

News from Stormy the Sidewinder



Dear Families,

The entire SSE staff would like to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday! Thank you all for your continuing support.

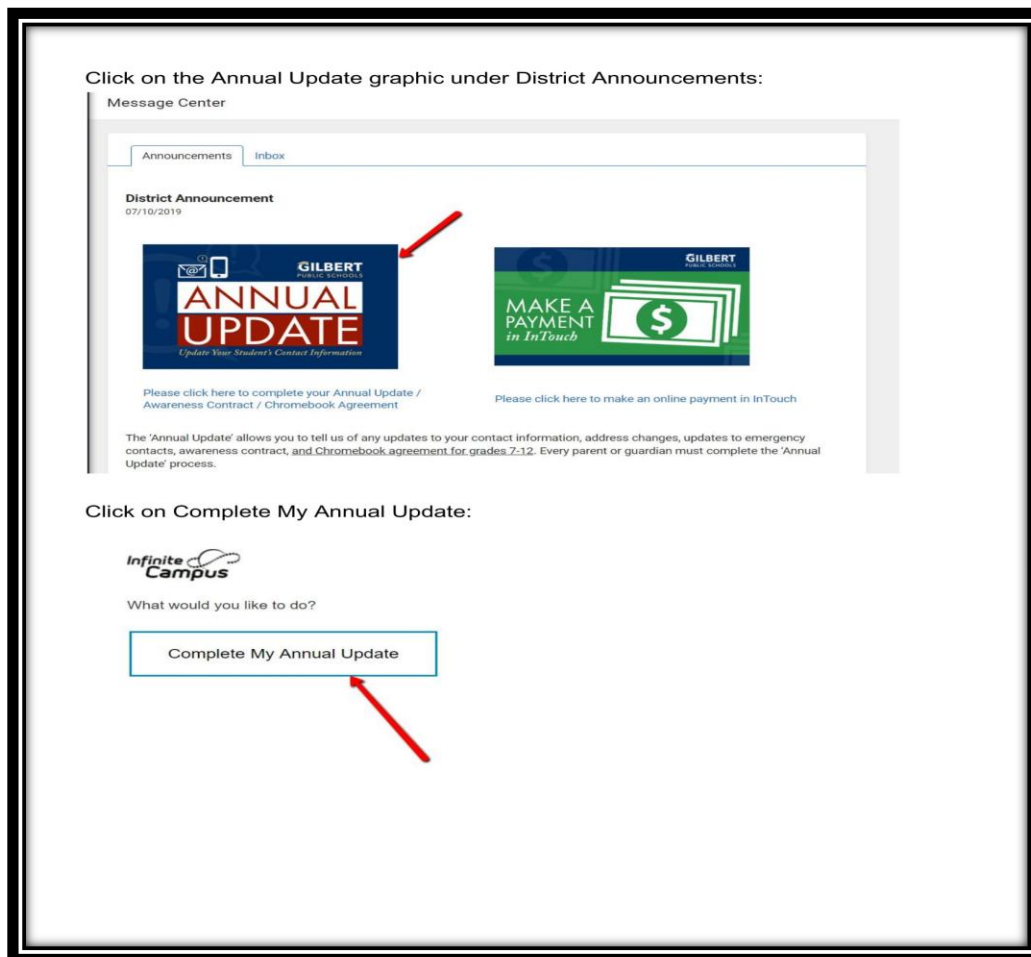
Upcoming Events:

1. Online enrollment for 2022/2023 is currently underway – please visit <https://www.gilbertschools.net/> for more information
2. 1:55 Release – December 1, 8, 15
3. Running Club – December 1, 8
4. PTSO Dinner Night (Panda Express) – December 2
5. Band Concert (5:00 pm) – December 7
6. Strings Concert (5:00 pm) – December 9
7. STUCO Spirit Day (Holiday Colors)/Kona Ice Treat Sale at Lunch – December 10
8. 3rd Grade Field Trip - December 10
9. School Council – December 13
10. PTSO – December 14
11. Choir Concert (5:00 pm) – December 14
12. 11:55 Release – December 17
13. Winter Break – December 20-January 3

