

The Boulevard Beat

A Monthly Newsletter from SBS - January 2020 Edition

The Principal's Place

January has been busy here at SBS! The Monday after we returned from holiday break, our faculty meeting focused on developing resilience. I chose this topic to align with our Second Step Social and Emotional Learning Curriculum that strives to help our children develop resilience so that they can meet life's challenges and persevere. It is my belief that we, as adults, must set an example for our children on how to overcome hardships and live a happy life. Did you know that our brains have a negativity bias? Research has proven that our brain perceives negative stimuli faster and more intensely than positive stimuli. In fact, within a tenth of a second, we store negative stimuli in our memories. In comparison, positive experiences are harder for us to see and must be focused on for 12 seconds before we retain them. So as the days grow longer, consider focusing on the bright spots of your lives. Your children are wonderful beings who are learning and growing every day. Let's help them foster gratitude for the many ways we are fortunate. You could even try this.

Create a "Remember-lutions Jar". Find a jar. Decorate it if you like. Fill the jar with notes about your favorite memories and accomplishments. Every day or week, write a note and drop it in. Make sure to include notes about what you feel proud of having done. Periodically, read through the notes in your jar with your family.

Last Friday, the PTO sponsored a K/1 Movie Night that was well-attended. Students and their families participated in making a craft, eating treats and viewing, *Abominable*. Many thanks to the PTO volunteers who worked to organize the event and to the parents and teens who volunteered their time. On Monday, 1/27, Kindness Week began with a Kick-off Assembly. The entire school community shared in the excitement of knowing that we are part of a worldwide celebration whose central point is that kindness builds bridges. During the kick-off, I reminded students that here at SBS, we try to practice kindness every day. We discussed that our school motto, "Treat others the way you want to be treated" means that we always try to be kind and when we forget, we apologize and learn from our mistakes. It is my hope that you will reinforce our school motto at home. Many thanks to Mrs. Medvin, our school counselor and to the PTO volunteers who helped plan Kindness Week.

I can't believe it's nearly February!

Warm regards,
Kathleen O'Connor



Counseling Connection

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! These are just a few of the wonderful benefits of participating in the Great Kindness Challenge and driving home the message that Kindness Matters!



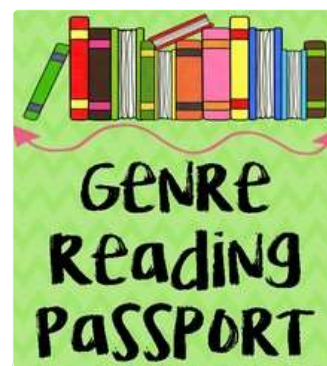
Today is the last day of the week-long Great Kindness Challenge. The week kicked off with an assembly featuring the "3R Players". Mrs. Rosenstein's class did an amazing job of getting the student body fired up to perform as many acts of kindness as possible during the week. The week continued with activities around being kind to the earth, being kind to animals and of course being kind to each other! We ended the week with an assembly called BNICE. BNICE is a program that focused on helping our students strengthen their relationships. The program incorporated real life examples of inclusion, acceptance and love through music & movement.

The students took the challenge of being kind very seriously. I look forward to seeing a lot of kindness, goodwill and a very happy school environment continuing throughout the year.

Library Lowdown

It's great to be back! Where has the month of January gone?

In the library, Grade 2 and 3 students recently received a genre passport for reading. This passport lists various genres for students to try out. After completing a book in that specific genre, the student fills out a box on the passport. The passports are housed in the library and available to students to complete during book selection time. Students who complete 8 of the 13 boxes will receive a prize. This passport is a great way for students to delve into various genres. Students are excited about their genre passports.

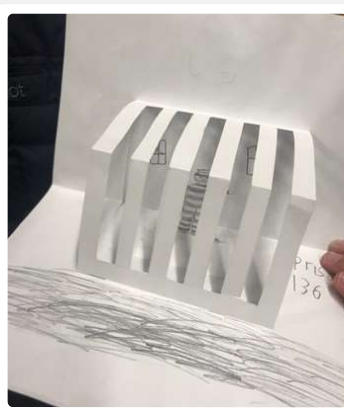


Grade 1 students have started research in the library. Students have chosen an animal of their liking to research. Students are using kiddle.co, a kid-friendly Google search engine to find out information on their animal. They have done an amazing job researching. I am so proud of their accomplishments! Great job Grade 1!!!!



In the library, kindergartners had a lesson on digital citizenship. We learned about *My Online Community: How Does the Internet Connect You to Others?* Students learned about what it means to go online and use the internet, compared and contrasted how they are connected to different people and places, and all about the rules they follow for visiting places online.

Hats off to Jimmy who loves the drawing and arts/crafts section of our library. Recently I suggested a book called How to Make Pop-Ups. Jimmy did an amazing job learning all about pop-ups and creating a pop-up of his own. Great work Jimmy!

