



# LINK TO HOME

Week of December 25, 2023 – January 5, 2024



### This Week

Tuesday, December 26	Cheerleading Practice, Penn, 9:30 – 11:30 am
Wednesday, December 27	Boys’ Basketball Team Practice, Penn, 9 -11 am
Wednesday, December 27	Girls’ Basketball Team Practice, Penn, 11 am- 1 pm
Wednesday, December 27	Cheerleading Practice, Penn 9:30 – 11:30 am
Thursday, December 28	Boys’ Basketball Team Practice, Penn, 9 -11 am
Thursday, December 28	Girls’ Basketball Team Practice, Penn, 11 am- 1 pm

### Important Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, January 2	<b>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS;</b> Professional Development for Staff, 8 am
Wednesday, January 3	<b>SCHOOL REOPENS FOR STUDENTS</b>
Monday, January 9	Basketball Games v. Great Oaks CS, 240 14 <sup>th</sup> St., Newark, girls at 5 pm and boys at 6 pm
Tuesday, January 9	Link Parent Association Meeting, virtual, 6:30 pm
Wednesday, January 10	EARLY DISMISSAL FOR STUDENTS, Instructional Planning and Professional Development for staff, 1:15 pm
Wednesday, January 10	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girl’s Lunch Group, 12:45 – 2:15 pm

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL, Hannah M. Kennedy, M.Ed

Dear Link Community Charter School Family,

As we approach the end of 2023, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey we've shared together this school year. It has been a time filled with growth, achievements, and moments of resilience that truly exemplify the spirit of our school community.



As we prepare to embark on a well-deserved winter break, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you—students, parents, teachers, staff, and all our supporters—for your unwavering commitment to excellence and your dedication to fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment.

Our students continue to amaze us with their creativity, curiosity, and enthusiasm for learning. Your hard work and determination have made Link Community Charter School a place of inspiration and academic achievement. Parents, thank you for your ongoing partnership in the education of your children. Your support is invaluable, and it truly makes a difference in their success.

To our exceptional teaching and administrative staff, your passion for education and tireless efforts do not go unnoticed. Your commitment to nurturing the potential within each student has laid the foundation for a thriving learning community.

As we gather with family and friends during this holiday season, may the warmth of togetherness and the joy of shared moments fill your hearts with happiness. Take this time to rest, rejuvenate, and create lasting memories that will carry

us into the new year with renewed energy and optimism.

Looking ahead to 2024, I am excited about the possibilities and opportunities that await us. Together, we will continue to build on our successes and face new challenges with determination and resilience. Link Community Charter School is a place where dreams are nurtured, and I am confident that the coming year will bring even more accomplishments and growth for us all.

On behalf of the entire Link Community Charter School family, I wish you a festive holiday season and a Happy New Year! May it be filled with love, laughter, and the joy of shared moments.

Warmest regards,  
Hannah M. Kennedy, M.Ed

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### WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE FOR AFTERCARE PROGRAM AT THE BGC

Here is the schedule for after care at the Boys and Girls club for the winter break and into the new year:

- Friday, December 22nd through Tuesday, January 2nd - CLOSED
- Wednesday, January 3rd - Reopens for aftercare
- January 15th and January 29th - CLOSED for holiday and staff development



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF NEWARK**  
**After School Program**

### ATTENTION: PARENTS OF 5<sup>TH</sup> AND 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCHOLARS

After winter break 5th and 6th grade will be transitioning to Deanslist for behavior management. We will no longer use Class Dojo because the platform does not give us the same wide range of data as DeansList does. You will receive the necessary information in order to login to the platform as we transition.



### WINTER BREAK ASSIGNMENTS

Check with your child to see if their teachers have provided work to be completed over the Winter Break. The purpose of work over the break is to sustain skills and keep scholars engaged in the learning process. The assignments aren't a heavy lift and might even be fun! Students either have hardcopies of the assignments or they are posted on Google Classroom. Some teachers' assignments are posted on the parent page of Link's website.



**WINTER  
BREAK**  
Assignments

### IXL COMPETITION RESULTS

Congratulations to the winners of the IXL Competition this month! Winners will receive gift cards through their Link email accounts over the winter break!



