

# Shark Tales

Southbury Elementary

November 2019

[School calendar](#)

[Breakfast/Lunch calendar](#)



## Administration Letter

Dear Shark Families,

It's hard to believe that we are in the second trimester of school! Throughout the first trimester students were busy reading, writing, increasing math fluency and showing great character! We have also set School Improvement Goals this year that encourage all students and staff to continue to grow:

Goal 1: The percentage of students in 4th and 5th grade who scored in the "Meets" or "Exceeds" category on the 2018-2019 IAR ELA Assessment will increase by 5% on the 2019-

2020 assessment (42% to 47%).

Goal 2: By the 2019-2020 administration of the 5Essentials, Southbury Elementary School will increase the raw score by 15 points in “Quality Professional Development” in the Collaborative Teachers category of the 5Essentials Survey.

In order to achieve these goals, we hope to work closely with all our students, staff, and families to ensure our children are receiving the best education to success in all areas!

As we move into the chilly months, please remember to dress your child accordingly. Winter coats, hats, and gloves are essential for outdoor recess. All students go outside as long as the temperature (with wind chill) is above 10 degrees.

Here are some upcoming December events:

December 5: HSO Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm

December 12: Culver's Night

December 20th: SIP Day-- 12:30 Dismissal; Holiday Parties 11:25

December 23-31: Winter Break

Stay warm in this winter weather!!

**Samantha Sinovich**

Principal

**Jack Olson**

Assistant Principal

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

## Letter from the Front Office

Hello Sharks!

We have had a lot of fun in the front office with our daily morning announcements. The 2nd Trimester Learning Tree question is: “How have you grown as a learner this year?”

There are a couple of reminders to help make the year go smoothly. Please remember to call 630-551-9801 whenever your child will be absent or late. This line is open 24 hours, you can call anytime. Please do not call the attendance line for changes in transportation. If there is a change in transportation, please send a note with your student for the teacher.

Remember that your child needs to be fever free (without the use of fever reducing medicines), vomit or diarrhea free for at least 24 hours to be able to return to school.

On November 11th, we hosted our 11th annual Veterans Day assembly where we honored men and women who bravely fought or continue to fight for our country. Our Veteran's Day

committee worked very hard to celebrate this important day. Thank you also to the Oswego Fire Department Color Guard for joining us.

Finally, as fall is upon us, please remember that our friends will be having lunch recess outside until the temperature falls below 10°F. Students should bring coats, hats and gloves with them to school every day. We don't want them getting sick! ☺

Until next time,

**Mrs. Hathaway and Mrs. Quick**

**GO SHARKS!**

## **Home and School Organization Happenings**

Hi Shark Families!! Happy Thanksgiving!!!

We want to start off by saying how Thankful we are for all of our volunteers who help make all of our Home and School events so successful! Without you, Southbury wouldn't have so many great family activities and memories for all of our Sharks!!! Thank you!!

Now for some Home and School updates! Thank you to all who attended our annual Donuts with Dad event. We had a great turnout again this year and it seemed everyone enjoyed themselves.

Our Phenom fundraiser was held this month as well and was a hit for some kiddos! They had a great time burning off some energy in the gym.

For the month of December, we will be having our Home & School meeting at 6:30pm on Thursday, December 5th. The Holiday parties will be held on Friday, Dec. 20th at 11:30am. If you are interested in signing up for a holiday party or Show me Art, log on to our membership toolkit site.

Lastly, the yearbook is still available for purchase!!! If you still have questions about ordering, please contact us through [southburyyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:southburyyearbook@gmail.com). Online orders will be accepted through April 6th. Please help by adding your pictures though the [RePlayIt app](#). You can even take pictures right through the app that automatically upload to our site as long as you log in with our school name: SOUTHBURY ELEMENTARY and password: SouthburyYB. Or feel free to log in and add pictures from any past events!

