



MEADOW HILL GEM SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

December 2025

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the final weeks of 2025 unfold, there is a distinct sense of warmth, excitement, and anticipation echoing throughout the halls of Meadow Hill. December is always a special time, filled with holiday performances, seasonal projects, and a spirit of generosity that reminds us of the wonderful community we share.

We are so proud of the progress our students have made this semester. They have demonstrated remarkable growth, resilience, and a true commitment to their studies. Thank you for your essential partnership in making this success possible—we know that strong student achievement begins at home.

The Winter Break will officially begin on **Wednesday, December 24, 2025**, and students will return to school on **Monday, January 5, 2026**. While this time is certainly meant for rest and celebration, it also presents a fantastic opportunity to support your child's learning in relaxed, real-world contexts.

We encourage you to use the break not only to recharge but also to foster a continuous learning environment. A little bit of engagement goes a long way in preventing the "slide" that can sometimes happen during extended time off.

Here are a few simple, enjoyable ways you can help your child keep their minds active and engaged throughout the winter recess:

- **Read for Fun:** Encourage your child to choose books, magazines, graphic novels, or even cookbooks that genuinely interest them. Set aside a "cozy reading hour" each day. For younger students, read aloud together. For older students, discuss their book's characters or plot.
- **Embrace Math in the Kitchen:** Cooking and baking are excellent ways to practice math skills! Let your child help measure ingredients (fractions!), calculate doubling or halving recipes (multiplication/division), and track cooking times (elapsed time).
- **Write and Reflect:** Encourage them to keep a simple **Winter Break Journal**. They can write about family gatherings, the weather, their favorite gift, or their plans for the new year. Even sending holiday cards or thank-you notes is great practice for penmanship and communication.
- **Visit a Local Museum or Library (or explore online!):** Check to see if your local library or a nearby museum has special hours or exhibits. If travel isn't possible, explore virtual tours of national parks or historical sites from the comfort of your home.
- **Practice Problem-Solving with Games:** Family board games (like Monopoly, Chess, or even simple card games) naturally build strategic thinking, planning, and critical math skills without feeling like homework.

On behalf of the entire staff at Meadow Hill, we wish your family a very happy, healthy, and safe holiday season. We look forward to welcoming our students back in the New Year, refreshed and ready for a successful second semester.

Queridos padres y tutores:

A medida que finaliza el Año 2025 se siente un ambiente de calidez, y emoción en los pasillos de Meadow Hill. Diciembre siempre es un tiempo especial, lleno de presentaciones navideñas, proyectos de temporada y un espíritu de generosidad que nos recuerda la maravillosa comunidad que compartimos.

Estamos muy orgullosos del progreso que nuestros estudiantes han logrado este semestre. Han demostrado un crecimiento notable, resiliencia y un verdadero compromiso con sus estudios. Gracias por

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 8th- Dec. 12th	PTO- Holiday Shop (During School Hours)
Dec. 8th	Winter Concert- Grades 6-8
Dec. 11th	Winter Concert- Grades 3-5
Dec. 18th- Dec. 22nd	Kindergarten Selection Tours for new students (9:00-10:00 am) (12:00-1:00 PM)
Dec. 22nd	K-5 report card distribution 6-8 Progress Report
Dec. 23rd	½ Day for Scholars
Dec. 24th - Jan. 2nd	Winter Break (No School)
Jan. 6th	Picture Retake Day



K-5 REPORT CARDS

This is a reminder that report cards will be sent home with K-5 students on Monday, December 22nd. They will also be available to view on your parent portal. If you have any trouble with parent portal please visit our district website.

Este es un recordatorio de que las boletas de calificaciones serán enviadas a casa con los estudiantes de K-5 el **lunes 22 de diciembre**. También estarán disponibles para verlas en su portal para padres. Si tiene alguna dificultad con el portal para padres, por favor visite el sitio web de nuestro distrito.





