

The Boulevard Beat

A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - February 2019 Edition

The Principal's Place

Dear SBS Community,

Kindness was in the air in February, and SBS is committed to keeping it going all year long! We exceeded the challenge of performing 5000 random acts of kindness in 15 days, we collected over 250 pairs of gently used sneakers that will allow children in Africa to attend schools, and we continued to help to educate our friends in Uganda by raising money through Push-ups and Pages. Way to go! Our students come to school well-prepared to work hard on their academics, however nothing is more gratifying than seeing them change the world through kind acts. Whether right here within our own walls, or reaching across the globe, your children deserve recognition for being difference makers! Thank you all for supporting them in every way!

Please be sure to check out all of the exciting content in this month's newsletter, and look for the next edition of the Boulevard Beat for details regarding your important roles in our student placement process for 2019-20. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Respectfully Yours,

Robert Gardella

The Nurse's Nook

Believe it or not, 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.)

~Karen Leister, RN

Counseling Connection

During February I have been visiting all the classrooms. In 1st and 2nd grade we have been working on ways to calm big emotions. This lesson is important because students need to recognize when they are having strong enough feelings that they should be using a calm-down strategy. Learning to identify situational and bodily cues can help students know when it is time to calm down. By using a “stop” signal, a student can interrupt the escalation of emotion, which, combined with naming the feeling, can engage the thinking part of the brain. This helps them to be able to employ calming-down strategies and stay in control.



In 3rd grade we have been discussing how to solve peer-exclusion problems. Students who are rejected by peers are at risk for negative outcomes, including lower academic performance. Students can use the Problem-Solving Steps to cope with the problem of being left out. The steps are (1) Name the Problem, (2) Think of safe and respectful solutions, (3) Explore consequences (what/if) and (4) Pick the best solution and make a plan. This lesson also helps students increase empathy for others who are left out, and helps students who are left out apply assertiveness to this common peer problem.

Kelly Medvin
School Counselor

Library Lowdown

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS!

Saturday, March 2nd marks what would have been Dr. Seuss’ 115th birthday. Born in 1904 in Springfield, MA, during his career he wrote and illustrated over 60 children’s books that have sold more than 650 million copies. Did you know that his first book was *And to Think That I Saw it On Mulberry Street* in 1937? He wrote under the pen names Dr. Seuss and Theo LeSieg, but his real name was Theodore Seuss Geisel.



This Friday, we will celebrate his birthday in combination with our PUSH-UPS & PAGES reading program. Students are welcome to wear crazy hats for Dr. Seuss, as well as their pajamas (a reward if they reach their PUSH-UPS & PAGES goal) on Friday. At the end of the day, we will celebrate in the gym with an SBS staff-lead Dr. Seuss inspired Reader’s Theater, a song to Dr. Seuss thanks to Mrs. Roskham, and a school-wide Drop Everything and Read as we line the halls outside the classrooms.

Last week our kindergarten students compared and contrasted the fairy tale *The Three Little Pigs* to *The Three Ninja Pigs* by Corey Rosen Schwartz. They did a great job showing how the stories were alike and different. Most noticeable was one of the ninja pigs being a brave girl who saves her two brothers from the wolf.

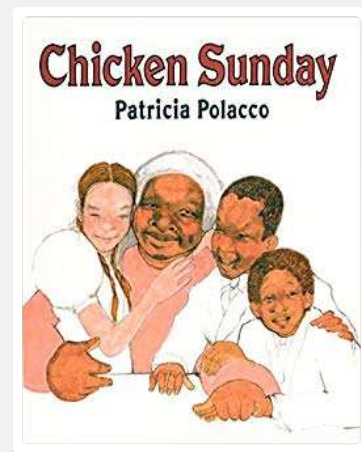
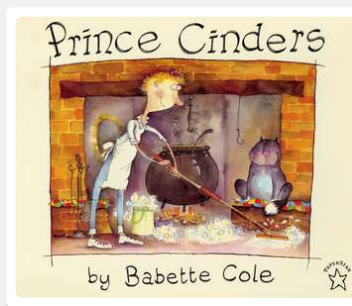
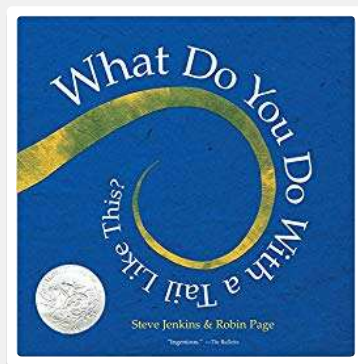
First graders have started or will be starting animal research projects. Students will be using the laptops to go to kiddle.co to find information about an animal they would like to research. We shared the non-fiction book *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* by Steven Jenkins to introduce the research project.

