

THE BOULEVARD BEAT

- A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SBS - MARCH 2021 EDITION -

THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast;
Man never is, but always to be blest.

The soul, uneasy, and confin'd from home,
Rests and expatiates in a life to come."

— Alexander Pope, [An Essay on Man](#)

Welcome to spring! I was so heartened when I saw the daffodils popping up after the snow finally melted. It was a reminder to me that despite what is going on in our lives, the earth continues to orbit the sun, seasons change and lucky for us, birds migrate back to our neighborhoods.

I am happy to report that our students are doing well. It's really amazing how a few warm days can lift our spirits! I truly enjoy meeting them outside every morning and seeing the happiness in their eyes. I also enjoy observing how they dress for school. Because the March weather varies so much from day to day, student's outfits also vary. Some are still wearing winter coats while others have transitioned to spring wear no matter the temperature. I think the sun has really impacted our moods and raised them to a level of hope for the future! It really looks like there's a light at the end of the tunnel.

As we near the month of April, we begin to plan for the remainder of the school year. We are looking forward to walking field trips to the Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center where students will participate in outdoor activities such as:

- Kindergarten - Is it Alive?
- Grade 1 - Cool Creepy Crawlies
- Grade 2 - Whose Home?
- Grade 3 - Amazing Adaptations

On Earth Day, we are going to have a live virtual presentation with an educator from Washington state. In preparation for the speaker, we are creating a mural that will hang in the entrance hall. The mural will illustrate the ocean. During art classes, students are creating sea



creatures that will “swim” in the ocean. The goal of the presenter is to develop student awareness about ocean pollution, the effects this has on our environment and what our students can do to help solve this problem. It is my opinion that we all need to work together to make our planet safe for future generations and teaching young children about this can only strengthen this goal.

We are also planning our field days. In the past, Field Day would be one day for all SBS students. This year, each grade will have its own field day. We look forward to an enjoyable day for all!

Lastly, we are in the process of planning third grade end of year celebrations. We look forward to working with the PTO to plan some fun and special activities for our students while still practicing COVID-19 protocols.

A very special thank you to the PTO and all of the families who have sent snacks and drinks for the staff. We especially loved the mini-bundt cakes last week. It was heartwarming to see the sticker on the package.

I hope you have a wonderful spring break! If you're traveling, please remember the updated [Rules for Return to School](#).

Warm regards,
Kathleen O'Connor

COUNSELING CONNECTION

We had a great month at SBS in March! We had a Social Emotional Learning day last week and the students listened to SBS staff read stories about kindness, respect, diversity, inclusion and more! Each class completed "Kindness flowers", where they shared on each petal kind things they can do, they turned out great! We are so excited to continue to spread kindness throughout the rest of the year here at SBS. If you're looking for a fun outdoor activity to do over Spring break with the kids, I love [Holland Ridge Farms](#). They have millions of tulips to pick from and it is such a fun family activity. Stay safe and healthy and enjoy Spring break!



Jamie DeVergillo
School Counselor

AUTHOR'S DAY – JONATHAN STUTZMAN

Our virtual Author's Day with Jonathan Stutzman (jonathanstutzman.com) was a big hit with our students. Jonathan spoke about how he gets his ideas for writing and answered numerous

questions compiled by the SBS students during the library classes. Thank you to Mrs. Stratemeier and Mrs. Foertsch, PTO Author's Day committee for helping to plan this event. A special thanks to our SBS PTO for funding this annual event. This year we had a bookmark contest for Author's Day. All the students did an outstanding job on their bookmarks!! The winners are as follows:

KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Conti - AM - Isa Gallagher
Mrs. Conti - PM - Kacee Wang
Mrs. Moran - AM - Charlie Peck
Mrs. Moran - PM - Avery LaMastro

