



Southeastern Academy Charter School



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“A Diverse Family of Learners that Seek to Challenge the Whole Child Through Innovation”

- A BIG THANK YOU to our OPTS for providing the staff with a wonderful lunch on Cyber Monday. Everyone enjoyed their meal! We really appreciate all that OPTS does for our school, students, and staff!!!
- Please be reminded that students should be dropped off between 7:30-8:00 a.m. and picked up no later than 3:15 p.m.
- Students will be released at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, December 20. Winter break is from December 21- Jan. 3. School resumes on Wednesday, Jan. 4.
- We will have a K-2 Holiday Program at 6 p.m. on December 19.
- If you haven't come to visit, please do. There are some wonderful things going on at SeA!!!
- We hope all of you have a wonderful holiday filled with family, love, laughter and peace!

SeA Musslewhite Library News



Upcoming Events

- Dec. 6** Girls and Boys BB play @ St. Mary
- Dec. 8** Girls and Boys play CFA at home (Bill Sapp 4 p.m.)
- Dec. 13** **Wear Pajamas Day** (National Hot Chocolate Day)
- Dec. 14** **“Ugly” Holiday Sweater Day**
- Dec. 15** **“Jingle” Day**- wear a jingle bell
- Dec. 16** **Holiday Hat**- wear a holiday hat
- Dec. 19** K-2 Theater 6 p.m. in gym
- Dec. 20** **Early Release** 1 p.m.
- Dec. 21-Jan 3** **Holiday Break**

Junior Beta Club



Meeting Dec. 7 at 7:30

Check out my weekly blogs and our newscast on our private Facebook page!

Computer Lab News

Our SeA students in Kindergarten through 8th grade have been working hard in the computer lab this month! We've covered cyberbullying, communicating via email, digital etiquette, using collaborative tools, and more. Please visit [this page](#) to see what each grade level has been doing, and come back to visit often, as this page is updated regularly. Thank you for sharing your babies with me! Mrs. B ☺



Yearbook News

Monday, November 14th is the last day to order a yearbook for \$50. All of our students have been working hard to make sure that **every** SeA student is included in the yearbook multiple times. Please click [here](#) to reserve your copy. ☺

Kindergarten News

The kindergarten class has been working diligently and very conscientiously during this holiday season. In Saxon Phonics, besides working on our basic sounds, we are also emphasizing the following punctuation marks: period; comma; question mark; exclamation point; apostrophe; quotation marks. All of these mechanics help us when we are constructing our sentences and working with the *Being a Writer* program. In math, we are working on addition, subtraction, patterning, equations, greater than, less than, equal to, counting by two's, fives, and tens, and order of numbers! In science, we are discussing hibernation and things that various forms of wildlife do to prepare themselves for winter.

We are keeping a daily vigil on our Elf on the Shelf! We want to make sure he keeps Santa informed of our good behavior!!



First Grade News

November has been a productive time for first grade. We are building a strong foundation in phonics by continuing to build on our letter and diagraph sounds. The class has read many books such as All By Myself, When I Grow Up, There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Turkey, and Thanksgiving at the Tappleton's. They are memorizing their addition facts. We have covered doubles, adding one, and adding zero. In math, we have also started working in math groups to better meet each child's individual needs. First grade has been studying objects in the sky in science. They have completed a moon journal, which I hope was lots of fun. First graders are looking forward to December activities. December is always an exciting and special time for first graders. We already have an elf in our room. I have several Christmas crafts planned for them. It's a wonderful time of the year!

Second Grade News

Second Grade has had a great month in November and we are looking forward to celebrating the Holiday Season in December. The SeA staff was thrilled to have all of our students back after the hurricane. We have been working hard on Main Idea and Central Message in Reading and Place Value in Math since our return. We are currently focusing on narrative in writing and we have heard some wonderful and very creative stories from our 2nd graders. Congratulations to Logan for being the October Student of the Month for 2nd Grade! I was fortunate enough to attend the NCCTM Math Conference in Greensboro and the NAGC Conference in Orlando Florida. I learned many great strategies to implement in our classroom. Hamp will be performing in the production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* at the Cape Fear Regional Theatre. Great Job, Hamp! We are looking forward to our first dinner theatre and musical on December 19th at 6:00 PM. Second Grade will be performing the musical FLAKES! along with First Grade. Well look forward to seeing you there! Second Grade wishes you a joyous Holiday Season!

