



SAGAPONACK COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 2023 Newsletter

The first half of the 2022-2023 school year was very busy for our students. Here are some of our activities and events:

Beginning of the School Year:

We welcomed our students back into the classroom on September 7th. Masks have not been required in the building, however, we will continue to follow the Suffolk County Department of Health and the New York State Department of Health's safety guidelines and protocols throughout the school year, if and when necessary.

Field Trips:



Each month the children enjoy a trip to the Hampton Library in Bridgehampton. The Children's Librarian, Shannon Hughes, coordinates with our two teachers to help our students choose books that are on their appropriate reading levels.

Our first field trip of the school year was to Madoo Conservancy, in Sagaponack, where the children planted mustard greens and participated in a group project conducted by Alejandro Saralegui, the Director of the conservancy. A trip to Pumpkintown in Watermill took place in October. The children

experienced the corn maze, picking pumpkins and learning about the life cycle of a pumpkin.

The children participated in a reptile and amphibian lesson at the South Fork Museum and had the opportunity to observe a box turtle and explore the touch tank. There's always lots to see and do at SOFO! We visited the Bridgehampton Fire Department in November and the students had an up-close and personal look at the fire trucks and ambulances. Thank you to Chief Nicholas Hemby and EMS Captain, Taylor Vecsey for the experience!

Guest Speakers/Visitors:



In September, the children worked with Eastern Suffolk BOCES School Counselor, Lauren Zambrelli, in a social-emotional learning activity. This activity was geared toward how to be a good classmate to others.

In November, Judy Isbitiren, a representative from the Long Island Science Center conducted a force and friction lesson. Students learned the concept of force, motion and friction through a series of hands-on activities. Ms. Isbitiren will visit us again in a few months!

Lori Hubbard, a local musician from Montauk, had our children moving and shaking during one of her wonderful music lessons!

In December, our Sagaponack CSD Board of Trustees Member, Cathy Hatgistavrou, participated in

a gingerbread house craft with the students and the Board of Trustees Vice President, Thomas Schultz, read "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" to all of our students on December 22nd. Fun was had by all!

Winter Sports:



December kicked off our winter physical education activities at our local facilities. The students have been participating in a series of swimming lesson at the YMCA in East Hampton. Ice Skating will take place during the month of January. A skating instructor will work with the children on the basic skating techniques. Tennis lessons will be conducted at the East Hampton Indoor Tennis Club (EHIT) next month and to complete the winter activities, the students will engage in yoga relaxation techniques with Kristin Davis of Peaceful Planet Yoga at the school. Namaste!

Parent/Community Involvement:



On October 31st, the students "spooked" Sagaponack Village in their costumes. The wonderful staff at our local post office handed out goodies to the trick-or-treaters and parents took photos before the annual pinata activity. Afterward, our "ghosts and goblins" visited community members' homes for more tricks or treats. Fun was had by all!

On November 22nd, the children enjoyed a Thanksgiving lunch of chicken nuggets, macaroni and cheese and apple pie provided by the parents.

On December 1st, Debora Oppenheimer, one of our parents, hosted a snowflake craft. The children had fun making their snowflakes with paper bags and ribbon which will be displayed at the school for the holidays. We have had the privilege of welcoming parents as guest readers this year. The Thofte Family talked to our students about St. Lucia, which is a Swedish holiday tradition and exploring different cultures around the world.

Winter Concert:



On December 13th, the children hosted a winter concert outdoors for family, friends and community members. Ms. Fleming, our Music Teacher, along with our Kindergarten through 2nd grade students sang songs such as "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," "Jingle Bells" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." Hot chocolate, apple cider and cookies were served after the performance.

Please view our website at: www.sagaponackschool.com to see the full calendar of events for this school year.