

PAW PRINTS

A Letter from the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents,
 South Shore Fine Arts Academy and the district as a whole are focused on graduating students truly prepared to succeed in college and demanding careers. Final results show that 75% of South Shore Fine Arts Academy 3rd graders met or exceeded standards on the ISAT test. This is in comparison to 70% of 3rd graders who met or exceeded standards on this assessment citywide. This is a start, but research shows that students who simply *meet* standards on the ISAT typically do not score sufficiently on college entrance exams to gain entrance into 4 year colleges and universities. Our goal is for our students to *exceed* standards on the ISAT and to meet or exceed new, more rigorous college readiness standards (Scantron, PARC assessment-2014).

To that end, we will continue to regularly assess students in a variety of ways along the way, and tailor instruction to ensure that all of our students are appropriately and continuously challenged at school. We hope that you'll partner with us to ensure that your child reaches his/her highest potential by:

1. Making sure your child is at school everyday on time and ready to learn,
2. Checking folders nightly, reviewing the day with your child, and completing all assignments, and
3. Reading with your child for at least 20 minutes every night.

I am confident that our combined efforts will ensure our students' ongoing success. Please feel free to contact me with comments, questions, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Melissa Mister

SSFAA FIG Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

Nov/Dec 2011

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SSFAA Important Dates

October 13:

FIG Meeting

November 16:

NO SCHOOL-Report Card Pickup

December 22:

Winter Dance, 3-5 pm (Bring a new toy for free admission!)

October 26:

Smile, It's Picture Day!

November 18:

NO SCHOOL-Prof Dev Day

December 23:

No Extended Day, Dismissal at 3 pm for all students

October 28:

NO SCHOOL-Prof Dev Day

November 23-25:

Thanksgiving Break

December 26-Jan 9, 2012

Winter Break...see you next year!

November 14th-28:

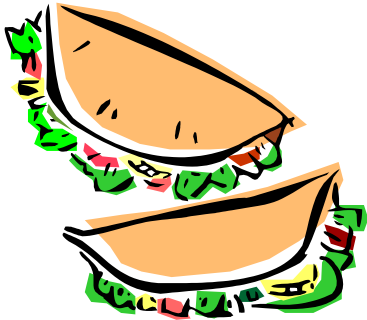
Scholastic Book Fair

December 21:

Winter Performance, 5-6 pm

Kid Friendly Cuisine: Kid-tastic Pizzadillas

*(from www.myrecipes.com)



Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400°.
2. Brush canola oil over a jelly roll pan, and top with tortillas.
3. Sprinkle 3 TBSP cheese over each tortilla, and divide the turkey pepperoni among tortillas.
4. Top each with 3 TBSP cheese.
5. Bake at 400° for 5 minutes.
6. Remove from oven, and carefully fold each tortilla in half. Bake an additional 10 minutes or until browned and crisp, turning after 5 minutes.
7. Serve with marinara.
8. Enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 1 TBSP canola oil
- 4, 8-inch, fat free flour tortillas
- 1 1/2 cups (6 ounces) mozzarella cheese
- 1 ounce turkey pepperoni
- 1 cup marinara sauce



FIG News!!!



FIG sponsored yet another successful Scholastic Book Fair in November, racking up \$800 in points! These points will allow the school to purchase materials for the classroom libraries. In fact, Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd grades, will all be using the points to add to their listening libraries. Thanks to Ms. Sherman and her parent volunteers for their time and effort!

Congratulations to Ms. Rhyne's class, room 103, and Ms. Polek's 1st grade class, room 207, for nabbing 1st place in the Turkey Box Tops Contest! The winners will receive a special treat at a later date.

FIG Officers:

Alexis Brown, Chair
LaToya Butler, Vice-Chair
Georgette Reynolds,
Secretary
Yvonne Sherman, Treasurer

FIG Meeting Schedule

Meetings are 5:15-6:00 pm

Tuesday, November 8

Tuesday, December 13

Tuesday, January 17, 2012*

Elections



Websites to Watch

By Andrea Brown-Thirston

Gifted Learning Links

Do you have an academically talented student? Check out Gifted Learning Links, an online program for high achievers.

<http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/gll/program/>

National Gallery of Art

Interactive arts website for children where they can create art online.

<http://www.nga.gov/kids/zone/zone.htm>

Kid Friendly Website Search

This site has kid friendly links, with limited ads, that are geared toward children ages 3-10.

