



Weekly Update | March 20, 2024

Vol. 3 Issue 3

SSCPS CELEBRATES  
WOMEN'S HISTORY  
MONTH



We are stronger together



Use the link below to view the Weekly Update in its entirety:

[View this email in your browser](#)

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## A Message from Jamie

Dear Families,

We are excited to inform you about the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8th, an awe-inspiring celestial event that offers a unique opportunity for learning and exploration. During a solar eclipse, the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, partially or completely blocking the sun's light, creating a captivating display in the sky.

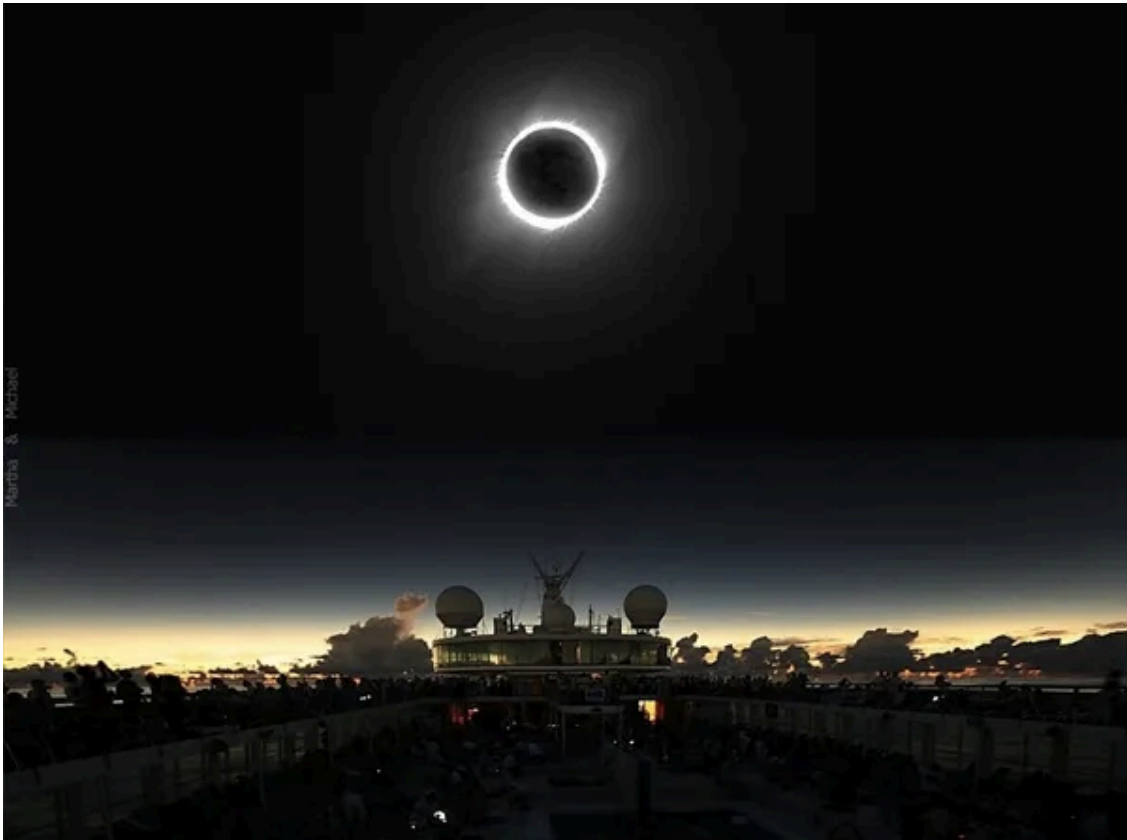


Photo Credit: Astronomy Magazine

### **Event Details:**

While no area in Massachusetts will witness totality, certain regions of the state may observe more than 95% coverage of the sun. Unfortunately, viewing is weather permitting, therefore let's hope for clear skies! The eclipse is expected to start shortly after 2 PM and will continue for approximately two and a half hours until around 4:30 PM. The total eclipse viewing will be less than four and half minutes in length.

### **Safe Viewing Practices:**

While observing a solar eclipse is an exciting experience, it's essential to prioritize safety to protect your eyes from potential damage. Here are some important safety tips for viewing the solar eclipse:

**Use Solar Eclipse Glasses:** Wear certified solar eclipse glasses to directly view the sun. Regular sunglasses are not sufficient for safe viewing and can cause eye damage.

