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Weekly Update | March 23, 2022

Vol. 3, Issue 4

A Message from Angie

We find ourselves in mid-March enjoying the sunny days of early spring as we work through a critical stretch of teaching and learning. Students in grades K-4 ended their second trimester last week. Report cards went home with students yesterday afternoon. Please check your child's backpack for this important report if you have yet to see it. Meanwhile, tenth grade students at the high school are completing the second and final day of English Language Arts MCAS testing today. Grades three through nine will soon follow as testing season is officially underway. Please find the full MCAS schedule below.

2022 MCAS Dates, Grades 3-8

	English Language Arts	Math	Science (<i>grades 5 & 8 only</i>)
Level II (grades 3-4)	April 6th & April 13th	May 23rd-24th	
Level III (grades 5-6)	April 7th & April 14th	May 18th-19th	May 23rd-24th
Level IV (grades 7-8)	April 26th-27th	May 16th-17th	May 23rd-24th

2022 MCAS Dates, High School

English Language Arts (grade 10)	Math (grade 10)	Biology (grade 9)
March 22 - 23	May 17th-18th	June 7th-8th

Mid-March also brings the return of programming for students in grades one and two at [Holly Hill Farm](#) after a winter hiatus. Last week our first graders started the spring season, followed by second grade students this week. Children eagerly pulled on their boots, boarded the school bus, and ventured

on their much anticipated first trip of the spring. On arrival, students felt their feet sink into the mud as they saw the farm transformed, a completely different landscape from the crisp air and bright leaves that they left in the fall, and the icy, white fields they explored during their winter walk. Their first conversations with the farm educators were about the evidence of seasonal change all around them.



During this month's visits, students learned about decomposers and their role in the ecosystem. They took a woods walk to find evidence of decomposers at work as they asked questions about the importance of these organisms to life on the farm. Students visited the composting station where they observed the differences between compost piles at different stages of decomposition, took the temperature of the piles to learn about the energy involved in the transformation waste, and sifted the finished compost so that it would be ready to use. Students then moved to the garden beds and cleaned out the leaves and seaweed they had spread in the fall to protect the beds. They spread the fresh compost so that the beds would be ready for them to plant on their next visit.



The curriculum at the farm is designed to engage students in science practices in a hands-on way that makes science both relevant and exciting. Our teachers have worked closely with the farm educators to develop a curriculum that allows them to deliver the bulk of the standards outlined in the [Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework](#) during visits to the farm. Our commitment to outdoor education has not wavered despite the easing of COVID mandates.



