

Fall 2025 Parent Teacher conferences are coming up!
Sign up sheets will open up on Tuesday, November 11, at 7:00pm.

We use PTC Wizard software to book conference times. Prior year's usernames and passwords will still work. New families, you can make an account by visiting PTC Wizard, then "create account". Visit our P/T Conferences webpage for more info.

Questions? Join Parent Coordinator Office Hours on Wednesday at 11:00am on Zoom Meeting ID: 842 9384 5539 | Passcode: 649115

Calendar Highlights

Día de los Muertos; Native American Heritage Month begins - November 1

K-12 NEST+m Open House #1 - November 3, 4:30-7:30pm VOLUNTEER

Child Mind Institute FREE webinar <u>Preparing for College Success</u>: Mental Health, Independence & Executive Function Skills - Monday, November 3 from 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Election Day (Students do not attend school) - November 4

Middle Grades Exploration Day; LG Photo Day (all students) - November 5

Grades 4-8 Spelling Bee First Round - Wednesday, November 5

Middle/Upper Grades Photo Day - November 6

Grades 9-12: AP Exam Registration closes November 7, 2025 <u>LEARN MORE</u>

K-12 NEST+m Open House #2 - November 8, 10:00am-2:00pm VOLUNTEER

VETERANS DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED - Tuesday, November 11

NESTFest - November 14, 5:30pm

★K-12 Principal's Coffee 8:30am - Monday, November 17

P Building Belonging Parent Workshop, Part 2 (in person) 9:15-10:45am - NEST+m Auditorium - Monday, November 17, 2025 - RSVP Here

Fall Parent Teacher Conferences on Zoom - Thursday, November 20, 4:30-7:30 & Friday, November 21, 12:30-2:30. Friday is half day, dismissal at 11:24am. Note: NEST+m has different dates for conferences, since we are a K-12 school. Details coming soon!

Senior Photo Day - November 20

UG Friendsgiving - November 21

MG Friendsgiving - November 26

See the <u>NEST+m Events Calendar</u> | See the NYC Public Schools <u>Calendar for</u> 2025-2026

Updates from the Administrative Team

K-12 Community Update - from Principal Meaghan Lynch

Weekly Meetings

₱ PC Office Hours ₱ are in session, Wednesdays at 11:00am! Lisa's PC Office Hours are every Wednesday! On ZOOM, Meeting ID: 842 9384 5539 • Passcode: 649115, Wednesday at 11:00am.

COLLEGE TALK sessions are held Fridays at 12 noon!

PC-hosted events are for Junior & Senior parents to connect and share experiences about the college application process. No agenda, we will chat and share. Other parents are welcome to join! **ZOOM LINK** Meeting ID: 819 5963 5155 • Passcode: 275328. **SEE NOTES**

Announcements

Grades 4-8 Spelling Bee first round is **Wednesday, November 5**! More information will be available after November 5 with next steps! Questions? Email Mr Ben Morrison at BMorrison2@schools.nyc.gov

No onsite Afterschool programs on Monday, 11/3!

There will be no afterschool program on Monday, 11/3/25 due to the K-12 Open House. Super Happy Healthy Kids is excited to offer Day Camp for parents at our store, right next to Keyfood Supermarket - 53 Columbia Street, 2 mins walk from the school.

November Fun Alert! Day Camp + Pajama Party at Super Happy Healthy Kids

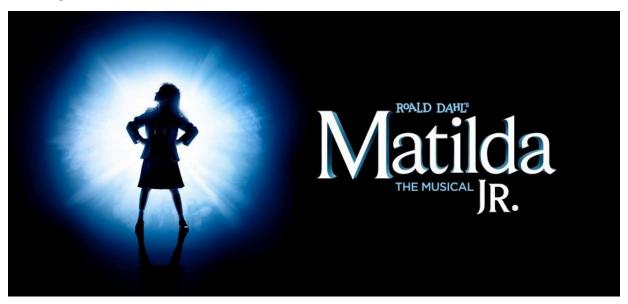
The Pajama Party happens on the 2nd Friday of each month - 11/14/25 from 5pm - 8pm. Come enjoy some time with your partner while we take care of the kids.

Questions? Email us hello@superhappyhealthykids.com, text 917 369 0032 or join our Zoom Monday-Friday 10 - 11 AM.

