



## NES March 2026 Newsletter

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**Last Newsletter using SMORE - next issue through ParentSquare (article below)**

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### Important Dates/Reminders

- March 2nd-5th - Read Across America Week
- March 6th - Teacher Grading Day, School Closed
- March 8th - Daylight Savings Time
- March 9th - Last Day for Read-A-Thon
- March 9th - School Board Meeting - 5:30 p.m. at the District Office or by Zoom
- March 17th - Clean Water Festival FT(4th grade)
- March 17th St. Patrick's Day Family Swim at NCRD (Pool Sign Up Required)
- March 20th - Kindergarten Seaside Aquarium field trip
- March 23th - 27th - Spring Break



Swim lessons will end for Panks, LeDoux, and Christensen's classes:

- Panks' last day will be March 17th.
- Christensen's last day will be March 18th.

- LeDoux's last day will be March 19th.

Swim lessons will start for Spicer, Archer & Gillespie classes the week after we return from Spring Break.

- Spicer - Tuesdays
- Archer - Wednesdays
- Gillespie - Thursdays

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## NKN SD is Introducing a New Way to Stay Connected!

### Connect through ParentSquare

We're excited to share that we've adopted a new communication platform called **ParentSquare** to help us keep you better informed and more connected with your school community. We'll be using this platform for our whole school district and all schools.



ParentSquare

With ParentSquare, you'll receive all school and classroom messages in one place and translated into your preferred language—whether by email, text, app, or web. You'll also be able to:

- Stay up to date on news and events
- Send and receive messages with teachers and staff
- Fill out forms and permission slips
- Sign up for conferences and volunteer opportunities
- View calendar items and photos from your school

All school, grade-level, and classroom communications will soon only come through ParentSquare.. To get the most out of ParentSquare, we encourage you to download the free mobile app, available for iOS and Android. You can also access ParentSquare from your web browser at [www.parentsquare.com](http://www.parentsquare.com). We'll be sharing more information soon, including how to set up your account and customize your notification preferences.

## All future newsletters will be sent through ParentSquare

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## NES Attendance Update- How Are We Doing With Our Attendance Rate?

Attendance is a key part of student success, and we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible progress we've seen!

Thank you to all our parents and guardians for your dedication to getting your children to school on time and ready to learn. Whether it's adjusting morning routines or overcoming unexpected

hurdles, your hard work is making a real difference. Look how NES's attendance monthly data has improved compared to last year's data:

**Percent of students at school more than 90% of school days:** (This is how the state tracks attendance!)

## **2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

### SEPTEMBER

82.1% (2025-2026)

74.7% (2024-2025)

### OCTOBER

77.3% (2025-2026)

72.3% (2024-2025)

### NOVEMBER

74.9% (2025-2026)

73.7% (2024-2025)

### DECEMBER

69.0% (2025-2026)

73.3% (2024-2025)

### JANUARY

66.3% (2025-2026)

46.9% (2024-2025)

### FEBRUARY

67.4% (2025-2026)

57.7% (2024-2025)

When students are here, they build stronger friendships, gain confidence, and stay on track with their learning. It also helps teachers when they don't have extra work to do to make up for lost learning for students.

The state is now grouping school districts with comparable school districts to track data in cohorts of districts. That will now track how our attendance compares to other districts like ours in terms of size and demographics. When compared to those districts, our attendance is still one of the lowest in the group, but I am certain that if we continue to make the gains we have seen, we'll change that over time. We are so grateful for your partnership in making education a priority. Keep up the amazing work!

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## **Eighth Annual Read-A-Thon**

**Our Read-A-Thon will end on March 9th**

So Far we've raised over \$1200 and 1700 minutes of reading time.

All of the donations received will help our school in many ways:

- **Thank for all of your support - 2019 = \$940 , 2020 = \$600 , 2021 = \$870, 2022 = \$2328.00, 2023 = \$3246.40, 2024 = \$3925.00, 2025 = \$4000**
- Supporting our commitment to literacy and daily reading.
- Purchasing student books to help celebrate our annual Read-Across-America Week book walk (each day, students' names are drawn for a chance to pick out a new book.)
- Purchasing student prizes for our PBIS treasure chest. Students have the chance every day to earn "Way to Go's" for being safe, respectful and responsible. The office then does a weekly drawing for a chance at choosing one item from our treasure chest.



