Instruction
After spending the initial few weeks of school creating caring, safe classroom communities; classes are now settling into daily academic routines. Students have been working on engaging activities like dissecting owl pellets, multiplication strategies and work attack skills.

Classroom teachers and interventionists have used the first weeks of school to complete assessments using the Fountas and Pinnell benchmark assessment in reading, the POA & PNOA and STAR reading and math assessments. These assessments help us to assess progress, determine placement and evaluate our reading and math programs. These assessments are repeated several times throughout the school year.

Facilities
Our maintenance department never stops! In early September Sim Cook met with Connie and Claude Philleo to establish recycling protocols here at the school. Going forward the school will be working with the Philleo's to make sure the least amount of waste makes it into the landfill. In addition, maintenance has been looking into how the school can take on composting, so that we may reduce these costs as well. During the last week, students have assisted
the maintenance team in weeding and mulching our berry bushes and flower beds. The Newbury Elementary School grounds are looking fabulous!

The drainage project is complete and was able to handle a recent downpour. Due to the pandemic this project ended up costing more than anticipated. We applied for the VSBIT safety grant and were approved for this grant. This will help us complete other projects: window replacements and playground repairs which were identified in the VSBIT safety report.

Professional Development
Many of our staff members have signed up for professional development activities this fall. It is exciting to once again participate in professional development opportunities as many courses were put on hold because of the pandemic. Professional development opportunities which staff members are taking advantage of include training in the POA & PNOA, CPI Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, Nature’s Classroom, Ropes Course training and STARS: Strategies for Teaching based on Autism Research.

Faculty and Staff participating in professional development help to greatly enrich the learning experiences of all of our students.

Upcoming Events
- September 21st (Tuesday) Open House 5:00-6:30
- September 24th (Friday) 6th Grade Canoe Trip Long Pond Benton, NH
- September 27th & September 28th (Tuesday & Wednesday) Dental Van
- September 28th (Tuesday) Flu Shot Clinic 2:00-3:00
- September 29th (Wednesday) NES Picture Day