

The Boulevard Beat

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SBS - OCTOBER 2015 EDITION

THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

The Boulevard Beat



THE NURSE'S NOOK

The Attendance Line and Why It is SO Important
(973) 457-2509 Press "1" to leave a message

The safety and well-being of your children is the responsibility of the school during school hours. Our attendance system is the vehicle by which we verify their safety. If your child is late or absent and we have not received a message from you on our attendance line, we are obligated to contact you to verify their whereabouts.

Thankfully, we live in a safe area and we would like to assume that the safety of all students is guaranteed. But, even in Chatham, we can't make these assumptions; our follow-through is mandated by state law.

Your diligence in leaving messages on the attendance line prevents us from having to spend time at the beginning of the day, interrupting classes as we attempt to confirm everyone's safety. And, if another child has, indeed, encountered some danger on their way to school, your compliance allows us to spend crucial moments identifying and assisting that student more quickly.

Our automatic messages go out every day at the same time, so please leave your messages early—by 8:45 for morning arrival and by 12:30 for afternoon kindergarten. This allows us plenty of time to listen to your message and verify the absence.

Please remember that leaving a voice mail message on the attendance line is the only way to officially report your child absent. For more information, press the button below.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT ATTENDANCE

THE LIBRARY LOWDOWN

The SBS Media Center is gearing up for Halloween. Some of the great stories we have shared are *Porkenstein*, *The Widow's Broom*, *It's Vladimir!* and many others! Friday, we had our annual SBS Halloween puppet show with puppets, Witchie, Grieselda, and the rest of the puppet ensemble. Thanks to all who helped with making this a special day!



Author's Day is coming on Friday, November 13th! Suzy Kline, *Horrible Harry* author will visit SBS. We are excited about her visit. All students will experience this accomplished author's presentation. The students have been reading numerous *Horrible Harry* books in preparation for her visit. We had our annual Author's Day button design contest. The students who won from each class will have a meet and greet with Suzy Kline in the afternoon. At this time she will speak with the students and autograph our SBS author's chair. The winning students from each class are listed on the button below. Congratulations to Jessica Bao, third grader and overall school winner whose design will be created into buttons for the entire school to wear on the day of Suzy Kline's visit. Congratulations to all our winners!

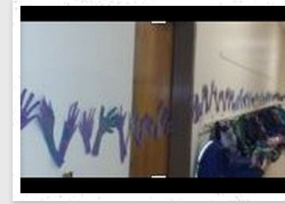
AUTHOR'S DAY BUTTON CONTEST WINNERS

COUNSELING CONNECTION

The first week in October is designated in NJ as the Week of Respect and ours started with an assembly on Respect and Responsibility which reflected our theme, *Respect! We All Have a Hand in It!!!* Each child, and many staff members, in solidarity, signed our banner, confirming our commitment! All week, each teacher focused lessons on the theme. We started two weeks earlier in each Art Class, where Ms. Hauser took the lead in teaching the students how to do the art aspect of the project, and I took the lead in teaching them the connection between our character pledge and the commitment to conscious ways we can be respectful to each other, emphasizing their contributions through the self-esteem raising concept that we each have a responsible "hand" in creating an accepting atmosphere for all. Working in tandem with Ms. Hauser gave me a chance to teach the class as a whole and then with each and every child at their tables to further individualize the concepts for the students. The week closed with the students displaying the hands they created, which noted symbols or acts of respect, into any pattern they wished on the hallways, aptly scheduled as a Social Studies activity. Many classes worked on the design together! Check out the pictures! So many good projects were inspired this week and with the third week in October being designated by NJ as School Violence Awareness Week, our Health Classes focused on peaceful conflict resolution, as did many 3rd grade classes, and anti-bullying lessons.

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Educating our children is a collaborative endeavor, with each of us having an integral hand in maintaining a respectful environment, but it takes many caring, hard-working hands to pull off any project as well! A HEARTFELT THANK YOU goes out to Claudia Hauser and Matt Chase for all of their help with the 15' X 5' banner!



CTFD VISITS OF KINDERGARTEN CLASSES



THE DESIGN DEN

[Welcome Families, to the Design Den!](#)

What has been happening in Design and Technology this month?



