

THE BOULEVARD BEAT

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SBS - OCTOBER 2020 EDITION

THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

Welcome to the 39th day of school! It was my pleasure to see students dressed in costume today. Despite the rain, we are all happy to celebrate something fun and exciting. A very special thank you to the PTO and all of our room parents who created individual craft kits for every student. We greatly appreciate your involvement in making Halloween, 2020 memorable.

Being the principal of an elementary school with 418 students is sometimes challenging but more often, rewarding. One of my responsibilities is conducting observations of teachers while they're instructing. If someone told me that teachers would be teaching students at home while simultaneously teaching students in person, I would have said, "Impossible!" Yet everyday here at SBS, we are addressing the needs of all learners whether virtual or live. As I conduct my observations, I am proud of the work that teachers and students are doing. Somehow and perhaps, miraculously, we have adjusted well to our new reality that requires face masks, desk shields, and social distancing. Despite these physical barriers, we are managing to meet with students either individually or in small groups everyday because we believe that it is important to provide feedback to further learning.

Earlier this week I attended a virtual conference that was supposed to take place last April. The conference was focused on "visible learning". The term "visible learning" refers to teachers seeing learning through the eyes of their students and students viewing themselves as their own teachers. When learning is visible the student knows what to do, how to do it and how they will know that they have met the success criteria. This clarity informs the teacher if learning is occurring or not and helps guide future learning. Examples of this would include the narrative writing checklist that students are using now in Writing Workshop or "I can" statements that are used in mathematics. When I meet with teachers after their observations, I ask them to reflect on the lesson and share student work that supports their thinking. This is a collaborative process that is ongoing throughout the year. If a student is successful, we consider how we might challenge him and when a child is struggling, we consider the next steps because we care about every student and are always trying to improve.

Just a reminder that Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Monday, 12/7 - Friday, 12/11. Teachers will be contacting you next week about this. Please note that Virtual Hour Google Meets will NOT take place that week because of conferences.

It is my sincere hope that school remains open. We've enjoyed getting to know the children and developing relationships with them. We are continually surprised by their wonder and how they

perceive the world. Thank you for sending them to us everyday.

Warm regards,
Kathleen O'Connor



COUNSELING CONNECTION

Hi everyone! Thank you for all the participation for the Week of Respect. The student's enjoyed dressing up for each theme day and completed a daily challenge surrounding an act of kindness. This week, I started small groups, including the "butterflies" group, which focuses on coping strategies for students who are feeling "the worries" and the "buddies" group, which focuses on fostering healthy friendships and conversation skills. Groups will meet weekly for four weeks and then I will begin a new round of groups based on the feedback and needs of the students (students can be referred to groups by teachers or parents). I hope you enjoy the beautiful fall weather and spend time picking pumpkins, going apple picking and baking delicious fall treats with your children. Here is one of my favorite fall recipes for you to enjoy, <https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/recipes/a43900/mini-pumpkin-chocolate-chip-muffins-recipe/>. Have a great weekend!

Jamie DeVergillo
School Counselor



LIBRARY LOWDOWN

HAPPY HALLOWEEN FROM THE SBS LIBRARY!

Where has October gone? This month we integrated some great Halloween stories into our library lessons. Grades K-3 had digital citizenship lessons.

Kindergarten learned about media balance. It is important to balance the amount of time you spend on and off your device.
Grade 1 learned about the internet traffic light, which discussed going to "just right" websites and what to do if you reach a website that is not right for you.



