

SGSC PARENT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 11TH-15TH, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello Everyone,

We are excited to see all of our Aggie Achievers tomorrow on 9/11/23! We will be ready for them all to return on Monday and pick up where we left off - with the best instructional practices around!

Thank you all for the attendance for the Lunch with a Loved One Lunch in honor of Grandparents Day on Friday! It is great to see so many loved ones supporting our Aggie Achievers!

Parents - There have been many changes to the athletic schedules with reasons beyond our control. Please make note that we will have Homecoming Week during the week of September 18th-22nd. The Homecoming game will be played on Friday, September 22nd, and we will have Homecoming Court representatives on the field that night. We will also name a Homecoming Queen - how exciting! The Homecoming Dance will be held the following Saturday on September 30th because there is a scheduled Bass Fishing Tournament on the Saturday following the Homecoming Game - September 23rd - and we do not want our Bass Fishermen to miss their Homecoming Dance. So, again, **the Homecoming Game will be played on September 22nd, but the Homecoming Dance will not take place until Saturday, September 30th - in Parrot Ga from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.**

We are having so many Achievers that are being checked out early throughout the week - especially on Fridays. Please remember - **EARLY CHECKOUTS ARE DISCOURAGED AFTER 2:30 PM.** Early checkouts after 2:30 PM are discouraged due to ongoing instructional practices that include remedial and acceleration opportunities for Achievers. In addition, students are also transitioning to various areas to prepare for dismissal. Please remember that unexcused 5 unexcused tardies and early checkouts will be counted as an absence as well. Although early checkouts are discouraged, we do realize that extenuating circumstances such as doctor's

appointments and family emergencies will occur. We will make every effort to accommodate, but **please do not come to check your child out to simply avoid waiting in the car rider line.**

If you need a change in transportation, you must provide this IN WRITING. This can be through a note sent to school with your child or you can email transportation@sowegastemcharter.org to request the change. These requests should be in place no later than 1:30 pm on the day of the request.

Cell phones are not allowed to be used at school. They must remain in your child's backpack or bag. Please see information below. On the buses, your child may use his/her cell phone if they follow these rules: No pictures or videos should be made on the bus, no pictures or videos should be uploaded to social media on the bus, no loud noises from phones - must have ear buds or headphones. IF our Achievers can follow those rules, cell phones will be permitted on the bus. IF our Achievers cannot follow those rules, we will not allow cell phones on the bus. So, please encourage your child to follow the bus rules regarding cell phone usage. Thank you!

Attendance - We are beginning our new attendance policy this year. The basics from this policy are as follows:

- 5 unexcused absences - you will receive a letter and attend a conference about attendance
- 7 unexcused absences - you will receive a letter with a reminder that your child can only miss 3 more days before he/she may be withdrawn from the school
- 10 unexcused absences - your child may be withdrawn from Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

Reminders:

- If your child is absent, he/she will have 3 days to bring in their excuse after returning to school
- You may write up to 3 parent notes during the school year
- Your child will have 3 days to make up any missing assignments while he/she was absent from school

RECOGNIZE YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER(S): If you or your child would like to SHOUT OUT any staff member, please feel free by using the link: <https://forms.gle/BxUiUi5vjRDb92sj9>. It is important that we recognize those staff members that are such an important part of your child's life - it makes them feel special as well!

Parents - I want you all to know that we value your ideas and thoughts at SGSC. If you, at any time, feel that you could provide information or ideas about ways to improve SGSC, please click here - <https://forms.gle/JiFECdiizhq7YSdj9> - and share. We may not be able to do everything that is recommended, but know that we will be open and listen. Thanks!

Below, I have included an image of our adopted Vision and Mission Statements for SGSC. We are so excited to be able to work with you all to accomplish both the vision and mission for our school!

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

Sincerely,
Ginger Almon

	Bathrooms	Hallways	Classroom	Bus	Playground
S Be Safe Make choices that ensure the well-being and physical safety of all participants.	Wash your hands thoroughly. *Steps leads to self. *Leave cell phone in the classroom.	Walk to the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.
P Persevere Continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.
R Be Respectful Be polite and take the other person's feelings into consideration.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.
R Be Responsible Always arrive on the right time.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.	WALK on the right. *Push hand to self. *Non-free zone.

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Aggies are responsible, respectful, safe and persevere.

SGSC Vision
A focused, competitive, hands-on, and joyful learning environment for all students that will prepare them to become successful, gracious, scholarly citizens.

SGSC Mission
Provide distinguished and integrated instruction in an environment that cultivates respect, is inclusive of all, and lays the foundation for excellence and life-long learning.



