

Shark Tales

SOUTHBURY ELEMENTARY

OCTOBER 2021

[School calendar](#)

ADMINISTRATION LETTER

Happy Fall, Sharks! There has been a lot of fun and learning going on all around the building these first 2 months of school! If you have not done so already, please follow [Southbury on Facebook](#) to see the fun we have each day!

What's Happening in the Month of November?

- November 4th--HSO Meeting 6-7 pm
- November 5th--End of 1st Trimester
- November 8th-- Culver's Night** Note it is a MONDAY this month
- November 9-11-- Fall Book Fair
- November 11th--5-Hour Day Early Dismissal (2:00 pm)
- November 11th--Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-8 pm
- November 12th --No School --Parent/Teacher Conferences (flex)
- November 12th--Donuts with Dads-- Donuts Drive and GO!
- November 24th--Non-Attendance Day (No School; District Closed)
- November 25th-- Thanksgiving (Holiday - No School; District Closed)
- November 26th--Non-Attendance Day (No School; District Closed)

Thank you for a wonderful start to the school year! We look forward to working together as a team to continue this success for our children.

Samantha Sinovich
Principal

Blake Cline
Assistant Principal

Read. Write. Think. Grow. Southbury, A Community of Learners

FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Happy Fall Southbury Sharks!

Help Wanted - Help is needed in the form of both substitute teachers and substitute teaching assistants! If you might be interested in learning more about this opportunity at Southbury, please visit the district website (www.sd308.org) and click on the Employment Opportunities tab. Interested individuals would need to fulfill the job qualifications and the job duties would also follow suit.

A few gentle reminders from the front office:

- If your student is going to be absent or tardy, please call the attendance line at: 630-551-9801 to report the absence or tardy before 8 AM if possible.
- Please do not email the teacher to report an absence as we do not always get them forwarded to us in a timely manner. Also, if the teacher is absent, substitutes do not have access to their emails.
- We encourage students to take responsibility for forgotten items but if you must drop something off for your student, please be sure it is clearly marked with their name and their teacher's name and place in the blue box located in the front corridor.
- Students are not called out of class to pick up items left in the office. Items are placed on the counter adjacent to the school hallway for students to pick up at an opportune time.
- With the weather being a bit unpredictable, please remember to send your child with a sweatshirt, or light coat to school. Students do go outside for recess when the temperature is above 10 degrees F.

GO SHARKS!

HOME AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATION HAPPENINGS

Hello Shark families!

While we are feeling extra thankful this month, we are especially thankful for all of the AMAZING VOLUNTEERS that work tirelessly giving their own free time to pull together fun events, fundraisers, spirit wear, yearbooks and all else SHARK stuff!!! The HSO only works if we have amazing volunteers so if you are interested, please come to our next meeting on Thursday, November 4th at 6pm in the Southbury Community Room. This meeting will have any and all staff members speaking on behalf of grant requests being made to the Home and School this year. You wouldn't want to miss this meeting!

Also, a great big thank you to the families that donated snacks and treats to our staff this month! We know they loved the treats and felt a little spoiled that week or so!

Our staff favorites list is complete! Please use the link below when trying to spoil ANY staff member or feel free to use it with the holidays coming up!

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kjilpDEQCG_UBpkIRsi1meDs3Psy8ugCgyCCG_r8INw/edit?usp=sharing

Yearbooks are ready for ordering!! Please follow the steps below to order yours today! Unfortunately, we will not be taking any late orders this year.

Step 1: Visit <http://www.memorybook.com/online-pay/parent-pay/>

Step 2: Enter our school code 208741 then click "Go to your school account login"

Step 3: Click on the link below our school name

Step 4: Register as a "new user"

Step 5: Follow the onscreen directions to buy a yearbook for \$20. Please be sure to complete your child's name and teacher information!

And follow these steps for submitting photos!

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE – Visit <https://images.memorybooks.com/416926001>

Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload, click on "Select My Images." Enter information about the photo, especially your child's teachers name and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information. Click "Upload Chosen Images."

Additionally, we have restaurant nights, another spirit wear order, Donuts with Dad and a pizza kit fundraiser all coming up before the holidays! Keep watch on our Facebook page or emails being sent with additional information. Follow us at Southbury Home and School Organization or reach out to us at sbhomenschool@gmail.com

Sarah Brown and Kristy Stith

sbhomenschool@gmail.com



KINDERGARTEN

We are so proud of the stamina our kindergarteners have already built this year, and their ability to adapt to our schedule and routines. They have been flexible and resilient. We cannot believe we are about to be finishing up the month of October!