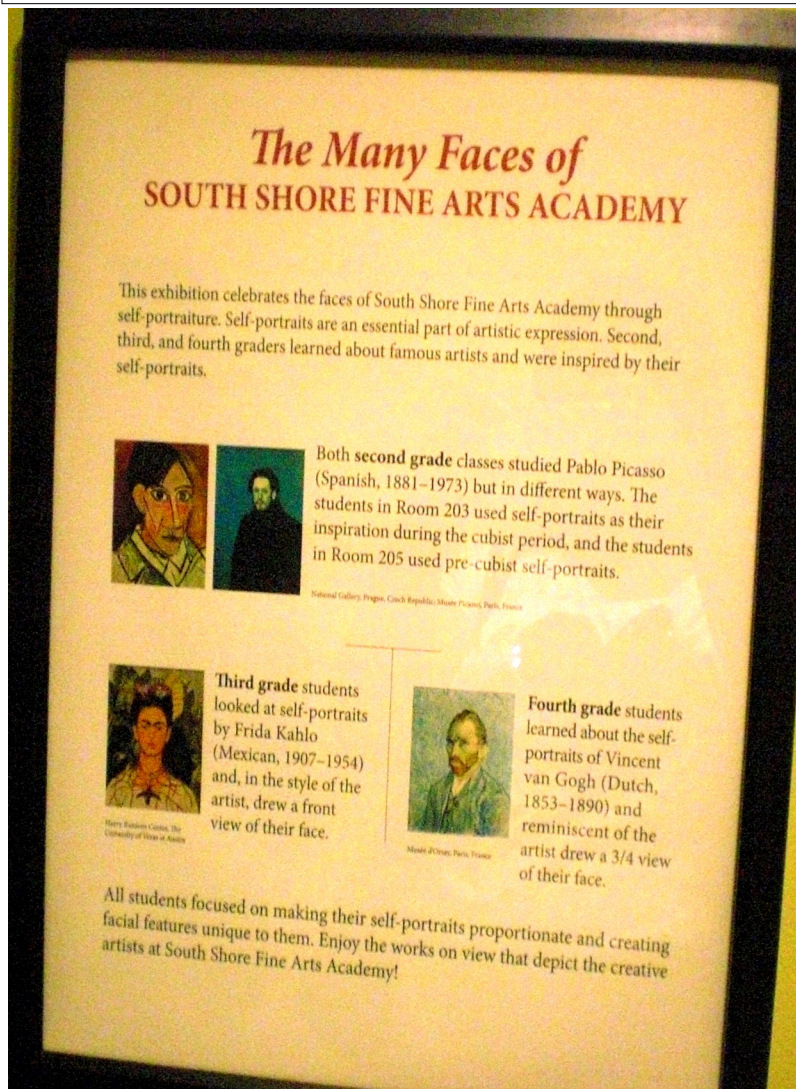
<http://www.linkopedia.com/kids.html>

Puzzle Maker

Have sight words or spelling words your child needs to master? Try this fun website where you enter the words and it creates a word search for you!

<http://puzzle-maker.com/WS/index.htm>

The Many Faces of SSFAA



On Saturday, November 19, 2011, SSFAA students displayed their artistic talent at the art gallery opening. The exhibition celebrated the faces of South Shore Fine Arts Academy through self-portraiture. SSFAA 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders learned about famous artists and used their works as inspiration for their own self-portraits.

The opening reception was held at the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) at 820 North Michigan Avenue in the Push Pin Gallery. Several SSFAA students, parents and teachers attended this celebration of art.

A special thanks to Loyola's LUMA Push Pin Gallery for displaying SSFAA students' exquisite art.

Congratulations to all the "artists in training" on a job well done!

Principal Mister and her sons enjoy light refreshments at the opening reception.



Many Faces, cont'd



Tiya Harper



Bobby Whisenton



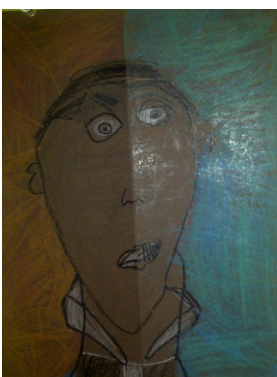
Jacob Huskey-Ortega



Khalil Johnson



Caleb Butler



Devon Reynolds



Grayson Woods



Amirah Richardson



PAW PRINTS Needs YOU!

The FIG Newsletter committee is looking for more parents to write or submit interesting articles for the newsletter. Don't worry about submitting a New York Times level article! We also reprint articles from other sources and can also edit article you submit. Even if you just have an idea for an article, feel free to share it. Remember, this newsletter is BY parents and FOR parents so your input is always welcome!

We also LOVE to publish great pictures so feel free to share a couple of your best pictures from school events.

All articles and pictures should be submitted to the FIG Newsletter email address by the 15th of each month:

fig_newsletter@yahoo.com





South Shore Fine Arts Academy
 1415 East 70th Street
 Chicago, IL 60637
 Phone: 773-535-8340
 Fax: 773-535-8341

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Imagine YOUR ad here!

Contact Alexis Brown

773-721-5776 or alexisbrown25@gmail.com

What's Happening?

By The FIG Newsletter Editors

Nov 1, 2011-Feb 29, 2012

Gnome Hunt

Morton Arboretum

4100 Illinois Route 52, Lisle, IL

Admission: FREE! (Children's Garden)

For more info:

www.mortonarb.org

Dec 2-January 8, 2011

Winter Wonder Fest

Navy Pier

600 East Grand Avenue

For more info and pricing:

www.winterwonderfest.com

Dec 16, 2011-Jan 1, 2012

Zoolights at Lincoln Park Zoo

2001 North Clark Street

Admission: FREE!

For more info:

www.lpzoo.org

Nov 18, 2011-March 11, 2012

Ice Skating

McCormick Tribune Ice Skating Rink

Millennium Park (Michigan at Randolph/Monroe)

Admission: FREE! (Skate rental is \$10)

For more info:

www.explorechicago.org

Saturdays, 11 am-3 pm

Free Crafts for Kids

Lake Shore Learning Centers throughout Chicago

For more info:

www.lakeshorelearning.com

