

NORTHWEST NEWS

December 2021: Issue 74



Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

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Lunch Prices

High School/Middle School.....\$3.00

W.S. Stinson/NW Primary\$2.70

Milk.....\$.50



**Local
Veterans
Honored!**
pg 4-5



CURRENT NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERS

Front Row: Rachel Deininger, Alivia Nair; Row 2: Paige Owsiany, Mary Paydock, Bayleigh Lower, Lucie Doubet, Emily Crookston; Row 3: Olivia Ellis, Abby Sharrer, Madison Zellers, Emma Barnes, Alexis Pitsch; Row 4: Gracie Huth, Brooke Kovacs, Kate Cunningham, Kylee Cottrill; Row 5: Victoria Friedrichsen, Anna Nicholson, Carly Spradling, Amanda Keith; Back Row: William Campbell, Colin Sokolowski, Brady Aneshansel, Zachary Kurz. Not pictured: Lauren Sigrist.



2021 NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES

Front Row: Jayla Smith, Taylor Fightmaster, Amaya Evans, Abigail Thomas, Claudine Sanopoa; Row 2: Tate Miller, Jessica Cliff, Sydney Kunkel, Kamryn Golden, Abigail Meighen; Row 3: Luke Metzger, Alena Dangelo, Alexia Clark, Madillyn Jennings, McKayla Justice; Row 4: James Cunningham, Madeline Josey, Lydia Woodward, Ashley Cudnik, Giana Kuhn; Back Row: Colton Sparks, Megan Swogger, Isaac LaFay, Connor Kilkeny, Nicholas Savage.



National Honor Society Inducts 25 New Members

Twenty-five inductees proudly took the National Honor Society pledge on October 28. It is such an honor and privilege to be inducted into NHS. Demonstrating commitment to school and community, these students have earned their membership and truly represent the four pillars of National Honor Society: Service, Scholarship, Leadership, and Character. The ceremony, in part, was led by current NHS officers: **Olivia Ellis**, President; **Gracie Hugh**, Vice President; **Paige Owsiany**, Secretary; and **Abby Sharer**, Treasurer. Throughout their school years and beyond, NHS students will continue to serve the school and the community. As Principal Larry Tausch reminded them, induction into National Honor Society is not the end, it is just the beginning.

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Board of Education



From left: Vice-President Victor Colaianni, Julia Barkey, Board President Jim Gindlesberger, Rita Gearhart, Bob Schilling.

Committed to an Open & Transparent District

Jim Gindlesberger – gindlesberger.j@northwest.sparcc.org

Victor Colaianni – colaianni.v@northwest.sparcc.org

Julia Barkey – barkey.j@northwest.sparcc.org

Rita Gearhart – gearhart.r@northwest.sparcc.org

Bob Schilling – schilling.b@northwest.sparcc.org

Superintendent's Message



Hello to everyone in the Northwest Community!

I love this time of the school year when all of the fall activities have finished and Christmas is right around the corner! The school year is moving along quickly, and I have enjoyed every moment.

We have had many exciting things happening throughout the school district. Recently, I stood with the Primary students to thank all of our vets as part of our Veterans Day Parade. Thank you to all of our veterans for your service! We also just completed our fall sports seasons. I enjoyed watching every team compete. I cannot say thank you enough to all of our coaches who spend hundreds of hours working hard to help shape the character and athletic ability of our student athletes. Congrats to Mrs. Baer, our Northwest High School secretary for being named Ohio's Secretary of the Year! From what I understand, this award was richly deserved. Congratulations to all of those who were involved in the Middle School production of *Trouble in Tumbleweed*. What a great performance! As a former gym rat, I am also excited to see our basketball teams and wrestlers begin their seasons. I have a feeling we are going to have an excellent winter. Thank you for all of the parents who showed up for our Key Communicators meeting. The positive and constructive feedback you provided will enable the district to keep

moving in a positive direction, and we look forward to meeting again in late January.

We continue to build on our excellent start for our students doing all we can to maintain the most "normal" school year possible. We are able to make this happen largely due to the support of the community. We consider our parents, business leaders, and local residents to be our partners. The community relationships complement the work our exceptional teachers are doing in the classroom. Without the kindness and support from our parents and community leaders, we could not have the excellent school district that we have.

