



NES AT-A-GLANCE

For detailed information, please read the [Newtown Elementary Handbook](#).

ADDRESS:

Newtown Elementary School
1 Wrights Road
Newtown, PA 18940

WEBSITES:

Newtown Elementary School: www.crsd.org/Domain/1873

Council Rock School District: www.crsd.org

PTO: www.nespto.com

PTO Facebook: "Newtown Elementary PTO (Newtown, PA)"

Note: Teacher websites are accessible through Newtown Elementary's website. Click "Teachers" tab and find your teacher in the directory.

PHONE NUMBERS:

Newtown Elementary School Main Office: 215-944-2200

First Student Bus Company: 267-757-0413

Council Rock Transportation Department: 215-944-1010

LIST SERVES:

Most information from NES arrives via one-way email from the principal, the PTO and the school district. To stay informed, subscribe to each by sending an email to:

Mr. King's list serve: nes-join@listserv.crsd.org

NES PTO list serve: ptones-join@listserv.crsd.org

Council Rock School District list serve: crsd-join@listserv.crsd.org

SCHOOL HOURS:

Drop-off begins at 8:45 AM.

Grades 1-6: 9:10 AM – 3:40 PM

AM Kindergarten: 9:10 AM – 11:45 AM

PM Kindergarten: 1:05 PM – 3:40 PM

Early Dismissal: 9:10 AM – 12:15 PM

Note: on Early Dismissal ("half") days, AM and PM kindergarten classes alternate attendance.

Have questions? Email the Welcome Committee [here](#). Visit: www.nespto.com.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Absences: Any child who is absent from school must present a written excuse signed by the parent/guardian within three school days of his/her return. OR, you may submit an absence excuse online. Use the online Attendance Notification Form, found on the NES Homepage, or click [here](#). Parent's tip: On HAC, under the Attendance tab, you may click a box that reads, "Alert me when attendance is entered for my student." Choose the type of attendance alert you would like to receive.

Attendance Notification Form: See Absences. Click [here](#) for the online form.

Allergies: Latex balloons are not permitted in school. Mylar (silver) balloons are acceptable. Classrooms are peanut/nut free. In the lunchroom, a peanut/nut free table is available. Friends are permitted to join this table provided their lunches are peanut and nut free. Cafeteria aides monitor this table for compliance. For detailed information and a list of nut-free snacks, see the allergy links on the NES homepage. The school nurse is available at 215-944-2209 to help answer any questions.

Arrival and Drop-off Procedures: Please see [NES Student Handbook](#).

Backpack mail: Send permission forms, letters, payments, PTO forms, etc. to school in your child's backpack folder and the mail will be routed to the appropriate recipient.

Back-To-School Night: an evening early in the year when parents are invited to school to hear informative presentations and meet the principal, teachers and staff. Leave the kiddos at home.

Back-To-School Social: a festive "welcome back" family night on school grounds organized by the PTO and occurring in the first week of school.

Birthdays: Party invitations are not distributed in school. Teachers may invite parents to read a favorite story to the class. Check with your student's teacher on his/her individual policy.

Box Tops: Clip Box Tops from General Mills products found in the grocery store. Send Box Tops into school with your student. The PTO will redeem ten cents for each box top. www.nespto.com

Bus Stop: Kindergarten and first grade students are not allowed off the bus unless a parent is waiting there to meet them. These students stay on the bus for the remainder of the route and are returned to school, where parents are called. You must inform your bus driver ahead of time if your child will be picked up by another person.

Car Rider Slips: this is a pass held by the student. A student must have one to exit the class with car riders, and it must be dated and signed by the parent/guardian. Without a slip, the student must be signed out in the main office. If your child is a routine car rider, the slip will be laminated and used repeatedly. Slips can be picked up in the office or lobby. If your plans change and you need to pick up your child, an email to the office (JBedard@crsd.org, NRemar@crsd.org or CTorrisi@crsd.org) is acceptable in place of a of a car rider slip.

Champions: A before-and-after school child care program. www.discoverchampions.com

Change of Plans (Dismissal): You must provide a written note to the teacher or office every time your dismissal (i.e. pickup) plans change. (For instance, when a routine bus rider will be picked up by car.) If a new/different family member is picking up, you must provide a written note from the parent and the office will verify photo ID before releasing the student. If your dismissal plans change after drop-off (i.e. during the course of the day), call the office. The staff will alert the teacher. NOTE: Do not email or call the teacher during school hours as they may not receive the message in time.

Chartwells/Cafeteria: School lunch menus are available on the NES homepage. MyPaymentPlus is an App that manages school lunch payments. Parents preload money into an account and students use their unique number to debit those accounts. Monies accrued and account numbers transfer year to year up to grade 12. See also Allergies.

Closings and Delays: If your phone number is up-to-date in HAC, you will receive a call from our district emergency notification system. You may also check the local news or the school and district websites.

Conferences: Teachers formally schedule conferences on specific days around the Thanksgiving break after the first quarter report cards are distributed. You have the right to request a conference at any time.