**Sarah Brown and Kristy Stith**

HSO Co-Presidents



## Kindergarten

**ELA:** The students have learned how characters can change in a story and how a character reacts to events in a story. We have learned characters can show their emotions on their face and the author can use words to describe the character's feelings. We have focused on retelling stories using "first, next and last."

**Writing:** Wow! The students have made so much progress on segmenting sounds in their writing. We have reviewed the vowel sounds (a, e, i, o and u) because the medial sound is challenging with writing. When writing at home please encourage your child to leave spaces in between each word and a punctuation mark at the end of the sentence.

**Math:** We have explored teen numbers 11-19 (also known as "ten and some more" numbers). We have decomposed numbers into a group of ten and ones. For example, 18 is one set of 10 and 8 ones. Students will be assessed on writing numbers 0-20 next month. We have focused on writing numbers 11-19 and making sure we write the number "1" first.

### Social Studies:

At the end of November, we will be learning about Pilgrims and Native Americans. We will immerse students in informational and fiction texts about the first Thanksgiving.

## 1st Grade

First Grade had a very busy November! We had Veteran's Day, Donuts with Dad, American Education Week, writing letters to Santa or Frosty and disguising turkeys. Thank you to all the parents who came out to speak with our classes during American Education Week.

Some of the topics we covered were:

### ELA

- Identifying story elements
- Narrative Writing process
- Practice reading high frequency words and/or fluency passages

## Math

- Number talks continue all year long
- Addition strategies: counting on, doubles, doubles +1 and -1, making ten to add

## Science

- Our new unit is Light and Sound
- Identify how to make light areas darker

## Social Studies

- Weather and seasons
- City, Town and Suburb

First grade will be continuing our tradition of caroling at Bickford on December 18th @4:15pm.

## 2nd Grade

In September we started “Agriculture in the Classroom” which is sponsored by the Kendall County Co-op. They will visit all second grade classrooms four times throughout the school year. The purpose of the program is to help students understand where their food and clothing come from as well as help the students learn about plant science, which is what we are currently focusing on in Science. We have wrapped up our unit on plants and seeds. Miss Hannah, from the Kendall County Co-Op, came in during the month of November. She taught us all about pumpkins. Did you know that Illinois is one of the top producers of pumpkins in the United States?

We are continuing to move forward in our curriculum areas. During Math, we worked on addition of two- digit and three-digit numbers. Which will lead into subtraction of two-digit and three-digit numbers. In Reading, our focus has been Sequence of Events, beginning, middle and end of a text. In Writing, we have worked on stating opinions along with details/facts that support our opinions. In Social Studies, have learned and researched important historical figures that made a great impact in our history. We have also learned about the Thanksgiving holiday.

Please continue to read with your child on a nightly basis. Also, because the upcoming math content is challenging, there may be additional reinforcement work sent home to assist with these skills. [Prodigy](#), [eSpark](#) and [X-tra Math](#) are also great ways to practice these skills at home. Thank you for your continued support. Looking forward to a great December!

The Second Grade Team ☺

## 3rd Grade

Greeting from 3rd grade! November is going by so quickly, especially since we have been so focused on learning! We are so excited about the 3rd grade musical called “Let’s Eat!” In math, all the classrooms are working hard on multiplying and dividing. We have been using many strategies to help up solve problems. Please continue working on those facts at home, too!

We are finishing up the book, "The Year of Miss Agnes" and have been focusing on character traits including motivations and feelings. The students are using key details to find the central message. In writing, they are using dialogue and temporal words. Most student are finished with their magazine article they wrote on a planet in our solar system. We were very impressed with their ability to research and write this informational essay!

Our new science unit is called "Balancing Forces." We are investigating floating trains. So far we have had some hands-on activities including chain reactions and touching/non-touching forces.

Thank you for your support!

## 4th Grade

Our fabulous, fourth-grade students certainly have started their 2nd trimester with a plethora of tall tales and figurative language. We have been working through the components of tall tales, the themes and messages they share, as well as how they incorporated figurative language to paint pictures in our minds. By crafting their tall tale, these young authors will be able to apply their creative juices to some fun narratives.

