FROM THE STACKS

A Year in Review

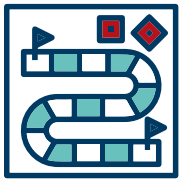
Lauren Younger,
Library & Information Specialist

It will be no surprise to anyone who knows a Good Shepherd student that our library is one of the busiest places on campus! Our students and teachers are voracious readers, and their love of learning from, and being entertained by, books is contagious. But the library is more than just a place to read; it is a learning commons where students create their own media, perform academic research, and grow as digital citizens. I hope you enjoy this snapshot of a year in the Good Shepherd library.

How many library books were written by students?
Second grade student Cade and fourth grade student Salma both impressed me during October's library Pumpkin Contest by creating their own original texts to accompany their pumpkin entries. Salma authored a nonfiction book with her sister about beating anxiety, and Cade crafted a trilogy of adventure stories. Second grader Riley created a coloring book as part of her class's economics unit on supply and demand. The coloring book is one of 34 unique books written by Good Shepherd students that can be borrowed from the library.



How many board games have we created?
Catherine Scott's Design Thinking elective challenged eighth grade students to create original board games that will build community using empathetic design principles. Her students came up with more than 30 unique games, and some utilized a 3D printer to craft their pawns.



30
board games

How many author visits have we had?
This year, the library hosted author visits from 2 authors who also illustrate their own books. Our first grade and primer students shared a Zoom call with Geisel Award winner James Yang. Mr. Yang taught our students how to illustrate a snowy scene with movement. Our second through eighth grade students enjoyed a lively presentation by New York Times bestselling author Nathan Hale. Mr. Hale shared the true story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and the fascinating history of President James Garfield.

Which teacher reads the most?
The employee who checked out the most library books this year was kindergarten teacher Debbie Cummings, who borrowed 197 books from the library to share with her students. That's more books than there are days in the school year!

Which student reads the most?
Second grade student Rahil, with 240 library checkouts, has even Mrs. Cummings beat as our biggest reader at Good Shepherd. Rahil says, "I like reading because books take me to a different world, and I like reading when I am bored."



What library book has the most checkouts?
The book with the most checkouts this school year is the graphic novel "Guts" by Raina Telgemeier. The author's book "Sisters" came in second place. Third and fourth place went to "The Baby-Sitters Club Claudia and Mean Janine" and "Dawn and the Impossible Three." "Smile" by Raina Telgemeier came in fifth. Our top fiction book was "Pax" by Sara Pennypacker, followed closely by "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." Our top nonfiction title was "Pokemon Deluxe Essential Handbook: the Need-to-Know Stats and Facts on Over 700 Pokemon."



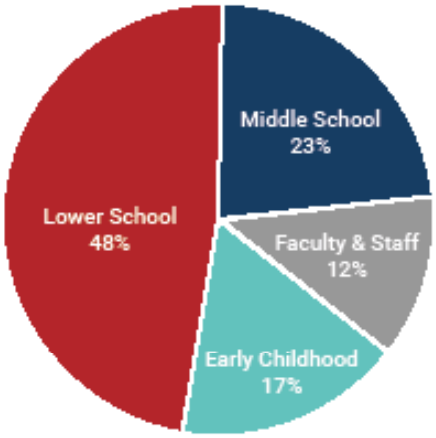
How many podcasts have we recorded?
Between our seventh grade podcasting elective, helmed by Kim Campbell, and various class projects, our students have created more than 180 podcasts this school year. Our students both inform and entertain as they write, rehearse, record, and edit. Other classes utilizing our two podcasting rigs are Lisa Coats' social studies students, Don Jung's fifth grade Passion Pursuit elective, Amy Melle's eighth grade Media Arts class, and some of you who joined us for recordings during Grandparents' Day.

What is our employee book club reading?
Our faculty and staff book club enjoyed "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig and "Atlas of the Heart" by Brené Brown this year. In the fall, the club will read "Life in Five Senses: How Exploring the Senses Got Me Out of My Head and Into the World" by Gretchen Rubin.

How many digital citizenship lessons have we completed?
Middle School students have completed 14 digital literacy activities in the library this year, and many more in their classrooms, through the WIN at Social program from The Social Institute. They are learning skills that will help them navigate technology and social media in the real world throughout the rest of school and into adulthood.

Which homeroom or advisory reads the most?
This school year, Tiffany White's third grade class took the top prize, with a whopping 923 books checked out. Mrs. White says, "My students discovered the excitement of reading books that are part of a series. "Harry Potter" and "A Series of Unfortunate Events" were two favorites. Graphic novels were also a hit with "Dog Man" and "The Baby-Sitter's Club" being the most popular. I loved seeing my students discussing their favorite books with each other!"

As a whole, Good Shepherd third graders borrowed 2,413 book titles in 2022-23, and our top six homerooms were all second and third grade classes. When asked why second and third graders are such strong readers, second grade student Cora philosophized that, "A good reader never puts down a book without finishing it."

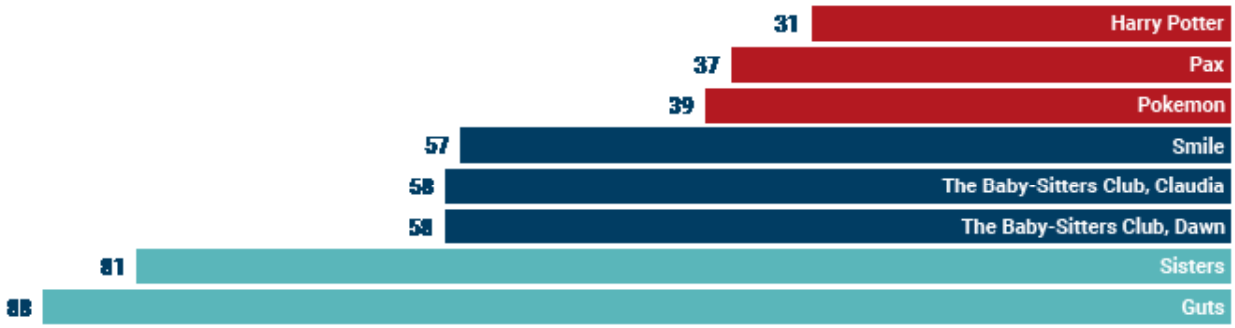


Total checkouts by Division



182
green screen videos

How many green screen videos have we created?
Under the leadership of our Educational Technologist Amy Melle, students have created more than 182 green screen videos this year inside the library's recording studio. Our first graders were transported to the country they researched for their cultural parade project, second grade students wrote and starred in commercials to promote their Christmas Market goods, and fifth grade students in Don Jung's Passion Pursuit elective used the green screen to create their class presentations.



Number of checkouts during the 2022-23 school year