

Dear Parents,

I would like to congratulate our Star Students for the month of November: Lucia Lottmann, Connor Gangi, Ava Haggerty, Daniel Falle, and Nathan Stumcke
Star Students are nominated by any staff member who recognizes a student performing an act of kindness toward another student or staff member.

Student ID's

All students have been issued new student ID's. We ask parents to work with us to make sure that the student ID's are worn in school every day. The new ID will be bar coded for students to use at lunch. In addition, we have provided three phone numbers on the back of the ID card, our school number in case the card is lost, a Samaritan Suicide Prevention Hotline and a Substance Abuse Hotline. These phone numbers are listed to provide students and parents any additional supports that may be required.

Grade 7 News

This past week Mr. Perry and Ms. Donovan's seventh grade social studies classes had a guest speaker. Local archeologist, Mr. Nate Ramsayer met with classes over the course of two days. Students learned through first hand experience the tricks of the archeological trade. Topics ranged from Ancient Egypt and Medieval British ruins to ancient Canaanite homesteads. Students were fortunate enough to actually handle 3,000 year pieces of pottery as well as ancient Roman coins and beads. Classes later engaged in a mock hands on archeological dig. Examining "artifacts" and uncovering clues about the people that used them.

Grade 8 News

As part of the town of Stoneham's Veterans Day Ceremony, eighth grade students wrote Thank You Letters to veterans of the United States Armed Forces. These letters will be distributed during the Veterans Day Run/Walk 5K and 11K road races held on Monday, November 11th. Students drafted letters in their English and Civics classes which included kind words of gratitude and positive encouragement. The assignment was well received by students, who took pride in their work and displayed a fondness for connecting with heroes within the community.

In partnership with Helping Our Troops, a non-profit, all-volunteer public charity based out of Stoneham, Mr. Gahan's eighth grade English classes wrote letters of gratitude for active military service members. The letters will be included in care packages that will be delivered to deployed military personnel, from Massachusetts. Mr. Frank Geary, president of the organization, collected the letters earlier in the week and will speak to Mr. Gahan's classes about the importance of supporting our troops and giving back to the community.

Eighth grade students visited the Edward M. Kennedy Institute in Boston and participated in the Senate Immersion Module. The program took place in a full-scale reproduction of the U.S. Senate Chamber. Students were sworn in as Senators for the

day and worked together to create a bill addressing the issue of immigration. Students relied on their negotiation and debate skills to learn about the legislative process.

PAJAMA DAY

Please support our Middle School Pajama Day on Friday, December 6th. Students are able to wear pajamas if they make a five dollar donation. All donations go to the Holiday Helpers of the PTO. The donations are used to purchase Holiday gifts for Stoneham Middle School families who may be facing hardships during the holidays. Holiday Helpers and the PTO have been helping Stoneham families for more than thirty years.

French News

French students in Mme. Hays' classes celebrated National French week. All French students submitted either a poem or a video with the theme *Le Français Chez Moi* for entry in a nationwide contest sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF). Congratulations also to Davide Belleza, who was a finalist in the AATF National French Week Trivia Bowl!

To encourage enthusiasm for French at SCMS, students collaborated to make projects for our main display case and around the school. Sixth graders contributed posters about Francophone countries, seventh graders finished a unit on Paris and made 3-D replicas of iconic Parisian monuments, and eighth graders made posters about use of French in various disciplines

LIBRARY

The Central Middle School library is open to all students! We offer a range of materials, from nonfiction books and online databases to help your students with their school work, to a collection of fiction and graphic novels for your child's pleasure reading. There's also work space and a tech lab where classes come during the day to receive instruction on how to best use the library's resources.

Homework Club: The library will be hosting an afternoon homework club for students of all grades! Encourage your children to take advantage of the library's space and resources to get class work done, including desktop computers that can be used to print assignments. The homework club will meet every Tuesday and Thursday in the library from 2:50pm to 3:20pm, starting the first week of October.

Below you will find a description of our clubs and the times they will meet.

Video Explorers	Mr. Daniels	Mondays 2:45-3:45
Tennis	Mr. Beltram	Mondays 2:50-3:50
Walking Club	Mrs. Belanger	Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Chess Club	Mr. Havican	Tuesdays 2:45-3:45
Jazz	Mr. Simboski	Tuesdays 3:00-4:00
Math Team	Mr. Drago	Thursdays 2:45-3:45
Band	Mr. Simboski	Thursdays 3:00-4:00
Flute	Ms. Sousa	Thursdays 3:00-4:00

Video Explorers- This class is 10 weeks from 2:45-4:15. The final class will be at Stoneham TV. Each session is limited to 14 students. Students must commit to all sessions . Please see Mr. Daniels for more details.

Intramurals with the exception of Robotics and Video Explorers will run 2:45-3:45

PLEASE NOTE ON EARLY RELEASE DAYS THE MIDDLE SCHOOL WILL DISMISS AT 11:45am.

PTO NEWS

The SCMS PTO distributes information, the PTO newsletter, and other school news electronically. If you would like to receive this information please sign up at: <https://www.groupvine.com/stoneham-middle-school/@@apply>.

The PTO could use your assistance at school events and with planning activities this year. There are many ways you can support the SCMS PTO. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at: <http://stonehampto@gmail.com>

The Stoneham Central Middle School P.T.O. has a Facebook group. This is a closed group for families of current SCMS students. It is managed by the PTO, but open to all current SCMS families: <http://facebook.com/groups/StonehamCentralMiddleSchoolPTO/>

The SCMS PTO would like to thank those who have supported the PTO Donation Drive.

IMPORTANT DATES IN December:

Wednesday, December 11th- EARLY RELEASE 11:45 DISMISSAL LUNCHES WILL NOT BE SERVED Parent Conferences 12:40-2:50

Thursday, December 12th- EARLY RELEASE 11:45 DISMISSAL LUNCHES WILL NOT BE SERVED Parent Conferences 5:30-8:30

Wednesday, December 18th- Staff Appreciation Breakfast

Holiday Break No School- December 23-January 3rd

PLEASE VISIT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL WEBSITE TO ACCESS OUR MONTHLY SCHOOL CALENDAR. DAYS TWO and FIVE ARE DAYS THAT BAND AND CHORUS MEET DURING ACTIVITY PERIOD.

Mrs. Fulmer and I will continue to update you via email throughout the year. Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns.

Christopher Banos

Principal SCMS