PTO
Welcomes you to the
Holiday Shop 2025
SHOP WILL BE OPEN DAILY FROM 9:00 ~ 2:30

	Monday, 12/8	Tuesday, 12/9	Wednesday, 12/10	Thursday, 12/11	Friday, 12/12
9:00 ~ 9:30	Collado-Weaver	Odell	Lopez/Morales	Sabini	Babcock
9:35 ~ 10:05	Rechenberger/Palumbo	Bastone/Soule	Salgado	Galanin/ Dursley	Vazquez
10:10 ~ 10:40	Martinez	Vicari	Schoenherr/Brown	Marcantonio	Pozzuoli/ Lamantia
10:45 ~ 11:15	Colon	Rueda	Dickson/Candal	Coffey	Schueler/Walker
11:40 ~ 12:10	Grant	Prado	Cross	Short/Camilleri	Mullarkey
12:40 ~ 1:10	Middle School	Middle School	Middle School	Middle School	Middle School
1:30 ~ 2:00	Montenegro	Burawa	Cadden	Wagner/Holmes	Howe
2:00 ~ 2:30					

* ITEMS RANGE BETWEEN .25 CENTS TO 6.00
* STUDENTS WHO FORGET THEIR MONEY OR WANT TO PURCHASE AGAIN ARE WELCOME DAILY AT THEIR **TEACHERS CONVENIENCE**.
* CLASSES THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO SHOP ON FRIDAY ARE WELCOME TO BROWSE OR SHOP ON ANOTHER DAY BETWEEN 2:00 ~ 2:30

DELAYS, DISMISSAL, CLOSURES

School closings, delayed openings, and early dismissals resulting from weather conditions of other emergency situations will be shared directly with our NECSD community via email and robocall, posted on the [NECSD website](#) and social media channels (@NewburghSchools), as well as provided to the local media. Please make sure your contact information is up to date so you receive these messages directly. As soon as a decision is made, our communications team is notified and shares the message with our community within minutes.

Robocalls made by the district will come from the phone number: 845-563-3455. Robocalls coming from a school building should come from the main number of that building. We suggest that families, faculty and staff add these numbers as contacts in their phones. Some cell phone carriers will mark the calls as spam, and at times, the class may bypass the alert system on your phone, sending the call directly to voicemail. The section for spam voicemails may be different than the section for voicemails from contacts.

Los cierres escolares, las aperturas retrasadas y las salidas tempranas debido a condiciones climáticas u otras situaciones de emergencia se compartirán directamente con nuestra comunidad de NECSD por correo electrónico y llamada automática, se publicarán en el [sitio web de NECSD](#) y en los canales de redes sociales (@NewburghSchools), así como serán proporcionados a los medios locales. Por favor, asegúrese de que su [información de contacto esté actualizada](#) para que pueda recibir estos mensajes directamente. Tan pronto como se tome una decisión, nuestro equipo de comunicaciones será notificado y compartirá el mensaje con nuestra comunidad en cuestión de minutos.

Las llamadas automáticas realizadas por el distrito provendrán del número: 845-563-3455. Las llamadas automáticas que provengan de un edificio escolar deberán venir del número principal de ese edificio. Sugerimos que las familias, el personal docente y el personal administrativo agreguen estos números como contactos en sus teléfonos. Algunos proveedores de telefonía celular marcarán las llamadas como spam y, en ocasiones, la llamada puede pasar por alto el sistema de alertas de su teléfono, enviándola directamente al buzón de voz. La sección de buzones de voz marcados como spam puede ser diferente de la sección para los mensajes de contactos.

DISTRICT NEWS

TEXTING BEGINS!

The district will begin sending texting messages this fall. To receive the messages, make sure your cell phone number is correct in the cell phone field. The number can be listed twice if that is your primary number. All parents/guardians who wish to receive a text should make sure their number is listed in the correct spot in their personal Parent Portal Account.

HELPFUL LINKS

[One page District calendar](#)
[21st Century Program & Empire Program](#)
[District Calendar Reminder](#)

For detail information please visit [newburghschools.org](#)

PRE-K INFORMATION SESSIONS

Please help us spread the word to reach our youngest future Goldiebacks!

Pre-K Program | Information Sessions

The NECSD Universal Pre-K Program is Free!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 2026

8:30am - 9:30am

Gidney Avenue Memorial School (GAMS)

300 Gidney Ave., Newburgh, NY 12550

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

5:00pm-6:00pm

Gidney Avenue Memorial School (GAMS)

300 Gidney Ave., Newburgh, NY 12550

Register Here

Universal PRE-K PROGRAM

INFORMATION SESSION

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GAMS

Gidney Avenue Memorial School

300 Gidney Ave.

Newburgh, NY 12550

Join us to:

- Learn about each UPK site across our district
- Get details on registration, transportation, and school options
- Explore the UPK daily schedule and learning environment
- Meet a classroom teacher and visit a sample Pre-K classroom

2026-2027 UPK Registration Opens: February 2, 2026

EVERY GOLDIEBACK every day