

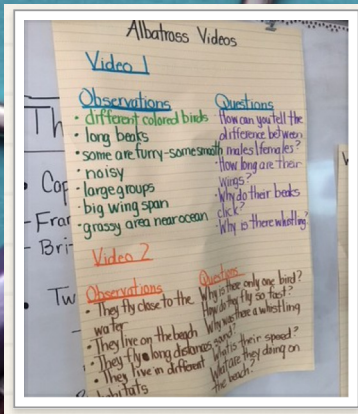
The Boulevard Beat

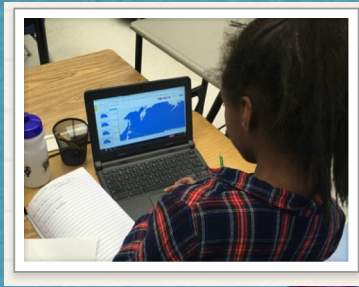
A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - January 2018 Edition

The Principal's Place

Dear Parents,

Thanks to the amazing partnership between our school, parent community and PTO, SBS is absolutely exploding with growth so far in 2018! On January 11th our third grade students and staff had an exceptional visit from our resident scientist, Dr. Meghan Marrero. Dr. Marrero led a morning professional development session focused on using effective scientific inquiry, which was very helpful to our progress with delivering lessons that align with the Next Generation Science Standards. She stayed for the afternoon to support the teachers as they delivered an activity in which the third graders used wonder and inquiry to learn about the Albatross, and then tracked the birds' migration from Hawaii to California using maps displayed on their Chromebooks. I have included some pictures below for you to enjoy. We're very excited to report on her visit with the second grade students and staff, which will take place on January 30th!





During the week of January 22-26, our school participated in the [*The Great Kindness Challenge*](#), and it was an enormous hit! Be sure to read Mrs. Medvin's message in this edition of the Boulevard Beat, and to talk with your children about all that we are doing to facilitate a kind climate here at SBS! Special thanks to our PTO, who provided resources, support and volunteerism that greatly enhanced these learning opportunities for the students.

Our staff and students continued our focus on developing a growth mindset so that we are well suited to take on challenges, pursue improvement, and benefit from the long term impacts that this mindset has on our overall performance and well being. This video was shared with me by an SBS parent: [*How to Help Every Child Fulfill Their Potential*](#). We used it at a recent faculty meeting to kick-off explorations about the feedback that we give to our students. I found that many of the messages connected to my life as parent, and I encourage you to watch it and consider how you can raise your awareness to the types of feedback and praise that you give at home.

Thanks for an overall exceptional month!

Robert Gardella
Principal

The Nurse's Nook

Love and Mud...

Valentine's Day celebrations are around the corner! Lessons about kindness and character are always a highlight and the children look forward to distributing cards to their classmates. Each year at this time, we begin to repeat this request: **Please do not attach candy or other edible items to Valentine's Day cards!** Due to district regulations (specifically, [5331A](#)), we are not allowed to send food out of the school with children. As a





result **we are unable to distribute cards with food attached.** Your cooperation is very much appreciated!

With winter brings messy weather. Whether it is snow, melting snow or mud, we expect children to find themselves “up close and personal” with these elements. Please dress your child appropriately for outdoor play. **And, please take a few minutes to pack some extra clothes (pants, socks, etc.) in their backpacks.** Preparing ahead will help them and it will also help you to avoid unwanted trips to the school to provide warm, dry clothes!

Thanks for your commitment to the safety and health of everyone!

Karen Leister
School Nurse

Counseling Connection

As Henry James once said, “Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind.” Kindness is a powerful tool that has the ability to increase happiness, self esteem and optimism. It can improve mental health, physical well being, and lower stress and anxiety. All of these wonderful benefits will ultimately help our students have better emotional and academic outcomes.

The message of kindness was driven home last week during SBS's participation in The Great Kindness Challenge. The students took the challenge of being kind very seriously. I personally experienced students being kind to me and noticed a kind vibe around the school. The Great Kindness Challenge brought the importance of kindness to the forefront of our students minds. I am hopeful that by completing so many random acts of kindness that students felt the ripple effect and the warmth in their heart generated by just being nice.

