

THE BOULEVARD BEAT

— A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SBS - APRIL 2021 EDITION —

THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

It's hard to believe that we are in the final six weeks of the school year. I am so proud of the SBS faculty for the unending dedication, perseverance and enthusiasm they demonstrated this year. I am equally proud of the academic growth our students attained despite an incredibly stressful year. As we move into the last two months, I am asking for your support. Because it seems that spring fever is upon us, I ask that you remind your children that school is not over. We are still learning and we expect to continue doing so until June 17th. Of course we have plans for fun activities, but teaching and learning will continue. How lucky we are that we've been able to be here with each other everyday. I hope our children will savor this time since they will soon be moving to summer activities. Next week, I plan to stress this important message to our students and whatever you can do at home to reinforce this, I appreciate it.

Class Placement

When the calendar turns to May and the winter weather subsides, discussions about class placement begins for the next school year. The process that we utilize for placement is designed to gather feedback that will build positive class chemistry, while meeting the needs of all of our students. I'd like to reassure you that I understand the many variables that need to be considered in order to best balance class lists for a coming school year. Learning styles, support programs, class chemistry, student relationships, past experiences, gender balance, class size, just to name a few. The transition from one grade level to the next is a critical component to every child's success. It is the most important puzzle that a principal needs to navigate each year, and I am committed to giving it the utmost thought and consideration.

Here at SBS, we are fortunate to have a talented and caring group of educators who are committed to your children and work diligently to identify and provide individualized strategies that help them grow socially, emotionally and academically. Our teachers are acutely aware of each students' individual needs, as well as the characteristics of successful class dynamics. They take great pride in the placement input they provide.

We are also fortunate to have a caring parent community. The parent input that our teachers have gathered throughout this school year is essential when forming class lists. If you are at all concerned that there is something that may not be factored into your child's placement decision, I'd like to encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher to communicate specific

information that will be helpful to the process. Please focus on communicating the ways that your child learns best, as well as any personality traits, behaviors and work habits that characterize your child as a learner and community member. Gathering this information from teachers and parents will help me assemble balanced class lists that consider the key factors. Please understand that requests for specific teachers by name will not factor into placement decisions. Our process is designed to gather feedback that will build positive class chemistry while meeting the needs of all of our students. As an evaluator of all of the staff members at SBS, I have formally and informally observed every teacher and I'm very familiar with their styles and strengths. The key ingredient in this process is trust. I ask that you trust us to use available information and our professional judgement to make the best possible placement decision for your child.

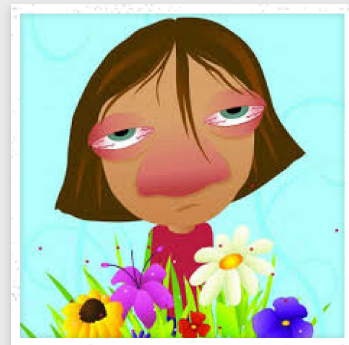
Thank you for your invaluable contributions to this process, and to every aspect of your child's education at SBS.

Respectfully yours,
Kathleen O'Connor

NURSE'S NOOK

April showers bring May flowers....

Spring is in full bloom. This time of year can be very challenging for those with seasonal allergies. These allergies come with irritating symptoms such as watery eyes, headaches, sneezing, a runny or stuffy nose, and an itchy throat. Our classroom windows need to remain open due to Covid.



Tips to help our students manage symptoms over the coming weeks:

- Remove pollen from hands by washing them with water after returning indoors from PE, snack time, and mask break.
- Provide extra masks for your child to change after they come in from outside.
- After being outside on high-pollen days, shower to wash away pollen before bed.

Ever wonder what the pollen count is and what allergens are circulating in the air...check it out [07928](#).

Kim Auer
School Nurse

COUNSELING CONNECTION

Hi SBS community! We have recently started a Positive Behavior Support Program at school to encourage kindness, respect and responsibility! Each staff member in the school now has tickets that they can give to students when they go above and beyond with these categories! In

May and June, myself and the school psychologist will be pulling winners from each class to earn a trip to the treasure chest for a prize and a class in each grade will win an extra recess! We are so excited to start this program to foster motivation, encouragement and support for the last few months of school! Be sure to ask your children to share with you when they earned tickets and I am sure they will love to share why. Have a great month of May, we are about to have some wonderful weather :).

Jamie DeVergillo
School Counselor

SOUTHERN BOULEVARD

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR TICKET

RESPECT - KINDNESS - RESPONSIBILITY

NAME: _____

TEACHER: _____

GRADE: _____

LIBRARY LOWDOWN

Wow! Where has April gone? May is here!

