



NEW SARPY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January 2024 Issue 4

Mudbug Monthly

Dear Mudbug Families,

Welcome to 2024! This is such an exciting time of year, a time to reflect on the first half of the school year and revisit why we do what we do. This is embodied in NSE's mission.

The mission of New Sarpy Elementary School is to ensure high levels of learning for every student.

It is also a time to look forward to where we are headed. Our NSE vision helps us to remain focused and driven.

At New Sarpy Elementary, every student is supported and challenged as they learn the social and academic skills necessary for a productive and fulfilling life. In this nurturing, safe, and motivating environment, students are inspired to challenge themselves to become future ready citizens in an evolving world. All stakeholders influence students to respect and care for all members of the community and promote and encourage independent, life-long learners.

We are energized and excited about returning to our business of teaching and learning in 2024! Thank you for all that you do to support our school's mission and help us live out our vision. After all, it is our partnership in education that benefits each and every Mudbug.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Matherne



Pre-K is so Sweet

Our theme this month is “Creative Me.” We will be learning about construction, construction vehicles, engineers, and architects. In literacy, we are learning beginning sounds of words and the different types of punctuation marks. In Math, we will study polygons, quadrilaterals, and parallel lines. We want to wish all of our Mudbug families a Happy New Year!

Terrific Times in Kindergarten

Thank you for your help with December’s holiday celebrations and happy New Year from our K team! We came back from the Christmas break and hit the ground running! We have been comparing numbers in math and will start using number bonds soon. In ELA, we started a unit on plants and will learn about what they need in order to grow and survive. We’ve added some more letter sounds to our wall and a few more tricky words. Our Kindergarteners also started blending four and five sound words. Soon, we will get our own readers in class and be able to read independently and with partners. We are ready to start the 3rd quarter strong!

Fabulous 1st Graders

Happy New Year to our First Grade families! We hope the year 2024 is prosperous and productive for you and your loved ones. As we reflect on the first half of our 2023-2024 school year, many adjustments were made to best support our students’ academic goals. As a result, our little learners are receiving the intentional instruction they need in order to be successful First Grade students, and to prepare them for the rest of their learning years in school and in life. In Math, our students focused on two essential learning standards, including word problems and addition and subtraction of numbers up to 20. As a grade-level, we saw many of our students show progress with these skills, and they will continue to receive support, as needed. In English Language Arts, we are continuing to focus on supporting our students with becoming accurate and fluent readers of First Grade text. Some ways you can continue to support your child at home with these goals is to continue to reread familiar text at home. Stories are sent home weekly from the English Language Arts reader, and are a good resource of familiar text to reread with your child nightly. To continue supporting your child with the Math skills taught in First Grade, the Eureka Math Homework book is a good resource for daily practice of the Math skills taught at school.

Sensational 2nd Graders

Second Grade Mudbugs are continuing to work on reading foundational skills, grammar, and writing a persuasive letter. In their decodable reader, “The Job Hunt” students have read about Brooklyn, Drummer’s Grove, a corner market, a diner, and the subway. In English Language Arts, students are learning about the Cycles in Nature such as the Cycle of Daytime and Nighttime, the reasons for seasons, and four seasons in one year. Mudbugs are continuing to add on to their knowledge by using mental place value strategies, and strategies for composing tens and hundreds within 1,000. Keep up the great work Mudbugs.





THE COUNSELOR CORNER NEWS

Hot Topic: Teaching Kids to Spread Kindness

“Don’t let what you can’t do stop you from doing what you can.”
-John Wooden

Often kindness is overlooked in our busy, hectic world. But just one small act of kindness can make a HUGE impact. It’s important that kids learn that kindness is something to take very seriously. Here are a few tips to help your child learn that kindness is always cool!

- Model kindness! It doesn’t have to be big acts of charity, just make sure that the helpful things you do are genuine. It can be anything from getting a neighbor’s mail to putting a note in your child’s backpack. Any moment can be a teachable one!
- Watch your words. This one goes back to the first tip...but if your words aren’t kind, your kids will notice. If you hear inappropriate words coming from them (curse words, stupid, dumb, ugly, fat, etc.) make sure to explain that these types of words hurt others.
- Read about it. Kids love listening to stories and are often able to relate to the characters. Read books that focus on positive traits and kind-ness. For a place to start, check out <http://www.librarything.com/tag/kindness> for over a hundred ideas. Ask your child to look for the moments of kindness.

