

**From:** [JENNIFER NZEZA](#)  
**To:** [Southside Elementary School Recipients](#)  
**Subject:** Principal's Newsletter 4/2/2021  
**Date:** Friday, April 2, 2021 5:31:04 PM

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# Principal's Newsletter

## April 2, 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**

4/7 - End of 3rd Grading Period

4/8-4/9 - Teacher Planning/Professional Days - Students OFF

4/17 - SSFA Event - See Below

4/23 - Southside Jog-A-Thon

4/26 - PTO Board Meeting via Zoom - 9:00 AM

April/May FSA Testing - Calendars are below

### **WHAT'S NEW?**

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Wishing you a HOPPY weekend!!

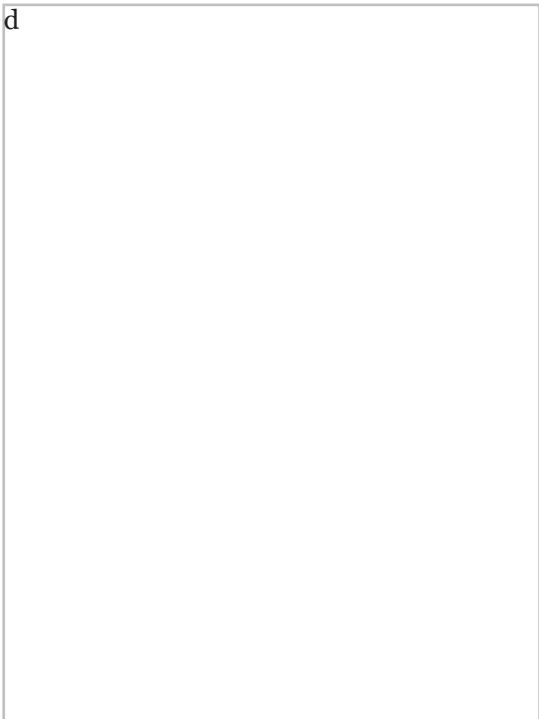
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## **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SOUTHSIDE?**

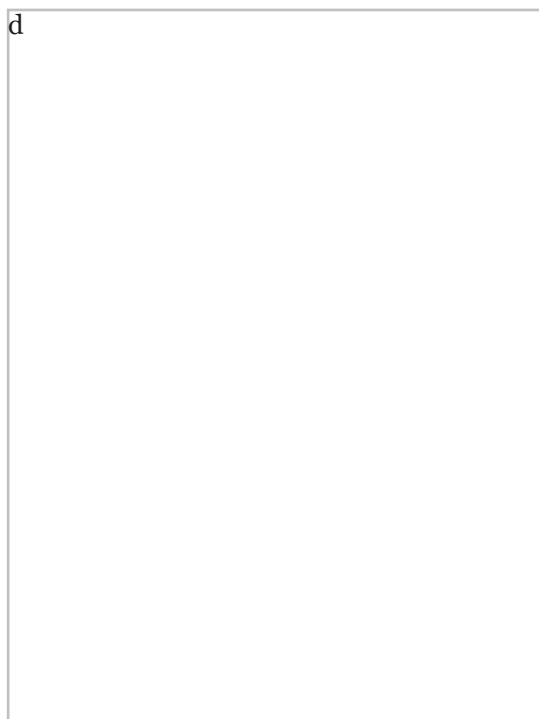
### **Professional Development**

The Kindergarten and First Grade teachers participated in a reading professional development on March 24th during their collaborative planning times. The kindergarten teachers learned how to teach their students how to retell a story using story props. The teachers use the same read aloud for three days gradually releasing the responsibility of the retelling to the students. Two students from Ms. Jones' class enjoyed using their story props to retell *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle.

