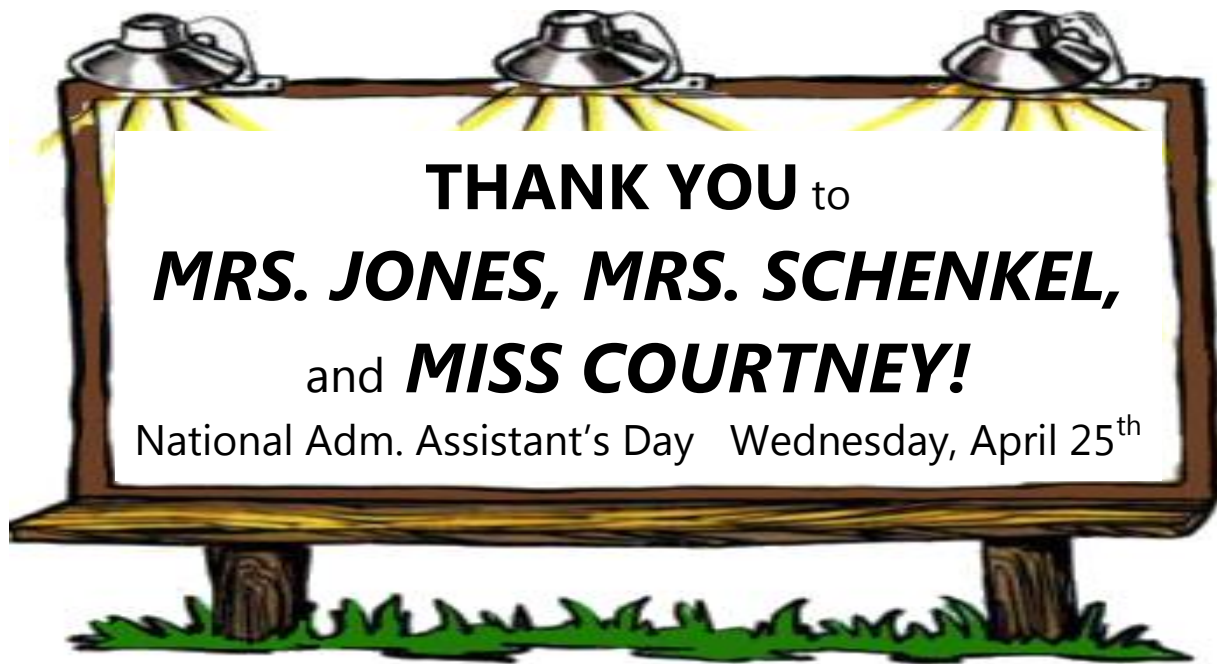




CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

WEEK OF APRIL 23, 2018

We are ... MUSTANG STRONG!



Greetings SSA Community,

This week I come to you with an overflowing heart, as Friday when I returned to school after my overseas excursion I was greeted excitedly by everyone at Stepping Stones Academy! Oh, how I missed those smiling faces, enthusiastic personalities, and loving spirits!

Not only was I able to once again lead Morning Assembly, but I was surprised in the afternoon with a Welcome Home Parade. As the theme song to "Welcome Back Kotter" played in the Courtyard, the parade opened with its very own purple Welcome Home sign filled with student messages and signatures. Next in the parade was one of the SSA horses, our special Bonnie. What a grand opening, but then the parade became even better as every student greeted me with a big hug, firm handshake, and kind words. The SSA animals, who were brightly decorated with bows, ribbons, and painted handprints of the K-4th grade children, joined in the excitement to complete this grand gesture of kindness!

No better parade was ever experienced!

Often I receive many "thanks" from families, students, and alumni for opening Stepping Stones Academy, but the actual "thanks" belongs to all of **YOU** – children, staff members, and SSA families! As we venture into these final weeks of this school year I invite you to join us in our many campus events where we are celebrating our children! *Let us experience together the masterpieces and achievements of our very special SSA children!*

With enthusiasm I return from my overseas adventure ready to embark on these last few weeks of the year. ***And it is with a grateful heart I thank you for all you do for Stepping Stones Academy!***

SSA EVERY DAY!

Ms. Stewart-Alliger

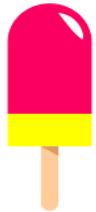


THIS WEDNESDAY **FOURTH GRADE PERFORMS**

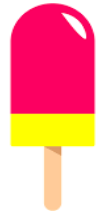


In partnership with Desert Foothills Theater the fourth grade class has been participating in the SSA Theater Immersion Program. For the past several weeks Ms. Heather from Desert Foothills Theater worked with the fourth grade students on acting out parts of a selected book to help them gain a better understanding of the story. This year the selected book is *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Students will present their adapted version of this story on Wednesday, April 25th at 2:00 p.m. Students in 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades will attend the performance. Families are also invited to attend this performance.

<i>Gavin Boisvert</i>	<i>Chase McCulley</i>	<i>Augustine Murray</i>	<i>Nathan Loucy</i>
<i>Conner Thompson</i>	<i>Jaden Gustafson</i>	<i>William Sanchez</i>	<i>Ashtyn Macias</i>
<i>Jonathon Wood</i>	<i>Wyatt Shepherd</i>	<i>Kaden Cannon</i>	<i>Zoe MacFarland</i>
<i>Kansas Janeway</i>	<i>Mikayla Holt</i>	<i>Hannah Hathorne</i>	<i>Rory Bauer</i>
<i>Trinity Gonzales</i>	<i>Kelcie Klinger</i>	<i>Isabele Lombardi</i>	<i>Danielle Casto</i>
<i>Christine Silaghi</i>	<i>Makayla Johnson</i>	<i>Kendra Gonzales</i>	<i>Sofia Doe</i>
<i>Sophia Panagopoulos</i>			



ICEE POPS FOR SALE THIS WEEK
AT LUNCHTIME
\$0.50 each



SSA SHOWCASE NIGHT STUDENT SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH 4:00-6:00 P.M.

