

**Ralich Christen**

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**From:** JENNIFER NZEZA <No-reply@sarasotacountyschools.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2021 5:30 PM  
**To:** Southside Elementary School Recipients  
**Subject:** Principal's Newsletter 1/15/2021

# Principal's Newsletter

January 15, 2021

## **SOUTHSIDE'S**

**VISION:** To learn, to dream, to laugh, to love every child every day - whatever it takes!

**MISSION:** To use data-driven instruction for progress monitoring, so that each student is learning, succeeding and reaching above and beyond their potential every day.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School

1/22 - End of the Second Grading Period

1/25 - Professional Day - No School for students

1/25-1/29 - Celebrate Literacy Week - "Humanity Tells a Story: What's Your Chapter?"

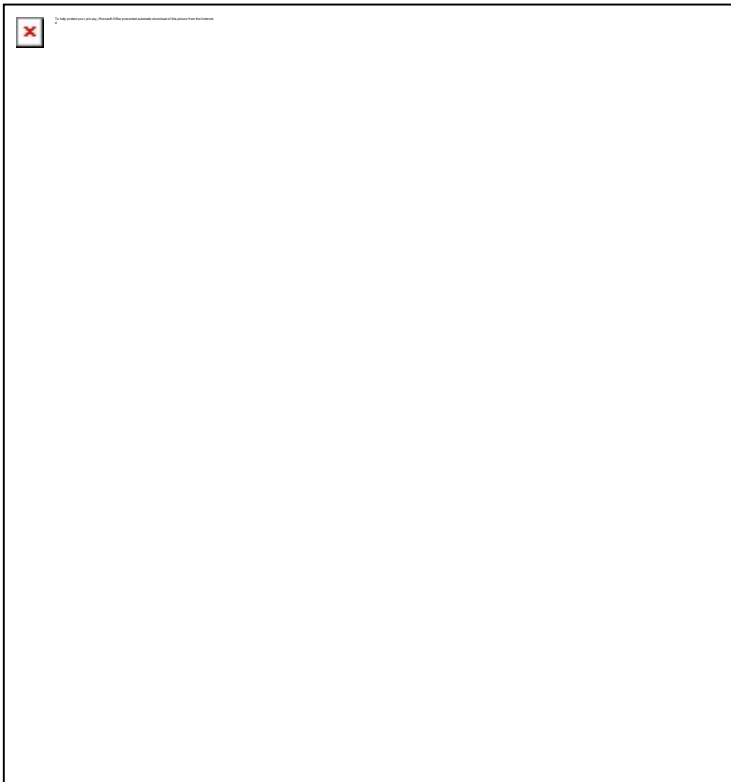
1/26 - Students return to school, Quarter 3 begins