5th Grade ELA:  
Christian Joseph  
Amanda Eluaga  
Ny'Aad Scovil

5th Grade Math:  
Amanda Eluaga  
Shanaya Atrobus

6th Grade ELA:  
Soraya Joines

6th Grade Math:  
Rebecca Joseph  
Aalaya Dixon-Baldwin

7th Grade ELA:  
Elizabeth Ojo  
Nafissatou Manneh  
Micah Smith

7th Grade Math:  
Deja Claudin  
Delilah Lovell  
Diane Lovell

8th Grade ELA:  
Tehya Gonzalez  
Zamir Black  
Qua'Dir Dumeus

8th Grade Math:  
Zamir Black  
Qua'Dir Dumeus  
Tehya Gonzalez

### LINK IS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR!

Don't forget to enroll your child's sibling at Link as soon as possible. If you have a child to enroll, click here: <https://linkschool.org/enrollment/application-process/>. (You do not have to re-enroll current Link students, but you do need to enroll siblings who are not currently attending Link.) While siblings have preference in the system, you will want to get them in for the first lottery to make sure they get a seat! Please encourage friends and neighbors to enroll at Link too!



### SAVE THE DATE: 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE PARENT MEETING - Thursday, January 18 – 6 pm, 23 Penn

Put this date on your calendars now, as it is expected that ALL PARENTS (not students) attend. The meeting will review expectations for the remainder of the school year and outline all of the special year-end events planned for scholars, including the class trip, dance, and graduation. You will receive a letter and email about this important meeting. Please plan on attending so that your child may participate in the end of year events.



### OPPORTUNITY FOR LINK'S 7<sup>th</sup> GRADERS!

SEEDS Scholars Program is a prestigious (and FREE!) access program that can help bright, motivated scholars gain acceptance into the best independent day and/or boarding schools, with full financial aid & scholarships! If you are still interested in applying for the SEEDS Scholars Program, please spend time this week submitting the Inquiry Form, and begin working through the application. Deadlines (especially the Early Decision Deadline) are rapidly approaching, and it is important that your teachers and Mr. Silver have plenty of time to complete detailed and supportive Recommendations, if you are to be considered for acceptance into the SEEDS Scholars Program. If you'd like to be considered for the "Early Decision" deadline (January 19, 2024), Recommendation Requests must be received by Mr. Silver (Principal/Guidance Counselor Recommendation) and your child's ELA & Math teachers NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 22! The "Regular Decision" deadline is March 1, 2024, for all Recommendation Requests received by February 15, 2024. Below is a list of important information and helpful links so you have the steps you need in order to work through the SEEDS Scholars Program application...



- NJ Seeds website: <https://seedsaccess.org/>
- Overview of the SEEDS Scholars Program (for current 7<sup>th</sup> graders): [https://seedsaccess.org/scholars\\_program\\_overview/](https://seedsaccess.org/scholars_program_overview/)
- Family eligibility: <https://seedsaccess.org/eligibility/>
- How to apply: [https://seedsaccess.org/scholars\\_how\\_to\\_apply/](https://seedsaccess.org/scholars_how_to_apply/)
- FAQs: [https://seedsaccess.org/scholars\\_program\\_faq/](https://seedsaccess.org/scholars_program_faq/)
- Feel free to contact Mr. Silver at [gsilver@linkschool.org](mailto:gsilver@linkschool.org) if you have any questions about the SEEDS Scholars Program.

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## HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### Applications for Newark Charter Schools

Be sure to complete your applications to any of the FIVE Newark Charter High Schools! The application window is open NOW and will close on March 10, 2024. Be sure to complete the application on [www.newarkcommonapp.org](http://www.newarkcommonapp.org) if you'd like to apply to the following charter high schools. (Note: all Newark charter high schools are FREE, and are open for all 8th grade



students to apply to, regardless of residency.)

- Gateway Academy (formerly People's Prep)
- Great Oaks Legacy
- KIPP (Newark Collegiate Academy or Newark Lab School)
- Marion P. Thomas Charter High School of Culinary & Performing Arts
- North Star Academy (Lincoln Park campus or Washington Park campus)

Once you've completed the application, please send Mr. Silver an update, so he can help you manage all your high school application processes. You are welcome to edit, change, re-order, and redo your [www.newarkcommonapp.org](http://www.newarkcommonapp.org) application as much as you'd like to, up until the March 10th deadline.

Applications for Newark Magnet & Specialized High Schools (Newark Residents ONLY)

- American History High School
- Arts High School
- Bard High School Early College
- Science Park High School
- Technology High School
- University High School
- Newark School of Data Science & Info Technology
- Newark School of Fashion & Design
- Newark School of Global Studies
- Newark Vocational High School
- Eagle Academy for Young Men
- (or any regular/comprehensive Newark Public High School)



To apply to these schools listed above, please create an account on [www.newarkenrolls.org](http://www.newarkenrolls.org). Please share your login credentials with Mr. Silver, so he can help you manage your "Newark Enrolls" account.

