



# The IMPRESSIONIST

**September  
20<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

## **Stevenson's Mission:**

*To inspire students to strive for excellence through a rigorous, academic and arts-integrated curriculum in a safe, equitable learning community.*

## **Stevenson's Vision:**

*Exemplify excellence in cognition, character, and creativity.*



## **Important Dates**

**September**

**Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup>**

4:30 SAC Meeting/RLS  
Fundraising Group  
Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> Grade families host  
luncheon

*Hello Stevenson Parents,*

*We have a fun-filled newsletter this week filled with a lot of great information. We have information from the Horticulture Club, our Literacy Coach, even our first student written article! Needless to say there is a lot of information for you to peruse. Once again it reminds us of all of the great things going on here at Stevenson.*

*One particular bit of information that even our students might feel is interesting is the winners of our Great Stevenson Read-A-Thon! Those names will be announced on Tuesday. Pie-in-the Face will be on Thursday and Lunch with the Principal will be on Friday.*

*We cannot thank you enough!!*

*Mrs. Fleeger and Mrs. Vanderpool*

## September

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup>**

Early Release Day

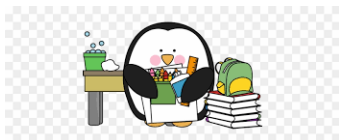
Book Fair Ends

## October

**Friday, 1<sup>st</sup>**

Early Release Day

Penguin Palooza 3-6



## Penguin Palooza

The RLS Fundraising group and parent volunteers are working diligently to prepare for this fun event. Attached to this email is the flyer giving you all the information you need.

Important items to read about are:

- Registration
- Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form
- Purchasing Tickets

A reminder that by signing up for shifts you can earn volunteer hours.

**We are so excited to have this family event this year. Please come out and meet your fellow penguin families and have some fun!! Thank you to our RLS Fundraising Group for making this event a reality. We appreciate you!**



***Please remember to stay in your car when picking up or dropping off your child (ren). Also, use the crosswalk that takes you to the sidewalk on the east side of the parking lot. We want to keep our Stevenson families safe!***

# ***Thank you to everyone who supported our Great Stevenson Read-A-Thon!!!***

*Donations reached \$15, 500! We will be announcing our winners very soon!*

*Prizes will go out Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.*

*The Pie-in-the-Face Prize will be Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:45 P.M.*

*Lunch with the Principal will be Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00P.M.*



## ***From Mrs. Monroe in the Media Center***

The SSYRA Book Challenge is under way. Students in Kindergarten through Sixth grade are reading books from the list, completing an activity and turning in their activity products. During Media time, kindergarten, first and second grade students have been learning about story elements and working on building challenges. The Media Center is open to all students for book checkout every morning between 8:30 – 9:00.

## 4 Angela Barrons LITERACY COACH



Meet Angela Barrons, instructional coach, safety patrol leader and PIE coordinator here at RLS. Mrs. Barrons has been teaching for 16 years, and has been with BPS for 12 years. She and her family enjoy the beach, walking their husky, Maggie, and traveling. Mrs. Barrons looks forward to working with the wonderful RLS families and community members.

Reach Mrs. Barrons at [barrons.angela@brevardschools.org](mailto:barrons.angela@brevardschools.org)

We are always looking for businesses to partner with us throughout the school year. Our hope is to extend our network within the community and foster relationships with organizations in order to best serve our students. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Angela Barrons [barrons.angela@brevardschools.org](mailto:barrons.angela@brevardschools.org)

Here are a few items that we could use to help our amazing school:

- The Horticulture Club needs your help! Click the link below or feel free to purchase from any store to help us out.
  - [Gloves](#)
  - [Potting Soil](#)
  - [Butterfly friendly flowers and Milkweed](#)
  - [Trash Bags](#)
  - [Planting Pots](#)
- The leadership team is requesting small gift cards and other items to celebrate students, teachers and staff members. Click [here](#) to see our wishlist.
- The Penguin Patrol could use some new belts and badges. Click [here](#) to help out.

