

The Grove

THE LATEST NEWS, EVENTS, AND UPDATES FROM NEWTON'S GROVE SCHOOL

IN THIS ISSUE

Intro

Educational Spotlight: The Benefits of the Advanced Placement (AP) Program at NGS

The 2nd Annual NGS Parent Book Club: The Insight Exchange

Referral Program

Middle and Senior School Experience

Safety Protocols at NGS

Our STEM Program needs LEGO

October Cocktail Party Photos

Welcome November

It's hard to believe we're already heading into November! The weeks have flown by, and together we have experienced so much learning, growth, and connection since the first day of school. Our classrooms are alive with curiosity and creativity, and our students continue to amaze us with their engagement, leadership, and kindness toward one another.

Our school theme of Kindness has been woven beautifully into daily life at NGS. We see it in the way students support their classmates, in the encouragement shared among teachers and staff, and in the small, meaningful gestures that make our community such a special place to learn and work. Kindness has truly become a common language - one that reminds us how powerful simple acts of care can be.

As the faculty and staff look ahead to the coming weeks, we do so with gratitude for the energy, joy, and sense of belonging that define our school. What a wonderful start to the year it has been!



EDUCATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

The Benefits of the Grade 11 and 12 Advanced Placement (AP) Program at NGS

At NGS, the Advanced Placement (AP) program provides senior school students with the exciting opportunity to experience university-level study while still in high school. These courses invite our students to think critically, explore topics in greater depth, and engage with material that challenges and inspires them. By participating in AP courses, our students develop strong time management, analytical, and writing skills - essential tools for success in their post-secondary education and beyond.

This year, NGS is proud to offer eight Grade 12 AP courses: **AP Calculus, AP English, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Art, AP Music Theory, AP Physics, and AP Economics**. In addition, we offer Grade 11 Pre-AP courses in Mathematics, Biology, and Chemistry. The Pre-AP pathway helps prepare our students for the rigour of full AP courses by building foundational knowledge, study habits, and critical thinking skills. These courses ensure that students feel confident and supported as they take on more advanced academic challenges.

Beyond academic preparation, AP participation is widely recognized by universities across Canada, the United States, and internationally. Many institutions offer advanced standing or course credit to students who perform well on AP exams, giving them a valuable head start in their post-secondary journey. For example, one of our graduates from 2025 who entered the Rotman School of Business at the University of Toronto was able to enroll directly in a second-year course because their AP English qualification fulfilled a first-year requirement. Another recent student who completed three AP exams in Grade 11, unlocked the opportunity to apply to Oxford University in London, UK. Stories like these highlight the tangible benefits of AP study and the meaningful advantage it provides in university-level learning.

Perhaps most importantly, AP students demonstrate motivation, intellectual curiosity, and a readiness to embrace challenge - qualities that strengthen both university applications and personal growth. At NGS, we see the AP program as an opportunity for our students to stretch their thinking, build their confidence, and help students uncover what they're truly capable of.

If you would like to learn more about the AP or Pre-AP opportunities at NGS, please reach out to our Vice Principal, Ms. Pratiksha Mehra, or our Coordinator of Student Success and Wellness, Ms. Katie Wloka-Patterson. They will be more than happy to answer your questions and guide you through the many exciting possibilities available to our students.



THE 2ND ANNUAL NGS PARENT BOOK CLUB

The Insight Exchange

We are delighted to announce this year's Insight Exchange - our NGS Parent Book Club - where we'll explore *The Emotional Lives of Teenagers* by Dr. Lisa Damour.

Dr. Damour is a renowned psychologist, best-selling author, and regular contributor to The New York Times and CBS News. Her work focuses on the emotional development of adolescents and offers compassionate, research-based strategies to help parents navigate the complex world of teenage emotions with confidence and care.

This book provides invaluable insights into how we can better understand, support, and connect with our teenagers - making it the perfect choice for our continued conversations about raising healthy, resilient young people.

This book is a great resource for all parents in the Junior, Middle and Senior Schools, because regardless of age, at some point all of your children will be teenagers!

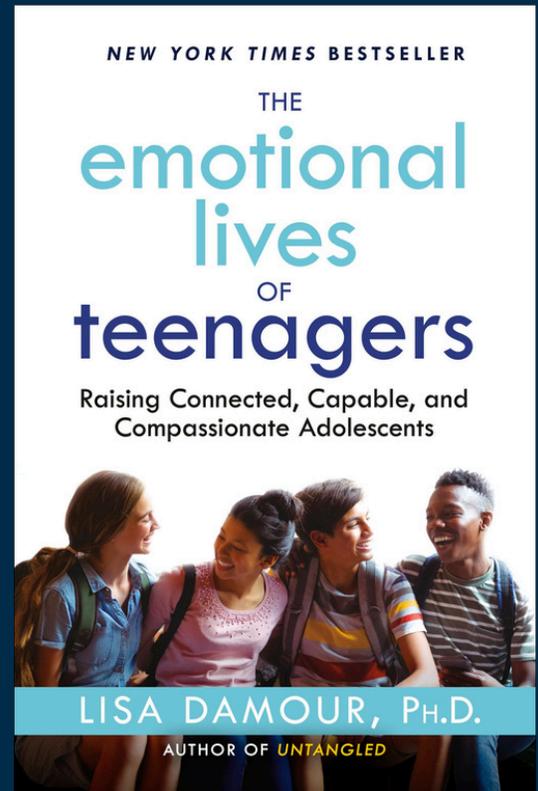
The Book Club meeting times will be determined once participants have registered. Our hope is to hold two online meetings and two in-person meetings between January and April, giving everyone time to read the book and reflect on the book before our first discussion.

