

SGSC PARENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 13TH-17TH, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Good morning Everyone,

It is so hard to believe that we will begin the Christmas break on Friday! This year seems to have gone by so quickly!

Please consider joining us on Monday evening at the gym with STEM Night - beginning at 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm. We will also have a Parent Engagement Night on Thursday in the auditorium beginning at 6:00 pm - Santa will be coming to have cookies and pictures with the students this evening as well. These are fun, free ways to get involved with your child's school and make memories with them!

Please remember to SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL EACH DAY! Each time that your child stays home from school, they are missing so much instruction! Please ensure that your child is only staying home on days that are a must! We notice in the classrooms, that students sometimes give up easily when something is challenging. We need your help to teach our students to PERSEVERE. You can help us do this through attendance. Even if they don't "feel like going to school," if they do not have a fever, aren't throwing up, aren't in chronic pain, etc. then THEY NEED TO COME TO SCHOOL. Otherwise, we are not teaching them to push through and persevere. Thanks for your help, understanding, and support!

We are so thankful for our staff at SGSC! If you would like to nominate a Staff member for a SHOUT OUT, please click the link below to complete the form! Thanks so much for recognizing our staff and all of their efforts!

Staff Shout Out Form: <https://forms.gle/ngToLSDxjNZ8HjwH6>

WE HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A SAFE, AMAZING, BLESSED, AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to send me an email at galmon@sowegastemcharter.org.

Sincerely,
Ginger Almon

COVID UPDATE FROM SGSC FOR 12/13/21

COVID INFORMATION FOR SGSC 12/13/21

Positive Cases:

Staff - 0

Students - 1

Quarantines:

Staff - 0

Students - 0

Other information:
Please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing symptoms related to COVID, if someone in the household is positive, or if there is a pending COVID test for the student or household member.



MORE COVID INFORMATION

If you have any further questions, please reach out to our school nurse, Kristen Roland - kroland@sowegastemcharter.org or 229.345.3033 or myself galmon@sowegastemcharter.org.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER | 2021-2022 CALENDAR

<p>JULY '21</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<p>28-30 Pre-Planning</p>	<p>3-4 Teacher In-Service 7 End of Quarter 2 10 Report Cards (Q2) 17 M.L. King Day</p>	<p>JANUARY '22</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
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SGSC CAFETERIA INFORMATION

Please remember all students will receive a free lunch and breakfast this year!

DECEMBER 2021 Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School **BREAKFAST**

Remember: The District provides breakfast and lunch for all students. Breakfast is provided to all students from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Lunch is provided to all students from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Breakfast: Fruit, Milk, Bread				
Christmas Holiday				



DECEMBER 2021 Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School **LUNCH**

Remember: The District provides breakfast and lunch for all students. Breakfast is provided to all students from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Lunch is provided to all students from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch: Fruit, Milk, Bread				
Christmas Holiday				

BREAKFAST

LUNCH



FROM MS. MCBRIDE...

Finally... Christmas vacation is almost here, and wouldn't you rather your children's time off from school be filled with more joy and fewer screens? More sugar cookies and less sibling squabbles? More gift giving and less tattle telling? And even if all of your dreams in this area don't come true, you can make not just a kids' Christmas, but one that you'll enjoy as well. Here are 10 ways to enjoy your kids this Christmas.

1. Plan ahead

Take a few minutes to envision how you want those non-school days to go. Come up with a plan so your kids will know what you expect. It doesn't have to be elaborate. It can be as simple as having one "Holiday Happening" each day. During this time you can use some of our ideas below, or come up with your own bit of Christmas magic.

2. Choose a family tradition

Create a list of great Christmas traditions to get ideas and ask your kids for their ideas. Choose one, two, or more. At the start of Christmas break, whip up some hot apple cider or hot chocolate and gather your family together.

3. Ho, ho, hand over your screen!

I know you don't want to spend the entire break battling over screens. So, to preserve our sanity and our Christmas peace, let's come up with screen guidelines. Decide how many minutes or, gulp, hours a day your kids can stay on their screens.

4. Family time everyday

If you have to work during your kids' Christmas break, you can still share special times together. When you get home in the evening, spend a half hour or an hour doing something Christmassy. It can be as passive as watching a Christmas movie, or as active as leaving goodies at your neighbors' doorsteps.