Drop-Off: Drop-off begins at 8:45 AM. Students are considered tardy if they are not in their classroom by 9:10 AM.

Early Dismissal (“Half Days”): Dismissal occurs at 12:15 PM. Morning and afternoon kindergarten classes alternate attendance. The attending group stays until 12:15 dismissal and the other group is off from school. You will be notified if AM or PM kindergarten is attending. Kindergarteners who ride the bus home will be assigned to a different bus and you will be notified by your child’s teacher.

e-Friday folder: This is the online archive of school and community announcements. Since NES is paperless, flyers are not sent home in hardcopy, but are posted here to reduce paper clutter and to provide a reliable source of information. Access the e-Friday folder via Newtown Elementary’s website and click on the “e-Friday Folder” tab. There is a section for Newtown Elementary specifically, and another for District-wide announcements.

Electronic Devices: see Personal Electronic Devices (PED).

Family Book Donations: Donate a book to the NES library to celebrate your child’s birthday, as a memorial honor or to thank a teacher or staff member. Each book will have an inscribed bookplate. Questions? Call Mrs. Dobuski at the library: 215-944-2210. To participate, send a check for \$15.00 with a completed donation form, available [here](#).

Field Day: An all-day sporting event (relay races, tug-of-war, etc.) in June. Parents are welcome to attend and watch the festivities. Dogs are not permitted.

First Grade Welcome (Kindergarten Quest): an evening near the end of the school year for current kindergarteners (i.e. rising first graders) and their parents, organized by the PTO. Current kindergarten families check out the first grade classrooms and visit the cafeteria, art and music rooms, all to ease any jitters about the transition to first grade.

First in Math: A co-curricular competitive math computer program with games and learning tools. Teachers will distribute information early in the year.

HAC: The Home Access Center is accessible through prominent tabs on the NES website and District website, or by this [link](#). This system allows parents to access attendance information, school schedules, teacher assignments and bussing information. If you experience problems, email: HACSupport@crsd.org. Helpful hints: There is a box you can check under Attendance to be notified if your child is marked absent, which is a feature many parents find useful. Also, be sure that your phone number is correct, since this is the number used for emergency announcements or weather-related closings.

HRC: Homeroom Coordinator (“Homeroom Parent”). Each class has two HRC volunteers for the year who plan and run four classroom holiday parties (Halloween, Holiday, Valentine’s Day, End of Year). The parties are funded by classroom dues, which should be paid on Back to School Night. The sixth grade HRCs have added responsibilities. For more information on HRCs, contact the PTO.

KidStuff Books: a PTO fundraiser in which families have the opportunity to buy coupon books. The books are sent home with students for parents to preview, but must be returned to school if not purchased. You can save money with KidStuff coupons on clothes, groceries, tickets, toys, etc. and NES earns money for every book sold.

Kindergarten Orientation: Kindergarten students and parents meet shortly before the start of the school year in August for a welcome by the Principal, kindergarten teachers and staff. Kindergarten teachers escort students to their classrooms for an activity and a review of school bus behavior. Parents remain in the cafeteria for a presentation and then visit the kindergarten classrooms. A great way to calm jitters (for students...and parents, too!).

Knightly News: Newtown Elementary School’s monthly newsletter, published by the PTO. For submissions or information, email: ptones.newsletter@gmail.com.

Knight’s Honor: a certificate awarded to students who make good choices and follow our themes of cooperation, sportsmanship, respect, and responsibility. All staff members can give a Knight's Honor to any student. The student has the choice of displaying the Knight's Honor on the cafeteria bulletin board or taking it home to share with parents.

Late: Children must be in their classrooms by 9:10 AM. If late, sign your child in at the main office and he or she will be issued a late pass.

Lunch: see Chartwells and Allergies.

Market Day (Third Grade): This in-school activity is a fundraiser and an economics lesson for students. Third graders make various zany crafts, which are purchased by other NES students on a designated shopping day. Items are typically under \$1.

Meet and Greet (grades 1-6): An informal opportunity in late August for students and parents to meet their new teachers, visit their new classrooms, and drop off school supplies.

MyPaymentPlus: This web service offers an easy way to monitor your child’s lunchtime purchases, check their lunch account balance and receive e-mail notifications when their balance is low. If you use this site to make credit card or electronic check deposits, the bank will charge a processing fee. You can avoid this fee by sending a check to the school cafeteria. See also Chartwells. www.MyPaymentPlus.com

NES Student Handbook: The principal's booklet containing important information regarding policies and procedures for our school. Available online [here](#), on the NES website, and also in front portion of the Grade 2-6 homework planner.

Night with your Knight: a fun, active event for sons and their super-moms, grand moms, aunts or other First Ladies! Alternately called "Son+1."

Online Absence Reporting: see also Absences or Attendance Notification Form. Click [here](#).