Our district is very active on social media, including Twitter and Facebook. Search for me on Twitter @Shawn Michael Braman to join the conversation and learn about the tremendous learning opportunities that are happening in classrooms throughout the district every day.

Reach me on my cell phone anytime you have questions or concerns at 330-573-9024.

I am very proud and thankful to be a part of the school district and the community. Keep an eye out for all of the exciting things happening throughout Northwest Schools this winter! Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Shawn Braman, Ed.D.

Kindergarten Registration

To be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2022, your child must be five on or before August 1.

The **online registration** link will be available **Monday, January 7, 2022 through Friday, April 8, 2022 on the district website.**

A computer station will be available at the Central Office for those individuals who do not have online access in their homes.

Copies of the following documents must be brought to Central Office **by 5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2022** to complete the online registration process:

- ✓ Birth certificate
- ✓ Proof of residency (**2 forms required** - utility bill and a rental agreement or mortgage statement)



- ✓ Child's social security number
- ✓ Parent's Photo ID
- ✓ Immunization record
- ✓ Custody papers (if applicable)

Please contact Megan Moore at Central Office with questions regarding registration: (330) 854-2292 or moore.m@northwest.sparcc.org.

Curriculum News

K-12 Math Textbook Adoption

During the current academic year, the district is reviewing K-12 math materials with the intent of purchasing new materials for use in the upcoming school year. The materials being considered for adoption will be available in March and April at the Central Office for parents and community members who would like to review them. Please direct any questions or concerns to the Curriculum Department at the Central Office (330) 854-2291.

Season's Greetings

Time has flown quickly by since the start of the school year. Our students are anticipating the holiday season and a well-deserved break. Seasonal activities are abundant and it is easy for students to get out of their normal daily routines. Over the break, there are many ways that students can utilize their math and reading skills. They can use their math skills while making Christmas cookies, wrapping presents, and building snowman and snow forts; they can reinforce their reading skills while playing board games, reading Christmas cards, writing thank you notes, and snuggling up with a holiday chapter or picture book. We hope you enjoy time with family and friends as you create memories that will last a lifetime.

Happy Holidays,
Debora

**YOU ALREADY BELONG.
YOU JUST NEED TO JOIN!**

**Learn why the YMCA is the
perfect place for you!**

**Stop by your local branch or visit us online at
www.ymcastark.org
to learn more and sign-up**



New Faces



**Justin
Holliday**
Bus Driver



**Art
Kallal**
Instructional
Aide



**Cindy
Lumpcik**
Instructional
Aide



**Tiffany
Morgan**
Cook



**Vickie
Nettle**
Cook



**Robert
Pickens**
Bus Driver



**Jessica
Sams**
Playground
Aide



**Dena
Savage**
Instructional
Aide



**April
Soult-Rudo**
Instructional
Aide

Sue Baer named Ohio's Secretary of the Year

Doesn't every building principal, whether it be at a high school, middle school, or elementary school, wish to have the best secretary in their building? There are extraordinary building secretaries all over the state and country who manage their office and, many would claim, get the building up and running each day.

This statement is definitely true at Northwest High School. Sue Baer is the quintessential high school secretary.

Love and compassion quickly come to mind when one thinks of Mrs. Baer. The students know her as "Mama Baer" because of the comfort and security she provides when they are in the office. She listens to them and provides advice our young adults so often need; she does this so effortlessly, she creates an environment that is welcoming for so many of our students who are struggling or just needing someone to talk to.

In addition to the endless compassion she provides, Sue Baer is one tough cookie--she is unflappable and unwavering in her commitment to the high school and its students. She is always the students' number one advocate, but she will not hesitate to have difficult conversations with students and staff if the need arises. We will often see Sue in the side office talking privately with a student or staff member and providing support, sometimes telling them not what they want to hear, but what they need to hear. Mama Baer always gives great advice. She is positive and present for the students and staff every single day.

No one in the school is truly irreplaceable. But if there were one person in the high school who leaves their footprint each and every day on the students and staff, it's Sue Baer. She is Northwest, and the high school, without her, would sound different, look different, and feel different in ways that would make it almost impossible to replace her.



Congratulations, Sue Baer, on being awarded Ohio's Secretary of the Year by the OASSA. She is truly deserving!



