



Newcastle Elementary & Charter School 2021-22

HEROES OF THE CASTLE

All for One and One for All!

Week of 11/8/21

News:

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!

PTC Pie Fundraiser - Thank you to all of our families who helped support our school by participating in this fundraiser. **Pie Pick-Up is THIS FRIDAY, 11/12 between 3:00 - 4:30 in front of the District Office located on our lower campus.** If you have additional questions, please contact ptcnewcastle@gmail.com.

Parent-Teacher Conferences - Parents should have received information to sign up for conferences to be held the week of 11/15 - 11/19. Please remember that during conference week we are on a minimum day schedule, release time is 12:10 pm. All school lunches that week will be grab-n-go at dismissal time.

Grades 6-8 Trimester 1 Dance - We are hosting the first dance of the year on Friday, November 19th from 6-8 pm in the courtyard of the 600 building. **The theme is THE 80's!** Tickets will be sold during break and at the beginning of lunch starting Monday, November 8th for \$5. The cost goes up to \$10 on the day of the dance and tickets will NOT be sold at the door. **See Mrs. Ferrera in room 604 to purchase tickets!** Students in 6-8 grade may attend the dance after purchasing their ticket and having the permission slip signed and returned. Students will also need to be dropped off and picked up, as students will not be allowed to leave the dance to walk home. There will be a DJ and refreshments for sale. We look forward to a "Rad" night of 80's fun."

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!

November 2021

[Monthly Lunch Menu Here](#)

[2021-2022 Student Schedule](#)

Monday, 11/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iReady Diagnostic Testing begins this week for students K-8 Early Release Monday @ 1:30 pm 6-8 Lego Robotics Enrichment Class - Room 205, 1:45-3:30 pm
Tuesday, 11/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys Basketball @ Newcastle 3:15/4:15 3-5 Arts & Crafts Enrichment Class - Room 205, 2:40-3:40 pm <i>*Last Class</i> Naturalists Enrichment Class - Room 602, 2:40-3:30pm
Wednesday, 11/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys Basketball @ Newcastle 3:15/4:15
Thursday, 11/11	<i>NO SCHOOL - Veterans Day!</i>
Friday, 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PTC Pie Fundraiser Pick-Up, 3:00-4:30 in front of the District Office (lower campus) Assembly 8:30-10:00

REMINDER: CONFERENCE WEEK IS COMING! EARLY DISMISSAL 11/15-11/19 AT 12:10 PM!

October's Character Trait was Respectful

Congratulations to the following students for being selected by their teachers for demonstrating outstanding RESPECT:

Luke O. Camber L. James J. Kalina B. Kono P. Hudson F. Ella O.
 J.Davis S. Dawkins M. McKenna W. Gunner G. Rylan H.
 Ashley T. Lincoln L. Ella M. Braysin O. Luca S. Aurora P. Leon F.
 Zairy P.

Overall Class Winner: 1st Grade Mrs. Roseman

November's Character Trait is Generosity!

This Week's Stellar Knights are:

**Graydon P. Cam M. Bailey R. Gunner G. Braylee F. Harper S. Shane B.
 Kade P. Jacob M. Max M. Stetson D. Sadi C. Zachary F. Abram B. Ryel L.
 Lily M. Kaylee W. Valerie N. Amelia G. Siena A.**

Be Safe, Respectful, Responsible & Chivalrous!

Upcoming Events:

11/15-19 - Conference Week (Dismissal at 12:10 pm)

11/19 - Tri 1 Dance 6 - 8 pm (moved from the 12th)

11/22 - Safety Drill

11/24-26 - Thanksgiving Break

12/17 - Minimum Day 12:10 pm

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:

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.

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 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](#).

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

Employment Opportunities - Join our Team! The Newcastle Elementary School District is currently hiring Superheroes for a variety of positions. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

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!