1/28 - Principal Chat #2 - See information in reminders below

## WHAT'S NEW?

### Behind-The-Scenes Helpers

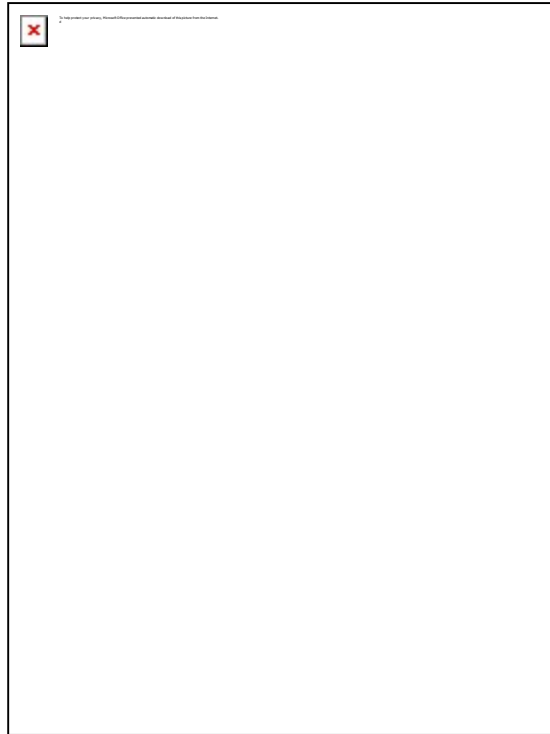
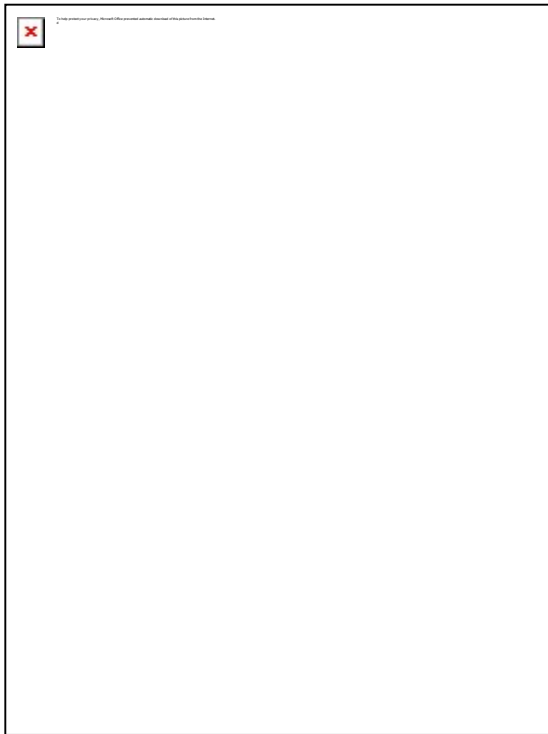
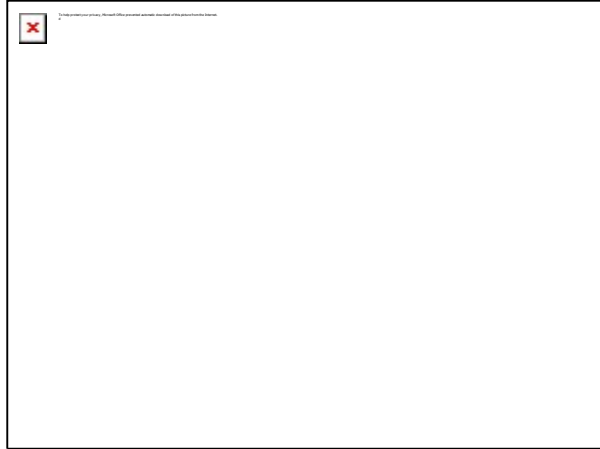
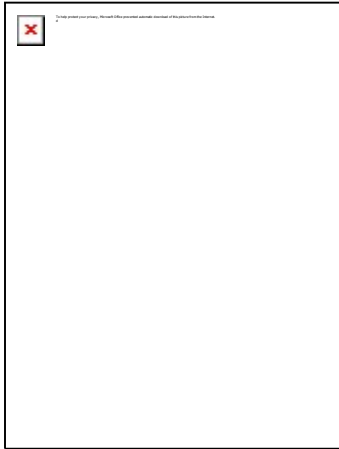
We are so excited to share a little about some of our staff members who work to make Southside the best school in the district. This week we introduce to you our Head Custodian, **Donna Defiel**.



Donna has been working in Sarasota County Schools for many years; however, she loves Southside "because the staff is so polite and understanding, especially with this pandemic we find ourselves

in. I appreciate the way everyone accepted me as their Head Custodian and I am proud to be a part of Southside Elementary."

Donna has many interests when not working at Southside, including spending time with her beautiful granddaughter, her rescue dog who thinks he is human, and growing plants and gardening. Donna enjoys maintaining a hydroponic growing system.