Infinite Campus Emergency Contacts & ‘Annual Update’ Instructions for 2021/22 School Year

It's time for ALL SSE families to do their Annual Update in Infinite Campus. Please log into your parent portal and select Annual Update. This is a great way to make sure the information we have for your student such as street address, parent email address, phone numbers, emergency contacts are up to date so communication between school and home is accurate. Thank you SSE Families for your time and attention to this important update.

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Message from your School Social Worker

Hello SSE Families!! I cannot believe we are already in December! Yoga for Kids after school will be starting in January with a class limit of 10 students. We will meet Thursdays from 3-4pm in room 109 (strings room). The classes will run for 7 weeks from January 20th - March 3rd. Guardians will have to fill out a waiver and student information form. Should you have any questions or are interested in Yoga for Kids please contact Mrs. Harmsen at shawnda.harmsen@gilbertschools.net or 480-641-6413 x 1408.

SEL (social and emotional lessons) update - kindergarten and 1st grade have wrapped up our skills for learning and will start talking about being respectful to our peers here at school. We discuss identifying emotions of others and how we can be helpful to our

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December 2021

December
Character Trait:
Caring

friends; which also brings up how to be a good friend at school. I include SSE's 3 to Be during this unit as Be Respectful is one of our SSE's 3 to Be. In 2nd and 3rd grade we will continue our lessons on emotions and how to calm down. We will continue to use Mind Yeti and Headspace for our practices with our belly breathing, which is one skill we go over. We will soon start discussing being respectful to others (like in kindergarten and 1st - the same type of lessons). In 4th, 5th, and 6th grade we are still working on a mix of lessons including - working together, goal setting, and emotional management (again how we can help ourselves when we have a strong feeling here at school). We will be adding a being respectful unit (again a part of SSE's 3 to Be) after winter break. I hope your student enjoys these lessons as I enjoy going to the classroom to see them.

Shawnda Harmsen MS, RYT, RCYT

Email: shawnda.harmsen@gilbertschools.net

Phone: 480.641.6413 x 1408

GPS Wellness Resources for Families: <https://www.gilbertschools.net/wellness>

A huge thank you to author Brandon Mull and Scot Savage for taking the time to stop by SSE and speak with our students!!!



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PTSO

Spooktacular

Thank you to everyone who helped make our annual Spooktacular an awesome success!!!



Turkey Bingo

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for an awesome night of bingo!



A+ School of Excellence™
SSE, A GREAT PLACE TO BE!

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SSE Spelling Bee Winners

1st Place – Baya Pennock

2nd Place (Tie) – Isabelle Keoke/Oliver Baker

Congratulations!



Character Counts Golden Ticket Winners



Braytyn Menigoz

Autumn Arnold

Tara Todd

Max Hagen

Noah Rodriguez

Lindsay Greer

Ethan Dettman

Tommy Clark

Landon Lewis

Tatum Asburry

Character Counts Winners

Dominic Martinez

Sairsha Allen

Bradley Kostura

Ethan Morrow

Declan Mooney

Yaya Stratford

Amelia Wiseman

Robert Whitman

Angie Porras-Solis

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Tara Todd
Nevaeh Santos
Anyia Terry
Noeila Lopez
Duke Middleton
Leiloni Rose
Melini Tukuafu
Claire Kostur
Barrett Wurth
George Garlock
Sadie Nichol
Brooklyn McClard
Jena Poulette
Leiloni Rose
Kamila Gamez
Levi Del Muro
Sophia Porter
Reygan Molaskey
Elli Mahiya
Michael Bullard
Adrianna Myrmel
Haiden Schultz
Cobain Ruthem
Noah Frost
Hannah Berkhout
Roman Martinez