Student Schedule

4:00-6:00 p.m. K-8th grade students stand by their projects

5:00-6:00 p.m. K-8th grade students visit projects in other rooms

Families may visit projects anytime between 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Snack Shack open serving hot dogs and nachos.



Students standing by their projects

from 4:00-5:00 p.m. earn a

BLUE JEAN DAY on Thursday, April 26th.



COMING TUESDAY NIGHT TO SSA ...

SSA SHOWCASE NIGHT

CLASS PROJECTS AND SCIENCE FAIR

APRIL 24TH 4:00-6:00 P.M.

FEATURING ...

PROJECTS FROM ALL K-8TH GRADE STUDENTS!

STUDENT PROJECTS

Projects will be on display by all K-8th grade students. Students will be standing by their projects and available to explain their projects and answer questions from 4:00-5:00 p.m. **Note – Students standing by their projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m. earn a free BLUE JEAN DAY on Thursday, April 26th.** From 5:00-6:00 p.m. students will be able to view the other projects. Projects will be set up in the classrooms, Courtyard, and Multi-Purpose building. *Note – Science Fair projects will be judged from 1:00-3:00 p.m.*

STUDENT PROJECTS

Kindergarten – Animal Habitats
1st grade – Model of Arizona with 5 state landmarks
2nd grade – 3D model of dinosaur and books
3rd grade – Diorama of a scene from a book
4th grade – Native American dwellings
5th-8th grades – Science Fair projects

LOCATION

Kindergarten Classroom
1st Grade Classroom
Multi-Purpose Building
3rd Grade Classroom
4th Grade Classroom
Multi-Purpose Building

SNACK SHACK OPEN

The Class of 2018 (8th grade) will be selling hot dogs, nachos, and other food and drink items.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

All K-8th grade students are expected to attend this event to share their projects. Students will be standing by their projects and available to explain their projects and answer questions from 4:00-5:00 p.m. From 5:00-6:00 p.m. students will be able to view the other projects. **Note – Students standing by their projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m. earn a free BLUE JEAN DAY on Thursday, April 26th.** *Students unable to attend are to bring a note and give to their classroom teacher.*

STUDENT ATTIRE

Students are to wear school uniform (polo shirt and khaki pants).



CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN!



**THANK YOU TO
NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY
FOR SPONSORING CAMPUS CLEAN-UP LAST FRIDAY!**



Yelena Trapp

Kolten Armstrong

Ethan Boisvert

Emily Bragg

Gabrielle Rubie

Sophie Gray

Mason Joslin

Cierra Witham

Peyton Sourant

Samantha Barnett

Yekaterina Trapp

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

I help at home by doing the cooking.

Rayen Major, Kindergarten

I show responsibility by organizing my room and the playroom as well as helping my mommy.

Christine Silaghi, 4th grade

If I was principal for the day I would have a pool because pools are fun.

Connor Doyle, 2nd grade

I could change one situation in the world I would change it so we have
World peace because then everyone would not die.

Ethan Boisvert, 7th grade

I am a good school citizen because I don't break the rules, I know
Character Counts, and I stand up for others.

Melania Cruz, 3rd grade



**THIS THURSDAY ...
K-8TH GRADE AWARDS ASSEMBLIES
THURSDAY, APRIL 26TH**



5th-8th Grade Assembly

12:45 p.m.

K-4th Grade Assembly

1:30 p.m.

FAMILY REMINDERS WITH WARMER WEATHER

1. Please send water bottles labeled with child's name.

Reminder - Water bottles may contain only water.

2. Please ensure lengths and styles of shirts and shorts adhere to the SSA policy.

Reminder - Students wearing shorts or shirts that are too short or do not follow the uniform policy will visit the Mustang Exchange to find clothing adhering to the uniform policy.



WALK-OUT INFORMATION FROM SSA

This message was sent via email last Saturday, April 21st; however, we want to ensure all of the SSA families received this information. Please be sure to contact Ms. Stewart-Alliger, Mrs. Panagopoulos, or the School Office with questions or concerns.

Greetings SSA Community,

With continued walk-ins scheduled by Arizona teachers for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week and the possibility of a walk-out scheduled for Thursday, April 26th, many of you have contacted us about the status of Stepping Stones Academy during this time. Additionally, many of you have shared your support for the school and our teachers on this issue and we want you to know we truly appreciate this! This is not an easy time for Arizona schools or educators; however, we want to assure you this issue is not affecting the children or activities within the classroom.



Ms. Stewart-Alliger and Mrs. Panagopoulos met with staff members after school on Friday to discuss the possible walk-out and how it may affect Stepping Stones Academy. While it is true Stepping Stones Academy fully supports additional school funding and hopes Governor Ducey and Arizona lawmakers quickly find a resolution to this important issue, ***Stepping Stones Academy will be in session as usual and activities will continue as scheduled.***

If you have additional questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us! We are here to answer your questions and address your concerns!

SSA EVERY DAY!

Mrs. Panagopoulos, Ms. Stewart-Alliger, and the SSA Mustang Team

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

If I was principal for the day I would let kids wear a purple shirt on Mondays and Fridays.

Jennifer Owens, 3rd grade

If I could be any animal I would choose a black panther because they are agile and a good leader.

Gavin Skaggs, 7th grade

I help at home by picking up things that I drop.

Andrew Kukes, Kindergarten



My Micro job was Music and More. My favorite part was dancing.

Annabella Vazquez, 1st grade

When I grow up I want to be a paleontologist.

Edmund DuBois, Pre-K



BLUE JEAN FRIDAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 27TH

Cost = \$1.00



ARIZONA PROJECTS BY FIRST GRADE

Families are encouraged to check out the Arizona projects completed by the first grade students. The projects will be on display at the SSA Showcase Night and students will be ready to answer questions about their projects and the state of Arizona. Students made their own models of Arizona featuring different parts of the state.