ELA: As readers we have discussed the difference between fiction and nonfiction, as well as the job of an illustrator and an author. We have focused on story elements such as characters

and setting.

As writers we have drawn with details and labeling to retell a story or teach a fact that we learned. We have practiced making CVC words with the sounds we have learned together and began unscrambling and writing simple sentences.

Math: Calendar and counting routines are being consistently practiced, along with number writing. Number sense is worked into those daily routines and will continue to be. We finished Unit 1 (positional words and categorizing) and are working through Unit 2 (numbers 1-10).

Science: Unit 1, Pushes and Pulls, will start in October. We will be working as engineers to discover the cause and effect of pushing and pulling and examples of things that move that way.

Tips for at home:

Look for math around your house. Where do you see the number 7? Can you count how many toy cars you have? Who has more nuggets on their plate?

Letters and Sounds: Practice ID and sounds with Letter book sent home. Use letters/sounds they know to build simple words. (cat, net, big...)

Thanks for all the continued support at home!

1ST GRADE

First Grade continues to have a fun year being back in person! We have mastered our daily routines and continue to build on what we have learned. During our Second Step lessons we learned how to play Puddle Jump. This game helps us practice listening to and following directions. Here are some of the other things we have learned this month.

ELA

- Retell stories and demonstrate understanding of the central message
- Give an opinion with a supporting reason
- Started bringing home Baggie Books

Math

- Number talks continue to help us practice math vocabulary
- Addition and subtraction within 10

Science

- Wrapped up our study of plant and animal defenses

We have also learned how to log onto Chromebooks and exchange our baggie books.

Parent Teacher Conference sign ups will be coming home soon.

We look forward to a **spooktacular** October!

2ND GRADE

Hello Everyone! The Second Grade Team can not believe that we are almost into November! We are very proud of the second graders at how well they have adjusted to being back to school all day, every day!



In ELA, as readers, we learned that characters and stories have unique points of view. Also knowing the structure of the story helps us to understand the text. As writers, we understand that signal words tell the sequence of events in a story. We learned that describing a character's actions, thoughts and feelings helps to enhance the story.

In Math, we have finished Unit 1 (YIPPEE!!) Please continue to practice Math Fluency (Xtra Math and Flash Cards) and place value to 1000, which will help strengthen their foundation of place value which will help make adding and subtracting double and triple digit numbers easier!

In Science, we have finished Unit 1, Plant and Animal Relationships. We have discussed the many ways that seeds get dispersed, how animals and plants depend on each other for survival, and what exactly a seed needs to sprout into a healthy plant. Our next unit is, Changing Landforms.


3RD GRADE

What a great start we've had to the 21/22 in-person, school year! Everyone is LOVING being back in person. Third Graders are back into school routines, schedules, and working hard! We are happy to have Mrs. Patrargras back and on our 3rd Grade Team. Students have been busy understanding the main idea/details of a passage and writing their own narrative using transition words, dialogue, and feelings. We are well on our way into chapter 3 on Subtraction. We've practiced how to subtraction multi-digit numbers, regroup when needed, and subtract across zeros. Last but not least, our study of Grove Snails is almost at an end. Students concluded that the non-adaptive traits of the yellow shelled snail (inability to camouflage, low shell strength) caused it's population to decline significantly than that of the Banded Shell Snails. Our next Amplify Science Kit will be on Balancing Forces and what makes the train 'float'. Keep a lookout for parent-teacher conference information to come from your child's classroom teacher. As you can see, 3rd graders aren't letting any grass grow under their feet! Happy Fall Ya'll!

4TH GRADE

We are so happy to be back in person with our students all day! Over the past couple of months, we have been working on transitioning students back to a full-day school routine. We have seen their stamina increase, and it really seems like the students are "getting back into the groove" of school. We are looking forward to seeing this continue to improve as the weeks progress.





We've been very busy over the last couple of months with reviewing and learning new topics in our core academic subjects. In Math, we began with a review of place value, addition, and subtraction strategies. Recently, the students have built upon their fact knowledge from 3rd grade to begin multi-digit multiplication. They've been exposed to multiple strategies to do this, and they are now knowledgeable enough about these strategies to flexibly choose whichever ones suit them best. We are encouraging the students to continue practicing their facts at home-- every little bit helps! As we move into division, and then eventually fractions, decimals, and so on, fact fluency will become absolutely essential. Any help you can give your children at home to continue to practice their basic facts would be much appreciated!