ALL LIBRARY BOOKS ARE DUE BACK FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021!



We are so fortunate and thankful that the SBS PTO will be gifting the SBS Library new carpeting over the summer. There is a great deal of preparation work to be done prior to the installation of the new carpeting. One of those items is having all the library books and materials back so they can be boxed up. THANK YOU S.B.S. P.T.O.!!!!

Students may utilize our audio and e-books on Destiny Discover for the last weeks of school. I will remind them and show them how to access these materials again.

Please check at home for any SBS Library books. Some students have books checked out from awhile back. Next week I will be sending out overdue notices to get a jump on finding all the library books before the end of the year.

Thanks so much for your assistance and have a marvelous May!
Mr. D'Aloia

BIRTHDAY BOOKS

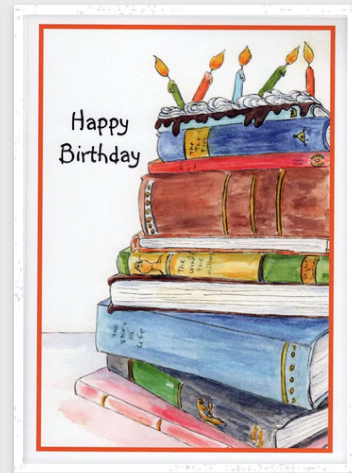
Thank you to the following families who donated a birthday book to the SBS Library. Happy Birthday to these students!

Catherine Purdy - *Bedtime Is Canceled*

Charlie Peck - *My New Friend Is So Fun!*

Henry Peck - *Waiting Is Not Easy!*

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.](#)



MUSIC NOTES

All students are composing melodies. We are using the solfege system which names the notes of the major scale as Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti & Do.



First graders are composing with So & Mi. They are using a 2 and 3 line music staff.

Second graders are composing with So, Mi, & La. They are using a 2 and 3 line music staff.

Third graders are composing with Do, Re, Mi, So, & La. They are using a 5 line music staff.

During March we participated in Quaver's Music Madness. The bracket started out with 16 songs including "He Had a Dream" and "In the Hall of the Mountain King" which are from our composer of the month selections. Ironically those 2 songs made it to the final round. The winner was "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Edvard Grieg.

Enjoy!

~Ms. Roskam

PTO POSTS

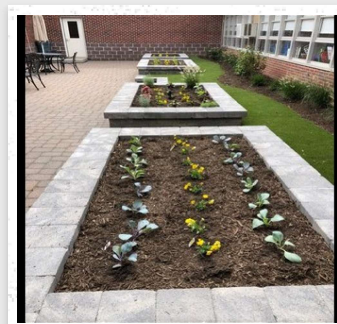
This month we have been focusing on our Green initiatives. A shout out to the PTO Green Team - Christine Loy, Krista Putrino and Melissa Walker for coordinating our 30-day Refuse Single Use Plastics Challenge #RefuseSUP. Have you tried a challenge? View activity sheet [here](#) - due Tuesday, May 18th. A class from each grade who has the most completed items will receive an extra recess. Let's help save the ocean and reduce SUP!

We would like to thank our Art Teacher Mrs. Mahoney, our Green Team and other parent volunteers for coordinating the display of our underwater scene filled with student art work of sea life and plastic trash. It was a well needed boost to see parents back in the building, working together and making connections with one another. We look forward to the possibility

of more in-person interactions in the future, especially next year. Please consider the remaining openings found [here](#) and experience for yourself the rewards of volunteering - making connections with parents and a contribution to your child's school experience.

Next week is all about honoring our wonderful teachers and staff. Our Staff Appreciation Committee - Helen Angelis, Eve Katz and Luz Aramayo have planned multiple acts of appreciation for each day of the week using a cheerful theme of puns - from student messages in chalk and on kudoboard, to supplying special treats, lunch and more! THANK YOU to our parent community for their generous donations which have made this week possible and to our Class Parents for coordinating the wear your teacher's favorite color" on Tuesday and the kudoboard messages from each student.

In 2019, the PTO completely renovated our two interior courtyards to create two outdoor instructional spaces. Here, our students have been learning about plant life cycles and gardening from the sensory garden; using sight, smell and touch to investigate different plantings; or simply sitting outside to enhance their learning environment. You can now 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. Purchase a personalized, engraved brick to acknowledge your child/family, honor a beloved teacher, or to convey school spirit or a favorite quote.



Order here: <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.

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



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SOUTHERN BOULEVARD SCHOOL

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