

The Boulevard Beat

- A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - September 2018 Edition -

The Principal's Place

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all that you've done to help this school year get off to an excellent start! It was great to see everyone at Back to School Night, and we are very excited to move into October and our Week of Respect. The first month of school often brings some updates and adjustments, so please review this message and feel free to ask any questions that may come up.

Best practices for safety and security have always been top priorities at SBS, and have become a prevalent topic in schools and school districts across the nation. As per state requirements and in alignment with our School District's security plans, SBS will be conducting a minimum of one security drill each month. Drills may include, but are not limited to lock down, evacuation to an off-site location (once per year), reverse evacuation, and shelter in place. All of our procedures have been carefully planned, adjusted, communicated and practiced over the years to ensure that our students and staff are prepared to respond to a variety of emergent situations. I am in constant dialog with Chatham principals and District administrators on the topic, and remain connected to the Chatham Township Police Department and Morris County Prosecutor's office to ensure that our students and staff members are safely learning at all times.

The SBS Parent Handbook is a great place to go if you have any questions about our school's policies and procedures. This month, I updated the "Homework" section of the handbook, which the teachers likely reviewed with you on Back to School Night. Homework is a topic that almost always generates a variety of opinions, and as a result, we review our practices each year to ensure that assignments are both purposeful and age-appropriate. At SBS, homework is intended to help facilitate growth by providing necessary reinforcements of the content, understandings and strategies developed in class. In addition, it serves to keep the parent community closely connected to our learning methods and experiences.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our PTO for the ongoing support. In addition to the generous gifts over the years that continue to engage learners, there are so many day to day efforts that impact our well being and maximize our opportunities to grow.

I wish everyone a Happy October, and I look forward to seeing you at our Halloween parade later this month!

Respectfully yours,

Robert Gardella

SBS PARENT HANDBOOK

The Nurse's Nook

Hi, Parents,

It is great to have the school year back in swing! I'm so happy to be reunited with returning students and I love meeting our new children and their families as September brings us all together.

Your child's safety is important to us. Please remember to log all absences and late arrivals into our Genesis Parent Portal prior to 8:30am (12:30 for PM K), so we may verify the safety of your children!

I hope you have had a chance to review the Parent Handbook. In it, you will find answers to many of the questions you may have about School Nursing Services, including immunization compliance, medication administration at school and exemption from PE.

<https://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/16261>

Here's to a happy and healthy new school year!

~Karen Leister, RN



Counseling Connection

Hello Parents,



This week Southern Boulevard students will celebrate the Week of Respect. The Week of Respect is a statewide initiative put in place to recognize the importance of character education in schools. School districts are required to observe the week by providing age-appropriate instruction focusing on preventing Harassment,

Intimidation and Bullying. This year SBS's theme is "Be An Upstander". The week will start with the students reading the book *Hattie and Hudson*, by Chris Van Dusen. The story is about an adventurous girl named Hattie. Everyday, she goes exploring in the lake. One day, she sees a mysterious beast that terrifies everyone in town except Hattie. Hattie proves to everyone that Hudson is a friendly creature. If Hattie had been a bystander instead of an upstander, who knows what could have happened to Hudson. Teachers will reinforce the upstander theme throughout the week. Some ways this will be done is by developing a comic strip, making Upstander-themed posters, watching a video and keeping an upstander journal. We will end the week with *The Ned Show Assembly*. NED is a lovable cartoon character whose name is an acronym for **N**ever give up, **E**ncourage others, and **D**o your best.

Last year we held a school-wide assembly where we discussed the definitions of bullying. This year I decided that it was better if I speak to the students in their classrooms about the definition of bullying. The small group setting was more interactive and made it easier to answer specific questions. The students and I also discussed what to do if you feel you have been bullied or if you witness someone being bullied. The definition of bullying and the [district policy](#) can be found on the district website under the heading "District Overview". If you ever have questions regarding bullying, please feel free to reach out to me.

Kelly Medvin

Library Lowdown

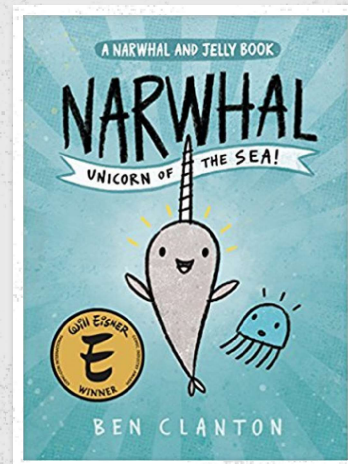
Welcome Back! The library is off to a great start! We have reviewed the library rules and procedures, as well as book care. Students have chosen new library books. Books are due back each week on your child's library day. Please remind them to bring back their books each week. Thanks for your assistance!

A big thank you to Mrs. Vecciarelli for organizing our library volunteer schedule. Special thanks to all the parents who volunteered to help us this year in the library. Your time, dedication, and hard work are greatly appreciated. We could not do it without you!!! There are still a few available volunteer slots.

If you'd like to volunteer, please reach out to us. It's a great way to get involved and see the SBS students in action!

