

# **Newcomb** central school district

December 2022

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No School Holiday Recess 12/23/22-1/2/23



Attending a Small School is a Gift that Keeps on Giving A Message from Superintendent Chris Fisher

The concept of growing up together in a family atmosphere has always been a part of the experience for students at NCS. The interactions that our students have with one another as well as with faculty and staff go much deeper than just surface level. A small school means you aren't just a number, or a familiar face, it means that you are part of a family and families have strong ties and traditions. As the holiday season approaches, I reflect on the gift of serving in a small, rural school district and I am reminded of the unique experiences that we have created for our students and the many traditions that are sure to become lifelong memories.

Cont'd on page 2

"Our School is the Heart of Our Community"

# Newcomb Through the Decades Open House Event and Pot-Luck Dinner





The tradition of a pot-luck meal has been a part of our Open House experience for several years. It gives families an opportunity to learn more about their child's programming at NCS and also helps to build connections through a social gathering. This year, the Student Council members exercised their leadership skills by brainstorming, organizing and facilitating the entire event. New staff members and new students were introduced to the school community, and families were able to reconnect with seasoned faculty and staff members as well. The event was well attended with some NCS alumni and community members joining the festivities of the Open House portion as well as the pot-luck dinner. Student organizers took pride in their work and were appreciative of the support from everyone who attended!

#### International Program Hits Fifteen Year Mark



This year marks the fifteenth anniversary of Newcomb Central School District's International Program. It is hard to believe that NCS has been welcoming students from around the world for the past fifteen years. These students who spend the year with us will forever be a part of our Newcomb family. Traditionally, the students spend time throughout the year talking with peers about their countries, cultures, languages and experiences. Recently, a group of international students met with elementary students to talk about a recent trip to New York City and to share information about their home countries. Our rural school district has brought diversity to the doorstep for our school community!

# In Appreciation of Our Local Veterans

Honoring our local veterans is a tradition that we hold dear to our hearts at NCS. This year we celebrated with a homemade pulled pork luncheon, a vocal performance by the elementary school and a performance by the Fresh Air Drumming Ensemble.





#### **TRIP** Projects



Students in grades seven through twelve have begun participating in their Thesis Research Investigative Project (TRIP) experience. The overall components of process, research, a written paper, a presentation and a creative project will be present this year with different requirements for each grade level. In alignment to the district's mission and the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards, this quality assignment has been an academic tradition at NCS for many years. We are looking forward to the presentation day on Thursday, December 22nd. More details about the culminating TRIP event will be shared out in the near future. Special thanks to the TRIP Committee for their hard work in designing an academically rigorous and unique learning opportunity for our secondary students!



#### Holiday Happenings

We are looking forward to our traditional holiday festivities this year and are pleased to be celebrating them in person. Our winter concert is not to be missed on Thursday, December 16th beginning at 6:00 pm. Our student musicians, led by Ms. Pendell, have been preparing for another spectacular holiday program. Please mark your calendars and join us for this amazing experience! Students and staff members will also enjoy our school-wide sing-a-long on the afternoon of Tuesday, December 22nd.

On behalf of the board of education members, the faculty and staff and the student body, we would like to wish everyone in our school community a happy, healthy and joyful holiday season!

# What is Reading?

PJ Motsiff - Director of Curriculum and Instruction

It's not an easy thing, learning how to read. Our brains are naturally wired to speak, but they are not naturally wired to read and write. We need to be taught how to read. Most children learn to read at about age 5 or 6 and continue developing more sophisticated language and comprehension skills throughout their schooling.

Reading is simply making meaning from print. It requires that we do these three things, all at the same time:

- 1. Identify the words in print a process called decoding and word recognition
- 2. Construct an understanding from words in print a process called comprehension
- 3. Coordinate identifying words and making meaning so that reading is automatic and accurate an achievement called **fluency**

Reading in its fullest sense involves weaving together word recognition and comprehension in a fluent manner. These three processes are very complex, and each is important. What does it take to become a strong reader?



# Understanding what print is and the parts of a book

**Print awareness** is the understanding that print carries meaning and that in English it reads from left to right. It also means learning that books contain letters and words, have front and back covers, and are handled in a certain way.



