

# The Boulevard Beat

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SBS - SEPTEMBER 2015 EDITION



## THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

Welcome back to the Boulevard Beat! We hope that you find our monthly newsletter interesting and informative. September is a month of new beginnings, and we're certainly off to a fantastic start! At our orientations and our opening PTO meeting, I've focused on what an exciting time it is to be at SBS, and the fact that we're growing in every way. Our enrollment is growing, yet we still strive to make our school feel small. Our caring staff members maintain the daily personal touch that each of us want for our children. Our instructional practices continue to grow and develop, highlighted by our reading workshop initiative and problem solving approach to mathematics. We continue to grow in pride and spirit as we achieve in and outside of the classroom.

If you haven't yet tuned in to our HOPE Week efforts, I encourage you to look at the two links that are posted on our webpage under the "Headlines" column. Through our partnership with the PTO, our pure passion for wanting to teach our children about the importance of helping others was recognized by local and National media, as were honored by the New York Yankees.

Another exciting honor that we have recently achieved is tied to our sustained academic excellence. Yesterday, I proudly announced that Southern Boulevard School is the recipient of The 2015 National Blue Ribbon School award as an exemplary high performing school. This is an honor that we have all earned, and should all feel proud of. Congratulations!

Before I sign off, I'd like to unveil this year's SBS Halloween theme... *The SBS Time Machine!* Students, staff members and parents are welcomed and encouraged to dress according to any time period. Whether you choose the 60s, the 80s, prehistoric times, the wild west or even the future, this has the potential to be a lot of fun!

It was wonderful seeing everyone at Back to School Night, and I look forward to seeing you again soon!

## SBS Receives National Blue Ribbon School Award

### MRS. PIAZZA'S AM KINDERGARTEN CLASS VISITS MR. GARDELLA



### THE NURSE'S NOOK

Hi, Parents,

It is great to have the school year back in swing! I'm so happy to be reunited with returning students and I love meeting our new children and their families as September brings us all together.

Some questions have been raised recently about administration of medication in school. So I thought I would address this subject in today's Boulevard Beat.

While most medications (such as antibiotics, seasonal allergy medications, long-acting ADHD medications) are given by parents at home, occasionally, students will require the administration of medication during school hours. In these cases, there are regulations that govern how this can be done.

First, in order for me to administer any medication in school (prescription or over-the-counter), I must receive both a signed legal doctor's order and a parent signature. Our district medication authorization form is designed to provide both. <http://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/5125>

Second, all medication must be supplied in the original, labeled container.

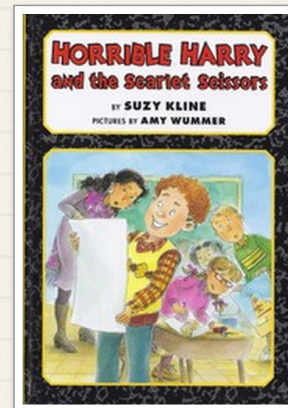
Third, for the safety of your child and all others, medication must be delivered to the nurse by an adult. Medication should never be sent to school in a child's backpack.

As the year progresses, if you find that changes in your child's health may warrant the administration of medication during school, please contact me so we can work together to plan for your child's care. If you would like more information on medications at school, please refer to the information on my webpage: <http://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/5124>

~Karen Leister, RN

## THE LIBRARY LOWDOWN

*The Author is Coming! The Author is Coming!* Friday, November 13th, Horrible Harry author, Suzy Kline ([suzykline.com](http://suzykline.com)) will visit SBS. Forms to order her autographed books were sent home in your child's backpack last week. **ORDER FORMS ARE DUE BACK FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2nd!** In the library, we have shared Horrible Harry chapter books and engaged in some fun activities to prepare for her visit. The students are very excited about Author's Day!



*Commemorate your child's birthday or other special occasion with the donation of a book to the SBS Media Center in his/her honor. Donations will be acknowledged in the Boulevard Beat monthly.*

Birthday Books

## COUNSELING CONNECTION

Welcome Back! September is always a time of transition, and by now, it feels that we are all settling into the new school year! In the beginning of the year, we focus on the behaviors that help make SBS a warm and caring environment for our community. I've been visiting classes to talk with students about how to manage their feelings in appropriate ways so that their behaviors can help them to navigate the social/emotional waters peacefully and respectfully. In addition to visiting classes to talk with the students, I try to integrate myself in a less formal manner during class and recess to reinforce the skills that support positive self-esteem and peaceful interactions. This model allows me to tend to issues that arise naturally and to provide a supportive, accessible presence for them.

New Jersey's Week of Respect is October 5-9. This year we are focusing our efforts on how respect and responsibility are intertwined. Every day, the students say the Character Pledge, which includes a line, "I am respectful and responsible, doing what I must." Classes

will have lessons and activities that promote a tangible understanding of what it means to be respectful and responsible to each other, in order to reinforce the behaviors that reflect those traits. During the last week of September, in Art Class, students are creating a banner that will be displayed on the oval in the front of SBS, during the Week of Respect, indicating how we all have a hand in creating our respectful community. On Monday, the students will have an assembly about Respect and Responsibility. Each grade will focus lessons on subtopics that reflect the Second Step Curriculum. Kindergarten will focus on sharing, Grade 1 will focus on listening skills, Grade 2 will focus on empathy, and Grade 3 will focus on respectful problem-solving. These topics lend themselves naturally to the developmental stages for the grade levels, but of course, all aspects of respect intertwine, so this just gives us an opportunity to highlight certain skills needed for respectful communities.

