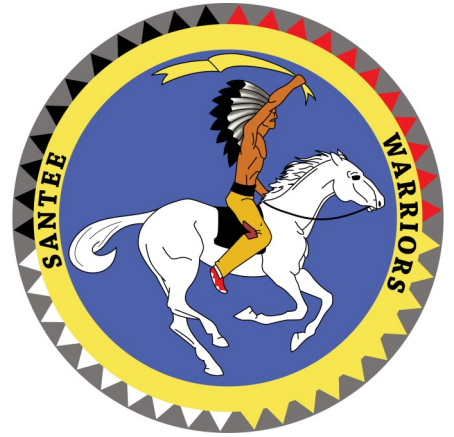


Santee Community School

Newsletter

March 2018



March Dates To Remember

2nd - No School

9th - No School

14th - NO SCHOOL

20th - NVC Band plays in Verdigre @ 7 pm

23rd - Kindergarten Round Up 8 am to 12 pm - 4 year olds attending SCS will attend round up. 3 year olds will NOT have school this day.

27th - Golf Niobrara/Verdigre Clearwater-Orchard @ Niobrara 4pm

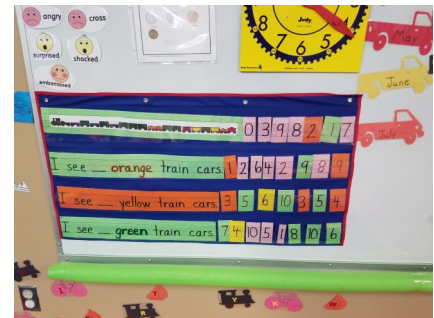
29th - Track @ Plainview 9:30 am

30th - No School - GOOD FRIDAY

Little Warriors Preschool staff would like to say thank you to all the parents that brought in items for the DPI fund raiser and helped serve the meal. We did well raising money. The money will be used for graduation. No more fundraising will be need at this time. Thanks everyone. We have finished the Roads Study. During the Road study, we made boats, edible trains,cars,and practiced counting and recognizing numbers with train cars. We had a car wash in the classroom which the student loved to play with. Now we will be starting the Pet study. We should have fun in the weeks to come.

Some dates to remembers

- March 2nd we will be having school.
- March 9th- No School
- March 23- Kindergarten round-up. 4 year olds that will be attending SCS will come to school that day from 8-12. 3 year olds will have the day off. Thanks.
- March 29- We will be having school.
- March 30-No school. Good Friday.



Fabulous First Grade!

The month of February was short but full of fun and learning! Thank you to all the parents that came to the school for conferences! It was a pleasure to get to sit down with you and visit about all the success your child is having in first grade! The first graders were introduced to an application called Raz-Kids. This application allows the students to choose books according to their individual reading level. The students can read at their own pace and take a variety of comprehension assessments. This helps the students use different reading strategies to decode words, build fluency, and enhance comprehension skills. The first graders are becoming such excellent readers!

In math, we are finishing up our unit on adding and subtracting 3 numbers. The month of March will be filled with number bonds, word problems, and continuing to add and subtract numbers 10-50.

We took some time this month to celebrate the start of the Winter Olympics! The students learned about the history of the Olympic Games and the different Olympic Events. The first graders competed in the First Grade Winter Olympics. Students learned how to work in teams, how to critically think, and what it means to have good sportsmanship!

Any questions or concerns feel free to email me or call the school!

Mrs. Crossman



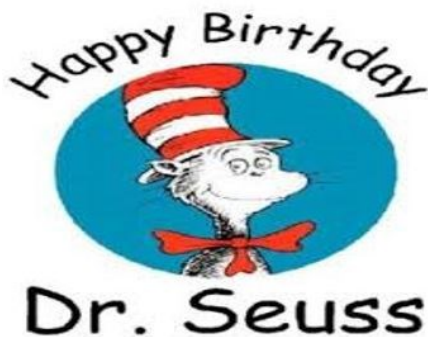
Mrs. LaPlante's 4th Grade Class

6th grade: The 6th graders have been studying Intro. to plants and will be growing their own plants next week. It's been interesting learning which plants are vascular and nonvascular.

4th Grade: The 4th graders are finishing up their Science unit on "Properties of Matter." We did some fun activities on their senses then moved onto the states of matter. They had a lot of fun mixing solutions with different densities and watching them layer.



5th grade: The 5th graders have been in the Rock Cycle unit in Science. We took a couple days to make some Rocks & Minerals lap books which turned out awesome! Next week they will be doing volcano presentations after they have their volcanoes constructed. They're really enjoying this unit and can't wait to top it off by making rock crystal candy



The 4th-6th grade students attended The Lightning Thief play in Norfolk, NE on February 22nd. It was a great experience for the students and a well deserved trip for them working hard in school.