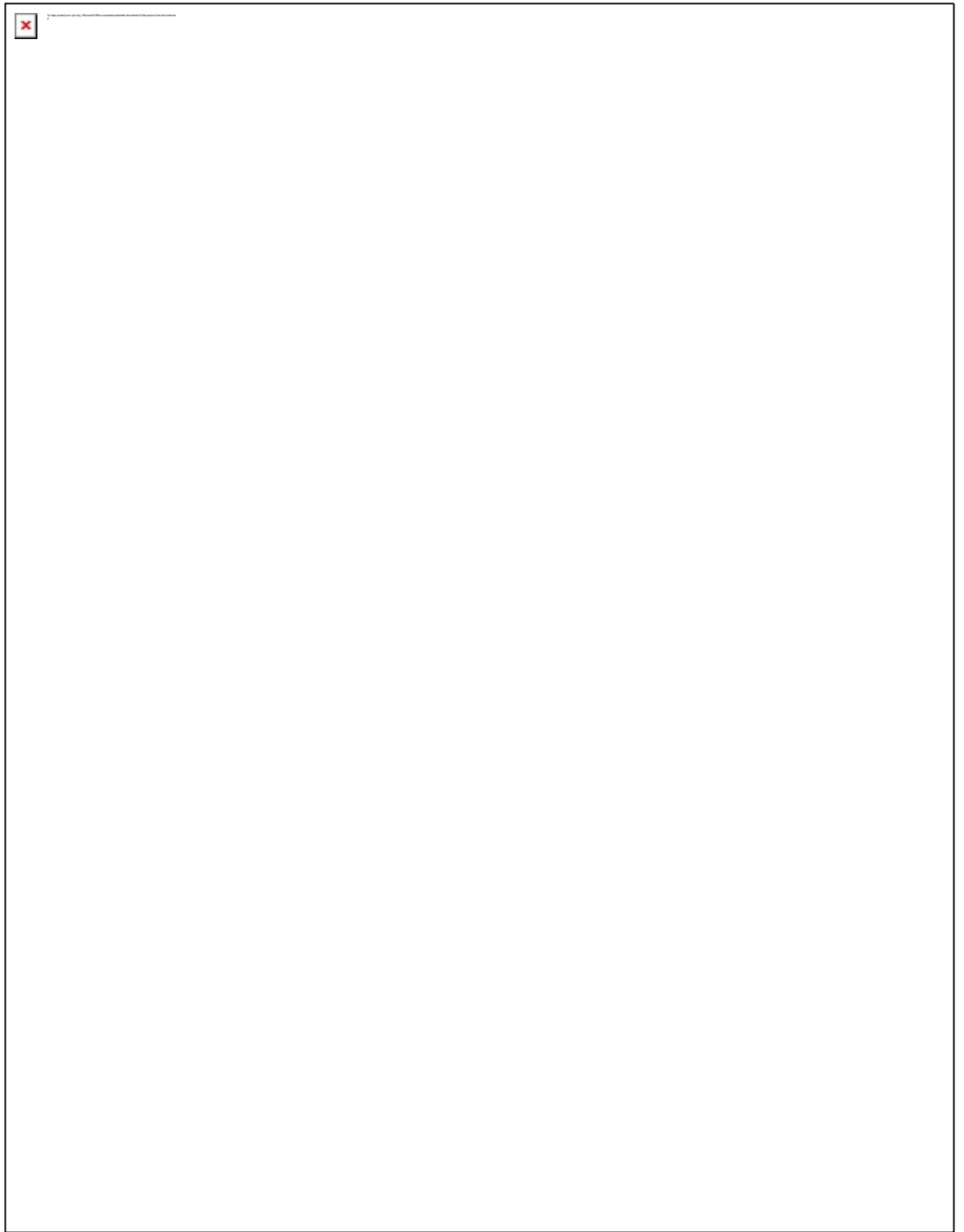
Donna is also very passionate about forensics and true crime. She will pick a case she hears about in the news, and follow it from start to finish - watching the trial and indictments. This is fascinating to her as her son has his bachelor's degree in forensic science and chemistry. He is now in pharmaceuticals researching generic drugs. We thank Donna for working so hard to keep the school

clean and safe for our students and staff! Maybe we can one day call on her to share her knowledge of hydroponic growing systems with our Green Team!!