Due to the ongoing Federal Government shutdown, SNAP (food assistance) benefits may be disrupted starting **Saturday, November 1st**. We want to make sure all our families have the support they need during this time. Below, you'll find a list of **NYC resources** offering **free groceries and hot meals** to help bridge any gaps Below are some links for food locations:

- The Food Pantries Connection Map Search the map to find locations near you
- Pantries and Meals List to search by zipcode
- List of pantries/meals by Borough
- Food Bank For New York City
- Community Food Connections
- ACCESS NYC- for food locations and applying for SNAP

Announcing Auditions for the Lower Grades Musical - Matilda Jr.!



NEST+m is excited to announce the 2026 Lower Grades Musical... Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical JR*.

Submit your Audition Videos by 5:00pm on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16. <u>LEARN MORE</u> | <u>AUDITION DETAILS</u>

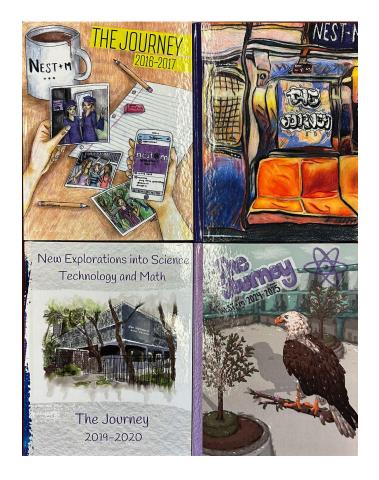
Cast List will be announced by November 30. | Open to Grades: 2nd - 5th

Rehearsals: Beginning February 9, 2026, Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:00-5:00pm - Both days required!

Mandatory Tech Rehearsals: 3:00pm - 7:00pm on Monday, June 8, Tuesday, June 9, Wednesday, June 10

SHOW DATES: Thursday, June 11 and Friday, June 12 at 5:30pm; in the NEST+m Auditorium

If you cannot commit to these regular rehearsals, mandatory tech rehearsals and show dates, please do not audition.



Submit a design for the Yearbook cover by 12/23/2025!

- See examples from prior years at left.
- <u>Size</u>: 8 1/2" wide X 11" tall (computer paper vertical so it fits on the cover)
- Name of Yearbook: The Journey
- Deadline: Monday, Dec 23, 2025
- <u>Drop-Off</u>: Place your designs, labeled clearly with your name and grade on the back, in a 9x12 envelope or folder, and drop off to Ms. Bray in Room 347 or give to Maria in the Main Office.
- You must include the "NEST+m" logo into your design (you can right-click the file below to copy)

nest⊯m

- NEW EXPLORATIONS INTO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY + MATH
- Who Can Submit: Any NEST+m student
- Questions? Email Cbray@schools.nyc.gov

Nominate a teacher for a FLAG Award before 11/30! They can win \$25,000!

The <u>FLAG Award for Teaching Excellence</u> is now in its 7th year, the FLAG Award gives away \$400,000 to NYC public schools and teachers and we want to ensure that the amazing teachers at your school are getting nominated! The nomination process is very simple – teachers, administrators, students, or guardians can nominate their favorite teacher by going to <u>Nominate – The FLAG Award for Teaching Excellence</u> and answering the question "why are you nominating this teacher?" To learn more about the award you can go to our website (<u>flagaward.org</u>), read about last year's winners <u>here</u>, or check out some recent press in the <u>New York Times</u> and <u>CBS News</u>.

Help Contribute to the PTA Staff & Teacher Appreciation Fund (STAF)

The PTA has established a **Staff and Teacher Appreciation Fund (STAF**) at NEST+m. This fund celebrates ALL of the hardworking stäff in our building - teachers, administration, custodians, aides, kitchen workers, etc. Some examples of our STAF Treats include NEST+m spirit apparel, NEST+m umbrellas & water bottles, chocolates for Valentine's Day, pies for Pi Day, gift cards to local businesses, and many meals including Welcome Back and Happy Holidays breakfasts. As we approach the holidays and the season of giving, we would like to ask for a voluntary **\$25 contribution per student** to this important fund, but welcome your donation of any amount. Staff gifts will be signed from all NEST+m families.

*Lower Grage Families: if you donated to your class fund through your class parents, you do not need to contribute via this link as it was included. Thank you!

