



Weekly Update | November 21, 2023

Vol. 11 Issue 4



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A Message from John

“I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson



We are entering that time of the year when many teachers and students start to prepare for a Thanksgiving meal with friends and family. Accompanying this meal is a 4-day weekend to spend time with loved ones. Many will be traveling near and far. Some are decorating their homes in anticipation of guests, and others have already started cooking side dishes,

desserts, and more. Like clockwork, students in schools all over the country will be spending this short week learning about the Pilgrims on the Mayflower, the Wampanoag tribes that were here when they arrived, and discussing what was really eaten at the original Thanksgiving Feast.

Hopefully, amidst all of this revelry, we find time to reflect on what we are thankful for in our lives. For myself, I am so full of gratitude to be working at a school that, in my time here, continues to change and adapt. SSCPS is at times a living organization that is constantly trying to meet the tide of new students we receive every year with grace and understanding. We are a school that now boasts a nearly 50% multilingual rate. We are a school that both accepts and celebrates diversity of all kinds at our school. Although our mission statement has remained the same for many years, we remain open, optimistic, and full of wonder toward meeting the constant shifts in our student population and what is being taught in our classrooms. We are a living and adapting community.



SSCPS is a school that has a front seat to many of the shifts in teaching that alter how we look back at our nation's history. From Lexington to Concord, to the Battle of Bunker Hill, to the self-proclaimed "Living Museum" of Plimoth Patuxet, students and teachers are challenging many of the stereotypes and singular beliefs that many of us were taught growing up in the area. Last week, in tandem with the 3rd Grade Social Studies curriculum,

about 80 students were able to travel to historic Plymouth, Massachusetts to see first-hand what they had been learning about in the classroom with their teachers.

The third graders started their trip with a tour of the Mayflower II in Plymouth Harbor. Students were able to step aboard this full-scale replica of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to Plymouth in 1620. On board, they learned about how the ship sailed, where the passengers lived, and the hardships they faced on their journey across the Atlantic. Then, the students made their way to Patuxet, which was the indigenous name of the place where the Mayflower passengers settled, which in the Wampanoag language means, "place of running water."



Next, the students were able to visit a historic Patuxet Homesite and discover the history and culture of the Wampanoag people who had lived on this land long before the Pilgrims arrived. As a living museum, this is the one area of the field trip that has changed the most from my own experience as a 3rd grader who visited what was then called Plimoth Plantation in the 1980's. Far more attention is now given to the indigenous people and the museum remains committed to telling this history from multiple perspectives. While there, students were able to step inside a wetu, learn how to make a mishoon (boat), and see how they cooked over a fire.



Then, students visited an English Village that allowed them to step back in time to experience Plymouth Colony in the 1620's. In addition to experts and historians who shared their knowledge, there were also historical performers who portrayed the residents of the colony and interacted with the students. Oftentimes, students were encouraged to help out with a task, or to join in a game with the settlers of the colony. The 3rd Graders walked amongst the buildings, through the gardens, and were able to see firsthand what it would have been like to be alive at that time.



In closing, I feel fortunate that while others all over the country are learning about Thanksgiving, we were able to visit such an important historical place with just a short bus ride. One of the slogans at Plimoth Patuxet is, *"You Can't Change History, But It Could Change You."* Through the incredible instruction of our social studies teachers, combined with real life experiences such as this field trip to Plimoth Patuxet, one can feel grateful that

these students will grow up and work to improve the world as they themselves make history.

I also want to thank AuJané, Darlene, Danette and Amy for sharing their amazing pictures. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and wish you and your family all the best.

John Toland
Assistant Principal, K-4

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Afterschool Enrichment Program

Levels II and III



Sports and Playtime Club





AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

REMINDER

THERE WILL BE NO AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES NEXT WEEK!

November 20th - November 24th





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:

<h4><u>MONDAY</u></h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB • CRAFTY CREATORS CLUB • ART CLUB • THEATRE CLUB 	<h4><u>WEDNESDAY</u></h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STORY ILLUSTRATORS CLUB • THEATRE CLUB • WEB WARRIORS: CODING AND LOGIC GAMES CLUB • SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB • PAINTING PIONEERS CLUB • YOGA AND QIGONG CLUB
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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: 781-982-4302 EXT. 356
EMAIL: NSULLIVAN@SSCPS.ORG

What's New in Projects and Workshops

Level III Community Service Project

The Level III Community Service Project thanks you for your generous contributions to our food drive! We were able to deliver many non-perishable items to the Friendly Food Pantry in Randolph just in time for Thanksgiving!

For our next initiative, we are collaborating with a Boston area soup kitchen to reach the homeless community by collecting items they need to put together the holiday gift bags that they distribute. Please see the flyer for details. Thank you!

DONATE TO THE HOMELESS

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- WINTER HATS
- MENS GLOVES (SIZE LARGE)
- HAND WARMERS
- SNACKS
- GIFT BAGS
- TRAVEL SIZED:
 - KLEENEX
 - LOTION
 - RAZORS
 - DEODORANT
 - SHAMPOO
 - TOOTHPASTE



YOU CAN DROP OFF ITEMS IN THE BINS AT THE FRONT AND BACK DOOR.

STARTING 11/14 & ENDING 12/8




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



WINTER CONCERT 2023

DECEMBER 6

LEVEL I: Starting at 10:00 AM

PERFORMING ENSEMBLE: Starting at 6:00 PM

<p>LEVEL I CONCERT (PE SPACE AT SSCPS)</p> <p>KINDERGARTEN 1ST GRADE 2ND GRADE</p> <p>NOTE: PARENTS WILL NEED TO PARK AT THE HIGHSCHOOL, 700 LONGWATER, NOT THE PE SPACE</p>	<p>PERFORMING ENSEMBLE CONCERT (HINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL 1103 MAIN ST, HINGHAM, MA 02043)</p> <p>LEVEL II CHOIR LEVEL III CHOIR LEVEL IV CHOIR BEGINNING STRINGS CONCERT STRINGS INSTRUMENTAL PROJECT CONCERT BAND JAZZ BAND HIGHSCHOOL MUSIC WORKSHOP</p>
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Parents Association and SEPAC



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, x104

Barbara Folan, RN (High School)

bfolan@sscps.org x 182

Special Announcements



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 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	11/22	Early Release –Dismissal at Noon	12:00pm
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Thurs & Fri	11/23- 11/24	Thanksgiving Break – No School	
Wednesday	11/29	Executive Committee Meeting at 100 Longwater Circle	9:00am
Thursday	11/30	Title I Parent Meeting via Zoom	8:30am

Important Links

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website 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 to submit SSCPS items for publication.



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www.sscps.org

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