



**NEW SARPY**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2024 Issue 5

# Mudbug Monthly

Dear NSE Families,

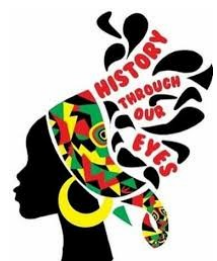
Welcome to February! There is so much to celebrate this month. We will start off the month honoring our counselor, Ms. Johnson, during National School Counseling Week. We honor her for the tremendous impact she has in helping our students succeed in school and life. We will also kick off Black History Month by focusing our attention on the “why” behind this month and the contributions of African Americans to the United States. We have a variety of activities planned such as faculty and staff created videos, morning announcement learning opportunities, school-wide decorations, and enrichment class activities with a Black History Month theme. In addition, we will have a school-wide Black History Program featuring musical performances, student performances, and a step show from the HHS Step Team. We will also celebrate Mardi Gras this month with a parade. This fun event allows all of us to embrace this part of Louisiana’s culture and tradition. In addition, we will have the annual NSE Shoebox Parade as an optional opportunity for families. We hope your family will join us in creating shoe box floats that we can “parade” past and admire! Look for more information about these events on the information sent home.

Here’s to another great month of the 2023-2024 school year where we always:

Work hard. Stay kind. Repeat.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Matherne



## **Terrific Times in Kindergarten**

Hello fabulous families! Our Kindergarteners had a blast celebrating the 101st Day of School! Everyone looked so cute dressed as dalmatians. Our math activities that day included some puppy chow, stacking 101 cups, dotting a dalmatian 101 times, and so many more things. We have been enjoying reading from our Kit readers in English Language Arts. We are going to start a new unit soon and will be learning about consonant clusters that work together to make one sound. In Math, we will continue to work on decomposing and composing numbers and will start to get into the numbers nine and ten. We have been working very hard on the K hall!

## **Fabulous 1st Graders**

Our First Graders are enjoying our new reader, Green Fern Zoo, in English Language Arts. While learning interesting facts about zoo animals, they are also learning the new sounds, r-controlled vowels. The sounds /er/, /ar/ and /or/ are written and read throughout our new Unit 4 reader and workbook. Stories from the reader will be coming home every week for continuous reading at home. Remember, rereading familiar text is one way to help your child become a more accurate and fluent reader. The stories in our readers become more complex as we progress through the school year and English Language Arts units. Reading the stories nightly and completing the Take Home activities from the workbook will help your child to master the skills needed to be a successful life-long reader. Finally, please continue to take advantage of the blending packets that were sent home during the Christmas break. They are a great resource to help your child read with automaticity, or to progress from decoding unknown words in a text and/or in isolation, to applying the sounds learned to read a whole word, without decoding.

## **Sensational 2nd Graders**

Love of learning is in the air for Second grade Mudbugs! Mudbugs are enjoying their new reader Sir Gus, and applying their reading foundational skills. In math, students are applying strategies for composing tens and hundreds within 1,000, simplifying strategies for subtracting within 1,000, and strategies for decomposing tens and hundreds within 1,000. Mudbugs have headed West in English Language Arts learning about Westward Expansion. Second graders are working hard to master Essential Learning Standards. Continue to utilize suggested homework to reinforce skills students are working on.

## **Pre-K News**



In February, PK will begin Theme 6, "On the Move." We will learn about how our bodies move, transportation, and traveling! In Literacy, we will focus on onset and rime, blending sounds, and action words (verbs). In Math, we will continue counting, sequence numbers, and different ways we can represent patterns.

# The Counselor Corner News

## Reducing Stress

Can you believe we are in our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of school?! The time is surely flying! Although this time of year can be filled with many fun events, it can also be stressful and it's even more important to practice good self-care. The following ten tips may help you and your child manage your stress during this busy season:

1. Exercise everyday
2. Get enough sleep
3. Eat healthy foods
4. Talk about your problems
5. Keep a journal
6. Break large tasks into small steps
7. Practice taking slow, deep breaths
8. Avoid negative people
9. Don't over commit
10. Think happy thoughts

As always, feel free to contact me for more if you have any questions or concerns. I am here to support our students and our parents.

Your School Counselor,

Mrs. Johnson

[sjohnson@stcharles.k12.la.us](mailto:sjohnson@stcharles.k12.la.us)



# Library News



## In other news...

- Winners of the January Reading Program are as follows:

### 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

**Cotton:** Kendall Lambert

**Zablo:** Hammer Fuentes

**Waguespack:** Karlee Gonzales

**Montz:** Jax Grayson

**Volion:** Ariell Williams

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

**Thibodeaux:** Rose Smira

**Smith:** Ridge Blackwell

**Grosz:** Angie Perez-Paulino

**Knuppel:** Margaret Deis

**Anderson:** Piper Haynes

**Viverito:** Brody Lorio

**Mailhos:** Jayla Slaughter

### Kindergarten

**Housewright:** Ayv Fairley

**Toussel:** Aaron Davis

**Starlone:** Ava Engler

**Ernst:** Eleanor Frey

**LaMartiniere:** Reese Rome

**Ledet:** Heaven Duran

- Save the date...our Spring book fair is scheduled for **March 4-12**. More information regarding book fair class schedule and volunteer sign up will be sent home after Mardi Gras break.
- Please remember to encourage your students to read their library books and fill out reading tickets so that they may have a chance to be NSE Library's Reader of the Month for February! Tickets are available in the library or on the school's website.
- Thanks for helping your students to remember to turn in their library books on time. I appreciate your support and have noticed a decrease in overdue notices! I have rewarded 2 classes this month with special treats for 100% book returns.



