

The Boulevard Beat

A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - February 2017 Edition

The Principal's Place

Dear Parents,

I hope that this message finds you well-rested after our February break. I'd like to communicate some changes to our dismissal procedures that will affect several aspects of our daily routines. These changes are the result of necessary adjustments in building scheduling. I will send out a separate email this week to let you know of an official start date.

There are two specific changes which I feel will have a direct impact on the parent community. The first is to our staffing for our car line pickup procedures. The procedures themselves will not change from a parent's perspective, we will simply be realigning our staff supervision. Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Leister and Mr. Davis will continue to perform their usual roles, however the teachers will no longer be available to be outside during our car line pick up. In place of the teachers, we will have paraprofessional staff supervising and facilitating the portions of the pickup process formerly managed by the teachers.

Another adjustment for the parent community involves changes to our procedures for daily dismissal. Early in the school year, parents were asked to declare how their children would be dismissed for each day of the week. This daily dismissal record certainly evolves throughout the year as children become involved in activities and/or parents' schedules change. In order to limit confusion and maximize safety, it is important to have a clear and consistent routine.

Requests for changes to dismissal for the same day have become a common occurrence, and our new procedures require new parameters for these types of changes. Procedures for changing your child's daily dismissal are listed below.

- It's best for everyone if parents have a firm plan in place and communicated with their children for each day.
- Please contact your child's teacher at least one day in advance if you would like to change dismissal for a future date. This works best for planned social events, play dates, and other single-occurrence changes.
- While we expect that there may be some changes to dismissal that are unavoidable, we will no longer be able to honor requests for changes of dismissal on the same day of request.
- In the event that an emergency or unavoidable situation requires you to change your child's dismissal for the same day, please email your child's teacher and cc our main office secretaries (mkepler@chatham-nj.org, jbischoff@chatham-nj.org).

Please know that I have thought about these adjustments carefully, and I am committed to maintaining the highest level of safety possible for our children when they leave school for the day. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Respectfully Yours,

Robert Gardella
Principal

The Nurse's Nook

Now that we have returned from our Winter Break, spring is just around the corner! It is never too early to prepare for the changing weather and for the onset of pollen season. (In fact, if your child is challenged by spring pollens, many allergists recommend starting daily antihistamines in March. Please consult with your child's doctor now!)

Here are a few additional reminders as we move into March and hopefully, into warmer days:

- 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.
- Put an extra pair of shorts/pants in your child's back pack—just in case. (Mud is a feature all spring long and March is typically our "mud season kick off month".)

Karen Leister

Library Lowdown

Welcome Back! We hope you enjoyed your February break! Wow! Time is flying by...It's almost March!

The S.B.S. P.T.O. recently held the Book Fair in the library. Thank you to Mrs. Rocca, Mrs. Antenen, and Mrs. Hadzima! Thank you to the P.T.O. for their generous donation of books from the Book Fair to the SBS Library. The students and staff are very excited and the books will be cherished and used for many years!!

Battle of the Books is in progress with Grades 2 and 3. Both grades have been reading up a storm. Second graders will wrap up the Battle book reading in mid-March. We have completed one practice Battle thus far.

Third graders will have their final in-class Battles the week of March 13th - 17th during their regular library period. Notices will go out to Grade 3 parents inviting them to these in-class Battles.

Monday, March 20 - Winning 3rd grade Battle teams from each of the five classes compete in the **gym** for the SBS overall winner at 2:00 p.m. Parents of the winning students from each class will be invited to attend this event. Notices will be sent home.

Wednesday, March 22 - Lafayette Library- Battle of the Books SBS vs. WAS 4 to 5 p.m.
ALL THIRD GRADE PARENTS AND STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO WATCH!



Thank you to the Library of the Chatham for their awesome act of kindness!

KINDNESS:

Surprise Valentine's - Earlier this month, students from Milton Avenue School, Washington Avenue School, Southern Boulevard School, and Lafayette School made valentines at the Library of the Chathams for their favorite school librarians. On Valentine's Day, Head of Youth Services Jaime Sabonya and Library Assistant Donna Landrigan delivered these cards to four very surprised and delighted library media specialists!



SBS LOVE TO READ - PIE IN THE SKY ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to all the SBS students who completed numerous reading activities during the program. You did an outstanding job!