Athletics Updates: announcing the NEST+m PTA Athletics Fee



Our ability to offer a growing number of sport opportunities would not be possible without the support of our families, and donors. We ask for a minimum of \$20 fee for any student participating in a NEST+m sport. This helps to ensure that we can continue our growth as a program. We can take fee payments from friends and family as well! Make your payment here.

Where does the money go?

- Jerseys (look good, play good)
- Referee Fees (NEST+m pays for refs for every game we participate in)
- Equipment (basketballs, tennis balls, soccer balls, cones, etc.)

Thank you to all of our supporters!

High School Athletics Update

- Girls Table Tennis Interest Meeting: Thursday, 11/6 3:00pm Cafeteria
- Indoor Track Interest Meeting: Monday, 11/3 3:45pm Bard Room 202

Winter Middle School Athletics will begin mid-November.

Updates on interest meetings will be posted on our athletics website and sportsYou soon!

Middle School Basketball Updates

- Boys Basketball Interest Meeting Wednesday, 11/5 2:40pm Room 229
- Boys Basketball Tryouts Friday, 11/7 3:30pm Gym*
- Girls Basketball Interest Meeting Wednesday, 11/5 2:40pm Room 229
- Girls Basketball Tryouts Tryouts Friday, 11/7 2:45pm Gym*

Questions? Email Coach Philips - SPhilips@schools.nyc.gov

*Tryouts are probable dates and times, we are waiting on high school varsity volleyball playoff dates and locations to be announced this weekend. Any updates to these tryout dates will be posted by Wednesday, 11/5 on the NEST+m Athletics Website and on SportsYou

Stage Crew Still Needed for Macbeth!

The Middle Grades production of Macbeth still needs a few more stage crew members. Come see Ms Fletcher for a <u>permission slip</u> and <u>rehearsal schedule</u>.

The Whole Child Committee would like you to know about a FREE webinar hosted by the Child Mind Institute on Monday 11/3 from 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Preparing for College Success: Mental Health, Independence & Executive Function Skills



The transition from high school to college can be both exciting and overwhelming — especially for students with mental health or learning challenges. As teens step into more independence, they also face new academic pressures, social changes, and the responsibility of managing their own schedules, support systems, and well-being. In this webinar, clinical experts will share practical tips for teens and families including navigating the shift to college life, executive functioning challenges, and building strategies for stress management, routines, and self-care.

NEST+m is hosting in person Open Houses November 3 & 8!

All applicants for Fall 2026 are welcome to attend.

We need LOTS of student, staff and parent/guardian volunteers.

→ Volunteer Sign Up for K-12 NEST+m Open Houses

K-12 Principal's Coffee 8:30am &

Building Belonging Parent Workshop, Part 2 9:15-10:45am (in person) Monday, November 17 | Please RSVP



Parents/guardians, please join us for this two-part workshop, by Dr. Kelly Bird from Making Space, that guides participants from personal reflection to collective action in support of diversity, equity, and inclusion and belonging.

The second session focuses on systemic change—assessing where NEST+m School falls on the DEI continuum, clarifying the differences between equality, equity, and justice, and creating actionable goals and accountability structures. (11/17)

The series is designed for parents committed to fostering a more inclusive and connected school environment, this workshop centers belonging as both a personal experience and a collective responsibility.

We had an amazing session on 10/27! Join us on 11/17 for the **K-12 Principal's Coffee (8:30am)**, followed by the Part 2: *Building Belonging* Parent Workshop (9:15-10:45), led by Dr Kelly Bird!

Please RSVP



Submit your design for The Sled's Holiday Card by 11/5/2025!

This is a great opportunity to get a professionally printed piece for your portfolio! Details below!

Join Ms Chen's Midday Meetups For MG Parents and Caregivers!

on Zoom | Meeting ID: 916 2721 6771 | Passcode: 293016 Hosted by: Ms. Chen, Guidance Counselor for Grade 6, 7 & 8

- Connect with a supportive community of parents and caregivers
- Share the joys and challenges of parenting during middle school years
- Support and learn from each other

Each session will start with a short intro, followed by interactive open discussion and sharing 2025 Thursdays: 12pm - 12:40pm October: 16, 23 & 30 | November: 6, 13 & 20 | December: 4, 11 & 18

Calling All Parents to Help with Upper Grades Clubs and Sports!