# ReAD



# Mardi Gras Safety



We wish you and your family a fun and safe Mardi Gras. Here are some tips and reminders to help you enjoy the parades!

## Do:

- ❖ Always keep track of your children! Know where they are and what they are doing at all times. Decide on a meeting place before the parade in case you become separated. Tell children to ask a uniformed police officer for help, NOT a stranger!
- ❖ Be mindful of choking or suffocation hazards with beads, small throws and plastic bags.
- ❖ Be extra careful while walking near parades or traffic. Hold your child's hand! Always cross at a corner and watch for cars or other vehicles at all times.
- ❖ Clear the path for bands and other marching groups as they go by.
- ❖ Be careful of beads being thrown from the floats in the parade. During the day, sunglasses can protect your eyes from the sun as well as the throws.
- ❖ Dress appropriately for the weather and use sunscreen! Small children may become ill due to the weather.
- ❖ Keep your pets at home where they are safe!

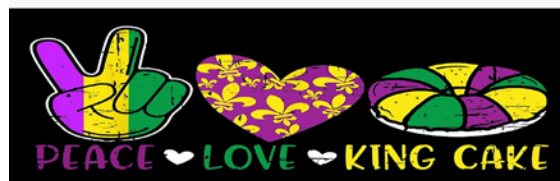


## Don't:

- ❖ Don't run in between or chase floats or cars for beads or throws.
- ❖ Never reach under a float to grab a bead or doubloon. No trinket is worth a life!
- ❖ Never grab onto a float. The crowd may push you into or under the float!
- ❖ Don't climb on or over barricades; they're there to protect you.
- ❖ Don't assume that the traffic will stop for you -- be careful and aware! Remember that children should always be secured in an appropriate car or booster seat while riding in a car.

Your School Nurse,  
Jamie Byrd, RN, BSN

[jbyrd1@stcharles.k12.la.us](mailto:jbyrd1@stcharles.k12.la.us)



## **Important Reminder:**

**Make sure your child stays up to date on  
all state-mandated immunizations.**

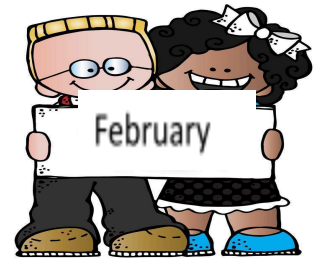


# New Sarpy Elementary Family Center

## Together We Can Make a Difference

Annie Francioni: afrancioni@stcharles.k12.la.us  
Monday and Tuesday

Phone: 985-764-1275  
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.



### How Can You Get Involved and Be An Advocate For Your Child:

- **Ask questions.**

If something concerns you about your child's learning or behavior, ask the teacher or principal about it and seek their advice. Your questions may be like these — What specific problem is my child having with reading? What can I do to help my child with this problem? How can I stop that bully from picking on my son? How can I get my child to do homework? Which reading group is my child in?

- **Learn about your rights.**

It's important to know what your rights are as the parent regarding special services, English instruction, immigration status, and more.

- **Let the school know your concerns.**

Is your child doing well in school? Is he or she having trouble learning, behaving, or studying? Is there a problem with another student, teacher, or administrator?

### Manténgase informado y apoye a su hijo

- **Haga preguntas.** Si algo le preocupa acerca del aprendizaje o comportamiento de su hijo, pregúntele a la maestra o al director sobre dicho comportamiento y busque asesoría. Sus preguntas pueden ser como las siguientes: ¿Qué problemas específicos tiene mi hijo con la lectura? ¿Qué puedo hacer para ayudar a mi hijo con este problema? ¿Cómo puedo evitar que otros niños intimiden a mi hijo? ¿Cómo le puedo ayudar a mi hijo a hacer las tareas? y ¿A qué grupo de lectura pertenece mi hijo?
- **Aprende sobre sus derechos como.** Es importante saber que sus derechos como padre son con respeto a la inmigración, servicios especiales, la instrucción de inglés, y más.
- **Informarle a la escuela lo que le preocupa.** Si su hijo tiene un problema con los estudios, el comportamiento, o con otro estudiante, maestro o administrador.

## January Students of the Month

We hosted our January 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!



2nd Grade



1st Grade



Kindergarten



Pre-Kindergarten

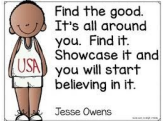






## Kindergarten is 101 Days Smarter





# February 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Parent/ Teacher Conferences	2 Parent/ Teacher Conferences 1st Grade Morning with the Mudbugs  Wear your Mardi Gras shirt or colors	3
4  <b>National School Counsel- ing Week</b>	5	6	7	8	9  Mardi Gras Parade  Wear a theme shirt or Mardi Gras colors	10  
11  	12  <b>Mardi Gras Holiday February 12-16 School Closed</b>	13	14	15	16	17
18	19   10:00 AM	20	21	22	23	24
25	26   10:00 AM	27  Spring Picture Day  Pre-paid only	28	29		