



NEW SARPY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

October 2023 Issue 2

Mudbug Monthly

Principal's Message

Greetings, Mudbug Families,

The 2023-2024 school year is off to a great start! Now that the weather is cooling off, let's hope the storms continue to stay away.....so far, so good!

Can you believe that we are almost finished with our first quarter of the school year? October 10th is the last day of the first quarter and report cards will go home on October 23rd. Our Fall Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 26th and Friday, October 27th. Teachers will be ready to share information about your child's progress and provide guidance on ways to support your child at home. Look for important information coming soon on how to sign up for your conference. These will be early dismissal days for our students with all students dismissing at 12:45.

The mission of New Sarpy Elementary School is to ensure high levels of learning for every student. Our school has built a robust Literacy Plan to ensure our students are readers by the time they enter 3rd grade. This is our most important work! Please check out our Literacy Plan posted in this newsletter and on our school website. If you have questions, reach out to your child's teacher for information specific to your child. In addition, I am always here and happy to talk about literacy with our Mudbug families!

It has been my pleasure getting to know your child/children so far this year. I look forward to continuing to build bonds and relationships with each of you as we prepare children to become critical thinkers and life-long learners.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Matherne
Principal



2023-2024 NSE Literacy Plan

The mission of New Sarpy Elementary School is to ensure high levels of learning for every student. To support accomplishing this mission, we have developed a school-wide Literacy Plan.

1. Increase student outcomes by developing and monitoring literacy goals.

- a. Assess all students using a universal screener at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year.
- b. Analyze results of screeners to determine who is in need of intervention and extension.
- c. Utilize a diagnostic assessment for further analysis as needed.
- d. Group students flexibly across the grade level to support or enrich based on identified needs.
- e. Progress monitor results of interventions and adjust groups and interventions approximately every three weeks.
- f. Review progress toward literacy goals as a grade level.

2. Improve student literacy skills by providing high quality core instruction and systematic, explicit intervention and extension activities based on student needs.

- a. Ensure a master schedule is established that provides adequate time for Tier 1 Instruction as well as Tier 2 and 3 supports.
- b. Address foundational skills and content knowledge-building through effective initial instruction on grade level with high quality Tier 1 Core Instruction.
- c. Respond daily to formative assessment data to support and differentiate Tier 1 Core Instruction.
- d. Use data and flexible scheduling to:
 1. Provide support in meeting grade level essential standards with Tier 2 Intervention.
 2. Provide intensive support in learning essential standards from previous years with Tier 3 Intervention.
 3. Provide extension activities to students who mastered grade level essential standards.

3. Provide ongoing professional growth opportunities to support effective teaching and literacy development.

- a. Arrange for all teachers PK - 2nd grade to participate in district selected professional learning in the science of reading (AIMs Pathways and LETRS).
- b. Revisit science of reading professional learning components as student data, teacher data, and/or grade level needs arise.
- c. Support teachers understanding of assessment to focus on student learning, changes needed to teacher practice, and instructional action.
- d. Engage in professional learning and utilize identified intervention programs.
- e. Utilize the expertise and support of the ELA Coach and Grade Level Content Leaders to support grade level teachers as they facilitate unit overviews, understand essential learning, and assessment alignment.
- f. Conduct observations with actionable feedback for teachers related to the implementation of Tier 1 Core Instruction and flex grouping intervention and/or extensions.
- g. Provide individualized teacher coaching as determined by classroom observations and/or data analysis.

4. Engage Families around their child's literacy development.

- a. Share NSE's Literacy Plan with families by:
 1. posting on the school's website.
 2. sharing at the beginning of the year.
 3. revisiting literacy focus areas throughout the year.
- b. Communicate screening data results to families at the beginning, middle, and end of year, including support suggestions for how to help at home.
- c. Host sessions in Fall and Spring to highlight foundational skills needed for literacy success, why they are critical, and how to help at home.
- d. Report progress to families on all Tier 3 interventions at least quarterly.
- e. Invite parents of identified students to in-person sessions with literacy interventionists to receive overview of student data, foundational area of need, why it is important to reading success, and how to help at home with resources.
- f. Develop partnerships with community organizations to promote reading.

Pre-K is Sweet!