John Sweeney

Walker Walton

Cooper Willson

Aiden Evans

Michael Doyle

Aleah Armstrong

Sawyer Bauer

Lyla Buckles

Mason Menniti-Keen

Adyson Underwood

Miles Haven

Sophia Coffman

Tenishia Barge

Brasen Underwood

Dylan Beeman

Jaeden Morales

Dakota Bloyer

Brayden Carlicci

Kaelyn Peruch

Jace Gelinas

Seth Johnson

Juliet Veit

Lilly Bliss

Camryn Carpenter

Noah Warner

Charlie Erickson

Annabella Vazquez

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

My Micro job was at Books R Us. My favorite part was making book marks.

Charlie Erickson, 1st grade

I show responsibility by cleaning my room.

Logan Ranck, 3rd grade

I help at home by doing chores like dusting and cleaning and helping with my sister.

Hunter Watzek, 2nd grade

The most challenging task I have undertaken is winning Nationals out of 30 horses.

Salma Trevizo, 7th grade

If I could be any animal in the world I would choose a dog because dogs are carefree and friendly.

Gabrielle Wolf, 8th grade



**GOOD
LUCK!**

MRS. VENAFRO SAYS "GOOD-BYE"

TO STEPPING STONES ACADEMY AT END OF YEAR

Mrs. Venafo, first grade teacher, will not be returning to Stepping Stones Academy next year as Mr. and Mrs. Venafo are expecting their first child in June. Mrs. Venafo has decided to leave teaching so she may stay at home to care for their new daughter, Cheyenne. Mrs. Venafo is completing this school year and families are invited to stop by and wish her the good wishes ... or provide her with new baby parenting tips. Stepping Stones Academy wishes the entire Venafo family much happiness as they begin this new family adventure!

WELCOME BABY CHEYENNE VENAFRO!

THIS TUESDAY ...

SSA SHOWCASE NIGHT

CLASS PROJECTS AND SCIENCE FAIR

TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH 4:00-6:00 P.M.

ALL K-8TH GRADES ATTEND!

Students stand by projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Students view other projects from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Families may view projects throughout the night.



THANK YOU TO MRS. JONES!

PERFORMANCE THIS FRIDAY

ALICE'S ROCKIN' WONDERLAND

Coming to the stage at Stepping Stones Academy is the musical, *Alice's Rockin' Wonderland* performed by the talented Mustang Theater group. The story is based on the story *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* written by Lewis Carroll with the script, music, and lyrics adapted to the musical by Director David Simmons. The musical will be performed two times on Friday, April 27th. All students will attend the first performance at 1:00 p.m. The second performance is at 4:00 p.m. The SSA community is invited to attend one or both performances.



Bethany Camping

Aquinnah Goveia

Jada St. Jean-Stevens

Christopher DeLira

William Wilkinson

August Bloyer

Sofia Doe

Melania Cruz

Elexis Lunsford

FIELD DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

8:00-11:45 A.M.

SUPERVISE GAMES

11:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

SET-UP AND LUNCH

To sign-up, please contact the School Office.



Friendly
Reminder

**IF STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING FIELD DAY
PLEASE SEND A NOTE OR CALL THE OFFICE.**

KARATE FOR KIDS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM BEGINS



Stepping Stones Academy thanks Karate for Kids for the class presentations it provided to the K-8th grade students about self-discipline, bullying, and good citizenship. Special thanks to Karate for Kids for also offering an after-school program and donating the registration fees to Stepping Stones Academy. Students in the after school program include:

Madison Doyle
Blaine Plathe
Sierra Hewitt
Allison Brieese
Gavin Hall
Aiden Evans

Aaiden Rodgers
Connor Doyle
Walker Walton
Cierra Witham
Adam Wagner
Hunter Henshaw

Kaitlyn Womack
Brody Morgan
Michael Doyle
Camryn Carpenter
Isabella Anderson
Elizabeth Uebel

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

The most challenging task I have undertaken is helping build the school garden in 5th and 6th grades.

Yelena Trapp, 8th grade

As an adult I want to be a dental hygienist and then teach.

Stephanie Vega, 6th grade



8TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

Projects will be on display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Science Fair projects will be judged in the afternoon from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each grade level (5th-8th grades).

Student Name
Aidan Brewington
Brie Binder
Brady Turgeon
Bethany Camping
Sophie Gray
Kolten Armstrong
Marissa Vazquez
Sam Manganeli
Gabrielle Wolf
Peyton Sourant
Alec Brewington

Project Title
 Which Oil Sinks Fastest?
 Soda Launching
 Microwave Madness
 Doggie Chow Down
 Nails as Hard as Hammers
 Rocket Power
 Flower Power
 Melted
 Make Up for Hours
 Do Horses Have a Dominant Side?
 Which Cereal Brand has the Most Iron?

Student Name **Project Title**
Troy Johnson Soda Explosion
Elexis Lunsford Freeze It
Corbin Ripple Crystal Farm
Gabrielle Rubie Bounce
Ian Matheson Burning Wax
Yelena Trapp Clean It Up
Elijah McClellan Bounce Test



CONGRATULATIONS TO



MYA ODELLO

BLAINE PLATHE

MADISON HOELZER

DILLON CONNELLEY

NATALEE JOHNSON

AUGUSTINE MURRAY

on the performance of, "Why the Bear Has a Stumpy Tail"

THANK YOU TO MRS. SCHENKEL!

WAITING LISTS FOR NEXT YEAR AT STEPPING STONES ACADEMY

Stepping Stones Academy hopes all families enrolled for next year return to SSA, but school officials understand plans change causing families to not return. Families knowing they will not be returning next year are asked to contact the School Office, if this has not yet been completed. This will allow other families to enroll who are currently on the waiting lists.

Stepping Stones Academy is currently at maximum capacity for next year and has started waiting lists. New families continue to walk through the purple doors of the School Office almost daily wishing to enroll for next year and Stepping Stones Academy wishes to provide the most current enrollment information as possible. Families are also asked to contact Stepping Stones Academy if plans change during the summer, so new families may be enrolled as spots become available.



THANK YOU FROM STEPPING STONES ACADEMY!

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

I help at home by helping my parents do their taxes.