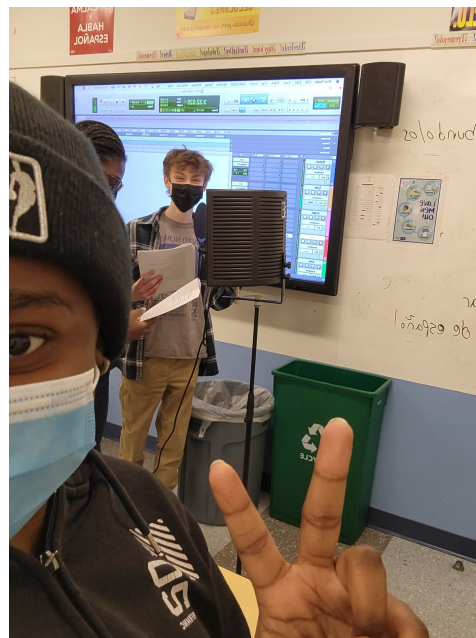
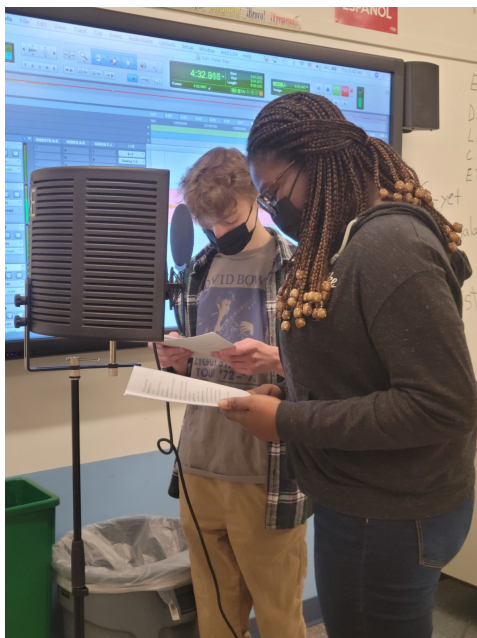
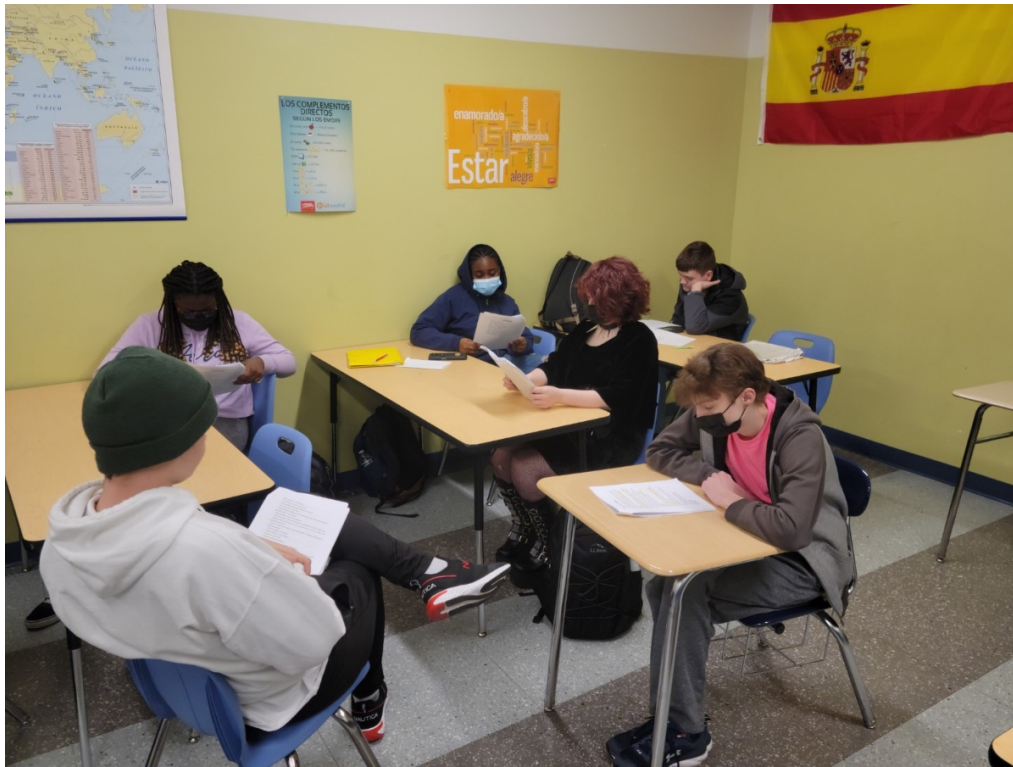
The South Shore Charter Public School has partnered with Holly Hill Farm for over twenty years. Our relationship with the farm is tied to their outstanding school programs, but this is only one aspect of the work done by the institution. Holly Hill, the last working farm in Cohasset, was recently recognized by the Smithsonian Institution when it was accepted into the Smithsonian Institution's Archive of American Gardens. As a result, information about the farm and images from the gardens are now available in the [Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives](#). The Cohasset Mariner ran a story about the farm and this most recent honor that can be found [here](#). We are proud of our continued partnership with the team at Holly Hill.

Thank you for your continued support of our programs and our students. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

--
Angie Pepin
SSCPS Principal

What's Happening in Projects and Workshops?

The Master Your Voice Workshop



The *Master Your Voice* Workshop focuses on vocal exercises for 15/20 minutes everyday to develop strength and agility of vocal folds, breath control, and posture. Students are studying the physiology of the body parts which contribute to the production of sound. Students have started working on their EOM, which will be the recording of "Peter Pan" in audiobook format. The pictures show the preparation, research, practice of student parts, and the recording session in action. Students are recording the audiobook in ProTools, the industry standard for audio recording, and the recording process will take at least another couple of weeks. When the recording is finished, students will focus on "post production" and do editing, enhancing the sound to a professional standard through the use of compressors, noise gates, equalizers, etc. The audiobook will be shared with the lower levels at SSCPS.

-

Patrizio Trivellini, M.A.

High School Spanish & *Master Your Voice* Workshop Teacher

Traffic Reminders

We appreciate your efforts to be a good neighbor to our surrounding office buildings. We are asking that all cars waiting in line not use neighboring properties as places to park or drive through when dropping off or picking up your students. Please do not block our neighbors' driveways and entrances during drop off or pick up.

Please do not drop off or pick up students from 104 Longwater Drive. There is a daycare center in two sections and multiple rooms of the building in addition to two playgrounds adjacent to the parking lot, rendering this area unable to safely accommodate additional traffic.