As always, feel free to contact me for more if you have any questions or concerns!

Your Counselor,

Ms. J

Email: Sjohnson@stcharles.k12.la.us



Library News

Reader of the Month (November/December)



1st Grade:

Anderson: Emily Landry
Grosz: Brooklyn Gonzalez
Knuppel: Emmett Pitre
Mailhos: Olivia Stewart
Smith: Caroline Bruno
Thibodeaux: Hattie Gauthreaux

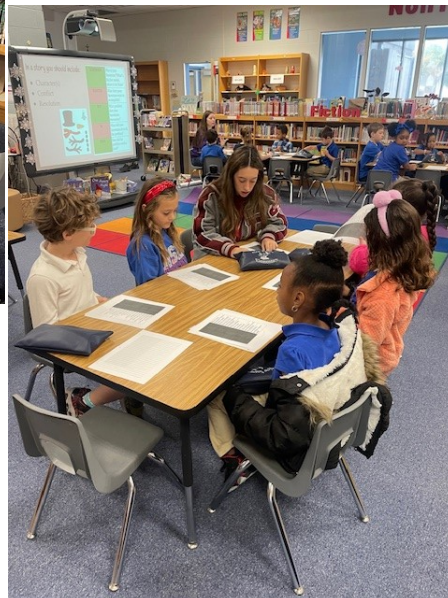
Kindergarten:

Ernst: Benjamin Signorelli
Housewright: Liam Kieferle
Lamartiniere: Rhyen Daigs
Ledet: Mia Lopez
Starlone: Cecelia Cruz
Toussel: Henry Ebeling

2nd Grade:

Cotton: Quinn Henry (not pictured)
Montz Elijah Heningburg
Volion: Logan Hughes
Waguespack: Carson Gomez
Zablo: Gracelynn Faust

Student's enrolled in Educator's Rising class at the Satellite Center visited NSE 2nd graders to teach a writing lesson and decorate snowmen for a class book.



Our December Students of the Month are so SWEET!

We hosted our December Students of the Month recognition. This award honors students who demonstrate the qualities of C.A.R.E.S. (Cooperation, Assertiveness, Responsibility, Empathy, and Self Control). One student from each homeroom is selected monthly. They also had a surprise visit from a family member. Student of the Month recipients receive a special T-shirt they can wear any school day and a special treat. Congratulations to all of our outstanding students!



Merry Mingle with Muddy



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM FLU THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



#FIGHT FLU





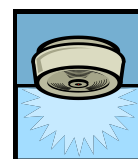
Indoor Safety

During the winter months, the days are shorter and children tend to spend more time inside. As a parent, you can prevent injuries by making your home a safe place for your children. Here are some tips for keeping your children safe indoors.



- Check under the sink, in closets and in the garage for poisonous substances. Use child proof locks or place safely out of reach. Keep all medications safely secured. The poison control center is 1-800-222-1222.

- Keep pots and pans on back burners and turn the handles in toward the stove.
- Have at least one working smoke detector on every level and in all sleeping areas of your home (don't forget to change the batteries at least once a year and test it monthly).



- Keep sharp objects (knives, scissors or razors) and fire (candles, matches, lighters or cigarettes) stored out of reach.
- Cover unused electrical outlets with safety caps. Don't place heaters near play and sleeping areas.



- Be sure toys and art materials are recommended for their age and are labeled non-toxic. Watch for small objects that can cause choking (coins, buttons, ink pen caps, etc).
- Never leave a child alone near or in water. Children can drown in just a few inches of water.
- Never leave a baby or small child alone on any high place (bed or changing table). Take the child with you if the phone rings.

Have fun with your child and stay safe this winter!

Your School Nurse,

Jamie Byrd, RN, BSN

jbyrd1@stcharles.k12.la.us

If Your Child Is Sick

What can I do if my child gets sick?

Talk to your doctor early if you are worried about your child's illness.

Make sure your child gets plenty of rest and drinks enough fluids.