Moving along in math has meant diving into division. By understanding place-value, we can work on partial-quotient division, and potentially traditional. Please keep working on math facts any chance you get with your child, we have witnessed wonders on how impactful this support has been in the classroom. Thank you!

Once we concluded our study of waves and the transference of energy Science unit, we dove into the Native Americans unit of Social Studies. We will learn how the environment of each region impacted the various group's way of life and the unique characteristics of the group's identity. Finally, we were all very impressed with the hard work your students put into making their student-led conferences a huge success. Thank you for all your support and continued collaborative relationships for their growth as scholars!

## 5th Grade

5th grade is proud of what we have accomplished so far this year. In reading, we focused on point of view and determining the mood and tone of the text. In writing, we focused on informational writing as we wrote about different environments and exciting topics.

In science, we finished our Ecosystems Unit where students enjoyed taking on the role of ecologists as we learned about the parts of an ecosystem and their important roles. We have been working hard using scientific language when we speak and write about science.

In social studies we learned about the causes of the Civil War as well as the different battles fought during the war. Our Civil War day field trip was an exciting day filled will lots of learning and fun memories!

Finally, in math, we finished up our unit on multiplication and division and have moved on to decimals. It was wonderful talking to all parents who attended conferences. The 5th-grade team greatly appreciates the dedication to all our students' education! We are excited to see what the second trimester brings!

## Stars

November flew by quickly in our STARS classrooms. At the beginning of November, we had our first therapy dogs visit. Our students were very excited for the dogs to visit our school and enjoyed interacting with them. Therapy dogs will be returning for a visit at the beginning of December and students are already looking forward to it. On December 20th, we have a 3.5 hour student attendance day. Winter break begins December 23rd and goes until January 3rd. Students will return to school on January 6th, 2020.

## ESL

Happy November! During this chilly month, ESL students have been busy bees! We are so proud of the hard work that our students do each day.

- Parent teacher conferences were held on November 7th and 8th. We tried our best to get to as many conferences as possible and enjoyed meeting you!
- ESL progress reports were sent home. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us!
- REMINDER: Please check your child's blue ESL folder EACH NIGHT. Make sure you initial/sign it as well!
- You should have received 2019 ACCESS results if your child took it in SD 308. Let us know if you have any questions!

**Mrs. Kristen Serio**

[kserio@sd308.org](mailto:kserio@sd308.org)

**Miss Aylssa Ahlstrom**

[aahlstrom@sd308.org](mailto:aahlstrom@sd308.org)

630-551-9858 630-551-9885

## Gifted Education

**GER Math Corner: Let the Games Begin!**

Play enhances learning to an astonishing degree. The late Dr. Karyn Purvis, Director of Texas Christian University's Child Development Center stated, "Scientists have recently determined that it takes approximately 400 repetitions to create a new synapse in the brain – unless it is done with play, in which case, it takes between 10 and 20 repetitions!" The combo of cold weather and upcoming holidays means more time for family, friends, and fun with games! These games have been applauded and awarded! They vary in style, play time, and level of strategy involved. Hopefully you'll find a new family favorite among them!

[Prime Climb](#)

[TENZI](#)

[Loot](#)

[Otrio](#)

[Quoridor](#)

[Blokus](#)

[Azul](#)

[Patchwork](#)

[L.A.M.A.](#)

[Just One](#)

[Tiny Polka Dot](#)

[Bohnanza](#)

[Labyrinth](#)

[Qwirkle](#)

[Kingdomino](#)

[Secret Code](#)

## Speech and Language

Why Do I need to practice my speech at home is a question we often hear from students. How long will my child require speech therapy is a question we often hear from parents. While every child develops differently, consistent practice is key. Here is an explanation provided by a fellow speech/language pathologist at [superpowerspeech.com](http://superpowerspeech.com).