David Gjonaj, 3rd grade

I help in the classroom by putting away supplies and sometimes I help clean up.

Royce Adams, Kindergarten

One way I show community service is by picking up trash when I am riding my bike.

Gabrielle Rubie, 8th grade

If I was school principal for the day I would have no homework on Wednesdays.

Nathan Loucy, 4th grade

I help at home by doing lots of chores like feeding the goat, dogs, and chickens.

Andrew MacFarland, 2nd grade



DINOSAUR PROJECTS BY SECOND GRADE

On display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. will be all kinds of dinosaurs made by the second grade students. Families are invited to stop by and view these amazing dinosaurs and encouraged to ask the students questions about the dinosaurs' habitats, eating habits, and other features about the species. Students will be standing by their projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Name of Dinosaur

Tyrannosaurus Rex

Plesiosaur

Megaladon

Triceratops

Velociraptor

Brachiosaurus

Stegosaurus

Pterodactyl

Spinosaurus

Pachycephalosaurus

Carnotaurus

Ankylosaurus

Mosasaurus

Student Name

Lydia Klinger

Evelyn McLeod

Andrew MacFarland

Hunter Henshaw

Hunter Watzek

Aubrey St. Jean-Stevens

Khristopher Sanchez

Joshua Perry

Cayden Walker

Gunner Mullins

Connor Doyle

Kahlan Holt

Bradley Miner

Student Name

Dylan Schalk

Peyton Griffin

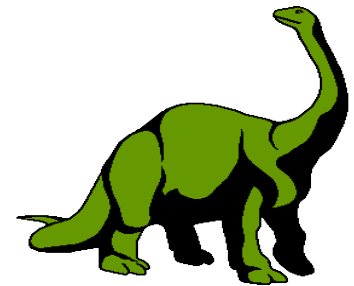
Keirnan Hiner

Kalise Larson

Jace Kirby

Reese Yoder

Robbie Donaldson



AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

As an adult I want to be a psychologist because I want to help people with their problems.

Jada St. Jean-Stevens, 5th grade

I help at home by putting the trash in the trash can.

Avin Martens, Kindergarten

The hardest thing I have ever done is have a little sister.

Jace Kirby, 2nd grade

When I grow up I want to be a cop.

Mekena Newcomb, Pre-K

I help at home by watering the horses.

Wyatt Shepherd, 4th grade



Do you have clothes that follow the uniform policy?

Do you have uniform clothes your children are no longer wearing?

Are the clothes clean and in good condition?

If so, please consider donating these items to the

MUSTANG CLOTHING EXCHANGE

ONLY ONE NEW TEACHER NEEDED NEXT YEAR



Contracts have been distributed, signed, and returned ... and Stepping Stones Academy is delighted to announce it has an almost 100% return rate of staff members. In this time of teacher shortage in Arizona, Stepping Stones Academy is fortunate to have staff members who not only wish to return to SSA next year, but who also enjoy teaching and making a difference in the lives of our future leaders of America. Stepping Stones Academy has one teacher not returning next year, Mrs. Venafro, first grade teacher. Mrs. Venafro is expecting her first child in June and she is leaving the teaching field to stay at home and care for her new baby. All other friendly teaching faces will be returning to the Stepping Stones Academy campus next year!

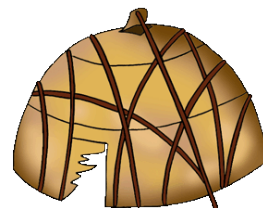


Ms. Stewart-Alliger and Mrs. Panagopoulos, along with a team of teachers, are currently interviewing candidates for the first grade position and are happy to report several applicants are extremely interested in joining the SSA Team. Currently, the team is conducting second interviews with five candidates, all who bring unique aspects to both the classroom and campus. Once a first grade teacher is hired for next year information will be published in Campus Highlights.

THANK YOU TO MISS COURTNEY!

NATIVE AMERICAN DWELLINGS BY FOURTH GRADE

On display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th will be Native American dwellings made by the fourth grade students. Families are invited to stop by these projects and ask the students questions about their projects and their selected Native American tribe. Students will be standing by their projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m.



Native American Tribe

Student Name

Student Name

Maricopa Tribe

Christine Silaghi

Trinity Gonzales

Yavapai Tribe

Hannah Hathorne

Danielle Casto

Apache Tribe

Kansas Janeway

Kendra Gonzales

Papago/Tohono O'odham

Wyatt Shepherd

Sophia Panagopoulos

Hohokam Tribe

Isabele Lombardi

Jaden Gustafson

Havasupai Tribe

Jonathon Wood

Nathan Loucy

Hopi Tribe

Zoe MacFarland

Kelcie Klinger

Navajo Tribe

Chase McCulley

Ashytn Macias

Yuma Tribe

Kaden Cannon

Hualapai Tribe

Sofia Doe

Rory Bauer

Paiute Tribe

Mikayla Holt

Makayala Johnson

Mohave Tribe

Connor Thompson

William Sanchez

Cocopah Tribe

Gavin Boisvert

Augustine Murray

SSA SUMMER CAMP!

When May 29th – July 27th
 Students may attend all days or selected days

Time 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 Extended Care Hours = 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Cost \$25/day per child – or \$100 for the full week
 Extended Care available 3:00-5:30 p.m. \$10/day per child
 One time, non-refundable \$25 Registration Fee per child



***READING & MATH PRACTICE ... INDOOR & OUTDOOR GAMES ...
 HELP CARE FOR ANIMALS ... LOTS OF FUN AND FRIENDS!***



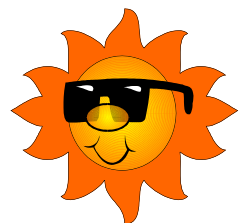
7TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

Projects will be on display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Science Fair projects will be judged in the afternoon from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each grade level (5th-8th grades). Families may view these projects at either time.