Sue Baer accepts her award in Columbus.

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Northwest Students and Staff Honor Local Veterans





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Northwest High School

Welcome to the USA!

Madita Ittmann

Although her home town of Weyhe, Germany is comparatively larger than Canal Fulton, with larger stores, restaurants, theaters, and a marketplace, Madita is impressed with the community spirit and our school spirit: "In Germany, towns are more interconnected, which means you don't have as much pride in your hometown because you've sort of grown up in several towns. For example, not every town has a school and therefore you go to school in the town nearby."

She notes that the German school system is quite different. The school day is much shorter, usually from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and the schedule differs daily, enabling students to take up to 14 different courses in a semester. Students begin learning English in third grade." Students remain in the same class all day and the teachers move from room to room. Upon completion of elementary school (first through fourth grade), students choose from different high schools, ranging from completion of grade 9 for some jobs to completion of grade 13 for those choosing to go to university.

Madita's mother influenced her decision to become an exchange student: "She did an exchange year in the U.S. when she was my age, and she used to tell me stories about it all the time, which made me want to have this experience as well." Her favorite part of the experience so far? "Definitely the people and the school spirit! Americans are very open and friendly which helps when making friends and settling in. American high schools have a lot of school spirit because of the sport teams, which we don't have in Germany at all."

When she returns to Germany, Madita will go to school for another two years. After graduation, she hopes to do a gap year and volunteer in different parts of the world. She wants to go to University abroad and see as much of Europe as she can!

Exchange students Madita Ittmann and Finn Kaufmann.



Finn Kaufmann

Finn is from a small town near Cologne, Germany that is really similar to Canal Fulton with the nearest cities located half an hour to an hour away. In comparing Northwest schools to his school in Germany, he feels that the teachers are one of the biggest differences: "The teachers in America are better to talk to; they seem more like people or friends because they talk about their families and are friendly and personable with students in the class."

One of his favorite things about American schools so far is attending football games and different sporting events that are not typical in Germany. Finn also enjoyed being part of the Northwest soccer team this fall.

Finn has fond memories of traveling to the United States with his family when he was 11 years old. Their travels included New York, Las Vegas, Washington, and more. Like Madita, his decision to become an exchange student was also motivated by family. His sister came to the United States as an exchange student, and he wanted to do the same. While he is in America, this time, he hopes to see Niagara Falls.

When Finn returns home, he will be a sophomore; he will repeat the sophomore year that he spent here, so he will have three more years of schooling. At this point, he is unsure what career path he will choose: "I am not sure about my future plans yet, but I know that being an exchange student is definitely going to help me when it comes to getting a job."

We are happy to welcome Madita and Finn into the Northwest family this year!

High School Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

2	Parent/Teacher Conferences.....	2:30-7:30 PM
12	Holiday Choir Concert.....	4:30 PM
16	Holiday Band Concert.....	7:00 PM
24-31	Christmas Break — No School	

JANUARY

7	End of 2nd Nine Weeks/End of Semester
17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day — No School

FEBRUARY

10	Parent/Teacher Conferences.....	2:30-7:30 PM
12	Blizzard Bash	
8	Waiver Day — No School	
21	Presidents' Day — No School	
25-27	Musical: <i>Music Man</i>	



Northwest High School Drama Department

Presents



Friday, February 25 at 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 26 at 7:00 PM
Sunday, February 27 at 2:00 PM

One of Broadway's best-loved productions comes to Puffenberger Hall! The students of Northwest High School are ready to bring River City to life and find out what "Trouble" is afoot at the local pool hall. With Brady Aneshansel ("Music Man" Harold Hill) and Alena Dangelo (Librarian Marian Paroo) leading the cast, this year's musical is sure to be a "Shipoopee" of a good time! Don't miss out on this musical weekend full of comedy, romance, barbershop music, and timeless tunes!

From the Field to the Stage, Northwest Music Programs Shine



On the Field

The Northwest Marching Band brought three shows to the field this year (Motown, Dance Party, and Guardians of the Galaxy). The band prepared for these shows and honed their skills at a summer band camp held at Camp Wakonda in Sherrodsville. Band members spent up to 10 hours a day rehearsing, but they still found time to swim, hike, and bond with their classmates.