Thanks so much,  
Nehalem Elementary

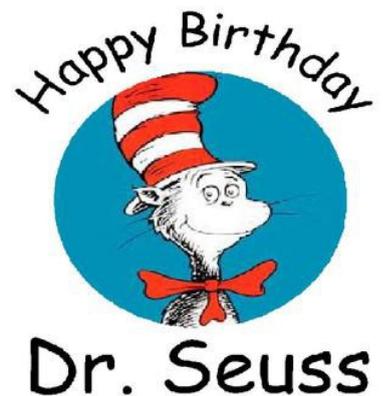
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## Read Across America Week, March 3rd -March 7th

Each morning we'll have a book walk in the classrooms. The students standing on the lucky number will get to come pick out a book from the office to take home.

### Dress Up Days:

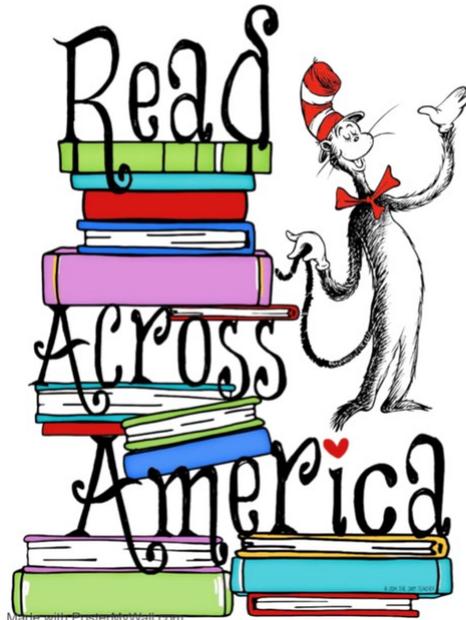
- Monday - "Fox in Socks" - **Wear Crazy Socks**
- Tuesday - "Cat in the Hat Day" - **Wear red, White or Stripes**
- Wednesday - "Wacky Wednesday" - **Wear Mismatched/Wacky Clothes**
- Thursday - "Fun Hat Day" - **Wear a Fun Hat**



Nehalem Elementary

**READ  
ACROSS AMERICA  
SPIRIT WEEK**

**MARCH 2-5th**



**MONDAY**

**FOX IN SOCKS**

WEAR SILLY SOCKS  
AND SHOES

**TUESDAY**

**CAT IN HAT**

WEAR RED, WHITE,  
OR STRIPES

**WEDNESDAY**

**WACKY DAY**

DRESS IN  
MISMATCHED CLOTHES  
& WACKY HAIR

**THURSDAY**

**Fun Hat Day**

WEAR YOUR  
FAVORITE HAT

**FRIDAY**

NO SCHOOL -  
TEACHER GRADE DAY

## 2025-26 Statewide Assessments for Grades 3-5 Coming Soon!

Every year we need to notify families of the Statewide Assessments that will be happening soon. Oregon law permits parents to annually opt-out of Oregon's statewide assessments in English Language Arts, Science and/or Mathematics by submitting an annual form to the school the student attends. Parents can find the forms on our NKN SD website at [nknsd.org](http://nknsd.org).

**It is very important that students are in school on testing days!** NES's Testing dates will be:

Science for grade 5 only: March 9-13

ELA for grades 3-5: March 30-April 3 and April 6-10

Math for grades 3-5: May 11-15 and May 18-22

## Interested in Going on a Field Trip or Have Lunch at School with Your Student

You must complete both a paper application and the Online Safety Training (see below) to volunteer at school which includes chaperoning on a field trip or having lunch with your student at school. Both trainings must be completed before a parent can participate. Please contact Breanna Goodman ([breannag@nknsd.org](mailto:breannag@nknsd.org)) if you have any questions.



# NEAH-KAH-NIE VOLUNTEERS <<<

## Online Safety Training

Starting for the 2025-2026 school year, all new and EXISTING Volunteers, Contractors and Parents MUST complete an online safety training to continue to be able to volunteer.

