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Weekly Update | November 9, 2022

Vol. 11. Issue 2



A Message from Nora

We All Teach Literacy

"When I look back, I am so impressed with the life-giving power of literature."

Maya Angelou

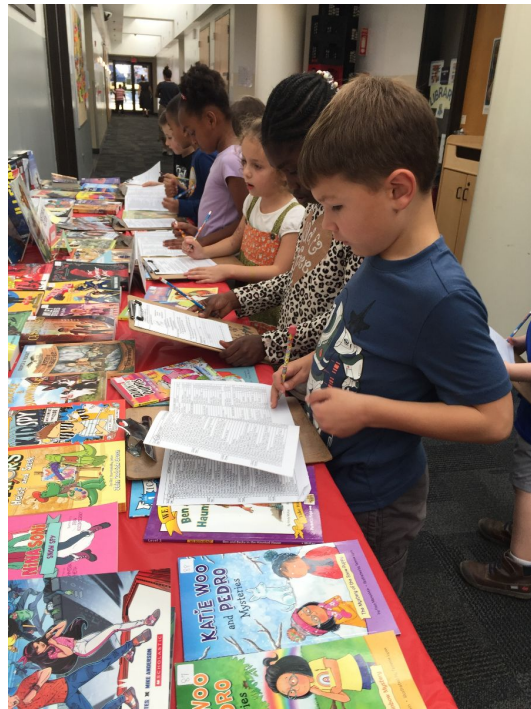
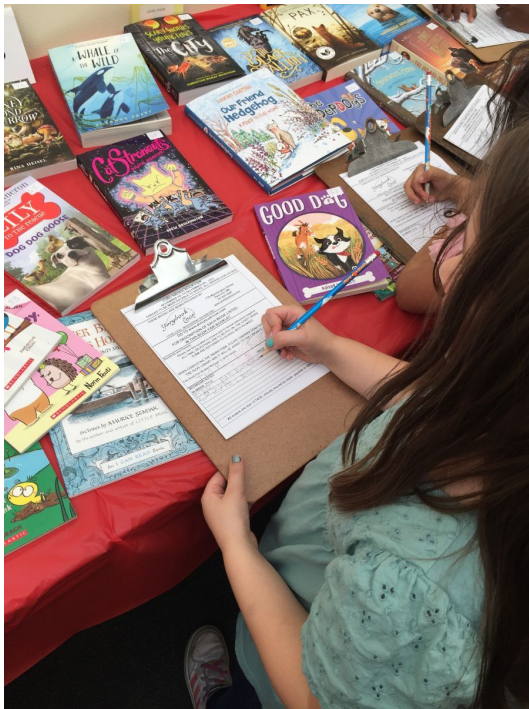
At our recent Open House I chatted with a family eager to have their child be part of our school. Their daughter politely interrupted us to ask if playing was allowed in Kindergarten and, if so, for how long. What's clear in this interaction is that the child has already achieved a high level of literacy. She understood:

1. That we were having a conversation: that's **Listening**
2. That she needed to speak clearly to be understood: that's **Speaking**
3. That questioning leads to knowledge: that's **Comprehension**

Listening, speaking, and comprehension can happen in all social interactions: at home, at sporting events, in Target, on a bus, at the beach, even reading a menu. The structured environment of the classroom does not need to be the only way to build literacy. For many inspiring Kindergarten students, their next step in literacy will be another introduction to reading. Right now the Level I & II teachers are participating in professional development with *Keys to Literacy*. The professional development, [Keys to Beginning Reading](#), is a comprehensive, multi-module program in the teaching of early reading.