Becoming UG Club Mentors and Sports Team Parents are two great ways to help our High School kids! Please scan the code on the flyer below OR click on the links to find out more... (Remember, you do not have to be an UG parent to be a mentor!)



Great news! Math Kangaroo Competition is hopping back to NEST+m again! (For grades 1-12) Last year, we had 257 participants!

Math Kangaroo is scheduled to arrive at NEST+m on: March 17th, 2026 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM EST.

School teachers and staff will help with your child's transition from 2:35PM dismissal to 3PM start time. There's no need to pick up your child at 2:35PM.



THE STEPS TO REGISTER:

- 1. Go to: https://mathkangaroo.org/mks/registration/
- 2. Log in with your login and password or establish your user account if you are new.
- 3. Click on the By Invitation button on the left panel.
- 4. Copy and paste this code in the field Invitation Code: NESTmInPerson@2026math
- 5. Do not share the code with anyone outside of NEST+m.

Learn about our **General Response Protocol**

Our school has a Building Response Team (BRT) that is trained to activate and respond to different incidents that may occur at our school. In addition, school staff members are trained in various procedures that are outlined in the School Safety Plan and we currently conduct a variety of drills throughout the year to prepare our staff and students. The first evacuation drill was conducted on Friday, September 26, 2025. Please visit this webpage to find an important message about General Response Protocols, the Discipline Code and Bill of Rights. Translated posters are available on the left side of the webpage. If you have questions, please reach out to Building Response Team Leader, Assistant Principal Sabrina Robin.

Support our school, get involved! Bookmark the PTA K-12 Parent Volunteer Form!

You can <u>use this form</u> to indicate any and all interest in Volunteer opportunities throughout the year. It is not only for events, but for various committees and resources as well! <u>SIGN UP</u>

Grades K-4 students are eligible for NYC Kids RISE Save for College Program!

The NYC Kids RISE Save for College Program provides families, schools, and communities with a way to work together to save for and invest in their children's futures. Incoming K, and rising Grade 1-4 families can register. In January 2026, visit nyckr.org/st-register. Enter your child's home ZIP code, date of birth, and Student OSIS ID Number (begins with 1 or 2). Then, click "Submit." Learn more about the Program at nyckidsrise.org or join a virtual workshop at nyckr.org/events-cal. SEE FLYER

Who to Contact

- Please <u>use this document</u> to figure out who to contact regarding any concern you might have.
- Visit our re-designed school website Student Life section for lots of helpful information!
- Bookmark the A/B Calendar for Grades 6-12 students

See our <u>Student Opportunities webpage</u>

Pay your Classroom Supplies fee!

This fund, organized by the PTA, allows Teachers to be reimbursed when they purchase supplies and equipment for their classrooms.

- Grades K-5 pay the fee, and this covers ALL supplies no more shopping needed.
- Grades 6-8 teachers have posted their supply lists on the Classroom Supplies webpage.
- Grades 9-12 also have individual supply lists provided by their teachers after school begins.

W Updated Electronic Device Policy for 2025-2026

- Electronic devices (phones, tablets, wearables/smartwatches, personal computers, video games, etc..) will not be allowed in the building from arrival to dismissal i.e., NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE BUILDING FROM 7:45am 2:35 pm.
- Students in K-5 who remain under school supervision while waiting for the bus may not use electronic devices while waiting for the bus.

High school students may only use electronic devices during lunch when off campus.

Visit our Policies webpage for more details on school policies.

Afterschool programs for 2025-2026

Visit our Afterschool webpage for program contact information.

Check out the Bulletin Board to find your fall NESTie babysitter!

Families are looking for help, and our students are looking for gigs! Please bookmark this webpage, and refresh to see new posts! Questions? Email president@nestmpta.org. Visit the Babysitting Padlet

Fall 2026 High School Admissions Timeline

These are the key dates for students who are applying to high school for Fall 2026:

- Tuesday, October 7, 2025: High School Application, LaGuardia Application, and Specialized High Schools Admissions Test (SHSAT) Registration Opens
- Friday, October 31, 2025: SHSAT Registration Closes
- Wednesday, December 3, 2025: High School and LaGuardia Applications Close
- Thursday, March 5, 2026: High School Offer Release

These dates are subject to change. Any changes will be announced and communicated directly to families. Sign up for updates here

Specialized High Schools Admission Test (SHSAT) Transition to Digital Assessment

Beginning fall 2025, administration of the **Specialized High Schools Admission Test (SHSAT)** will transition to a digital-based assessment. The <u>SHSAT family-facing webpage</u> has been updated to include information for families about this transition. Digital-based, full-length practice tests for students will be available later this spring. Questions, email SHSAT@schools.nyc.gov.

