

SMS Newsletter

April 2021



April Core Value: Falcon Four

At Sacajawea, we are a compassionate community that honors grit and celebrates growth in order to face the future with a level head and a critical eye.

Principal's Message

As spring has arrived, as well as our final trimester of the year, we prepare and look forward to finishing the year strongly. Your students have endured a spring of fully remote learning, a fall and winter of blended learning, a transition back to full-time schooling all in the midst of a global pandemic. They have shown resilience, flexibility, and courage in the face of continuous change. The rest of the year should be a piece of cake.

Our staff is focused on providing the best learning experiences for your students as we address the prioritized standards in each content area. We are challenging the students to take greater responsibility for their learning--reviewing this past year, identifying their strengths and areas of growth, and creating plans to further their development. Join them in discussing their reflections and plans this Thursday.

In May, we will conduct the Smarter Balanced literacy and math tests in each grade level: eighth-grade on May 11-13, sixth- and seventh-grade on May 18-20. Additionally, our eighth-graders will take the Montana State Science Assessment on May 4th. These tests will provide important information to our students, families, and staff on their continued learning. Results will indicate individual progress over the past two years (tests were not taken last year) and measure our school's effectiveness during that unique time.

Thank you for your continued participation in your student's learning and partnership with our school.

Gordon Grissom

Eighth Grade Celebration

Families of eighth-grade students are invited to join us in recognizing their growth and development while at Sacajawea at the end of the school year. Our 8th Grade Celebration will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 8, at Van Winkle Stadium. Normally held in our gym, the outdoor venue will allow us to share the event with our families in a safe environment. Make plans to join us.

School-within-a-School Information

On April 1, a parent meeting was held to share information on the seventh-grade "school-within-a-school" team for the coming year. This team is intended to provide a structure for students who may struggle in our traditional, seven-period schedule with larger teams of students and teachers.

Here is the link to the parent presentation (also posted on our school's website under the Parent tab) : <https://youtu.be/P56MMmca91Q>.

Please e-mail *Gordon Grissom* if you have any questions or interest.
gordon.grissom@bsd7.org

Spring Food Drive

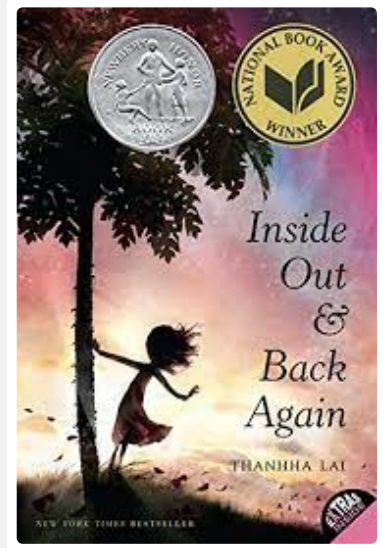
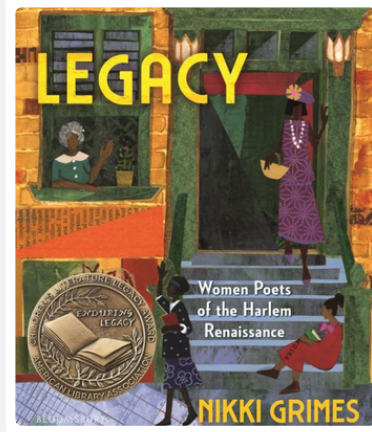
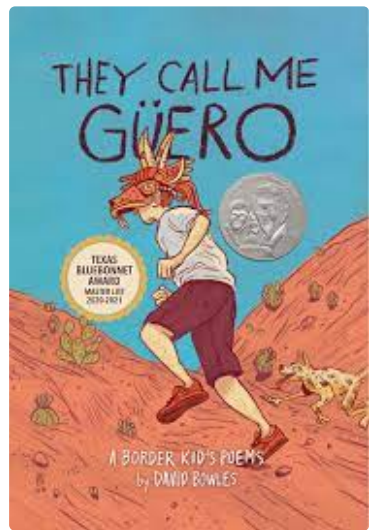
8th grade Student Council is organizing a Spring Food Drive that begins on April 5th. Bring in your food donations and help refill the diminishing stock at the Gallatin Valley Food Bank. The grade level that brings in the most food by weight wins an *ice cream sandwich party*!

Bins are in each grade level hallway. We are collecting donations **Monday, April 5th through Tuesday, April 20th**. We will begin weighing food on Monday, April 5th.

