

Principal's Newsletter

October 14, 2023

Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

We had a wonderful week of sharing love, achievement, and learning. Our Lady Panthers won their 5th Championship in five years and our boys' and girls' tennis teams both won the district championships. We celebrated our District Classified Employee of the Year, Sarah Martin, pictured at right. Ms. Martin is our amazing and multitalented front desk receptionist. Please congratulate her when you see her. Administrators celebrated National School Lunch Week by volunteering to serve lunches. And finally, our College and Career Readiness Advisor hosted Captain Debra Kiner to talk about careers in Law Enforcement.

We wish you an equally wonderful weekend.

Mrs. Nzeza





Important Dates

Please mark your calendars

- 10/16 - Professional Day - No School
- 10/17-10/20 - Kindness Week - See Below
- 10/19 - NJHS Induction @ 6:00 PM - See attached fliers and below
- 10/20 - 6th Grade Glow Party - see flier below
- 10/20 - Wear Orange Day!
- 10/25 - NJHS Meeting @ 8:30 AM in the Cafeteria (Students only)
- 11/2 - PTSO Meeting
- 11/10 - SAC Meeting

What's Happening Around Campus?

Falling for Music Fall Concert

On Thursday, October 12th, the *SMS Joyful Voices* Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Choirs performed their first concert of the school year—"Falling For Music Fall Concert!" The students sang their hearts out and delighted the audience with their professionalism, fabulous harmonies and fun dancing! The concert opened with the National Anthem performed by the eighth grade Advanced Choir. Beginning Choir took over with a rousing patriotic medley featuring "Yankee Doodle Dandy" and "Grand Old Flag" and several songs about kindness and gratitude. A true highlight of the concert was the Intermediate/Advanced Choir singing "Over the Rainbow" as the students dedicated this song to the victims of the



Maui wildfires. Ms. Sawa and the students thank everyone who attended their concert, especially the teachers who came to support them after a long day of teaching! Students are already excited and preparing for their winter concert in December. Hope to see you there!



STEM is Everywhere, it is STEMAwesome!

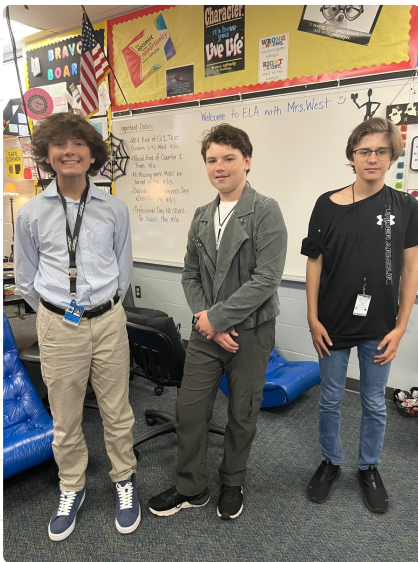
Mrs. Simonson's STEM Research class had a great start to their Environmental Science unit this week. "Paul the Pumpkin" sacrificed himself on Spooky Friday the 13th to be their long-term observation experiment. This experiment shows how the Law of Conservation of Matter works in a closed system and is seen in the real world. We want to give a huge shoutout to Mrs. Simonson and her STEM class as it was chosen to complete not one but two STEM investigations from WSEE! The first one is a Plastics in the Ocean investigation (1 of 250 sent) and the second is a Microfiber Pollution kit (1 of 10 classrooms chosen to pilot). Mrs. Simonson was selected to return to the EarthEcho Academy for the fall program, "An Ocean of Opportunity", during the next 16 weeks she will become a virtual student with other Middle School teachers in the US, UK, and Australia to dive into topics about ocean exploration, ocean energy sourcing, and ocean-based solutions our changing world. Well done!



Greasers vs. Socs - The Outsiders

Students in Mrs. Farrell and Mrs. West's classes ended their unit of study on the book, *The Outsiders* this week. In this unit, students discovered what it means to be themselves, to make tough decision , and even feel on top of the world. To celebrate the theme, "What makes you, you" students dressed up as either a Greaser or a Soc for the day.





Kindness Week!

Kindness week at SMS is October 17-20th. SMS has partnered with All Faiths Food Bank who will match any donation given to their Autumn Harvest Campaign (which supplies fresh produce for people in the community), so it will be doubled! Sarasota Middle has set a goal of \$1300. Please consider participating in this part of our Kindness Week activities by clicking here:

<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/AllFaithsFoodBank/HelpEndHungerwithSarasotaMiddleSchool>

KINDNESS WEEK



Kindness
Bingo



Kindness
ROCKS!

ENDING
HUNGER
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

Help
feed the
hungry



Wear
Orange!

💡 Friendly Reminders

NJHS Induction

Our **SMS Induction Ceremony** is **Thursday, October 19, at 6:00 PM** in the cafeteria. This induction is for all new 7th grade NJHS students. The **first meeting for NJHS will be held Wednesday, October 25 at 8:30 AM** in the SMS Cafeteria. Please contact your counselor or another trusted adult on campus if you would like to know more about a scholarship to cover these dues.

NJHS students in 7th grade work toward 10 hours of service learning and 8th graders aim toward 20 hours; however, we understand that middle schoolers are less mobile than high schoolers (and usually involved in 10 different things), so we “ask” and “aim”. Students are encouraged to do their best to reach these goals as they do need to be ready for the much higher expectations in high school. Students may go beyond these as well.

6th Grade Glow Party



6th Grade Glow Party
Friday, October 20 • 6-7:30PM
SMS Cafeteria

\$5

- Pre-registration required
- Price includes admission, pizza, popcorn, soda and raffle ticket

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

- 1) This document has been prepared in an attempt to provide a safe and socially appropriate environment for SMS students attending social activities
- 2) Registration **MUST** be made in advance. No door sales. Students must present the signed expectations slip below to be added to the registration list. No exceptions.
- 3) Only SMS students are allowed to attend SMS social events and may only attend their grade level event.
- 4) All school expectations apply for any school-sponsored function, including events held after school hours. If it is not appropriate at school, it is not appropriate at the social event.
- 5) Students must remain inside the cafeteria during the entire social event.
- 6) Students will be able to enter the middle gate of the bus loop (closest to the front office). Students will exit the same gate and remain under the blue awning until picked up by parent/guardian.

To attend, students must turn in this form and \$5 (cash or check) on or before 10/17.
Forms and money are to be turned into the front office. Names will be held at the door for entry.

Student Name (please print)

Grade

Advisory Teacher

Please indicate how your child will be going home

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Phone # During Event

SCS_TBL Ticket Offer_10-24_23.pdf

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1.6 MB



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