Parent Pick-up Placard: This is a yellow placard displayed in the car by the parent. You may obtain two Parent Pick-up Placards at Meet and Greet, or they will be sent home on the first day of school. If you (or others picking up) do not have the Parent Pick-up Placard in clear view, you will be instructed to park and enter the office to show ID and sign out your student.

Parties: Classroom parties are held four times per year: Halloween, Winter Holiday, Valentine's Day, and at the end of the school year. See HRCs.

Party Invitations: May not be distributed in school

Personal Electronic Device (PED): Any device including, but not limited to, laptops, netbooks, electronic readers (Kindles, Nooks, etc.), iPads, iPods, cell phones, etc. PEDs are permitted solely for educational purposes and require express permission of the classroom teacher. For details and regulations, see the CRSD Acceptable Use Policy and the Personal Electronic Educational Device Agreement on the NES Homepage, or click [here](#).

Pick-up: the line forms at 3:15 PM for the 3:37 car rider dismissal. If you need to be somewhere directly after school, get in line early. 70+ cars and many students may take 12-15 minutes if everyone cooperates. See also Parent Pick-up Placard and Car Rider Slips.

Picture Days: We have two rounds of pictures at NES, one in the Fall and one in Spring. The Fall portrait is what will appear in the yearbook.

Pretzel Sale: A recurring fundraiser that benefits the sixth grade. Soft pretzels are 50 cents each. Bottle of water is also 50 cents.

PTO: The Parent Teacher Organization meets one evening per month at school. All are welcome to attend at any time. Elections for Executive Board positions are held at the end of the year. The PTO is responsible for funding and organizing many school events, assemblies and projects throughout the year. Funds raised by the PTO go directly back into our school. We encourage all families to be active PTO members. Donating as little as 2 hours of time per family will help share the work load and allow us to accomplish so much more! Visit the PTO website at: www.nespto.com.

Raffle Baskets: a major fundraising attraction at Spring Fling. Homeroom Coordinators reserve money from classroom dues to create awesome baskets of items to be raffled at Spring Fling. (Examples include Razor Scooter Basket, Star Wars/Legos Baskets, Spa Day, etc.). Teachers and staff members also contribute, with prizes such as "Principal for a Day" or "Ice Cream Party with teacher and two friends." Raffles are sold during student lunchtimes and at Spring Fling, and winners are announced at Spring Fling.

Report Cards: Students in grades 3-6 receive report cards four times per year: November, January, April and June. Students in K-2 receive report cards three times per year: January, April, and June

Science Fair: Takes place in the winter. Students in any grade can participate. Classes visit the fair during the school day and families come in the evening.

Secret Shop: An annual Holiday PTO event. Children purchase small gifts for family members from tables set up at school.

Shop For Your School (aka Passive Fundraising): a PTO initiative through which our school earns money every time you shop at stores and online retailers like Giant, Target, McCaffreys and Amazon. It's easy to sign up! Visit www.nespto.com for signup information.

Sign-Up Genius: an online and mobile app that the PTO uses to register volunteers for events and donations. For instance, you might use Sign-Up Genius to volunteer for an hour of pizza sales at Bingo, or to bring in salad ingredients for a Teacher Appreciation Week salad bar. It's a useful tool! Contact the PTO for more information.

Son+One: a fun, active event for sons and their super-moms, grand moms, aunts or other First Ladies! Alternately called "A Night with your Knight."

Spring Fling: a fun family carnival organized by the PTO filled with music, games, raffles and fun. Our biggest PTO fundraiser of the year.

Student Council: Two representatives are selected from each classroom in grades first through sixth. They promote community service and bolster school spirit. Students attend monthly meetings before school. Fundraising benefits various charities throughout the school year.

Supply Lists: For a head start on back-to-school shopping, check the Newtown Elementary website and click on the "Our School" tab. Choose "Grade Level Supply Lists." (Sometimes the list is also available directly on the homepage.) Your child's teacher may request additional supplies via his or her website. Most supplies are provided by the school.

Sweetheart Dance: a dance held at NES for our female students and a guest, usually occurring in the winter or early spring. Dads, grandpas, uncles, or other Prince Charmings are all welcome to attend!

T-Chart: a school-wide project for students and their families focused on a yearly theme, sent to parents via email from the Principal.

Teacher Appreciation Week: occurs in May and is organized by the PTO. Parents and students volunteer in various ways to show gratitude for our wonderful staff.

Treasure Jars: A popular game at Spring Fling and a NES tradition. Families are asked to donate clean plastic containers/jars filled with treats and small prizes. Every child who plays our Treasure Jar game at Spring Fling wins either a small, medium or large jar.

Trunk-or-Treat: a favorite Halloween tradition that takes place in the NES parking lot in October. Families decorate their car trunks and hand out candy to student trick-or-treaters. Prizes are awarded for the best trunks. You need not decorate a trunk to participate--there is plenty of fun to be had with music, costumes, snacks and more.

Veggieville: Newtown Elementary's organic garden in the patch outside the Kindergarten wing. Produce is donated to local food pantries. Gardeners wanted! Contact the PTO. Thanks!