PK is learning all about families! We are exploring beyond our immediate families to include our extended families and our school family. We will even look at animal families and their habitats. Our journey will also have us learning about Community helpers and what role they play in our community family. In Math, we will begin subitizing and recognizing the number in a small set. We will create groups of five and rote count to ten.

Terrific Times in Kindergarten

Wow, our Mudbugs have been working so hard! We are learning letter sounds in English Language Arts and will start to put sounds together to read words. We're also learning about tricky words and how they don't always follow the rules. We are looking forward to learning more nursery rhymes and finding the rhyming words. In Math, we have learned all of our numbers from one to ten and are working on counting to find out how many. We hope you have a happy and safe Halloween with your families!

Fabulous 1st Graders

The month of September was filled with new learning for First Grade! In Math, we learned how to use the equal sign to make a true number sentence. This type of equation is used to show how two different expressions can equal the same total. In English Language Arts, we began learning about the different systems in our bodies; including the digestive system, circulatory, skeletal and muscular system, to name a few. Please ask your child to tell you about these systems and how they work in our bodies. Lastly, Also in English Language Arts, our learners have begun reading stories in their reader, Snap Shots. The students are reading about the main character, Beth, and her trip to the U.K. Some of the stories from the text will be sent home for you to read with your child at home.

Sensational 2nd Graders

Second grade Mudbugs have school days filled with engaging learning activities. They are enjoying reading about Mike and Bedtime tales in English Language Arts. In math, they are expanding their thinking on the base-ten place value system, representing counts first with bundles and sticks then with digits. Knowledge has taken students into the Early Asian Civilization.

Enrichment News

Hello Mudbug Families,

Music Class is back into full swing here at New Sarpy Elementary School! We've been learning about finding and keeping a steady beat to music in Kindergarten and Pre-K through playing games and singing songs like "Charlie Over the Ocean". In First Grade, we have already begun our preparations for our Holiday Concert at Merry Mingle with Muddy! As in previous years, our First Grade students will have the opportunity to perform at our school-wide holiday festival scheduled for Wednesday, December 6. I hope to see you all there! Second Grade has been hard at work learning the rudiments of music literacy. We finished our unit on rhythm, and we have just begun our unit on pitch. We aim to see our students one day become fully independent musicians, and that journey starts as a Mudbug!

That is all for now! As the year continues, we'll dive deeper into musical concepts, performing music, diverse musical cultures, and much more. Thank you all for your continued support in ensuring an excellent music education for your children!

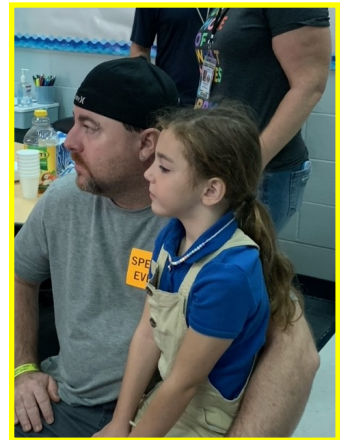
In harmony,

John M.C. Tolentino

General and Vocal Music Teacher

New Sarpy Elementary School

2nd Grade Morning with the Mudbugs



September Students of the Month



PK Students of the Month

Bennett Haynes, Bailey Blackwell,
Corbin Herbert



Kindergarten Students of the Month

Kinsley Byrd, Abby Haslauer, Jasmin
Lainez, Claire Nelson, Rhyann Daigs,
Corinne Mumbower



1st Grade Students of the Month

Rose Smira, Korie O' Sullivan, Ridge
Blackwell, Emily Landry, Landrie
Matherne, Elijah Maxwell, Tau'Riel Lee,
Emily Deaton



2nd Grade Students of the Month

Leo Huerta, Karlee Gonzales, KJ Graff,
Ava Perry, Trustin Davis

Library News!

Congratulations to the September Readers of the Month! Thank you for supporting your child's literacy in daily reading!! So many tickets were turned in at each grade level for our Reader of the Month program. Everyone's a winner if they are simply reading books!



Kindergarten:

Housewright: Blakely Cabal
Toussel: Paxton Hotard
Starlone: Cecilia Cruz
Ernst: Eleanor Frey
LaMartiniere: Darcy Peyton
Ledet: Bailegh Braud

1st Grade:

Thibodeaux: Matthew Hebert
Smith: Marisa Mehrstens
Grosz: Jessa Peltier
Knuppel: Julian Ybarra
Anderson: Ellis Bauer
Viverito: Levi Taylor
Mailhos: Maddox Dill

2nd Grade:

Cotton: Rosalinda Alvarado
Zablo: Stella Vial
Waguespack: Rylyn Bell
Montz: Charlotte Dominique
Volion: Julia Frey

In other news:

- Students will be getting tickets for October's Reader of the Month contest. Please keep reading and filling out tickets!!!
- Please help me to emphasize: *Check us out, we're good for you, but bring us back when we are due! (books:)*
- In an effort to include all stakeholders in our book selection process, I have included a Google form for parents to share book recommendations for our next library book order.
[Library Book Selection Google Form](#)





Counselor Corner News

We are marching forward to the 2nd Quarter!! I hope the year is off to a great start! During Classroom Guidance Lessons we've covered several topics such as bullying, being kind, the importance of listening skills, and most importantly how to be a good friend!

- Friendships are an important part of school! Here are some tips for making and keeping friends.
- Model good friendship skills for your child. Encourage friendliness, sharing and being a good listener. When they have trouble, help them problem solve and develop their own problem solving skills.
- Be empathetic. Help your child identify how people are feeling based on facial expressions or actions and encourage them to react appropriately.
- Set up opportunities for play in various situations – have play dates or participate in an activity they enjoy where peers will be involved (Girl Scouts, soccer, etc).
- Pay attention – When playing, does your child have any behaviors that could hinder friendships? Talk about them and discuss different ideas.

Visit the following links for more information:

- Education.com
- More4Kids.info
- Pediatrics.About.com
- ShyKids.com

Make sure to visit my webpage <https://www.stcharles.k12.la.us/Page/5536> for updated information also. I hope everyone has a great school year and I look forward to getting to know you and the students.



Nurse News

Sick Children...Send to School or Keep Home?

Go to school - If your child has any of the following symptoms, they should be okay to go to school:

- Vague complaints of aches, pains or fatigue
- Single episode of diarrhea or vomiting without any other symptoms
- Ear infection without fever- your child does not need to be excluded, but should seek medical treatment.

Please keep home if fever or pain is present.

Stay at home - If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep your child home:

- Sniffles, runny nose and/or a cough - unless has a diagnosis of asthma or seasonal allergies.
- Fever - temperature of 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Remember that a child must be fever free (without the use of fever-reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Eyes - with thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye. With pink eye you may see a white or yellow discharge, matted eyelids after sleep, eye pain and/or redness. Your child must receive 24 hours of antibiotics and/or doctor approval before returning to school.
- Sore Throat - with fever and/or swollen glands in the neck. Your child may return to school after 24 hours of antibiotic with strep throat.
- Vomiting - two (2) or more times within the past 24 hours.
- Diarrhea - three (3) or more watery stools in a 24-hour period, especially if the child acts or looks ill.
- Rash - with fever or itching. Heat rashes and allergic reactions are not contagious.
- Lice, Scabies - children may not return to school until they have been treated and are free of live (moving) lice. Child must be checked by School Nurse upon arrival back to school after being treated at home.

If your child shows any of the above symptoms at school, it will be necessary to pick him/her up from school.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions, concerns or discussions.

Your School Nurse, Jamie Byrd, RN, BSN Jbyrd1@stcharles.k12.la.us



FALL 2023 VACCINES

What are the options?

Who is eligible?

How well do they work?

When should I get it?

INFLUENZA



A shot that targets 4 strains of seasonal flu

6 months and older

Typically reduces the risk of going to the doctor by 40- 60%

October is ideal, as vaccine protection wanes over a season

COVID-19



Updated vaccine formula targeting XBB – an Omicron subvariant

Options: Moderna and Pfizer (mRNA) and Novavax (protein)

TBD. CDC will decide in mid-to-late September

Last year, the fall COVID-19 vaccine provided 40-60% additional effectiveness against severe disease

For protection against **severe disease**, get it anytime

Protection against **infection**: It's best to get it right before a wave, which can be challenging to time

RSV (OLDER ADULTS)



2 options: GSK and Pfizer. They are slightly different in design, but only at a microscopic level

60 years and older

82-86% efficacy against severe disease

Protection is durable. Get when it's available; no need to juggle timing

RSV (PREGNANCY)



Pfizer is actively seeking approval

Pregnant people (then protection will pass to baby for protection in first 6 months of life).