5. Christmas Bucket list

If your children are old enough, put them in charge of choosing each day's activity from a Christmas bucket list that you created, or have them come up with their own ideas. (Ooh and Aah at Christmas Lights, Go Caroling, bake and decorate Christmas Cookies, have a Christmas movie night, window shop, become Secret Santa's, snuggle up and drink hot cocoa, have a special Christmas Day breakfast, read the Christmas Story aloud.

6. Venture forth

When all else fails, get out of the house! When you do leave the house, have your kids leave all screens behind. Talk in the car on your way to the mall to look at Christmas decorations, or as you drive around to look at Christmas lights. Go For Holiday- themed treat-peppermint milkshakes, gingerbread cookies, or candy canes. Go to the playground and play Holiday Tag; when you tag someone you have to say a holiday word-Santa! Reindeer! Hot chocolate!

7. Holiday helpers

Once their screen time is used up, put the screens out of sight and let them get creative on their own or have them choose a to-do from your Holiday Helper Ideas list that you created ahead of time. You can also send them over to the I'm Bored Jar. (Read a book, Help make dinner, have a sock puppet show, find 5 nature items outside, play a board game, research a president and give 5 fun facts about him at dinner, write someone a thank you note. call a grandparent and report 5 fun facts about them at dinner.)

8. Giving and wishing

Creating a giving and receiving wish list is a really cute activity for young children all the way through the teenage years. To little kids, it's magical; to older kids, it's kind of silly, but it gets them thinking about others, not just themselves.

9. Slow motion

This is a fun way to help you and your kids slow down and enjoy a more leisurely pace over break. Start the day in slow motion- literally. Spend the first few minutes of your morning, (or afternoon, if you have teenagers!), doing everything in slow motion.

10. The spirit of Christmas

The Christmas story is one of love and giving. That's the same spirit we need to bring into our holiday parenting. As much as possible, take advantage of the extra time you get to be with your children.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT SGSC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dress Up Days for the Week of December 13th:

- **Dec. 13th** - Monday - Polar Express Day - wear pajamas
- **Dec. 14th** - Tuesday - Elf Day - wear red/green or elf shirt
- **Dec. 15th** - Wednesday - Grinch Day - wear green or dress as character from The Grinch
- **Dec. 16th** - Thursday - Ugly Christmas Sweater Day - Pre-K - 2nd will be having their program and will communicate the attire to their parents for the program
- **Dec. 17th** - Friday - 1/2 day - no dress up day for the half day

December 13th - STEM Christmas Night at SGSC with ChattFlint RESA at 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

December 14th - Popcorn and movie party (prek-4th) that sold over 25 boxes of donuts

December 16th - ALL Grade levels will be having classroom Christmas parties in the afternoon - with the exception of Pre-K through 2nd grade (they will have their parties earlier in the day since they have the program in the afternoon) - Ask your child's teacher what items they would like for you to send in to the party if you are able

December 16th - Pre-K though 2nd grade Christmas Program at 1:00 pm in the gym - All parents may attend

December 16th - Parent Engagement Night that includes visit and picture with Santa Claus - begins at 6:00 pm

December 17th - Early Release Day @ 12:00 pm - Begin Christmas Break

January 3rd and 4th - Teacher Workdays

January 5th - Students return to school

Dear Parents and Staff,

Our school has several local children and families that need help this holiday season. Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School wants to give you the opportunity to bless a child's family this holiday by providing them with needed items.

SGSC will be hosting a "Giving Tree". The tree will be set up in the front office. It will have ornaments that will contain needed items for a particular child and a few possible wants. If you would like to host a child in need, please take an ornament off the tree and provide NEW gifts from the wish list provided. You will need to sign this ornament out in the front office so that we know which family is taking the ornament and is responsible.

We only ask that all the family gifts (unwrapped) be placed neatly into a large bag and attach the families ornament tag to the bag. Please do not wrap the gifts. You are welcome to provide gift-wrap for the family, if you choose, just add it to the bag. Please do not include any personal notes to the child/family or any personal monogrammed items. These family bags will be delivered on December 20th. All bags need to be in to the school counselor by December 17th.