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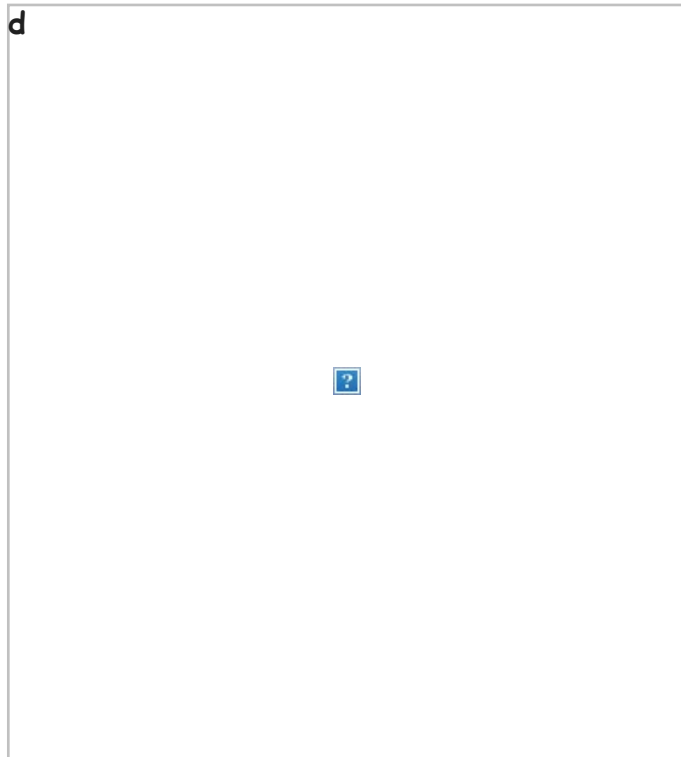
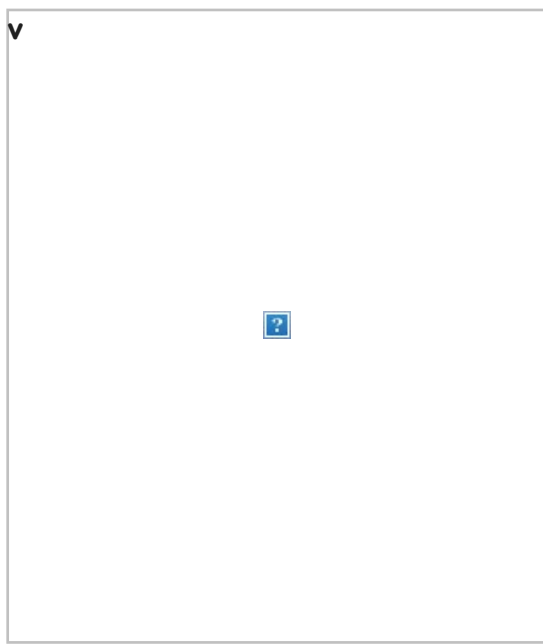
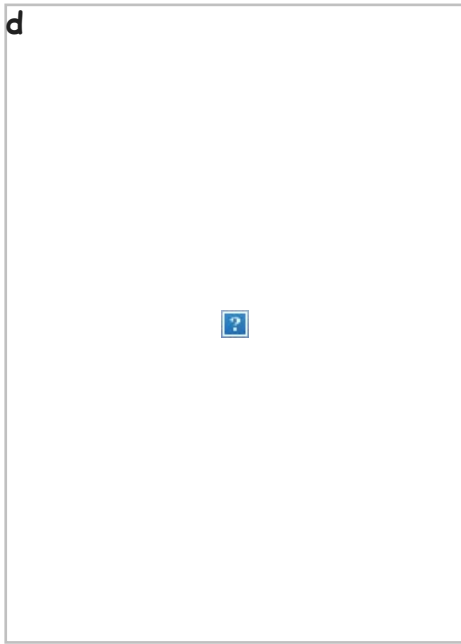


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The first grade teachers' reading professional development focused on deep comprehension using trade books. The teachers were taught to use the pictures in books to describe a character's traits and motivation for acting in a certain way. The teachers practiced modeling thinking aloud in order to help first graders begin to make inferences on their own when reading. These reading trainings are provided by Mrs. Smith, the Reading Recovery teacher at Southside. Thank you, Mrs. Smith and teachers!!



### **Women's History Month Projects**

Our second-grade team had their students complete Women in History Biography projects to celebrate the accomplishments of women in history. Some of the student work is showcased below from Ms. Hazelton's classroom. Ms. Hazelton said, "I'm so proud of my students and their hard work, that I had to share this with you!...many great women have been represented and reported on this week!" Thank you for sharing, Ms. Hazelton, and thank you to our second-grade team for coming up with such a fun project!

