

JOHN ELIOT SCHOOL BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 20, 2020



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

November 20, 2020

ALL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Today, Eliot students participated in our first virtual all school assembly with the gold group. The blue group will participate in the same assembly on Tuesday afternoon. Students sang the, [All Together Again song](#), accompanied by Mrs. Wankowicz on the piano. Later we thanked Mrs. Bickford, our school nurse for keeping us safe and healthy during these times. Finally, Mrs. Charton and I read the book, Just Ask, by Sonia Sotomayor which explains how our differences make us stronger and more interesting people. Here is a link to the presentation we shared with the gold group and will share with our blue cohort students: [Just Ask, All School Assembly](#).

MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNSELORS

Once again we will be collecting gift cards for Eliot's annual Holiday Giving Project. This project enables us to distribute gift cards to Eliot families in need this holiday season. Gift cards between \$10-\$25 to local stores and grocery stores (Target, Walmart, Roche Brothers, Marshalls, TJ Maxx, CVS, Walgreens, Trader Joes) would be greatly appreciated.

If your family would like to participate in this project, please send a gift card to school in a sealed envelope with your child and write "Holiday Giving Project" on the outside of the envelope. There will be a box on the counter of the main office for students to put the gift cards in.

We have all experienced challenging times at one point or another. This year has been especially challenging for many of us. If your family could use some assistance this holiday season, please do not hesitate to reach out. All requests are confidential; no request is considered too big or small.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support. We are grateful to be a part of such a caring community at the Eliot School!

Our very best,

Jennifer Kiely-Sullivan & Monique Vullo, Guidance Counselors
Janeen Crawford, METCO Coordinator

ADJUSTMENTS TO CALENDAR

In early fall, the district calendar was adjusted to provide an equal amount of days between the gold and blue cohorts. [Here is a link to the calendar.](#)

Please note that the week before Thanksgiving, Monday & Tuesday, November 23 and 24 will be blue cohort days. When students return to school, Monday & Tuesday, November 30 and December 1, will also be blue cohort days. Thursday and Friday, December 3 & 4 will be gold cohort days. Prior to winter break, Monday & Tuesday, December 14 & 15 will be gold cohort days, and Thursday & Friday, December 17 & 18 will be blue cohort days.

I want to wish our families a wonderful Thanksgiving. Although this Thanksgiving may involve less family and friends, I hope you get the opportunity to connect with each other in other ways. Please take care of yourselves and enjoy the Thanksgiving break.

PHOTO RE-TAKE DAY

December 16th 1-3pm

Re-take photos will be taken inside the gym. To limit contact, we are having this done on a remote Wednesday. Entrance to the school will be through the gym door next to the front parking lot. Only one student will be allowed into the school at a time.

PLEASE NOTE: We expect all hard copies of photos to be delivered to Eliot on Friday, December 4th. If you pre-ordered photos you will be able to see your child's photos online at that time. If you have any questions, please contact LifeTouch directly at: 508-946-0777 Ext. 0 or email mvterritory@lifetouch.com.

ABSENTEE/EARLY DISMISSAL

If your child is going to be absent or has a change of dismissal plans, please email eliot_office@needham.k12.ma.us and your child's teacher (firstname_lastname@needham.k12.ma.us). If it is a last minute change, please call our office, 781-455-0452, ext. 52000.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

November 25: Professional Development - No School

November 26-27: Thanksgiving Recess

December 21-January 1: Winter Recess

SCHOOL NEWS

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Hello Eliot Families! We are off to a strong start for the school year, thank you for your partnership in keeping your children home when they're sick and letting me know if your child is not feeling well.

- Please remember to email at: eliot_office@needham.k12.ma.us if your child will be out of school. In the email you can request that I call you back if you would like to discuss something confidential.
- Reminder: The flu vaccine is now required by the state of Massachusetts Public Health Department for all students- to be administered by December 31, 2020. Please send the proof of immunization to me in the health office (email or fax) or send in with your child and the teacher will put it in my mailbox. Per the Massachusetts website the rationale for this is: "The new vaccine requirement is an important step to reduce flu-related illness and overall impact of respiratory illness during the COVID-19 pandemic."
- If you are planning holiday travel please refer to the [Massachusetts travel website](#) for current regulations for returning to Massachusetts.
- Please call me if you have any questions regarding whether or not you should send your child to school.
- Remind your child/children of the 4 W's (formally 3 W's):
 1. Wear your mask (over your mouth and nose)
 2. Wash your hands (frequently and try not to touch your eyes, mouth and nose)
 3. Watch your distance (try to keep 3-6 ft distance between you and your friends)
 4. Wait at home if sick or awaiting test results

If you haven't yet returned your emergency card - please do!!

Thank you.

