

The Boulevard Beat

A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - December 2017 Edition

The Principal's Place

Dear SBS Community,

I hope that each of you had a wonderful holiday break and a Happy New Year celebration. It's always refreshing to pause from our day to day hustle to immerse ourselves in our children. The memories that you're creating are priceless, and we're always excited to hear all about their experiences when the children return to school. I imagine that you're recharged and ready to get back into the flow of the 2017-18 school year.

We ended 2017 in grand fashion with our holiday concerts, and we will be picking up right where we left off this January with Author's Day, a visit from Dr. Marrero (our resident scientist), the Great Kindness Challenge, and Meet the Masters Music. January-March often yields the most noticeable growth in our students, so remember to keep a watchful eye as your children take these big strides.

Later this week, I will be sending a separate letter regarding dismissal and changes to dismissal. Please review that letter carefully and feel free to ask any questions that you may have. As always, please stay in touch with our weekly FYI email blasts for the most current SBS updates. I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Cheers!

Robert Gardella
Principal

The Nurse's Nook

Are you curious about how long to keep your child out of school after they have been sick? Check out the handy link to our document "[Required Exclusion Times for Contagious Illness](#)".

When making decisions about whether to send your child back to school after having been sick, we ask, on behalf of the health of us all, that you consider the health of the community and err on the side of caution.



What about vomiting? There is no “standard” response for excluding students after vomiting. Here’s a suggestion, though: Please allow your child to rest at home for at least 24 hours without vomiting prior to coming back to school. And please do not allow them back until they are eating and eliminating normally. This is the safest approach for the health of the school and the best approach for your child’s comfort, too.

Valentine’s Day is around the corner. Please be reminded that for safety reasons we are not allowed to send food home with children. For that reason, we ask that you do not attach food to Valentine’s Day cards. Cards with candy attached will not be distributed.

Thank you!

Counseling Connection

SBS will be proudly participating in the Great Kindness Challenge (GKC). GKC is a week dedicated to creating a culture of kindness on school campuses worldwide. It is a proactive, positive anti-bullying initiative. This year, the GKC is from 1/22-1/26 and our theme for the GKC will be “Kindness Matters”. We will have lots of fun activities during the week to help students remember the importance of being kind. Some of our activities include:

1. **Random Acts of Kindness** - The students will be asked to perform random acts of kindness each day. We will keep track of them and then add them up at the end of the week.
2. **GKC Spirit Days** -
 1. Monday - “Kindness Matters”- students will be given a kindness shirt to wear. These shirts are KINDLY donated by the SBS PTO and will be delivered to the students on Monday.
 2. Tuesday - “Team Kindness” - wear your favorite sports jersey
 3. Wednesday - “Mix it Up for Kindness” - crazy hair and clothes day
 4. Thursday - “Bee Kind” - wear yellow and black, like a bee!
3. **Daily Quotes** - 3rd graders will read a kindness quote every morning as part of the announcements.
4. **Door Decorating** - Classes will decorate their room door with a kindness theme.
5. **3rd Grade Kindness Ambassadors** - All third grade classes will be taking the lead on various projects throughout the week. Some will write the morning announcements, others will help run the kick-off assembly and one will design a kindness message for our chain link fence.
6. **Mix It Up Recess** - The Mix It Up concept was founded by an organization called [Teaching Tolerance](#). On this day students will be asked to move out of their comfort zones and connect with someone new during recess. This will be organized and managed by teachers and parent volunteers.

Many thanks to our PTO for fully supporting this amazing initiative. We look forward to a fun-filled week that makes a lasting impression on our students. We are so proud of the kindness that our students exude everyday!

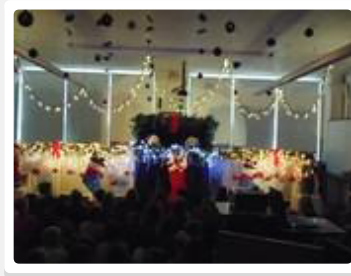
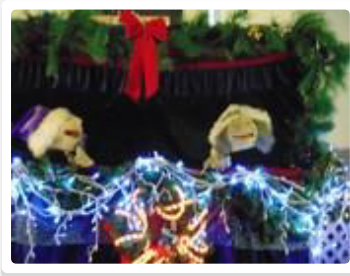
Library Lowdown

Happy New Year! Hope you had a very happy holiday!

In December, we had Hour of Code in the library. The students did an outstanding job and enjoyed participating in this district and worldwide event. Visit <https://code.org/learn> for coding activities for students of all ages.