Ezekiel Eiland
Sophia Beale
Averie Mezquita
Amaia Cruz
Sage Goodwin
Makayla Norman
Mia Payne
Conner McIlveen
Paislee Flowers
Daiid Nenadovic
Elwood Wilson
Angel Nino
Mia Stenberg
Hailey Claxton
Jori Comerford
Bradley McClellan
Avery Hoskins
Saoirse Allen
J'aimeLynn Musselman
Jon Campbell
Kaleb Schaffner
Parsa Hayati
Ricky Flores
Andres DeLeon
Jayden Butter
Tyler Radcliffe

Briana Bray
Riley Williams
Luke Johnson
Wallace McKinnon
Desmond Gourdy
Paige Advise
Lunda Khalil
Lucy Skiles
Billie Jean Schuster
Kal Eversman
Nixxon Varin
Jasmin Dorantes
Molly Randall
Adriana Myrmel
Deya Sarama
Lillian Howard
Liam Post
Nathan Abbitt
Dominic Martinez
Emmie Summerhays
Cade Middleton
Izac Russell
Rachel Anderson
Tara Todd
Malia Herron
Kingston Laird

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Nurses Notes

We can protect and strengthen our own immunity by eating nutritious foods, taking daily walks, sleeping 8 –10 hours a night, reducing stress, and smiling daily :)



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Library Link

THE LIBRARY LINK

Volume 1, Issue 1

SUPERSTITION SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

Welcome to the SSE Library

December, 2021

Wow! It's hard to believe that our first semester is almost over, and here we are moving into the holiday season. Students have been busy in the Media Center too. Kindergarten students have learned how to check out books for the first time. They are practicing taking the books to their classroom and returning them the following week. They will be bringing home books in January. They are so excited!

Please remind your students how to care for library books so they return in great condition so others may enjoy them. Please help keep library books away from pets, water and toddlers so books are not damaged. Also, if you are traveling this holiday season, please remember to bring your books back. We have had books left on airplanes, in hotels and at Grandma's house. Please help your students remember to bring their books back from vacation. Thank-you!

Students are continuing to access the virtual library where they can

access 40,000 + books using Epic Books. It has been great to see so many enjoying wonderful books. Students in grades 2-6 have been trained on our google form so they can access books from our library as well. It has been a huge success enabling us to get books into the hands of our students!

We have our second Battle of the Books competition on December 1st at 1:00 p.m. in the library. Good luck to our teams!

Thank you so much to everyone who has been supporting the library! We appreciate all of the support we have been receiving.

We have been busy adding so many new and wonderful books to our collection! The students love our new books!

If you should have any questions, please feel free to email me:

Kristin.harris@gilbertschools.net

Kristin Harris, Librarian

Did you know?

When choosing a book for your student to read, use the 5 finger rule. Randomly select a page in the book and begin to read. Every time a word is not known, put up a finger. If all five fingers are up before finishing the page, the book is too difficult and a different book should be selected. If only 2-3 fingers are up, the book should be ok and not frustrate your reader.

Superstition Springs AR Colors	2.6-3.0 Red	6.1-6.9 Purple
Range Color	3.1-3.5 Pink	7.0+ Black
0.3-1.5 Yellow	3.6-4.0 White	
1.6-2.0 Green	4.1-4.5 Orange	
2.1-2.5 Blue	4.6-5.0 Light Blue	
	5.1-6.0 Light Green	

How to pay for a lost or damaged book...

If your child has a lost or damaged library book, please send checks made out to SSE. You may also send the exact amount in cash. Please remember that we do not have change in the library.

Thank-you for your help in this matter.

Important Dates:

- SOS for Books Fundraiser—ongoing
- Birthday Books Fundraiser—ongoing
- Battle of the Books—Battle #2
December 1st, 1:00 p.m. in the library—Good luck to our teams!