The Marching Indians also participated in the Cuyahoga Falls band show as well as East Canton's first band show. Northwest also added a Field Commander to the leadership roles--the first time since the 1970s. Also new for next year, Northwest will be hosting a band show on October 1, 2022.

As the band transitions from Marching band to Symphonic band, they are busy at work preparing for upcoming performances, including the Holiday Concert, Bands in the Round Concert, Spring Concert, Large Group OMEA competition, Solo and Ensemble competition, and a new Cinco De Mayo Concert. In addition to Symphonic band, Northwest also features a Jazz band and they are adding a new Rock ensemble this year, featuring guitars, percussion, bass, and vocals.

Northwest Bands are under the leadership of director **Mr. Stephen Imler** and assistant director, **Mrs. Kimberly Good**.



2021-2022 BAND OFFICERS: *Gracie Huth, Spirit Leader; Mary Paydock, President; Lydia Woodward, Librarian; John Derry, Vice President and Field Commander; Olivia Ellis, Treasurer; Rachel Deininger, Secretary.*



Stephen Imler

Celebrate the Season in Puffenberger Hall!

Northwest Choir
Holiday Concert
December 12 at 4:30 PM



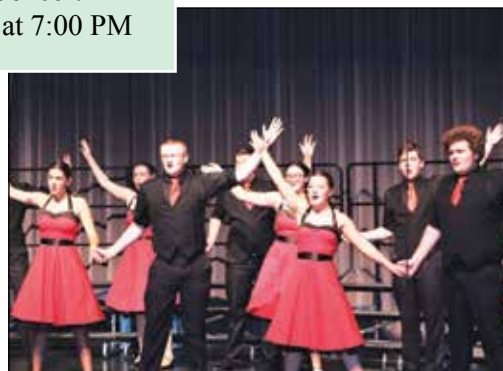
Northwest Band
Holiday Concert
December 16 at 7:00 PM



On Stage

Under the leadership of Director Mr. Chad Pittman and Assistant Director Mr. Conner Busby, the High School Choirs are off to a successful start this school year. This year's High School Vocal Music Program includes seven choirs: Chorale, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Northwest Singers, Kokopelli Scholars, A'CaFellas, and Vocal Muse.

Choir members are currently practicing for Solo and Ensemble, the February high school musical production of Music Man, and the annual Holiday Concert. In the spring, the choirs will be preparing for OMEA District and State Contest and the Spring Showcase. This year, the Choral Department is excited about their trip to New York City.



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Students of the Month

Each month, four students (one from each grade) are selected as Students of the Month. Each month holds a different theme. Students are featured on Mr. Tausch’s Twitter, the *Northwest News*, the announcements, and on a bulletin board in the Commons. They will also be given a premium parking spot in the front and a gift card for free drinks at the café.

Congratulations to the “Inquisitive” October Students of the Month

“**Inquisitive**” students develop their natural curiosity by acquiring skills necessary to conduct independent research. They actively enjoy learning, and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.



**Candace
Doubet**
Freshman



**Caroline
Meztger**
Sophomore



**Connor
Kilkenny**
Junior



**Brady
Aneshansel**
Senior



**Caiden
Todaro**
Freshman



**Faith
Weinfeld**
Sophomore



**Nellie
Morris**
Junior



**Alivia
Nair**
Senior

Congratulations to the “Reflective” November/December Students of the Month

“**Reflective**” students thoughtfully consider the world and their own ideas and experiences. They work to understand their strengths and weaknesses in order to support their learning and personal development.

Northwest Middle School

Students of the Month

Each month, the middle school staff honors trustworthy, hardworking students who accept responsibility and do their work promptly and efficiently. These students respect authority and their peers, demonstrating honesty and fairness. They are dependable and often do more than is required of them. Congratulations to September and October Students of the Month!