### What is a PIE?

When you think 'PIE' – think outside the box. Our PIEs (Partners in Education) are businesses, faith-based groups, non-profits, civic organizations, and a network of BPS school-based coordinators.

PIE coordinators work together with our diverse network of PIE partners to provide access to schools, students, families and faculty. That's access to over 70,000 students, 30,000+ families, and 9,300 BPS employees.

Our PIE partners have the opportunity to network at monthly meetings, share ideas and resources, and work together to grow their organizations while supporting schools.

Partners in Education strives to support both partners and schools. Our partnerships work together to grow businesses while supporting students, families and staff.

### Partner with a School

- Attend monthly networking meetings
- Help stock a school pantry
- Provide a meal for faculty
- Hold a school supply drive
- Participate on a school advisory council
- Sponsor a faculty 'snack cart', or decorate and stock the staff fridge
- Become a BPS advertiser

### Partner Benefits

- Access to the largest employer in Brevard County (BPS has over 9,300 employees)
- Your message can reach 70,000+ students and 30,000+ households
- Recognition via school marquee, newsletters, social media, websites, and school and district meetings
- Plaques, banners or certificates to display at your business
- Specific feedback on how your partnership has impacted students and schools
- Sponsorship and advertising opportunities

**Debra Foley**  
Marketing and outreach supervisor  
321-633-1000 x 11529  
[Foley.Debra@brevardschools.org](mailto:Foley.Debra@brevardschools.org)



The students are starved for information, and the new Stevenson News Bureau is up to the challenge! What is the Stevenson News Bureau you ask? Well, it's an expansion on the old Morning News Crew. Sure, we still have the morning news crew, but we've expanded into other areas of journalism. We now have field reporters, script writers, bloggers, and podcasters. In fact, one of the stories in this newsletter was written by one our bloggers! We know you want and deserve more information about the amazing things going on within the school, and we hope to deliver with the new format. So, help spread the word: Stevenson's News Bureau is on the case!

If you have any questions or would like a school related event publicized, please contact Mr. Hattal at [hattal.richard@brevardschools.org](mailto:hattal.richard@brevardschools.org)

## *The Horticultural Club Update*

Wow! What a first month. We've accomplished so much in a short amount of time, and I cannot wait to see what the future holds. We spent the bulk of our time repairing the damage 18 months of neglect has caused. We pulled about 10 garbage bags of weeds! Now we will begin researching, organizing, transplanting, and establishing our different gardens. The butterfly garden will receive a new center piece created from some old tires and of course new flowers and milkweed. In Mrs. Sonberg's Natural Dye Gardens, we will focus on improving the soil quality. The first-grade gardens have been weeded and are ready for planting. Finally, the hydroponic gardens will get a new shading system to keep the Florida heat at bay.

We also receive some VERY exciting news. We were contacted by Mrs. Jo-Ann Principi, the owner of Fruit Creek Farms, who very graciously donated 2 raised bed gardens like the ones in front of the art room. We can't wait for the materials to arrive and to get started assembling them.

If you would like to contribute, we are always in need of supplies and looking for volunteers. While our club meets on Tuesday at 8:05, we could also use volunteers throughout the week to keep up on weeding, watering, and general maintenance. We always need milkweed and butterfly friendly flowers for the butterfly garden. Furthermore, we are always in need mulch and organic potting soil. I've put together an Amazon wish list as well as a sign-up genius if you wish to contribute. Thank you for all you do, we could not have these gardens without your help.

Mr. Hattal  
Club Monitor

## **The Gifted Program Update**

The first few weeks of the year, while exciting, have been hectic to say the least. Between working in the new curriculum and beginning of the year testing, we are finally starting to settle into a routine. We, at last, have our little meeting room set-up and it's nice to have our own space.

Our focus these first few weeks has been on establishing our personal and academic goals. We examined the importance of good goals, what a good goal needs, and how goals should be used as motivation. We also talked about our first project. We all want to help our community, and our first project will do just that. Each grade level will select a community-based project to focus on throughout the year. We brainstormed ideas, examined the pros and cons, and put together timelines to help guide us through our projects. I must say, I was very please with some of the ideas we came up with. Once approved by the administration, we will begin making announcements about each grade levels project, but for now, we don't want to let the cat out of the bag.