Third Grade News

Third Grade has been filled with lots of fun and new concepts since the end of October and early November. The students really focused on the 3 Branches of Government and the Presidential Election. Since eight and nine year olds aren't legally allowed to vote, the 3rd grade students improvised and created their own personal "Candy Election". The students "registered to vote", created voter ID cards, held a primary and a caucus before creating their own "Candy Party" to hold an election with. After standing in line to vote, "signing in", voting, and waiting on the "polls" to close, the "Chewy Party" candidate, "Sour Patch Kids" won the election.

Along with the election, students learned about and compared Thanksgiving in the United States to how Thanksgiving is celebrated in Canada. Third Graders have also been completing some amazing STEM challenges in Science and will continue to do so throughout the month of December. The students really get a sense of how things are done in a scientific manner, while learning to compose projects on their own. During the month of December, the students will be learning about cultures around the world and how they celebrate the Christmas holidays. Students

will continue to learn multiplication and division strategies through their Math Showdowns, and many more Reading and ELA concepts. Have an amazing holiday season from the third grade students and Mrs. P!!

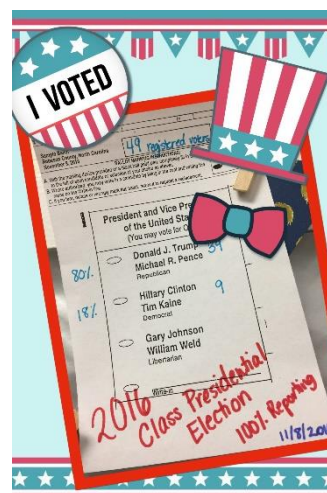
4/5 ELA and Social Studies News (click on blue title for links to info)

[4th & 5th Grade ELA and Social Studies News](#)

November brought the culmination of our nation's electoral process for average citizens. Students were awed by the Constitution's framework for our government, and this election provided opportunities to learn just how citizens share their voice through democratic representation at both the federal and state levels. This major study of representation had us glued to our seats and board of election websites adding up the magic 270 votes needed to claim the presidency.

Our military was not forgotten either with special studies on Normandy Beach and the sacrifice made by veterans of the "Greatest Generation." We were thrilled to hear from Combat Special Effects Artist Olivia Register, a local leader with a career in science and art that supports military training exercises in Maxton. Then we had a special visit from SeA Board Member Gwendolyn Roberts-Payne and her veteran husband, Retired Army Specialist Vernon Payne. Mr. Payne was able to share the benefits and challenges that his military career provided. Students loved seeing his medals and honors, and his step-daughter Sayonna beamed with pride. If you're interested in sharing some time with our 4th and 5th graders, we'd love to hear what you want to share at our monthly Local Leaders Lunches.

December gives us another 3 week chunk to devote to immersing ourselves as "mythologists" just before the winter break. Students in both 4th and 5th grade will continue to merge their fiction and non-fiction reading skills together as we learn about those superhuman explanations for a culture's origins and customs. It's a "Herculean" task, but these 4th and 5th grade heroes and heroines are ready!



4/5 Math and Science News

In 4th grade math, we are studying multiplicative comparisons and multiplying larger numbers (4.OA.A.1 and 4.NBT.B.5.) Our next unit of study will be division of whole numbers and multistep word problems with all 4 basic operations (4.NBT.B.6, 4.OA.A.2, 4.OA.A.3.) In science, we are learning about heat, matter and its properties, and we will also be studying rocks, minerals and fossils.