Today we received unconfirmed reports from our neighbors at 120 Longwater Drive that cars from our lines were pulling into their entrance and doing U-turns while not paying attention and using cell phones. If this is the case, we are asking those responsible to cease this practice. The driveway and parking lot at 120 Longwater Drive is not a public parking lot or road. Our neighbors at 120 Longwater Drive have raised concerns in the past and we do not want to give them any reason to report our families to the Norwell Police Department.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Seniors: college is right around the corner, and that means it's time to start applying for scholarships! Click the link below to view the scholarships and resources available at our school's website:

- SSCPS scholarships, including the Jacquelyn Marie Brock Memorial Scholarship and the Karen Alice Yelin Scholarship
- Town scholarships
- General scholarships and resources for applying

SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

"Rock Your Socks" for World Down Syndrome Day!



Seventh grader Raina York, here with teacher Jenn Johnson, won the Level IV competition for the coolest socks this week on World Down Syndrome Day.

MCSAO Award Winners Celebrated on the SSCPS Lawn





Inclusive Kicks Program - Saturdays in April

DISABILITY

INCLUSION

**BELONGING
INCLUSION
DIVERSITY
EQUITY**

CITY ARENA

MASS CITY

The Inclusive Kicks Program will provide athletic, recreational, and social activities for children ages 5 to 12 with different abilities & special needs.

SATURDAYS STARTING APRIL 2ND FROM 3:30 TO 5:30 PM

REGISTER TODAY!

A Message from the Go Green Workshop

Hello parents of SSCPS!

You are hearing from Sawdah and Adria of the Go Green workshop in the high school. As a part of our spring project, we have been researching ways to keep the school community eco-friendly and are working to inform the rest of the school community about this topic. We created a short slideshow for the teachers to show the students of grades 1 through 4, containing ways to keep SSCPS "green". Feel free to take a look at the slideshow attached and let us know your thoughts. We also invite you to complete a short survey to learn "how many earths would we need if everyone lived like you?" If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us and we hope this will inspire our school to stay green!

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Sawdah Osman and Adria Sunnerberg

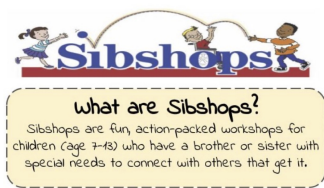
Ways to Keep SSCPS Green

Ecological Footprint Survey

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sibshops Virtual Classes - 3/23-4/27

www.pcfamilysupport.org



You're invited to our Spring 2022

Sibshops!!

A program just for SIBS with special needs. It gives us great pleasure to share this amazing opportunity with you, to provide you an engaging, and fun way to meet new friends that may get things on a whole new level.

My name is Jennifer Roback, a certified Sibshop facilitator. I am a teacher, and mom to three beautiful children. I look forward to sharing this experience with you.

Virtual Classes!

We will be offering a FREE 6-week online series

Wednesday Evenings

5:30-6:30pm

3/23/22—4/27/22

*access link to be provided after signing up



To Register—

Name: _____

Age: _____

Parent/
Guardian: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Send to:

Cari Robbins
Plymouth County Family Support
118 Long Pond Rd Ste 100
Plymouth, Ma 02360
508-927-4520 ext100
carir@pcfamilysupport.org

COMMUNITY SERVICE OUTREACH

The SSCPS community is accepting donations in order to provide "Kindness Bundles" to those in need. In this colder weather, some items in higher demand are hats, gloves, socks, and the like. Both new and gently used items are welcomed.

Donations are being collected through the month of March—please feel free to visit the link below to view the list of desired items. All donations can be delivered directly to SSCPS in the bin front or the bin in room 101.

[Donation Website](#)

At-Home Rapid Antigen Testing (NEW opt-in form)

1. **At-Home Rapid Antigen Testing** on Sunday (NEW opt-in form)
2. **Routine COVID Safety Checks** every week (If you have not yet signed up, [click here](#). If you are setting up a secondary account, please put the code: **KDHEHV** under the organization code.)
3. **Symptomatic Testing** (If you have not yet signed up, [click here](#))

Overview: At-Home Rapid Testing Program

- **About the Test:** [iHealth](#) is a 15-minute at-home FDA-approved rapid antigen test
- **Opt-In:** To participate, you must opt in by completing the form. By opting in, you will agree to review the training materials for test administration, report positive test results to your student's school, and administer the tests according to SSCPS Health Office guidelines.
- **Weekly:** Every two weeks you will receive an iHealth at-home rapid test kit. Each kit contains two individual tests. Your student will administer one test each week on Sunday.
- **Reporting Positive Test Results:** If your student tests positive on an at-home antigen test, you will inform their school of the positive result using the [Positive Test Result Notification form]. The school will keep the results confidential and will not make individual results public. In addition, it is strongly recommended that you inform your healthcare professional of the positive result.

- **Easy, Free, and Flexible:** This test is administered at home (not at school), reducing the burden on school staff and time to administer tests and increasing a family's flexibility to do testing in the home for free.

How do I administer the test?

- [Click here](#) for a full “how to” written guide in various languages
- [Click here](#) for a video of an individual self-testing

How do I submit results?