How to manage your child's attendance

- Use SDM (School Dismissal Manager) to let school know about upcoming absence, lateness, or early dismissal. If you update in SDM before 1pm each day, you do not need to email or call anyone at school.
- Use the <u>Attendance Form</u> to upload documents for past absences or lateness. <u>LEARN MORE</u>
- ▶ Need help with SDM? Put in a support request, and a staff member will respond.

Monthly LIRR Student Discount passes

To purchase an LIRR monthly school pass, you can do so at a ticket window or a ticket machine. Students need to be 21 or younger, and have a student ID. Visit this website.

Lost items? Come to Room 248 to claim items!

We have watches, eyeglasses, personal electronics and more that remain unclaimed! Come to Room 248 to check. Clothing and accessories are located in the Lobby.

Child Mind Institute Clinical Groups & Specialty Programs



In each session, participants learn essential skills informed by research. Early Intervention / Social Skills / ADHD. We offer solutions tailored to each family's unique needs because every child deserves to thrive. VIEW ONLINE Follow @childmindinstitute

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH ICE - RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES | TRANSLATIONS

PAS Food Pantry distributes food every Friday, 4:00-5:30pm at 50 East 87th Street (87th & Madison). Text FOOD to (877) 641-3221 <u>SEE FLYER</u>



PTA Linktree: Find Important Links in One Place!

Too many links and don't have time to sort through your emails? Bookmark and/or <u>subscribe to the PTA's Linktree!</u> There is a lot more info on the school's website, but this will be updated to reflect upcoming events and links. This is always available in the bio in the PTA's Instagram account as well. Would you like a link added? Contact vpcommunications@nestmpta.org.

Meet your 2025-26 NEST+m PTA Executive Committee!

Thank you to everyone who stepped up to volunteer to serve on the Executive Committee!

📏 Make your <u>Classroom Supplies contribution</u>.

Consider donating to the PTA General Fund. Every dollar helps! Thanks to all families who continue to support all of our PTA-funded school programs. Our ENTIRE Teacher's Assistant (TA) program in K-5 is

supported only by your generous donations! Remember to ask your employer if they participate in donation matching!

Get involved! Sign up to Volunteer here!

NEST+m high school student? Add your opportunity!

Follow NEST+m PTA on Facebook and Instagram!

School Logistics Updates

Who to Contact.

- Please <u>use this document</u> to figure out who to contact regarding any concern you might have.
- Bookmark our <u>Directory of Faculty & Staff</u>.
- Visit our school website Student Life section for lots of helpful information!

Upper Grades Tardiness Policy

We want to ensure that all students are in class on time and ready to learn.

Policy: Late to School

If a student is late to school according to the official DOE period 1 attendance report, that student will lose their privilege to go off campus for lunch the following school day. <u>Families will receive an automated call from the DOE if their child is absent when the Period 1 teacher takes attendance</u>. This does not apply to students with an excused lateness. Families can report an excused absence using the Google Form located on our <u>school website</u>.

Policy: Late back to Campus from Lunch

Students who go off campus for lunch and do not return to school on time (Exit 6 door closes at 1:42pm) will receive lunch detention the next school day. Families will be informed by the Culture Coach, Jenn Shuman, if this happens.

OMNY Cards Update

Student OMNY cards are provided to schools by the Office of Pupil Transportation and are distributed to eligible students on the first few days of school. MTA software tracks the usage of all students' OMNY cards. If the MTA Transit Unit suspects the card is not being used by you, the student, your OMNY card will be <u>automatically deactivated</u>.

Please do not lend your card to anyone. OMNY cards are for use by students only. If your card is deactivated, please take the following steps:

Go to the Main Office and make a request for a replacement in the log book located on the counter.

