



Newcastle Elementary & Charter School 2021-22

HEROES OF THE CASTLE

All for One and One for All!

Week of 2/28/2022

News:

Modified Protocols Update - The Newcastle Board of Trustees held a Special Meeting on Friday, 2/25 to review our current COVID protocol regarding indoor masking. A letter was sent out to families with the newly adopted updated protocol. [HERE](#) is the letter for your review.

8th Grade Yearbook Dedications - In tradition with Newcastle School's yearbook, 8th grade parents are being offered the opportunity to personalize the yearbook in a very special way with a personal ad/dedication for their 8th grade graduate. **The deadline is March 4, 2022.** Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Openings - **Have currently have an opening for a 3.5 hour/day Classified Student Support position.** This person would support monitoring students at lunch as well as providing classroom support. Click [HERE](#) to apply. We are also looking for volunteers to assist us with crosswalk duty for 15 minutes before and after school. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Giove.

Looking towards Spring - We have begun planning Spring Enrichment classes. Cooking, STEM, ASL, origami, and reading are just a few of the endless possibilities we *could* provide through parent volunteers. **If you or anyone you know would like to offer an after-school enrichment class to our students, please contact Mrs. Giove BY Friday, March 4th if you can help.**

Trimester 2 Closing Soon - **The end of trimester 2 is Friday, March 4th.** Spring Conferences start the week of March 14th. Please be sure to check in with your child's teacher prior to the end of the trimester if you have specific questions regarding your child's progress.

Expanding our Robotics Program! Our students are AMAZING! **Levi Somers and Beckett Long created a robot that can solve a Rubix Cube! See the video [HERE](#).** Our students are learning fast and want to expand their knowledge even further. Click [HERE](#) if you would like to contribute to our GoFundMe page to purchase 2 additional Lego Spike Robotics Kits so that more students can participate in this program. Any additional funds will help us purchase expansion packs. Thank you in advance for your support!

Girl Scout Information Night - March 2, 2022, 5:30 - 6:30 pm in the 600 Building Room 601. Click [HERE](#) for the Girl Scout flier.

Placer Jr. Hillman Football and Cheer - Registration begins March 3rd. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

Play Structure Update - We are very excited about the new play structure going in on our lower campus. Currently, we are working with the manufacturer on one item that still needs to be delivered, followed by a formal inspection prior to adding the bark. We do not have a confirmed date to open the play area but our fingers are crossed it will be soon. We are looking forward to a ribbon cutting with our PTC!

Now Enrolling NEW STUDENTS for the 2022-2023 School Year! Please visit the [NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION PAGE](#) on our website for updated information and announcements regarding in-district and out-of-district student registration. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our community of learners, please share this information. *The DEADLINE for Charter Request for Admission forms is Thursday, March 31st!* **Students currently enrolled at Newcastle do not need to re-enroll!**

February/March 2022

Women's History Month

Monday, 2/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Release 1:30 pm • Lego Robotics Enrichment Class 1:50 - 3:30
Tuesday, 3/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys Volleyball Game @ H. Clark Powers 3:15 - 4:15 pm
Wednesday, 3/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Drills - Lockdown, Shelter-in-Place & Fire (postponed from Feb) • Girl Scout Informational Meeting 5:30 - 6:30 pm in 600 Bldg
Thursday, 3/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st grade - 120th Day of School Celebration • Site Council Meeting @ 3 pm in room 604 • PTC Meeting @ 3 pm in the Kindergarten Courtyard • Chess Club 4:45 pm - 600 Bldg Courtyard
Friday, 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of the 2nd Trimester • Grades 4-8 Trimester Awards Assembly • 3rd grade - Bernhard Field Trip • 2nd Trimester Dance for grades 6-8 - Springtime in Paris theme 6 - 8 pm 600 Bldg Courtyard/Gym

The Character Trait for March is Be Trustworthy

FUTURE FRESHMEN! Please read the information below for **8th grade families** from Placer High and Del Oro regarding freshmen registration:

Dear Future Hillmen Students & Parents,

We are excited that you will be joining us on the hill in the fall! We are disappointed to postpone our in-person Future Hillmen Night, but are hopeful that we can have an in-person event in the very near future this spring. The staff at Placer has been working hard to put together information so that you can start to think about what you want your Freshman year to be like!