### ABUSE AND SEXUAL CONDUCT TRAINING

Go to the training site: [pacetraining-or.safeschools.com/login](https://pacetraining-or.safeschools.com/login)

Click Register button

Enter the correct registration Key

- CONTRACTOR: 53ae6612
- VOLUNTEER: 093efff6
- PARENT: dc07938a



Create username and enter your name.

Click location and select Neah-Kah-Nie School District

Complete the training (estimated 30 minutes)

**Return certificate of completion to the District Office  
or one of the school offices.**

**Questions: [breannag@nknsd.org](mailto:breannag@nknsd.org)**

[Click here to go to the Volunteer Application](#)

[Click here to complete the Online Training](#)

## NKN SD Wants Your Bottles and Cans for a Fundraiser!

The school district is collecting bottles and cans as a fundraiser for staff appreciation week! If you would like to donate your cans and bottles to NKN SD, please ask for a NKN company blue collection bag at the NES office. We can give you the bags then have you drop the full bag off at NES (or the district office) for us to return to Fred Meyer for the fundraiser! THANK YOU!



1-2-3-4

# I DECLARE A PENNY WAR

**March 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>**

Coin collection will take place at lunch recess. Daily prizes for the class that collects the most. The class with the largest grand total of the week will win an extra DANCE PARTY recess with bubbles and treats!!

All money raised will go to the parent council, to purchase school supplies.

Our goal this fundraiser is to raise \$450.00. That's enough to purchase all the necessary school supplies for one classroom for the year

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Cafeteria

# MARCH 2026

## NEHALEM ELEMENTARY

Sandwiches or Hand-Crafted Salads are available Daily for Lunch!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple Cinn. Texas Toast Hot Dogs	Breakfast Sandwich Nachos	Breakfast Pizza Sloppy Joe's	Cat In The Hat Pancakes Oodles of Noodles	GRADE DAY NO SCHOOL
Breakfast Bars Pizza Sticks	Pumpkin Bread Chicken Quesadillas	Pancake on a Stick Mac & Cheese	Bagel & Cream Cheese Chicken Burgers	Yogurt Parfait Corn Dogs
Waffles Cheesy Breadsticks & Marinara	Sausage & Biscuits Lucky Chicken Nuggets	Blueberry Muffins Lasagna	Oatmeal Rounds Cheeseburgers	Cinnamon Rolls Breakfast For Lunch
HAVE A	SAFE AND	RELAXING	SPRING	BREAK!!!!
French Toast Chicken Strips	Banana Bread Enchiladas			

Join us in celebrating Read-Across-America and National School Breakfast Week March 2-5!!!

A variety of fresh fruits and vegetables are available daily on our offering bar. All of our breads and pastas are whole grain or whole wheat. GF options May be available. Fat-Free and 1% milks are offered daily.  
"This institute is an equal opportunity provider"

## Mrs. Jennifer's Counseling Office



Greetings NES Families!

February we celebrated kindness! We learned that showing kindness in all forms can improve both your mental and physical health!

March will also focus on bully prevention. Students will learn to recognize, refuse and report bullying. It is important for students to know the difference between bullying, and a mean moment or a conflict with another student. Bullying is taken very seriously and all students need to learn to recognize the signs.

Every year Nehalem Elementary administers the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) to 2nd and 5th grade students. This assessment helps us in determining if a student qualifies for Neah-Kah-Nie's Talented and Gifted program (TAG). We will be testing the 2nd grade students March 10th - 13th and the 5th grade students March 17th. You should have or will receive information in an email with the option to opt your student out of testing (download the form using the button below). If you choose to opt out please be sure to return the opt out form by March 9th. If you have any additional questions, please reach out via email - [jenniferh@nksd.org](mailto:jenniferh@nksd.org) or phone - 503-355-3657.

If you have any questions or concerns about your student feel free to contact me. You can also fill out a [counseling form espanol](#) to request a meeting.

Ms. Jennifer  
503-355-3657  
jenniferh@nknsd.org

## CogAT Testing Opt Out Form

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### PBIS Team

#### Using Positive Phrasing with Behavior

Here at Nehalem Elementary we train our staff to use positive phrasing when teaching behavior rules and redirect students. This means that we try to use phrases that encourage the behavior we want to see.

Example: Students are running in the hallway. We don't yell "no running" because all they may hear is the word "running." Instead, we try to teach and phrase what we'd like them to do instead.