Learning to speak requires the use of many important parts of your body including your brain, nerves, and muscles. It took you a long time to learn how to talk and it may take a while to learn how to correctly say your sounds. Only YOU can help this process go faster and smoother.

Imagine that you are training for a sport. You have a coach and you practice one or more times per week. Your coach wants you to improve and get better, but they cannot follow you around all day correcting your walking, posture, and strength. Only you can do that. That is your job as an athlete! The more your practice, the better you will become! Champion athletes practice for hours every single day.

Like a coach, the speech/language pathologist's job is to teach you how to make your sounds correctly. However, only you can practice these sounds every time you speak. Each time you correctly practice your new skill, you are teaching your brain and muscles how to make this

sound! Soon it will become as natural as walking! The speech/language pathologist wants you to become the champion athlete of your sound. That means that you must practice every single day!

What will happen if you don't practice? If you don't practice it will take your brain and mouth muscles much longer to learn how to use your correct sounds. Learning a new speech skill (just like an athletic skill) takes time, energy, patience, and PRACTICE.

You can do it! Train like a champ and get those sounds up to champion standards!

**Deb Convey, Steph Tarmman, and Kelly Okel**

**LMC**

### **Check it Out!**

Southbury Sharks and their families are truly the best! Your never ending support is felt throughout the school and we greatly appreciate it! We love that we get to partner with HSO to bring you the book fair during Donuts with Dad. It is always so much fun! Seeing the students so excited to bring their dads and loved ones out for this special event is quite priceless. When you purchase items from our book fair, you are not only buying a book for your child, you are helping our Southbury Library as well. This event would not have happened without the support of the many volunteers who dedicated numerous hours making sure it was a success.. Thank you to all of those who were new to volunteering at the book fair this year and to our veteran volunteers who come back year after year. We cannot thank you enough for making our job even more rewarding.

In the LRC, we have been talking about nonfiction text features. In the weeks to come we will begin to discuss how to research various topics across all grade levels. As students begin learning about new topics, often they are left with the desire to find out even more information. We will be encouraging them to develop those second level questions and show them how to dig deeper to get answers through research. We will also teach them the importance of giving credit to their sources and how to create a bibliography when doing research.

Did you know that the month of December is "Read a New Book Month"? Why not challenge yourself and your family by reading books that you wouldn't normally pick up? If you are usually a fiction reader, try a science fiction book or a biography. Maybe choose a nonfiction book about a topic you know little about. Or, maybe pull out an old childhood classic and snuggle up under a cozy blanket to read with a loved one!

Sincerely wishing you a happy and safe holiday(reading) season,

**Mrs. Witcpalek and Mrs. Dietz**

**From the Reading Department**

**Word Mania!**

Word Mania is an online word building challenge game for grades K-12. Students race against the clock to make as many words as they can from 15 letters in just three minutes. Many students at Southbury are taking on this challenge in their classrooms and in the reading room. Not only is this a fun way to challenge word knowledge, Word Mania also improves many different literacy skills, such as encoding (spelling), word pattern recognition, quick visual recognition and quick encoding skills.

These fifth graders are having fun on Word Mania!!



## Art

All Square 1 orders were due to Mrs. Chee by November 25th. If you missed that deadline, you can still order online until December 3rd. <https://shop.square1art.com/shop>

Mrs. Chee would greatly appreciate your empty 2 liter bottles and yarn donations. The hope is to build this yarn storage for an upcoming weaving unit. Thank you for your help!

Have any food magazines you need to toss? Donate them to the art room!



## Music

First off, I would like to say that the whole school did a fantastic job with the Veteran's Day assembly! The 3rd Grade also did an amazing job with their musical! Thank you to all of the students and parents that have worked so hard to make these events special.

Our focus for the month of December is musical expression. Students are learning about musical terms such as dynamics (loud/soft) and tempo (fast/slow). We are working on our active listening skills and honing our musician's ear! Students are singing, playing instruments, and creating music here at Southbury!