AGGIES CELL PHONE POLICY

FROM BELL TO BELL - THERE IS NO CELL

- Students are not permitted to use cellular phones during school hours.
- Cell phones should be turned off upon school arrival and students should store cell phones in their locker or bookbag upon arriving to homeroom. Cell phones may not be kept in clothing pockets.
- Phones must be turned off at all times within the school building. If a phone rings during class, the teacher will make the Cell Phone Use Policy. "Forgetting" to turn off the cell phone is not an excuse.
- Use of a cell phone during a test will be considered cheating and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.
- Students are prohibited from using a cell phone to take photographs or record video at any time on school property. This includes taking photographs or video recordings in restrooms, locker room areas, etc.
- If a student violates the Cell Phone Use Policy, the teacher or school staff member shall confiscate the cell phone and take it to the office.

First offense - the phone is taken away until the end of the day and kept in the front office.
Second offense - the phone must be picked up by a parent or guardian.
Third offense - either the student is assigned to SIS for two days of the phone is taken away for two school days to be held at the school (SIS).
Additional offenses - will result in the student not being allowed to have a cell phone on school property. Furthermore, students who do not adhere to these guidelines will be subject to other disciplinary actions.
- A student is required to hand over the cell phone and all its individual parts, including but not limited to the battery and memory cards, to a teacher or school staff member when requested. Failure to do so will result in SIS or OCS.
- The student assumes all risks in bringing such cell phones and other electronic devices onto school property or to school-related functions.

www.sowegastemcharter.com

SGSC HOMECOMING T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

---DEADLINE: Wednesday, Sept. 13th---

NAME: _____ PHONE #: _____

HOMEROW TRACKER: _____ CLASS: _____

FRONT LEFT CHEST	BACK
	
\$15 Y-XL & S-XL	\$18 2X-5X

SHIRT ORDER Enter desired quantities below:

YXS	YS	YM	YL	YXL	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **SGSC**

TOTAL # of Shirts: _____ x \$15 = \$ _____

EXTENDED SIZE 2X-5X: _____ x \$18 = \$ _____

ORDER TOTAL \$ _____

23-24 SCHOOL CALENDAR



FROM DR. SMITH...

Happy Grandparents Day!

Grandparents can make for some of the best teachers in the world. They love their grandchildren unconditionally, overlook the mistakes for which they would have taken the parents to task, and have a wealth of experience that they want to share with the little ones. Grandparents do not have to be biological, a grandparent is defined as any person you consider grand that is "a generation older than the parent".

As Grandparents' Day approaches, let us take a look at what children can learn from their grandparents, sometimes knowingly and sometimes even unknowingly.

- **Values and Morals** - They observe their behavior and correct them when they go wrong and praise good behavior, thus reinforcing the foundation of a strong value system, a sense of right and wrong.
- **Empathy** -It is important that children be able to put themselves in others' shoes. And the earlier they learn this, the better. With grandparents around they look at the difficulties that senior citizens face and learn to empathize with them. In the process these children become more compassionate, kinder human beings.

- **Practical Knowledge** - Most of the formal education leans towards theory and sometimes what practical experience can do, theory just can't. Whether it is learning botany in the garden, or chemistry in the kitchen or math with knitting, with the treasure trove of experience that they possess, they can bring alive boring theoretical lessons for children.
- **Discipline** - Disciplining with a loving hand seems to be the mantra of grandparents and it works like magic! Where children might put up resistance to their parents, grandparents can sometimes achieve resounding success. They have their tricks of coaxing their grandkids into listening to them, without scolding them. Unlike behaviors learnt out of fear, such habits of discipline stay with the children and help them become better people.

There is no doubt that children learn immeasurably from their grandparents. So, on this Grandparents' Day let us acknowledge the presence and contribution of these wonderful people in the lives of our students.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT SGSC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 11th - Boston Butt pick up at the Concession Stand from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

September 11th - Middle School Softball Game @ SGSC vs. Clay County at 4:30 pm

September 11th - Varsity Softball Game @ Early County at 5:30 pm

September 12th - Varsity Softball Game @ Terrell County at 4:30 pm

September 12th - Junior Class Ring Ceremony in Auditorium @ 1:30 pm

September 13th - Last day to order Homecoming t-shirts

September 14th - Middle School Softball Game @ Early County at 4:30 pm

September 18th-22nd - Homecoming Week

September 26th - School Pictures for grades Pre-K - 5th

September 29th - School Pictures for grades 6th-11th

September 30 - Homecoming Dance in Parrot from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm



SGSC

SPORTS

SECTION

The 2023-24 school year is continuing with a great line up of softball games, football games, and cross country events. This week will be for softball only as football (middle and high) has a bye week with no games. We are hoping that during this time, our varsity players can heal and be ready for the Homecoming game on September 22nd! We are excited about all of these opportunities and surely appreciate all of the support from the parents. Please try to make it to some of our upcoming games to support our Achievers who are working so hard on and off the field to be successful!