## **Middle School Options - Brookside Middle**

It's hard to believe that our fifth-grade parents are already having to consider options for middle school, but the time has come. There are many great choices in the district to fit every learner's needs. Please take the time to explore all that **Brookside Middle** has to offer for middle school students. The new Principal, Ryan Chase, is a dynamic leader who is eager to meet you and share the school's

trajectory and

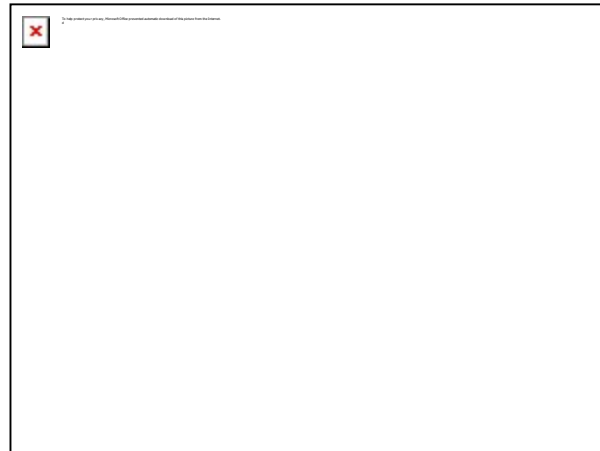
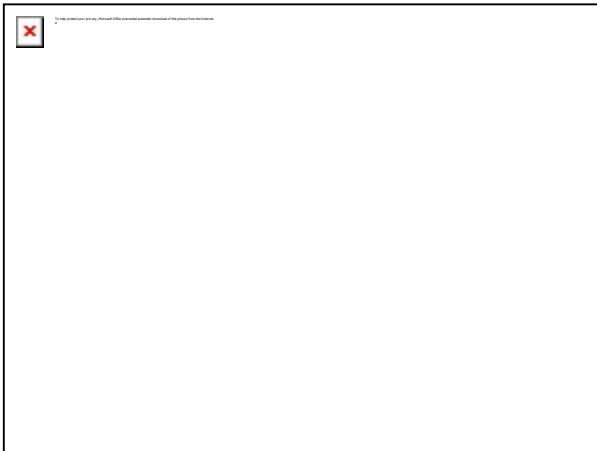
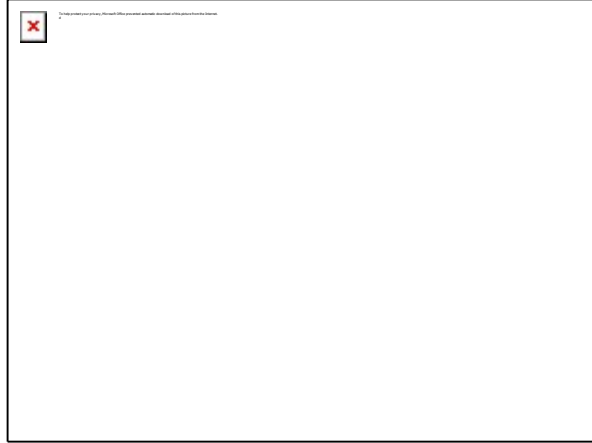
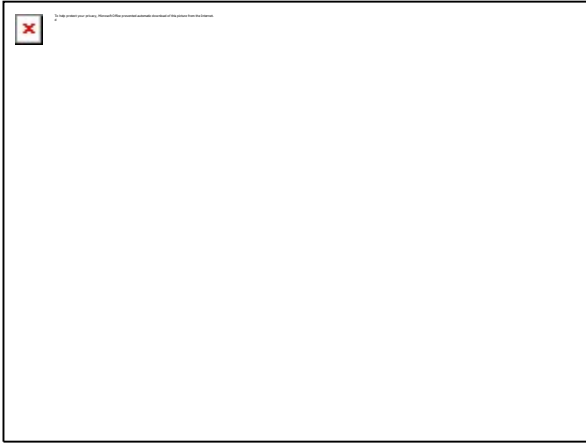