Second graders compared and contrasted two Cinderella stories, *Prince Cinders* by Babette Cole and *Cinderella* (Retold by Barbara Karlin and illustrated by James Marshall). They completed a double-bubble map on the Smartboard showing the likes and differences of each. Students were shown numerous fractured Cinderella fairy tales, as well as other traditional ones from around the world.

Third graders learned how in a story, the characters and their actions contribute to the plot. They listened to the story *Chicken Sunday* by Patricia Polacco. Using the Smartboard, students dragged and dropped various characteristics, quotes, and actions to the characters of Winnie, Winston, Stewart, Mr. Kodinski, and Eula Mae Walker to show their contributions to the plot. We discussed the characters in length, especially Mr. Kodinski and why he may have been grumpy and never smiling.

Have a great week!

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 animal habitats! *Ask your child about Benny the Polar Bear and his habitat.*



1st Grade - Students are starting a new design challenge to help build a bridge as strong as the Brooklyn Bridge. *Ask your child to share some ideas they brainstormed!*

2nd Grade - Students are investigating the best way to build a house for the 4th piggy. He will need one if he wants to stay safe from the Big Bad Wolf! *Ask your child to explain the PROBLEM of the design challenge.*

3rd Grade - Students are creating presentations to share their research with the SBS community. *Ask your child about their research topic and what they will be creating to present their information.*

Have a Marvelous March!!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)

From the Art Room...

Inspired by Vincent van Gogh, grade 3 students are finishing up Impasto paintings of their own *Starry Night.*



PTO Posts

February was full of kindness and books at SBS! From the inspiring Kindness assembly that encouraged the children to complete 5000 acts of kindness to the shoe drive in which we collected over 250 pairs of sneakers to send to Africa, our children were involved in many thoughtful activities! Thank you, as always, to our SBS parents who continue to help us support the school and volunteer to make our many activities happen. Whether it is volunteering as an art or library aide, helping out on pizza day or constantly working behind the scenes like our ASE team...none of these extra events could happen without our parents.

This month we have enjoyed many of our favorite annual recurring events such as Grade K/1 Movie Night, Grade 2/3 Family Feud, Love to Read week (now called Push ups and Pages) and our annual Book Fair. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported these events!

The countdown is on! Get tickets for the ***1st ever SBS Spring Fling*** to be held at the Fish and Game Club on Thursday May 2nd, 2019. The outing features live music, food, drink, and a wonderful opportunity to connect with other SBS parents! You can purchase tickets at <https://squareup.com/market/sbs-pto/>. To discuss ways to participate or questions contact jenmcnally1@gmail.com or andreacaserta@aol.com.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

***3/1 Pizza Parlor Day**

***3/12 SBS PTO Meeting** Please join us in our schools media center at 9:15 am.

***3/20 Author's Day**

Special thanks to....

-Book Fair Specialists... Sarah Hadzima , Cristina Antenna, Lisa Ruddy and all the volunteers for their week long time/dedication to make our Book Fair such a success.

-Meg Zimak, Heather Dunphy and their entire committee for planning such an exciting Family Feud night for our 2nd and 3rd graders and to Mr. Gardella for being a great host!

-Third Grade students and PTO volunteers who bagged shoes collected for donation to African children.

-Jen Bottoni and their fantastic committee for hosting a wildly successful K/1 Movie Night!

Amy Ewing

SBS PTO President 2018-2019



No act of kindness,
no matter how small,
is ever wasted.
- Aesop

PTO Website

SBS Website

SBS Calendar



Southern Boulevard School

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