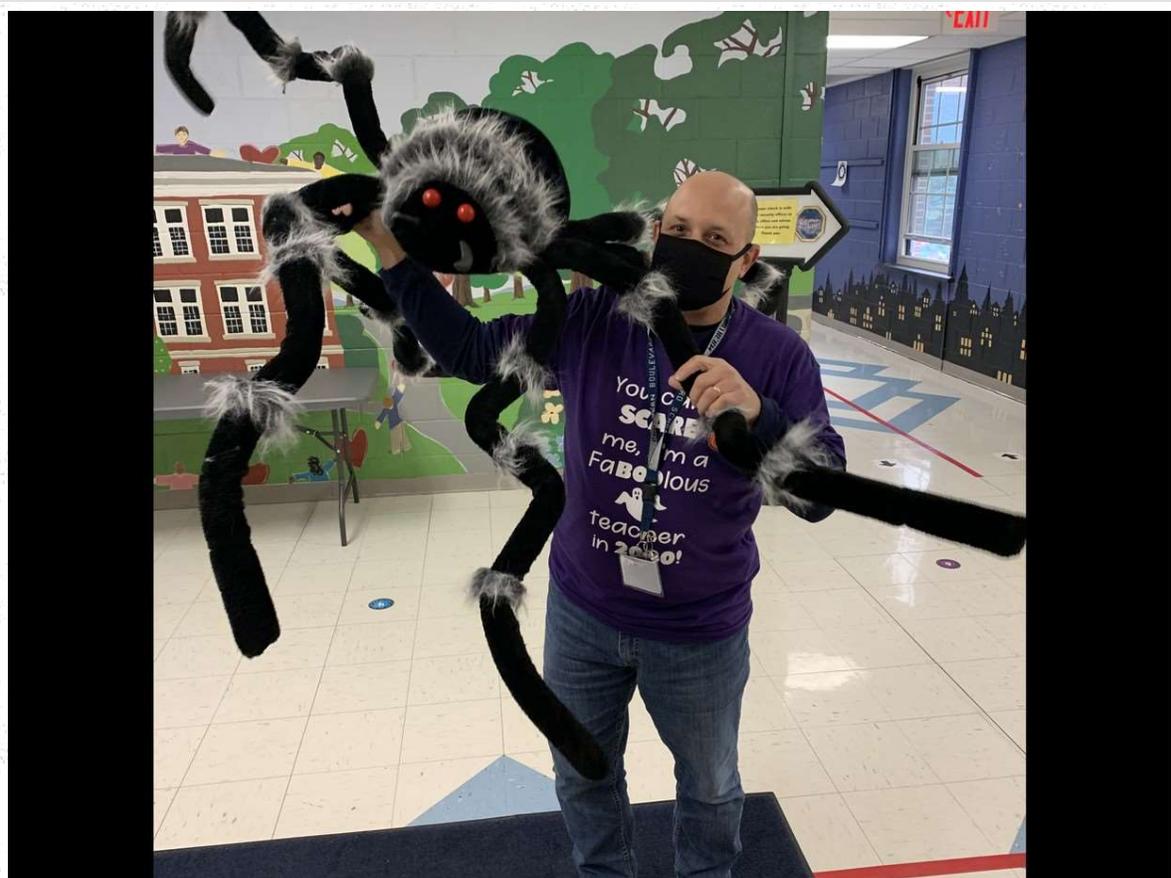
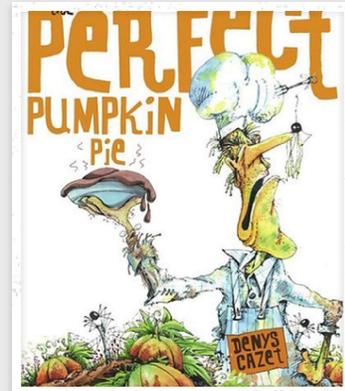
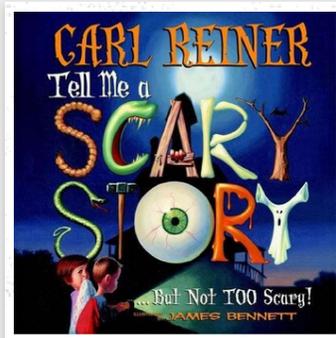
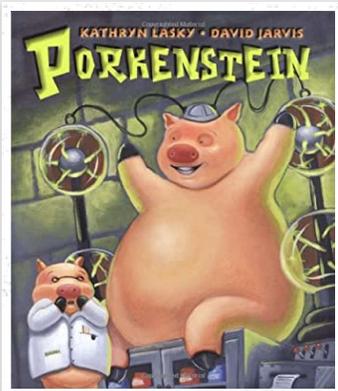
Grade 2 learned about which information needs to be kept private when online.

Grade 3 learned about the power of words and the steps to take if someone is being mean to you online.

The students also watched our annual SBS Halloween puppet show virtually, written by Mr. D'Aloia and performed by the SBS specialist teachers. Thank you to all you assisted!

