



## LINK TO HOME

Week of September 25, 2023

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### This Week

Wednesday, September 27 Student Picture Day with Lifetouch, 23 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Wednesday, September 27 REGULAR DISMISSAL DAY  
Thursday, September 28 Student Picture Day with Lifetouch, 230 Halsey Street

### Important Upcoming Dates

Week of October 2 Week of Respect  
Monday, October 2 National Custodians' Day  
Wednesday, October 4 EARLY DISMISSAL DAY for Students; Staff Instructional Planning and Professional Development, 1:15 pm  
Monday, October 9 School Closed: Indigenous Peoples Day

**CALENDAR CHANGES APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD, 09.18.23:** On the days before the long school breaks (November 22, December 21, and March 28), school will be dismissed as follows: 230 Halsey St (7-8) at 12 noon and 23 Pennsylvania Ave (K-6) at 12:15 pm. No aftercare on these days. Please note this on your calendars.

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### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Celebrating a Super Start to the School Year!

Dear Link Families,

I hope this message finds you all in great spirits! I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming turnout at our Back to School Night and the Back to School BBQ. Your presence made both events incredibly special, and it was fantastic to see our Super Link community come together in such a vibrant and energetic way.



At Link Community Charter School, we believe in the power of collaboration between the school and our amazing families. The connection between the school and our families is a key ingredient in the recipe for student success. Your active involvement in your child's education creates an environment where they can flourish and thrive. Whether it's volunteering in the classroom, participating in Link Parent Association events, or simply engaging in meaningful conversations with your child about their school day, your support makes all the difference.

Thank you once again for your presence and your commitment to the Super Linker Unleashed spirit. Together, we can achieve incredible heights and ensure that our students soar to success.

With immense gratitude and enthusiasm,

Hannah Marie Kennedy

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## REMINDERS

- Please complete the **Federal Lunch Program Applications** so Link can submit the forms for reimbursement from the state. And, even if your child doesn't eat the school meals, it is important that you complete the form. [CLICK HERE](#) for the forms. (Scroll down the page to locate them.)
  - Please send in your **proof of residency and re-registration packets** if you have not yet done so.
  - **If your child will be absent for any reason**, please contact Ms. Brooks at 973.642.0529 or send an email to [absent@linkschool.org](mailto:absent@linkschool.org) by 8:30 am on the morning of the absence.
  - For parents of students participating in **Girls on the Run**: The next date is Tuesday, September 26, 3:15-5:15 pm. Please pick up your daughter at 230 Halsey Street (the Halsey Street side) promptly at 5:15 pm.
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## LINK CHROMEBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Link provides each student with an individual Chromebook to be used at school for school work. Distribution is beginning now, one grade level at a time.

Chromebooks are an essential component of our instructional program and a wonderful tool for learning. These Chromebooks are the property of Link Community Charter School and scholars must handle them with care and meet all Core Values and technology expectations in using them. Please note each student is responsible for paying a technology fee of \$25.00 for the 2023-24 school year and for reading and signing the Acceptable Use Form.



A little later in the fall, we will make Chromebooks available for home use to those families who would like to have them as a tool for homework and independent learning. Anyone receiving a Link Chromebook for home use will be required to pay an additional technology fee of \$25.00.

The use of any Link technology, whether in or outside the school building, both Chromebook and the school's email platform, are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Link's Disciplinary Rubric. Additionally, any online activity outside the school building that impacts the school environment will also be subject to the rubric. Any willful misuse, destruction, or misplacement of a Link Chromebook or other technology tools may lead to additional consequences.

Link provides the tools for your child's success. We encourage you to discuss the importance of maintaining the Chromebook in excellent condition and using it for the right purposes with your child.

**PLEASE PAY THE TECHNOLOGY FEE PROMPTLY. SEND THE MONEY TO SCHOOL AND THE ACCEPTABLE USE FORM (THAT YOUR STUDENT WILL BRING HOME) IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "TECHNOLOGY FEE" OR CLICK HERE [TO PAY ONLINE](#).** Please contact the school's Main Office at 973.642.0529 you have any questions.

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## FROM THE LINK PARENT ASSOCIATION:

The Link Parent Association (LPA) is excited for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. This will be our second year fully functional since 2019. We welcome all new families to the Link community and we look forward to reconnecting with all returning families. We are looking to build on our momentum from last year. We have been brainstorming all summer on various fun and enriching events to host throughout the year to support the education of our children while increasing parent engagement. Nevertheless, we know that our community of families have a wealth of brilliant ideas as well, so we want to hear from you!



We will host our first in-person meeting Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:30pm at 23 Pennsylvania Avenue.

If you have any questions, comments, feedback or concerns, feel free to reach us at [linklpa@linkschool.org](mailto:linklpa@linkschool.org). Feel free to visit our LPA webpage at <https://linkschool.org/link-parent-association-lpa-2/> for additional information.

Also, please consider joining the LPA. Membership dues are \$10.00 [Click here to join](#). Or there is a form you can complete and send in to school with your dues payment at the end of this newsletter.