# Recognizing the sounds in spoken words

**Phonological and phonemic awareness** is the ability to hear, identify, and play with the sounds in spoken language — including rhymes, syllables, and the smallest units of sound (phonemes).



# Connecting the sounds of speech with letters

**Phonics** is a systematic way to teach the alphabetic principle — the idea that letters represent the sounds of spoken language — and that there is a predictable relationship between letters and sounds.



# Reading with accuracy and expression

Fluency is a child's ability to read a book or other text with accuracy, at a reasonable rate, and with appropriate expression. A fluent reader doesn't have to stop and "decode" each word.



#### Knowing what each word means

<u>Vocabulary</u> is word knowledge. Word learning is an ongoing process. Children are always adding to their "word banks" in order to recognize and understand the meaning of spoken and written words.



#### Understanding what you read

<u>Comprehension</u> is the goal of reading! It is the thinking process readers use to understand what they read. Strong vocabulary, background knowledge, and an understanding of how language works are keys to comprehension.

www.readingrockets.org



## School Closing Information

When the decision has been made to delay or close school, a Connect-Ed message will be activated to all school personnel, student homes, and other contacts noted in the school messaging system. The following radio/TV stations and their websites will carry our closings/delays:

The School Closings Network:

The Post Star The Times Union WRGB/WCWN TV WFLY - Fly 92 WTEN/WXXA TV WGY - 810 WGY WRVE - The River WNYT/WNYA TV WYJB - B-95.5 Spectrum Local News

NCPR (North Country Public Radio) WCAX Ch. 3 TV - Vermont WPTZ Ch. 5 (NBC5) TV - Plattsburgh

In the event the Connect-Ed message system is not working properly, you will receive a phone call from a staff member of the school. If you have any changes in phone numbers, please contact the school so we may update our records.

# FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

**Congratulations to Lilian Monroe!** She was selected to represent Newcomb Central School at The HOBY Leadership Conference in June 2023!

# **Congratulations Seniors:**

Abigail Fifield was accepted at SUNY Adirondack Emily Fifield was accepted at SUNY Adirondack, The Culinary Institute of America & Paul Smith's College.

#### **SENIORS:**

All seniors going off to college will need to fill out the <u>FAFSA</u> beginning in OCTOBER. You can apply on-line, which saves a lot of time. Before you can do that <u>you and a parent</u> need to register for a **FSA ID**. To get your **FSA ID** you can go to <u>www.fsaid.ed.gov</u> If your parents or siblings have a PIN, they can "link" their PIN number to their FSA ID. This will aid in transferring your information from PIN to your FSA ID. When you receive your FSA ID number go to <u>www.fafsa.ed.gov</u> to apply for Financial Aid. Financial Aid forms can be filled out beginning in October this year, using last year's tax returns. You should do this right away. Doing them on-line is much faster and easier.

- Please check your application before you send it out. Check spellings, print neatly, and check your grammar!
- Ask at least 2 teachers to write you a letter of recommendation to keep in my office so that I can send them out with your applications.
- *VISIT* the colleges you plan to apply to! You are going to want to be at a place that you like. You won't know that unless you take a tour. This year you may have to take your tour virtually, but it is still important to see the campus where you plan to live.
- I need your updated Transcripts or Resumes so that I can send the college's accurate information. Please list all activities you have done grades 9-12, so that I don't forget anything. Please include any Volunteer Work you have done. Remember, volunteering means you are not receiving money for the work you are doing. Example: Class fundraising is not Volunteer work. You are receiving money for a senior trip for all class fundraising activities.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! Enjoy your vacation! Do something fun for yourself over break. Mrs. Markwica

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### SAT Testing Dates

March 11, 2023 May 6, 2023 June 3, 2023 *Registration Date* February 10, 2023 April 7, 2023 May 4, 2023

#### ACT DATES

June 10, 2023

February 11, 2023 April 15, 2023 *Register By* January 6, 2023 March 10, 2023 May 5, 2023

Newcomb Central School CEEB Code is: 333-330. You will need to know that when you register to take the exams, so that I will receive your test scores.

