



## Weekly Update | December 6, 2023

Vol. 12 Issue 1

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**TONIGHT!**



# WINTER CONCERT 2023

## DECEMBER 6

**LEVEL I: Starting at 10:00 AM**

**PERFORMING ENSEMBLE: Starting at 6:00 PM**

**LEVEL I CONCERT**  
(PE SPACE AT SSCPS)

KINDERGARTEN  
1ST GRADE  
2ND GRADE

**NOTE: PARENTS WILL NEED TO PARK AT THE  
HIGHSCHOOL, 700 LONGWATER, NOT THE PE  
SPACE**

**PERFORMING ENSEMBLE  
CONCERT**

(HINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL  
1103 MAIN ST, HINGHAM, MA 02043)

LEVEL II CHOIR  
LEVEL III CHOIR  
LEVEL IV CHOIR  
BEGINNING STRINGS  
CONCERT STRINGS  
INSTRUMENTAL PROJECT  
CONCERT BAND  
JAZZ BAND  
HIGHSCHOOL MUSIC WORKSHOP



## A Message from Jamie

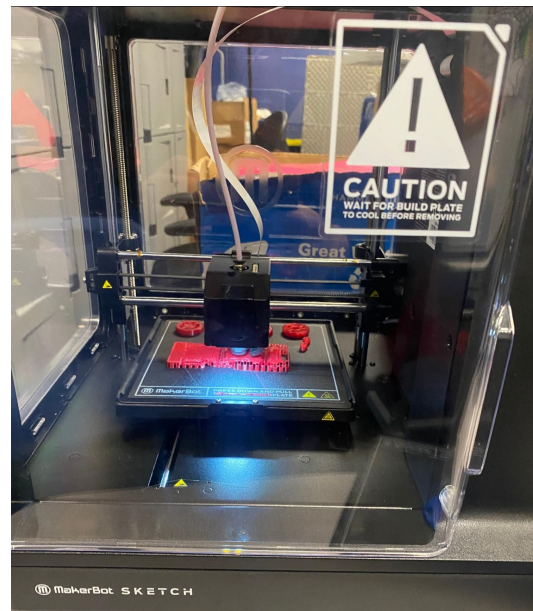
### Computer Science Education Week and the “Hour of Code®”

This week is Computer Science Education Week, an annual initiative aimed at inspiring K-12 students to engage with computer science, advocating for equity in education, and

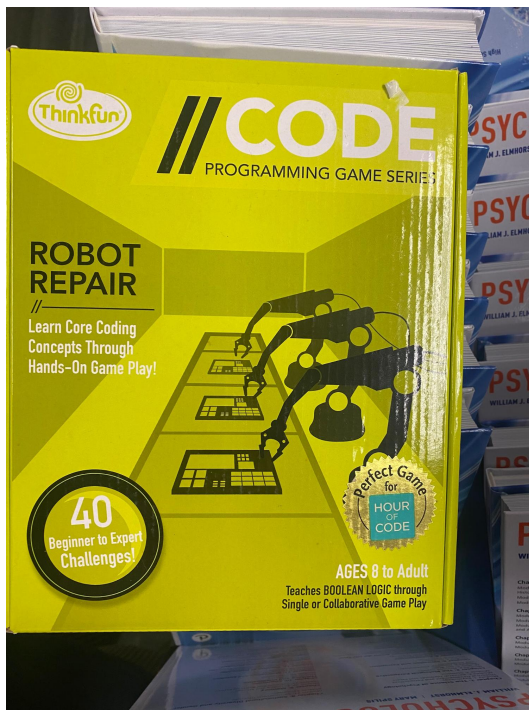
celebrating the valuable contributions of students, teachers, and partners to the field of computer science.

Computer Science Education Week is an annual event designed to promote and celebrate computer science education. Held in early December, it features various activities, workshops, and events globally to engage students, educators, and communities in learning about computer science. The week aims to highlight the importance of computational thinking, coding skills, and technological literacy in today's world, encouraging participation and interest in computer science among people of all ages and backgrounds.

During Computer Science Education Week, observed from December 4–10, 2023, schools worldwide will participate in the 'Hour of Code ®'. This initiative emphasizes that within a single hour, people can grasp the basics of coding. However, the Hour of Code aims for more than just teaching coding skills in an hour; it aims to expand access to computer science, challenge stereotypes, and create opportunities.