Thank you for giving back to the community this holiday season. You are helping families in need have a very blessed holiday. If you have any questions, or if you would like a gift tag sent home and cannot come to school to pick one up, please contact school counselor at mcchrise@sosweststemcharter.org to make arrangements.

[Deadline to have all gift bags in is](#)

'Tis the Season for STEM
SGSC STEM Night

When: Monday December 13, 2021
Where: SGSC's Gym
Cost: FREE

We will have:

- Slime Station
- Marshmallow Towers
- Film Canister Rockets
- Blow Up Balloons
- Snowball Catapults
- Erupting Ornaments
- Coding Ornaments
- Hoop Glider
- Paper Copters
- Holiday Pattern Blocks
- Geoboard Creations
- Air Poppers
- Cup Stacking

*Concessions will be available

We can't wait to see you there!!

STEM Charter School presents

COOKIES WITH SANTA

THURS 16 DEC

6:00 PM

Join us for our December Parent Engagement Night, where we will discuss our 2021 School Attendance Protocol and get to enjoy Cookies and Pictures with Santa!

SGSC

SPORTS

SECTION

FROM COACH CROWDIS...

Merry Christmas Aggie Nation! As we are coming close to closing out 2021, I would like to reflect on our Fall and Winter athletic seasons. We started off the school year with middle school and junior varsity softball led by Coach Alex Lovering. Both of our teams had great seasons and are looking forward to 2022! The next time you see our high school softball team hit the field, they will be competing in Region 1A Division II. In the fall, we also added cross country to our athletic program. Coach Savannah Peachey stepped up and took this program on. She did a great job and we are looking forward to building this program to be region and state competitors each year.

October brought on our winter sports programs and our students began practicing basketball. We had four basketball teams this year with two middle school teams and two junior varsity teams. Coach Bubba Redding led and the boys basketball program and Coach Tonya Germany led the girls basketball programs. This season we witnessed the first three girl's wins in middle school basketball and the first boy's win in middle school basketball. Your support at home games was vital to the success of our teams and to the success of our athletic

program. Our cheerleaders also did a great job at games and pep rallies leading us in cheers. They were coached by Mrs. Ashley Perryman.

With money we have raised through fundraisers, games and sponsorships our athletic program was able to purchase new uniforms for our varsity basketball teams, a new pitching machine for baseball/softball, a new batting cage net for baseball/softball, new basketballs and many more day to day necessities for our student athletes. Your support is vital to providing strong athletic programs and I can honestly say that Aggie Nation is doing their part!

We can look forward to many new firsts in Aggie Athletics as we enter 2022. Baseball will be first on the calendar with tryouts in January and games starting at the end of February. We are still hoping to add another spring sport this year so keep your ears open!





Positive Office Referral
Nathan Page

Nathan's teacher wrote, "While Nathan's mom was having a meeting after school, Nathan found Mr. Alonzo and asked what he could do to help clean the school. He followed Mr. Alonzo to various classes and he swept, wiped down desks, and emptied the trash. Nathan saw where there was a need and he did not hesitate to step in and help, and showed Aggie Pride by making sure our school was clean."



FROM A COLLEAGUE



MS. JOYCE COOPER

FROM A STUDENT



MRS. GINGER ALMON

FROM A COLLEAGUE



MRS. ANNETTE SPOON

PARENTS ARE THE BEST

Christmas Presents



FROM OUR INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES...

Dear Parents,

As we approach the Christmas break, we hope that you will take time to enjoy the holidays with your children. There are several activities that you can do with your child that will support their learning. Libraries will be open for families to check out books and movies at no cost. No matter their age, children love being read to! If you cook or bake your favorite dishes, share how you use fractions to make things taste just right. As students count down the days until Christmas morning, ask them how they figured it out and praise the math they've done! Most of all, soak up the time of making memories with the ones you love!

Remember....the Georgia Department of Education has provided several different fun and exciting educational apps for families. Visit <https://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Documents/Technology%20Flyer.2.pdf> to discover apps that were designed with your child in mind!

ONE TEAM.

ONE MISSION.

NO EXCUSES.





SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

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