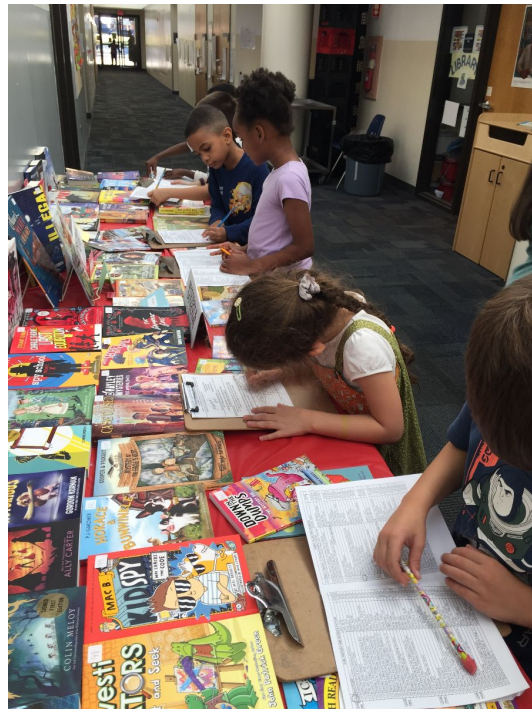
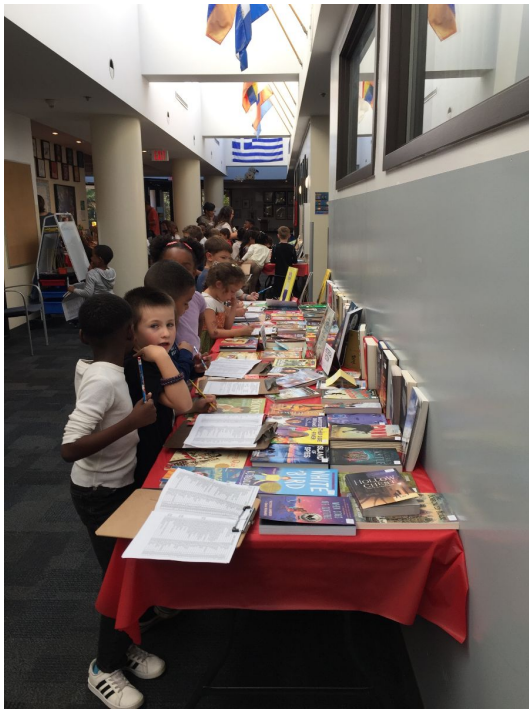
The curated skill development that our teachers are working on during professional development will mean that students fortunate enough to win a spot in Kindergarten will be taught by highly qualified reading teachers who are learning and honing all the skills necessary to teach literacy.





Literacy is Foundational

At the high school, where 9th graders are following a physics program in their science classes, ELA teachers often find the time to ask what students are learning in science: What physics words do you know? Can you talk about what you worked on in physics class today? What is physics all about? These big picture questions take very little time, but bring an element of ELA to our science program in the ELA classroom. The key here is for all of us to know that we are all teaching literacy all the time.



Level I Students Explore the Book Fair

Writing

“The idea is to write it so that people hear it and it slides through the brain and goes straight to the heart.”

Maya Angelou

Alicia recently brought to my attention a curriculum that combines writing, empathy and self-expression: [The Max Warburg Courage Curriculum](#)

Students read short essays written by students in grades 6-8. The essays speak about the moments of courage that have changed student lives. At the end of the writing program, students write their own essays that have the possibility of being included in the curriculum as it moves forward.

Writing is an essential component of literacy. It give students the opportunity for self-expression in an open-ended curriculum that values their experiences and their individual responses to texts and conversations in the classroom.



It may well be that we have the opportunity to combine the Max Warburg Courage Curriculum with our own amazing ELA curriculum to extend the writing program to include significant moments in our students' lives.

Teaching literacy gives all of us the opportunity to teach the very human need to listen, to understand, to express and to create. Literacy is the foundational tool in our mission of inspiring every student to excel in academics, service, and life.