Congratulations to our Players of the Week for Varsity sports: Xavier Bogan and Robert Cobb! We are proud of you!

Unless there is a game or the coaches tell you differently, the players will follow the practice schedule below:

Middle School and Varsity Football will practice Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school until 5:30 pm

Middle School and Varsity Softball will practice Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school until 5:15 pm.

Cross Country - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Cheerleaders - Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

AGGIES THIS WEEK AT SGSC
Sept 11-15, 2023

MONDAY SEPT 11	V SOFTBALL vs Early County at 5:30 pm @ Early County MS SOFTBALL vs Clay County at 4:30 pm @ SGSC Boston Butt Pick up from 4:00 pm - 6:00pm - Concession stand
TUESDAY SEPT 12	V SOFTBALL vs Terrell County at 4:30 pm @ Terrell County Class Ring Ceremony at 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm in Auditorium
WEDNESDAY SEPT 13	Last Day to Order Homecoming T-Shirts
THURSDAY SEPT 14	MS SOFTBALL vs Early County at 4:30 pm @ Early County

AGGIES Varsity FOOTBALL

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

For the September 1st Game vs. Baker County

XAVIER BOGAN #1

AGGIES Varsity FOOTBALL

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

For the September 1st Game vs. Baker County

ROBERT COBB #24



AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Jamaal's teacher wrote, "Jamaal has started the year on a positive note. He is trying hard in his classes and making effort on his class assignments. Keep it up, Jamaal!"

JAMAAL HUFF

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



An observing teacher wrote, "Chris seems like such a caring gentleman. He saw a group of younger students coming and without any hesitation, he waited, greeted them, and held the door open for them until he made sure they all entered the building."

CHRIS BLAND

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Legend's teacher wrote, "Legend has come in this year ready to rock Kindergarten! He has worked SO hard, and is learning so much! I can't wait to see how much he soaks in and learns this year! Way to go, Legend!"

LEGEND JOHNSON

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Maurice's teacher wrote, "Maurice is always quiet in class, and he stays on task. He tries so hard with his school work. He always plays with everybody and shares anything he has. He has had a great start to Kindergarten! We are so proud of him!"

MAURICE WILLIAMS

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Kyla's teacher wrote, "Kyla always comes to class ready to learn. She is respectful, and I can always count on her to do her best work. She is a role model to her peers and balances school and sports so well! Thank you for being awesome, Kyla!"

KYLA FOXWORTH

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL




Nolan's teacher wrote, "Nolan is such a joy to have in class. He is respectful, on task, and eager to learn. We are so proud of you, Nolan! Keep up the great work!"

NOLAN GILES

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Gavin's robotics teacher wrote, "Gavin has been doing a great job getting his work done and using problem solving skills to be successful in class. Way to go, Gavin!"

GAVIN BLACKSHEAR

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Leela's teacher wrote, "Leela is always prepared and ready to learn in class. She works steadily and consistently produces quality work. She also participates in class and models exemplary behavior at all times in class."

LEELA HEATH

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Jeffrey's teacher wrote, "Jeffrey is a hard worker and conscientious Aggie Achiever. He has the kindest smile, consistently works hard, and always tries his best. Jeffrey is also an amazing helper with a servant's heart. Each day at lunch, after he finishes his meal, he throws away his trash, he takes the broom and dustpan around the fourth grade table and sweeps up any crumbs that may have fallen to the floor, even though he has never been asked to do this. Jeffrey, thank you for being YOU. You make the world a better place!"

JEFFREY CHAVERS

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Liam's teacher wrote, "Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Duke chose Liam for a positive office referral because he is a well-behaved, always on task, completes his assignments, and is willing to help others. We are proud of you, Liam. Keep up the good work!"

LIAM HARPER

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Ethan's art teacher wrote, "Ethan is doing great in art class. He is trying so hard. I love his determination. Keep up the great work, Ethan!"

ETHAN HERRINGTON

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



Michael's teacher wrote, "Michael has entered 3rd grade this year on FIRE!! He comes in each morning with a big smile on his face. He is working hard in class, completing all his assignments, and racking up on his AR word count. Keep being awesome, Michael!"