In ELA, we've spent much of the last couple of months focusing on informational texts. We've learned about various animal skeletons, as well as a fascinating true story about the discovery of an English king's skeleton under a vacant parking lot! We are now researching animal features and completing infographics about our chosen animals. Once we finish those, we will move on to narrative texts in the form of tall tales such as "Pecos Bill" and "John Henry." We've also been diving into figurative language recently. If you use or come across any figurative language at home, you can ask your child to try to identify what type it is!


In Science, we completed our study of waves and sound energy and have now moved on to a new unit about vision and light. We are acting as conservation biologists who are investigating why Tokay geckos' populations are declining in a rainforest. We recently learned that it might have something to do with an absence of light-- more to come on that in the weeks ahead!

As always, we thank you SO much for your continued support at home. We couldn't do this without you! Stay tuned for future updates on all we're learning in 4th grade!

5TH GRADE

Happy Fall, 5th Grade Families! Students have had a great start to the school year. They've settled into our classroom routines and have been busy learning! In ELA, we finished *The Night of the Spadefoot Toads* and *Washed Up!* Students worked on character descriptions, plot structure, and identifying key events in each story. They applied what they learned as readers to create their own stories during writing. Our next module will focus on a nonfiction text called *The Rainforest Food Chains*. Students will be working on identifying the main idea and key details, cause and effect, and making claims using evidence from the text. In math, students have been busy learning multiplication and division. They learned how to estimate products and multiply 1 and 2 digit numbers. They have also been learning how to complete long division problems with up to 4 digit dividends. In science, students have taken on the role of ecologists to figure out why specific plants and animals aren't growing or thriving in a project area. They have been gathering data from simulations, books, evidence cards, and their very own terrariums to try to find a solution. In regards to AVID, our students have been doing a great job learning the components of the writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading strategies that we use in our classroom each day.

We look forward to seeing everyone for parent teacher conferences in November!





STARS

Hello STARS Families!

We are having a great start to the school year! The students are adjusting well to their schedules and daily routine. It has been such a pleasure getting to know each of the students and watching them develop friendships with each other. Please review the following important reminders. And as always, reach out to us with any questions or concerns that you may have throughout the school year.

- Check take home folders and student's backpacks daily
- Check emails daily
- Call the attendance line if your student is going to be absent or late
- Send in a jacket with your student daily as they do have outdoor recess
- Label your student's outdoor gear (jackets, hats, etc)
- Send in healthy snacks with your students

We enjoy working with all of your students and collaborating with everyone! Remember, TEAM stands for- Together Everyone Achieves More :)

Go Sharks!!

Mrs. Balcerak, Miss Bolton, Miss Dowjotas, Mrs. Kurth, Miss Jungels and Mrs. Wilson

ESL

Hello, and Happy October from ESL! We are off to a great start this school year, and can't wait to see our students continue to grow in their Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking skills!

Important Reminders:



This school year every ESL student will have a **blue ESL Resource folder** that will go between home and school. This folder will contain communication from your child's ESL teacher and ESL classwork. Please look for your child's folder daily and be sure to sign the communication log.

Celebrate Día de los Muertos!

When? Thursday, October 28th 6-8pm

Where? East View Academy

What to Expect: Crafts, Loteria, Info Session, and Prizes!

If you have any questions regarding ESL, please contact your child's ESL teacher. We are here to help!

Alyssa Ahlstrom

aahlstrom@sd308.org

Kristen Serio

kserio@sd308.org

GE – MATH

We have been busy growing as mathematicians, using the eight Mathematical Practices, playing with numbers to build our number intuition, and solving problems in our think tank groups.

In fourth grade we kicked off October with Number Theory. We discovered all the Happy Numbers from 1-100! To explore factors and multiples we played the game "Tax Man." Small groups explored divisibility rules by solving number riddles and word problems, and we modeled prime numbers geometrically and noticed prime numbers can only make lines, not rectangles. We grew some tasty prime fruit trees in math class! Prime factorization trees are useful now and throughout high school math! Order of operations helped us learn how to solve equations and all arrive at the same answer. These rules guide us whenever we solve multi-step word problems. The latter half of October found us multiplying and dividing very large numbers. Practice was the key to fluency and accuracy! Using these skills to solve multi-step word problems is the end goal!



In fifth grade drawing models has been a game changer! We launched division with fractions by exploring how to solve and model all sorts of sharing and grouping, especially with food! I am so proud of how our mathematicians persevered with the models and asked such amazingly well-timed questions during discussions. We continued to draw models as we explored ratios, so we could see how ratios are similar and different from fractions. Our number sense has really expanded as we played with our numbers and noticed relationships, which is the very essence of ratios and proportions. We continued to discover strategies for scaling up and down as we solved for unit rate, unit price, and unit conversions. The number 1 was the star of our math show! Now your mathematician can help you compare prices,

analyze your car's gas consumption, and scale a recipe to determine how much food to buy! Math is not only fun at school, it's useful every day!



SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Hello Shark families!

October was AAC awareness month! The goal is to raise awareness of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and to inform the public about the many different ways in which people communicate using AAC. We have attached a few pictures below in hopes of raising awareness about some of the communication forms that some of our kids use.

We are looking forward to a great November!

LRC

It has been wonderful meeting Southbury students in the LRC over the past couple of months! I spent many years as a Traugher Panther, and now I'm thrilled to be a Southbury Shark! The students have enjoyed getting back into the LRC and checking out books on a regular basis again. We've been reviewing how to search for books using our Destiny Catalog system online and how books are organized in the physical library. We are beginning to get into our Digital Citizenship curriculum to ensure students are being safe and smart when using all the technology available to them.

Pumpkin Decorating is back! The Pumpkin Decorating Contest came back to the LRC in slightly different form this year. Students got creative with their paper pumpkin canvases inspired by their favorite characters and books. Winners received a gift certificate to spend at the Fall Book Fair.

Speaking of Book Fair... The Scholastic Fall Book Fair will be held in the Community Room from November 9th-12th and will be open for families to shop during conferences - Thursday, November 11th from 4-8pm and Friday November 12th from 8:30-10:00am. This year's theme is "Books Bring Us Together!" So many new books from our favorite authors will be available to choose from. The eWallet accounts are back! The eWallet option allows parents and guardians to create a secure payment account for their child to purchase books. Please look

for our book fair flyer coming home soon. For additional book fair info please use the following link: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/southburyelementaryschool>

Oswego Public Library Partnership - The 2nd year of our partnership with the OPLD has begun! This partnership was created during the 2020-2021 school year to give all students in SD308 access to the digital resources available through our public library. Some of our SD308 students don't live within the boundaries of the library district, so they have not had access in the past. In addition, many of those that do reside within the library district boundaries do not have cards or have misplaced their cards so they no longer have access. This partnership will give all students access to the amazing resources our public library has to offer! There are so many great databases and ebooks that students may use for research, homework, class work, and personal enjoyment.

The public library has partnered with us to get all district students a library card number so they can access all the digital resources from home (with parent permission). This card will be temporary (expiration June 1, 2022).

Getting access to these resources is EASY! Just fill out [this Google Form](#). After you complete it, Mrs. Rossi or Mrs. Dietz will contact you with access instructions and the library card number. IT'S THAT EASY! :) The library card number will be active as soon as you receive it! Please be sure to list each of your SD308 children on the form so that we may give each child her/his own library card number. Information on how to access all of the amazing resources will be sent to you along with the library card number.

Enjoy "FALLing" for some great books as we cozy up for the season!

Mrs. Rossi arossi@sd308.org and Mrs. Dietz hdietz@sd308.org

FROM THE READING DEPARTMENT

October is the time for frightfully fun books that are a real treat for all readers. Warm up some apple cider, light the candles in the jack-o-lanterns and get cozy with some spooky October reads.



For younger readers try these books: [The Hallo-Wiener](#) by Dav Pilkey, [The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything](#) by Linda Williams or [Carl's Halloween](#) by Alexandra Day.

For more experienced readers try these books: [The Worst Best: The Worst Best Halloween Ever](#) by Barbara Robinson, [Goosebumps: Attack of the Jack-o-Lanterns](#) by R.L. Stine or [Days to Celebrate](#) by Lee Bennett Hopkins.



ART

Our young artists are adding their finishing touches to this year's Square 1 Art projects. After I send them our art, the Square 1 Art company will print your child's artwork on a sheet of stickers for free! They will also send us a catalog of other products you can order with your child's artwork on it. If you'd like to preview some of the available products, this [link](#) will take you to them. Any products you choose to order will arrive before we go on winter break. These make for very special parent and grandparent gifts for the holidays. Keep your eyes open for the free stickers and product catalog to arrive early November. The Square 1 Art company donates a portion of the proceeds to Southbury's art classroom.

MUSIC

Hello, my name is Morgan McWethy and I am your student's music teacher. I am so happy that students are back in my room this year making music!

In October we learned and reviewed music terms such as "tempo" and "dynamics". These are important concepts in music, as they allow us to reflect on music we listen to and help us create our own music! At the end of October we started our Trimester 1 Assessment and scores will be documented on your student's Mastery Connect music tracker.

In November, we are going to begin prepping for Trimester 2. This trimester focuses on "rhythm". We are learning how to count rhythms, write rhythms, and create our own rhythm patterns! These are the building blocks to composing music and I am excited to continue to work with my wonderful Southbury students!