At the end of November I sent out Honor Choir information to 4th and 5th grade students. Rehearsals will start in January and take place on Tuesday mornings from 8:00-8:45am. Please make sure that your student's school fees are up to date so that they may participate in this club.

If you ever have any questions, please email me at [mmcwethy@sd308.org](mailto:mmcwethy@sd308.org).

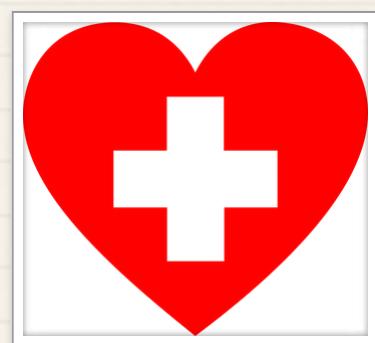
## Physical Education

We can't believe it is already November! Down in the gym, November is a great time of the year. We look forward to many festive classics like Turkey Shoot and the Pilgram's Journey. These games are staples during this time of the season, and we can't wait to play them. Along with these festive games, we have some fun team games including Hula Hut Throwdown and another favorite American Eagle. What an exciting November we have in store for Southbury students in PE class!

## News from Nurse Sara

Hello Southbury parents, can you believe we have one more month to end the year? Please read through these reminders as they may pertain to your child.

Please submit **Annual Health History Forms** via the electronic link provided below. This new format has replaced the paper version. This document includes Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment, and communicates any medical history and medication changes that may occur from one school year to another. These forms need to be completed at the beginning of each school year. If you do not remember submitting an electronic health history, please click the link below to ensure the health office has the most up to date contact and health information available, it is crucial to have this completed.



Kindergarten vision exams were due Oct. 15, 2019, and still needed. Any students who do not have a kindergarten vision exam in their health file were sent home a reminder in October. The goal is to have all kindergarten students with completed examinations per state requirements.

Students new to the state are required to have up to date examinations completed in Illinois. These include physicals and immunizations, dental and vision examinations. The due date is 30 days from when your child is enrolled.

Kindergarten and 2nd grade dental exams will be due May 15, 2020. They can be turned in at any time prior to the due date. They can also be submitted with your student or emailed/faxed to the health office.

**A Medication Authorization Form** is needed for any prescription and over the counter medications including cough drops.

Thank you for your help in keeping our students safe and healthy!

### **Nurse Sara**

Office: (630) 551-9802

Fax (630) 551-9897

[skarantonis@sd308.org](mailto:skarantonis@sd308.org)

### **Link for Electronic Health History:**

<https://form.jotform.com/9154693150315>

### **Link for Medication Authorization Form:**

<https://www.sd308.org/cms/lib/IL01906463/Centricity/Domain/172/School%20Medication%20Authorization%20Form.pdf>

## **Social Work**

### **GIFTMART**

Dear Southbury Shark Families,

This year Southbury Elementary School will be partnering with Giftmart by holding a toy drive to benefit under resourced children right here in District 308! These families come from households under financial stress who would otherwise not be able to afford gifts for the holidays. The philosophy behind Giftmart is a hand up versus a hand out during the holiday season. Giftmart offers families a way to preserve dignity by setting up a store of donated toys and inviting families to shop and purchase those toys for \$2 each. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of each toy will be donated back to each participating school for their children's programming and educational materials. Please help to make a difference for a local child this holiday season. Gift cards and monetary donations are welcome as well!

You and your family can help a local child by donating a new, unwrapped toy valued \$18-20 for children ages 5-12. No stuffed animals or board games, please. There will be a drop-off box located inside the office from November 7th– December 2nd.

The event is on Saturday, December 14th at Fisher Middle School in Aurora. If you would like to volunteer your time, go to: <http://wheatlandsalem.org/oswego-gift-mart-sign-up/>.

Your generosity and giving spirit is appreciated!