Reach out to *Mrs. Hayden* if you have any questions.
406-522-6484
kelly.hayden@bsd7.org

News from the SMS Library

April is National Poetry Month!
Visit the SMS Library to check-out books of poetry and fiction books written in verse!
<https://poets.org/national-poetry-month>



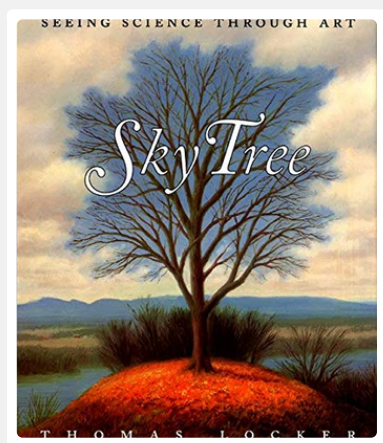
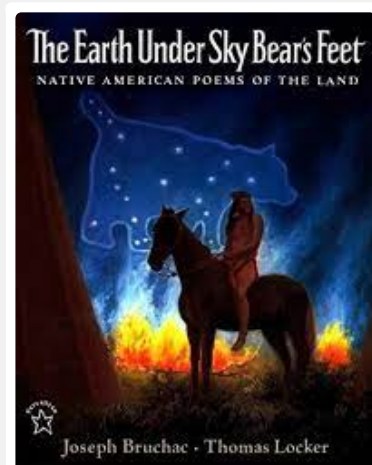
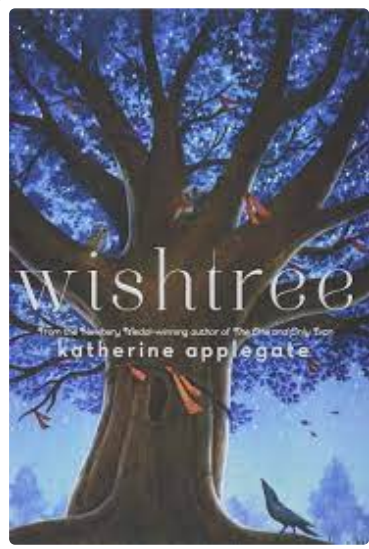
Let's celebrate the Planet Earth and Trees!

April 22nd is Earth Day

<https://www.earthday.org/>

April 30th is Arbor Day

<https://www.arborday.org/>



A Message from the SMS School Resource Officer

Good morning SMS families,

My name is *Officer Jonathan Ogden*, your local School Resource Officer. I hope everyone is doing well after the return from spring break. I would like to take a moment to cover a few things to help keep our schools and community a safe place.

When it comes to driving around the schools for drop off, pick up, and other reasons, I understand that we all get in a hurry sometimes. Please remember to take a moment to slow down and watch where we are driving. Please remember to stop completely for any and all stop signs at intersections around schools as well as anywhere else. I have been out at many of the intersections around the schools and have seen many vehicles, a lot of which are coming to or from the schools, coming and going that have not been stopping for the stop signs in the area. And remember that a "slow roll" is not a stop. It is required by state law to come to a complete stop before entering the intersection as well as it is needed to make sure it is safe to proceed without interfering with other traffic or unexpected pedestrians.

Also on the note of pickup and drop off, please remember to not park in the roadway to block traffic, driveways, or alleyways for any length of time. If you are coming to wait for pickup or drop off, please park in a legal parking area or stop in a drop off/pickup area.

When it comes to the intersections with crossing guards, please again slow down and be on the lookout for them. They are there to stop traffic so that kids going to and from school and other adults can cross busy intersections safely. All crossing guards have stop signs to signal to traffic to stop so individuals can cross. If you see the sign and the crossing guard please take a moment to slow down and stop for them instead of trying to drive quickly. Some crossings also have large yellow flashing lights. This is for their safety as well as the safety of kids and other adults trying to cross the intersection.

With the warm weather returning, please remind children that when possible please use the sidewalks while walking along the streets. It is much safer than the alternative of walking in the roadway. And please remember at the intersections to stop and make sure in both directions that there is no traffic coming when crossing.

I would also like to take a moment and pass along the following safe bicycle riding tips as more people will be out riding their bicycles to and from school and other areas:

1. Ride only in safe areas and avoid stunt riding unless trained otherwise to avoid losing control. Use bike paths or lanes when possible.
2. Never wear head phones while riding. You want to be able to hear what is going on around you in case there is a warning of a possible hazard.
3. Always wear your helmet, even for short rides. Bicycle helmets reduce the risk of head and brain injury in a crash by as much as 88%. Be sure the helmet fits properly.
4. Safety check your bike. Make sure the bike is in safe mechanical condition to ride. (Tires, Chain, Helmet condition, working brakes, reflectors present.)
5. Always be looking ahead of where you are riding. Don't look at your phone or away from where you are riding, while riding, as you may not see a hazard approaching.
6. Avoid riding at night. If it is unavoidable, wear something that reflects light such as reflective tape, markings, or flashing lights. If riding at night a light on the front of the bike is required not only to help you see but so others can see you. Also have a rear red reflector to make it easier for others to see you.
7. Remember that when trying to stop downhill, it will take longer to stop and even longer if the ground is wet.