Kindergarten: Students have been learning about engineers and how they solve problems. *Ask your child to describe how they, along with a friend, solved Peekaboo the Turtle's problem.*

1st Grade: Students are exploring ways to improve their recent designs. How could they make them better? What did they observe during construction and testing? How can their observations help them improve? *Ask your child how they improved their tower design and what they wrote for their improvement sentences.*

2nd Grade: Students are exploring properties of materials to create a sturdy house for Paulie, the FOURTH little piggy. *Ask your child to list properties of a material and how they can make it stronger.*

3rd Grade: Students are learning about buoyancy and what makes things float and sink. *Ask your child what BUOYANCY is and why objects float or sink.*

Have a Wonderful November!

Ms. Stoianov (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 did you like best about the fire truck visit?
2. What does the word "fewer" mean?
3. Can you name 3 words that start with the letter c?

Ask your first grader:

1. Who helps you at school? Can you give me an example?
2. What do you use a tens frame for? Can you demonstrate how a tens frame works?
3. What does being "assertive" mean?

Ask your second grader:

1. What is a fact family? Can you give me an example of one?
2. What is a connection you made to something or someone in a book that you are reading?
3. From your trip to the Red Brick Schoolhouse, what are some interesting things you learned about school days long ago?

Ask your third grader:

1. Ask your student about their recent field trip experience to a Grow-a-Row farm.
2. How do you round a number to nearest ten? Hundred?
3. Ask your child about the "zone of darkness" and why is it so important for seed fliers to not fall in it?

PTO POSTS

Greetings, Southern Boulevard families! We hope you all enjoyed Harvest Night, which is just one of the many family-friendly events we hold for the SBS community. We hope you'll continue to join us for these as the year progresses!

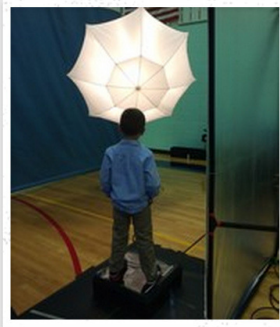
It is so exciting to see the hard work of our dedicated volunteers coming to fruition as the year begins to unfold. Our committee chairs have been handling their respective jobs with ease and grace. And I have been so thrilled to see many of our new families jumping up and joining in. This is truly going to be a wonderful year!



Speaking of which, please do mark your calendars for a few important upcoming dates:

- * **11/10 PTO Meeting:** Asst. Superintendent Karen Chase and Director of Elementary Education Kathleen O'Connor will be on hand to discuss and take questions on the revised report cards. Join us at 9:15am in the Media Center.
- * **11/13 Author's Day:** Students will enjoy a visit from celebrated children's author, Suzy Kline.
- * **11/16-11/21 HOPE Week:** Our SBS week of community service returns for its second year of activities and learning centered around doing good for those around us.
- * **5/2/16 Tee Off with SBS:** It's also never too early to clear your calendar for our annual golf outing! (Please note that this is a date change from the original calendar.)

With the start of the school year came much PTO activity and we have been quite busy since my last letter!



PICTURE DAY

Thank you to **Cristina Antenen** for doing double duty this month: Picture Day and Box Tops!



WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Thank you to **Jennifer Mathews** for our first Walk to School Day featuring members of the Chatham Township Police Department.



HARVEST NIGHT

Thank you to **Beth Fitt** for chairing our Harvest Night committee and bringing the fall fun to SBS.



MAJIC JIM ASSEMBLY

Thank you to Cultural Arts chairs **Dorothy Lee** and **Missy Tripp** for the first of our school assemblies: Magic Jim and his important messages for Week of Respect.



PIZZA PARLOR DAY

Thank you to **Sharon Moran** and **Jennifer Duignan** for getting our Pizza Day program up and running with their handy helpers!



FALL SPIRITWEAR DISPLAY

Thank you to **Kate Ackermann** and **Amy Deuchler** for running the fall Spiritwear sale. Our community will be all the more sharp-dressed thanks to them!

* Thank you to our After School Enrichment committee (**Jen Newman, Susan Trasino, Carol Soos and Kari Askins**) for launching another outstanding range of classes for our students.

* Thank you to Working Parents Network chair **Stacy Soltis** for holding not one, but two WPN events, including a breakfast with Mr. Gardella.

* Thank you to Meet the Masters Art chair **Cindy Marrinan** for running the first of the year's two MTM Art sessions.

And last but certainly not least, thank you to our parent community who have been so generous in their contributions to the Fund for SBS. If you have not yet contributed, it's not too late! Please visit our website (see button below) for more details.

Have a great day and see you back here in November,

Mae Hacking

SBS PTO President 2015-2016

[PTO WEBSITE](#)

[SBS WEBSITE](#)


[SBS CALENDAR](#)



SOUTHERN BOULEVARD SCHOOL

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 chatham-nj.org/sbs