#### Reminder to parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students

New York State testing will be in April through June. Please make sure your children get plenty of rest before their exams. Also, if you can help it, *please make sure your child does not miss school on the day of an exam.* These exams will be very difficult to make up. Please review the schedule below. Thank you for your support.

3-8 ELA: April 19-26, 2023 3-8 Math: May 2-9, 2023

\*Grade 8 Science Performance Test: May 23-June 2, 2023 Grade 8 Science Written Test: Monday, June 5, 2023

\*These test dates are subject to change. All others will NOT change.



If you have any comments, suggestions, or would like to add an article to the Newsletter, e-mail them to Caryn Draper at cdraper@newcombcsd.org On November 16th, 5 NCS students attended the Student Leadership Conference at The Great Escape Lodge. Chris Bowers was the motivational speaker this year. He uses humor to motivate students. Some of the takeaways from his speech were:

1. Be your own person. Be who you are! Don't worry so much about what others think of you, but what you think about yourself.

2. We all have anxiety, but worry about the things that matter!

3. Don't be a procrastinator. If you think about doing something, do it right then! The longer you put something off, the harder it will be to do it. He used homework as an example. It makes us all feel better when it is done and can check it off our list of things to do.

4. Believe in yourself! We all have weaknesses, but find your strengths and believe in that!

5. Build others up! Encourage those around you to be their best self. Again, we feel better when we are building others up and not tearing them down. When we build others up, we build ourselves up as well.

6. Sometimes things don't work out the way we want them to. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Never suffer in silence and meltdowns don't solve our problems.

