

Dear Parents,

I would like to congratulate our Star Students for the month of January: Wilmarika Annacacis, Grace Carroll, Eva Flaherty, Arianna Pieroni, Navya Karki, and Mason Dinardi

Star Students are nominated by any staff member who recognizes a student performing an act of kindness toward another student or staff member.

Martin Luther King Celebration

On Sunday, January 19, 2020, middle school students volunteered and participated in the twentieth anniversary celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. held at Stoneham High School. Eighth grade students Dayanara Del Rosario and Mikayla Cappucci read poems filled with themes of hope and perseverance to a crowded auditorium. Marissa Bocelli, Kiara Iraheta, Sophia Enokia, Ali Sacco, Kylie Travis, Ariana Pieroni, Marialena Smith, Konstantina Hantzis, and Isabella Rutigliano helped to greet attendees, usher them to their seats, and serve snacks. The program featured several speakers including Dr. Cheryl Motley Sanders who received the MLK Community Service Award, and performances by the Stoneham High School chorus and the Janelle Gilchrist Dance Troupe. The program inspired audience members to take away a deeper appreciation of the struggles for freedom, past and present

Chorus and Band News

Last year, for the Spring Concert, it was decided to hold the Band and Chorus performances on two different nights, which proved so successful that it has now become a permanent part of our concert presentations. Accordingly, this year, on Tuesday, January 14, the Chorus performed their Winter Concert, and on Thursday, January 16, the Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Flute Ensemble performed theirs.

The Chorus theme for this concert was A Night At The Opera, and featured arias and choruses from operas of the Baroque period (Julius Caesar by Handel from 1724) through the early 20th Century (Gianni Schicchi by Puccini from 1918). Some of the songs were sung in the original languages, including Czech, Italian, and German. The three Chorus Classes (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade) performed separately and together, and there were a few solos and small-group songs, including a solo performance of the **Song To The Moon** by Kaylin Pelrine. Special guests were Ms. Alayna Teneriello singing the part of Carmen in the **Habanera**, Ms. Kristyn Taylor singing the part of Mimi in **Rodolfo And Mimi - Excerpts from Act I of La Bohème**

with the Inner Circle, and Mr. Jack McShane playing the trumpet solo in the **Grand March**. The Chorus did a wonderful job learning to sing music from the world of opera, and gave a very enthusiastic performance, which was well received by the audience. Congratulations to the Chorus!

Congratulations to the Stoneham Central Middle School instrumentalists for their outstanding performance in the Winter Concert held this past Thursday.

The concert began with the **Flute Ensemble** directed by Ms. Stephanie Sousa performing works by Schumann, Reichardt, and Tchaikovsky.

The **After-Hours Jazz Ensemble** made their debut with *Charley Jams Again* and *Bb Boogaloo* featuring solos by Sean Farren, Evan Delisio, Danny Mirick, Noah Rivera, and Anabhav Thapaliya.

Finally, the SCMS Concert Band, directed by Mr. Len Simboski performed a variety of works including a *Rock Point Five*, *Rio Bravo* (Latin Number), *Little Bit of Swing* (Jazz), and an overture titled *Endeavor*. Be sure to mark your calendars for their next performance at the Stoneham Schools **ALL-Town Concert** held at *Stoneham High School* March 25th at 7PM.

Math Team News

Congratulations to the math team for placing fifth at the January Math Meet at Melrose! Stoneham's top scorer was Konstantina Hantzis with six points followed by Arnav Saini, Zhenkang Wu, and Joshua Manojjo with four points. Jason Wong and Pulkit Saini each picked up two points in the algebra round. Sam Campbell competed in mystery, geometry, and number theory rounds. Ariela Gjerji competed in mystery, number theory, and arithmetic rounds. And Sabrina Ly competed in mystery, arithmetic and algebra rounds. Together the team scored 38 points!

STEM NEWS

Congratulations to 7th graders Austin Olum and Peter Pellegriti who were selected by Mass STEM Hub as the Innovation Award winners for the Foot Orthosis Online Industry Challenge!

Their work was reviewed by engineers at Smith and Nephew, a medical device company, and a biomedical engineering professor from Wentworth Institute of Technology. Specifically, the professionals were impressed by the students' market research, mechanical knowledge, and focused prototype design. Some of the feedback they provided included:

"Good initial research to show examples on the market. True innovation always starts with as much research as possible!

"Good use of the dowel as a mechanical support truss! This shows real mechanical knowledge and intuition.

"You did an excellent job on the project and keeping the design simple to use and focused on your objectives – there are many times in the real world where making designs too complex can cause problems when moving from prototype to actual use."

In addition to recognition for the strengths of their project, the judges offered feedback about specific growth ideas for future projects.

Each of the winning students received a Rocketbook notebook and certificate. Their STEM class will also have a virtual visit with some of the professionals that reviewed the challenge submissions to learn more about their work and career path

ROBOTICS CLUB

The SCMS Robotics Club entered 3 robots into the VEX Competition for Middle school that took place on January 25 at the North Andover High School. All three robots made it to the Quarterfinals

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 February:

Thursday, February 13th – Grade 8 versus Teacher Hockey Game 4PM Stoneham Arena

Friday, February 14th - EARLY RELEASE 11:45 DISMISSAL LUNCHESES WILL NOT BE SERVED

Monday, February 17th – Friday February 21st - No School February Vacation

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