82% efficacy in preventing hospitalization in first 3 months of life. 69% efficacy after 6 months

It's not available yet but once approved, get at 24 to 36 weeks of pregnancy

RSV ANTIBODY



A new monoclonal antibody by AstraZeneca. This is not a vaccine (doesn't teach the body to make antibodies) but rather a proactive medication (provides antibodies).

All infants <8 months. High-risk infants 8-19 months

Reduces risk of hospitalization and healthcare visits by ~80%

Will be available soon.

Protection lasts 4-6 months

New Sarpy Elementary Family Center

Together We Can Make a Difference

Annie Francioni afrancioni@stcharles.k12.la.us

Phone: (985) 764-1275

Monday and Tuesday Hours: 8:30am – 3:00pm



During the school year, teachers will invite you to come to parent-teacher meetings (also called conferences). You can also ask for a conference any time.

Before the conference

Ask your child if there is anything that he wants you to talk about with his teacher.

- Tell your child that you and the teacher are meeting to help her.
- Make a list of topics that you want to talk about with the teacher.
- Prepare a list of questions such as:
 1. What are my child's strongest and weakest subjects?
 2. Does my child participate in class?
 3. Does my child seem happy at school?

During the conference

- Be on time (or early) for the meeting.
- End the meeting on time. Other parents will probably have a conference after yours.
- Relax and be yourself.
- Stay calm during the conference.
- Ask the most important questions first.
- Ask for explanations of anything you don't understand
- Ask your child's teacher for ways that you can help your child at home.

After the conference

- Talk about the conference with your child.
- Talk about the positive points, and be direct about problems.
- Tell your child about any plans you and the teacher created.
- Keep in touch with the teacher during the school year.

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Durante el año escolar los maestros le invitarán a participar en las reuniones de padres y maestros (también conocidas como conferencias).

Antes de la conferencia

- Pregúntele a su niño si hay algo sobre lo que él quisiera que usted le hable a su maestro.
- Haga una lista de los temas sobre los que desea hablar con el maestro.
- Prepare una lista de preguntas como las siguientes:
 1. ¿Cuáles son las materias en las que mi niño es más fuerte y más débil?
 2. ¿Participa mi niño en la clase?
 3. ¿Mi niño parece estar feliz en la escuela?

Durante la conferencia

- Llegue a tiempo (o temprano) a la reunión.
- Termine la reunión a tiempo. Otros padres probablemente tienen programada su conferencia después de la suya.
- Relájese y sea usted mismo.
- Mantenga la ecuanimidad durante la conferencia.
- Haga las preguntas más importantes primero.
- Pida que le expliquen lo que no entiende.
- Pídale al maestro que le indique cómo puede ayudar a su niño en casa.

Después de la conferencia

- Hable de la conferencia con su niño.
- Hable sobre los puntos positivos y sea directo acerca de los problemas.
- Comuníquese a su niño cualquiera de los planes que usted y el maestro hayan hecho.
- Manténgase en contacto con el maestro durante el año escolar.

1ST GRADE

Mornings with the Mudbugs

October 13, 2023

9:00-9:30 am

**ONE special guest (parent,
grandparent, aunt or uncle,
etc.) is invited to:**

- **Enjoy a breakfast treat
and juice**
- **Learn with us in
morning meeting**

Wristbands and state issued IDs are required for entry.

Wristbands will be sent home prior to the event.

October

2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Volunteer Day 9:30-11:30	3	4	5 	6 PK Field Trip to LPAC	7
8	9	10 End of Quarter 1	11 	12	13 Early Dismissal 12:45 PM Morning with the Mudbugs 1st Grade Team Spirit or Fall Shirt Day	14
National School Lunch Week						
15	16 Fall Break No School 	17 Fall Break No School 	18 	19	20 Team Spirit or Fall Shirt Day	21
National Bus Safety						
22	23 Report Cards go home	24	25	26 Parent Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal 12:45 PM	27 Parent Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal 12:45 PM Team Spirit or Fall Shirt Day	28
Red Ribbon						
29	30	31 	On Fridays: Students can wear Fall colors or Halloween shirts the entire month of October if they choose. ••NO COSTUMES ALLOWED••			