

SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER Sept 2017



Principal's Message

September has been a busy month as we all settle into the new school year. It was nice to see familiar faces and meet new parents at our Parent Orientation nights. We are fortunate to have very active parent organizations (NMMPTA and UMEPTO) that meet monthly and work to provide many additional programs and materials for our schools. Attending meetings and getting involved is a great way to meet other parents and make a difference in your child's school.

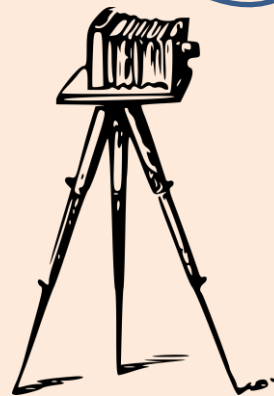
We welcomed our new faculty members this month. Anna O'Donnell is our new art teacher. At New Marlborough we have Tricia Zucco as the school nurse and Sarah Cooke as our preschool teacher. Bethany Mielke has joined the staff at Undermountain as a Title 1 teacher working primarily with grades 3-5.

Please feel free to contact Jon Friedman or me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year.

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CALENDAR

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| 9/29 | 5 th grade field trip to Sheffield Historical Society |
| 10/3 | UME PTO meeting in Science Room, 7:00 p.m. |
| 10/5 | NMC PTA meeting, 6:00 p.m. |
| 10/6 | Half day for students, dismissal is at 11:40 |
| 10/9 | Columbus Day (no school) |
| 10/17 | NMC/UME Early K, Kindergarten & 1 st grades to Mahaiwe Theatre for production of "Guess How Much I Love You" |
| 10/27 | Trunk or Treat – Main Street, Sheffield |



Undermountain photo retakes for students will be on OCTOBER 23rd. NMC's retakes will be on NOVEMBER 3rd. More information will follow.

REMINDER TO PARENTS RE: ATTENDANCE

Phone calls to the office saying your child is home sick is not an excused absence.

Excused absences are:

- Bereavement
- Religious holidays
- Time with family on military leave
- Documented court appearances
- Note from physician stating child needs to stay home due to illness or medical procedure
- Sent home by School Nurse with instructions to keep child home for additional time

The 24th annual winter outerwear drive will be held during the month of October. Coats, hats, boots, mittens, snow pants, scarves, etc., can be dropped at UME or NMC. These items will be distributed on Saturday, October 28th, at Berkshire South Community Center from 9-6 and Sunday, the 29th, from 9-2.

SCHOOL NURSE NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents:

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all students and their parents. We are looking forward to working with you and your children at both the Undermountain Elementary School and New Marlboro Elementary Schools during the 2017- 2018 school year. To ensure your child's health and safety I would like to share a few items with you.

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Please send in copies of yearly physical and updated immunization forms. It is important that we keep your child's health record up to date. Thank you!

Please complete and send in the emergency contact forms and over-the-counter medication administration forms if you have not already done so. Copies of these forms are also found on our SBRSD website.

Please inform your school nurse of any severe allergies, surgeries, accidents or new health problems that occurred during the summer months or which may occur during the school year.

MEDICATIONS:

NO child is to take or carry **PRESCRIPTION OR OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS** to school. If a child, by order of a physician, must receive medications in school, the school requires both parent and physician signatures prior to administering medication. (These forms can be found on the school website or from the Health Office. Therefore, a prescription label IS NOT acceptable in lieu of an MD's order. A written order must be obtained. Our new Medication Permission Form must be completed and signed by both physician and the parent. This form along with the prescribed medication in its original container must be brought to school by the parent/guardian. All medication **MUST** be administered in the nurses' office. If you administer medication to your child before he/she comes to school, which could affect their performance, please send in a note to the teacher. Please call your school nurse if you have any questions regarding this.

ILLNESS/ABSENCES:

Please contact the school office in the morning if your child is to be absent and inform them why he/she will not be attending. If your child has been ill, he/she should be free of a temperature (without medicine) for 24 hours before returning to school.

If your child is diagnosed with any of the following communicable diseases please notify the nurse: strep throat, chicken pox, impetigo, scabies, head lice, pink eye, viral/diarrhea illness and Fifth's Disease.

SCREENINGS:

As per State Law the following screenings will be done at both Elementary Schools.

During the school year information will be provided through the newsletter giving specific dates for the vision, hearing and dental screenings, so please watch for this information in the newsletter. Permission slips will be sent home for the screenings performed by a dental hygienist.

I hope this information is helpful to you. I know both Tricia Zucco and I hope you have a safe, joyful and healthy school year. If we can be of any help throughout the year please don't hesitate to call us at school.

Thank you for the privilege of caring for your children.

Hilary Bashara, RN, BSN
School Nurse, UME
413-229-8754 Ext. 389

Tricia Zucco, RN
School Nurse, NMC
413-229-2947

The Undermountain School Nurse is looking for parents who could volunteer for a few hours a week to assist in handing out the fluoride rinse to classes. She would also like donations of new socks and underwear for both boys and girls for all sizes from Pre-K through 5th grade. Anyone who would donate some gently used clothing to the nurse's office would be appreciated. Thank you.