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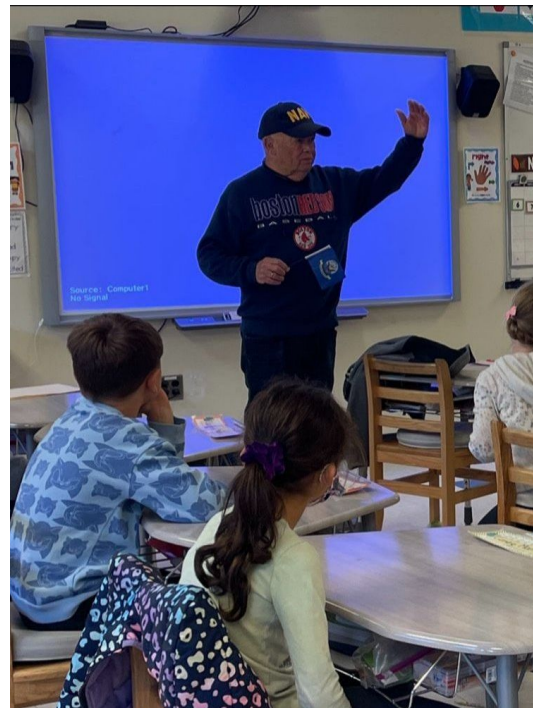
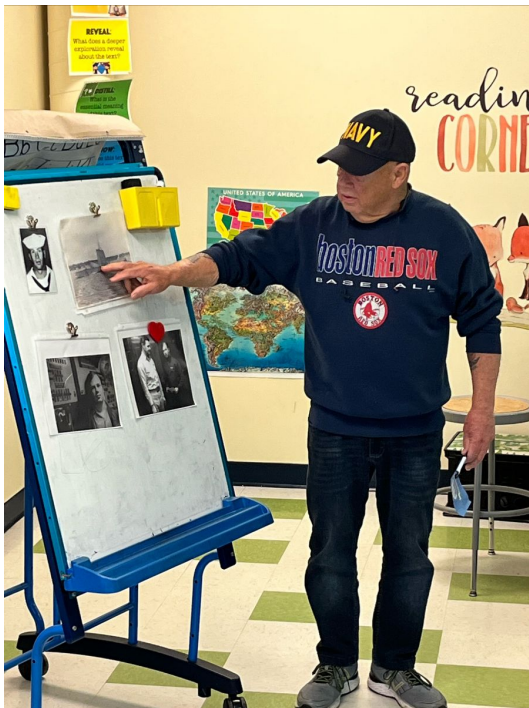
Nora Broderick

K-12 ELA Curriculum Coordinator



SSCPS will be closed Friday, November 11th, in honor of Veterans Day. We'd like to share our appreciation for all of the veterans who have served in the military - thank you for your service to our country.

To learn about and celebrate Veterans Day coming up on Friday, our very own Dave Rogers came into the 1st grade classrooms and talked with students about being a Veteran. Dave answered questions about his time in the Navy and showed us a few pictures. It was great to see the kids so engaged with him and all he had to share. We all know and love Dave, who greets the kids with high fives, fist pumps, and just a great smile every morning. We truly enjoyed welcoming him into our classrooms!



Thank you, Dave Rogers!

Peter Blandino's article *Here's How the South Shore is Observing Veterans Day this*


Year in The Patriot Ledger, provides a number of events taking place on the South Shore to commemorate Veterans Day. As a tribute to veterans, local towns will hold parades and ceremonies with representatives, students, and local community organizations. Find an event near you [here](#).

MassCPA Event | *Is Accounting for Me*



Seniors Deerb Alexandre and Ugo Aniagu attended a MassCPA event *Is Accounting for Me* at Bentley University to learn about careers in the finance and accounting field. This event includes corporate sponsors such as Deloitte, Foxx Life Science, Grant Thornton, and EY. Both students are looking to major in business and finance.


Special Guest Speaker | Dr. Englander



**SOUTH SHORE
CHARTER PUBLIC
SCHOOL PRESENTS
DR. ELIZABETH
ENGLANDER**

**Bullying,
Cyberbullying,
and the
Social Impact
of the Pandemic**

**DR. ELIZABETH
ENGLANDER**



**NOVEMBER 16
6:30 PM
ZOOM**

Join us on November 16 at 6:30pm for Dr. Elizabeth Englander's virtual presentation *Bullying, Cyberbullying, and the Social Impact of the Pandemic*. Dr. Englander will be discussing concerns surrounding bullying and cyberbullying and how families may best support children and adolescents as they navigate the world around them. Focusing on how the pandemic has impacted students, Dr. Englander will discuss social relationships, the impact of screen use, how to help children recover emotionally and socially, and the importance of developing meaningful peer relationships.

Dr. Elizabeth Englander is the Founder and Executive Director of the [Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center](#) at Bridgewater State University. As a researcher and a professor of psychology for 25 years, Dr. Englander is a nationally recognized expert in the area of bullying and cyberbullying, childhood causes of aggression and abuse, and children's use of technology. During the pandemic, her work has focused on helping children and schools promote strong mental health and social relationships.