GRADE 1

Mrs. Ciccone - Ben Leonard
Miss Militello - Blair De Vries
Mrs. Piazza - Brennan LaMastro
Miss Spinner - Charlotte Bottoni
Miss Malanga - Sarah Bari

GRADE 2

Mr. Vogel - Liam O'Connor
Mrs. Piccola - Kaitlyn Bertrand
Mrs. Byrne - Mason Turner
Miss Brief - Maya Katz
Miss Seiferas - Annabelle Talakoub
Miss Aquilina - Alanka Swamy

GRADE 3

Mrs. Derych - Abbie Slattery
Mrs. Rosenstein - Shirley Nie
Mrs. Izsa - Nina Kostrowski
Mrs. Scrittorale - Lucas Zhou
Mrs. Tromonda - Tessa Lazerus
Mrs. Noonan - Julianna Morgan

OVERALL GRADE WINNERS.....

Best in Kindergarten - Mrs. Conti PM: Kacee Wang
Best in 1st grade - Miss Militello: Blair De Vries
Best in 2nd grade - Mr. Vogel: Liam O'Connor
Best in 3rd grade - Mrs. Derych: Abbie Slattery

OVERALL SCHOOL WINNER...

Mrs. Rosenstein - Shirley Nie

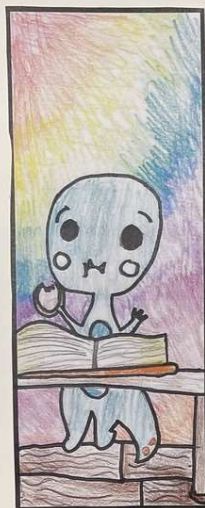


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Shirley Nie
Rosenstein



Abbie Slattery
Derych



Nina Kostrowski
Izza



Julianna Morgan
Noonan



Lucas Zhou
Scittorale



Tessa Lazerus
Tromonda

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Seiferas - Annabelle Talakoub