**BUYER BEWARE: UNOFFICIAL LINK UNIFORMS**

We understand that some parents have purchased from a vendor who is not offering the correct Link uniform. The official Link uniform is sold only through Flynn O'Hara and Link expects your child to wear that uniform. Garments that are not included in the dress code that we have seen from the unauthorized vendor such as magenta sweaters, vests, plaid skirts, etc. are not acceptable. Also not acceptable are garments that do not have the appropriate logo or are produced in the wrong colors/patterns. Here a list of the APPROPRIATE UNIFORM PIECES ONLY AVAILABLE THROUGH Flynn O'Hara. (you do not have to purchase, belts, shoes, and socks through them.) If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dean Brown at [dbrown@linkschool.org](mailto:dbrown@linkschool.org). You can also leave a message for her on the Main Office phone – 973.642.0529.

UNIFORM TYPE	GRADES	UNIFORM DETAIL
<b>REGULAR UNIFORM</b> To be worn on days when student does not have Physical Education class	Grades 5 - 8	<b>Required items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid gray slacks * with belt loops and a plain black belt</li> <li>• Gray and red striped skirt</li> <li>• Grey polo shirt with Link logo, short or long sleeved</li> <li>• Solid black or white socks with slacks or skirt; solid black or white socks with skirt or solid grey or black tights with skirt are also acceptable</li> <li>• Solid black shoes (that are close-toed and have backs; no boots, crocs, slides, or sandals) <b>OR</b> sneakers that are solid black, solid white, or black and white** with same color laces</li> <li>• Gray cardigan sweater with school logo or crew neck sweatshirt with school logo***</li> </ul> <b>Optional items:</b> Grey walking shorts with a plain black belt; grey skort; grey fleece with school logo
	Kindergarten-Grade 2	<b>Required items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid gray slacks * with belt loops and a plain black belt</li> <li>• Gray and red striped jumper or gray and red striped skirt</li> <li>• Cardinal red polo shirt with Link logo, short or long sleeved</li> <li>• Solid black or white socks with slacks, jumper, or skirt; solid black or white socks with skirt or solid grey or black tights with jumper or skirt are also acceptable</li> <li>• Solid black shoes (that are close-toed and have backs; no boots, crocs, slides, or sandals) <b>OR</b> sneakers that are solid black, solid white, or black and white** with same color laces</li> <li>• Gray cardigan sweater with school logo or crew neck sweatshirt with school logo***</li> </ul> <b>Optional items:</b> Grey walking shorts with a plain black belt; grey skort; grey fleece with school logo
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM</b> To be worn <u>ONLY</u> on days student has Physical Education Class	Kindergarten – Grade 8	<b>Required items:</b> Gray tee shirt with school logo Burgundy mesh shorts or sweatpants Solid black or white socks Solid black, white, or black and white sneakers with same color laces** <b>Optional item:</b> Link crew neck sweatshirt***

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## Health and Wellness Corner

### NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

September is Suicide Prevention Month — a time to raise awareness and discuss this highly stigmatized topic. In addition to shifting public perception, we use this month to spread hope and vital information to people affected by suicide. Our goal is ensuring that individuals, friends, and families have access to the resources they need to discuss suicide prevention and to seek help.

Youth and young adults between the ages of 10-24 account for 15% of all suicides. However, suicide is the second leading cause of death for this age group.

If you know someone who is at immediate risk of suicide, call 911 right away. It can be difficult when someone you know expresses thoughts about suicide, but you can show support by doing the following:

- **Talk.** Your willingness to express your concern for the person in crisis can be the first step in getting that person help.
- **Listen.** Being an active listener is another way of reminding a person in crisis that they are not alone.
- **Remain Present.** Your physical and emotional presence in the person's life makes a difference. If you are worried about their safety, get help from a mental health professional immediately.
- **Call or text 988.** Last year, 988 was activated as a new three-digit dialing code. When someone dials 988, they will be connected to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. This confidential support line is available 24 hours a day to provide free help to people in suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress.
- 2NDFLOOR is a confidential and anonymous helpline for New Jersey's youth and young adults. They are there to help youth and young adults find solutions to the problems that they face at home, at school or at play. 2NDFLOOR is available 24/7. You can call or text 888-222-2228.

Here are additional resources:

[Suicide Prevention | Suicide | CDC](#)

[Suicide Prevention Month | SAMHSA](#)

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### LINK'S WEBSITE IS A RESOURCE FOR YOU

Link's website is a valuable resource for our parents. Along with the school calendar that you can access from the home page, it includes a Parent Page with a wealth of information for you. To access the Parent page, go to the website, <http://www.linkschool.org> and scroll down about halfway. Under "Connection," click on the Parents button.



On the Parent Page you will find information including the dress code and uniform purchase information, school meals program and menus, portals to PowerSchool and Deanslist, copies of the parent newsletter, important forms for downloading, and much more.

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### HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

The High School Placement process is in full swing for our 8th grade students and families! **If you have not yet scheduled your High School Placement (HSP) Conference with Mr. Silver, please be sure to contact him at [gsilver@linkschool.org](mailto:gsilver@linkschool.org).** During the conference, families will learn about all the exemplary high school options, application steps, entrance exam details, financial aid/scholarship information, and much

more! The conference can be conducted in-person in Mr. Silver's office/classroom, or via Zoom, whichever works best for the families. The conference typically lasts 30-45 minutes.

