



News from South School's Starfish

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Principal's Corner

Responsive Classroom Approach to Discipline

Dear South School Friends and Families,

The sun is shining (today), the birds are singing and I heard some peepers this weekend! The Maine summer we all deserve is around the corner and I'd like to take this opportunity to continue to inform you about the Responsive Classroom practices we utilize at South School. Last newsletter I reviewed "you break it, you fix it", this time I'd like to cover "logical consequences." Please note that these practices have a strong research base for efficacy in schools however, they can be easily, and logically incorporated into your home discipline structure.

"Logical Consequences" is the simple concept that whatever consequences we

determine will be applied in a given situation must be connected to the offense. For instance, if a student commits an infraction on the playground then the consequence will likely be playground related. If a student makes a poor choice during music class then the consequence would be connected to music class in some way. Ultimately, we do our best to connect the consequence to the action and setting of the infraction.

Here are some of our "logical consequences" guidelines:

- **Respect** (humiliation; teacher's & administrator's use words and tone that communicate respect for the student)

- **Related** (the consequence is directly related to the student's actions)

- **Realistic** (The consequence must be something the children can reasonably do and

that the teacher can follow through on)

Just something to keep in mind as you structure your household! Here's hoping for some warm, sunny weather!

Best,
Justin Bennett

Kindergarten

Registration

If you have a child who turns 5 on or before October 15th 2017, it's time to register them for Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 year! Call the school for more information!

RSU 13 South School

March 2017

Upcoming Events

- ☺ Apr 7—Harlem Rockets Assembly
- ☺ Apr 12—Mrs. Oliver's Farnsworth Trip
- ☺ Apr 12—Spring Concert K-2 at 12:30; 3-5 at 1:45
- ☺ Apr 13—2nd Grade Fieldtrip to Flatbread Pizza
- ☺ Apr 13—Meet the Author Night 5:00-6:30 PM
- ☺ Apr 14—3rd Grade Fieldtrip to Flatbread Pizza
- ☺ Apr 14—Mrs. Grunewald & Mrs. Majunka's Tennis Trip at MRC
- ☺ Apr 15—PTF Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 AM
- ☺ Apr 17-21—April Vacation
- ☺ Apr 28—Monthly Recognition Assembly
- ☺ Apr 28—Mrs. Cornforth's Tennis Trip to MRC
- ☺ May 01 & 02—2017-2018 Kindergarten registration



Teacher's Wish List— ss.rsu13.org

Read Across America—Dr. Seuss Day

In March, South School joined schools across the country in celebration of Dr. Seuss' Birthday! Dr. Seuss, is a beloved author of imaginative children's books for early readers and it is a South School tradition to celebrate this day!

This year, we celebrated by having grade level competitions with a Dr. Seuss theme for example, 4th and 5th graders were charged with creating a Dr. Seuss birthday card including a "seussical" rhyme and 2nd and 3rd graders had a race to see who could think of the most words that rhyme. Kinder and 1st graders played an eye spy game. All students did a fantastic job but only

one student per grade level won a prize for their efforts!

Students and staff really got into the spirit of the day by wearing crazy Dr. Seuss-like clothes and having crazy hairdos. Cindy Lou Who, the Grinch, Cat In The Hat, along with Thing One and Thing Two were seen wandering the halls and visiting classrooms!

Dr. Seuss books are widely known for their witty rhymes and crazy characters. The plots are engaging and often teach children a broader lesson such as in "Oh, the Places You'll Go" where children learn that dreams are achievable even when there are a "few bumps in the road"!



Family Literacy and Math Nights



Over the past couple of months, South School held two great family events – Family Literacy Night and Family Math Night.

The first event was Family Literacy Night, held in February. On this night, Mrs. Tibbetts' station in the Learning Commons was popular where families could explore and learn literacy apps that can be used at home. Mrs. Hardt engaged families in a read aloud and introduced parents to the many ways that vocabulary and comprehension strategies can be incorporated easily into everyone's favorite activity - reading stories aloud. Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Rich, and Miss Warner helped students and their parents learn the value of listening to and working with sounds in words while Mrs. Gamage and Ms. Cowan had fun showing the many ways that kids can enjoy learning their sight words, all 220 of them!

Meghan Vigeant came back for a second year in a row and this year she introduced families to the art of interviewing to hear a person's story. Families took turns being the interviewer and interviewee. There was also a listening station where families could view and listen to previously made oral history projects completed by Meghan and her clients, through Stories to Tell.

Mrs. Luttrell had by far the busiest room with her two Key Clubbers. They were responsible for dishing out ice cream!

