rather than a weekly add-on. In some cases, a group of TAG students will go to the computer lab, library, or a TAG resource room to work with Ms. Church on projects that are part of the extension of their regular curriculum.

There are a variety of contests and competitions and productions in which TAG students can choose to participate and find an outlet for their knowledge, curiosity, and creativity. Some of these are National History Day, Creative Communication Poetry and Essay Contests, Math League, Science Fair, Theater, Destination Imagination, Band, Mass. Book Award, and other after school opportunities offered at each of the schools.

Parents of TAG students have met with Ms. Church at Salisbury Elementary, Newbury Elementary, and the Middle School to hear about the collaboration model and have questions

answered. The TAG parent meeting at Pine Grove Elementary will take place on December 7, 2009 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm at the school. Parents are signing up to create a district-wide TAG Parent Action Committee. A date for the initial meeting will be published after Thanksgiving.

The Talented and Gifted Steering Committee, comprised of principals, counselors and teachers representing all the schools along with parents, a school committee member, and Assistant Superintendent, Kathleen Willis, has been meeting monthly this year and is in the process of revising a TAG Handbook and companion brochures which are targeted for publication this school year.

Teachers, specialists, and parents are invited and encouraged to contact Donna Church for resource materials or support in working with their talented and gifted children at dchurch@trsd.net.