We had our annual SBS Holiday Puppet Show Sing-Along in the library on December 18th. Witchie, Grieselda, and many of the other puppets entertained us with a great holiday story! The students had a great time! Thank you to all the SBS staff who helped and/or participated in the show! The staff did a great rendition of the *12 Days of Christmas* using many of our puppets. The students loved seeing the staff in action!



Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who assist in the library each week. We truly are lucky to have such a wonderful dedicated group of volunteers! We could not do it without you! Special thanks to Mrs. Sasaki for organizing the volunteer schedule and keeping everything right on track! Happy New Year!

Birthday Books

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. [Click here for the form.](#)



The Design Den

Thank you so much for your help in collecting paper towel rolls! D&T classes are still 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 - We are practicing how to log in to the computer, use a keyboard and a trackpad.
Ask your child about the games they play to practice their skills!

1st Grade - We are typing our improvement sentences on a Google Doc and printing them out.
Ask your child about Google Classroom and how they improved their design!

2nd Grade - We started to research a problem for Piggy, the 4th little pig.
Ask your child to explain Piggy's problem!

3rd Grade - We are engaging in discussions about water availability on Earth. ***Ask your child to explain the experiment we are doing with our small globes!***

Have a Joyful January!
Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)

From the Art Room....

If you missed the 1st and 2nd grade pastel drawings of Holiday Lights and Bells, they will be left up this month.

Music Notes

Congratulations to all our students for preparing and performing in 3 terrific concerts! I am so proud of what a wonderful job you did. Thanks for all your hard work and enthusiasm!



Quaver Music: Your child(ren) may be interested in signing up for a free account on the Quavermusic.com website. Children will need parental assistance signing up, as a free account does require a parent email address and an access code from their music teacher. From Quaver Street, students can explore several activities (games, songs, videos, music genres, etc.) within each area: the Quaver Music Shop (including the Studio and the Music Lab), the Music Room, and the Metro. Click [here](#) for directions on how to sign up.

Email Ms. Roskam troskam@chatham-nj.org to receive a class QuaverCode or with any questions.

PTO Posts

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed the holiday break and are ready for an exciting 2018! In true form, December at SBS was busier than ever and seemed to fly by! We are so grateful for our SBS community and I want to extend a special thank you to our PTO volunteers for making events such as the Holiday Boutique, the Computer Science Education Week Assembly and Hour of Code such a success in December. We are so lucky to have so many dedicated parents who share their time and talents with our school. A special thank you to Lenore Grogan and Jeanne Lado and the many parent volunteers for making the Holiday Boutique such a fun shopping experience for the children and for organizing this annual event! Many thanks to Amy Toscano-Zukor, Bob Hander, Geoff Maxwell, Jiaxin Wang, Keith Berry, Linna Wang, Sara Morelli, Xiaoling Wu & Ranjit Prithviraj for speaking to the students about their exciting careers during Computer Science Education Week. A very special thank you to our new STEM chair, Christina Mott, and the entire committee for making Computer Science Education Week and Hour of Code such a fun and exciting time for the students. This year we held two days of after school Hour of Code sessions and the kids had a blast. I hope many of you will join us again in 2018 in one of the many volunteer opportunities that we have to offer.

Please mark your calendars for the following:

*1/5/18 - Pizza Parlor Day

*1/9/18 - PTO Meeting: Please join us for our first meeting in 2018. Meet us at 9:15 am in the SBS Media Center. Guest Speaker Dr. Michael LaSusa, Superintendent.

*1/15/18 - No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

*1/22-1/26/18 - Great Kindness Challenge - New this year! SBS students will participate in a week-long variety of activities promoting a culture of Kindness!

*1/26/18 - 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 battle begins at 6 p.m. at CMS.

*1/29/18 - Meet the Masters Art: Parents in the classroom help our children learn about the great artists of our time.

Thank you for your continued support!

Erin Creatore

SBS PTO President 2017-18

Computer Science Education Week Assembly

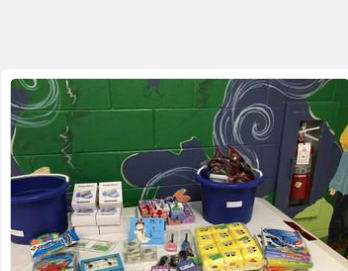




Hour of Code



Holiday Boutique



[PTO Website](#)


[SBS Website](#)

[SBS Calendar](#)



Southern Boulevard School

 192 Southern Blvd, Chatham, NJ  (973)457-2509

 chatham-nj.org/sbs