While some participants may understand fundamental programming concepts such as loops and conditionals, the primary aim is for ALL (students and educators, even caregivers) to discover the excitement of computer science—it's inclusive, timeless, and can start in any classroom or home, even without a computer. It is not just about computer science and endeavors to forge cross-curricular connections and relevancy as a universal discipline. Digital literacy and computer science play crucial roles in K-12 education for several reasons:



**Preparation for the Future:** In a digital age, equipping students with digital literacy skills early on prepares them for the future workforce, where technology proficiency is increasingly essential across various fields.

**Problem-Solving and Critical Thinking:** Computer science education fosters problem-solving skills and critical thinking by encouraging students to analyze complex problems, break them down into smaller parts, and develop logical solutions.

**Creativity and Innovation:** It nurtures creativity and innovation by allowing students to create projects, programs, and digital content, fostering their abilities to express ideas in unique ways.

**Career Opportunities:** Exposure to computer science at a young age can spark interest in technology-related careers, offering students a pathway into high-demand fields like software development, data science, cybersecurity, and more.

**Adaptability and Digital Citizenship:** Digital literacy instills adaptability to evolving technology and helps students become responsible digital citizens, teaching them about online safety, privacy, and ethical use of technology.

**Integration Across Subjects:** Computer science can be integrated across various subjects, enhancing learning experiences in math, science, arts, and other disciplines.

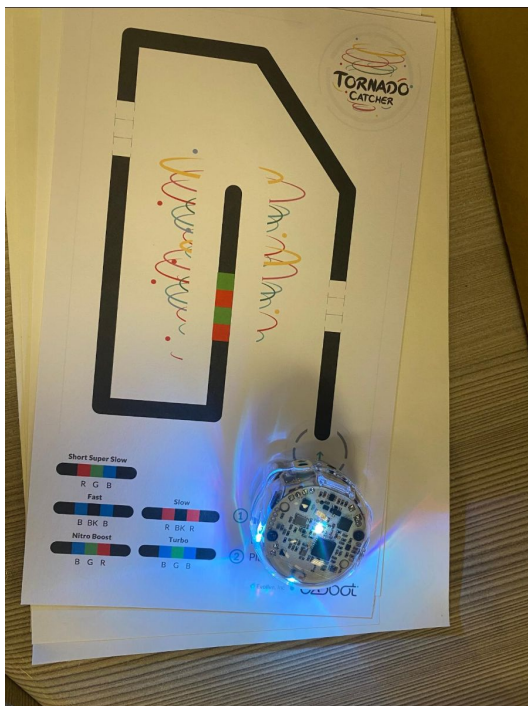


Overall, digital literacy and computer science education in K-12 provide foundational skills, prepare students for the future, and empower them to navigate an increasingly technology-driven world. With all of this will come some great happenings here at SSCPS that

centralize around digital literacy and computer science. We have been awarded the CS Engage Grant, which will entail a 3 year initial investment for roll out, in which SSCPS will work with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and CSForAll (Computer Science For All Students) to develop K-12 Digital Literacy Computer Science standards and curriculum for implementation. This will provide opportunities for all of the students in which we can improve on current courses offered, as well as work to provide more Computer Science opportunities at all grade levels; whether it be through FIT, embedded class instruction, project or workshop, and during after school enrichment programs. We look forward to this partnership and collaboration and the benefits it will bring to our school community and academic programming.

I challenge you to join the initiative and participate, exploring the possibilities that exist within computer science. Check out [this](#) family friendly blog for ideas on how to engage in Computer Science Education Week at home.

May peace and prosperity accompany you as we near the conclusion of 2023.



**Jamie Allen**

Science Curriculum Coordinator and Teacher

**On the Levels****Level III***Kindness Matters! November Edition*

Level 3 teachers are highlighting kind acts that are observed by awarding students with a "caught you being kind" ticket each time we see a student doing something thoughtful. Below are the names of all students who received kindness coupons during the month of November.