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THE LIBRARY LINK



Donations

Please note: At this time our library is NOT accepting used book donations. Thank-you for your generous donations in the past. We appreciate you supporting the library.



ARBOOKFIND.COM

AR BookFinder (<http://www.arbookfind.com>) is an online tool where anyone can search for book titles based on authors, topics or titles of books. You can search results, add books to your book bag and print results.

AR BookFinder is a site hosted and administered by Renaissance Learning. With the move to online Renaissance,

SSE students have access to every quiz created by Renaissance Learning (over 100,000 currently). This site does not tell us what is housed in school libraries. Students are not restricted merely by the books owned by their respective school libraries. Books can come from anywhere such as the public library or a home library. Please visit

your elementary school library if you wish to peruse their computerized card catalog, Alexandria Researcher.

When looking up the books, check the BL (book level) to determine what color or level the book is. There is an AR chart on the front of this library newsletter.

EPIC books, Virtual Library

We know how important it is for your students to be reading during this time. Until December, we have access to an online library. Epic is the leading digital reading platform—built on a collection of 40,000+ popular, high-quality books from 250+ of the world's best publishers—that safely fuels curiosity and reading confidence for kids 12 and under.

Here are the directions to help your student start reading today:

Logging onto Epic Books:

1. Go to: www.getepic.com/students

2. Enter class code: **vpa9135**

3. Select your student's name

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Harris in the library:

Kristin.harris@gilbertschools.net



EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES

- Smithsonian—<https://www.si.edu/kids>
- Southeast Regional Library (must have library card and sign in)
<https://mclidaz.org/locations/southeast>
- Tumble Books (must have library card and sign in)
<https://mclidaz.org/locations/southeast>
- Storyline Online
<https://www.storylineonline.net/library/>

Don't forget to visit our Media Center webpage for the latest information regarding our library.

<https://sites.google.com/gilbertschools.net/ssemediacenter/home>

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THE LIBRARY LINK

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



BATTLE 2—December 1st, 1:00 p.m.

" Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Gantos (AR BL: 4.9 – Light Blue - AR Pts: 5.0)

" Among the Hidden by Haddix (AR BL: 4.8 – Light Blue - AR Pts: 5.0)

" Watsons go to Birmingham-1963 by Curtis (AR BL: 5.0 – Light Blue - AR Pts: 8.0)

" The Crossover by Alexander (AR BL: 4.3 - Orange - AR Pts: 2.0)

BATTLE 3—March 2nd, 1:00 p.m.

" Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher by Coville (AR BL: 4.9 – Light Blue - AR Pts: 4.0)

" Wonder by Palacio (AR BL: 4.8 – Light Blue - AR Pts: 11.0)

" Sarah, Plain and Tall by MacLachlan (AR BL: 3.4 - Pink - AR Pts: 1.0)

" Everything on a Waffle by Horvath (AR BL: 5.8 – Light Green - AR Pts: 5.0)

BATTLE TEAM MEMBERS

GAVIN L.
ISSAC B.
MAIA G.
OLIVER B.
LAKAI G.
CONRAD A.
LILY N.
JENNIFER H.
PHINLEY P.
SINA A.
LEXI B.
SCARLETT D.
NOAH R.

CHARLEE B.
LOGAN D.
MELANIE G.
SOPHIE H.
SARA T.
ISAAC R.
SCOTT W.
GREGORY H.
LILLY B.
DALLIN D.
ISAAC B.





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THE LIBRARY LINK



Birthday Book Club

Celebrate your child's birthday by joining the Birthday Book Club!!! Simply donate a book to the Library by choosing a book from the cart of Birthday Books located in the library. They are shelf-ready so that they may be checked out soon after you purchase them.

There are two ways of doing this. You may complete the form, attach \$15.00 to the form, and return it with your child, and he/she may pick out the book. Or, you may come and choose the book to be presented to him/her on his/her birthday (or as close as we can get to his/her birthday). If your child's birthday has already passed, you may still do this if you would like.