8. Remember to not "show off" on your bike. When people ride beyond their skill level that is when it becomes easier to lose control and crash.

9. While on school property, students are asked to walk their bike as it is safer to walk your bike with lots of people walking around to avoid collisions.

10. Use a basket, saddle bags, or a backpack to carry objects while riding to avoid objects interfering with the function of the bicycle and allow a safe ride.

11. For kids 15 and under, it is legal to ride on the sidewalk and often is a safer place to ride. Also remember that at pedestrian crossings, walk your bike across to help be seen and avoid collisions with vehicles.

12. Remember to have fun, be seen, be predictable, and be cautious of your surroundings while riding.

I know this is a lot, but please keep the above in mind as these are several things to make our community and school a safer place for everyone.

Thank you

Officer Jonathan Ogden

School Resource Officer
Bozeman Police Department
Office: 406-582-2241
Email: jogden@bozeman.net

Track & Field Information

Please use the link to go to: Track & Field Plan for Success as well as Tentative SMS Schedules.

Healthy KidsPack Program / KidsPack Programa de Salud

The Healthy KidsPack is a weekend food program for kids in all grade levels. This is a free resource available to any child with no income requirements. Bags are distributed discreetly on Friday into kids' backpacks and lockers. Registration is open all year round, sign up online or talk to your school counselor.

<https://gallatinvalleyfoodbank.org/get-help/childhoodhungerinitiatives/>

KidsPack es una programa para todos los niños que necesitan comida extra por el fin de semana. Los paquetes de comida están distribuir los viernes a las mochilas o las taquillas de cada niño que necesita comida, y es completamente gratis. Si quiere comida extra para sus niños, hable con el consejero en la escuela , o Puede registrarse durante todo el año a

gallatinvalleyfoodbank.org/get-help/childhoodhungerinitiatives

Gallatin Valley Food Bank / El Banco de Alimentos

Get free groceries through the Gallatin Valley Food Bank food box distribution. Offering drive-through food box distribution Monday through Friday from 1 pm-4 pm. Boxes are available to anyone with no income requirements. To participate, come by the food bank (602 Bond St) during our distribution hours (M-F, 1-4 pm) or call us at 406-586-7600.

gallatinvalleyfoodbank.org

El Banco de Alimentos es un lugar donde puedes recibir comida gratis para su familia. Está en 602 Bond Street en Bozeman. Las horas de operación son 1-4 p.m., los lunes hasta los viernes. Cajas de comida están disponibles para su familia independientes de nivel de ingresos. Llame a 406-586-7600 para más información.

Necesitamos información para proporcionar los servicios y los recursos que su familia necesita. Esta información es confidencial, y el Banco de Alimentos y la agencia de HRDC no la compartirán con ninguna agencia del gobierno u otra organización.

Thrive

Looking for some fun Summer activities for your Middle Schooler?

From sports to art to science, there is truly something for every interest.

Below is digital link to the Bozeman **Montana Parent Camp Guide**:

<https://mtparent.com/activity-finder>

Many camps have in-house scholarships. Inquire directly to the camp itself, as early scholarships go fast!

For these and other parenting tips, contact your **SMS Thrive Parent Liaison**:

Ashley Mares-Jones

ashley.maresjones@bsd7.org or by phone at 406-813-1617.



WE ARE WORKING TO TRANSITION BSD7
SCHOOLS BACK TO HOT MEALS. THIS
MEANS...

FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES IS HIRING!

LOOKING FOR A PARENT-FRIENDLY JOB?

PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME OPENINGS
SUMMERS & BREAKS OFF!
BENEFITS AVAILABLE!
FUN & REWARDING WORK ENVIRONMENT!

APPLY ONLINE AT [BSD7.ORG](https://bsd7.org) OR
EMAIL BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG
FOR MORE INFO



On-Going Health Protocols

With the return of in-person instruction, we have continued to maintain a high level of safety at school. Although social distancing is not available at all times during the day, all students and staff continue to wear masks throughout the day indoors--with the exception of eating at lunch. We encourage our students to wash their hands frequently, use hand sanitizer, and practice distancing when possible. We also continue to thoroughly clean frequently-used locations throughout the school.

Thank you for reinforcing these habits with your students.



MONTANA
CRISIS RECOVERY

**ARE YOU WORRIED
ABOUT COVID-19
AND ITS IMPACTS ON
YOUR STUDENT AND
YOUR FAMILY?**

FREE COVID-19 SUPPORT

**IT'S FREE, ANONYMOUS,
AND CONFIDENTIAL!**

Everyone is impacted by the effects of COVID-19. Thousands of Montanans are facing challenges unlike any they have ever experienced. If you are experiencing emotions such as anxiety, depression, stress, sadness, or fear, you are not alone. Seeking support resources, education, and simply reaching out are all positive steps that you can take.

