Feb-April 2025

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER





SMS MEDIA CENTER Where everything literally happens!

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Door Wars Donut Breakfast
- Battle of the Books
- Women's History Month
- Poetry Month
- End of Year Reading Celebration

"Wannabe" a Winner?

Mr. Stevens's homeroom claimed victory in the epic Door Wars showdown during Literacy Week! Students, teachers, and staff cast their votes through the Schoology Media Center Group, making it a schoolwide celebration of creativity. As a reward for their winning design, Mr. Stevens's class—and a few other standout students—got to kick back in the Eagles' Nest in February and enjoy a special homeroom period complete with a delicious Dunkin' Donuts breakfast!











"Believe" in the Battle of the Books

The competition was fierce, the questions were tough, and the energy was high at this year's St. Johns County School District Middle School Battle of the Books—held virtually on March 25th with all middle schools across the county joining in! Broadcasting live from the Sebastian Media Center, the SMS Battle Team brought their A-game, led by fearless captain Charlie Farrow, with Cole Lamontagne as alternate, and team members Ella Grady, Daniel Wooldridge, Hannah Schaefer, and Ariella Pitzalis.

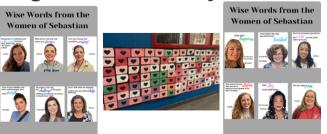


With brains buzzing and pages turning, they went head-to-head in a fast-paced showdown of literary knowledge, tackling questions from the Sunshine State Young Readers Award novels. While the championship title slipped away, the team's energy never wavered. With big smiles and even bigger pride, they wrapped up the event with a victorious shout: *"We weren't last!"*

"Don't Speak" but Listen to the Wise Words during Women's History Month

March was a special time at Sebastian as we celebrated Women's History Month. Along with highlighting inspiring books that honored the achievements of women, we took a creative twist by using AI to design beautiful displays inspired by quotes from the amazing women of our own school community.

Students also shared heartfelt messages about the important women in their lives, writing their sentiments on paper hearts that filled the main hallway with love, gratitude, and admiration. It was a month filled with meaningful reflections and powerful reminders of the impact women have every day.



POETRY IS ALWAYS "VOGUE"



April was Poetry Month, and creativity was in full bloom at Sebastian! Students dove into the art of Black-Out Poetry, transforming pages from old, discarded books into striking visual masterpieces—proof that poetry can be found anywhere if you know where to look! <u>(Click here to see more amazing examples!</u>)

Meanwhile, our Access Unit students explored the beauty of butterfly poems, bringing the words to life by crafting vibrant, tie-dyed coffee filter butterflies inspired by the verses they heard. The month was a celebration of imagination, expression, and the magic of poetry in all its forms!

"UCan't Touch This" End of the Year Reading Celebration

In April, the Media Center transformed into a hub of excitement for its annual End of the Year Reading Celebration, honoring students who went above and beyond in reading and writing! The festivities kicked off in the Eagle's Nest, where students gamed and battled it out in a thrilling silent auction using their PBIS points. The bidding war reached a fever pitch, with the top prize–a coveted art set–going for an impressive 600 points! The energy kept soaring as students welcomed Taryn Souders, author of several award-winning middle grade novels. She shared her writing journey, answered student questions, and led a wildly fun round of Crime Scene Bingo. Some lucky students even enjoyed a private lunch with her! One of the day's standout moments came from our incredible Access Unit, who wowed everyone with a custom-made board game–complete with 3D printed pieces–inspired by Ms. Souders's SSYRA novel, *The Mystery of the Radcliffe Riddle*. The excitement continued with the high-stakes Teachers vs. Students Battle of the Books, hosted by Ms. Souders herself. With Ms. Cody, Ms. Harvey, Ms. Sims, and Ms. Rigon representing the teachers, the showdown was neck-and-neck–but for the first time in years, the students took the win! The day ended on a cozy note as students kicked back with a movie and popcorn, wrapping up a celebration that was as inspiring as it was unforgettable.



Library Data February, March, April 2025

- Total Circulation: 5568
- Total Independent Student Check-Ins: 4831
- Top Circulation by Homeroom:
 - Coach Lightsey
 - Mr. Huffman
 - Mr. Clouse
- Top Titles by Circulation (non-class sets):
 - The Mystery of the Radcliffe Riddle
 - Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer
 - Falling Short

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SJCSD Technology Lending Community



Want to see how the Media Center can add that extra innovation in your lessons for next year? Come to the Media Center and we can collaborate!

SHELF INDULGENCE ISSUE 16