Do you ever listen to a song and remember exactly what life was like when you first heard it?



Music Notes: Upcoming Performances

Anpetu waste, friends! Our student musicians are working hard on various repertoire to prepare for our Spring Concert and other upcoming performances. K-1 has been incorporating our knowledge of soft and loud dynamics and high and low voices to sing various songs, and we are now beginning a long, gentle piece called "Rabbit Footprints." Some students say it is relaxing, others find it sad, and still others think it's creepy! You'll have to find out at the concert. Meanwhile, 2-4 have been singing old American folk songs and learning some dances to go with them. 5-6 continue to do good work on their instruments, and are preparing a melancholy folk song – I hope some students decide to try out for solos!

At the end of third quarter, 7th and 8th grade will switch – I will get 8th grade back after a long hiatus, and 7th grade will head to the collaborative middle school PE environment for the final quarter. We are also singing and playing instruments in middle school. The 7th grade women are preparing multiple songs by Native American artists. I can't wait for you to hear their excellent practice in April!

Upcoming Performance: NVC Band plays in Verdigre on Tuesday, March 20.

High school band students are practicing three complex songs to be performed with the entire east NVC conference on March 20th at 7pm. This is our students' chance to play with a large band comprised of players from Verdigre, Niobrara, Santee, and several other schools in the area. The show is free and will be a great time; please come and hear our kids play if you can!

Spring Concert: April 23rd, at 6:00 PM.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming PreK-12th grade concert in the SCS multipurpose room on Monday, April 23rd. This is the culmination of our spring musical learning, and we look forward to seeing you all there. We will have an optional meal at 5 PM and the concert will begin promptly at 6.

Battle of the Bands Concert Attendants

Below is a picture of everyone who traveled to Crofton for the annual Battle of the Bands in January. We had an awesome time as always, and are excited for next year!



Stand Up to Bullying in Five Simple Steps



Bullying happens more often than parents, or school principals, would like to admit. If your child is being bullied at school, don't ignore it. Let your school administrator or child's teacher know what's going on and then teach your child how to respond in a healthy, responsible way with these five tips.

Don't be a Loner. Bullies often pick on children who don't have friends to protect them at school. Friends give children physical and emotional support. Help your child make friends by exposing him to activities where he can find other kids that share his interests. Identify and correct bad habits he might be displaying that alienate him from others.

Avoid the Instigator. Tell your child to avoid the bully whenever possible. If he doesn't physically encounter the bully, the bully can't physically hurt him.

Find an Ally. Instruct your child to find a teacher or an older, influential or popular classmate if the bully becomes aggressive.

Be Strong. Crying excessively or playing up the victim role only attracts more attention from bullies. Teach your child to be confident and firm with a bully. By learning how to stand his ground, your child can discourage a bully from targeting him.

Seek Help. If your child is bullied frequently or excessively, or if he becomes severely anxious or depressed, seek professional help and continue to report the violent behavior to school officials.

Schools are supposed to have zero tolerance policies in place to deal with reports of bullying. If you don't see a change after alerting school administrators, you can contact your local school district office or school board. If you would like more help addressing your specific situation, trained counselors are available at the Boys Town National Hotline[®]. Call 1-800-448-3000

2ND GRADE NEWS

MARCH 2018

TEACHER'S CORNER

Hello! The second graders have been working very hard as they began a recycling project. They have been collecting paper, plastics, and aluminum cans from their homes and other classrooms. If you have any of these materials feel free to send them with your child! We hope you are enjoying this warm week of beautiful weather!

Mrs. Steffen

BIRTHDAYS

March 2 - Dasan
March 20 - J.J.

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

- Reading - comprehension strategies
- Grammar - contractions
- Writing - writing a friendly letter
- Math - collecting data & graphing
- Science - Solar System
- Social Studies - citizenship

Elementary Principal Corner



As we march into the last few months of school, I want to say “thank you” and “keep it up” to our parents and guardians for getting our students to school. Our attendance has been super with many grades having perfect attendance throughout the week. I want to thank all of our parents and guardians that attended P/T conferences. We had a great turnout. It is so great to see our communication growing in supporting the growth of our children.

Our last newsletter was based on the importance of career education; this newsletter is based on the importance of character education for student success. As a school and community we need to build an environment in which students feel and know they are valued at heart by their classmates, educators, and community. Students of all ages need to feel they are cared for and understood— these are absolute ingredients for wholesome development.