WHAT WE DO:

- Listen without judgement
- Offer emotional support • Comfort, console
- Offer information and education on stress and coping
- Direct callers to additional support and community resources
- Provide complete confidentiality – this is a free service, and you will never be asked to give your name, asked for health insurance, or asked to pay a fee of any kind

Montana Crisis Recovery is a COVID-19 specific Crisis Call Center. A Crisis Counselor will offer free and anonymous support and is just one call away.

**For more information, please call (877) 503-0833
or visit montanacrisisrecovery.com**

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday - Sunday 10 AM-10 PM

If you are having thoughts of suicide, please contact (800) 273-TALK or (800) 273-8255. You can also text "MT" to 741741

Box Tops For Education

Did you know Sacajawea Middle School is part of the Box Tops for Education program?

It has changed to a mostly digital program. Traditional clip out Box Tops are being phased out but you can still send them to school (make sure it doesn't say scan) to be turned in to the library.

The new process is so much easier!

1. Get the free new and improved **Box Tops mobile app** on your phone
2. Buy your groceries and ask for the receipt
3. Get into your car and take pictures of your receipt (within 14 days) with the app.
4. It will find any qualifying products and give 10 cents for each one to the school.

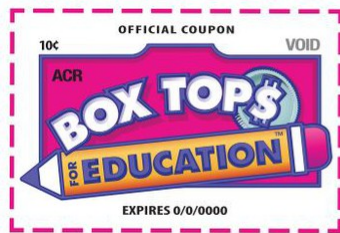
The money adds up and is used to enhance the book selection at our library.

It costs you nothing but 30 seconds of your time and you can help ALL the students at your child's school. Encourage your friends and relatives to do the same.

On the Box Tops for Education website, you can find coupons and special deals.

Thank you so much for giving back to others!

Your PAC Team & SMS Library



SEE THIS...
CLIP IT



SEE THIS...
SCAN
YOUR RECEIPT

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

BEFORE YOUR CHILD HEADS OUT THE DOOR FOR SCHOOL
CONDUCT A HOME HEALTH SCREENING

STAY HOME

if he or she is experiencing one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills – temperature greater than 100.4°
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and/or smell
- New runny nose or congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19

NOTIFY SMS – 522-6400

IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE OR IS IDENTIFIED AS A
CLOSE CONTACT OF SOMEONE WITH COVID-19





AT THIS TIME
ANY STUDENT
CAN HAVE A FREE
MEAL

***YOU MUST TAKE THE FOLLOWING FOR
YOUR MEAL TO BE FREE:***

FOR FREE BREAKFAST:

ENTREE

FRUIT

MILK (OPTIONAL)

FOR FREE LUNCH:

ENTREE

VEGGIE/FRUIT

MILK (OPTIONAL)

***ALL OTHER ITEMS WILL BE
CHARGED TO STUDENT ACCOUNTS***

Free meals also available for curbside pickup at all schools (excluding GHS) M-F 9:30-10:30 on remote learning days.

REMOTE MEAL PICK UP

MENUS: [BSD7.NUTRISLICE.COM](https://bsd7.nutrislice.com)
QUESTIONS?
CALL: 406-522-6381
EMAIL: BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG



- FREE GRAB-N-GO MEALS AVAILABLE FOR CURBSIDE PICKUP DAILY, FROM 9:30-10:30 AM AT ALL SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING GHS - GO TO MEADOWLARK)
- NO PREORDER NECESSARY
- GRAB-N-GO BREAKFAST ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
 - BHS
 - CHIEF JOSEPH & SACAJAWEA
 - IRVING, WHITTIER, HYALITE
- STUDENT DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT
- FREE TO ANYONE 18 & UNDER

Upcoming Dates

April

- 1 School-within-a-School Parent Meeting, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
- 8 Learning Conversations at Home Spring Conferences, **no school**
- 9 PIR Day, **no school**
- 20 7th & 8th Grade Orchestra Concert, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, GHS Auditorium
- 23 Trimester 3 Mid-Term, last day of 6 week 5 electives



May

- 6 Jazz Band Concert, 7:30 - 8:30 pm, SMS Gym
- 12 Band Concert, GHS Auditorium: 6th Grade - 6:30 pm, 7th Grade - 7:20 pm, 8th Grade - 8:10
- 15 Speech & Debate Meet, SMS, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
- 24 Choir Concert, 6:00 - 8:30 pm, Willson Auditorium
- 26 8th Grade Performance Arts production, *Check Please*, 11:30 - 12:15 pm, Details to be determined
- 31 Memorial Day Holiday - **No School**



Sacajawea Middle School

3525 South 3rd Avenue, Bozem...

406-522-6400

sms.bsd7.org/

