

The Boulevard Beat

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SBS - MARCH 2016 EDITION

THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

Aprilbeat1



THE NURSE'S NOOK

Four reminders as we move into spring....

- Pack a refillable water bottle with your child every day. We have filling stations throughout our building that offer fresh, filtered water. (Using refillable bottles reduces our carbon footprint, too!)
- Administer antihistamines, daily inhalers and eye drops before school if your child's doctor has recommended them for managing spring allergies. We will encourage washing hands and faces after recess to remove excess pollens.
- Apply sunscreen every day before school to protect your children. As the sun glows brighter, the UV index rises.
- Put an extra pair of shorts/pants in your child's back pack—just in case. (Mud is a feature all spring long!)



LIBRARY LOWDOWN

The students have been "**LIGHTING UP THEIR LIVES WITH BOOKS!**" even more than usual! We had a very successful reading incentive program a couple of weeks ago. **The entire school read a total of 95,672 minutes.** We beat last years record of 93,661 minutes. Congratulations to all the students! We announced all the winners at a short assembly on Friday afternoon. Winning classes received trophies to keep in their classrooms for the rest of the year. Individual class winners had a pizza party in the library and received certificates. Overall grade level winners will have a special section of their choosing in the library to be dedicated to them with a plaque for the rest of the year. The culmination of the assembly was having a drawing of four students' names by grade level. The winners drawn were Mrs. Piazza (K winner), Mr. D'Aloia (1st grade winner), Mr. Gardella (2nd grade winner), and Mrs. Tromonda (3rd grade winner). Thank you to Mrs. Sally Simonfay, P.T.O. Chairperson for spearheading this event! We appreciate all your time, hard work, and effort in making this event action-packed and educational for our students. A great time was had by all!

READ ACROSS AMERICA- Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration

On March 4th the library had guest readers share some of their favorite Dr. Seuss stories with the classes. All classes made a special visit to the library for this event. We had a school-wide *Drop Everything and Read*, an end of the day sing-along over the loudspeaker lead by Mrs. Roskam, and morning and afternoon visits by The Cat in the Hat (Ms. Yost and Ms. S) himself! We were also graced with a visit by THING 2 (Mrs. Chin) during our reading sessions. Students wore crazy hats, red, white & black, and had a great day! Thanks for all those who helped make this day *FUNTASTIC!*

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

The SBS third grade team winners competed against each other in the Battle finals. Mrs. Scrittorale's team was the winning team. They faced-off against Washington Avenue School's winning team at Lafayette School Media Center on March 9th. Congratulations to Mrs. Scrittorale's winning team on defeating WAS by score of 20-16. The Battle was very close and all participants did an outstanding job!

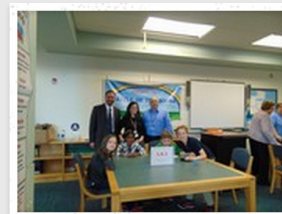
Amelie Hettiarachchi

Alexandra Jones

Charlie Kulp

Alexander Simonetti

All second and third grade students did an amazing job on the Battle of the Books this year. There was great evidence of collaboration and camaraderie among the teams. We are so proud of how much you read and how well you performed. Thank you to our SBS classroom teachers for their support!



CLASS WINNERS
CELEBRATE WITH A
PIZZA PARTY!

MR. GARDELLA GETS
PIED!

MRS. SCRITTORALE'S
BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
WINNING TEAM.

In the library students have been sharing a great deal of literature. Recently second grade students learned about Greek mythology and heard the the story of *Cyclops*, retold by Leonard Everett Fisher. Students were presented with a variety of Greek myths for book selection. First graders learned about variations of *I KNOW AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY*. In addition, Mr. D'Aloia shared and book talked the Junie B. Jones series. As Mr. D'Aloia donned his chef hat, kindergarten did a little baking with books and heard *Froggy Bakes a Cake* and *Beverly Billingsly Takes the Cake*. In addition, students were able to check out various fiction and non-fiction books related to cooking. Second graders have or will begin U.S. State research. Mr. D'Aloia has assisted with research using GOOGLE Chromebooks, provided state books and state websites for students, and created a state brochure template. In the next few weeks, third graders will begin animal research. The culminating activity will be to see the animal they researched on the annual Bronx Zoo field trip in June.