**Please ask your level 3 student if they were caught being kind today!**

6th Graders		5th Graders	
Jayden x 2	Avery	Angeline	Kaylee
Zachary	Hafsa	Isabella	Yassin
Tyler	Elisha	Jonathan	Gabby
Anne Chloe	Alex	Niko	Paris
Ayesha	Jaelyn	Anya	Zoey
Nataniella	John	Jayden O.	Philip
Zaid	Esther	Gemma	

**High School**



AP Chemistry Field Trip to 3M Company in Rockland, MA.

## From the Board of Trustees

### **A Message from Jimmy Juste, Chair of the Board of Trustees** **PA Focus Group Update**

Dear Parents, Faculty, and Staff,

I am pleased to share an update on the recent Parent Focus Group meeting that took place at our charter school. The meeting, held on October 25th, was a success with the participation of 14 dedicated parents who actively engaged in discussions to provide valuable insights and more reaching out through email for other opportunities to contribute.

Their feedback was thoughtful and reflective of the deep commitment our parents have towards building a connected community.

Some key highlights from the discussions include:

***Communication and Transparency:*** Parents expressed gratitude for the efforts taken to keep them informed about their child's progress and school activities while also highlighting the importance of digestible updates.

**Community Engagement:** *Parents were enthusiastic about the opportunities to create genuine connections with other families and demonstrated a need for a strong sense of community within our school. They expressed a feeling of nostalgia for infrastructure and events that existed before the pandemic that made building relationships easier. New families articulated a challenge with feeling integrated into the community's norms and common language.*

Parents provided valuable feedback and seemed to appreciate the opportunity to speak their minds to a few listening ears. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the parents who attended the focus group meeting. Your input is invaluable and plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our school.

Because our meeting was in-person, it meant that some families were not able to access the opportunity to participate. Stay tuned for upcoming dates for an additional virtual focus group to increase our reach into the community and make sure all voices have the opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way. We are dedicated to your feedback informing our school's ongoing efforts to build a home away from home.

If you have any further suggestions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Together, we will continue to make our charter school a thriving and nurturing environment for every child.

Warm regards,

**Jimmy Juste**

Chair of the Board of Trustees

South Shore Public Charter School

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## **K-6 Craft Day 2023 Volunteer Sign-up**

We are looking for volunteers to help with this year's Craft Day event on Thursday, December 21st. If you are interested in volunteering on Craft Day please sign up [here](#). We are asking volunteers to plan for a craft for about 50 students. **Due to the structure of the event, individuals may only register for one grade level.**

**Anyone that volunteers at SSCPS must complete a CORI, attend volunteer training, and be fingerprinted. Please plan ahead and get your paperwork completed as soon as possible if you plan to come in and volunteer on Craft Day.** This sign up will close on Friday, December 15th to allow us time to plan. Thank you for your consideration. We are all looking forward to this year's Craft Day!



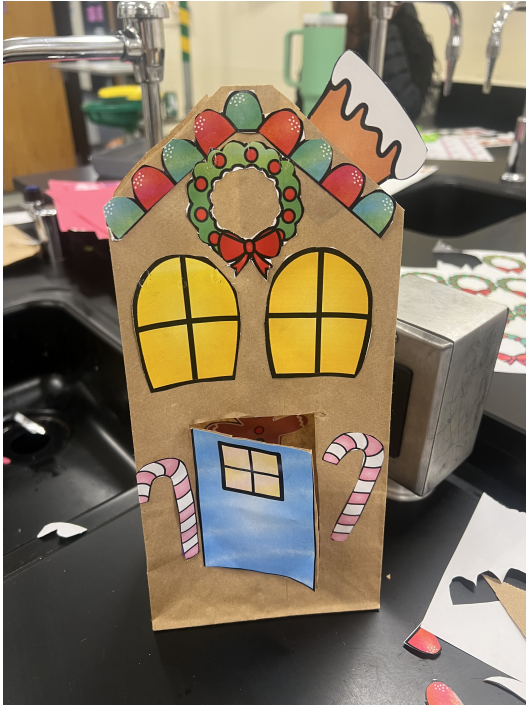
## Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

### Afterschool Enrichment Program

*Levels II and III*

#### Crafty Creators Enrichment Highlights





Using markers and a variety of clip arts, students constructed brown paper bag gingerbread houses. After that, students created a little narrative about the gingerbread characters that lived in their homes. They enjoyed telling their imaginative tales and exploring what their friends had created.