If your child is 5 years or older and does not have long-term health problems and gets flu symptoms, including a fever and/or cough, consult your doctor as needed.

Children younger than 5 years – especially those younger than 2 years – and children with certain chronic health conditions (including asthma, diabetes and disorders of the brain or nervous system), are at higher risk of serious flu complications. Call your doctor or take your child to the doctor right away if they develop flu symptoms.

What if my child seems *very* sick?

Even healthy children can get very sick from flu. If your child is experiencing the following emergency warning signs, you should go to the emergency room:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish lips or face
- Ribs pulling in with each breath
- Chest pain
- Severe muscle pain (child refuses to walk)
- Dehydration (no urine for 8 hours, dry mouth, no tears when crying)
- Not alert or interacting when awake
- Seizures
- Fever above 104°F that is not controlled by fever-reducing medicine
- In children less than 12 weeks, any fever
- Fever or cough that improve but then return or worsen
- Worsening of chronic medical conditions

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptom that is severe or concerning.

How long can a sick person spread flu to others?

People with flu may be able to infect others from one day before getting sick to up to five to seven days after. Severely ill people or infants may be able to spread flu longer, especially if they still have symptoms.

Can my child go to school, day care, or camp if he or she is sick?

No. Your child should stay home to rest until their symptoms have improved to avoid spreading flu to other children or caregivers.

When can my child go back to school, daycare, or camp after having flu?

Keep your child home from school, day care, or camp for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone and their symptoms have improved or resolved. (The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) A fever is defined as 100°F (37.8°C)* or higher.

*Many authorities use either 100 (37.8 degrees Celsius) or 100.4 F (38.0 degrees Celsius) as a cut-off for fever, but this number can vary depending on factors such as the method of measurement and the age of the person.

**For more information, visit
www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/children.htm
or call 800-CDC-INFO**



Flu Information



Flu:

A Guide for Parents

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. Flu is different from a cold, and usually comes on suddenly. Each year flu viruses cause millions of illnesses, hundreds of thousands of hospital stays and thousands or tens of thousands of deaths in the United States.

Flu can be very dangerous for children. CDC estimates that from the 2010-2011 season to the 2019-2020 season, flu-related hospitalizations among children younger than 5 years old have ranged from 6,000 to 27,000 annually in the United States. The flu vaccine is safe and helps protect children from flu.



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

How serious is flu?

While flu illness can vary from mild to severe, children often need medical care because of flu. Children younger than 5 years and children of any age with certain long-term health problems are at higher risk of flu complications like pneumonia, and sinus and ear infections. Some health problems that are known to make children more vulnerable to flu include asthma, diabetes and disorders of the brain or nervous system.

How does flu spread?

Flu viruses are thought to spread mainly by droplets made when someone with flu coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. A person also can get flu by touching something that has flu virus on it and then touching their mouth, eyes, or nose.

What are flu signs and symptoms?

Flu symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, feeling tired and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children than adults). Not everyone with the flu will have a fever.

Protect your child

How can I protect my child from flu?

The first and best way to protect against flu is to get a yearly flu vaccine for yourself and your child.

- Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months and older every year. Flu shots and nasal spray flu vaccines are both options for vaccination.
- It's especially important that young children and children with certain chronic health problems get vaccinated.
- Caregivers of children at higher risk of flu complications should get a flu vaccine. (Babies younger than 6 months are at higher risk for serious flu complications, but too young to get a flu vaccine.)

- Pregnant people should get a flu vaccine to protect themselves and their baby from flu. Flu vaccination during pregnancy protects babies from flu for several months after birth.

Flu viruses are constantly changing and so flu vaccines are updated often to protect against the flu viruses that research indicates are most likely to cause illness during the upcoming flu season.

Are flu vaccines safe?

Flu vaccines have an excellent safety record. Millions of people have safely received flu vaccines for decades. Flu shots and nasal spray flu vaccines are both options for vaccination. Different types of flu vaccines are licensed for different ages. Each person should get one that is appropriate for their age. CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend an annual flu vaccine for all children 6 months and older.

What are the benefits of getting a flu vaccine?