1. We teach students to walk in the hallway because it is safe. We also practice following this expectation.
2. If a student is running, we would stop them and remind them that the expectation is to walk in the hallway.
3. Finally, if we see students walking, we would acknowledge and encourage them for doing the right thing by saying something along the lines of "thank you for walking."

You can try this at home too! Instead of saying what you don't want your child to do, state what you would like them to do instead. Have them practice the expectation you have for them and make sure to acknowledge them when they do the right thing!



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## NCRD Youth Center

Soccer registration is now open and will begin March 30 and run through May 7. Pre-K through 8th grade are able to play. If you want to play but haven't registered, you still can, come over to NCRD and register if you have already played a sport this school year it's even easier, just call the welcome center (or email Kiley) and let them know your child's name, we can invoice you (\*late fees may apply). [angiet@ncrdnehalem.org](mailto:angiet@ncrdnehalem.org) [kileyk@ncrdnehalem.org](mailto:kileyk@ncrdnehalem.org)

### - Upcoming Events -

- NCRD Annual Egg Hunt April 4 at Rex Champ Field! Do Not Be Late, 11AM SHARP!!!
- Forever Young 80s Dance Party! This is a family-friendly event. When: Friday March 20 6:30-9:30pm in the NCRD Gym!
- Open Swim over Spring Break Monday through Friday, 1 – 3 pm.

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### Are you ready for Spring Break?

If you need care after school, please reach out to us. We pick up your students at Nehalem Elementary school and stay at the school until 5pm. Our cost will stay \$6 a day per child. This does include a nutritious snack and a host of enrichment activities (outdoor play/walks, gym time, crafts, etc.) If interested, please reach out to Angie or Kiley at NCRD by phone, email, website, or just stop in. We do have full day care when the school is closed. We are closed on all national holidays. Those days are \$20 per student. The no school days in March are Friday 6 and the week

of March 23 - 27. To preregister and prepay, contact the Welcome Center. Scholarship applications are available upon request. Scholarships for students are funded through the Friends of NCRD Foundation. Please let any staff member or the Welcome Center know if this is a need, and we will get you a scholarship application.

## NCRD Sponsored NES Swim Night

### NCRD Sponsored NES Family Swim Night

Immediate family members welcome. Parents must attend and stay the whole session.

All participants must sign up.

[Click Here to Sign Up](#)

100 available slots for each session due to lifeguard ratio requirements. We will keep a wait list if we go over 100.



**Tuesday, March 17**

**NCRD Pool**

**Session 1: 5:00-5:45 PM**

**Session 2: 6:00-6:45 PM**



## Message from Nurse Denise

### Prevention & Treatment of Head Lice

Head lice are spread most commonly by direct head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact. However, much less frequently they are spread by sharing clothing or belongings onto which lice have crawled or nits attached to shed hairs may have fallen. The risk of getting infested by a louse that has fallen onto a carpet or furniture is very small. Head lice survive less than 1-2 days if they fall off a person and cannot feed; nits cannot hatch and usually die within a week if they are not kept at the same temperature as that found close to the scalp.

The following are steps that can be taken to help prevent and control the spread of head lice:

- Avoid head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact during play and other activities at home, school,

- and elsewhere (sports activities, playground, slumber parties, camp).
- Do not share clothing such as hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms, hair ribbons, or barrettes.
- Do not share combs, brushes, or towels. Disinfect combs and brushes used by an infested person by soaking them in hot water (at least 130°F) for 5–10 minutes.
- Do not lie on beds, couches, pillows, carpets, or stuffed animals that have recently been in contact with an infested person.
- Machine wash and dry clothing, bed linens, and other items that an infested person wore or used during the 2 days before treatment using the hot water (130°F) laundry cycle and the high heat drying cycle. Clothing and items that are not washable can be dry-cleaned OR sealed in a plastic bag and stored for 2 weeks.
- Vacuum the floor and furniture, particularly where the infested person sat or lay. However, spending much time and money on housecleaning activities is not necessary to avoid reinfestation by lice or nits that may have fallen off the head or crawled onto furniture or clothing.
- Deep cleaning the home is important to avoid re infestation.
- Do not use fumigant sprays or fogs; they are not necessary to control head lice and can be toxic if inhaled or absorbed through the skin.
- Check all heads of children and adults in the household over the next 2 weeks. Head lice can transfer quickly in the home setting.
- Use over the counter head lice treatment. Follow the box instructions exactly as directed. It is important to use a comb and comb out all nits. Student CANNOT return to school with any live bugs on their head.
- School nurse will check head of student upon return and randomly after that to confirm no live bugs are seen.
- Students with live bugs will be sent home to treat again.
- If unsuccessful home treatment, you will be referred to follow up with your primary care provider.