We are planning other events throughout the remainder of the year to keep this theme of kindness going!

Press the [brown button](#) below for an article about the impact of kindness.



"Check This Box if You're a Good Person"

Library Lowdown

Author's Day- January is flying by so quickly. Students and staff had an "OFF THE WALL" visit that would make Miss Small proud with author, Dan Gutman (dangutman.com). There were individual presentations tailored for the first, second, and third graders in the gym. Dan Gutman visited the a.m. and p.m. kindergarten classes and shared his new *Rappy the Raptor* books. Dan stressed to the students the importance of not giving up and to keep trying. He showed the students his book of rejection letters before he was finally published. This tied nicely into SBS' growth mindset initiative. In the afternoon, the winners of the button contest had the opportunity to meet with Dan for a question and answer session and watch him autograph our SBS authors' chair. Congratulations to Alicia Liu, third grader for winning the button contest (photo below).

A special thank you to the PTO Author's Day Committee Mrs. Zukowsky, Mrs. Foertsch, Mrs. DiMco, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Kleinbauer, and Mrs. Stratemeier who worked to plan this extraordinary event. It was a pleasure to work with this amazing group of volunteers. Your time, hard work, and dedication are truly appreciated.

Mike D'Aloia
Librarian



Follow Dan Gutman on Facebook...



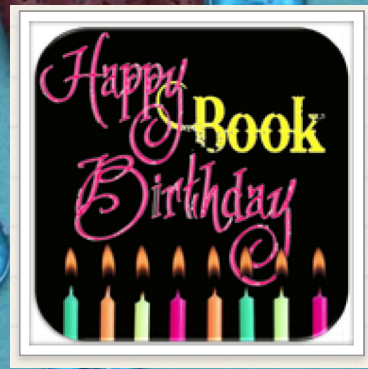
SBS STRIKES BIG WITH BOOKS, READING PROGRAM & BOOK FAIR

Information will be coming home soon about our SBS reading program and annual book fair which will take place during the week of February 6th - 8th. Stay tuned.



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

Welcome Families, to the Design Den!!

Kindergarten - We are learning about habitats and how animal habitats meet their needs for life. *Ask your child what the needs of life are!*



1st Grade - We started our Billy Goats Gruff Design Challenge! We will continue using the Engineering Design Process to solve the Billy Goats' problem! *Ask your child, "What is the problem the Billy Goats are facing?"*

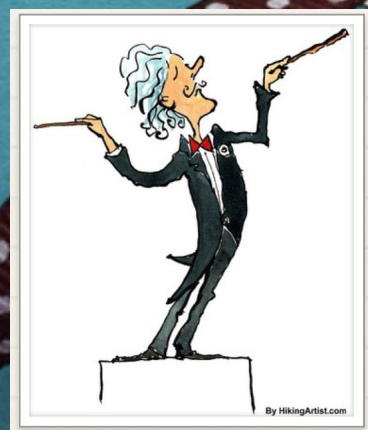
2nd Grade - We are beginning to brainstorm ideas for a house for Piggy, the fourth little pig. *Ask your child to share some ideas they have brainstormed!*

3rd Grade - We are engaging in discussions about water availability on Earth. *Ask your child to show you the graph they made showing the data we collected from our class experiment!*

Have a Fabulous February!
Ms. Stojanov (Mrs. S)

Music Notes

During the next few music classes, we will present a unit on great composers. **First grade** will learn about **Peter Tchaikovsky**. Many children will already be familiar with the music of Tchaikovsky because of his famous Nutcracker Suite! **Second grade** will learn about **Ludwig van Beethoven**. The focus will be the struggles Beethoven endured as a result of losing his hearing and how he did not give up on his art! **Third grade** will learn about **Johann Sebastian Bach**. J. S. Bach composed many works from the



Baroque period. He, like many artists, did not become well known and appreciated for his amazing ability as a composer until after his death.

These presentations help the children to recognize various genres of music as well as what is involved in writing a piece of music. They are able to identify expressive qualities such as:

Dynamics (loud/soft)

Tempo (fast/slow)

Pitch (high/low)

Melody/harmony

Rhythm

and...

