

The SMS MEDIA CENTER:
Where everything literally happens

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



The St. Johns County Battle of the Books will be held virtually this year. On March 9, 2021, the team will "meet" with the other middle schools to compete through Zoom. It will be a closed competition with no live audience viewers. Our competing team is comprised of Gregory Rorex, Graci Flaherty, Emily Tobuck, Taylor Pelchat, Glamorous Spicer, Hannah Vickery, and Sophia Barnard. Our alternates are Andy Birchall and Brooklyn Anthony. Supporting members are Bianca Allie, Anna Lusk, Maja Varju, and Kai Hulbert. These students will receive a pass to be released for the competition on the morning of the 9th. Please note that the Media Center will be closed during this time.

CRITICAL THINKING HELPS HOME AGAIN



In December, Mrs. DeAcutis's Critical Thinking class completed their service learning project which began with the novel study of *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise*. They were able to package and gift wrap over 50 Shoeboxes of Love filled with toiletries, nonperishable foods, socks, coffee mugs, water bottles, bug spray, and masks. These were donated to Home Again St. Johns, a non-profit agency that helps to make homeless people and families self-sufficient. Other items donated were toys, clothes, blankets, and shoes. On December 17, the Media Center delivered the packages to Ellen Walden, the director of Home Again. They planned to pass out the Shoeboxes of Love during their client's annual Christmas party. Special thank you to Ms. Caroline Crum for all of her assistance.





JUST THE FACTS

Total Circulation for
December and January: 2221

Top Circulation
Homerooms for November:

1. Coach Lightsey
2. Ms. Johns
3. Mr. Huffman
4. Ms. Hagy
5. Ms. Lavallee

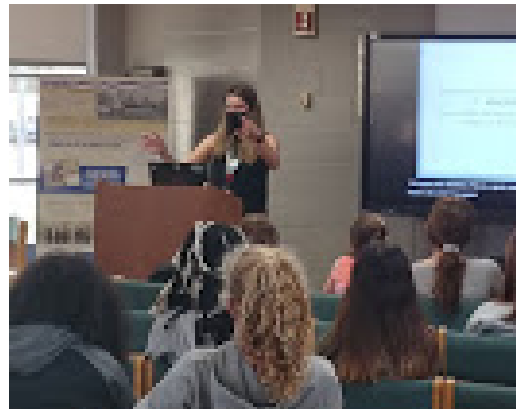
Top Grades by Circulation:
6th Total Circulation 835
7th Total Circulation 621
8th Total Circulation 400

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LITERAL ART LESSONS

In January, Ms. Hagy and Ms. King started the new year with lessons on idioms. They collaborated with the Media Center's technology and workspace. Students researched an idiom and then created a work of art that personified their figure of speech.



PROJECT LIT

The SMS Media Center was given a grant from The Players and Character Counts St. Johns to receive a collection of books from Project Lit. These are a collection of high interest, diverse, and culturally relevant books. Come to the Media Center to check them out.



LITERACY WEEK SUCCESS

January ended the month with a week of appreciating literature. Students were given a virtual meet and greet with a few of the SSYRA authors. There was also a book-themed door decorating contest voted on. Ms. Kirby-Allie's homeroom won 1st Place and a doughnut party, and Ms. King won Best in Show. Sra. de Castro was the winner of the "Guess your teacher's favorite book" and won a gift basket. The week ended with a creative day of cosplay.