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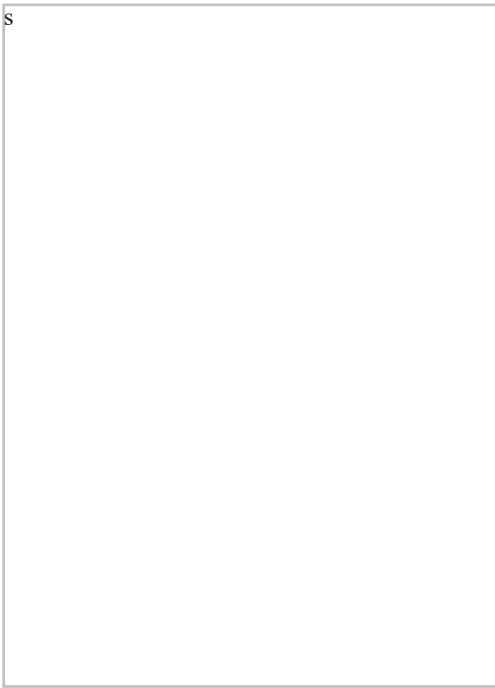
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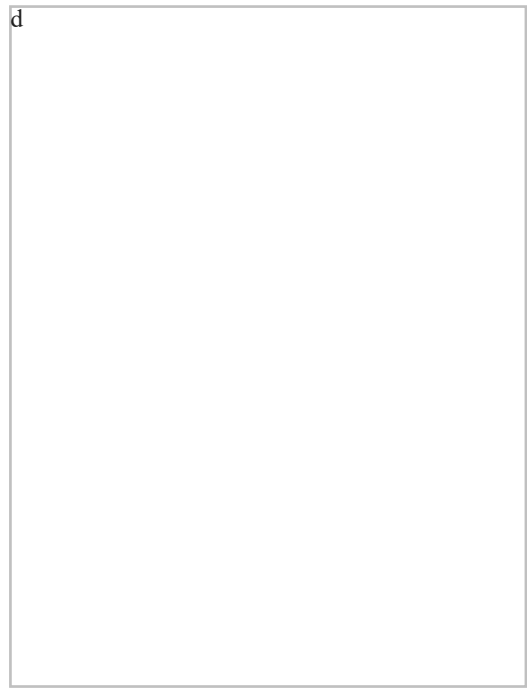
### **Inspiring Women Presentations**

Meanwhile Mrs. Young's fifth-grade students also celebrated Women's History Month by researching and presenting a creative Power Point project to their peers. This is a great way for students to hone all of our language arts standards related to listening, viewing, speaking, reading, and writing. Well done, students!

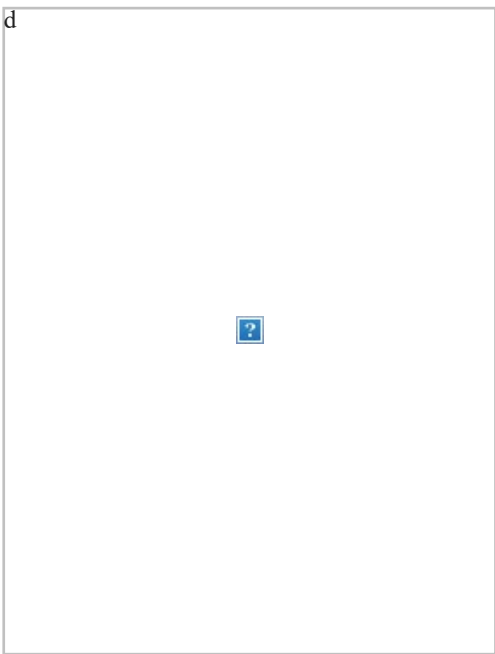
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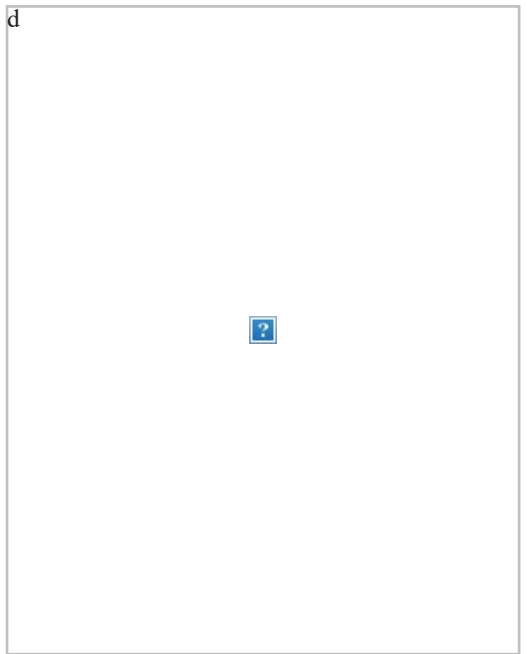
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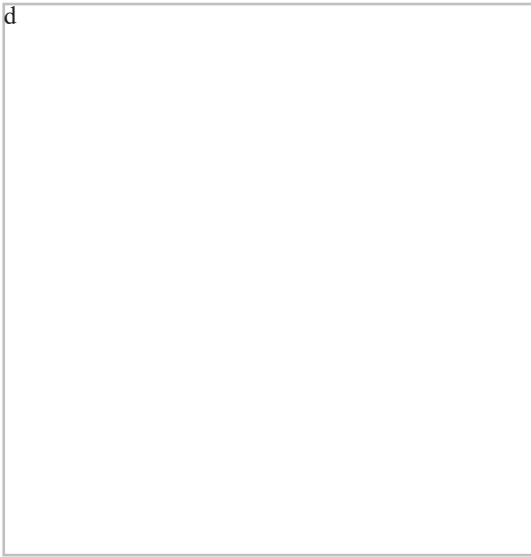
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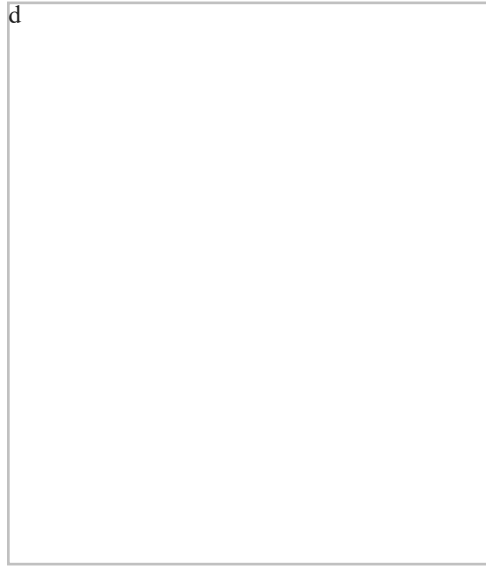
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### **FSA Testing**