# How to Examine for Head Lice

## Use bright light to look at:

- 1 Crown of head
- 2 Bangs
- 3 Behind both ears
- 4 Nape of neck

## How to inspect

- 1 Place gloves on your hands
- 2 Use fingers to separate hair and create a part. The part should allow you to clearly see the person's scalp.
- 3 Look for lice crawling on the scalp where the hair is parted or on the hair shaft. The lice will be dark in color and the size of a poppyseed.
- 4 Look for nits near hair follicle about 1/4 inch from scalp. Nits (eggs) will be white or yellowish-brown. Nits are often more easily seen than lice, especially when the person has dark hair.
- 5 Also look behind both ears and near the back of the neck. You may see lice or nits. You may also see bites.

The size of a nit (egg), nymph, and louse relative to a penny



CC photos

### A. Checking hair for lice



CC photos

### B. Nits (lice eggs) on hair



Image used with permission of the American Academy of Dermatology National Library of Dermatologic Teaching Slides



Chung EK, Boem JJ, Datta GA, Metz PS (Eds). Visual Diagnosis in Pediatrics. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2006. Courtesy of Hans & Kersten, MD. Copyright © 2006. In: UpToDate, Post, TW (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA, 2014.

**SCREENING TIP:** To distinguish between dandruff and nits, try to flick or pull off the white speck. Dandruff is easily pulled off, but nits are not.

Change gloves between each child's examination and wash your hands after all examinations are completed.



U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

CS249936-E

# Adventures in Sound

A Family-Friendly Concert!



**PETER  
AND THE  
WOLF**  
Prokofiev



Narrated by  
Liz Cole

**HALL  
OF THE  
MOUNTAIN KING**  
Grieg

**1812 FESTIVAL  
OVERTURE**  
Tchaikovsky/Brubaker

**JUPITER  
FROM  
THE PLANETS**  
Holst

**RUSSIAN  
SAILORS' DANCE**  
Glière/Isaac



**Saturday ♦ MAR 14, 2026 ♦ 3:00 pm**  
Nehalem Elementary School Gym  
36300 8th St ♦ Nehalem

**Sunday ♦ MAR 15, 2026 ♦ 3:00 pm**  
Bob Chisholm Community Center  
1225 Avenue A ♦ Seaside

Tickets available at the door ♦ Cash or personal check only

**\$10 Admission ♦ 18 and under are free**  
12 and under must be accompanied by an adult

For more information see our website  
[www.nocsymphony.org](http://www.nocsymphony.org)



The North Oregon Coast Symphony is a Partner of the Charlene Larsen Center for the Performing Arts

The North Oregon Coast Symphony will present "Adventures in Sound: A Family Friendly Concert" on March 14th at 3pm at Nehalem Elementary School. This concert will feature the selection of Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev, a classic favorite among youth. The Mudd Nick Foundation has graciously funded up to 30 adult tickets for for adult family members accompanying youth who live in the Neah-Kah-Nie School district boundaries. Youth 18 and under are free. To request the free adult tickets, please scan the qr code on the poster or use the link <https://forms.gle/bMZAHVm8eTHpFbWaA> to complete the google form. On the day of the concert the ticket takers will have a list of everyone who signed up. Please contact Carlotta Roddy at [carlottar@nknsd.org](mailto:carlottar@nknsd.org) if you have any additional questions.

## NKN District Job Openings

Click button to access and apply for open positions.

## Sign up to be a Substitute

**SUPPORT OUR  
SCHOOLS!**

**Become an ESS  
Substitute**



*Every day counts.*



**SCAN  
ME TO  
GET  
STARTED!**

**Elizabeth Avila**

Elizabeth is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters