

# News from Stormy the Sidewinder SSE, A Great Place to Be!

December 2023

December  
Character Trait:  
*Caring*

Dear Families,

The entire SSE staff would like to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday! Thank you all for your continuing support! Kindergarten registration for the 24/25 school year is now open for SSE. Students must be 5 years of age by August 31, 2024. Please complete the Online Registration by logging into their parent portal or the district website [www.gilbertschools.net](http://www.gilbertschools.net).

## Upcoming Events:

1. 1:55 Release - December 6, 13
2. Strings Concert - December 7 (5:00)
3. SSE/PTSO Holiday Movie - December 8 (5:00-7:00)
4. Choir Concert - December 12 (5:00)
5. 1st Grade Music Performance - December 14 (2:00)
6. PTSO - December 14 (3:15)
7. 3rd Grade Field Trip - December 15
8. Kona Ice Treat Sale at Lunch/STUCO Spirit Day (Holiday Colors) - December 15
9. 11:55 Release - December 19
10. Powerhouse - December 19 (9:00)

## Social Worker

The holidays are coming up! Do you need support? Do you want to help? There will be a school message that will come out later this month with details on how you can support our SSE Angel Tree. Should you need support with the holidays please reach out to me, we are here to help you during this time.

I would like to update families on our SEL classes. In Kindergarten and 1st grade we are continuing our Kindness Unit. In this unit we discuss skills that will help us be successful in the classroom. We use video clips, books and pictures to go through the unit. In 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade we will continue our How to Calm Down Unit. In this unit we discuss skills that can help us calm our bodies when a subject is too hard or how to help ourselves here at school when we have a big emotion. We watch video clips, look at school pictures, and read books to go through how we can be kind at school. In 2nd grade

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Principal

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we will be continuing our school project of writing a book based on Champion, our school dog. In 6th grade we will continue our Problem Solving Unit. In this unit we will discuss problems that come up here at school and how we can help ourselves in solving them e.g. friendships, school work and other. We will use video clips, stories and complete games/activities with this unit. I hope your students are enjoying SEL as much as I am!

Should you have any questions, need resources, or support please feel free to contact me.

Shawnda Harmsen MS, RYT, RCYT

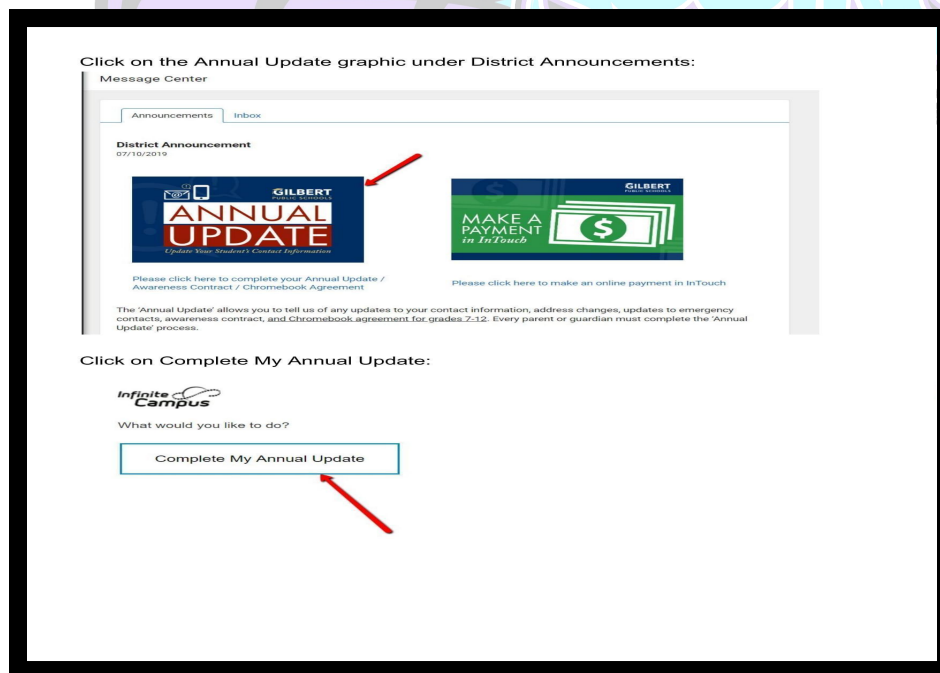
Email: shawnda.harmsen@gilbertschools.net

Phone: 480.641.6413 x 1407

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

**Annual Update - please complete**

**Annual Update Short Video - <https://youtu.be/mIMVfKtzwI>**



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## PTSO

We hope you had a fun night at Turkey Bingo! Thank you so much for attending and showing your support for SSE!! A great big THANK YOU goes out to our sponsors and those who donated a raffle prize. We appreciate you!

**\*\*New event alert: Holiday Movie!** After a school wide vote, we will be showing the movie Elf on December 8th from 5:00-7:00pm in the gym! Admission is free, donations accepted. Concessions will be sold, and Santa will be there for photos!

**Dinner Nights:** Thank you to those who participated in our NOVEMBER Dinner Night at Rubio's! DECEMBER'S Dinner Night Out is at Panda Express on Friday, December 15th from 10:00am-9:00pm at the Power/Baseline location. You must mention SSE for us to get credit for the order.

**PTSO Meeting:** Thursday, December 14th after school at 3:15pm in the library. Kids are welcome to join! We will be discussing Turkey Bingo, our new holiday movie event, and events for the new year! We'd love to have you come and share your ideas.



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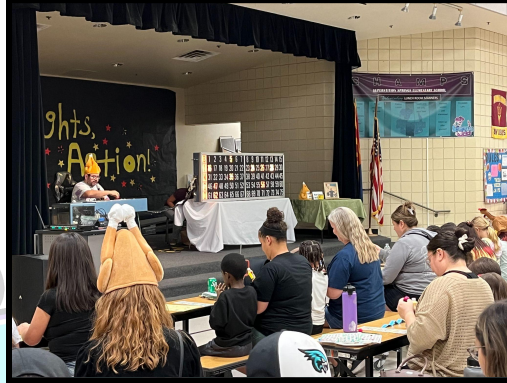
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## Turkey Bingo

A huge thank you to all our Sidewinder Families and Friends who helped celebrate our 10th year of Turkey Bingo!!!!



## SSE Turkey Trot



## HHS Marching Band

Thanks for visiting SSE!!!



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Free and Reduced Lunch Forms  
<http://gilbertschools.net/meals>

## SSE Spelling Bee Winners:

First Place- Wyatt White  
Second Place- Logan Pratt

Third Place- Damien Munoz  
Fourth Place- Ruby Webb



## SSE's 32B Golden Ticket Winners

Braylynn Wood  
Calvin Rowe  
Selena Borbon  
Charlee Williams  
Billie Jean Schuster

Camilla Gudino  
Brady Robinson  
Tau Ili  
Parker Roberts  
Liam Covert



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## SSE's 32B Character Winners

Brooklyn McClard  
Aubrey Labita  
Emery Pickering  
Zain Tarin  
Corbin Hunter  
Lilly Leichtman  
Izac Russell  
Elizabeth Connolly  
Dawsyn Davison  
Jax Cardenas  
Baylee Durant  
Jack Gardiner  
Goku Cienfuegos  
Hriti Darji  
Liam Post  
Cohen Cannon  
Daniel Towner  
Isla Heidemann  
Troy Jocom  
Chloe Dianda  
Lindsay Greer  
Brooks Onken  
Jasper Curiel  
Solomon Marshall  
Carter Marten  
Zayden Clapper  
Kate Tiffer  
Ruby Webb  
Warren White  
Reed Smith  
Manu Koloamatangi  
Kaden Liu  
Nolan Santana  
Sadie Williams  
Jack Bowen  
Owen Donaldson

Carter Jo Dingman  
Belle Wiederhold  
Emily Connett  
Joseph Meyer  
Noel Conde  
Dean Shepard  
Sophia Flores  
Aliyah Boyd  
Sebastian Macias  
Kinsley Donaldson  
Joaquin Christopher  
Elizabeth Connolly  
Harleigh Durnal  
Rodney Andreas  
Rylan Gibson  
Brantley Baker  
Harper Durant  
Marisella Partida  
Morales  
Jon Campbell  
Natalie Greer  
Caleb Hoopes  
Bryce Wyatt  
Elias Beard  
Kaylin Vaughn  
Alivia Ramirez  
Jori Comerford  
Siyao Lin  
John Brown  
Zain Tarin  
Shane Kent  
Elijah Conde  
Wyatt Earhart  
Rylee Vaughn  
Oliver Clark  
Solomon Marshall

Owen Covert  
Amelia Labita  
Owen Donaldson  
Richie Camacho  
Brady Robinson  
Madison Wade  
Nora Dronseiko  
Kynlee Middleton  
Emmie Summerhays  
Giselle Rodriguez  
Ethan Quintanar  
Jasper Curiel  
John Brown  
Bryson Payne  
Parker Ostermeyer  
Amelia Wiseman  
McKay Leilua  
Gage Ross  
Breanne Collay  
Caleb Weeks  
Sonatane Alatini  
David Gutierrez  
Paige Zehring  
Parker Roberts  
Jayden Butter  
Jade Brough  
DJ Graham  
Kalliope Shorty  
Rory Babbit  
Axel Durnal  
Madison Wade  
Emma Spanier  
Ava Robinson  
Lani Alatini  
Goku Cienfuegos  
Troy Jocom

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Alice Harmsen  
Brighton Boudreaux  
Taylor Gregg  
Angel Diaz  
Shaylee Walter  
Chance Jones  
Gracie Kukkola  
Dalton Hebner  
Milo Cannon  
Abi Rogers  
Reed Olson  
Billie Jean Schuster  
Silas Marshal  
Daniel Towner  
Ava Witucky  
Sophia Burton  
Tabor Loeffler  
Diya Parikh  
Kasen Stanley  
Brady Robinson  
Levi Thorton  
Emmie Summerhays  
Max Richardson  
Teagan Salter  
Leah Payne  
Aurora Babbitt  
Jack Shepard  
Paige Zehring  
Jon Campbell