7. Don't let someone or something ruin your whole day.

8. In life the more fun you **TRY** to have, the more fun you **WILL** have.



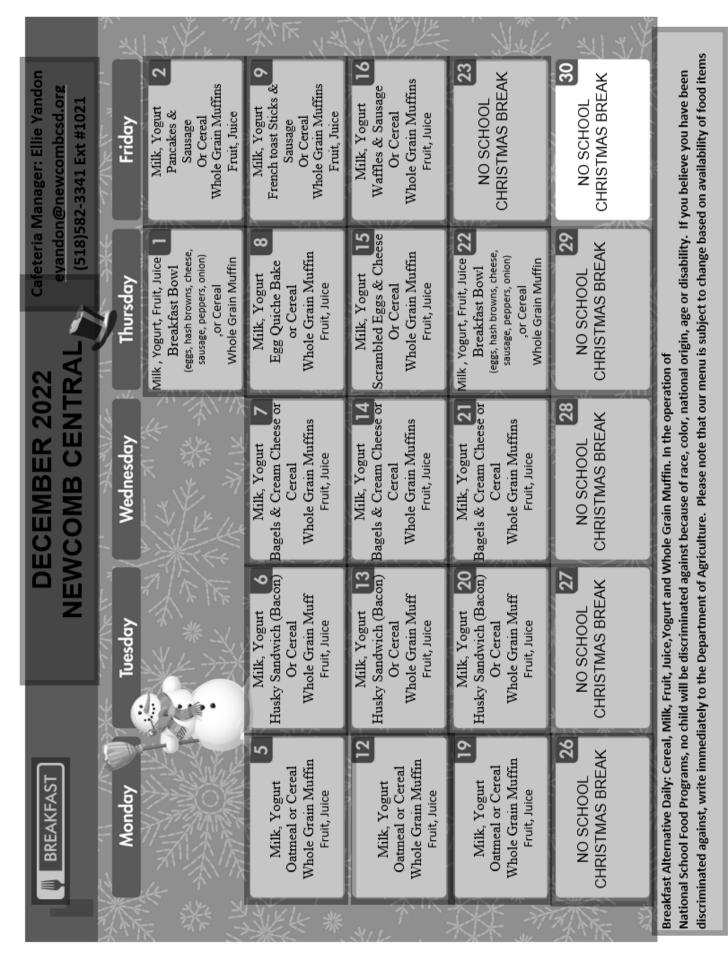


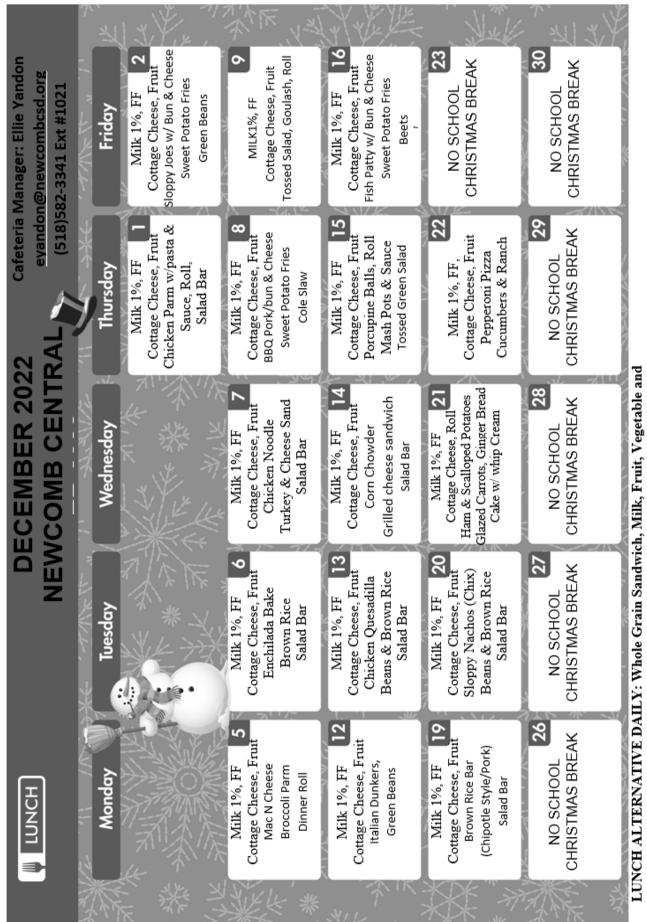
#### Honor Roll 1st Quarter

| High Honor Roll<br>(90 & up)        |
|-------------------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Will Sage           |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Leah Poulin         |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Emma Adams          |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Grace Hlavaty       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Bentley Lamphear    |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Andre Poulin        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Marissa Fifield     |
| 7th Piper Larabee                   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Camden Lamphear     |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Ember Monroe        |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Hope Armstrong      |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Nicholas Pendell    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Rowan Hai          |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Lilian Monroe      |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Marcus Armstrong   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Logan Bush         |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Alice Kunz         |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Daria Atlasova     |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Emily Fifield      |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Lauren Hai         |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Reece Hlavaty      |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Sofia Nicolis      |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Giorgia Rotolo     |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Paola Cano Sagredo |
|                                     |

#### Honor Roll (85-89.9)

- 4<sup>th</sup> Calista DuFour
- 5<sup>th</sup> Vannessa Pendell
- 6<sup>th</sup> Aryanna Marchioni
- 6<sup>th</sup> Serenity Sullivan
- 7<sup>th</sup> Taylor Bush
- 7<sup>th</sup> Olivia Sage
- 9<sup>th</sup> Agniya Zubkova
- 10<sup>th</sup> Sarah Howe
- 12<sup>th</sup> Eric Bush
- 12<sup>th</sup> Abigail Fifield





origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write immediately to the Department of Agriculture. Please note Cheese Stick. In the operation of National School Food Programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national that our menu is subject to change based on availability of food items.

# CLASS NEWS



# CREATEAM

Come join the fun!! Open to students in grades 7-12 In this group, we will build a positive community/team of creators who work together to create a shared meal with an international flare, host a cafe/bakery style social hour, and create holiday inspired arts & crafts that includes a community service project (TBD).

Led by Ms. LaFountain and Mrs. Gagnon, the team will meet on Mondays and wednesdays starting Nov. 14th - December 14th from 3:00 - 4:00.

Students- please add your name and transportation needed on the sign-up sheet on Ms. LaFountain's door each Friday if you are attending! You do not need to attend every session, however, some projects may take 2-3 afternoons to complete.