MICHAEL WALDON

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL




LAILA CLARK

Laila's teacher wrote, "Laila has been a breath of fresh air in our 4th-grade class this year. She is a studious student, and her class work speaks volumes. She is a little quiet, but she is slowly coming out of her shell with our class. She has a very bright future ahead of her. Keep up the great work Laila!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



RICHARD SWICK

Richard's science teacher wrote, "Richard is a great student! He works hard, encourages others, and always has a positive attitude in class. Keep it up, Richard!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



RACHEL ANGELES

Rachel's history teacher wrote, "Rachel has been a rock star in my class. She is kind, always on task, and such a hard worker. I can always count on her getting her work done and being a role model in my classroom. Thank you for being great, Rachel!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MRS. KIM CROWDIS



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MRS. LESLIE PRESLEY



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MRS. ANGIE BELL



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT





MRS. CINDY FINCHER



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

SCHOOL LEADER SHOUT OUT TO MR. TONY LEE

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

SCHOOL LEADER SHOUT OUT TO MRS. JILL LEE

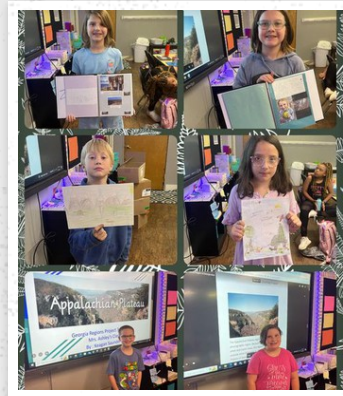




4H Opportunity

Freshman Success

Freshman Success achievers practice critical thinking skills in a decision making activity today. Achievers had to work through a set of circumstances in a scenario, come to a consensus, and defend their answers with the class.



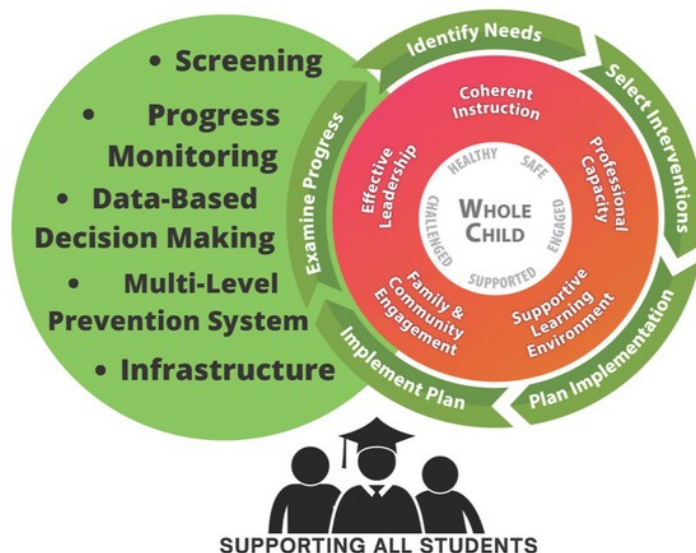
THIS WEEK'S VIDEO

Resilience!

A Lesson On Resilience



From the MTSS Coordinator



FROM OUR MTSS COORDINATOR....

HOMEWORK HELP!

6 TIPS FOR HELPING KIDS WITH FOCUS PROBLEMS:

1. Make sure they're actively listening.

Ask your kids to repeat back what you've just said. Follow up and make sure they remember it.

2. Remove distractions.

Turn off the TV or go to a quiet area away from other people who are talking. Get rid of clutter in a work space. Or have kids sit away from the window when they work.

3. Get focused through mindfulness.

Mindfulness exercises and deep breathing are great for focus. They help people keep their thoughts from drifting – before or during a task.

4. Ask what would help.

Some people focus better when they're moving or standing. Others find it easier when they listen to music. Ask what works for them.

5. Try using a fidget.

Having something to fidget with, like a stress ball, can actually help some kids focus. For others, though, it's a distraction. So keep an eye on whether it's helpful or making it harder to focus.

6. Use a signal to get them back.

To refocus kids when their mind wanders, come up with a signal they'll recognize. It could be a specific word or a gesture, like touching your ear.

Leslie Presley



NEWS FROM THE GRADUATION COACH...

As the High School Graduation Coach, my primary objective is to ensure that all our achievers grasp the significance of not only obtaining a high school diploma but also comprehending the

effort required to achieve this milestone. The decisions they make on a daily basis carry substantial weight when it comes to their ability to graduate on schedule. Keeping students on the path to graduation is very important, and as a parent, you can partner with us in this.

Here are some important tips and reminders:

1. **Regular Grade Monitoring**: High school achievers should proactively check their grades on Infinite Campus daily. If they notice any missing assignments or grades that cause concern, they should check Google Classroom and engage with their teachers to discuss options for making up the work.
2. **Timely Completion of Missed Work**: When achievers are absent, they should aim to complete any missing assignments within three days. This practice instills a sense of responsibility and commitment to their academic success.
3. **Ownership of Academic Performance**: Encourage your children to take ownership of their grades and behavior. Stress the point that these grades will not only impact their high school journey but also have implications if they choose to pursue post-secondary education.
4. **Effective Time Management**: Time management is a vital skill for success. Encourage achievers to maintain an agenda or some form of organization to keep track of assignments and deadlines.

We are thankful for the support you are already providing at home. This is truly a team effort!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Greenway



**ONE TEAM.
ONE MISSION.
NO EXCUSES.**



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

 Facebook

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