Jodi Mista  
Lili Martin  
Mila Joyner  
Tegan Morrow  
Cecilia Baltierra  
Maddison Burrell  
Connor McIlveen  
Kaden Liu  
Brooks Onken  
Kynlee Middleton  
Anishka Hoti  
Scarlett Schulte  
Derek Tower  
Selena Borbon  
Alex Campbell  
Jude McKellar  
Bryce Wyatt  
Levi Del Muro  
Maddie Myrmel  
Ethan Dettman  
Fox Ferrin  
Anthony Turilli  
Anishka Hoti  
Jodi Mista  
Carter Gale  
Davis Jones  
Isabella Mercardo  
Amelia Murphy  
Paige Zehring

Madison Wade  
Jena Versteeg  
Jadon Mullins  
J.J. Garcia  
Liam Covert  
Irelynn McIlveen  
Ezra Salter  
Hadley Durrant  
Aria Hutchins  
Maddie Myrmel  
Lili Martin  
Teagan Morrow  
Rumi Williams  
Victoria Canonic  
Hudson Davis  
Sami Ouali  
Charlie Root  
Sophia Post  
Taylor Gregg  
Jadon Mullins  
Kinsley Sotelo  
Paisley Wood  
Brighton Boudreaux  
Aniya Pleasant  
Ashton Gaccino  
Jasper Curiel  
Danny Burnside  
Daniel Towner  
Ava Witucky  
Asunna Torres

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## SSE and Gilbert Days Parade

Thank you to everyone who was able to make it out for a raining Gilbert Days Parade!!!



## Health Office

Please call and let us know if your child is diagnosed with something contagious. We keep track of Strep, Covid, Flu, Pink Eye, Lice, or Hand Foot and Mouth disease. We really try to keep teachers and parents informed of what diagnoses are prevalent in the community. If your child is sick, please call the school nurse or refer to the GPS website to see what the guidelines are for returning to school. BE RESPONSIBLE BE KIND

Flu Shots are available at most pharmacies and doctors offices.

SSE HEALTH OFFICE: 480-641-6413, OPTION 2

GPS HEALTH SERVICES:

<https://www.gilbertschools.net/Domain/309>

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## Library Link

# THE LIBRARY LINK

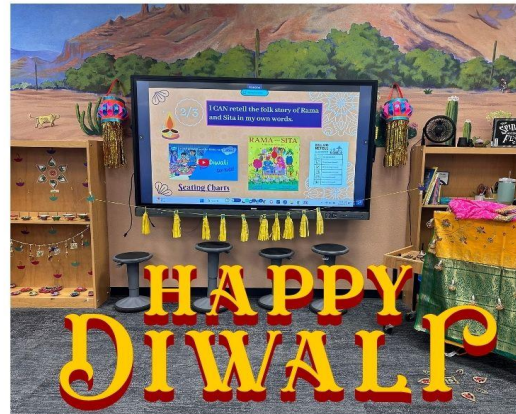
good things are happening in the library

NUMBER OF BOOKS CHECKED OUT THIS YEAR: **15,000+**



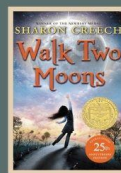
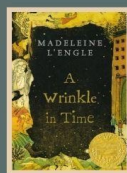
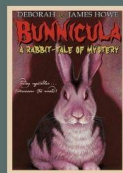
### SSE students learn about Diwali - the festival of lights!

At the beginning of November, students enjoyed learning about the celebration of Diwali. Diwali celebrates the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. These themes and folk stories were explored as we all learned more about this special holiday. A HUGE thanks to Ligia and Neelam, two Sidewinder moms, for providing Diwali decorations for the library!



## Battle of the Books Battle #2

Tuesday, January 9th @ 1:30pm in the SSE Gym



Remind your kiddos to read and/or review the books during Winter Break so that they are ready for our second battle!

CE  
2026

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## Glow-in-the-Dark Fall Buddy Reading in the Library

Left: 6th Grader Leiloni reads with two first grade girls during our Glow-in-the-dark buddy reading day.

During the week last week of October, 1st-6th grade students participated in glow-in-the-dark silent reading activities. Students were able to choose a fall book to read in a cozy spot in the library along with a glow bracelet and a flashlight. We turned off the lights, played some spooky background music, and enjoyed some quality reading time. 6th and 1st grade partnered up for some buddy reading!

## DID YOU KNOW?

## Digital Citizenship

The Common Sense Media Digital Citizenship lessons help kids in grades K-2 develop healthy media habits and learn how to be safe online. Lessons for kids in grades 3-5 continue to focus on screen time and online safety. Older kids also learn about how to recognize cyberbullying, what is and isn't OK to share online, and how to find credible news and information. For more information visit: <https://www.common sense.org/education/digital-citizenship>.

## Lost/Damaged Books

Students will be charged a \$10 replacement fee for any lost or damaged books. If this is ever an issue for your family, please reach out. I am happy to work with your family's personal circumstances.

## Nearly 400 books added to the library in December!

Brand new books are hitting our shelves in December! Our new titles include hundreds of brand new library bound titles as well as many gently used donations.



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