# POWER HOUR

Students in Grades ~8-12~ Monday thru Thursdays ~ 3:00 - 4:00pm Thru 1-26-23 NCSD Weight Room

Please <u>SIGN UP in the Office</u> for the bus & on the attendance sheet on the weight room door. There is a maximum number of five students at one time.

Research supports regular physical exercise improves grades, attendance, and mood of students. The goal of Power Hour is to instill healthy habits, create positive adult/student relationships, and offer an alternative activity for after school hours. Students will be instructed on proper gym etiquette and rules, including equipment use and cleaning, warming up/stretching, sets and reps, tracking progress, etc.

See Nico Paniccia for more information and/or schedule changes.

# The Van Gogh Immersive Experience

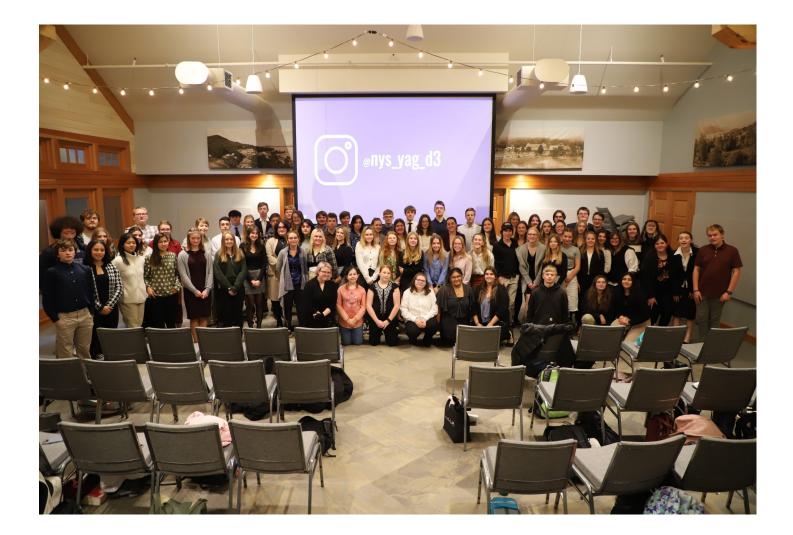


Newcomb's juniors and seniors traveled down to Schenectady to visit the Van Gogh Immersive Experience in early November, accompanied by Ms. LaFountain and Ms. Gagnon. We first entered a room with a large 3-D painting of Van Gogh's Sunflowers, where our guide gave us a sample of blossom tea, a Japanese beverage, that inspired some of his works. Then, we passed a model of the artist's head which gave us an introduction to Van Gogh's works, which we later got to visit and interact with in the next room. After gathering the background information on his work, we traveled inside of it, watching his process, ideas, and muse change on the walls in front of us. Later we made our own pieces with crayon and got to post the work up on the wall. Our last stop in Van Gogh's mind was a virtual reality tour of the areas he used as his muse for the paintings. After we saw a deeper side of the artist we ate at a delicious authentic Mexican restaurant. The food was so good and the energy of the place itself and our group was immaculate. It was a GREAT day!

#### By: Reece Hlavaty

#### NYS Youth and Government

Students attended their first meeting at the Silver Bay YMCA Conference Center. Students began researching and working on their bills in preparation for the NYS Youth and Government conference. The students will go to Albany in March to present and debate bills for the mock legislation program. We also had two students who are participating in the Judicial Program, where they will write arguments defending an assigned case.



# Northeast Music Festival

The Northeast music festival is a select music enrichment event for students in grades 9th-12th. Originated in Burlington, VT by Dr. Herbert Schultz. Previously held in Lake Placid, this festival took place in Lake George on November 17th-20th. The festival allows students from 11 participating schools an opportunity to come together for 3.5 days of rehearsals and perform music in a large concert band setting. We would like to thank our Board of Education and Mrs. Fisher for supporting this important educational event and giving our students an opportunity to experience music performance on a larger scale.