Sixth Grade

Seventh Grade

Eighth Grade

September



**Lena
Henson**



**Chase
Lewis**



**Shelby
Davidson**



**Brayden
Venables**



**Marlena
Carneal**



**Will
Metzger**

October



**Arley
Roth**



**William
Sampsel**



**Brooke
Barkan**



**Isaac
Swartz**



**Naomi
Amiot**

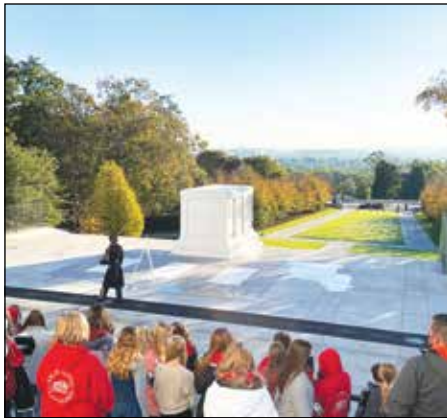


**Adam
Shrock**



Eighth-Graders Tour DC

Northwest eighth-graders were excited to travel to Washington DC November 5-7. History truly came alive as they visited Arlington National Cemetery, the Lincoln Memorial, The Vietnam Wall, the Korean War Memorial, George Washington's Mount Vernon, Washington-Penn Quarter, the Capitol Building, the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, and more. This annual trip is a "milestone" that students look forward to throughout middle school; they were so thankful that it got to happen this year, especially after the many cancellations of 2020. This busy weekend of touring certainly provided them with memories that will last a lifetime.



Middle School Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

- 9 Holiday Choir Concert - Puffenberger Hall 7 PM
- 14 Holiday Band Concert - Puffenberger Hall..... 7 PM
- 24-31 Christmas Break — **No School**

JANUARY

- 7 End of 2nd Nine Weeks/End of Semester
- 11-12 MAP Testing
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day — **No School**
- 26 6th Grade Camp Informational Parent Meeting -
MS Gymnasium 6 PM

FEBRUARY

- 17 Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:40-8:40 PM
- 18 Waiver Day — **No School**
- 21 Presidents' Day — **No School**



Dedication, Passion, and Determination

Impact Martial Arts held a black belt test on Wednesday, October 20. **Ethan Hodovan, Roman Baroni, and Nathan Hodovan** were put through an intensive three-hour test in front of a panel of 10 black belt judges. These three young men have been training together for five years now, and they truly represent what dedication, passion, and determination truly mean: All earned black belts on this night! Congratulations!



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Celebrating the Completion of the First Nine Weeks

On Friday, October 22 the Middle School celebrated the end of the first nine weeks at grade level assemblies. A boy and girl from each grade level were recognized by their teachers for being excellent examples of teamwork and responsibility.



6th Grade
Clayton Kovacs and
Hayden Elzholtz



7th Grade
Austin Schenz and
Shelby Davidson



8th Grade
Hannah Huston and
Dallas VonBonin

Some students from each first-period class competed in a fun relay race. Every student will get involved in events at some point this year. Staff members also got in on the fun with three-legged races. The winning team from each relay race got a trophy that they will get to display in their classroom. Congratulations to Miss Clark's sixth-grade class, Ms. Lane's seventh-grade class, and Mrs. Harper's eighth-grade class!



Middle School Choirs take the Stage!

The Northwest Middle School proudly features seven different vocal ensembles under the direction of Mr. Conner Busby. Students have an opportunity to sing in the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade choirs as well as three after school choirs—Northwest Select Choir, Girls Choir, and Boys Choir. In addition to their signature fall play, the choir department also features two original stage productions (Christmas and Spring). All students are welcome to join the choir family and see what it's all about!

On November 12 and 13, students showcased their hard work and talent in their fourth annual fall comedic play, *Trouble in Tumbleweed*. Set in the 1880s in the dusty town of Tumbleweed, Arizona, Mayor Oates, his incompetent relatives, and huckster Professor Burns entertained the audience with twists and turns, comedy and song!



Coming to the stage December 9, the choirs will bring to life the story of eight-year-old Kevin McCallister who is mistakenly left "Home Alone" and must protect his family home from two con men. The production will showcase memorable moments from the classic movie and timeless music performed by six middle school choirs. Don't miss this fun and festive performance!

W.S. Stinson Elementary

STEM Class is here at Stinson!