Please note that on October 8, Chatham Middle School will host a workshop, led by Lyle Cogen at 7pm, called, Sticks and Stones Parent Workshop. The workshop is given for adults to address anti-bullying.

Please feel free to let me know if you'd like to discuss any developmental or social-emotional challenge that you and your child are facing. If you would like your child(ren) to talk with me, or to participate in a support group for issues relating to friendships, family transitions, loss, anger, etc, please let me know. You can reach me by phone at 973-457-2509, extension 6018, or by email at [asilverman@chatham-nj.org](mailto:asilverman@chatham-nj.org). I'm here to help!

## THE DESIGN DEN

Welcome Families, to the Design Den!

Design and Technology is an exciting class where students create innovative solutions to hands-on, design challenges throughout the year. In class, we have been learning about the engineering design process. The engineering design process consists of five steps: Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create and Improve. Students use the design process to help them solve a problem or overcome a challenge they are presented with in class. Here's what we have been doing in class the past few weeks:

1st, 2nd and 3rd Grade students are exploring ways to create strong structures using "not very strong" materials. Each grade is exploring the strength of different materials.  
*Ask your child about the design they are creating to hold a tennis ball.*

Kindergarten students have been learning about computers and the "power keys" on the keyboard. *Ask your child to describe how they turn on a computer and how they can log in.*

Have an Outstanding October!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)

## DINNERTIME CONVERSATIONS...

Tired of the same old responses when you ask your children how their day went? Check here for some conversation starters!

Ask your kindergartner:

1. What is a community worker?
2. What things happen in the fall?
3. What is the difference between fiction and non-fiction books?

Ask your first grader:

1. What are the parts of a book?
2. Tell me a way to make 8? 9?
3. What does it mean to join numbers?

Ask your second grader:

1. How can you tell if you are reading a "Just Right" book?
2. What is a turn around math fact? (Example: What is the turn around fact for  $8+3$ ?)
3. What are some things that scientists do? How do they use their five senses to observe?

Ask your third grader:

1. What is the difference between standard form, written form and expanded form when talking about numbers?
2. Ask your child about their seed flier experiment.
3. How do we as readers find good books?

## PTO POSTS

Welcome, SBS Parents, new and old!

I hope your school year is off to a wonderful start. The SBS PTO Executive Board, [our crew of exceptional committee chairs](#) and I are all ready for a fun and eventful year to come!

We are looking forward to seeing the return of many of our beloved programs including last year's new community service initiative, HOPE Week, which blossomed this summer into an event of its own thanks to the generosity of the New York Yankees (photos below).

Because the PTO runs on the energy, passion and dedication of our parent community, I hope you'll consider joining us by volunteering on [one of our many committees](#). More information is available on our website and signups are ongoing [on VolunteerSpot](#).

To stay up-to-date on goings-on around the school, I recommend attending [our monthly PTO meetings](#). Also check out our [PTO website](#), our Facebook page and our Twitter feed for regular updates and reminders brought to you by the PTO.

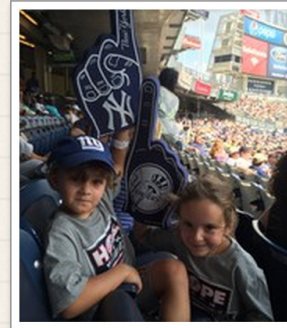
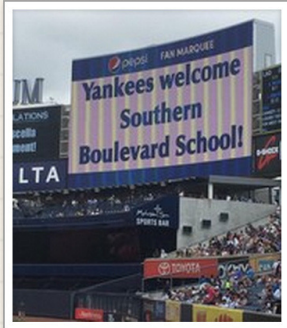
Lastly, the PTO could not run any of our wonderful programs or events without the generosity of our community. Your contributions directly fund our activities and enable us to continue to provide valuable and useful gifts to the school each year. To that end, I ask you to consider making a donation of any size to our [Fund for SBS](#) to help us carry out our mission to support and enrich the SBS experience.

Thank you so much for your support of the PTO and here's to an exceptional year to come!

Mae Hacking  
SBS PTO President 2015-2016

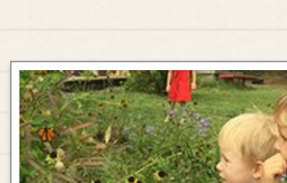
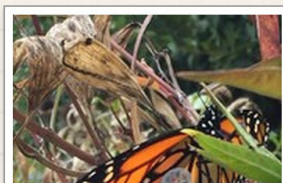
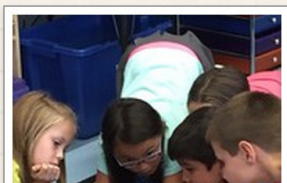
PTO Website

## SBS GOES TO YANKEE STADIUM TO CELEBRATE HOPE WEEK



## MONARCH BUTTERFLIES COME TO SBS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwTPA-qD4L0&feature=youtu.be>





SBS Website

SBS Calendar



## SOUTHERN BOULEVARD SCHOOL

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☎️ (973)457-2509

🌐 [chatham-nj.org/sbs](http://chatham-nj.org/sbs)