In the meantime, it is important that students and parents/guardians begin to learn more about some of the high schools to which students might be applying! **The best way to learn about specific high school academic programs, extra-curricular opportunities, (arts, athletics, leadership programs), admissions procedures, and overall school culture is to VISIT HIGH SCHOOLS THIS FALL!** Many schools offer Open House programs in the evenings and/or on weekends. See below for some links to various high schools' open house schedules and other prospective new family events. Don't forget to RSVP/register for any open house events that you plan to attend, as many programs fill to capacity weeks before the event takes place. As always, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Silver at [gsilver@linkschool.org](mailto:gsilver@linkschool.org) if you have any questions or if you need guidance throughout this process.

### OPEN HOUSE DATES FOR NEWARK PUBLIC MAGNET SCHOOLS

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/open-houses/>

(American History High, Arts High, Bard High School Early College, Science Park High, Technology High, University High, Newark School of Data Science & Information Technology, Newark School of Fashion & Design, Newark School of Global Studies, Newark Vocational High School, Eagle Academy For Young Men)

### OPEN HOUSE DATES FOR ESSEX COUNTY SCHOOLS OF TECHNOLOGY (Payne Tech, Newark Tech, West Caldwell Tech)

<https://www.essextech.org/admissions-welcome/>

Note: Open House dates & other admissions dates have NOT been announced yet!

### OPEN HOUSE DATES FOR LOCAL CATHOLIC/PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

(RSVP by clicking links below and following prompts.)

St. Benedict's Prep: <https://www.sbp.org/admissions/open-house>

St. Vincent Academy: <https://www.svanj.org/open-house-schedule>

Immaculate Conception of Montclair: <https://ichspride.org/visit>

**FOR INFORMATION ON INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOLS, INDEPENDENT BOARDING SCHOOLS, AND OTHER PUBLIC MAGNET, CHARTER, AND/OR VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, PLEASE CONTACT MR. SILVER.**



## IN THE CLASSROOMS

### LINK ART TEACHER SHARES MONTHLY ART NEWSLETTER

Ms. Mifsud, Link's art teacher, will share a newsletter with families during the third week of every month. The Panthers Monthly Fine arts Newsletter (PMFAM) is filled with updates on current art room happenings, schoolwide events, local art exhibits, Artsonia info, and more! [Click here to see this month's issue of PMFAM!](#)

Artsonia is an online art portfolio site. You can log in and register your child(ren) so they can upload their art into a portfolio that will remain on the site. This is a good way to preserve your child's art projects and have a portfolio





ready if they should choose to go to Arts High or Art College later in life. The site is free and is private (never uses full student names) and only you and your child can access their art. Additionally Artsonia has occasional art contests that can benefit the students and the school. Ms. Mifsud encourages parents to log in for their children! (Use the QR code in this month's issue to log in!) She has also included a survey on art for parents and requests that you complete it. (There is also a QR code in the issue to access the survey.) If you would like to know more, contact Ms. Mifsud at [rmifsud@linkschool.org](mailto:rmifsud@linkschool.org).



IN AND AROUND NEWARK

**Junta JCC Cívica Cultural**

La Junta Cívica Cultural  
Les invita a la

# Celebración DE LA HERENCIA HISPANA

7 DE OCTUBRE  
12 - 4PM

**RAFAEL HERNANDEZ SCHOOL**  
345 Broadway  
Ave, Newark, NJ  
Estacionamiento Detrás del edificio

**GRATIS PARA LA COMUNIDAD**

*Habrán platos típicos para saborear*

*Habrán danzas culturales*

*Habrán pabellones de diferentes países*

**ROBERTO CLEMENTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**RHS SHARKS**



# FREE NEW COAT **GIVEAWAY** GRADES K-8 ONLY

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!

**REGISTRATION EXTENDED UNTIL SUNDAY, 9/24!**

## WHAT IS CHOP4CHANGE?

Chop4Change is a program of Rutgers Football including giving back to communities in various platforms as a committed priority for Rutgers Football.



**#CHOP4CHANGE**

**RUTGERS**

UNIVERSITY | NEWARK  
Center for PreCollege Programs



## THE COAT GIVEAWAY

The annual Coat Giveaway is a service give back for the Rutgers Football Team. This year, in partnership with Rutgers University Newark Center for PreCollege Programs. **The coat giveaway will provide K-8th Grade Students who reside in the city of Newark with FREE NEW coats.**



Registration Deadline:

SIGN UP

**Sunday, September 24, 2023**





## LINK PARENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is **\$10.00 and includes** a Link car magnet!

Membership dues are the seed money to get the year's LPA program started, so please sign up today!

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S TEAM: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fee of \$10.00 enclosed: Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_

Zelle Payments: [linklpa@linkschool.org](mailto:linklpa@linkschool.org)

Car Magnets: I would like to purchase additional car magnets at \$5 each.

Number of magnets \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_