Instrumentation (timbre and texture)

We look forward to teaching your children all the amazing things about these composers and their music!

Thank you for your support of the music program,
~Mrs. Roskam and the Southern Boulevard PTO

PTO Posts

Dear SBS Parents,

We are off to a great start in 2018! Our programs are once again underway as we move into the new year:

*Thank you to our stellar Author's Day Committee and Mr. D'Aloia for hosting Dan Gutman and making Author's Day such a great day for our students. The kids loved getting to know him and hearing his stories and words of wisdom and encouragement. Thank you Christine Zukowsky, Deb Kleinbauer, Elissa DiMeo, Cheryl Foertsch, Nicole Stratemeier and Pam Ryan!

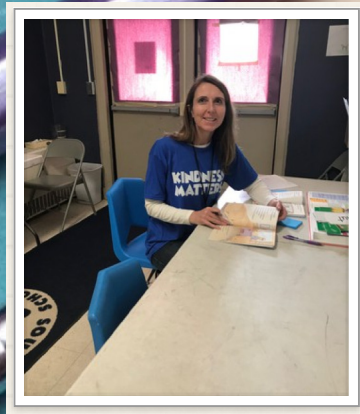
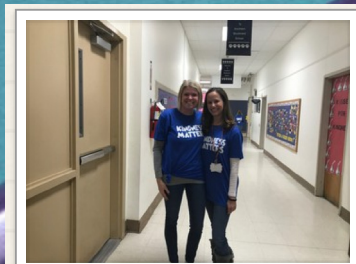


*Thank you to Puja Swamy and her Gr. 2/3 Family Fun Night Committee. It was another fun-filled Family Feud-style face-off that would never be possible without the dedication of this team of volunteers....thank you Michelle Cardoso, Jen McNally, Geetika Patel, Jennifer Renna and our MC for the night, Mr. Gardella.



*The Winter ASE session is off to a great start. As always, a huge thank you to our dedicated team of volunteers who organize such a fun and diverse schedule of classes for the children to choose from. Thank you Kari Askins, Melissa Arps, Ashley Dunn, Kim Visentini & Jinesha Siriwardana for all the work you do 'behind the scenes'!

*Thank you to all those who helped to make the Great Kindness Challenge such a success at SBS! The PTO is proud to support this initiative and the students participated in many fun and engaging activities to help promote a culture of kindness. Although the official week is over, we look forward to incorporating the theme of "Kindness Matters" throughout the year. Thank you to Mr. Gardella and Mrs. Medvin for organizing such a meaningful week of events.





Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for these upcoming, important events:

- *1/30-2/2, 2/8: Meet the Masters Music
- *2/2: Pizza Parlor Day
- *2/2-2/9: Love to Read Week
- *2/6-2/8: SBS Annual Book Fair with Scholastic
- *2/8. Working Parents Social: 7pm at Red Hat Tavern, Summit, NJ
- *2/13. PTO Meeting: 9:15am in the Media Center
- *2/14: Last Call for Spring Box-Top Collection
- *2/16. Early Dismissal
- *2/19: President's Day, No school

Get the Early Bird tickets for the ***Seventh Annual SBS Golf & Tennis Outing*** (Early Bird prices end 1/31), to be held at the Fairmount Country Club on Monday April 30th, 2018. The outing features an 18-hole "shot gun" Golf scramble, Tennis Round Robin, "The Five Senses Experience," Cocktail Reception & Dinner, Live & Silent Auction. Register at <https://squareup.com/market/sbs-ptol/>. To discuss ways to participate or questions, contact us at margaritadutton@live.com, jenmcnally1@gmail.com or

andreacaserta@aol.com Please see the attached flyer [SBS golf outing.pdf](#) and follow us on Facebook at SBS Golf & Tennis Outing 2018.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the PTO and our school.

Erin Creatore
2017-2018 PTO President

[PTO Website](#)

[SBS Website](#)

[SBS Calendar](#)



Southern Boulevard School

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🌐 chatham-nj.org/sbs