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>
Samantha Barnett	Fizzy Fruit	Joseph Lethem	Pop Stars
Aquinnah Goveia	Heated Up	Haylie Hoelzer	Floating Egg
Ethan Boisvert	Candy Meltings	Mason Joslin	State of Decay
Noah Sorensen	So-duh Explosions	Dakota Harvey	Dying Light
Salma Trevizo	The S'more You Know	Gavin Skaggs	Magic Magnet
Christopher DeLira	The Eggcellent Experiment	Ryan Nies	Mint Explosions
Joseph Boldt	Like Water	Logan Koechig	Soda Pressure
Emily Bragg	Where's Lincoln?	Hailey Cole	Here Doggy
Gracelyn Bliss	Crack, Sizzle, Pop	Jennifer Wood	Final Meltdown
Yekaterina Trapp	Pop Goes the Carbon	Cierra Witham	Splodin' Soda

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FIELD DAY

If you are available to help with Field Day on Friday, May 4th, please contact the School Office. Volunteers are needed to help with games and lunch.



5TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

Projects will be on display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Science Fair projects will be judged in the afternoon from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each grade level (5th-8th grades).

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>
Kaiah Janeway	Soda & Coffee vs Teeth
Jada St. Jean-Stevens	Egg-tastic
Tanner Thompson	Sink or Swim
William Klafter	The Screeching String
Allison Briese	Protecting Your Melon
Jennifer Bessinger	Funky Antacid
Madison Bigwood	Counting M & M's
Tristan Judd	Delta Paper Airplanes
Brayden Carpenter	Celery Sponge
Madison Hoelzer	Strong Paper Towel
Aaliyah Bessinger	Liquid Sand
Jackson Niemerg	Soils Lab
Mason Koechig	The Farthest and the Furious
Kaitlyn Womack	Dissolve or Not Dissolve
Lillyanna Moerschbaeher	Let It Fizz
Judah Flores	Give Me the Juice

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>
Allaira Larson	The Rose Project
Raegan Kusnell	Flour & Muffins
Logan Schenkel	Edible Energy
Jayla Yoder	Words Do Matter
Halie Gotch	Bubble Blow
Jared MacLiver	Shocks that Rock
Samuel Shaw	Bring on the Boil
Jordan Kirk	Soda Volcano



AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

My Micro job was being a sheriff deputy. I learned we can change the school so no one disrespects the rules.

Makayla Johnson, 4th grade

If I could change one situation in the world I would stop people from doing illegal things.

Haylie Hoelzer, 7th grade

If I was principal for the day I would have shorter days at school.

Sierra Hewitt, 3rd grade

I show good citizenship by helping to clean up the trash on the floor at my dad's shop.

Kaydence Barsellotti, 6th grade

If I could change one situation in the world I would stop world hunger because it hurts my heart.

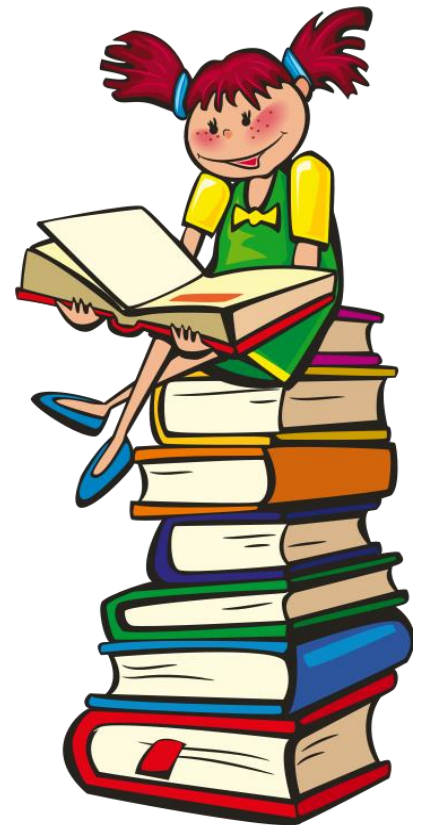
Elexis Lunsford, 8th grade



BOOK PROJECTS BY THIRD GRADE STUDENTS

On display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th will be book projects made by the third grade students. Families are invited to stop by these projects and ask the students questions about their projects. Students will be standing by their projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Book Title</u>
Gavin Hall	<i>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</i>
Melania Cruz	<i>The Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>
Daniel Trevizo	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>
Lydia MacLiver	<i>Little House on the Prairie</i>
Zane Bliss	<i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i>
Megan Bigwood	<i>Freckle Juice</i>
Elizabeth Uebel	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>
Charlotte Kusnell	<i>The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i>
Logan Ranck	<i>Treasure Island</i>
Aaiden Rodgers	<i>The Giving Tree</i>
August Bloyer	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>
Joshua Lunsford	<i>School Droom and Other Daily Disasters</i>
Madisyn Willson	<i>The Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>
Riley Hanson	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>
Kasey Wood	<i>The Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>
David Gjonaj	<i>Little White Duck, A Childhood in China</i>
Talon Milton	<i>The Last of the Dinosaurs</i>
Jaxon Carnley	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>
Delilah Morales	<i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i>
Sierra Hewitt	<i>Charlotte's Web</i>
Adam Wagner	<i>Sarah Plain and Tall</i>
Purslane Flores	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>
Jennifer Owens	<i>WFG</i>
Madison Doyle	<i>The Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>
Jacob Lunsford	<i>The One and Only Ivan</i>
Dylana Lee	<i>Freckle Juice</i>
Grace Driscoll	<i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i>
Kyler Lethem	<i>Little House in the Big Woods</i>
Preston Thurman-Foote	<i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i>



6TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

Projects will be on display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Science Fair projects will be judged in the afternoon from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each grade level (5th-8th grades).