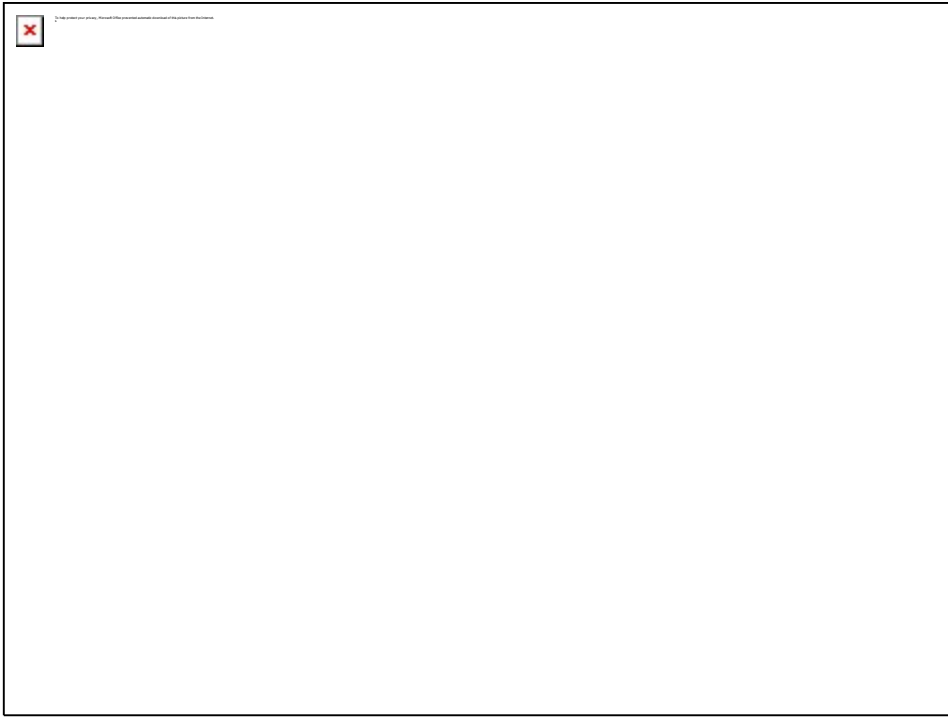
accomplishments.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SOUTHSIDE?**