Thank you and Happy Holidays,  
Kristin Epstein, LCSW School Social Worker

630-551-9805  
[kepstein@sd308.org](mailto:kepstein@sd308.org)

## Warming Centers

### KENDALL COUNTY WARMING CENTERS

**Kendall County PADS** hosts a Warming Center for PADS guests on Thursday mornings, 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Yorkville during the months when the program is open.

**NOTE:** Some locations are only available during regular business hours. Please call first to ensure that the warming center is open and able to receive you.

**Beecher Community Center** (630) 553-5777

908 Game Farm Road, Yorkville

Open Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Guests may come in for a few hours.

May sit at tables. Must be quiet and respectful at all times, especially during senior activities.

**Senior Service Associates** (630) 553-5777

908 Game Farm Road, Yorkville

May eat PADS lunch there. Meal may be purchased for \$3.75.

**Caring Hands Thrift Shop** (630) 553-1847

1002 S. Bridge Street, Yorkville

Monday thru Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. & Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Fox Valley Y.M.C.A.** (630) 552-4100

3875 Eldamain Road, Plano

Open: Monday thru Thursday from 4:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday from 4:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Saturday from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sunday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Guests may sit in lobby to warm up. Showers available at designated times; inquire at desk.

**Kendall County Health Department** (630) 553-9100

811 W. John Street, Yorkville

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Monday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lobby with comfortable chairs, TV and restrooms.

**Kendall County Public Safety Center** (630) 553-7500

1102 Cornell Road, Yorkville

24 hour availability; Lobby with chairs, restrooms

**Newark Fire Barn (815) 695-5147**

101 E. Main Street, Newark

Out of the PADS shelter area

**Oswegoland Park District (630) 554-1010**

- Civic Center, 5 Ashlawn Avenue, Montgomery. Guests are welcome in lobby Monday thru Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- Prairie Point, 313 E. Washington Street (corner of Plainfield & Grove Roads) in Oswego. Guests are welcome in lobby Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Boulder Point Location, 0 Boulder Hill Pass (Boulder Hill Pass & Rt. 25), Montgomery. Guests are welcome in lobby Monday thru Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- South Point Location, 810 Preston Lane, Oswego (adjacent to Southbury Elementary). Guests are welcome in lobby Monday thru Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – Noon

On Sunday mornings guests are invited to attend worship service with the River's Edge Fellowship at the Civic Center, or to sit quietly in lobby from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

**Oswego Police Department (630) 551-7300**

3525 Rte 34, Oswego

24 hour availability; guests may sit in lobby

**Oswego Public Library District (630) 554-3150**

32 W. Jefferson St., Oswego

1111 Reading Dr., Montgomery

Open: Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Guests may use the library – following all library rules (no eating; no sleeping).

**Oswego Senior Center (630) 554-5602**

156 E. Washington Street, Oswego

Open: Mon – Fri, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday. Guests may sit in designated area near library. Must be quiet and respectful at all times, especially during senior activities.

**Oswego Village Hall (630) 554-3287**

100 Parkers Mill (Intersection of Rt. 31 & 34)

Open: Mon- Fri 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Lobby with chairs; no TV.

**Plainfield Police Department (815) 436-2341**

14300 S. Coil Plus Drive, Plainfield

Out of the PADS shelter area. Walk-in or call for more information.

**Plano City Hall (630) 552-8275**

17 East Main Street, Plano

Mon– Fri, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. May sit on chairs in Council Room. No TV.

**Plano Community Library** (630) 552-2009

15 W. North Street, Plano

Open: Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday

Guests may use the library – following all library rules (no eating; no sleeping).

**Plano Walmart Supercenter** (630) 552-1580

6800 West Route 34, Plano

24 hour availability.

**Yorkville Public Library** (630) 553-4354

902 Game Farm Road, Yorkville

Open: Monday thru Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday.

Guests may use library – following all library rules (no eating; no sleeping).



## **Southbury Elementary School**

Facebook

820 Preston Lane, Oswego, IL, ...

(630) 551-9800

[sd308.org/southbury](http://sd308.org/southbury)