By visiting our [Future Hillmen Website](#), you can learn all about what Placer has to offer and find registration information! The webpage includes videos about our various electives, general school information, and information about clubs and athletics, etc.

When you visit, start with the video from our Principal, Mr. Ittner. Then, feel free to explore everything that Placer has to offer. Some classes might not be available to freshmen yet, but you can get a sneak peek into all the things you have to look forward to during your time at PHS. Click the "Register and Choose Your Classes" button to find everything you need to enroll students, select courses, and meet your counselors.

Thank you so much for being flexible with our in-person event, we can't wait to have you on the hill with us as soon as possible!

Del Oro Information 2022/2023:

- [New Student Enrollment](#)
- [Future 9th Grader Information - Class of 2026](#) - Open Feb. 2nd - Feb. 28th (Priority deadline) for Enrollment and Course Selection.
- There will be **no Future 9th Grade Night** this year.

Upcoming Events:

3/9 - Board Meeting
3/13 - Daylight Savings
3/14-18 - Spring Conferences - Minimum Day Schedule
3/15 - TK/K Round Up 1 - 3:30
3/22 - Safety Drill
3/23-4/1 - ELPAC Testing
3/31 - New Charter Student Registration Deadline
3/31 - SOTM Assembly
4/1 - PTC Color Run
4/1 - Charter Enrollment Lottery
4/4 - Rock the Test Assembly Grades 3-8
4/6-4/7 - CAST Grades 5 & 8
4/11-15 - Spring Break
4/21 - Safety Drill
4/26 - CAASPP TESTING BEGINS Grades 3-8
4/28 - SOTM Assembly
5/2-6 - Staff Appreciation
5/11 - 8th Grade High School Diagnostic Test - Tentative Date
5/12 - Open House
5/13 - 4th Grade Coloma Trip - Tentative
5/16 - iReady Diagnostic #3 Opens
5/18 - Safety Drill
5/20- 8th Grade Tech Turn In
5/20 - 8th Grade Graduation Dance (Sponsored by 7th grade parents)
5/25 - 8th Grade Graduation Trip - Sunsplash
5/25 - TK/K/1 Curriculum & Tech Turn In
5/26 - 2/3/4 Curriculum & Tech Turn In
5/26 - SOTM Assembly
5/27 - 5/6/7 Curriculum & Tech Turn In
5/27 - Tri 3 Awards Ceremony Grades 4-8
5/30 - Memorial Day
5/31 - 8th Grade Graduation Dinner
6/1 - All Grades Field Day
6/2 - 8th Grade Graduation (pm)
6/2 - Kinder Graduation (am)
6/3 - End of Tri 3 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Ongoing:

[2021-2022 Student Schedule](#)

[Knights Cafe' - February MENU](#)

[Winter Enrichment Classes](#)

Yearbook Information - [HERE](#) Yearbooks are \$30 through April 3, 2022. There will be limited quantities available for purchase at an increased price during the last week of school. Please visit ybpay.com to order and enter our school's yearbook ID code: 14526722.

[7th & 8th Grade Boys Volleyball Schedule- Here](#)

[Visitor and Volunteer Updated Guidelines \[HERE\]\(#\)](#)

COVID Safety - We must continue to be diligent about the health and safety of our students and staff. **It is imperative that students DO NOT come to school if they are exhibiting COVID symptoms including:** Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea

Per CDPH guidance, all persons regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear masks while indoors. This includes all school visitors. Masks are not required outside. Here is a CDC resource on how to properly wear, remove, and clean masks: [CDC Guide to Masks](#)

COVID Resources - Please know that we are working hard to understand the ever-changing guidelines while keeping student and staff safety at the forefront of our decision-making and communications. [HERE](#) is a resource from Placer County that may be helpful.