STEM is an acronym for the four disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. This class is offered as a specials class, similar to art, music, and gym. All students in grades 3-5 attend Mrs. Traganza's STEM class once/twice per week. STEM engages students and equips them with critical thinking and problem-solving skills; the program also promotes creativity and collaboration among their peers. The district purchased the Sphero Computer Science Foundations Curriculum and together with coding robots, it provides engaging lessons and activities that encourage exploration, imagination, and perseverance. This class will transform the way kids learn, create, and invent through coding, science, and engineering. This class has quickly become a favorite for Stinson students!



Former Stinson Educator Continues to Teach

It is often in the news that there's a shortage of substitutes in all school districts. Northwest is no different. That is why we are so fortunate to have veteran teacher, **Karol Beltich**, substituting every time she gets the call. Karol retired from Northwest after teaching fourth grade at Stinson for many years, but she never truly left us. She continued to return as a substitute teacher, and has been a lifesaver the past three years when substitutes were needed on a daily basis. Calling Karol a substitute doesn't accurately describe the role she fills while covering for our teachers. She continues to be a hard-working, professional, skilled teacher who comes to work every day with a positive attitude and willingness to help in any and all situations. Karol will take on any assignment, so no one misses a beat in the curriculum. We may find her in a third-grade classroom on a Monday and then donning a whistle to teach high school PE on a Tuesday! Students and staff are blessed that Karol Beltich has always remained dedicated to Northwest Schools!



Diving into Water Safety

The fourth and fifth-graders participated in swim lessons at the Schalmo Family YMCA the first week in November. The Y's *Safety Around Water* program gives participants the knowledge and skills to keep themselves safe in the water, including safety tips about life-jackets and backyard pool safety and rescue techniques like jump, push, turn, grab, float, and swim. This is the first year that the program was held here in Canal Fulton, and The Schalmo Family YMCA was more than ready to welcome students!

For the Y, this program is so important since drowning is still one of the top five accidental causes of death among children. The students were truly a blessing and pleasure to have at the Schalmo Family YMCA; they were respectful and a complete joy to have and to teach. We appreciate the partnership with the Northwest School Administration so we are able to continue this program. A special thank you to Mrs. Mariani and Mrs. McCulligan for their efforts in organizing this opportunity.

For more information on swim lessons, contact the Schalmo Family YMCA, at 330-970-0123.

Stinson Dates to Remember

DECEMBER	
7	Count on Me Day
17	Christmas Parties
24-31	Christmas Break — No School
JANUARY	
4	Count on Me Day
7	End of 2nd Nine Weeks/End of Semester
13	Parent/Teacher Conferences..... 3:30-7:30 PM
17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day — No School
26	Career Day
FEBRUARY	
1	Count on Me Day
11	Valentine's Parties
14-18	Kindness Week
17	Parent/Teacher Conferences..... 3:30-7:30 PM
18	Waiver Day — No School
21	Presidents' Day — No School



NORTHWEST NEWS

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Northwest Primary



Dinner with Dad

First graders proudly welcomed their dads to Northwest Primary for *Dinner with Dad* on October 7. The gym was full of energy, music, dance, and hula hoops! Students escorted their dads to their classrooms where they shared meals from Chick-fil-A. Thank you to the PTO and the Northwest Primary staff for making this annual night a success.

Budding Musicians share their Talents

Maya Brady is in Mrs. Leemaster's kindergarten class. She has always been interested in music, as her family has a lot of musical background. Maya has been playing violin since July of 2020. She takes private lessons with Mr. Cornel Zotta who teaches her via the Suzuki method. She loves to perform for her friends and family, and she gladly shared her talent with her music class; Maya performed her first in-person recital in November.



Fall Festivities

The walls of Northwest Primary are awash in fall color as student artwork captures the beauty of the season. Students also celebrated the season with fall parties on October 8. Participating parents brought games, treats, and a wide variety of activities to classrooms, making it a fun and festive afternoon for all! A special thank you to all of our volunteers!



Northwest Primary Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

- 17 Christmas Parties
- 24-31 Christmas Break — **No School**

JANUARY

- 7 End of 2nd Nine Weeks/End of Semester
- 14 Multicultural Day
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day — **No School**
- 26 Kiss the Pig Contest begins

FEBRUARY

- 9 Last day for Kiss the Pig Contest
- 11 Valentine's Parties
- 18 Waiver Day — **No School**
- 21 Presidents' Day — **No School**
- 24 Family Science Fair.....6 PM