If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to email me at mmcwethy@sd308.org.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What an amazing start to the school year with in person PE! Our Southbury student athletes are really doing a great job getting their heart rates up and having fun during PE! We are flying into October with a focus on the fundamentals of throwing and catching frisbee's. If you are

looking for a free family adventure, Oswego has one of the best disc golf courses in the state of IL. It is located near the Oswego civic center. Towards the end of the month we are going to "bring back" week. During our bring back week we will review skills, fundamentals and games that were played during the first quarter. Southbury students will have a chance to play their favorite games from our soccer, football, and team sports units. Looking forward to a great month!!!! GO SHARKS!



GREETINGS FROM NURSE SARA & PAIGE

Hello Shark families, we are so happy to see students back in the building! Here are some quick notes to share with you.

I wanted to introduce a new Shark to the family. Paige Brawdy is our Health Office Secretary. She has been such a great help here in my office. She's been making friends with our big and little Sharks, and emailing parents when students are home sick with directions on how to proceed in having students return back to school after being sick. Symptoms students need to have evaluated prior to returning to school include: fever (100.4°F or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue from an unknown cause and/or muscle or body aches from an unknown cause.

Medications at School

Students needing to have prescription or over the counter medication will need a School Administration Form in order for the medication to be given at school. If your child has life threatening food allergies, seizure disorders, or asthma then an Emergency Action Plan will also be needed to be on file as well. See the links below for those that may pertain to your child. These can be submitted electronically, faxed, or dropped off.

[School Medication Authorization Form](#)

[Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan](#)

[Allergy & Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan](#)

[Asthma Action Plan](#)

Health Requirements

If your child is new to our school and/or from out of state, our health office will need up to date records (an Illinois physical, proof of immunizations, dental, & vision examination). The deadline for this is 30 days from when your child was enrolled.

Any documents you'd like to submit can be forwarded via email at skarantonis@sd308.org or faxed to (630) 551-9897. There is also a blue drop box at the main entrance vestibule. You can also contact me at (630) 551-9802 during school hours.

Donations

The health office is in need of child sized masks if you are able to donate we'd appreciate it!! . I'd love your help in asking for students to have an extra mask in their backpack just in case. This would help immensely as the large supply of masks that were purchased at the beginning

of the school year have been depleted already.

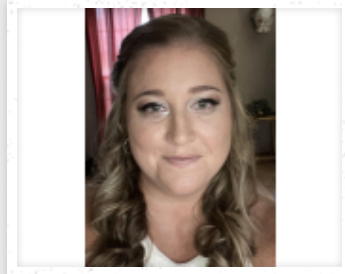
Thank you for your help in keeping our kiddos healthy!

Nurse Sara & Paige Brawdy



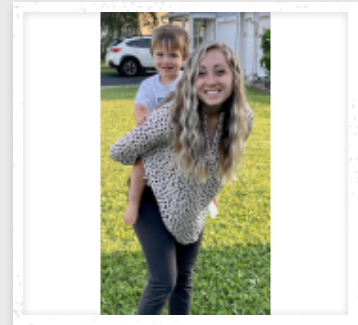
MRS. EPSTEIN

Building Social Worker



MRS. SHELBY-YUVAN

STARS



MRS. FLINN

STARS

SOCIAL WORK

Parents, we are here to assist you by...

- Working with you and your child to support good attendance
- Explore ways to help your child succeed socially, emotionally, and behaviorally
- Provide referrals for community resources (i.e. food, clothing, counseling, etc.)
- Help bridge school-home communication
- Answer questions related to the problem solving and special education processes

Students, we are here to help you with...

- Working out friendship problems
- Setting goals
- Working well with others
- Feeling good about yourself
- Adjusting to a new school
- Learning how to make decisions
- Managing your feelings (stress, worry, anger, etc.)
- Dealing with peer pressure and bullying

Additional Services Provided:

- Delivery and Implementation of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) initiatives
- Classroom Presentations (Autism Awareness, Safety Awareness, etc.)
- Brief Solution-Focused Counseling
- Parent and Teacher Consultations
- Community Resource
- Social Work Services through a Multi-Tier System of Support

***Please keep in mind school based social work services typically are provided for those children whose difficulties are affecting their school day and their ability to learn.

***Please note that school social workers do not provide “therapy” or “traditional counseling”. We’d be happy to provide referrals for therapy/counseling services for children experiencing grief, family transitions/adjustments or mental health concerns.



SOUTHBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

 Facebook

 820 Preston Lane, Oswego, IL, ...  (630) 551-9800

 sd308.org/southbury