The Zoom link is now available [here](#). We hope you are able to join us the evening of the November 16 for this important and timely presentation.

World Diabetes Day

November 14, 2022

WEAR BLUE

WORLD DIABETES DAY

MONDAY, NOV. 14

Join SSCPS in wearing blue show your support for people living with Diabetes .



World Diabetes Day was launched in 1991 by the IDF and World Health Organization in response to the rapid rise of diabetes around the world. Diabetes is a disease that occurs when your blood glucose, also called blood sugar, is too high.

Many members of our community are directly affected by this disease and we want to show our support by wearing blue on Monday, Nov. 14th.

THIS WEEK IN PROJECTS & WORKSHOPS

Cultural Diversity Workshop Fundraiser

HANDMADE BEADED BRACELET AND NECKLACES FROM HAITI



Bracelets \$5.00

Necklaces \$20.00



When: Tuesdays & Thursdays during Lunch

Where: In Great Room

Come Support the Children of Haiti!

ATHLETICS

CROSS COUNTRY

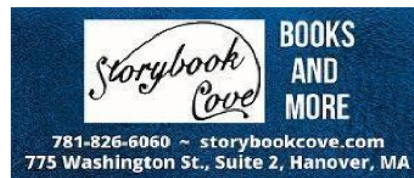


Cross country officially wraps up their successful season. Great work, Jaguars!





- **SSCPS K-8th grade book fair will be held on November 7th, 8th, and 9th**
- **[Click here](#) to see what books will be available**
- **A portion of the proceeds will be donated to SSCPS! Sales tax will not be collected.**
- **Please check your students' folders for a notice with specific information about the book fair, ordering books, donations, and holiday holds.**
- **Orders are due by November 14th**
- **Contact kgale@sscps.org with any questions**



COMMUNITY SERVICE



FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Dear Parents,



Community Service Project is collecting non-perishable food for the Weymouth Food Pantry. We are looking forward to receiving:

- Canned soup
- Cereal
- White tuna
- Ground coffee & tea
- Pasta
- Side dishes
- Condiments
- Jam & jelly

There are bins at the front door and in room 101 for your child to drop off!

Food Drive is Ending 11/18!

THANK YOU!



UPCOMING EVENTS

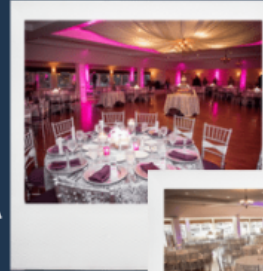
SSCPS presents...

Winter Wonderland

Date: December 8, 2022

Time: 7-10:30

Location: Canoe Club Ballroom
2 South St, West Bridgewater, MA
02379



SSCPS High School Students
ONLY!!!

Unlimited Drinks | Delicious food | Great Music
Most importantly... A great time!!!

DJ JUUKES
insta @dj.juukes

\$40 entry
Starting sales October 24th
in the Great Room at lunch



FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION



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!

amazon

wishlist



help our teachers!

[VIEW WISHLISTS](#)

PA Meeting Schedule | 2022-2023 School Year

Below you will find the meeting dates for the 2022-2023 school year:

- September 21, 2022
- October 19, 2022
- November 16, 2022
- December 21, 2022
- January 18, 2023
- February 15, 2023
- March 15, 2023
- April 26, 2023
- May 17, 2023
- June 14, 2023 (Transition Meeting)

Be on the lookout for upcoming volunteer opportunities. Information on the Back to School Picnic will be coming soon as well.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out. Our website can be found [here](#).

Cindy Lyons

Parent Council Chair

Cindylyons1337@gmail.com

From the Health Office

The health office will begin doing vision and hearing screens on students in 1st through 5th grade and also 7th graders. We will also begin doing height and weight screenings on 1st, 4th, 7th, and 10th graders. If you would like to opt your student out of the screenings please send an email to Jaime Kjelgaard, RN at jkjelgaard@sscps.org for 1st through 8th grade students or Barbara Folan, RN at bfolan@sscps.org for high school students.

All 4th, 7th and 11th graders should have a current physical (within the last 12 months) on file in the appropriate health office. All students playing sports must have a current physical in order to play.

From the Department of Elementary

and Secondary Education

Please see the [attached letter](#) from the Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics about steps families can take to prevent illness and stay healthy this season.