Registration deadline: November 21st

Book available on Amazon: [HERE](#)

Click below to register: [Register Here](#)

Dr. Lisa Damour's Website: [HERE](#)



We need your support with our Referral Program!

We're inviting you to take part in our "Refer a Friend (Neighbour or Colleague!) Program"! As you know, we believe that the heart of our school is our community; a vibrant, welcoming, and supportive place where students thrive and families connect. We're proud of the incredible learning environment we've built together, and we know that the best way to grow is through the voices of the families who know us best.

When you refer a friend, neighbour, or colleague to our school, you are helping to build a strong, supportive, and deeply connected community. Word of mouth is the most powerful way to share the value of our school, and your recommendation carries more weight than any advertisement ever could.

Here's how you can help:

- Think of families in your network who might love being part of our school.
- Share your experience: tell them what makes NGS so special.
- Encourage them to visit, tour, or attend one of our open house events.
- Remind them to mention your name when they inquire or apply!
- [Click here to fill out the "refer a friend form"](#) and we will take it from there!



As a thank-you, families who refer a new student who enrolls will receive something special from the NGS community. Let's continue to grow this amazing school community together!

Discover our Middle and Senior School Experience!

We are delighted to invite you to two virtual information sessions: on Tuesday, November 4th for Senior School and on Tuesday, November 11th for Middle School, both at 7:00pm. These evenings will be an opportunity to learn more about our Middle and Senior Schools and all that they have to offer your child as they move through the grades at NGS.

You'll hear about:

- Our innovative curriculum designed to inspire curiosity and confidence and challenge the students
- The Senior School Advanced Placement (AP) Program
- Our L.E.A.D. program (Learn, Engage, Act, and Dream), which nurtures leadership and community involvement
- The breadth of clubs, committees and co-curricular opportunities available
- The many ways students can get involved through athletics, the arts and school life

We hope you will join us to learn how our Middle School continues to build upon the strong foundation established in the Junior School, helping students grow as learners and leaders, and how our Senior School prepares the students for post-secondary adventures!

Please click [HERE](#) to register, and we will send you a meeting link closer to the day.

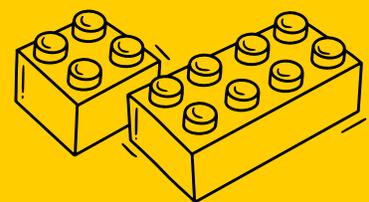


LEGO

OUR STEM PROGRAM NEEDS

Ms. Taylor, our STEM teacher, is looking for donations of LEGO :) If you have softly used LEGO products that require a new home, please send in your donation with your child and they can deliver it to Ms. Taylor. She is looking for: Duplo, Technic, and Regular Lego blocks

Thank you for supporting our STEM Program!



SAFETY PROTOCOLS AT NGS

At Newton's Grove, the safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a secure environment, we ask for your continued cooperation in following our school's entry and exit procedures.

All parents and visitors must use the main entrance (Door #1) when entering and exiting the school. Please use the buzzer system at the front door, and our front office administrators - on duty from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - will assist you.

To ensure we always know who is in the building, we kindly ask that you do not enter through any other doors, and do not ask students to open a door for you. Upon entry, all visitors will be required to sign in and wear a visitor's badge, which must be returned to the front office before exiting the school.

Now that we are well into the school year and students are familiar with their drop-off and pick-up routines, we ask that during morning drop-off for JK to Grade 4, parents allow their children to enter through Door #1 on their own. Our staff will ensure that each child gets to class safely.

At afternoon pick-up, parents of students in JK to Grade 4 are asked to remain outside Door #1, where your child will meet you. It is important that all JK to Grade 4 parents use the dismissal QR code so that your child is ready when you arrive. This helps ensure a safe and efficient dismissal process for everyone.

This practice for the JK - to Grade 4 students not only promotes independence and confidence in a safe environment but also supports our ongoing efforts to maintain the security of the school and smooth flow of morning arrivals and afternoon dismissals.

Note, there are times when pick up of students happens after 5:00pm: please note the pick-up/wait locations for the various programs, ALL doors are labelled by number:

- 1** Athletic and Drama Programs: pick up at Door #4
- 2** Music Programs: pick up Door #3
- 3** After-Care Program: pick up at Door #1 (front door)
- 4** After School Clubs: pick up at Door #1 (front door)

These protocols help us maintain full awareness of everyone on site, ensuring a safe and secure environment for all.

Thank you for your understanding and partnership in keeping our students safe. Your cooperation makes a meaningful difference.



OUR OCTOBER COCKTAIL PARTY: FREESTYLE AND FABULOUS

What a night! Our October 4th Cocktail Party was full of laughter, great conversations, and unforgettable moments. A heartfelt thank you to our generous donors and to all who participated in the Silent Auction and Wine Wall - together we raised over \$20,000 in support of our Drama Space in Phase 3 of our expansion! Take a look back at the fun we had through these photos, and if you'd like a copy of any of them, just reach out to Ms. Savannah Schnurr, our Marketing and Communications Specialist. Enjoy!











Cheri Grogan

I know I speak on behalf of the Faculty and Staff when I say that the energy and enthusiasm across both the Main Campus and Etobicoke Campus have been truly inspiring, and it's wonderful to see students, families, and staff supporting one another with such kindness and spirit. I am deeply thankful for our amazing community and for the shared commitment to learning that makes our school such a vibrant and caring place to learn and thrive.