- **Submit Results:** You must submit positive test results to your student's school. [Click here](#) to submit positive test results.
- **Confidentiality:** Positive test results are shared with your school district for informational purposes only. Individual results will remain confidential, and they will never be made public.

Darcie Edwards, RN

(she/her/hers)

SSCPS School Nurse

781-982-4202 x104

dedwards@sscps.org

More from the Health Office

You can still sign up for the opt-in at home weekly COVID testing. Please have your student drop off the signed paperwork to the health office. You only need to report a positive COVID test result.

Free COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic & Test Site

Beginning on Tuesday February 8, 2022, the Town of Marshfield is offering a COVID 19 vaccine and testing site at the Marshfield Fairgrounds 61 South River Street in Marshfield. The clinic is open for all Plymouth County residents on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 9am-3pm. Appointments can be made by logging onto www.marshfieldcares.com or the service is also available for walk-ins. The clinic has all 3 vaccines and boosters, if you have your vaccination card, please bring it with you. The vaccinations and test are done through a drive-thru operation that is free and convenient.

FY22 School Calendar Modifications

On December 9th, the SSCPS Board of Trustees voted to modify the FY22 School Calendar due to instructional days missed.

Changes are as follows:

On April 15th, there will be a half-day to make up for the snow day on January 7th. Religious exemptions will be granted.

There will be no school on June 20, the state holiday Juneteenth.

From the Yearbook Committee:

The 2022 yearbook is coming - now is your chance to order yours! Yearbooks are back to their normal pricing of \$40 each.

To order yours, head to the [Coffee Pond website](#) and enter the password "bluejaguar".

Parents of seniors can have a personalized page in the yearbook as well.

SENIOR AD PRICING:

-full page: \$150

-half page: \$75

-1/4 page: \$50

Home Energy Assistance Programs

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) - Known commonly as Fuel Assistance, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides eligible households with help in paying a portion of winter heating bills.

Heating System Repair & Replacement Program (HEARTWAP) - The Heating System Repair and Replacement Program provides emergency heating system repair and replacement services to low-income households.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) - Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program provides eligible households with full-scale home energy conservation services.

For full details please review the link here:

<https://www.mass.gov/home-energy-assistance-programs>

Housing Help

Paying rent or a mortgage can be especially challenging during a pandemic. The Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development has centralized information about resources for families struggling to make rent or mortgage payments due to COVID-19. If you or another family you know needs assistance, please click below for more information.

HOUSING HELP

Food Service - Breakfast and Lunch Program

April Breakfast and Lunch Order Forms are now available!

All students enrolled at SSCPS qualify for Free Breakfast and Lunch for the 2021-2022 academic year. Please click on this link - [FamilyID Online Registration](#) - and register for meals. If you have any questions, contact me at csalamone@sscps.org or at 781-982-4202 x156.




wishlist

help our teachers!

The Parents Association is working to ensure teachers can fill their classrooms with the items they need. To help support our teachers and their classrooms, please view the wishlists below.

Thank you!

[VIEW WISHLISTS](#)

This Week | Up and Coming

Wednesday	03/23	MCAS ELA Grade 10	
Wednesday	03/23	Parents Association Meeting via Zoom	6:30pm
Friday	04/01	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Friday	05/20	Junior / Senior Prom at the Quincy Marriott Tickets sales start May 2 - \$60 per student See Mary Carter for more information	7:00-11:00pm

IMPORTANT LINKS

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website www.sscps.org every Wednesday.

- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Food Service](#)
- [COVID-19 Protocols 2021-22](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- **Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)**
- **Visit our new online option to [purchase SSCPS apparel!](#)**

School Documents:

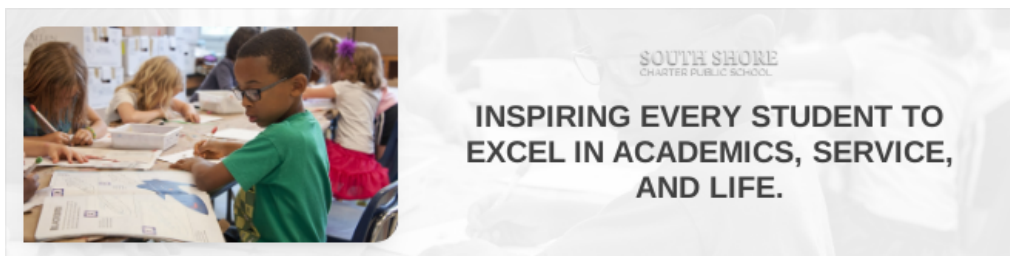
[2021-22 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

Here are links to upcoming events and other items of interest. Please contact Pam Algera at palgera@sscps.org to submit SSCPS items for publication.



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