You can select UP TO EIGHT Newark Public Magnet and/or Specialized Schools (listed above) on your "Newark Enrolls" application.

The application window is open until February 2, 2024 (MR. SILVER'S DEADLINE WILL BE JANUARY 20, SO WE CAN FIX ANY ISSUES BEFORE THE WEBSITE LOCKS APPLICATIONS). Between now and the end of January, you will have the opportunity to create, edit, change, etc. your list of Newark Enrolls schools. There is no rush to submit it. The most important thing to remember is for us to work together to ensure that the application is completed ACCURATELY and with ATTENTION TO DETAIL. Mr. Silver can help you with all the document uploads, proofreading, school list creation, etc.

There is a mandatory Newark Magnet and Specialized High School Entrance Exam on February 10, 2024 (make-up date February 17, 2024). Details TBA.

Most of the high schools you will select have "supplemental application" steps. We have listed those specific details and links below. It is mandatory that you/your child completes the basic "newark enrolls" application, as well as the required steps listed below for each school you decide to apply to.

**AMERICAN HISTORY HIGH SCHOOL-**

Register for the assessment here:

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/HIS/admissions/>

**ARTS HIGH SCHOOL-**

Sign-up for your Audition(s) here:

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/ART/admissions-and-recruiting/audition-requirements/>

***BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE-***

Click the link, then click on "Bard Application" to get to the Google Form questions:

<https://bhsec.bard.edu/newark/admissions/howtoapply/>

***SCIENCE PARK HIGH SCHOOL-***

No additional steps required, other than the exam.

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/SCI/our-school/admissions/>

***TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL-***

No additional steps required, other than the exam.

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/tec/admission-criteria/>

***UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL-***

No additional steps required, other than the exam.

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/uni/admissions/>

***NEWARK SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE & INFO TECH-***

Complete supplemental application steps here:

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/data-science/our-school/admissions/>

***NEWARK SCHOOL OF FASHION & DESIGN-***

Complete AUDITION & PORTFOLIO requirements here:

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/fashion-design/admissions/>

***NEWARK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES-***

Complete DEMONSTRATION & INTERVIEW requirements here:

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/global/admissions/>

***NEWARK VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL-***

Complete supplemental application steps here to apply for your preferred Career Technical Education (CTE) Program (Culinary Arts, Hospitality/Tourism, Graphic Arts/Print Production)

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/nwv/admissions/>

***EAGLE ACADEMY FOR YOUNG MEN-***

Complete supplemental application steps here:

<https://www.eaglenewark.com/how-to-apply.html>

As always, feel free to contact Mr. Silver if you have any questions or concerns about the high school placement process.

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### IN THE CLASSROOMS

#### SECOND GRADE TEAM VISITS MIGHTY WRITERS

Last week Team Bridges walked over to Mighty Writers for assistance with their writing and to hear a story.



## K-2 WELCOMES THE HOLIDAYS!

This week the Lower House hosted their 2nd musical showcase of the year in celebration of the winter holiday season. A huge shout out to Ms. Cheyenne and Mr. Pablo, music teaching artists from our partner organization, Newark School of the Arts, for preparing students for a festive tribute to the many beautiful and rich winter holidays. K-2 students sang songs, in front of an audience of teachers and parents, of celebration and joy to remind us to stop for a moment during this busy season and take some time to listen and notice the beauty and promise of the winter season ahead.



## DECEMBER ART

[Click here for the Fine arts Department's December newsletter showing Link student work.](#)

**PMFAN - Panthers Monthly Fine Arts Newsletter**

The best moment of 2023 was joining this wonderful school community. Thank you LCCS for inspiring me to take creative risks. Sometimes the best lessons are learned through making mistakes. Approaching challenges with a solution-oriented mindset has definitely helped me become more comfortable with making mistakes when taking creative risks. I cannot wait to continue creating with you in 2024, with the goal of further developing a healthy art process! See you next year!  
-Ms. Mifsud :)

**December 2023**  
**Artist Spotlight**

**1** Winter Landscape by Kayla (grade 5)

Joshua is a 7th grader who has been on point in art class! To complete this winter landscape project, students were encouraged to create a small drawing to cut and paste into the foreground. Bravo, Joshua!