# SSCPS AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

## SESSION 1

GRADES 3-6

- NOV 6, 2023 - DEC 22, 2023
- MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS
- TIME: 3:15 - 4:15 PM



## SESSION 1 CLUBS:

### MONDAY

- SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB
- CRAFTY CREATORS CLUB
- ART CLUB
- THEATRE CLUB

### WEDNESDAY

- STORY ILLUSTRATORS CLUB
- THEATRE CLUB
- WEB WARRIORS: CODING AND LOGIC GAMES CLUB
- SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB
- PAINTING PIONEERS CLUB
- YOGA AND QIGONG CLUB



**SESSION 2  
COMING SOON!**

GET READY FOR MORE EXCITING AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN SESSION 2!  
KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR UPCOMING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLASSES AND ENROLLMENT PROCESS.  
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SPARK YOUR CHILD'S CURIOSITY AND INSPIRE A LIFELONG PASSION FOR LEARNING.

CONTACT NADEEN SULLIVAN  
PHONE: 781-982-4202 EXT. 356  
EMAIL: NSULLIVAN@SSCPS.ORG

## What's New in Projects and Workshops




**Donate warm winter coats for children and adults.**

**Front Desk @100**

**Nadeen's Classroom @700**

*All sizes are welcome! Coats only, please.*



**SCHOOL REWARDS**  
  
 With your help, we could win up to \$1,000 in School Rewards donated by Jordan's Furniture!

Donated coats are professionally cleaned by Anton's and given free of charge to local families in need.



## High School: School Store Workshop

Check out the School Apparel website, created by the High School School Store Workshop!

**SSCPS SCHOOL APPAREL**

## Community Service

### Attention Students and Families

Got some community service hours done?

Use the links below to submit your community service hours!

[LEVEL I COMMUNITY SERVICE](#)

[LEVEL II COMMUNITY SERVICE](#)

[LEVEL III COMMUNITY SERVICE](#)

[LEVEL IV COMMUNITY SERVICE](#)

[HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE](#)

## Upcoming Events

# SOUTH THRIFT SHORE STORE



## DISCOUNTED, SECOND-HAND CLOTHING

VISIT NHS'S VERY OWN THRIFT STORE FROM DECEMBER 11 TO DECEMBER 13. DONATE BEFORE THEN TO GAIN COUPONS FOR YOUR OWN SHOPPING. PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE SSCPS NHS AND UNSOLD CLOTHES WILL BE DONATED.



## 11-13 DECEMBER 2023

700B WRIGHT ROOM


### Donate your clothes before December 6 to receive a \$1 coupon for each item you donate!\*



YOU MAY TALK TO KATIE CIANELLI OR OTHER NHS MEMBERS FOR DETAILS

\*Maximum coupon value of \$5

### Parents Association and SEPAC



**7 DEC**  
**THURSDAY**

# SSCPS SEPAC

## PARENTS NIGHT OUT

**The Fours**  
**285 Washington St**  
**Norwell**

We'll be meeting with  
other local SEPAC parents  
RSVP [SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG](mailto:SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG)

**START**  
**7:00 PM**

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### Lost & Found

Last year we donated over 15 industrial sized trash bags full of Lost & Found items. We know that both students and parents alike spent far too many hours searching for those items before accepting they were gone for good.

We are going to try something slightly different this year. As in past years Lost & Found items will be folded, displayed in hallways at 100 Longwater, and photos will be posted in two parent-run Facebook groups including the **SSCPS Parent/Guardian Information** site.

The major change this year is we will follow a schedule for display/donations:



**November**

Week of 11/14 - Fold/pics

11/22 - Donate

**December**

Week of 12/11 - Fold/pic (If needed)

12/21 - Donate

**February**

Week of 2/5 - Fold/pic

2/13 - Donate

**April**

Week of 4/1 - Fold/pic

4/9 - Donate

**May/June**

Week of 5/28 - Fold/pic (if needed)

6/4 - Donate

Help your students (and your wallets!)

**LOST & FOUND**

**LABEL** everything that comes to school. We check all clothing for names before donating and 95% of the time there is no name.