You can also find the Spanish version [here](#). These letters will also be posted [online](#).



Massachusetts Chapter

INCORPORATED IN MASSACHUSETTS

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

November 1, 2022

Dear Families,

The Commonwealth, the Northeast and much of the US are seeing increases in respiratory illness in infants and children. Some of these infants and children are requiring hospitalization for support with breathing and hydration. Emergency departments and other acute care health facilities have been managing significant increases in the number of patients requiring care.

Most of these illnesses are caused by respiratory viral infections, including common seasonal viruses like respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), rhinovirus and enterovirus, and influenza. Infants and children may be particularly susceptible to seasonal respiratory viral infections during the 2022-2023 fall and winter because they have had limited previous exposure to these respiratory viruses. We anticipate that there could be more respiratory illnesses as RSV continues to spread and influenza season ramps up.

The Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics want to remind parents and families about steps to take to prevent illness and stay healthy this season:

1. **Vaccinate your children ages 6 months and older against influenza** as soon as possible.
2. **Vaccinate your children ages 6 months and older against COVID-19**; children 5 and older who had their primary series more than 2 months ago should receive an updated COVID-19 booster as soon as possible.
3. **Remember, you can get a COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot at the same time.**
4. **If your infant has been offered treatment with protective antibodies** due to their prematurity or another condition, keep on schedule with their monthly treatments.
5. **Practice hand hygiene** frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer. **Cover coughs and sneezes** with a tissue, or if a tissue is not available, cover them with an elbow, not a hand.
6. **Clean high touch surfaces** in your home frequently with household disinfectants.
7. **Keep children home from daycare or school** who have fever, especially with a cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, congestion, runny nose, or sore throat, until they are fever-free for 24 hours without medications that reduce fever.
8. **Avoid social gatherings if you or your children are ill.**

9. **Contact your pediatrician or healthcare provider if you believe your child needs medical care.** Your provider can offer advice on whether your child needs to be evaluated in person, tested for COVID or flu, and the best location (doctor's office, urgent care, emergency room) for care.

Thank you for doing all you can to keep you and your family healthy during this fall and winter season.



Dr. Estevan Garcia, Chief Medical Officer
Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Dr. Mary Beth Miotto, President
Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

This Week | Up and Coming

Wednesday	11/09	K-8 Book Fair at 100 Longwater Circle	
Thursday	11/10	Grade 3 and Grade 5 to Plimoth/Patuxet Museums	
Thursday	11/10	NHS to Cradles to Crayons – Newton	
Friday	11/11	Veteran's Day – No School	
Wednesday	11/16	Parents Association Meeting – Presentation via Zoom Dr. Elizabeth Englander / Bullying, Cyberbullying, and the Social Impact of the Pandemic	6:30pm
Thursday	11/17	School Council via Zoom	4:30pm
Thursday	11/18	Board of Trustees Personnel Committee Governance Committee Finance Committee Development Committee All meetings will be held at 700 Longwater Drive and via Zoom	7:30pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm

IMPORTANT LINKS

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

- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Food Services](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- **Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)**

School Documents:

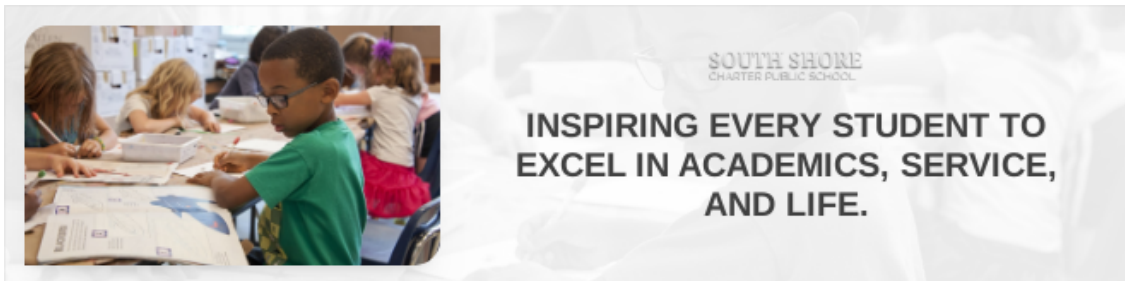
[2022-23 School Calendar](#)

[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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