**Pinhole Projector:** Create a pinhole projector or use a telescope or binoculars with solar filters to indirectly view the eclipse. Check out the following resources for ideas.

[\*\*NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory: How to Make a Pinhole Camera\*\*](#)

[\*\*Space.com-How to Make Your Own DIY Eclipse Viewing Device\*\*](#)

**Avoid Looking Directly at the Sun:** Never look directly at the sun without proper eye protection, as it can cause permanent eye damage, including blindness.

**Supervise Children:** Ensure that children are supervised by adults when observing the eclipse and educate them about the importance of eye safety.

**Check Equipment:** Before using solar viewing equipment, such as glasses or telescopes, check for any damage or defects to ensure safe viewing. Viewing equipment such as telescopes must have specialized filters.

### **Educational Opportunities and the Importance of Science in Our Lives:**

The solar eclipse provides an excellent opportunity for students to learn about astronomy, the solar system, and the scientific phenomenon of eclipses. It serves as a tangible example of science in our everyday lives, showcasing the interconnectedness of celestial bodies and the natural world. By observing and understanding the eclipse, children can gain a deeper appreciation for the importance of science in understanding the world around us. Many of your students' teachers will be executing lessons around the solar eclipse.

Science plays a vital role in our lives, from explaining natural phenomena like eclipses to advancing technology, medicine, and environmental conservation. By fostering curiosity and exploration of scientific concepts, we empower students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers, preparing them to tackle challenges and contribute positively to society.

We encourage you to take advantage of this memorable event and share the experience with your family in a safe and enjoyable manner. For more information about the solar eclipse and safe viewing practices, please visit [NASA's 2024 eclipse page](#) to learn more about the event. Learn more about eclipse stories from around the world by checking out [Exploratorium](#).

### **Grade 6 and 7 Science Exhibitions of Mastery**

As we emphasize fostering curiosity and exploration of concepts, I want to take this time to congratulate the grade 6 and 7 students and teachers on another successful EOM.

The Exhibition of Mastery (EOM) serves as a culmination of students' learning experiences at our school, showcasing their mastery of various subjects through hands-on projects and events. In the context of science class, the EOM provides an excellent opportunity for students to demonstrate their proficiency in the science and engineering practices outlined in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).



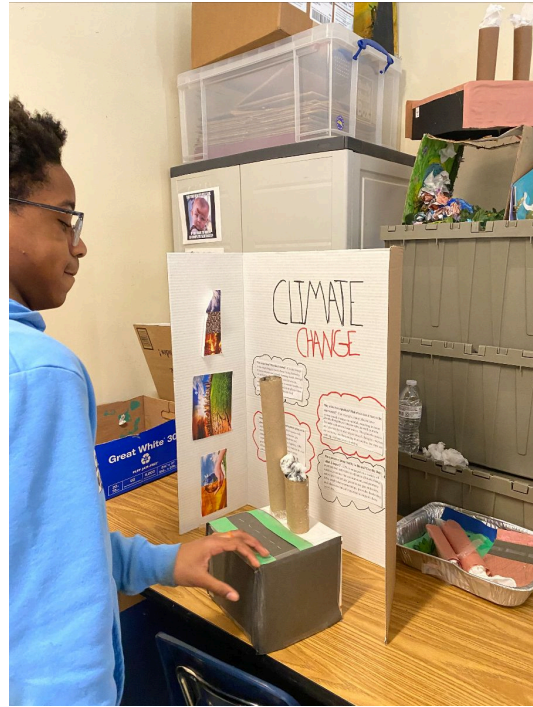
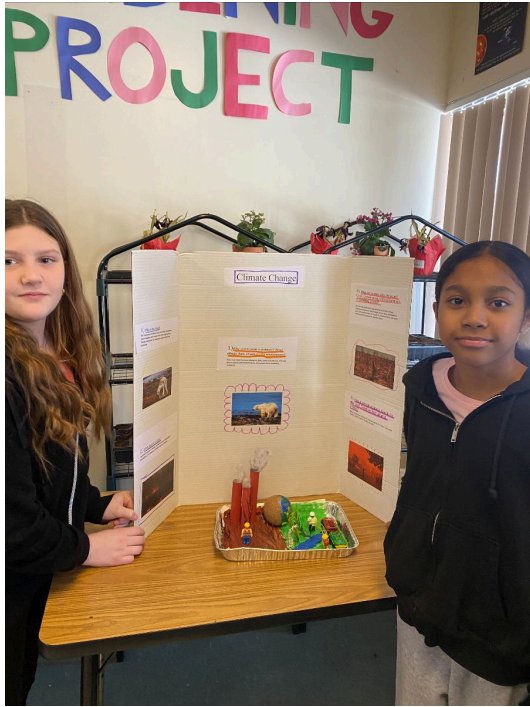
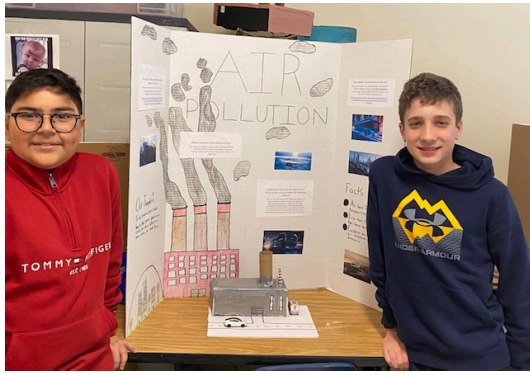
For instance, during the EOM in science class, students engage in activities that directly align with the NGSS science and engineering practices, including:

1. Asking Questions and Defining Problems: Students formulate inquiries and identify challenges related to their chosen scientific topic or engineering project.
2. Developing and Using Models: They create models or representations to illustrate scientific phenomena or engineering solutions.
3. Planning and Carrying Out Investigations: Students design and conduct experiments or investigations to gather data and test hypotheses.
4. Analyzing and Interpreting Data: They analyze and interpret data collected during experiments to draw conclusions and make evidence-based claims.
5. Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking: Students apply mathematical concepts and computational tools to analyze data and solve problems.
6. Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions: They develop explanations for observed phenomena or propose solutions to engineering challenges based on scientific principles.

7. Engaging in an Argument from Evidence: Students construct arguments supported by scientific evidence to communicate their findings and justify their conclusions.
8. Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information: They gather information from various sources, evaluate the credibility and relevance of the information, and effectively communicate their findings to others.

Through their participation in the EOM, students not only demonstrate their understanding of scientific concepts but also develop essential skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration. By engaging in authentic, inquiry-based tasks, students deepen their understanding of scientific principles and engineering design processes, preparing them for success in future academic and real-world endeavors.





Students in grade 6, under the guidance of teacher Zach Johnston, learned about the Design and Engineering Process and had to create prototypes for solutions for real-world problems. Students in grade 7, under the guidance of teacher Sadia Tariq, researched biomes and ecosystems and environmental and human impacts on these areas. Students were tasked with identifying a problem and creating a solution.



Students presented their EOMs and the top winners from each cohort were determined based on the highest scored projects and these students received medals. Students were able to present their findings and receive feedback, as well as answer follow up questions from audience participants. Please check out the exemplar projects from our grade 6 and 7 classrooms. [Grade 6 Exhibition of Mastery](#) [Grade 7 Exhibition of Mastery](#)

We wish you an enriching and exciting experience during the solar eclipse!

All the best,



**Jamie Allen**

Science Curriculum Coordinator



## On the Levels

### LEVEL I



The kindergarten students had a special guest come and celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Friday March 15th. Katie Byrne, an 8th grade student at our school, danced for the Kindergartners.

## Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

### After School Enrichment Program

*Levels II, III, IV*



# SSCPS AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

**SESSION 3**  
**APRIL 1 - MAY 17, 2024**

**GRADES 3 - 8**  
**MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY**  
**TIME: 3:15 - 4:15 PM**

## MONDAY

- **SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB**
- **STEAM EXPLORERS**
- **SCRAPBOOKING**
- **THEATRE CLUB**
- **SPORTS FUSION SQUAD**
- **CHEMICAL CREATIONS CLUB**

## WEDNESDAY

- **THEATRE CLUB**
- **ZUMBA KIDS CLUB**
- **STEAM EXPLORERS**
- **NATURAL ARTISTS**
- **WEB WARRIORS: CODING AND LOGIC GAMES CLUB**
- **SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB**
- **PAINTING PIONEERS CLUB**
- **CHEMICAL CREATIONS CLUB**



**CONTACT NADEEN SULLIVAN PHONE: 781-982-4202 EXT. 356**  
**EMAIL: [NSULLIVAN@SSCPS.ORG](mailto:NSULLIVAN@SSCPS.ORG)**

Dear Families,

We are pleased to announce that registration for Session III of our Afterschool Enrichment Program is now open to students in Grades 3-8. Please review our Club Descriptions and complete the Registration form. Registration closes on March 22nd. We look forward to another great session of learning, adventure and fun! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

**Nadeen Sullivan**

**Afterschool Enrichment Program Coordinator**

[Grades 3-6: Club Descriptions](#)

[Grades 7-8: Club Descriptions](#)

[Grades 3-6: Club Registration  
Form](#)

[Grades 7-8: Club Registration  
Form](#)

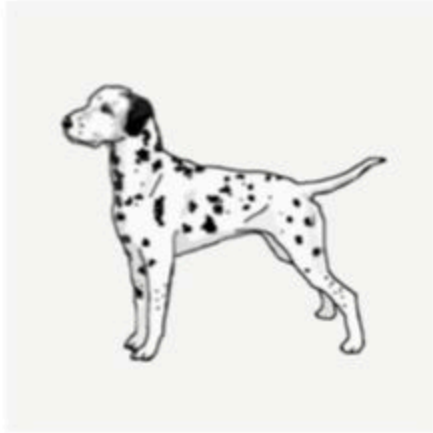
## What's New in Projects and Workshops

### **High School: School Store Workshop**

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

**SSCPS SCHOOL APPAREL**

## Community Service



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT IS COLLECTING  
ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS!!

(MARCH 4TH-MARCH 29TH)

- PET FOOD
- TOYS
- TREATS
- HAMSTER WHEELS

- ANIMAL BRUSHES. FOR ANIMALS!!
- LEASHES
- COLLARS
- PAPER TOWELS
- BEDS

DROP OFF DONATIONS IN  
BIN AT THE FRONT DOOR.

ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO QUINCY ANIMAL SHELTER

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**17<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**PJ DRIVE**

**Collect pajamas**

**Support local children**

**Win prizes**

**February 1 – March 15**

**SIGN UP TODAY**

**Cradles to Crayons**  
END CLOTHING INSECURITY

Cradles to Crayons is kicking off the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Bruins PJ Drive, in partnership with the [Boston Bruins](#), the [Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners](#), and [Wonderfund!](#) Their goal is to collect 10,000 pairs of brand-new pajamas between now and March 15 to benefit children in need.

**Register to host a PJ Drive using the button** below. You can register as a group or as an individual, and we encourage you to engage friends, neighbors, classmates, colleagues, and others to help collect pajamas and increase your impact. If you would like to support the Bruins PJ Drive by simply donating pajamas directly, you can do so through our [Amazon Wish List](#).

[HOST A PJ DRIVE](#)

[PJ DRIVE WISH LIST](#)

You can register to host a PJ Drive at any point until the program concludes on March 15, at which point prizes will be awarded to the three groups that have collected the most pairs of pajamas!

## 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](#)

From the Foundation



During the month of March, the South Shore Charter Educational Foundation will be holding our first ever **March Magnet Madness** fundraiser!