An evening of math looked a lot more like an evening of fun on Thursday March 30 when South School hosted Family Math Night! About 100 people attended the event including South School Starfish, parents, and other family members. Starfish received gift bags with a math practice and activity book for their grade level, cards, dice, and other items that can be used for math games and activities at home. In the gym, attendees enjoyed practicing their math skills through a variety of activities and games, including Pentominos, dice games, multiplication games, Greg Tang math puzzles, and pattern blocks, as well as other games and activities which students enjoy playing in their classrooms. Take-home games were offered at most of the activity ta-

bles. In addition to all the math fun for hungry minds, pizza and ice cream were offered in the cafeteria for hungry bellies! Thank you to our South School PTF for buying the pizza!

During both of these great events, Ms. Shirley and her team of Key Clubbers took care of our Pre-Starfish so that their school-age siblings and their parents could participate in all the fun activities. A big thank you to the Oceanside High School Key Club! Also, during both events, there was an opportunity to enter a bike raffle. The winners for Literacy Night were Brayden E., Jacob G., Sky R., Aaron J., Rhapsody D., and Jackson W. The winners for Math Night were Willow D., Harmony W., Hunter W., and Cadence L. Congratulations to them and a big thank you to all the families who attended these two great events.!

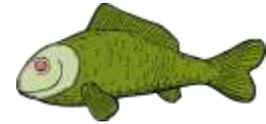


Fourth Grade Student Collaborate with the Farnsworth Art Museum

Fourth grade students in Mrs. Curtis and Mrs. Berry's class have been working very hard on a research and inquiry based project in partnership with the Farnsworth Art Museum called Maine's Fresh Water and Salt Water Fish.

As a part of the project, each student chose a fish they were interested in researching and then created a paper mache replica of it. You would be completely amazed with the level of work these students put into this project. The paper mache fish were painted with such detail that they looked like real fish!

The students' fish will be exhibited at the Farnsworth Art Museum in May. These students should be very proud of themselves.



Mrs. Curtis' Students Excel in Extracurricular Activities



In Mrs. Curtis' class Ella and Lyleigh received honorable mention on their "Healthy Soils Are Full of Life" poster competition for Maine Agriculture Conservation and Forestry and the class was listed as a winner for South

School – this is something to be proud of for sure!

Sara and Ryan had their student ads selected for ADS BY KIDS supplement, in the March 2, 2017 issue of The Free Press. Sara did an ad for the Grasshopper Shop and Ryan did



an ad for Norton & Masters, and Jacob won the Dr. Seuss Birthday card competition for 4th grade.

Lots to celebrate!



Maine Student Book Award

Every year South School students participate in the Maine Student Book Award project also known as the Chickadee Award. The Maine Student Book Award is a joint project of the Maine Association of School Librarians, Maine Library Association, and the Maine Reading Association.

Here at South School, our Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Tibbetts, invited community members to our school to read ten nominated books to our kindergarten through fourth grade students. Then, along with schools across Maine, students voted for their favorite book. It was a

great honor to be a part of this process!

We'd like to thank members from the Rockland Fire Department and other visitors from our community who volunteered their time to read to our students – we always enjoy having these positive roll models visit our school!



The Great Compost Weigh In

We are super excited to announce that South School is going to start composting all of our food waste! In order to get started, we needed to gauge how much waste we generate on a weekly basis. With that in mind, we held a Great Compost Weigh In challenge. During the week, each grade collected and weighed all of our compostable food items, including kitchen waste, cafeteria waste, and classroom waste.

Now that we have our results (390lbs!), our next step is to set up the composting system, which

will consist of bins made from lobster trap wire donated by Brooks Trap Mill—thank you!

This has been a fantastic lesson for our students - they have learned what are compostable items, how they can help, and how composting helps the environment. In addition to that, it's a great lesson in the value of community service as many of our students have volunteered to help run this system!

Thank you to Mrs. West and other members of our composting committee!



RESULTS

- Pre-Consumer waste—62.50 lbs
- Middle zone (prepared food not served) weighed 83.50 lbs
- Post-consumer waste weighted 244lbs

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MEETINGS DATES

The next PTF meeting is Thursday, May 11th at 6:00 PM

**To join South School's PTF email:
southschoolptf@gmail.com**

Please find the time to join our PTF—your ideas and help are welcome!

RSU 13

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South School
Where all Student
are Stars!



RSU #13 SOUTH SCHOOL
OUR VISION
SOUTH SCHOOL IS A PLACE WHERE
STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY
WORK TOGETHER IN A
SAFE, EXCITING ATMOSPHERE
OF LEARNING AND RESPECT.

VISITORS/PARENTS
**For safety reasons,
please get a visitor pass from the office prior
to proceeding down the hall.**