



# LINK TO HOME

## Week of March 4, 2024

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### This Week

Wednesday, March 6	<b>EARLY DISMISSAL</b> for students; Instructional Planning and Professional Development for staff, 1:15 pm
Wednesday, March 6	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Mentoring Group, 12:45 – 2:25pm, Halsey
Thursday, March 7	Open House for Prospective Families (see below)
Saturday, March 9	Open house for Prospective Families (see below)

### Important Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, March 12	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Photo to be Taken, Halsey
Tuesday, March 12	Link Parent Association Meeting, 6:30 pm, in-person at Penn
Wednesday, March 13	<b>REGULAR DISMISSAL DAY</b>

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### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are noticing many of our scholars, at all ages, using inappropriate language, including profanity, with one another and with staff. We know that society has normalized the usage of this language through social media, television, movies, and music. Children mimic what they see and hear so they need our guidance. Please help us by talking with your children about the language they use and the Core Values at Link. Consider what they are watching and listening. Provide opportunities for positive and uplifting words at all times. Consider shutting down access to Tick Tock, Utube, and other platforms. Together, we can nurture our scholars so they are the best version of themselves, ready to lead and serve our communities with dignity and respect.



### ENROLLING YOUR YOUNGER CHILDREN AT LINK FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

The Newark Common App lottery, which Link participates in, will hold their lottery on March 11th. If your child has younger siblings that you would like to enroll at Link next year, apply through Link's website or the Newark Common App site by the 11th. Siblings receive priority, but you still need to apply. Select Link as your top choice. ( Link does not accept applications directly or in person since we're part of the Newark Common App program.) Do it now if you haven't already!



### HELP LINK RECRUITMENT STUDENTS FOR '24-25

Please spread the word about Link to your friends and families and urge them to apply before March 11. They can do so through the Link website, which connects them to the Newark Common App site. We seek students in all grades, especially kindergarten, first, and fifth. To enter kindergarten, children must be five years old before October 1.



**Note:** Link has a referral program. If you refer a family to Link and the child enrolls and remains at the school, in October, you will receive the choice of a \$30 cash card or gift card to Flynn O'Hara. Stay tuned for instructions on how this program will work in next week's parent newsletter.

## OPEN HOUSE FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES

Link will hold open houses to introduce the school to prospective families on Thursday, March 7, from 5-6:30 pm and Saturday, March 9, from 10 – 11:30 am at 23 Pennsylvania Avenue. Students and staff will be on hand to talk about what Link offers and to give people a tour of the Penn campus. And, we'll be serving refreshments. Encourage people you know with children ready for kindergarten..and older...to attend!



## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GRADUATION PHOTOS: MARCH 12

A professional photographer will be on site on March 12 to take graduation photos. A flyer was sent home last week. Photos of the students in a gown and with a cap will be taken. We strongly suggest your child bring a white blouse or button-down shirt to wear under the gown. Also, this year, you can have your child photographed in an outfit of your choosing. This would be a separate package from the cap and gown one. (it's a separate package they would need to purchase). Photo packages can be paid for by cash or money order, which students bring to school on the 12th to hand to the photographer with their order form was sent home last week. Questions about payment should be addressed to the vendor at (908) 499-9877.



## IN THE CLASSROOM

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS!

Students at all grade levels participated in extraordinary showcase events at the end of Black History Month. Each of the Lower House (kindergarten, grade 1, and grade 2) presented to their parents and the 5th and 6th graders. The highlight of the kindergarten program was their recitation of "The ABCs of Black History." The first grade, Teams Bridges and King focused their program on the two heroes, Ruby Bridges and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., after whom their teams were named. They recited poems and performed plays about each person. Students in both programs sang "What a Wonderful World" (by B. Thiel and G. Weiss) as Louis Armstrong originally recorded it. Second graders created a "Black History Wax Museum" for their presentation. Each student researched a famous Black changemaker or leader, prepared a speech, and came to the event dressed as the person they represented. Guests circulated through the gym, stopping at each "famous person's" station where they could request a recitation on who the student represented. In "attendance" were Ruby Bridges, Rosa Parks, Kobe Bryant, Mae Jemison, Jackie Robinson, James Brown, Frederick Douglas, and many others.

The last event was a play written by Link's performing arts teacher, Mrs. Sahirah Johnson, featuring the Link Players. Interspersed throughout the play were performances by students from all grade levels and staff, as well as Team Lewis, the Link Panther Cheerleaders, the Link Choir, and many more. One of Mrs. Johnson's students passed a petition amongst students to charge admission at the door, with the money going to a local non-profit that supports children and youth. School administration agreed, and the proceeds will go to Big Brothers Big Sisters, an organization that provides one-on-one mentoring to young people.

Here are just a few photos from the events. You can see more at: <https://linkschool.org/2024-black-history-month-student-showcases/>



# Congratulations!

## Grade 2

Scholar of the Week	Traycee Francois	Team Chavez
Core Value of the Week	Unique Mensah	Team Chavez
Scholar of the Week	Ryan Nzangue	Team Huerta
Core Values of the Week	Eloa Marcal	Team Huerta



## Grade 1

Scholar of the Week	Milan McCoy	Team Bridges
Core Values of the Week	Kadija Kamara	Team Bridges
Scholar of the Week	Avana Ebanks	Team King
Core Values of the Week	Kamari Richardson	Team King



# SECOND SATURDAY FAMILY ADVENTURES

10:30am – 12:00 pm | Ages 3–10 | FREE



**Saturday,  
March 9th**

*Balance & Gravity*

*Explore the science of  
Balance and Gravity  
through hands-on  
activities and children's  
books.*

*Have fun while learning to  
think like scientists!*



**\*\*Registration is required\*\***  
**\*\*Dress appropriately for the weather\*\***



Learn more and register at [www.citybloom.org/events](http://www.citybloom.org/events)  
32 Prince Street, Newark, NJ  
(973) 642-4646

Follow us on social media to stay updated about our events and news.



@GreaterNewarkConservancy



@CityBloom67



@CityBloom87



# FAMILY FUN IN THE KITCHEN

With Chef Afi

**Saturday, March 16th**

11:00am - 12:30pm

**Greater Newark Conservancy**

32 Prince Street, Newark NJ 07103

This Month's Menu

Sweet  
Potato  
Gumbo



Register at [www.citybloom.org/events/](http://www.citybloom.org/events/)