#### Congratulations to Northeast musicians of 2022- Lauren, Hope, Nicholas and Jacob! Happy Holidays!



# Elementary STEAM Class Collaborating With Minerva Students

On November 18, our PreK-2nd graders were joined by 23 very special guests from Minerva Central School. Minerva teachers brought their PreK, Kindergarten, and 1st graders to Newcomb to attend their STEAM class. The room and all the chairs were filled with smiles as we did some science with cranberries. We first made them dance in soda as we danced along with them. Then, we painted with cranberry juice to make our names magically appear on blank paper. Turns out it wasn't magic, just the science of the base of baking soda reacting with the acid and anthocyanin in cranberries. To finish, the kids got to make pictures with the invisible baking soda paint and reveal them with the cranberry juice. It was so fun to have so many busy friends and we look forward to more collaboration.









# **S**PORTS **C**ORNER

# Boys Varsity Soccer 2022

The SL/Newcomb Boys Varsity Soccer team had an amazing and unforgettable season. We had players reach milestones in goals and points and it was so awesome how they celebrated each other's successes. This team is like one big soccer family and shares a bond that some teams never get the chance to do. They were focused, coachable, and put in so much time and effort into being successful. Our goal was to win our Division and play in the Sectional Final game and **WE DID!** 

As a team we scored 115 goals and had 99 assists. We had 3 players from Newcomb on the team and they had a huge impact on the team's success. **Hector Alvarez** played right wing and had 4 goals and 3 assists. He combined speed and aggressiveness to move the ball down the sideline to get in position for a cross or shot on goal. **Eric Bush** played right back defender. He had 1 goal and 2 assists. He not only played the position well but he had the ability to see and make some great passes to get plays going from the back. **Logan Bush** was named the Division MVP this season. He scored 58 goals and had 22 assists. He scored his 100th career goal on 9/28/22 and has a career total of 122 goals and 283 points. He is an incredible soccer player offensively and defensively. He is a strong team leader and one of the most humble soccer players to play the game. There are 7 seniors on the team this year and each one will be greatly missed. Thank you for all your support throughout the season.

It was very much appreciated!

#### ~ Coach Winslow



# Girls Varsity Soccer 2022

Congratulations to **Emily Fifield**, **Lauren Hai** and **Rowan Hai** for a successful soccer season! These ladies worked hard all season long and their team made it to sectionals. Their overall record was 6-4-2.

Thank you Ladies for all of your team spirit and commitment to playing soccer.

Best of luck next year to seniors: Lauren Hai and Emily Fifield! We will miss you on the field!

#### ~ Coach Bush







#### Newcomb/Schroon Lake Modified Boys Team

#### NCS Boys: Kaleb Keller/Camden Lamphear/Jacob Richards/Nicholas Pendell

It was my pleasure coaching and being a part of this year's boys modified soccer team. Coach Lance and myself couldn't be prouder of these boys with the undefeated season we got to experience as a team. As a team we worked together, supported each other, and grew to love the game of soccer, the passion of the boys for bringing 110% to each game was clearly apparent. I want to thank Coach Lance and the Schroon Lake boys for combining with us and making us feel a part of the team. Without them the Newcomb boys wouldn't have been able to play, we hope we can keep this combined teamwork going for years to come! Thank you athletes and parents for making this possible for us!

#### ~Coach Nico

A quick reflection on my 4 Newcomb athletes:

<u>Kaleb (ankle biter) Keller</u> - may be small and quiet but on the field size does not matter to him. He's able to take on any player willing to test his footwork, many times making them look silly by stealing the ball away. I believe he can keep growing into a great soccer player and to keep being himself along the way!

<u>Camden Lamphear</u> - Cam is the team's energizer bunny, can't stop, and won't stop while on the field. We can constantly rely on Camden to give 200% and is my best suggestion maker at practice (like always wanting to run more laps!). Camden aspires to be the best he can be, and I know he can continue to grow as a soccer player and dominate the competition!

<u>Jacob Richards</u> - JR is the talker of the group, always quick to speak his mind and suggest how this or that should happen. He is a terrific defenseman, able to lock down his side of the field and back up teammates when needed. I wish him all the best as he moves up to varsity next year!

<u>Nicholas Pendell</u> - Nick has a flare about his game, able to score and look cool doing it while also making us coaches wonder how it worked at times. He has great speed and is always a threat when on the field. Keep up the good work as you make the move up to varsity next year!

