

JOHN ELIOT SCHOOL BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 25, 2020



Dear Eliot Families,

The first day of in-person schooling is right around the corner and we couldn't be more excited. Please read the following information and view the parents presentation from yesterday afternoon. There is lots of information about our procedures, schedules and safety measures. We look forward to continuing to partner with you and please be sure to reach out to us during the school year. Here is a link to the presentation:

ARRIVAL ON FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Students may enter the building at 8:05 am and the morning bell rings at 8:20 to begin the school day. We ask that families do not drop their students off at school earlier as we want to avoid students congregating outdoors. Supervision will not be available until 8:05. Staff will be available to help students to their classrooms.

- Students walking to school may enter any door where there is a grown up.
- Bus and van students will enter through the side door and a staff member will be there to direct them
- Students arriving by car will be dropped off in front of the building. We strongly encourage families to stay in their cars in the morning drop off and not use the crosswalk in front of the building unless necessary. This will help us keep the traffic flowing and help all students enter the building on time.

DISMISSAL

- Students are dismissed at 2:45

- Families in the carline will be given a pink card with your last name to be displayed in the windshield for future car pick ups.
- Walkers will be dismissed through the math office door and kindergarten door.
- Please be sure to communicate your child's pick up plan with your classroom teacher. If we are unsure, we will call home.

MASKS

As a reminder all students must wear a mask. Here is a summary of mask wearing procedures

- Masks should fit securely on your child's face
- Please encourage mask wearing over noses
- Please pack a disposable or extra mask in your child's backpack just in case they need a new one
- Gaiters, bandanas, masks with air valves and chains are not allowed per department of public health. This is district wide.
- Please view the following video for mask wearing tips: [Video on how to properly wear a mask](#)

TEMPERATURE CHECKS

Families are asked to take their child's temperature before coming to school every day they are attending "in person". If your child has had the following symptoms in the past 24 hours, keep your child at home and contact the school nurse, Kerry Bickford. 781-455-0452 x 52111

- Fever (temperature over 100°F) and/or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Difficulty breathing
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Headache, when in combination with other symptoms
- New loss of taste/smell
- New muscle aches
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Nasal congestion, when in combination with other symptoms

If your child has had Tylenol or Ibuprofen in the past 24 hours for any of the above symptoms, do not send to school and notify the school nurse. Thank you!

ABSENCES AND DISMISSAL CHANGES

As a reminder, please call the office when your child is absent for in-person or remote classes, Eliot_office@needham.k12.ma.us. Please note that we will contact you if your child is not in the building and we were not given previous notice. Please be sure to update contact information on Powerschool.

If you have last minute dismissal changes, please do not email the teacher. The teacher is not always available to read emails during the school day. In the event of a last minute change, please call the office as soon as possible. The number is **781-455-0452**.

NEW DEVICES

As we prepare to distribute devices to the remaining grades (1-5), we ask that all families log into powerschool and fill out the Responsible Use Policy to receive a device. Please note, the Device Agreement and Responsible use Policy must be signed to collect a device. Here are the instructions for parents - [INSTRUCTIONS](#).

Here is a link to the Policies:

- [1:1 Device Agreement](#)
- [Responsible use Policy](#)

Letters with directions for signing into Powerschool were sent out to all families and you will receive it in the next few days.

I look forward to greeting all of you and getting the school year started. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 781-455-0452 or Karen_bourn@needham.k12.ma.us.

See you soon!

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Families are receiving letters to log onto Powerschool as a reminder to update emergency contacts. We ask that all families supply 4 contacts in the event that your child is sick or has symptoms. Thank you!

Links to Thursday's Virtual Parent Forum

Virtual Parent Forum Recording

Virtual Parent Slide Show



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 28: Yom Kippur - **No School**

September 29: First day of school in person - **Gold Cohort**

September 30: Second day of school in person - **Gold Cohort**

October 1: First day of school in person - **Blue Cohort**

October 2: Second day of school in person - **Blue Cohort**

October 6: Picture Day - Gold Cohort

October 12: Columbus Day - No School

October 13: Picture Day - Blue Cohort

October 22: Parent Night K-2

October 29: Parent Night 3-5

November 3: Election Day - School All Day

November 11: Veteran's Day - No School

November 25: Professional Development - No School

November 26-27: Thanksgiving Recess

December 21-January 1: Winter Recess

SCHOOL NEWS

NEEDHAM'S INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM

[Elementary Beginning Instrumental Program Information Grades 3-5](#)

[Advanced Instrumental Program Information \(Continuing Students in Grades 4-5\)](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Needham Extended Day Program (NEDP)

This unprecedented year presents lots of child care challenges. NEDP is here to help! We provide a safe and fun environment on your family's IN PERSON weeks (following all guidelines and protocols from NPS, CDC, DESE and EEC) where kids can get some exercise, fresh air, work on fantastic art projects, and socialize. Come start your day with us (we are open at 7:15 each day) or spend the afternoon having fun (we are open until 6:00 each evening). We are also operating a FULL DAY program on Wednesday! Email us at nedpkids@gmail.com or check out our website nedpkids.com for more details.

The Charles River Center 's 10th Annual 5K Run/1-Mile Walk will be a virtual event this year! Registrants will have from 8:00 am on Sunday, September 20th to 9:00 pm on September 27th to run or walk their race distance at any location they choose. All abilities are welcome, and the first 300 entrants will receive free T-shirts. Proceeds will benefit over 950 children and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities served by the Charles River Center. To register, visit: www.CharlesRiverCenterRoadRace.com.

NCE Elementary Fall After School Programs

The Needham Community Education (NCE) Elementary virtual after school programs offer fun opportunities for first through fifth graders to learn new skills, explore interests, connect with peers, and make new friends across any classroom, cohort or school! View our [online catalog](#) for program details, schedules and class descriptions. There are a wide array of classes that appeal to every child, including: 3D printing, STEM explorations, science, electronics, escape the room, chess, ukulele, fine art, crafts, foreign language, LEGO explorations, yoga and more!

[Online registration](#) begins at 7:00am on Thursday, September 24th.

[Registration questions?](#) Contact NCE Registration Manager, Jill Ash, for assistance at jill_ash@needham.k12.ma.us.

[Program questions?](#) Contact NCE Program Director, Carolyn Colonna, at carolyn_colonna@needham.k12.ma.us.

Needham Community Council Coat Sale is On! Please click [here](#) for more information.

Registration is open to join Needham Cub Scouts Pack 8. Boys and girls in grades K-5 and their families are invited to join our Pack as we explore all the adventures of Scouting (with distancing practices in place for the 2020-2021 academic year). Come learn about the fun our scouts will have this year and meet current families. More information at <http://www.pack8needham.com>

Parent Talk Virtual Lecture

I don't know what to say: Talking with our children about race and equity

Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:30-9:30pm

Please join Parent Talk as we virtually come together as a community in partnership with the Needham Diversity Initiative (NDI) to discuss this important and timely topic. We are thrilled to have NDI board member, Gretchen Cook-Anderson, as our speaker. Gretchen is a long-time marketing professional who focuses on diversity, equity and inclusion, a member of the board of multiple local education and not-for-profit organizations, an accomplished speaker, and a Needham mom.

The event will include an interactive lecture, break-out discussions and plenty of opportunities for Q&A. The session is most appropriate for parents, grandparents, caregivers and teachers of kids ages preK-12 years old (but will also be relevant for those with older children). Please email vicepresident@parenttalk.org with any questions.

[Register Here](#)

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Principal, Karen Bourn
Assistant Principal, Emily Charton
<http://eliot.needham.k12.ma.us>