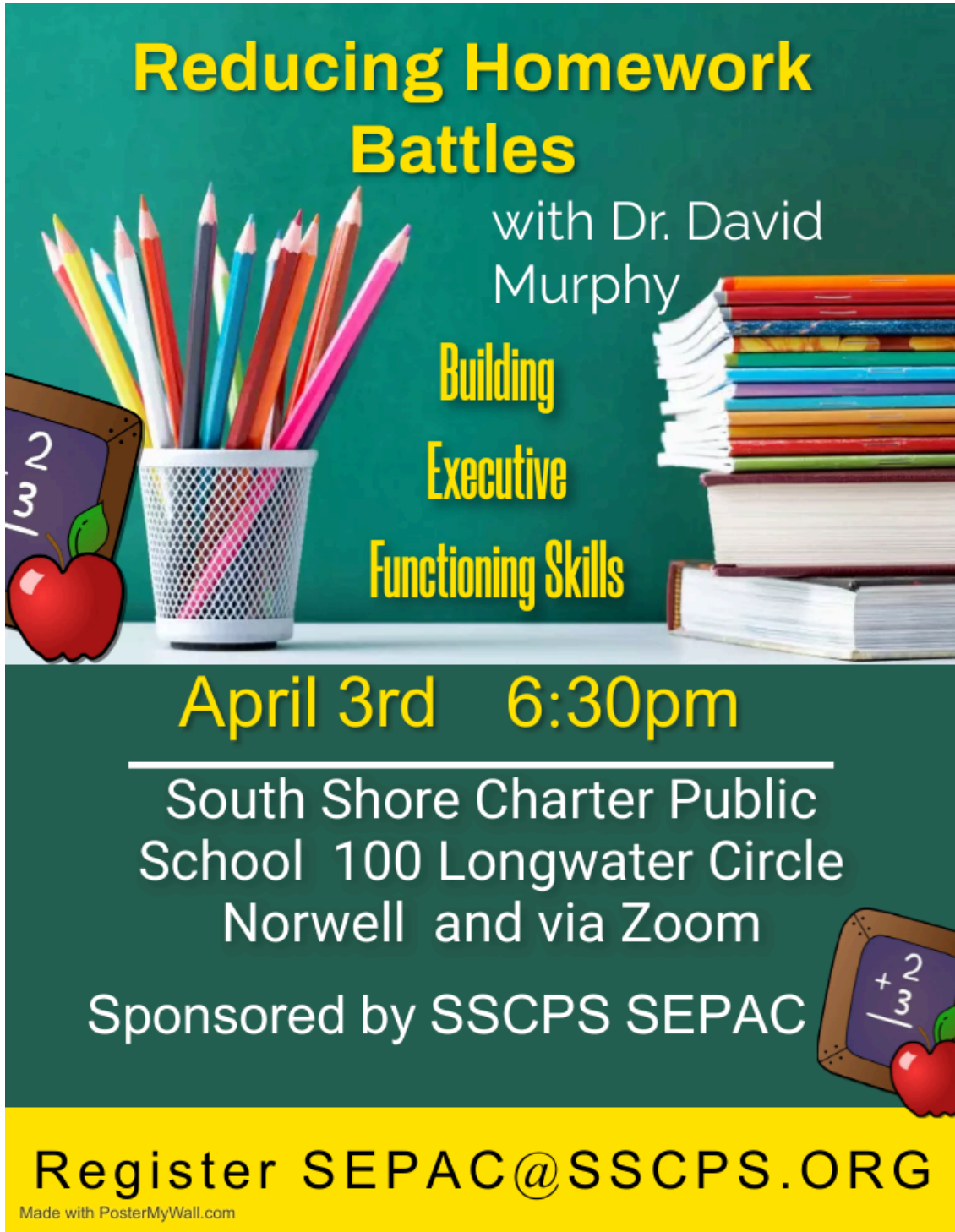
**All donations of \$25 or higher will receive an SSCPS magnet**, and funds will be used toward the area of greatest need at SSCPS. Display your magnet on your car, your fridge, your locker at school, or anywhere else you'd like to share your SSCPS pride!

Show your support for the SSCPS community and donate today to get your magnet!

**Make a Donation**

Parents Association, SEPAC, and ELPAC

SEPAC



# Reducing Homework Battles

with Dr. David Murphy

Building Executive Functioning Skills

April 3rd 6:30pm

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South Shore Charter Public School 100 Longwater Circle  
Norwell and via Zoom

Sponsored by SSCPS SEPAC

Register [SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG](mailto:SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG)

Made with PosterMyWall.com





## 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:

### **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.

## Upcoming Events

# SSCPS and the Diversity Committee invites you to...



**When:** Thursday, March 21, 2024

**Where:** Our school (SSCPS) and your community

**Why:** World Down Syndrome Day is a global awareness day that has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. Since people with Down Syndrome have an extra (3rd) copy on the 21st chromosome, and socks are shaped like chromosomes, wearing crazy, funny, and cool socks that day helps to support and create awareness of these unique individuals in our school community with the “bonus” chromosome!