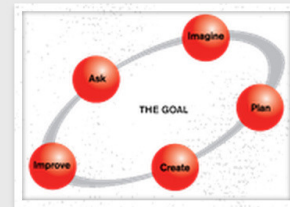
Birthday Books

Scott Simonfay - *"If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!"* by Elise Parsley
Ashley Nowicki - *"The Day the Crayons Quit"* by Drew Daywalt

THE DESIGN DEN

Welcome Families, to the Design Den!

What has been happening in Design and Technology this month?



Kindergarten: Students are learning about animal habitats and why an animal lives in its habitat.

Ask your child to share some habitats around the world. Ask why an animal lives in its habitat. Example: Why does the polar bear live in the arctic?

1st Grade: Students are learning about tools and machines used to harvest crops. They are creating tools to harvest their own crops.

Ask your child to share their plan for their harvesting tool. Ask what the engineering problem was and why it is important to make the tool?

2nd Grade: Students are learning the processes of waste disposal.

Ask your child to describe some ways that waste is disposed of. What is the difference between a plastic bottle, a banana peel and a styrofoam cups journey?

3rd Grade: Students are studying water availability across the globe and how some people live in regions where water is scarce. These people must travel miles, sometimes on foot, to find a water source. To help people who live in these regions, groups are designing "Water Carriers" that will make the transportation of water easier.

Ask your child to describe their engineering group's design to you.

Have An Awesome April!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)

MRS. ROSENSTEIN'S CLASS GOES GREEN FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY!



PTO POSTS

Happy spring, SBS!

We've been busy as bees this past month with the return of many of our favorite annual activities including our reading program and K/1 Family Fun Night. It has been great to see so many members of our community in and around the school supporting and engaging in our events.

We have already begun thinking of ways that we can put your generous donations to good use at the school to enrich the SBS experience for our students. We have been in discussion with Mr. Gardella about dedicating the majority of our proceeds to a single large-scale project: an outdoor walking track around the upper field. Due to the scope of the work, we would very much like your feedback. Please learn more about the walking track by [visiting our survey](#) where you can share your thoughts with us. We also invite you to join us at our next PTO meeting to discuss the project on April 5th at 9:15am in the Media Center.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- * **4/5 PTO Meeting.** Meet us at 9:15am in the Media Center.
- * **4/5 Spring Picture Day.** (4/7 rain date)
- * **4/22 Earth Day and Walk to School Day.** Stay tuned for more information on volunteering for this event.
- * **5/2 Tee Off with SBS.** Registration is currently open for the golf, tennis and evening reception.



READING PROGRAM

We capped off another successful reading program with over 95,000 minutes read throughout the school. And how amazing are the trophies which were awarded to the classes with the most minutes read in each grade?! Thank you to our committee chair, **Sally Simonfay**, for an outstanding event!



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

There was a lot of action going on at SBS for K/1 Family Fun Night where families joined us in the gym for some Bingo and on the playground for a run around. Event chair, **Ashley Dunn** (right) and her team did an fantastic job making sure good times were had by all!



BOOK FAIR BOOKS FOR TEACHERS

Thanks to our community's generosity during our Book Fair, the PTO was able to donate 168 books to the school library. An additional 26 titles selected by teachers from their wish lists were donated to the classrooms. Together, these represented over \$1800 worth of books for the school!

WATCH AS THE STUDENTS LEARN THAT THEY'VE BEATEN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL MINUTES READ FOR THE READING PROGRAM. MAKE SURE TO TURN THE VOLUME DOWN -- IT GETS LOUD!



[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!

Ask your kindergartner:

1. Can you name all the ways to make the numbers 4 and 5?
2. What are snap words? Can you find them in a book?
3. What are the 4 seasons?

Ask your first grader:

1. What new adventure are you going to write about in your Realistic Fiction story?
2. What does it mean to regroup? Can you give me an example of regrouping?
3. How can you sort the three types of rocks in Science?

Ask your second grader:

1. Tell about your research project you are doing. Where are you finding your information?
2. What are some ways that readers get to know the characters in their books?
3. Identify some solid shapes that you can find around your house. Where do you see cubes, cylinders, pyramids, spheres, and rectangular prisms?

Ask your third grader:

1. How can fossils tell us about the past?
2. What are benchmark fractions? How can they help us compare fractions?
3. Are you currently in a book club? What book are you reading?

[SBS WEBSITE](#)

[SBS CALENDAR](#)



SOUTHERN BOULEVARD SCHOOL

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