Aquilina - Alanka Swamp



Byrne - Mason Turner Brief - Maya Katz



Bite into kindness



Piccola - Kaitlyn Bertrand

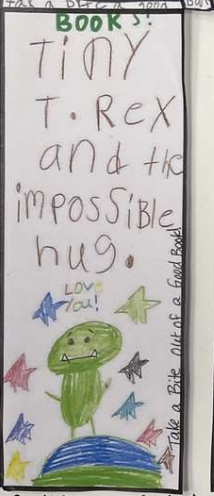


Vogel Liam O'Connor



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Ciccione - Ben Leonard



Militello - Blair De Vries



Malanga - Sarah Bari

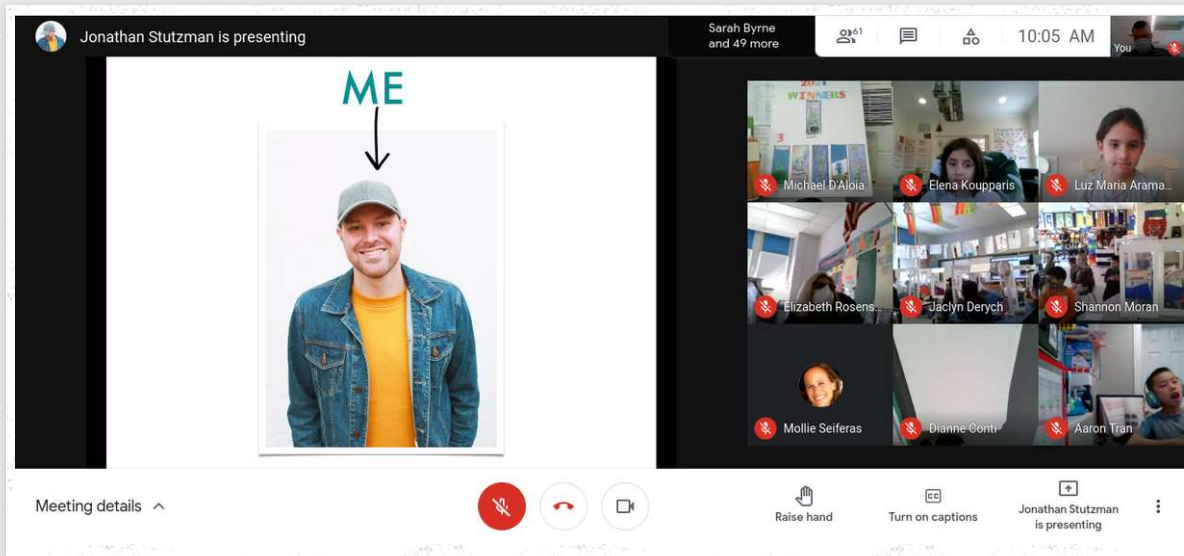


Piazza - Brennan La Mastro



Spinner - Charlotte Bottoni





I LOVE TO READ PROGRAM

The SBS I Love To Read program was a huge success thanks to Mrs. Bock and Mrs. Capone who organized this annual event. The students read up a storm!! Many of our students handed in sheets and were rewarded with a prize for their efforts.

The overall class winners who handed in the most sheets/activities completed are listed below. Each class earned a pajama party and an extra recess for their accomplishment.

Kindergarten: Mrs. Moran AM

1st Grade: Miss Malanga

2nd Grade: Mrs. Byrne

3rd Grade: Mrs. Tromonda

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.](#)

Birthday Book Donations.

Thank you to the following families who donated a birthday book to the SBS Library.

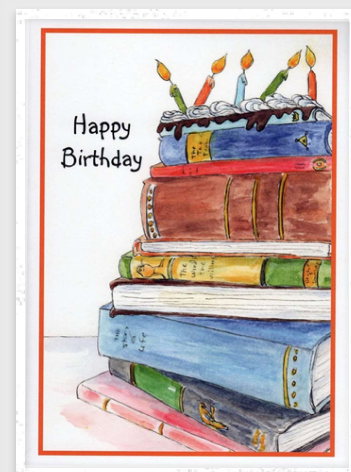
Happy Birthday to these students!

Clara Berger - *The End of Orson Eerie?*(Eerie Elementary)

Mia George - *Tomorrow I'll Be Kind*

Meredith and William Orabona - *Trombone Shorty*

Tyler Stancampiano - *Should I Share My Ice Cream?* (Elephant & Piggie)



Tedy O'Brien - *Mrs. Corbett is in Orbit and My Weird School Facts Pizza, Peanut Butter and Pickles*

Luca Barrish - *Roblox Top Battle Games*

Ollie Butler - *Llama Destroys the World, Llama Unleashes the Alpacalypse*

Thank you to the following student who donated a book fair book to the SBS Library.

Gabe Sady-Stuart - *Pug Blasts Off (Diary of a Pug)*

MUSIC NOTES

All students are learning about pitch. It is a challenge this year with the absence of singing! We are using the solfege system of reading music which names the notes of the major scale as Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti & Do. We are combining our knowledge of rhythm with pitch.



First graders are learning about So & Mi combined with rhythm patterns including quarter notes, eighth notes, and quarter rests.

Second graders are learning about So, Mi, & La. They're listening selections include rhythm patterns of quarter notes, eighth notes, half notes, quarter rests, and half rests.

Third graders are reviewing Do, Re, Mi, So, & La. They're rhythm patterns include half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, sixteenth notes, quarter rests, and half rests.

During February we listened to a new composer each week.

Week 1: "He Had a Dream" by Otto Gross

Week 2: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin

Week 3: "Lean on Me" by Bill Withers

Week 4: "Happy" by Pharrell Williams

Happy Spring!