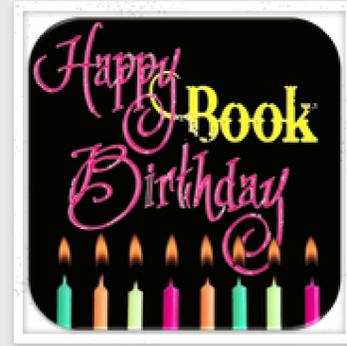
Have a great weekend!

Mr. D'Aloia



BIRTHDAY BOOKS

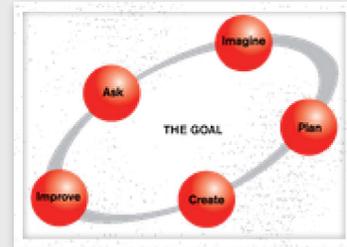
Commemorate your child's birthday or other special occasion with the donation of a book to the SBS Media Center in his/her honor. Donations will be acknowledged in the Boulevard Beat monthly. [Click here for the form.](#)



THE DESIGN DEN

Hello and welcome to the Design Den!

Tip of the Month: If you are experiencing problems with your district issued chromebook, use the [WEB HELP DESK](#) form to notify the district technology department! A link to this form is also at the very top of the [Virtual Learning Family Resources Website!](#)



Have a wonderful November!

Ms. Stojanov

HALLOWEEN SNACK TIME.....



THE MANY FACES OF HALLOWEEN...



MUSIC NOTES

First Graders are learning to read rhythm patterns using quarter notes and paired eighth notes. They are decoding word patterns into rhythm patterns.

Second Graders are reviewing rhythm patterns using quarter notes and paired eighth notes as we prepare to learn about the half note. They are decoding word patterns into rhythm patterns.

Third Graders are reviewing rhythm patterns including quarter notes and paired eighth notes as we work our way up to sixteenth notes. They are decoding word patterns into rhythm patterns.

Grades 1, 2 and 3 listened to "Morning Mood" and "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Edvard Grieg who was our October Composer of the Month. We talked a little bit about the Romantic Period in music which lasted between 1820-1910. Romantic music is very expressive and often tells a story. The children read a book called "In the Hall of the Mountain King" that went along with the music to help tell the story.

Thank you,
Ms. Roskam



FROM THE ART ROOM.....

These are works in progress from Ms. Aquilina's 2nd grade art class with Mrs. Mahoney. We are drawing pumpkin families in the light of the Harvest Moon!



PTO POSTS

Happy Fall SBS! October started with the Week of Respect and our first ever virtual assembly with Dr. Blake Brandes, a beatboxer and motivational speaker, who taught the children important messages like "I don't quit, that's called grit" and "When I keep going, my brain keeps growing." Thank you to Bridget Shanley for coordinating and to all the parents at home who helped their children participate. If a bad connection or other circumstances got in your way, you may view the recorded presentation [here](#) (available through 10/30).

Windy conditions on Fall Picture Day made things challenging but our Co-Chairs Cristina Antenen and Christine Loy and volunteers Megan Ryan and Cindy Lee were unflappable. If your child was absent or if you are unhappy with the photo, the retake date is Thursday, November 19th. Please see the FYI for details.

Spiritwear has been a glowing success thanks to the leadership and creativity of Tina Romano and Jessica Owens. Sales have raised over \$2,500 for SBS so far - thank you for your support! We are so appreciative of the extra effort made by Tina and Jessica to roll out a holiday sale with ALL NEW items. Please see the FYI for a link to the shop.

Our fleet of Class Parent Volunteers have been busy making connections, reminding parents about various contributions that support our students and SBS Staff and preparing Halloween

crafts. We are so thankful for their efforts and adaptability this year as many traditions have been eliminated due to COVID-19.

Despite the bad weather today, we hope your children enjoy dressing up and participating in their class celebration.

We wish you a safe and Happy Halloween!

Amy Ewing & Kim Visentini
SBS PTO Co-Presidents 2020-21



PTO WEBSITE

SBS WEBSITE

SBS CALENDAR



SOUTHERN BOULEVARD SCHOOL

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🌐 chatham-nj.org/sbs