A special notice with your child's name and birthday will be placed inside the book, and your contribution will be recognized during the morning announcements on, or near, your child's special day. We will get the names on the announcements as soon as possible. Your child will be the first to check the book out.

(This procedure may also be used for memorials and honorariums.)

The Birthday Book Club will last from October 11, 2021 - May 21, 2022. Birthdays not within this range of dates may choose to donate any time!
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE LIBRARY!

Complete this form and return with your \$15.00 to the Library either now or about a week before your child's birthday.

Name: _____

Birthday: _____

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SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

We would love to continue building our collection of diverse books as well as those titles and series that our students love. Please consider donating a book to our library collection. You even have the option to add a donor plate and donate a book in honor of your child, special occasion, or even a staff member. All books will be shipped to our school processed and ready to be added to our shelves. Thank you in advance for supporting our library!

How much of each donation actually goes to the school library?

100% of each donated amount goes directly towards the purchase of books for the library.

WHEN: August 16, 2021-May 14, 2021

WHERE: ONLINE

<https://www.btsb.com/sos/superstitionspringselemschool>

Visit the website listed above and donate a book or make a monetary donation. Books will ship monthly to our school library.

Thank you for supporting our library and for helping our collection continue to grow.

Kristin Harris, Media Specialist





THE MEDIA HUB



Brandon Mull



Brandon Mull—
Photo Credits: Mrs. Kelley

Scott Savage



Scott Savage—
Photo Credits: Mrs. Saiz

BRANDON MULL ARRIVES AT SSE

On Friday, October 29th, SSE's 4th and 5th grade students received an opportunity to visit with Author Brandon Mull.

Brandon Mull is the #1 New York Times best-selling author of the Fablehaven, Beyonders, and Five Kingdoms series. A kinetic thinker, Brandon enjoys bouncy balls, squeezable stress toys, and popping bubble wrap. He lives in Utah in a happy little valley near the mouth of a canyon with his four children and

a dog named Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Brandon loves meeting his readers and hearing about their experiences with his books.

While at SSE, Brandon introduced the students to the Imagination Game. Students were encouraged to answer the following questions and begin writing their own narrative piece.

The Imagination Game:

1. What object is used as a portal into the other

world?

2. What is the ground made of?

3. What is sprouting from the large tree that you are walking through?

4. Something big is chasing you, what is it?

5. What do you smell?

We were so lucky to have Brandon Mull on campus and look forward to having him return again one day!

Author Scott Savage visits SSE

On November 19th, students in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade had an opportunity to attend an assembly with Author J. Scott Savage. Scott is the author of 19 published novels. He has been a teacher and presenter at writing conferences for adults and youth, and has developed Common Core-aligned projects for elementary school

writing curricula. He has presented at more than 3000 schools across the country, inspiring students to read, write, embrace their own creativity, and change the world. Scott is the author of The Lost Wonderland Diaries, the Case File 13, the FarWorld and Mysteries of Cove series. Scott lives in Utah with his wife of 34 years,

Jennifer. He has four amazing children, and nine perfect grandchildren. He enjoys reading, watching movies, camping, traveling, and spending time with his family.

SSE students were attentive and enjoyed listening to his experiences of being an author.



SHOUTOUT to the Special Areas Team (Ms. Saiz, Mrs. Rotner, Mr. Leal, and Ms. Kelley) who went above and beyond to host these events while Ms. Harris was out sick! Way to go Special Areas Team! Also, thank-you to everyone else who helped out in some small way! It was greatly appreciated!

News from Stormy the Sidewinder



THE MEDIA HUB

Author Brandon Mull Photos

Photo credits: Ms. Kelley, Reading specialist



"Smart people learn from their mistakes."



Author Scott Savage Photos

Photo credits: Ms. Saiz, Art Teacher



"...I'd rather read than eat, sleep, or breathe."