

The Boulevard Beat

A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - December 2015 Edition

The Principal's Place

Beat December 1



The Library Lowdown

SEASON'S READINGS from the SBS Library! A big thank you to all of our parent library volunteers for helping out in the library. We are so grateful for your time, hard work, and dedication! A special thanks to Mrs. Sasaki, Library Volunteer Chair for organizing the schedule!

HOUR OF CODE--- In the library this month the SBS students participated in the HOUR OF CODE. The K-3 students were highly engaged in this meaningful coding event!--They had a blast! Our students received a certificate of participation and a bookmark with the coding website links. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers, Mrs. Rocca, Mrs. Hettiarachchi and Mrs. Marrinan who worked with SBS to make the HOUR OF CODE spectacular by decorating the library, front hallway bulletin board, and running the After School Enrichment Program on Friday, Dec. 11th. You made the HOUR OF CODE extra-special! Your time, effort, and generosity is greatly appreciated!

Special thanks to the parent volunteers during the ASE Coding:

Kindergarten

Kirsten Kelly

Seema Sood

1st Grade

Jodi Burns

Autumn Chapple

Karen Leddy

2nd Grade

Kate Ackermann

Kate Ackermann

Erin Creatore

Jen Mathews

3rd Grade

Farheen Lodhi

Shannon Kostrowski

Avantika Patel

Friday we had our annual SBS HOLIDAY PUPPET SHOW. Witchie, Grieselda, Lady Zsa Zsa, and many other puppets joined in the holiday fun! Thank you to Mr. Gardella and the entire SBS staff for their support! Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah!, Happy Holidays! and a Happy New Year to all of our SBS families! See you in 2016!



Birthday Book Donations

Matthew Nacinovich: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid Old School*

Giovanna Yanes: *Flat Stanley Worldwide Adventures*

Georgia Mollo: *The Gruffalo*

Book Donations

Oscar Bruu-Syversen: *World War 2 Spies*

Mollie Seiferas: *All I Want For Christmas*, by Mariah Carey

The Design Den

Welcome Families, to the Design Den!

What has been happening in Design and Technology this month?

Kindergarten: Students have been exploring the difference between wants and needs. Together, we identified the needs of an animal.

Ask your child to explain what a want is and what a need is.

1st Grade: Students are learning about different shapes that are found in structures and how they can use these shapes in their bridge designs.

Ask your child to tell you where the strongest point of a triangle is and how they could strengthen a rectangle and an arch.

2nd Grade: Students are beginning to write their advertisements for their houses so the Fourth Little Piggy will buy it. They first need to brainstorm a way to HOOK the reader in.

Ask your child to share some HOOKS they brainstormed for their advertisements.

3rd Grade: Students have tested their boat designs and have made improvements based on their observations.

Ask your child to share the improvements they made and explain why they made those improvements.

Have a Fantastic New Year!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)



The SBS Holiday Concerts

Congratulations to our first, second and third grade students for preparing and performing in 3 terrific concerts! I am very proud of what a wonderful job they did and I thank them for their hard work and enthusiasm!

~Ms. Roskam



Week of Code



Hour of Code



Counseling Connection

I wish you all a safe and healthy winter break!

PTO Posts

In such a busy time of year, I wanted to take a minute to say thank you to our community for your ongoing support of the PTO this year. Events like this month's Holiday Boutique and Hour of Code could never happen without the innovation, planning and staffing from our parent community. The smiles on the students' faces are confirmation that what we do is enriching their experiences here at SBS. I hope many of you will join us again in 2016 in one of the many volunteer opportunities that we have to offer.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

- * **1/5-1/8 Meet the Masters: Music:** Parents in the classroom help our children learn about the great musicians of our time. Care to share your expertise? A few volunteer opportunities are still available [here](#).
- * **1/12 PTO Meeting:** Please join us for our first meeting in 2016. Meet us at 9:15am in the SBS Media Center.
- * **1/15 Third Grade Strings Concert:** All of the student's hard work will be on display on this first of two concerts for the third grade strings program. The fun begins promptly at 9:30am.
- * **1/22 Family Fun Night for Grades 2 & 3:** The question of the hour is who will win this Family Feud-style battle as the second and third grade students go head-to-head in an SBS tradition that cannot be missed! The doors open at 6:30 and the battle begins at 7pm in the CHS auditorium.



Holiday Boutique

We hope you were able to take advantage of our complimentary babysitting and partake in SBS' own pop-up holiday shop! Hats (and reindeer headbands) off to **Carly Alvarez and Jodi Burns** for organizing this annual event!



Bash the Trash

Environmental musicians, Bash the Trash, helped to teach our students about making music from our trash. Thanks to **Dorothy Lee and Missy Tripp** for bringing in this entertaining and educational program!



Hour of Code

Our inaugural Hour of Code event was a smashing success with over 100 students across all grades participating. This event was the brainchild of STEM committee chairs, **Jinesha Hettiarachchi and Denise Rocca**, and will surely be returning soon!

* Holiday-spiced thank yous go to our Hospitality committee chair, **Ashley Dunn**, and our PTO Executive Board for helping to spruce up the gym for the holiday concerts, including the biggest and most beautiful poinsettias you've ever seen!!

* Earth-shaped thank yous go to our Environmental Awareness committee chair, **Jennifer Mathews**, for coordinating our December Walk to School Day and Litterless Lunch programs with the Bash the Trash assembly.

* Pizza-slice shaped thank yous go to our Pizza Parlor Day committee chairs, **Sharon Moran and Jennifer Duignan**, for keeping the pizza train running smoothly. Next stop: SBS cafeteria on January 8th!

I hope that you all have a wonderful holiday break full of family, fun, rest and relaxation. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in January refreshed and renewed for the year ahead!

[PTO Website](#)

Dinnertime Conversations...

Tired of the same old responses when you ask your children how their day went? Check here for some conversation starters and new ways to learn fun facts!

Ask your kindergartner:

1. Can you name a few holidays that are celebrated across the world in December?
2. Can you name all of the "teen" numbers?
3. Can you name what comes at the end of a sentence? What does it tell you to do?

Ask your first grader:

1. What sound does short e make? Can you name short e word families?
2. Why is it important to connect to a story?
3. How do you show a number as tens and ones?

Attention Second and Third Grade Parents!

Have you ever wondered how April Fool's Day started?

Do you know if snakes have ears?

Where do Northern Lights occur and what causes them?

Why are flip flops called flip flops?

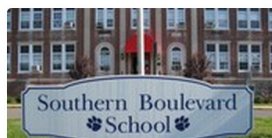
Well, we have the place to get answers to these questions and thousands more! **It's a place to explore the world of wonders!**

It is a free and kid-friendly website called *Wonderopolis*. There are wonders from the world of science, math, language arts, social studies, technology and more! There is even a place for you and your child to write your own questions and the Wonderopolis folks may have a future answer for you.

This month, give Wonderopolis a try!

[SBS Website](#)

[SBS Calendar](#)



Southern Boulevard School

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