**OFFER** encouragement to your children to keep track of their items.

**SAVE** your sanity.

**TEACH** your child/ren that while it is great to donate their used coats, they may want to hold onto it for at least one season.

**FOLLOW** the FB sites to see pics of lost items.

**UNDERSTAND** the program is run by volunteers and dates are subject to change.

**From the Health Office**

Students entering K, 4th, 7th and 12th grade are required to submit a current physical form that is less than 13 months old. All students planning on participating in sports must have a current physical submitted to the health office and uploaded to the SchoolID website when registering the student to participate in sports. Students who do not have a current physical form on file will not be allowed to try out or participate in any sports programs.

<https://students.arbitersports.com/organizations/sscps-athletics>

If your student is sick we ask that you keep them home from school. Absences with a

doctor's note will be excused absences. Your student is required to stay home in the following situations:

- **Fever.** Students may return to school once fever has resolved for 24 hours without any medications.
- **Vomiting or diarrhea.** Students may return to school once vomiting or diarrhea has resolved for 24 hours.
- **Contagious illnesses** (such as strep or conjunctivitis). Students may return after starting antibiotics for 24 hours and remain fever free for 24 hours.
- **Positive for COVID-19.** Please contact your school nurse to determine when your student can

Students who develop any of these symptoms during the school day will need to be picked up promptly.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Jaime Kjelgaard, RN (K-8th)

[jkjelgaard@sscps.org](mailto:jkjelgaard@sscps.org), x104

Barbara Folan, RN (High School)

[bfolan@sscps.org](mailto:bfolan@sscps.org) x 182

## Special Announcements

### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Friday, December 8th. Both in person and virtual appointments are available. In person appointments are available from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. Virtual appointments are available in the afternoon.

If your child is in grades K-4 you can expect to hear from your child's teacher by the end of the day with instructions for scheduling appointments. If you are having trouble scheduling please contact your child's teacher or John Toland, K-4 Assistant Principal.

If your child is in grades 5-12 use the link below to schedule appointments. You must first register by clicking "Click Here to Register." More detailed instructions can be found [here](#).

<https://sscps.schoolappointments.com/>

When scheduling in person appointments please allow time to navigate moving from one classroom to another. If you are having difficulty with scheduling please reach out to Dee

Delaney, Assistant to the Administration, at [ddelaney@sscps.org](mailto:ddelaney@sscps.org) or 781-982-4202 x159..

The deadline to schedule an appointment is Wednesday, December 6th.



**Celebrate Your Big Day!**

Get everything you need to make your graduation complete. Order your cap, gown, tassel, and stole today. **All orders must be complete by Friday, December 15th.**



Plus, order your personalized invitations, thank you notes, and unforgettable keepsakes with just one click!



## School Picture Orders

## Don't Forget to Order This Year's School Pictures

# ENJOY 10% OFF your order!

**CODE: F202310OFF**

EXPIRES: May 1, 2024

[Redeem Now](#)

Dear Parents,

As a token of appreciation, Lifetouch is offering discounts on school photography!

- 50% off a purchase of \$50+ with code THANKFUL50
- 40% off a purchase of \$40+ with code THANKFUL40
- 30% off a purchase of \$30+ with code THANKFUL30

Valid through 11/25/23

To order, log in to your account on [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) or create an account using your student's school ID number. Don't forget to order your FREE Digital SmileSafe card!

More about the Smilesafe program [here](#).

### Weekly Calendar

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12/06</b>	<b>Winter Concert Performing Ensemble at Hingham Middle School, 1103 Main Street, Hingham 02043</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/07</b>	<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
		<b>Personnel Committee</b>	<b>5:45pm</b>
		<b>Governance Committee</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
		<b>Finance Committee</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
		<b>Development Committee</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>All meetings held at 700 Longwater Drive and via <a href="#">Zoom</a></b>			
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/07</b>	<b>High School Homecoming Dance -Whitman VFW</b>	<b>6:30-10:30pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12/08</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences – No school for students</b>	

Tuesday	12/12	Waitpool Lottery at 100 Longwater Circle, Norwell	10:00am

## Important Links

**Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website [www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org) every Wednesday.**

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

## School Documents:

- 2023-2024 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](mailto:palgera@sscps.org) to submit SSCPS items for publication.**



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