The future is also very exciting. As the Great Stevenson Read-a-thon wraps up, we will again move into the Wonder Project. This school-wide project was a huge success last year, and I can't wait to see what we have in store this year. Be on the look-out for more information about this project in the near future! Thanks for all you do to help out our program, we could not do it without you!

Mr. Hattal  
Gifted Teacher

### **From the Music Department**

The Stevenson Music Department is excited to kick-off the annual Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough Fun-Raiser during the month of September. Students were provided with a brochure packet that explains the process and what the funds will be used for. This project will run from today (September 10<sup>th</sup>) and will conclude on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. All order forms and collected funds need to be returned by the September 27<sup>th</sup> deadline. Thank you for your ongoing support! It is appreciated tremendously!

# New Violins!

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By Talia Nicoli

Mr. Yoh just received new violins! This means big changes to the music program at Stevenson. Now, all 3rd Graders will be learning to play the violin. The violins were provided through a grant by the Phoenix Foundation and that means more students will get a chance to learn how to play. I got a chance to interview Mr. Yoh about violins and music

*Mr. Yoh, how do you feel about the changes to the music program?* I am excited for both band and strings art wheel sessions. There are lots of opportunities to learn how to play an instrument for those in 3rd-6th grade. Every 3rd grader will get a chance to learn the violin. Kids in 1st and 2nd grade will learn about the instruments.

*Do you think 3rd graders will continue to take violin throughout their time at Stevenson?* I hope that students will take at least 2-4 years of violin lessons so that they can join an ensemble in middle school. It is a great opportunity to learn violin, but students will need to have some grit and persevere.

*Do you think the violin program has affected any other music programs?* Orchestra membership has increased. More kids also want to take band. There are more than 50 students in strings and 100 in band. Music helps students in other areas of their studies, like foreign language, math, and science too.

*Do you have any suggestions to parents or students about how to treat the violins?* Treat the violins with care. Use a soft cloth to clean it. Loosen the bow after practice. Don't leave it in your car. Don't expose it to heat or cold for too long. Never leave it outside.

*Would you encourage more people to try violin?* Yes, every student should be exposed to some sort of music in their life.

*Do you like the new violins?* Yes, they are beautiful and state of the art. There are  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and full size violins. We also got 4 brand new cellos. They were all provided by the Phoenix Foundation.

*What makes them different from the old violins?* They are brand new and the best quality. Some of the old violins are from when the school first opened 20 years ago. They are a great addition to the orchestra.

*Are you excited to teach violins again?* Yes, orchestra is a passion of mine.

*How much do you think kids should practice their violin?* At least 20 minutes 3 times a week plus the time in class.

*How long have you been a music teacher?* 35 years.

*How long has there been a violin program?* 20 years.

*How many new violins did you get?* 26

*How many violins do you have now?* 90-100. At least 70 violins in addition to violas, cellos, and bass violins

*Do you want to tell parents or students about the violin program?* Pursuing strings is an excellent way to build grit and confidence. Try to persevere to learn something new. Don't be afraid to make a mistake.

# From Our Grade Levels.....

## **Kindergarten**

Kindergarten is off to a great start! We are making new friends and learning to be good citizens. In Science we have learned what a scientist is and have practiced being a scientist conducting experiments. Our favorite was the M&M experiment! In ELA we have learned about work stations and have been exploring literature and concepts of print. In Math we are learning to write numbers and find hidden partners.

## **First Grade**

What an exciting year we have planned for first grade! Our first class project showed that you have chosen to shine this year. The timelines came in and they were PHENOMENAL! Thank you for encouraging your student to work hard on presenting their timeline too. We are working on completing our 1<sup>st</sup> IReady diagnostic for both Reading and Math. We are looking forward to reviewing those scores with the students and helping them identify their strengths and challenges as well as set some goals for themselves. Thank you for helping us grow and learn together.