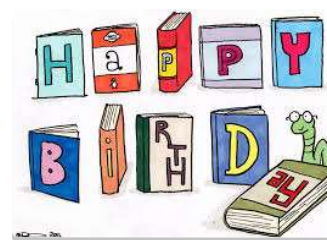


Thank you to the families who donated a book to the SBS Library in honor of their child's birthday!

Maya Katz - *The Book With No Pictures*

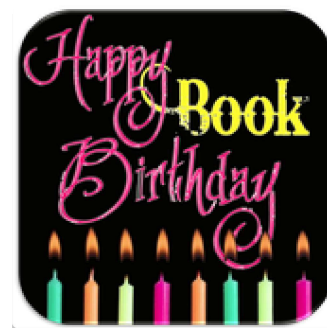
Mason Turner - *Inside Your Outside! All About the Human Body*

Meredith and William Orabona - *Lost and Found Cat The True Story of Kunkush's Incredible Journey*



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.](#)



Super Readers with Super Reader Power Pointers!



The Design Den

Welcome Families, to the Design Den!!

Kindergarten - We are starting a new design project!

Ask your child to share what the problem is!

1st Grade - We are starting to practice our typing skills!

Ask your child to show you Type to Learn!

2nd Grade - We are starting a new design project!

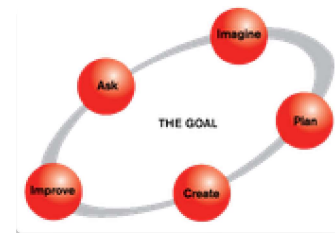
Ask your child to share what the problem is!

3rd Grade - We are starting research about human impacts on the environment!

Ask your child to share their research topic with you and how it is changing our environment.

Have a Lovely February!

Ms. Stojanov (Ms. S)



MUSIC NOTES

First graders have been creating their own rhythm patterns as well as identifying the ones that they hear and see. They are reading and writing rhythm patterns using quarter notes and paired eighth notes. They have also been getting to know what life was like during the Baroque period (1600-1750) with a focus on the great composer Johann Sebastian Bach. The children learned about the construction of and listened to the organ and the harpsichord. Plus they watched a video of someone playing Bach's Toccata and Fugue in d minor on the organ.



Second graders have been applying their knowledge of rhythm and melody while playing a song on barred instruments such as xylophones and glockenspiels. They also played the "Ode to Joy" on boomwhackers. They have been getting to know what life was like during the Classical period (1750-1825) with a focus on the great composer Ludwig van Beethoven. They are now familiar with the sound of Beethoven's "Symphony No. 5", "Ode to Joy" which is the fourth movement of "Symphony No. 9" and "Für Elise". Their music homework was to sing one of those opening themes to a parent, sibling, or friend and ask if the person could tell them who wrote it. Ask your child about the struggles Beethoven endured during his life and how he did not give up on his art!

Third graders reviewed the music of Tchaikovsky that they learned about in first grade. Now they are learning about the Baroque period with a focus on the great composer Johann Sebastian Bach. J. S. Bach composed many works from the Baroque period. Many children recognized his famous "Minuet in G" which is played on the piano today. The children learned about the construction of and listened to the organ and the harpsichord. They watched a video of someone playing Bach's Toccata and Fugue in d minor on the organ and we listened to his g minor fugue and talked about the meaning of a "fugue" which is similar to singing a round or a canon.

~Ms. Roskam

PTO Posts

Dear SBS Parents,

We are off to a great start in 2020! We are in the midst of the Great Kindness challenge and the PTO is proud to support this year's initiative with an inspiring assembly called "BNICE" by Chris French which will wrap up the week on Friday, January 31st. Students will participate in many fun and engaging activities to help promote a culture of kindness at SBS. Thank you to the parents who volunteered and to our Green Team committee, Mr. D'Aloia and Mrs. Medvin for organizing such a meaningful week of events.

Our annual kindergarten/1st grade family movie night was a huge success thanks to Ellen Veltri, Candace Hewit, Deepti Teotia and Crystal Cho. Attendees enjoyed crafts, a photo booth and yummy food while celebrating the theme of "Kindness and Friendship" with a viewing of the movie *Abominable* in the SBS gym.

Please save the date for our annual Spring Fling fundraiser which will be held on Friday, March 20th at Fairmount Country Club. We are excited to host this event on a Friday night to accommodate working parents! Come meet new friends, mingle and enjoy dinner, drinks, music and a live and silent auction.

All proceeds from this year's event will support the renovation of SBS' media center. To purchase tickets please go to: <https://squareup.com/market/sbs-pto/>

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

Susan Ross
SBS PTO President 2019-2020



PTO Website

SBS Website

SBS Calendar



Southern Boulevard School

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