Absence Reporting: If a student is absent from school, the reason for the absence must be reported on the day of the absence. When reporting an absence please provide the following information: student's name, date of the absence, the reason for the absence, and the relationship of the person reporting the absence.

There are three (3) ways to report an absence to the school:

1. Call the office attendance line at (916) 663-3307 then press 3 and leave a message after the beep.
2. Email the school office staff.
3. Submit using our website [Absence Reporting Tool](#).

If verification of a student's absence due to illness has not occurred within three (3) school days, the unverified absence will be recorded as unexcused. Per state education code, after three days, an unexcused absence cannot be changed. If a student is absent for 3 or more consecutive days a doctor's note is required. Students with excessive tardiness, absences and/or habitual truancy may be referred to SARB. The following are the only legal excuses that will be accepted by the office for absences and tardies as outlined in Education Code 48205: 1) Personal illness; 2) Quarantine under the direction of the county or city health officer; 3) Medical, dental, optometric or chiropractic appointments, court appearance; 4) Attendance at funeral services; or 5) Participation in religious exercises or to receive moral and religious instruction in accordance with district policy. *Family trips/vacations are unexcused absences unless an Independent Study contract is granted. Please contact your child's teacher or the school office at least five school days in advance of a trip, regarding Independent Study.*

Aeries Parent Portal Information - There are still some families that have not updated their contact information, completed the Data Confirmation process or have questions about using the portal. Please click here for the [link to the Parent Portal Login page](#). Once you have logged in successfully, please see the attached information with [guidance for navigating the Parent Portal](#).

Enrichment - If you are interested in volunteering to provide after-school or lunchtime enrichment activities for our students, please contact Mrs. Giove at cgiove@newcastle.k12.ca.us. Music, theatre, or any other ideas are welcome and will be considered!

PTC News - PTC is so happy to be back celebrating our Knights and we need your help! Sign up today to be an event volunteer or join our PTC board. Turn in the PTC membership form to the office or sign up online at <https://www.ptcnewcastle.org/signup>.

Campus Traffic - Please follow the Car Pick Up Guidelines below:

- **Do not arrive before 1:30 on Mondays and 2:30 T-F into the school parking lot.** This will allow the TK/K families with no other children to enter the upper parking lot by the flagpole, pick up their child(ren), and exit before the regular dismissal time.
- **ONLY TK/K parents with no other students may arrive early on campus.** TK and Kindergarten parents who do NOT have upper-grade students (grades 1-5) should arrive AT 2:10 and depart BEFORE 2:30. Again, do not arrive early and park in the pick-up line as you also back up traffic.
- Families with TK/K students AND upper-grade students (grades 1-5) should pick up ALL of their children in the lower circle at 2:30 or after (1:30 on Mondays).
- Our neighbors are respectfully asking that you do not block their driveways for extended periods of time so that they can also get in and out.
- For the safety of all of our families, please do NOT make illegal u-turns, park in undesignated areas, and go the wrong way on the streets.
- Lower Campus - PCOE has asked us to put out a reminder for parents to please NOT drive or park on the lawn areas (lower campus road and oof the side of the parking lot) while waiting during pickup.
- Upper Campus - Parents please DO NOT drop off students in the Placer County Office of Education Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) parking lot by the TK/1st classrooms. This is NOT a designated drop-off area for students as these parking spots are for the employees/patrons of the PCOE MTU.
- Again, please DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY for pick-up as it causes unnecessary traffic backup

Social Media - Follow us for the latest updates [Newcastle Website](#)



IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

[Student/Parent Handbook](#).

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Resources for Parents: [BERKELEY PARENT SUPPORT DURING COVID](#)

Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) for Families: [Supporting Families with PBIS](#)

GO KNIGHTS!