



Stone Scholastic Academy

December 2018
Newsletter

Happy Holidays!

All of us here at Stone would like to extend our warmest wishes to you and your family this holiday season. It is a privilege to be part of such a diverse and caring community. The last few weeks before the winter break are very busy and there are plenty of activities for students and families.

Holiday Assembly - Thursday, December 20th, 2018

The holiday season is here and that means it's time for the annual Holiday Assembly! Parents of performing students should join us for the **8:30 a.m.** assembly on **Thursday, December 20th**. All kindergarten through fourth grade students will be performing, along with the school band. There will also be a special sneak performance from the cast of "Fiddler on The Roof". We have arranged for special parking in front of the school beginning at 8:15 a.m., thanks to Alderman Silverstein's office.

We ask that parents remain for the entire assembly rather than leaving after their child performs. Leaving during the performance is more of a disruption than you may realize and it's disappointing to the children when the auditorium is only half full.

During the assembly, Armin and Carnig Minasian will present the top ten finalists for this year's sixth grade World Weaver rug designs. They will also present the carpets manufactured from the two winning designs selected last year. This is the fifth year the Minasian Rug Company has partnered with Stone Academy and Urban Gateways to bring teacher artist Bill Ellers into the school. The program has given Stone sixth graders the opportunity to learn about the importance of textiles around the world.

As in past years, DVDs of the Holiday Assembly performance will be available for purchase. Please remember all recording is being done by our fabulous Tech crew and editing this year will be done by Mr. Faille. DVD's are \$10 each, all proceeds will go to support the technology needs of the school. Orders will be taken at the performance and DVDs will be delivered in January.



After School and the OST After School Showcase

The fall session of after school programming will end on **December 20th**. Please make sure to mark your calendars for the end of the fall session!

There will be a few programs continuing when we return to school in January and these are: the Musical, ESL Tutoring, Basketball, Band, Violin, Reading Club, Reading Support and Aftercare.

Applications for the spring after school session will be sent out in January.

Our After School Showcase will take place on December 20th. All students who participated in an after school or morning program this fall, on any day of the week, are welcome to come to the auditorium from 3:00-4:15pm for the showcase. During this celebration, students will have a chance to learn what their peers did in other classes. Also, there will be refreshments courtesy of the Stone PTA. Parents are welcome to come and join the fun.

LSC Parent Representative Vacancy

After serving six years as a parent representative on our Local School Council (LSC), Vito Greco has decided to step down. Vito was LSC chair for much of his time on the LSC. He helped with principal evaluation and selection, and he has also been a huge support for the administration, especially with budget and family involvement. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his service and he promises to continue helping the school with other projects.

This means the Stone LSC is looking for one parent to fill an immediate vacancy. Meetings are held at 6:30 pm once a month on Mondays. The time commitment is not overwhelming and meeting dates are listed on the school website. The term of service will end on June 30, 2020.

Contact Ms. Angela Greer in the office for an application and plan to attend the next LSC meeting on December 17. Interested parents must have a student currently attending Stone and cannot be an employee of the Chicago Board of Education. More information can be found on the [LSC website](#).

MAP Testing

Students in first through eighth grade will be participating in the winter NWEA MAP assessment this winter. The testing window will be open December 10th through January 25th. Second grade through eighth grade students will be taking the math and reading sections, while the first grade will just take math. Teachers find the data from this assessment essential for measuring growth and planning for the rest of the school year. The

data also helps show teachers where students need individual help and where they can be challenged. Students in first through third grade will take the assessment before the winter break and students in fourth through eighth grade will take it after the break.

Parent Teacher Conference Day

Thank you to the parents who showed their support on Parent Teacher Conference Day. Approximately 85% of students had a parent come meet with their teachers. This time helps solidify the home and school connection, while showing children how their teachers and parents work together to advance their learning. Hopefully, you had a chance to purchase some books at the PTA Book Fair, pick-up a piece of clothing or two at the used uniform sale, or retrieve a piece of lost clothing from the lost and found.

The Book Fair made \$3700 in Scholastic Dollars. These funds will be used to fulfill teachers' wish lists and for new classroom library books. Thank you Jenny Yee, Aimee Flax, and their wonderful volunteers for making the book fair a success!

Winter Weather is here!