# Newcomb/Schroon Lake Girls Modified Soccer Team



The Newcomb/Schroon Lake girls modified soccer team had a fantastic season, going undefeated this fall! The team was led by Newcomb captain Hope Armstrong, who, along with defender Katlin Fifield and goalkeeper Piper Larabee, provided a strong anchor for the team. Piper also led the Newcomb girls in goals scored, joined by forward Marissa Fifield, who was fearless on attack. The tireless midfield of Taylor Bush and Olivia Sage helped both offense and defense, while Kendall Boisvert, injured much of the season, provided tremendous support and energy both on and off the field.

#### **Go Huskies!**

| DECEMBER BASKETBALL GAME SCHEDULE | Friday        | 2. | 9. BV Game @<br>Minerva<br>vs J-burg/Minerva<br>6:30pm start | 16.BV Game @ Wells<br>vs Wells 6:30pm start<br>GM Game @ Newcomb<br>vs Wells 5:00pm start | 23.  | 30. |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----|--|---|--|-----|
|                                   | Thursday      | 1  | 8. GM Game @<br>Newcomb<br>vs J-Burg/Minerva<br>5:00pm start | 15.   | 22.  | 29. |
|                                   | Wednesday     |    | 7.   | 14. BV Game @<br>Newcomb<br>vs IL/LL<br>6:30pm start                                      | 21.BV Game @ Crown<br>Point vs Crown Point<br>6:30pm start | 28. |
|                                   | Tuesday       |    | 6.   | 13.   | 20.GM Game @<br>Newcomb vs Crown<br>Point 5:00pm start     | 27. |
|                                   | <u>Monday</u> |    | 5.   | 12. GM Game @ LL<br>5:00pm start  | 19.  | 26. |

Scheduled dates/times are subject to change

#### Refreshments will be sold at Home Basketball Games this year!







#### Hot Dogs, chips, candy, drinks

Sponsored by the NCS Class of 2024

#### GO Huskies!

#### **REMINDER**

NHS Volleyball Tournament Saturday December 3rd 2-6pm ALL ARE WELCOME To play or watch!

# **Calling All Adults**

Who Wants To Play Pickle Ball? No Experience or Equipment required Come out on Monday Nights 6:30-8:30pm Starting December 5<sup>th</sup>. We Will Meet In The School Gym

# From the Health Office



# PLEASE BE MINDFUL WHEN SENDING FOOD TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR STUDENT

The following NCS policies are in effect:

- All students will NOT be allowed to eat peanuts/nuts (or items containing them) in any school environment or vehicle.
- Homemade baked goods/foods will NOT be allowed in school.
- Please read the food labels on packaged items your own child may bring to school to ensure no peanuts, tree nuts, peanut butter or peanut oil is among the ingredients.
- While reading food labels, please be mindful of any statements that indicate that the food item was produced or processed in a building/on equipment where peanuts or tree nuts are also produced/processed, or statements such as "item may contain trace nuts." Labels stating this will NOT be allowed in school.
- If the package does not clearly state "packaged in a facility WITHOUT nuts" the ingredients must be labeled and read to guarantee no nuts/nut products are contained.

While many allergic reactions can be mild, most children with peanut and other nut allergies experience serious symptoms after eating, touching or smelling peanuts or any nut products (especially peanut butter). Please take time to read the labels on any food that you purchase for your child to bring to school.

# UPCOMING IN THE **D**ISTRICT

#### December 2022

- 3 NHS Volleyball Tournament 2-6pm7 BOE Meeting @ 6pm
- 15 NCS Christmas Concert @ 6pm
- 16 2nd Mid Marking Period
- 23-30 Holiday Recess No School

#### January 2023

- 2 New Years Day No School3 Classes Resume
- 12 BOE Meeting @ 6pm
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday No School
- 27 End Of The 2nd Marking Period

NEWCOMB CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT P.O. Box 418 5535 State Route 28N NEWCOMB, NY 12852

Phone: 518-582-3341 Fax: 518-582-2163 www.newcombcsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT CHRISTIAN M. FISHER

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