In 5th grade math, we are working on division with 2 digit divisors (5.NBT.B.6.) We finished up multiplying larger numbers (5.NBT.B.5.) Our next unit of study will be adding and subtracting fractions (5.NF.A.1, 5.NF.A.2.) In science, we are finishing up our study of heat and energy. We will begin studying the water cycle and that will lead into weather.

Students should still continue to study basic facts for fluency. Students should be fluent in all the basic facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.)

6-8 ELA News

The 6th, 7th and 8th graders quickly got back into the swing of things after their unexpected 2 week hiatus!! The 6th grade has started reading I Am Malala which will eventually be read by all my ELA classes. The 7th grade voted on the Red Queen, a book with which I was not familiar, but I am really enjoying it and I think so are they!! The 8th grade is reading Boy in the Striped Pajamas. Quite a few of them have seen the movie, so they are under a lot of pressure not to spoil!!

I hope everyone had a wonderful family Thanksgiving. I want to remind everyone that I will be leaving on December 9th to fly to Peru to see my family. I am very excited, but of course, I will miss my students.

I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for taking me into your amazing SEA family!! :)

6-8 Math News

November has been busy!!!! Middle school students have worked hard to make up for some lost time. We will complete several objectives in these next few weeks of December. Hopefully, we will manage to remain focused on school, given the fact that we will have benchmark testing soon after the Christmas break.

Sixth grade students are completing their study of ratios, rates, and proportions. Then we move on to algebraic expressions, properties for expressions, and perimeter with expressions.

Seventh graders are finishing a unit on proportions, similar figures, and dilations. They will soon begin studying percent problems, which will include taxes, markups, markdowns, gratuities, and commission fees.

The eighth grade students will continue studying slope and how to write equations/graph in slope-intercept form. Also, they will learn how to solve inequalities, compound inequalities, and absolute value inequalities.

6-8 Science News

Super Science Team:

The North Carolina Natural Science Museum will present "Exploring DNA" at our upcoming meeting on Tuesday, December 6. Due to the nature of the program, we will have an extended meeting time. Please make arrangements to pick up students at 4:30pm.

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade Science:

Sixth grade students are currently studying cell differentiation by observing the growth of carrots from seed to plant. We will continue this area of focus for the next two weeks with emphasis on plant anatomy and physiology.

Seventh grade students are actively learning about the history and origin of microscopes. Students will venture into the "unseen" world by exploring prepared slides and fine tuning their microscope skills.

Eighth grade has finally wrapped the ties around their Foundations of Chemistry Unit. The next three weeks will be used to explore advancements in biotechnology and the economic aspects that affect our State. On Tuesday, December 13 eighth grade students will participate in a computerized Science Benchmark Test. This data will be used to guide instruction by identifying specific individual needs.

6-8 Social Studies News

The month of November has allowed us to move forward and become closer to where we should be in our studies. Eighth grade students have completed a very in-depth look at the founding of our national government. Seventh grade students have been able to use more technology in their studies of early European explorers which allowed them to see how these individuals cut across cultural barriers to transport ideas and goods. Finally, sixth grade students have examined how some of the most ancient groups, Mesopotamians, Egyptians, and Israelites, have influenced our lives today from our writing to our food.

PE News

For the month of December, elementary physical education will be working on teamwork and cooperation skills with the parachute. A classic activity that works on many skills while at the same time allowing students to use imagination and have fun.

Middle school physical education/health will be doing basketball as well as drugs/medicine for the health topic.

Basketball is underway for both boys and girls. Our home games are played at Bill Sapp and schedules are available on our Facebook page as well as here at school. Boys are undefeated so far this season at 4-0 and the girls' team is 1-1 with a hard fought overtime loss.

Becca Richter's News

December 2nd is National Special Education Day! On this day in 1975, the nation's first special education law was passed. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA, made it a legal right for all students, able or disabled, to receive a free, appropriate, and public education. Join us in celebrating the 41st birthday of IDEA!

Remember, becoming *aware* of the world around us is the first step in creating a world worth inheriting!