It's that time! Next week our third graders start us off with their reading FSA. Please try to make sure that your kiddos get plenty of sleep on the nights before their scheduled testing days, receive a healthy breakfast in the morning, and receive some extra encouragement from you as they head out the door or leave the car. Our students will do their best, for sure!

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## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

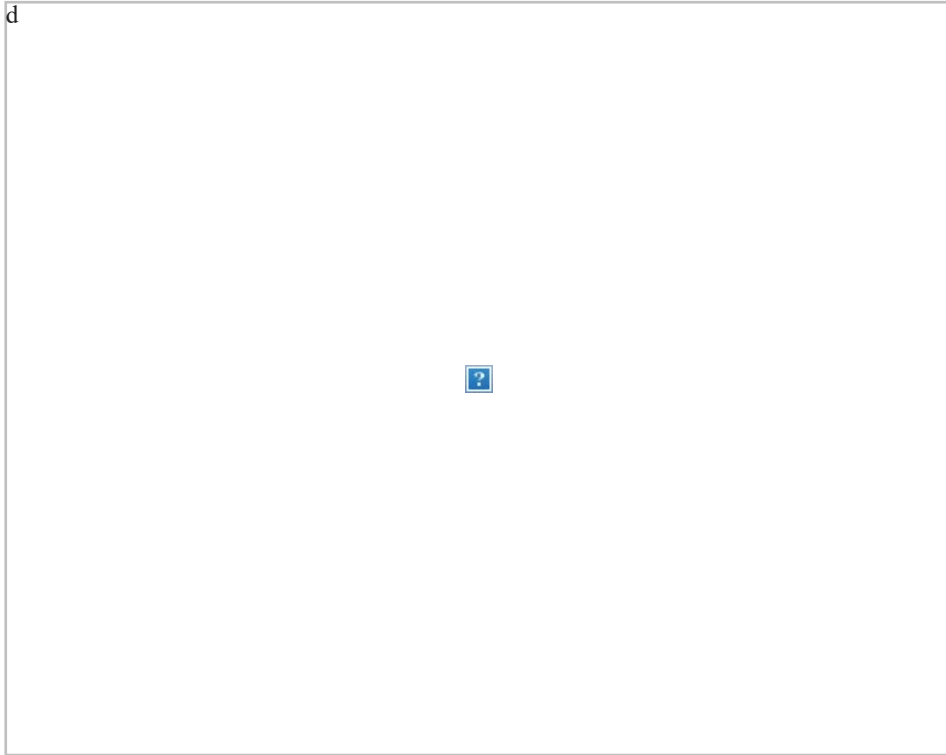
### **No Walking or Riding in the Bus Loop**

Please, please, please do not walk or ride your bike with your children in the bus loop after school - whether there are busses in it or not. It sets a dangerous habit that we don't want our children getting into. Use the sidewalks and go the appropriate direction.

Please also be careful crossing in the cross walk - look to see if there is another vehicle coming if one is parked and blocking your view.

## SSFA On State Street

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This afternoon will feature our Southside Jazz Band and select LIVE performances from Annie among other engaging and family-friendly activities. State Street restaurants and shops will be open for business and the street will be ours!! How exciting!

**Have a FANTASTIC weekend!**

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