Our Transportation Secretary will **replace it by your lunch period or by 2:00pm that day**, <u>if there are replacement cards available</u>. (OPT sends replacement cards to our school in batches, so sometimes there is a waiting period before you receive a new card.)

Other reasons to to request replacement cards:

- Your card is lost
- Your card is damaged (went through the laundry, or got bent in half, etc)

Learn more about student OMNY cards. Safe travels!

Update on NYC Schools Accounts.

Please do not email requests for NYC Schools account codes, instead please use the <u>TECH SUPPORT</u> form.

- We are working very hard to get all parents/guardians connected to their students. We are going in the order of the Tech Support form responses. Thanks for your patience as we have LOTS of requests!
- Schoolwide messages are sent out to the email addresses listed in NYC Schools Accounts, so it is important to keep your email address updated.

School electronic device policy.

Please review our <u>electronic device policy</u>. Electronic devices (cell phones, <u>smart watches, earbuds</u>, gaming devices, etc.) used outside of authorized times/locations will be confiscated.

School Dismissal Manager (SDM)

- To get help with SDM signup, please fill out the Google SDM Support Form.
- Fill out your child's dismissal plan each day **before 1pm**. After 1pm you must call the Main Office staff at 212 677-5190.
- Use SDM to note an absence or provide permission for your Grade 9-12 student to leave school before 2:00pm.
- Grades K-8 students CANNOT self-dismiss; an adult listed on the Emergency Card must come to the Main Office to sign them out.
- Students who are being picked up early must be signed out by 2 p.m. Early pick-ups between 2:00 and 2:35 are not permitted.

Student email accounts @nycstudents.net.

- After their @nycstudents.net email account is activated, students should log in at teachhub.schools.nyc.
- TeachHub provides free access to the Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Google Classrooms and other systems.
- If your student is still missing their account info, they can ask a teacher for help, or visit the Business Office, Room 248, for assistance.

How to reset your child's DOE @nycstudents.net email account password using your parent NYC Schools Account!

Parent/guardians can log into their NYC Schools account, and follow these steps:

- 1. Click on Settings.
- 2. Click on Student Password.
- 3. Select the child whose password you want to update.
- 4. Enter a new password. Your password must:
 - Contain between 8-32 characters.
 - Contain at least one number (0-9).
 - Contain at least one lowercase letter (a-z).
 - Contain at least one uppercase letter (A-Z).
- 5. Retype the new password.
- 6. Click on Save. That's it! Your child's password has been reset.
- 7. Other methods: Students can visit Room 248 during lunch for help, or fill out a <u>Tech Support request</u>. Do not email staff members, please use the form!

Bookmark the Lunch Menu.

- Visit the <u>school food webpage</u>, go to Find My School Menu. Click on the month to access the .pdf file
- We are served the **Food Court Menu** (page 16), and it changes monthly.
- Visit the Allergies webpage for information on the DOE Allergy Aware policy.

Transportation

- Students who use public bus service or live LESS than 0.5 mile from school are not eligible for OMNY cards.
- Lost OMNY Card? Fill out the log book in Main Office, and Marcy will re-issue the card. This takes 1-2 days.
- Private bus service is active on all routes.
- Visit the OPT Bus Delay webpage for bus status. OPT's Customer Service Line is 718-392-8855.
- If you need a NYC Schools Account sign up code, please fill out the <u>TECH SUPPORT</u> form.

Afterschool & Athletics

Athletics team and club updates will be <u>posted on this webpage</u>. Check frequently for updates!
 Join the <u>SportsYou app</u> to get push notifications for <u>Upper Grades Athletics</u>. Middle and Lower Grades details will be available soon.

Connect with us

- **Connect with other NESTies:** Join your <u>Grade Parent Group</u> (these are parent-run, not affiliated with the PTA or school).
- Connect with PTA: Take a moment to update your account in PTA Connect
- Receive schoolwide messages: Log into your <u>NYC Schools account</u> to make sure your email address and phone numbers are correct. Use the <u>forgot password link</u> to reset your NYC Schools account.
- Follow our official school accounts on Instagram and LinkedIn!
- **Join weekly Parent Coordinator Office Hours** on <u>ZOOM</u>, Meeting ID: 842 9384 5539 Passcode: 649115, Wednesdays at 11:00am. Stop by to ask questions, or just meet and mingle!

Have a great week, NEST+m!