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>
Sydney Doe	To Clean or Not To Clean	Stephanie Vega	Yummy Gummy
Julia Ricker	The Inky Situation	Ryle Lunsford	Melt It
Kassidy Byrket	What Food is the Baa...st?	Kenzie Stewart	Ice Ice Baby
Avery Mullins	Watch Your Sweet Tooth	Allison Turgeon	Invisible Skittles
William Wilkinson	Bacteria	Jessie Owens	Vroom, Vroom
Madyson Warner	Rainbow Jar	Blaine Plathe	Case of Coins
Kaydence Barsellotti	Make It Fizz	Natalee Johnson	Popular M & M
Jonathan Wagner	While You Still Have Hair	Sophia Hoffman	The Best Burger
Mya Odello	Ball Gravity Experiment		
Mason Lunsford	The Amazing Hot Wheels Race		
Kaden Lethem	The Amazing Homopolar Motor		
Landon Nelson	The Moldy Bread Experiment		
Colten Jordan	How Good is Your Sense of Smell?		
Johnnie Parry	The Mento Explosion		
Aidan Macias	The Amazing Elephant Toothpaste		
Dillon Connelley	Horse Hoof Rack to Moisture		
Iden Prescott	Which Play-Doh Molds Better?		
George Panagopoulos	Quarter Paper Water		



AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

When I grow up I want to be my sister.

Lilly Richardson, Pre-K

If I was principal for the day I would get new sports equipment.

Augustine Murray, 4th grade

As an adult I want to be a professional roper.

Johnnie Parry, 6th grade

If I was principal for the day I would have Donut Day on Monday.

Khristopher Sanchez, 2nd grade

I am a good role-model for others by showing fairness and sticking up for people in a kind way.

Marissa Vazquez, 8th grade



ANIMAL HABITAT PROJECTS BY KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS



On display at the SSA Showcase Night on Tuesday, April 24th will be animal habitat projects made by the kindergarten students. Families are invited to stop by these projects and ask the students questions about their projects. Students will be standing by their projects from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Animal Habitat</u>	<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>
Scarlette Heinrich	Tortoise	Brody Morgan	Penguin
Isabella Anderson	Lion	Emily Milton	Lion
Natalie Silaghi	Horse	Royce Adams	Bull
Abraham DuBois II	Piranha	Liam Tuller	Horse
Addison Wendtland	Coyote	Rayen Major	Zebra
CasyJohn Blau	Lion	Faith Cloos	White Tiger
Wyatt Wiertzema	Black Panther	Cash Hensley	Tortoise
Mackenzzy Sulzer	Penguin	Mason Walker	Rattlesnake
Andrew Kukes	Rattlesnak	Avin Martens	Gila Monster
Dominic Carnley	Ladybug	Joseph Scovill	Snake
Samuel Dawson	Mountain Lion	Brian Hathorne	Lion
Hallee Dempster	Snow Bunny	Xzavier Corral	Cheetah
Isabella Brothers	Tortoise	Jace Gustafson	Tortoise

COMING NEXT WEEK **FIELD DAY TEAM MEETINGS**

From Monday, April 30th through Thursday, May 3rd from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Field Day teams will meet to select team names, make a team poster, and practice team cheers. Teams will also be planning strategy for some of the events, including the most popular event ... Tug-of-War.

Field Day is on Friday, May 4th and families are invited to volunteer to help with games and/or serving lunch or simply come cheer on the teams!



The events will include 14 different events. This includes the bounce bounce house, free sno-cones, and 12 team games. All events promote teamwork and cooperation, so it is important for teams to work together for their score.

Field Day is about having fun as the SSA community ... supporting one another ... recognizing everyone's strengths ... and lifting each other up in celebration!

Team coaches this year are Miss Garrett, Mrs. Venafrro, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Rom, Ms. Branham, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Courtney and Miss Vonderscher, Mrs. Robinson, Miss Mackey, Mrs. Carpenter, Mr. Shinker, Mrs. Geiser, and Mrs. Clements.

COMING NEXT WEEK



SSA ROADRUNNER NIGHT

MAY 2ND 5:00-7:00 P.M.



Come join the SSA staff for a night of fun!

COMING NEXT WEEK

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER ON THURSDAY, MAY 3RD

The National Day of Prayer will be celebrated across the United States on Thursday, May 3rd and will be recognized at Stepping Stones Academy after Morning Assembly. Students, teachers, and families wishing to remain at the flag pole after the usual closing will be able to join together in prayer for the school, community, and country. Students wishing to not participate will wait at their classrooms.



The National Day of Prayer began in 1775, when the Continental Congress asked the colonists to pray for "...wisdom in forming a nation." President Truman signed the National Day of Prayer into law in 1952, "... as a day for all faiths to pray for the nation." President Reagan then amended the law so the National Day of Prayer is on the first Thursday in May each year.

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

The hardest thing I have ever done is ride a goat.

Isabele Lombardi, 4th grade

If I could change on situation in the world I would change the cost of hospitals because people's lives are more important.

Dakota Harvey, 7th grade

If I was principal for the day I would give kids more snack time.

Tenishia Barge, 1st grade

I help at home by feeding the dog and cleaning my room.

Elizabeth Uebel, 3rd grade

My Micro job was in Rodeo Club. I learned how to rope and how to be more competitive.

Natalee Johnson, 6th grade



MUSTANG BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT ON MAY 5TH

Come one, come all to the cheer on the Mustang Basketball team at the League's tournament on Saturday, May 5th. The team will play two games as the team closes out its season. Members of the team include William Klafter, Mikayla Holt, Chase McCulley, Logan Ranck, Robbie Donaldson, and Walker Walton.



COMING NEXT WEEK

FIELD DAY ON FRIDAY, MAY 4TH

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

8:00-8:15 a.m.	Morning Assembly at the Flag Pole
8:15-8:30 a.m.	Attendance in Classrooms and Report to Teams
8:30-8:45 a.m.	Opening Ceremony in Multi-Purpose Building
8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Students Participate in Events
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Grilled Hot Dog Lunch - Free to Everyone
1:00-1:45 p.m.	Tug-of-War Event
1:45-3:00 p.m.	Team Cheers and Awards Ceremony



LUNCH PLANS – Everyone will be served a free hot dog lunch of grilled hot dogs, chips, and drink. Regular school lunch will not be served. Students not wanting the hot dog lunch need to bring lunch from home. Sno-cones will be available in the morning for free during the events.