We are challenging ALL members of our community to “rock their socks” in an effort to show how people with Down Syndrome are an integral part of our school :) #inclusionforall

South Shore Charter Public School Presents

# March Concert

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC WORKSHOP



28th March 2024

PE Space | 104 Longwater Drive

6 PM

# EXPERIENCE THE FLAVORS OF THE WORLD



## JOIN US FOR A MULTICULTURAL FOOD NIGHT!

APRIL 11 2024 FROM 5:45 TO 8:00 PM.  
AT THE  
JERUSALEM EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
871 NORTH MAIN STREET, RANDOLPH MA.

### Become A Volunteer!

If you would like to volunteer to help set up, serve, and/or clean up, or if you have questions, please email Parent Coordinator and SSCPS Trustee, [Natacha Webster Julien](#).

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



As the end of the year quickly approaches, the school would like to announce the **SSCPS Fair**: a family-friendly event for the entire SSCPS community to enjoy. Hosted by the High School Student Board and various clubs, come support our students and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon on April 27. More information will be coming soon.

From the Health Office

## COVID-19 Guidelines for Massachusetts

Although the CDC has lifted the COVID-19 guidelines, Massachusetts DPH has not changed the COVID-19 guidelines and still requires at least 5 days of quarantine following a positive test or from the beginning of symptoms. Please see the link below for further information on COVID-19 and quarantining requirements in Massachusetts.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-isolation-and-exposure-guidance-for-children-and-staff-in-child-care-k-12-out-of-school-time-ost-and-recreational-camp-program-settings>

The health office will let you know if this policy changes in the future.

## Special School Announcements

### 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\*\*](#)

To order, log in to your account on [mylifetouch.com](https://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

Wednesday	03/20	Winter Sports Award Ceremony - 104 Longwater Drive (PE Space)	4:00pm
Wednesday	03/20	Junior Parent Night via <a href="#">Zoom</a>	6:00pm
Thursday	03/21	High School AP African Studies and Cultural Diversity Field Trip to Boston	
Thursday	03/21	New Kindergarten Open House at 100 Longwater Circle	5:00-6:30pm
Friday	03/22	High School Mock Trial to Boston	
Monday	03/25	Governance Committee Meeting via <a href="#">Zoom</a>	12:00pm
Tuesday	03/26	MCAS ELA Grade 10	
Wednesday	03/27	MCAS ELA Grade 10	
Wednesday	03/27	Senior Parent Graduation Meeting via <a href="#">Zoom</a>	6:00pm

## Community Events

**Check the links below for updates on community events!**

- [PYD Inclusive Music Program](#)
- [Holly Hill Farm - Spring Programs](#)
- [Girls Who Code Summer Program](#)
- [gbSTEM - Free STEM Courses](#)

## Important Links

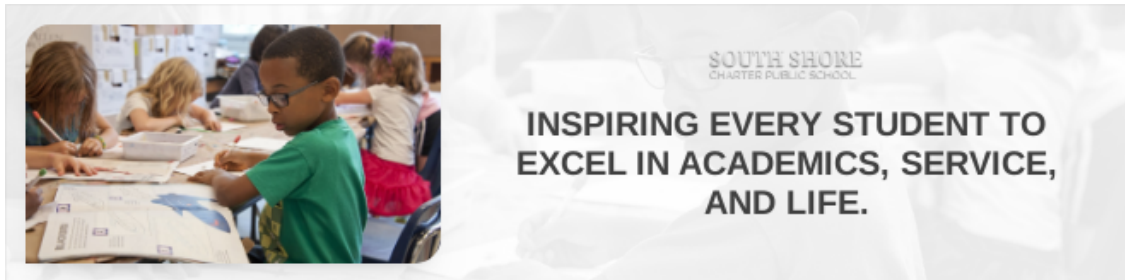
**Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website [www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org) every Wednesday.**

- [Afterschool Enrichment Program](#)
- DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated: [Arabic](#), [Cape Verdean Creole](#), [Chinese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), [Vietnamese](#)
- [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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