Kerry Bickford BSN,RN

TECH NEWS

[October Download 2020](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Students Acting to Make a Difference (SAMD)

Needham High School's SAMD (Students Acting to Make a Difference) is proud to present a Virtual Production of Dear Edwina, a heartwarming, family-friendly, virtual musical about the joys of growing up. Performances will be shown on November 20 & 21 at 7:00 p.m. and

November 22 at 2:00 p.m. Each year, SAMD uses their talents to raise funds for charitable organizations. This year's production will raise money for Boston Children's Hospital and will be shown at hospitals across the country. All donations are welcomed and appreciated. There is no admission fee but participants will need to register in advance by using one of the following links:

Friday or Saturday show: Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nRU2AXVfSEiB9FUJ-6O6oA

Sunday Matinee: Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AjS4K7LISU-V3tBNPBDWmw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar and making a donation to Boston Children's Hospital. You can also find details about how to donate at the following link: <http://fundraise.childrenshospital.org/goto/dearedwina>.

SAMD has a goal of raising \$5,000 for the Boston Children's Hospital. Please help support these students and a great organization!

Needham Metrowest Basketball

We wanted to let everyone know that registration for Needham Metrowest Basketball tryouts are now O-P-E-N! 🏀🏀🏀

Needham Metrowest Basketball is a travel basketball program for Needham boys and girls grades 4th-8th.

With the recent changes in the state guidelines regarding youth sports, we have decided to move forward and have a season. Details regarding the season can be found on our website:

<https://www.needhammetrowestbball.com> Tryouts are being held next Saturday, November 21st for girls and November 22nd for boys. To register, please visit the website, click on the registration tab, and select Tryouts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at needhammetrowest@gmail.com

Plugged In Band Program

Plugged In Band Program is launching a new virtual Digital Audio Production Program for youth and adults. In this innovative 8-week project oriented program students will learn fundamental skills, techniques and tools to work with digital audio software. For more information and/or to register online, please visit www.pluggedinband.org

Needham Youth and Family Services Fundraiser

Want to raise money for youth mental health services while also getting some exercise and having fun? Join the 2nd annual Highrock Church "Jog for Joy" virtual 5k the week of November 29-December 6 to raise money and awareness for Needham Youth and Family Services and other mental health providers around Boston. Register as an individual, family or team or just make a donation to this important cause using the link:

<https://www.highrockonline.org/news/jog-joy-virtual-5k>

The Needham Women's Club

The Needham Women's Club will host the Holiday House Tour-Drive by. We are inviting neighbors to decorate their homes, porches, or yards with lights, greenery, and holiday decorations to highlight the spirit of the season. To register your home, please reach out Mary Ann Pierce @ mapgfwc@msn.com or for more information, please go to www.needhamwomensclub.org

Children's Activities offered from the Town of Needham, MA

Register to join these events on the Calendar at the Children's webpage:

www.needhamma.gov/3035 Registration begins 2 weeks before events.

Saturday, November 21, 3:00 PM

Bookventurers Bookclub Grades 3-5

Read *The Fourteenth Goldfish* by Jenifer Holm (copies can be requested for curbside pick up).

In this book, a girl, her grandfather and science can change the world! Discuss the book on Zoom.

The Week of November 23

Craft Bag Surprise! Grades K-5

Request a Make and Take Craft Bag to pick up curbside. Use the supplies and instructions inside to make a craft like the sample provided, or create a masterpiece of your own design. While supplies last.

Monday, November 23, 6:00PM

Little Lab Coats Grades 3-5

Explore the importance of protecting ecosystems. Learn about different alternative energy sources and the ways in which you impact the environment. Understand the effects of pollution in different environments and brainstorm solutions to help create a cleaner and healthier planet. Live on Zoom.

Tuesday, November 24, 3:00 PM

Read to Tucker Grades K-5

Sign up online for a 15 min time slot beginning at 3:00 to read live over Zoom to Tucker the trained therapy dog.

Wednesday, November 25, 3:00 PM

LEGO Club Grades K-5

Build with your LEGOs at home while Zooming with librarians and friends. See what structures other children are building. Socialize while you build.

The Needham Free Public Library will be closed on Thursday, November 26th for Thanksgiving. Wishing everyone a healthy, safe, and Happy Thanksgiving!

Needham Extended Day Program (NEDP)

It's getting cold and dark out there, keep it moving at NEDP! We provide fun and socially distanced physical fitness and game opportunities after school in the gym. Crafting more your thing? We've got that too! [Enroll here!](#) Questions? Email us at nedpkids@gmail.com Please note that children are eligible to attend on their IN PERSON weeks.

Needham Community Council

[Needham Community Council November News](#)

[Closing Days of the Tent Sale](#) going on now.

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Principal, Karen Bourn
Assistant Principal, Emily Charton
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