STUDENT TEAMS – Students are divided into 14 teams with each group including a mixture of K-8th grade students. The team coaches selected team colors so t-shirts will be tie-dyed the colors of the teams. (Note – T-shirts will be tie-dyed at school.) Teams will be meeting in the afternoons of April 30th – May 3rd to select team names, decide team cheers, and make team posters. Teams will also be strategizing and practicing for some of the events during the team meetings.

WHAT TO WEAR FOR FIELD DAY?

SHIRTS - Students will bring home their tie dyed t-shirts before Field Day and are to wear their t-shirts to school on Field Day. If students do not wear the tie-dyed shirts, they are to wear a polo shirt or SSA t-shirt. Students are not allowed to wear a bathing suit under their shirts. They may wear a t-shirt or sleeveless top under their shirt, but must wear their Field Day t-shirt all day.

SHORTS/PANTS – Students are to wear khaki or blue jean shorts/pants. It is important shorts be long enough (no more than 3" above the knee). If shorts are not long enough, students will visit Mustang Exchange and find a pair of khaki shorts to wear. It is suggested students wear an older pair of shorts/pants, because sometimes the dye from the shirt runs on the shorts/pants.



SHOES – It is suggested students wear tennis shoes; however, students may wear any style of shoe that adheres to the uniform policy. Students must wear shoes all day, even if shoes become wet.

WATER BOTTLES – Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles. Water bottles may only contain water and may be refilled throughout the day at the water fountains.

SUNSCREEN – Students are encouraged to come to school with sunscreen and sunscreen will be applied to all students throughout the day by team coaches. *Students not wanting sunscreen are to bring a note from their parents.*

AWARDS CEREMONY – At the end of the day, an awards ceremony will be held in the Multi-Purpose building. Teams will perform their cheers and receive ribbons for the events.



COMING MAY 7TH – 11TH

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Information sent home this week.

Please complete the form and return to the School Office.

Shhhh ... It is a surprise for the teachers!



THANK YOU SSA FAMILIES!



**APRIL LITERACY ACHIEVEMENT
AND FAST FACTS CALENDARS
DUE MONDAY, MAY 7TH!**



SPIRIT WEEK COMING MAY 7TH-11TH

Spirit Week is coming to Stepping Stones Academy. Students are encouraged to participate as a fun way to show their Mustang Spirit. Students choosing not to participate are to wear school uniform.

Monday, May 7th

MONDAY MARVELS

Students dress as their favorite Super Hero. Students may wear a shirt with a favorite superhero on it or dress as the actual superhero. Students are to wear khaki short/pants.

Tuesday, May 8th

TEAM TUESDAY

Students dress in their favorite team shirts, including SSA Mustangs. Students are to wear khaki short/pants.



Wednesday, May 9th

WACKY WEDNESDAY

Students wear wacky socks, hats, and accessories with wacky hair. Polo shirts and khaki pants/shorts are to be worn.

Thursday, May 10th

THROWBACK THURSDAY

Students dress in '50's, '60's, '70's, or '80's. School uniform not required.

Friday, May 11th

FANCY FRIDAY

Students wear fancy dress clothes. School uniform not required.

Stepping Stones Academy thanks Mrs. Geiser, Mrs. Clements and NJHS members for selecting fun themes for each day. NJHS members include Sophie Gray, Kolten Armstrong, Yelena Trapp, Gabrielle Rubie, Peyton Sourant, Samantha Barnett, Emily Bragg, Yekaterina Trapp, Ethan Boisvert, Cierra Witham, and Mason Joslin.

MOTHER'S DAY PARTIES ON MAY 11TH

Pre-K - 6th grades are honoring their mothers/grandmothers/special person with Mother's Day parties on Friday, May 11th. More information will be coming home in the next couple of weeks from the classroom teachers.

Pre-K	8:30-9:00 a.m.	3 rd grade	9:30-10:00 a.m.
Kdgn.	9:00-9:30 a.m.	4 th grade	8:30-9:00 a.m.
1 st grade	9:00-9:30 a.m.	5 th grade	10:00-10:30 a.m.
2 nd grade	9:30-10:00 a.m.	6 th grade	10:00-10:30 a.m.



AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

At Stepping Stones Academy I like the amazing teachers. They always find a way to make us happy. They are so nice and caring. I also love that we have animals. I love SSA. I love my school.

Kaiah Janeway, 5th grade

I help at home by feeding the dogs – ALL five of them.

Grace Driscoll, 3rd grade

I am a good friend because I pick up people when they fall.

Jace Gelinas, 1st grade

If I was school principal for the day I would make lunch shorter because it seems really long and I would add vending machines all over campus.

Colten Jordan, 6th grade

If I could change one situation in the world I would make sure everyone could get a job.

Sam Manganelli, 8th grade



WET-N-WILD FIELD TRIP IN MAY

MAY 17TH

3RD-8TH GRADES

Permission forms sent home this week.



BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE BOOK FAIR COMING ON MAY 11TH

BUY ONE, GET ONE
FREE
BOOK FAIR

Stepping Stones Academy is once again hosting a Book Fair designed especially to help prepare children for summer reading. The Book Fair is **ONE DAY ONLY** on Friday, May 11th and will be open all day, including before and after Mother's Day parties. All books are **BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE** (of equal or lesser value). Families may stop in during the day and visit the Book Fair or may send money to school with their children so students may purchase books. The purpose of this Book Fair is to provide students with an opportunity to prepare for summer reading by purchasing books at a great value. Profits from the Book Fair will be used by Stepping Stones Academy to purchase new books and classroom equipment for the upcoming school year.