## **Second Grade**

Second graders are back in action! We are mastering classroom and school policies and procedures while using strategies to problem solve through Conscious Discipline. Every class has been getting to know their students strengths and weaknesses through running record assessments, IReady Diagnostics for reading and math, and small group lessons. We are conducting morning meetings that help us get to know each other while building character. In math, we have been learning strategies for addition and subtraction and incorporating those strategies with measurement. In science we have covered observations, severe weather, and we are currently learning about basic needs and habitats of living things. In social studies, we have learned about sources that teach us about history and will continue learning about what makes a good citizen through this first nine weeks. We love that students are enjoying their weekly reading journals and look forward to reading their reflections on what they are reading.

## **Third Grade**

The beginning of the school year started with a bang! We have spent many days learning new routines and procedures with our new reading curriculum. We are also hard at work on simple multiplication and division equations. Keep practicing at home!

At the end of August, students took the i-Ready Reading Diagnostic. This diagnostic tested on phonics, high frequency words, vocabulary, and comprehension of both literature and informational text. 78% of our student scores came back on, or above, third grade level. Way to go! We expect that percentage to go even higher when all of our third grade friends have finished testing. Students will be taking the i-Ready math diagnostic in September and we are looking forward to reviewing those scores soon. Keep reading and working on those math facts to help every student achieve success!



## **Sixth Grade**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts**- Students have been working diligently on the first Unit of Study of the Savvas MyPerspectives program and tackling the question "How do our communities shape our experience of growing up?" Through multiple reading and writing experiences, students have considered this question from different angles and perspectives. Students have also completed the first iReady Diagnostic, and the results are promising in setting up students for success for the rest of the school year.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**- Our study of the ancient world began with a look at the roots of human life and the beginnings of civilization. The students learned about scientists who examined fossils and bones left by the earliest hominins. These early hominin groups migrated from Africa to other parts of the world, and over time, these early people learned to grow crops. The first human settlements developed in regions where people found the resources needed to survive. Our next adventure will be taking us on a learning path about more complex cities or civilizations. The students will explore in depth that ***a civilization is a society that has developed arts, sciences, and organization.***

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**- Students are learning to identify and describe changes in position, direction, and speed of an object when acted upon by unbalanced forces. They are learning that unbalanced forces do not always cause an increase in the motion of an object. Unbalanced forces cause changes in motion. This can include bringing an object to rest, decreasing the speed of an object, or changing the direction that an object is traveling. Balanced forces can be acting on an object moving at a constant speed and direction. Additionally, objects that have balanced forces acting on them are not necessarily at rest. An object can have balanced forces acting on it and still be in motion. Once our studies with forces and gravity are finished, we will start learning about the ***Conservation of Energy.***

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Math**- Students are currently learning how to add (+) , subtract (-), divide (/), and multiply (x) decimals. This includes whole number + - x / with decimals, decimal + - x / with other decimals, and mental math using power of 10 with decimals. Starting next week, the students will learn about variables such as writing expression with variables, properties of addition and multiplication using variables, the distributive property, and writing equations using one variable.



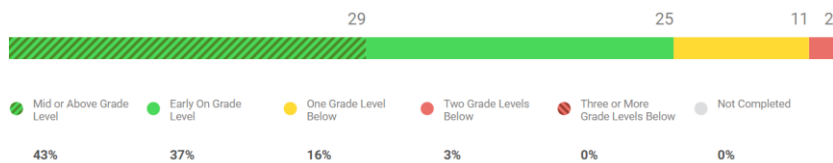
# From Our Grade Levels.....

## Fifth Grade

Our math students are starting out this school year ahead of the district's math scores. Our students scored an average of 88.1% above the District's average of 73.2 on the Mid Module 1 Assessment. Way to go Penguins! Have you seen our Math-Google Classroom? Ask your student to show you!