As the weather turns cold, please remind your child of the importance of dressing appropriately for winter. Students will be out for recess, before and during school, as long as the wind chill is above twenty-five degrees Fahrenheit. Also, please practice patience when dropping students off at school and at dismissal. Driving during inclement weather is stressful but please don't take it out on your fellow Stone parents or Stone staff! We're all trying to make sure students arrive to school safely and on time.

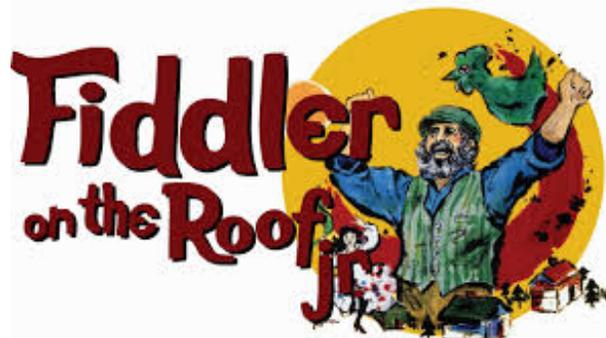
Another Fantastic Author Visit

#1 New York Times bestselling author Brandon Mull, who has penned fantasy series favorites such as DragonWatch, Spirit Animals and Fablehaven, visited grades 3-6 in a special library-hosted assembly on November 8. Our young writing talents were thrilled to hear the many secrets to becoming an author disclosed in his presentation, including exercising our imagination and reading a lot, two things at which Stone students excel! It also happened to be Brandon Mull's birthday on the day of his visit, which we celebrated with a cookie-book party since we read in our cyber scavenger hunt in Library that cookies were the author's favorite food. We are beyond fortunate to have enjoyed the insights of this high caliber author who has us turning pages!



School Musical

Ms. Perry & Mr. Faille are thrilled to be working with 50 of Stone Academy's most talented 5th - 8th Grade Students on the 2018-2019 musical production, "Fiddler on The Roof." Auditions were held at the end of September and the cast has been rehearsing since early October. Set in 1905, the show focuses on a Jewish community in Russia and the community dealing with their opposition to Traditional values in a changing world. The cast, crew, directors, and FOSA (show sponsors) are very excited to bring this culturally rich show to the Stone community January 24th & 25th at 7:00PM and January 26th at 2:00PM in the Stone Academy Auditorium!



Stone Sports

Stone Eagles fielded two boys' soccer teams this fall in the CPS league, a 5/6 Grade team and a 7/8 Grade team. Starting on Oct. 13, we faced teams from Clinton, Jamieson, Sauganash, Peterson, Albany Park and Belding. The games were all played at Mather High School on Saturdays. We honed our skills at practice every Tuesday and Thursday, where, after warming up, everybody had a lot of fun at our scrimmage games. Mr. Parker, our Art teacher, helped with the practice on Tuesdays. It was a fun season of our favorite sport, topped off by a pizza party in the gym!! Thanks Coach Gary O'Boyle!

Stone also had two girls volleyball teams this year, a 5th/6th team and 7th/8th team. Both team were led by Coach Moseth Samples from the Chicago Park District. Most of the girls were new to the game but made up for their lack of experience with grit and determination. The league better watch out next year because the Stone girls will be back!

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, December 5

10:00am Raven Theatre Showcase 2nd Grade

Tuesday, December 11

7:00pm FOSA Meeting

Sunday, December 16

End of Lynch Creek Fundraiser

Monday, December 17

6:30pm LSC Meeting

Thursday, December 20

8:30am Holiday Assembly

3:15pm After School Showcase

Friday, December 21

8:15am Parent Forum

Monday, December 24 -Friday, January 4, 2019

Winter Break - No School

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

7:00pm FOSA Meeting

Sunday, January 20, 2019

3:00pm FOSA Fundraiser at Chicago Wolves Game

Monday, January 21, 2019

Martin Luther King Day - No School

Thursday, January 24, 2019

7:00pm Fiddler on the Roof

Friday, January 25, 2019

7:00pm Fiddler on the Roof

Saturday, January 26, 2019

2:00pm Fiddler on the Roof

Monday, January 28, 2019

6:30pm LSC Meeting

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

PTA Meeting

Thursday, January 31, 2019

End of 2nd Quarter

Friday, February 1, 2019

School Improvement Day - No School for Students