WATER DAY ON THURSDAY, MAY 17TH FOR K-2ND GRADES

On Thursday, May 17th, water balloons, water slides, and water games will fill the playground, as the K-2nd graders participate in the annual Water Day event. (Note - The 3rd-8th graders will be at Wet-n-Wild Water Park.) A tentative schedule for the day includes:

8:00-9:00 a.m.	Morning Assembly and Attendance
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Play Water Games
11:00-11:30 a.m.	Get Ready for Lunch
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Movie
1:30-2:30 p.m.	Play Water Games
2:30-3:00 p.m.	Clean-Up



Students need to come to school in their purple t-shirts and khaki or blue jean shorts, but may wear their swimming suits under their clothes. Students may also bring along their swimming suits and change before the activities begin. Students also need to bring a towel, sunscreen, water bottle, and cap/hat. All items should be marked in black permanent marker with children's names. For lunch students will be served a grilled hot dog lunch, which will be free to everyone. More information about the fun-filled day will be sent home with the K-2nd grade students in early May.

STEPPING STONES ACADEMY - MAKING MAGIC HAPPEN EVERY DAY!

WET-N-WILD FIELD TRIP ON MAY 17TH FOR 3RD-8TH GRADES

On Thursday May 17th, the 3rd-8th graders will spend the day having fun at Wet-n-Wild Water Park located at 43rd Avenue and Pinnacle Peak Road. The park opens early in the year just for school groups. All parents are invited to join the 3rd-8th grade students and teachers for this day of fun in the sun! (Note – Younger and older siblings may not attend.) Permission slips are being sent home and include more information about the field trip. Parents wishing come along for this day of fun and are reminded to sign up on the permission form.



AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

If I was school principal for the day I would work on the computer and help others.

Samuel Dawson, Kindergarten

I show responsibility by helping my little brother on the slide.

Riley Hanson, 3rd grade

As an adult I want to be a surgeon because my mom is going to be a nurse.

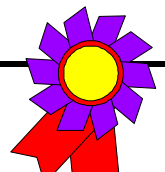
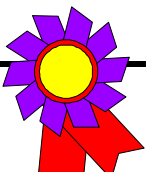
Mason Koechig, 5th grade

It is important to work well with others because you can learn many things from others and then you can pass that information onto other people.

Aiden Macias, 6th grade



MAY AWARDS ASSEMBLIES



8TH GRADE AWARDS ASSEMBLY
April and May, 4th Quarter, and All Year Awards
Wednesday, May 16th 9:00 a.m.

Members of the Class of 2018 will be honored and receive April and May awards of Literacy Achievement, Fast Facts, and Perfect Attendance, 4th Quarter awards of Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, Academy Award, and Mustang Award, and All-Year awards of Fast Facts, Literacy Achievement, Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, and Academy Award. All K-7th graders will attend this assembly.



5TH-7TH GRADE AWARDS ASSEMBLY
April and May and 4th Quarter Awards
Wednesday, May 23rd 12:45 p.m.



Awards will be given for April Literacy Achievement and Fast Facts, and April and May Perfect Attendance and 4th quarter for Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, Academy Award, Mustang Award.



K-4TH GRADE AWARDS ASSEMBLY
April and May and 4th Quarter Awards
Wednesday, May 23rd 1:30 p.m.



Awards will be given for April Literacy Achievement and Fast Facts, and April and May Perfect Attendance and 4th quarter for Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, Academy Award, Mustang Award.



K-7TH GRADE AWARDS ASSEMBLY
All Year Awards
Thursday, May 24th 1:30 p.m.



Students will be honored for the All-Year awards of Fast Facts, Literacy Achievement, Perfect Attendance, Honor Roll, and Academy Award.

AND THE CHILDREN SAY ...

It is important to listen to the teacher, because it might be important.

Kaelyn Peruch, 1st grade



I help at home by making dinner and helping around the house.

Jordan Kirk, 5th grade

I help at home by washing the dishes.

Joseph Scovill, Kindergarten

My Micro job was an office assistant. My favorite part was getting to help in the office.

Joshua Lunsford, 3rd grade

If I could be any animal I would be a unicorn because unicorns are majestic or I would be a monkey because monkeys can eat bananas with their feet.

Sophie Gray, 8th grade



STEPPING STONES ACADEMY'S MISSION STATEMENT

We envision an environment that provides academic, social and personal skills children need to become confident and responsible citizens. We believe learning should be based on individualized, relevant activities and frequent assessment to monitor student progress and achievement. We promote high student expectations with consideration and respect for all individuals; thereby, developing life-long learners and productive members of society.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*(Events with an asterisk * are events added this week.)*

April 23 rd	HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MISS WILSON	
April 24 th	Science Fair - Projects Judged – 5 th -8 th grades	1:00-3:00 p.m.
	SSA Showcase Night – K-8 th grades	4:00-6:00 p.m.
April 25 th	CELEBRATE MRS. JONES, MRS. SCHENKEL, MISS COURTNEY	
	Theater Immersion Performance – 4 th grade	2:00 p.m.
April 26 th	Awards Assembly – 5 th -8 th grades	12:45-1:30 p.m.
	Awards Assembly – K-4 th grades	1:30-3:00 p.m.
April 27 th	Blue Jean Friday	
	Theater Performance – <i>Alice's Rockin' Wonderland</i>	1:00 and 4:00 p.m.
May 2 nd	SSA Roadrunner Night – All staff attending	5:00-7:00 p.m.
May 4 th	Field Day	
May 5 th	Mustang Basketball Tournament	Times TBD
May 7 th -11 th	TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK	
	Spirit Week	
May 7 th	April Literacy Achievement and Fast Facts Calendars Due	
May 11 th	Book Fair – Buy One, Get One	
	Mother's Day Parties – Parties in the Morning	
May 16 th	Awards Assembly for Class of 2018 (8 th Grade) *	9:00 a.m.
May 17 th	Water Day for K-2 nd Grades *	
	Wet-n-Wild Field Trip for 3 rd -8 th Grades *	
May 18 th	Promotion for Class of 2018 *	6:00 p.m.
May 23 rd	Awards Assembly - 5 th -7 th Grades April and 4 th Quarter *	12:45 p.m.
	K-4 th Grades April and 4 th Quarter *	1:30 p.m.
May 24 th	Awards Assembly – K-7 th Grades All Year Awards *	1:30 p.m.
May 25 th	Last Day of School *	Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.

SSA APPRECIATES YOU!