When students understand they are valued, respected, and appreciated for who they are, their levels of motivation and achievement grow, as do their abilities to have positive relationships and show respect, kindness and appreciation to one another. The Santee Community School has set character development as part of our vision statement so we never lose sight of how important this is.

To enhance building character one of our learning practices focus on a **Social Skill of the Week**. Mr. Oswald takes the lead on this program giving staff a social skill a week to introduce and practice during the day for a period of days.

Please take time to read the newsletter to see how Character Education fits in with our school academics and how important it is.

Kindergarten Roundup will take place on March 23rd. We will be doing kindergarten activities and screenings, touring the school, and meeting our staff. It will be a very fun and productive day. We can't wait to have them with us next year. That will be a very busy day for staff – there will be **NO REGULAR KINDERGARTEN** that day. This is always a great day to welcome new students.



Please make sure if you have any questions about your student's learning to contact the classroom teacher. We love to tell our story of the great things we are doing here at the Santee Community School.

Upcoming Dates



March 2– No School

March 9 – No School

March 23 - Kindergarten Round Up



Latessa D. - 03/02

Dasan G. - 03/02

Jose B. - 03/05

Imani S. 03/06

Davonte D. - 03/14

Justin B. - 03/20

Jose R.V - 03/19

Legacy W. 03/19

Brandon G. - 03/20

Tate W. - 03/22

Chandler T. 03/21

Happy Birthday

To You

From

Santee

Community

School

Purpose and Direction



Character

*"To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."
--Theodore Roosevelt, American adventurer and president*

Check out how SCS is promoting character



- *High School Bullying presentation
- *Second Steps with Kelsey Hart
- *Student Mentoring Program
- *Student Councils' Teacher interview
- *SCS Social Skill of the week
- ***In our classrooms**

The Importance of Teaching Social Skills

People with strong social interaction skills typically experience ...

- More meaningful relationships
- Greater happiness and self-esteem
- Greater social acceptance
- Greater desire to participate in social situations
- Less anxiety, stress, depression

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Read all about it





Character



High School students from Ms. Jurries' class giving presentations on bullying to Elementary students. Presentations were well received and



Second Step Curriculum

With Kelsay Hart, youth counselor, from H.E.A.R.T

Kelsey has been visiting with 2nd Grade for three years using discussions, questions, modeling, role-playing, and activities with the focus on:

- *Empathy Training
- *Impulse Control
- *Problem Solving
- *Anger Management

Started in the 1st Grade classroom this semester!



Student Mentoring Program

Mr. Folkers was given the task of implementing a Student Mentoring Program.

We currently have 27 High School Students mentoring 28 Elementary Students. Students meet for one period a week doing activities such as: reading books, playing games, going to the gym, or simply just spending time with them.

Here's what a few staff members had to say.

"I hear the younger students saying they love the program. They look forward to the time."

"I love what the program is doing for our kids so far and can't wait to see how is blossoms!"

"I have see the mentors in various settings with students-everyone was doing great with smiles on their faces. It's a great thing for both older and younger students."



Purpose and Direction



Student Council

Character

Student Council conducted a dozen electronic teacher interviews with the question, “Do you think Character Education is important and why?”

“I think character education is important because our school focuses on the holistic education of the child.”

“Very important, we learn how to treat others.”

“Starting it at young age will show our students respect for people around them, as well as how to treat one another.”

“Character is involved in all areas of a person’s life and will either help or hurt them.”

“I truly believe that character education plays a vital role in helping our students become successful adults.”

“Character education includes having high standards for students academic success as well as core values. The go hand in hand. A Student can be more successful if they feel good about themselves, their actions, and their values.”

March’s Social Skills by Week

Mr. Oswald

Weeks 1/2- Making an apology

Weeks 3/4- Giving Compliments



Purpose and Direction



Character



In our classrooms



Kindergarten

Kindergarten has been working on a growth mindset and using positive words in the classroom. We have made hats about things we wish we were able to do and built graphs on ways to persevere. We talk about how we each have different strengths and weaknesses and how it's all right to be good at different things.

Fourth Grade

Fourth grade has been using the Six Pillars of Character. When students show these skills they earn a "warm & fuzzy", a pom-pom. When our jar is full of warm and fuzzies the class earns a reward.



Sixth Grade

Sixth grade has been working on responsibility and getting to school on time. They have been setting attendance goals with rewards if the goal is met. Sixth grade students have also been working on collaboration in small groups and pairs. Collaboration gives them opportunities to plan and reflect on effective ways to work together.

Second Grade

Second Grade has been working on teamwork, caring, citizenship, respect, and responsibility with their recycling project. Students joined the Pepsi Co. Recycle Rally with the goal to collect 10,000 aluminum cans and bottles! They have been very involved with this project and