- **A flu vaccine can keep you and your child from getting sick.** When vaccine viruses and circulating viruses are matched, flu vaccination has been shown to reduce the risk of getting sick with flu by about 40 to 60 percent.
- **Flu vaccines can keep your child from being hospitalized from flu.** A recent study showed that flu vaccine reduced children's risk of severe life-threatening influenza as much as 75%.
- **Flu vaccine can be life saving in children.** A study using data from multiple flu seasons found that flu vaccine reduced the risk of flu-associated death by half among children with higher risk medical conditions and by nearly two-thirds among healthy children.
- **Flu vaccination also may make your illness milder if you do get sick.**



- **Getting yourself and your child vaccinated also can protect others** who may be more vulnerable to serious flu illness, like babies and young children, older people, and people with certain chronic health problems.

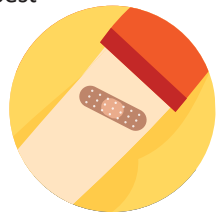
Is there a medicine to treat flu?

Yes. Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines that can be used to treat flu illness. They can shorten your illness and make it milder, and they can prevent serious complications that could result in a hospital stay. Antivirals work best when started during the first two days of illness. Antiviral drugs are recommended to treat flu in people who are very sick (for example, people who are in the hospital) or people who are at increased risk of serious flu complications. Antivirals can be given to children and pregnant people.

What are some other ways I can protect my child against flu?

- In addition to getting a flu vaccine, you and your child should take everyday actions to help prevent the spread of germs.
- Stay away from people who are sick; cover your cough and sneezes; wash your hands often with soap and water; do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth; and clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with flu viruses.

These everyday actions are a good way to reduce your chances of getting sick and prevent the spread of germs to others if you do get sick. However, a yearly flu vaccine is the best protection against flu illness.



New Sarpy Elementary Family Center: Together We Can Make a Difference

afrancioni@stcharles.k12.la.us

Monday & Tuesday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Annie Francioni 985-764-1275



How Can Get Involved With Your Child's School:

- **Learn what the school offers.**

Read the information the school sends home, and ask to receive information in your native language if necessary. Talk to other parents to find out what programs the school offers. Maybe there's a music program, after-school activity, sports team, or tutoring program your child would enjoy. Remember to keep track of events throughout the school year.

- **Volunteer at your child's school and/or join your school's parent-teacher group.** Teachers appreciate it when parents help out at the school! There are many ways you can contribute. You can volunteer in your child's class or in the school library. You can make food for a school event. If you work during the day, you can attend "parents' night" activities or your child's performances. At most schools, a group of parents meets regularly to talk about the school. This group is usually called the PTA or PTO. The meetings give you a good chance to talk with other parents and to work together to improve the school.

Participe en las actividades escolares de su hijo

- **Infórmese sobre lo que ofrece la escuela** Lea la información que la escuela envía a los hogares (solicite que le envíen versiones en español) y hable con otros padres de familia para saber qué programas ofrece la escuela. Es posible que haya un programa de música, actividades después de la escuela, equipos de deportes o programas de tutoría que podrían beneficiar a su hijo. Manténgase informado durante el año escolar.
- **Colabore con la escuela de su hijo y/o participe en un grupo de padres y maestros de la escuela.** Los maestros realmente aprecian que los padres ayuden en la escuela. Usted puede contribuir de muchas maneras. Por ejemplo, ofreciendo su colaboración como voluntario en la clase de su hijo o en la biblioteca o con comida para algún evento escolar. Si usted trabaja durante el día, asista a las actividades conocidas como "Noches para los padres" o a las presentaciones de su hijo. En la mayoría de las escuelas se reúne con regularidad un grupo de padres para hablar de la escuela. Este grupo se conoce como PTA o PTO. Estas reuniones le brindarán una buena oportunidad de hablar con otros padres y de trabajar juntos para mejorar la escuela

January

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
						
7	8  Playgroup 10:00-11:00 Begin 3rd Quarter	9	10	11	12 Spirit Shirt Day Report Cards go home	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Holiday No 	16 	17	18	19 Spirit Shirt Day Early Dismissal 12:45 Morning with the Mudbugs 2nd Grade	20
21	22 Playgroup 10:00-11:00	23	24	25	26 Spirit Shirt Day	27
28	29 Playgroup 10:00-11:00	30	31			