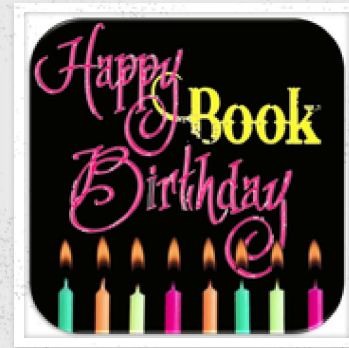
Author's Day will be on March 7th this year. Our author is Ben Clanton (www.benclanton.com), author and illustrator of the *Narwhal and Jelly* series. Book orders for this event will be sent home prior to his visit. He will autograph the book to your child. It's a nice way to commemorate the visit.

Have a great school year!
Mr. D'Aloia



Birthday Books

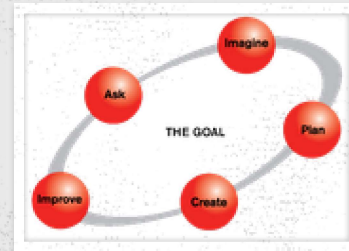
Commemorate your child's birthday or other special occasion with the donation of a book to the SBS Media Center in his/her honor. Donations will be acknowledged in the Boulevard Beat monthly. [Click here for the form.](#)



The Design Den

Welcome Families, to the Design Den!!

Kindergarten - We are learning about an engineer's job and how they impact a community. *Ask your child what an engineer is.*



1st Grade - Students are practicing logging in to the school laptops with their personal accounts. *Ask your child to explain how they log on to the computer.*

2nd Grade - Students have started their first design challenge! *Ask your child what step of the engineering design process they are on!*

3rd Grade - Students have started their first design challenge and we are learning to organize our engineering notebooks! *Ask your child what step of the engineering design process they are on and what that looks like in their engineering notebooks.*

Have a Outstanding October!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)

From the Art Room...

SBS students have been working on a large scale group project exploring color. Each student has created a decorated feather to make up a large scale set of colorful birds wings. Art concepts of the color spectrum, complimentary color, and primary and secondary colors are incorporated in this beautiful group project. You can view this work on the art bulletin board on the second floor.

Ms. Hauser

Music Notes

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! It's great to have the children back in the music room singing, moving, and creating beautiful 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 on the following link for directions to sign up: <https://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/16157>

Email Ms. Roskam troskam@chatham-nj.org to receive a class QuaverCode or with any questions. The current code, "BackToSchool18," is available until TODAY, October 1st, 2018. It will give each account 100 QuaverNotes! Your students have until today to enter the code. QuaverNotes WILL NOT expire! Below are instructions to redeem the code:

1. Go to QuaverMusic.com
2. Click on your Avatar on Quaver Street
3. Click the MY ACCOUNT tab
4. Enter the code where it reads ENTER QUAVERCODE

PTO Posts

Welcome to our SBS Families!

I hope the school year is off to a wonderful start. The SBS PTO Executive Board, our many talented and dedicated committee chairs and I are all ready for a fun and eventful year!

Summer was busy as our New Family Welcome committee warmly welcomed many new families to Southern Boulevard. Our School Kits committee worked tirelessly delivering hundreds of school supply boxes to the classrooms. The Back to School shopping event at the Short Hills Mall was a fun way to raise some money while reconnecting with friends after summer break! The After School Enrichment Team put together another phenomenal Fall ASE program. At Back to School Night we saw gorgeous planters and mums that were lovingly planted by our Beautification committee and beautiful new spirit wear options designed by our Spirit Wear Chairs. In October the PTO will have their hands full running Mileage Club (each Wednesday), Picture Day (Oct 12), Harvest Night (Oct 12), Working Parents Breakfast (Oct 13), and Box Tops Collection (Oct 15)!!!

We are excited to share with parents' information about our next school assembly, *The NED Show*, which promotes positive behavior & academic achievement using the lovable cartoon

character NED. (The acronym stands for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best.) This assembly on October 5th will be a wonderful way to wrap up the Week of Respect.

To stay up-to-date with what is going on around SBS, please consider attending our monthly PTO meetings. They are typically held on the second Tuesday of every month at 9:15 am in the Library. Our next PTO meeting will be on 10/16. You can also visit the PTO website <https://www.chathampto.com> for volunteer opportunities and links to other useful forms and information. Also, don't forget to stay connected on Facebook (facebook.com/sbspto).

Lastly, the PTO could not run any of our enriching programs or events without the generosity of our community. These programs make SBS such a unique and wonderful place to be for your child. Your contributions directly fund our activities and enable us to continue to provide valuable and useful items to the school each year. To that end, I ask you to consider making a donation of any size to our [Fund for SBS](#) to help us carry out our mission to support and enrich the SBS experience.

Thank you so much for your support of the PTO! We look forward to seeing you all at Harvest Night on October 12th!

Amy Ewing
SBS PTO President 2018-2019

[PTO Website](#)

[SBS Website](#)

[SBS Calendar](#)



Southern Boulevard School

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