~Ms. Roskam

PTO POSTS

The PTO sponsored a virtual Family Game Night with All Star Party LI for the 2nd and 3rd graders at the end of February. We were delighted to see so many students and siblings enjoying games like bingo and trivia. The three winners of Bingo were Max Zuckerman, Maya Katz and Katie Ryan. Thank you to the parent volunteers who coordinated this event:

2nd Grade Parents: Lauren DuBeau and Andrea Caserta

3rd Grade Parents: Carine Rubinetti and Ellen Yu



February and March at SBS have been all about READING! Students enjoyed the Scholastic virtual book fair, *I love to Read* challenge and virtual Author's Day. See the minutes from our March meeting for more details [here](#). The PTO would like to thank Mr. D'Aloia and all the parent volunteers who organized and ran these events for their hard work to get our students excited to read:

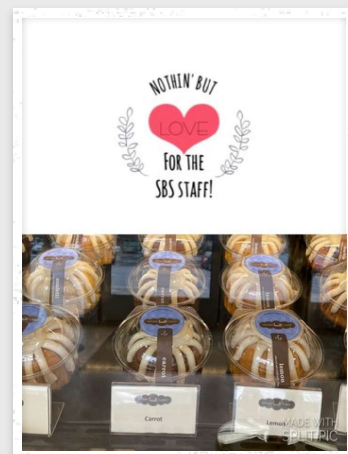
Scholastic Book Fair: Cristina Antenen, Kate Peck, Ramnik Singh, Jasmine Sood, Dana Matina

Reading Challenge: Yalda Bock, Erin Capone

Author's Day: Nicole Stratemeier, Cheryl Foertsch

Thank you to all the parents who encouraged their children to participate in these events and to those who gifted books to our teachers and library. The PTO used general funds to make additional purchases and see that all teacher requests were nearly complete.

Thank you to our Staff Appreciation team, Eve Katz, Luz Dunn and Helen Angelis for their ongoing efforts to have our staff feel the love. The "stock the breakroom" initiative continues! Our K and 1st grade families recently replenished the supply of snacks and drinks and 2nd and 3rd grade families will have a chance to do so after Spring Break. We now include on the signups a way for parents to make a small contribution towards future events, such as lunch for Teacher Appreciation Week and gift to recognize Nurse Auer's hard work this year on Nurse's Day, both in the first week May. If you would like to help support these initiatives, we invite you to make a small contribution [here](#) in amounts \$10, \$20, \$30 or \$40. Thank you to all of the k/1



families who have contributed so far. Last week the staff enjoyed mini-bundtlets from Nothing Bundt Cakes in Morristown. They were a hit and earned smiles from all our staff.

We are reopening the PTO Brick Sale! This is a unique opportunity to leave your mark on SBS for years to come! The PTO totally renovated our two interior courtyards in 2019 into outdoor instructional spaces. Our students will enjoy learning about plant life cycles and gardening from the sensory garden; using sight, smell and touch to investigate different plantings. You can purchase a customized brick that will be incorporated into the pavers in one of our interior courtyards. Everyone is invited to buy a brick; supporters young and old, past, present, and future students; family and friends. Please join the SBS PTO as we enhance our student's learning by supporting the maintenance and continued improvement of these spaces. Purchase a personalized, engraved brick to acknowledge your child/family, honor a beloved teacher, or to convey school spirit or a favorite quote. See details: <http://www.brickmarkersusa.com/donors/sbs.html> We are grateful for your support and look forward to permanently displaying this gift from your family in our courtyards.

Lastly, we are pleased to announce the PTO President and VP for next year will be Cristina Antenen and Larissa Wilson. Both are experienced SBS parents and will revive our traditional programs with ease as we return to more normal times. Several open positions remain on the 2021-22 Chair Committee Signup. I encourage everyone to explore the openings and consider leading and assisting with an event or program. Click here to see: <https://signup.com/go/SeOXsRm>

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

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

PTO WEBSITE

SBS WEBSITE

SBS CALENDAR



SOUTHERN BOULEVARD SCHOOL

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🌐 chatham-nj.org/sbs