**"iReady Reading Diagnostic** has been successfully administered and I am reviewing results. This diagnostic is key in helping me set up small groups, a component of our new curriculum, as well as in helping me determine who needs additional interventions and which interventions are needed. I have begun to meet with each child to review the results, explaining the score and discussing the subcomponent categories results as well as where they are now and where they are expected to be at the next administration mid-year (no date set yet). When your child shares his or her score with you, you can determine if (s)he is at grade level by knowing that the grade level score range for 5<sup>th</sup> grade is 581-640. Overall, all students in GR5 break down this way:

Overall Placement



A few students were absent and will make it up upon return. Some students scored well above grade and are included in the 43%. The above chart covers 99% of the ELA students. "



# Congratulations to these students!!!!

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## August

Character Trait of the Month

## Courage

### Description

Courage is doing the right thing in the face of difficulty and following your conscience instead of the crowd.

	<b>Poyerd</b>	Atlas Z.
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>Hopf</b>	Emerson S.
	<b>Duncan</b>	Madilyn M.
	<b>Park</b>	Marinah B.
	<b>Kurtz</b>	Wyatt A.
<b>First Grade</b>	<b>Poker</b>	Liam H.
	<b>Grenon</b>	Nora B.
	<b>Jarvis</b>	Ryan G.
	<b>Warren</b>	Claire B.
<b>Second Grade</b>	<b>Shanks</b>	Adelyn D.
	<b>Boyer</b>	Jaimie L.
	<b>DeVries</b>	Eli C.
	<b>Mara</b>	Jackson A.
<b>Third Grade</b>	<b>Sonsini</b>	Jacob E.
	<b>George</b>	Sofia V-Q.
	<b>Robinson</b>	Elisse V.
<b>Fourth Grade</b>	<b>Rodriguez</b>	Lila C.
	<b>Albright</b>	Aubrey M.
	<b>Weber</b>	Savannah G.
	<b>Garces</b>	Callie B.
	<b>Heller</b>	Jayda E.
<b>Fifth Grade</b>	<b>Mosseau</b>	Emma S.
	<b>Gibbs</b>	Oscar V-Q.
	<b>Sear</b>	Trisha J.
<b>Sixth Grade</b>	<b>Harrigan</b>	Rylan B.
	<b>Fenton</b>	Yanis M.

# What is... Penguin Palooza?

**What...**Stevenson's version of a Family Fun Run with obstacles and carnival atmosphere

**When...**Friday, October 1, 2021 from 3 pm to 6 pm

**Where...**Stevenson PE Field

**Why...**Community building, healthy family activity to raise funds to support our extraordinary arts and education programs

- Registration is going on now, either use the order form below and send in cash or check in a sealed envelope to the school labeled "Penguin Palooza Registration" or go to our online store to pay with a credit card:  
<https://tinyurl.com/PenguinPaloozaRegistration>.
- Registration fee includes entrance, access to our fun warrior course, a fitness challenge, music by DJ Josh and Mr. Harrigan's band, *Positive Chaos*, and more.
- Parents please remember that this is a huge venue and volunteers cannot be responsible for keeping track of all participating students, therefore one adult needs to be physically present with your students.
- Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form MUST be submitted to participate, click here:  
<https://forms.gle/CXViXGF93jnm2cKJ6>
- The sixth grade will be providing plenty of food, no need to worry about hungry kids. 100% goes to help fund the sixth grade activities. TropiCali Ice Cream truck will also be available, a portion of sales is donated back to the school.
- Tickets for our carnival games are also for sale at \$1 per ticket or \$10 for 12 tickets and can be purchased through our online store:  
<https://tinyurl.com/PenguinPaloozaTickets>. We will have the following organized: Petting Zoo (1 Ticket), Water Bucket Dump (2 Tickets), Pie Eating Contest (2 Tickets), Cake Walk (2 Tickets), Water Balloon Launcher (2 Tickets), Pop the Balloon Game (2 Tickets).
- We cannot do this event without volunteers!! Get a jump on your hours, and sign up for at least one shift.

## RLS Family Sign-Up Form

10.01.21 PENGUIN PALOOZA

Date \_\_\_\_\_ # of participants \_\_\_\_\_  
 Price \$10.00/participant  
 \$40.00/family (up to 6)

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Cash ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone \_\_\_\_\_

RLS Family Sign-Up Form

10.01.21 PENGUIN PALOOZA

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

# of participants \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Cash, or \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_