## Garden Fun

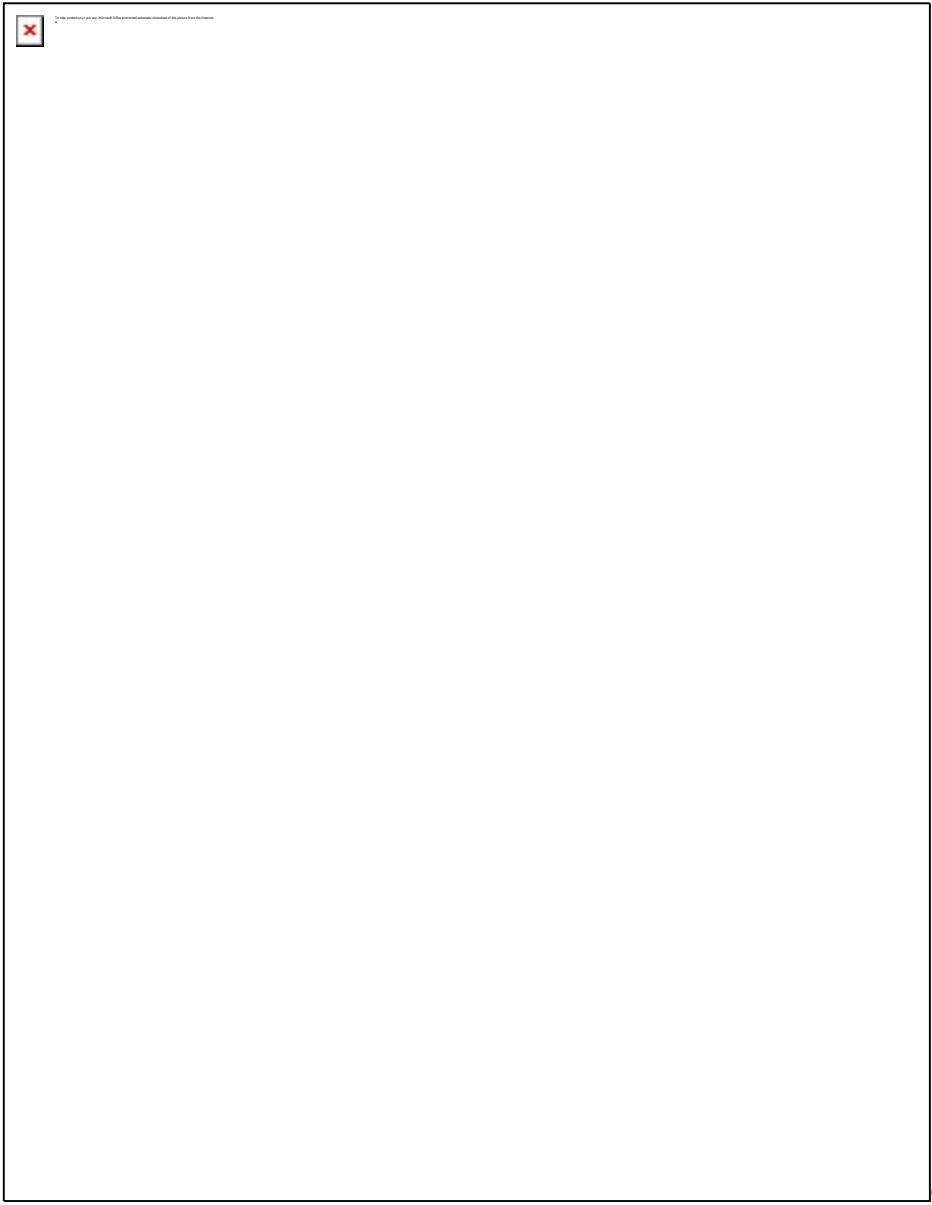
Mr. Freeman's 3rd Graders were excited to plant their winter crop this week. Students had the option of planting broccoli, kohlrabi, cabbage and snow peas. We're all looking forward to watching them grow! Thank you, Mr. Freeman, for carrying on a Southside tradition even during this pandemic!





## **FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

**Mark Your Calendars**



**Carline**

Parents, please display your **yellow hang tag** and make sure you have enough for your contacts who may pick up in an emergency. The line moves less smoothly and efficiently when we have to stop cars to determine who the car is in the line for. Thank you!

**Masks, Social Distancing, and Walkways**

**Thank you** for starting 2021 off right and adhering to our school district policy regarding face masks and social distancing while on school-board property! We are our students' role models!



Please remember to follow the **BLUE directional arrows** on the sidewalks and walk with the flow of traffic while on campus. Traffic on school sidewalks is one directional. Please DO NOT walk in the bus loop to get to your destination. It is dangerous. Thank you!!

**Have a wonderful long weekend!**



"The arts is not just a way out. It's a way in. It's a way in to your humanity. It is a way in to the beauty of the world. It's a way in to finding your power. That's what it is."

-Debbie Allen

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