The winning grade level classes that completed the most activities are as follows:

Grade K - Mrs. Conti AM & PM

Grade 1 - Ms. Militello

Grade 2 - Mrs. O'Connor

Grade 3 - Mrs. Scrittorale

The raffle winners who pied the teachers were Will Antenen, Wrigley Heinze, Hudson Yee, and Jack Van Orden. Thank you to our teachers who volunteered to be pied in the face - Mrs. DePascale, Ms. Heath, Ms. Killea, and Ms. McCutcheon.

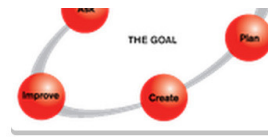
Thank you to Mrs. Simonfay for organizing this event! It was a "smashing" success!



The Design Den

Welcome Families to the Design Den!!





Special Announcement:

D&T classes are in need of paper bags for project storage. If you have any extras, please send them in with your child on their Design and Technology day. Thank you for your continued support of the program here at SBS.

Kindergarten students learned about deforestation and its effect on animals. ***Ask your child about how deforestation affects the animals in the forest.***

1st Grade students are testing their bridges and using observations to guide their improvements. ***Ask your child to discuss the bridge they are creating with their engineering group.***

2nd Grade students have created images of their design on Google Drawing. ***Ask your child to show you their Google Drawing on Google Classroom.***

3rd Grade students have begun creating floating structures to solve their current design challenge. ***Ask your child to discuss their engineering group's design and how it will solve the problem.***

Have a Marvelous March!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)

PTO Posts

I hope everyone had a safe and restful winter break. I want to start out by saying thank you, as always, to those parents who continue to help us support the school and volunteer to make our many activities happen. Whether it is working with Mrs. Roskam to bring Meet the Masters Music to our classes or constantly working behind the scenes to provide our school with an immensely successful After School Enrichment Program...none of these extra events could happen without our parents. This month we have enjoyed many of our favorite annual recurring events like K/1 Family Fun Night and our annual Book Fair. I thank everyone who came out and supported these two events. They were both hugely successful thanks to all of you.

We also continue to work hard preparing for our Annual Special Events Day on March 9th, which this year is all about water, our most important natural resource. There are many opportunities to volunteer during this fun-filled and educational day. Click on the link to sign up and volunteer <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d48acaf2babf49-volunteer>.

We also continue to be hard at work gearing up for our annual fundraiser the SBS Golf & Tennis Outing at Fairmount Country Club on May 1st. The outing features an 18-hole "shot gun" golf scramble, tennis round robin, cocktail reception & dinner, live and silent auction, plus a wine pull. Early bird registration is currently open, you can register at <https://squareup.com/market/sbs-pto/>. Sponsorship, silent auction, and live auction opportunities are also available. Any questions please contact Sally Allen at sallymallen@yahoo.com or Jen McNally at jenmcnally1@gmail.com.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

***3/3 Walk to School Day & Pizza Parlor Day**

***3/9 Special Events Day** Our students will be learning about one of our most important natural resources, water! Please sign up to volunteer (see link above)!

***3/14 SBS PTO Meeting** Please join us in SBS library at 9:15 am.

***3/31 Autism Awareness Day**

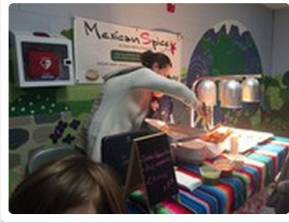
Thank You....

*Megan Schaaf, Ally Shirley, Christina Lasky, Sally Simonfay, Chrissie Maxwell, Larissa Wilson, Brittney Pruss and Linna Wang for hosting a wildly successful K/1 Family Fun Night on February 3rd.

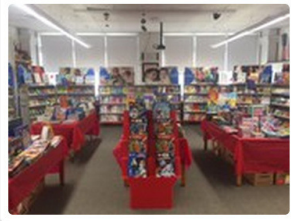
*to our Book Fair Specialist...Denise Rocca, Sarah Hadzima and Cristina Antenen for their week long time/dedication to make our Book Fair such a success. Who doesn't love buying books?!?!?
*Sally Simonfay for once again organizing our Love to Read Week which the children look forward to taking part in every year.

Here is looking forward to warmer weather and Spring quickly approaching!

Jennifer Donoghue
SBS PTO President 2016-2017



K & 1 Family Fun
Night...



Book Fair 2017....

[PTO Website](#)

[SBS Website](#)

[SBS Calendar](#)



Southern Boulevard School

📍 192 Southern Blvd, Chatham, ... 📞 (973)457-2509
🌐 chatham-nj.org/sbs

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