



Newcastle Elementary & Charter School 2021-22

HEROES OF THE CASTLE

All for One and One for All!

Week of 11/29/21

We hope all of our families had a great Thanksgiving!

News:

Free, Voluntary Post Thanksgiving COVID-19 Testing for Students - Please see the attached [FLYER HERE](#) if you are interested in having your student tested for COVID-19 after the holiday break and before returning to school.

Girls Volleyball - Tryouts for 7th & 8th grade will be held Monday, November 29th from 1:45 - 3:45 pm in the lower gym. All interested athletes should have already submitted a completed Athletics Packet or should bring them with them to tryouts.

Boys Volleyball Coach Needed! We are looking for a coach for the upcoming 7th/8th Grade Boys Volleyball season. The season runs from January 31 through March 24th. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, please contact Athletic Director David Liebert at dliebert@newcastle.k12.ca.us.

CHP for Kids Toy Drive - Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to the CHP Toy Drive. All toys can be placed in one of the barrels located at the school office, in the foyer of the 600 building, or at the district office **BY Tuesday, December 14th!** Donated items are being picked up on December 15th. [See Flyer HERE.](#)

Lost and Found - There is a large amount of clothing, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. currently in our lost and found. **Parents and students, PLEASE check for missing items BEFORE or AFTER school.** Items that are not picked up before December 17th will be donated to a local charity.

Monday, 11/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday Early Release @ 1:30 Girls Volleyball Tryouts grades 7 & 8 1:45 - 3:45 in the lower gym 7th grade Boys Bball Practice 4:00 - 5:00 6-8 Lego Robotics Enrichment Class - Room 205, 1:45 - 3:30
Tuesday, 11/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Board Meeting 6:30 - 8:30 AM Grades TK - 3 Student of the Month Assembly Naturalists Enrichment Class 2:40 - 3:30 7th Grade Boys Basketball Practice 2:45 - 4:00 No Volleyball Practice Today
Wednesday, 12/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7th Boys Bball Playoff Game #2 - 3:15 pm at Placer Elementary Girls Volleyball Practice 2:45 - 4:45
Thursday, 12/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PTC Meeting 3:00 - 4:30 at the Kindergarten tables Girls Volleyball Practice 2:45 - 4:45 7th Grade Boys Ball Playoff Game - 4:15 at Del Oro HS Chess Club Meeting 4:45 - 5:45 in the courtyard of the 600 Building
Friday, 12/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Due to the short week and Thanksgiving Break
Stellar Knights will resume next week!

Upcoming Events:

12/10 - Hearing Screening Grades K,2,5 & 8

12/17 - Minimum Day 12:10 pm

12/17 - Holiday Assembly 9 am

12/20-1/3 - Winter Break - School resumes on TUESDAY, 1/4/22

1/12 - NESD Board Meeting 7 pm

1/17 - Holiday - NO SCHOOL

1/20 - Safety Drill

1/28 - SOTM Assembly TK-3

2/7 - iReady Diagnostics Begin

2/9 - NESD Board Meeting 7 pm

2/18 - Safety Drill

2/18 - SOTM Assembly TK-3

2/21-25 - February Break - NO SCHOOL

3/4 - End of Tri 2

3/4 - Trimester Awards Assembly 4-8

Ongoing:**2021-2022 Student Schedule**

Yearbook Information - Please see [FLYER HERE](#) for ordering a yearbook. Yearbooks are hardcover format and cost \$30 through April 30, 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.

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 any of the following are true:**

Exhibiting COVID symptoms

Exposure to a positive COVID-19 person

Exposure to a person waiting for test results

Exposure to a person experiencing ANY COVID symptoms

Symptoms include: 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.

COVID Testing for Students - The District has partnered with the California Department of Public Health to offer free COVID-19 testing. We started with staff, and after a few successful weeks of testing, we are ready to provide this service to symptomatic students that are *already on campus*. *This optional free program would allow parents to opt-in to have their student tested for COVID-19 at school. At this time, the school office will ONLY be testing students that have prior opt-in registration, are symptomatic and are on campus at the time.* The rapid test may allow students who test negative to return to class without quarantine, though normal sickness policies still apply (e.g. vomiting, fever, etc.). A positive test would provide important safety information for the family and would help prevent outbreaks at school. Student test results are kept confidential. The parent/guardian will receive an email with the test results about 30 minutes after the test is completed.

No student will be tested without consent and registration by their parent/guardian. Families who wish to participate only need to register one time for each child. Once a student is registered, they remain approved in the software. Parents may log in and rescind authorization at any time.

To get started, please register for testing by clicking this link and select “Student Registration” <https://my.primary.health//newcastle-elementary>. All questions included in registration are required for California State public health reporting. Please note this program is free for all participants. If you need assistance with registration or have questions about the CA Rapid Antigen Testing Program, you can contact a call center representative Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm PST at 650-275-5419. Testing is not required but highly encouraged. Thank you for helping us stay safe, prevent outbreaks, and keep kids in school!

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 and complete 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!

Get Involved - Contact your child's teacher or the school office for volunteer opportunities. Volunteer Clearance Packets are available in the school office. *There are new guidelines in place for volunteering in the classroom and on field trips, so please contact the office for updated information.*

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!