



# SEVIER MIDDLE SCHOOL FALCONS

October 2016

Volume 8, Issue 2

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/12 MP3 Day  
FFF Ice Cream Celebration  
PTA Reflections due  
Beta Club forms/fees due  
7th Gr. Beta Club Mtg 7:45am
- 10/13 Parent Conferences
- 10/13 - 14 Teacher Workdays
- 10/18 WHHS D Team @ Hillcrest
- 10/19 8th Gr Beta Club Mtg 8am  
PSAT for select 8th Gr  
6th Gr Field Trip
- 10/20 End of 1st Quarter  
Chess Club Info Mtg 3:45pm
- 10/21 Enrichment
- 10/22 Robotics at Indian Land
- 10/24 - 28 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/25 8th Gr Trip deposit due  
WHHS D Team vs Riverside
- 10/26 Kona Ice
- 10/27 1st Quarter Report Card  
ABC Incentive Day
- 10/28 Enrichment  
7th & 8th Gr. Fall Mixer
- 10/31-11/3 Basketball Tryouts
- 11/2 8th Gr Beta Club Mtg 8am  
Makeup Portraits  
Box Tops No Collar Day
- 11/3 Student Council Mtg. 8am
- 11/4 Enrichment
- 11/6 Daylight Savings Time
- 11/8 Election Day - No School
- 11/9 7th Gr Beta Club Mtg 7:45am
- 11/11 Veterans Day Ceremony  
2nd 8th Gr Trip payment due
- 11/18 Drama Performance 6:30pm
- 11/19 Sevier hosts VEX Qualifier

### Message from the Principal:

Sevier teachers are pleased to offer individual parent conferences of **up to 5 minutes each**, to be held on **October 13**. Two sessions will be available on Thursday — **8:30 -11:00 a.m.** No entry after 10:30 a.m.  
**4:00 - 6:30 p.m.** No entry after 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: **6th & 7th Grade** Teachers – in the **Gym** (Park in the rear lot. Enter down the Gym stair)

**8th Grade** Teachers – in the **Media Center** (Enter at the Cafeteria area doors)

Furtick (Grade 7 & Algebra) and Byrd (7th & 8th ELA) will be in Rm 904, near the Gym.

**Educational Support** Teachers -- in each **Conference area**

**Related Arts** teachers — will not be present.

Note: Mr. Nielsen and Ms. Pack will be available for PM sessions only. Mrs. Childers will not be present.

Teachers will be at individual tables to meet with you. Parents take a number in the waiting area, and will be called to the conference area in the order of arrival. **Allow for wait time** before you enter the conference area.

Once you enter, each of 4 academic conferences may last no more than 5 minutes.

**SELECT YOUR ARRIVAL TIME** at <https://goo.gl/forms/GTpkgXRCafclMlTv1>

We look forward to meeting with you.

## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Sevier Middle School will proudly present its 20th annual Veterans Day ceremony on Friday, November 11, 2016.

“Return to Camp Sevier,” this Veterans Day observance, is scheduled for 10am in the Sevier Gym and is open to the public. Sevier holds this ceremony every year to honor our veterans and to teach students about Camp Sevier, the World War I training camp, active from 1917-1919. The school is named after and built on part of this land. Sevier invites and would greatly appreciate all former and active military personnel to come prior to the ceremony to speak to small groups of students regarding their experiences in the service. Those interested in being a guest speaker would arrive between 8:30 - 9:00am. All visiting veterans will be honored in the program and invited to attend a reception in the media center following the event. Please call Sevier Middle at 355-8200 with questions.



### STORY OF THE POPPY

About 100 years ago, toward the end of World War I, two women, started to sell artificial poppies in remembrance of soldiers who had died on the battlefields. These women had decided that there were too many orphans and military people who were living in poverty caused by the war. In 1920, with the help of the American Legion, a poppy sale was held in the United States. The poppy (red flower) was known in the countries that had fought in World War I as the “Flower of Remembrance.” It was a difficult job to distribute poppies all over the country and so Moira Michael, a lady from Georgia, contacted the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for help.

VFW officials asked unemployed and disabled veterans to produce the artificial poppies. The first poppy factory in the United States was built in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1924. Veterans helped to assemble the poppies and now each year the VFW distributes about 14 million poppies all over the world.

The VFW registered the name “Buddy Poppy” with the US Patent Office. The term “Buddy” was given by the people who make the poppies, as a “tribute to their comrades who did not come home from the war or who were scarred and crippled for life.”

The VFW is celebrating its 93rd year as the official distributors of the Buddy Poppy. Donations from the sale of poppies helps veterans and their survivors, but the poppy exists as a tribute to those who gave their lives for all nation’s freedom.

The poppy was chosen as the flower of remembrance because they were the first flowers to appear in the earth of soldier’s graves after the battles in Flanders (a part of Europe that is in France and Belgium). The poem In Flanders Fields was written by “World War I Colonel John McCrae, a surgeon with Canada’s First Brigade Artillery. It expressed McCrae’s grief over the “row on row” of graves of soldiers who had died on Flanders’ battlefields, located in a region of western Belgium and northern France.” Sevier Middle School is proud to distribute poppies this year to any person who would like one. We ask that you remember to wear your poppy in memory of any veteran. Your donations will be appreciated and will be given to a local service organization to be used for veterans in our area.

#### In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields





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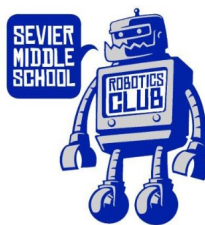
## BAND & STRINGS UPDATES

- Band & Strings members are selling Cookie Dough through October 20th. Support our Band & Strings program and see Mrs. Marsh or a member to buy your favorite cookie dough!
- 7th and 8th grade Band students who are interested in auditioning for Region or County band please send in your \$10 audition fee to Mrs. Marsh by October 19.
- Congratulations to Paige Geiger who auditioned and was accepted into Region Strings. The event will be held Nov. 11 and 12 at Anderson University.
- Band, Strings, and Percussion concert will be held Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30pm in the gym. All performers need to be dressed in concert black and present by 6pm in the band/strings room.



**Attention 7th & 8th Grade Band, Strings, and Chorus students:**

- ◆ Please submit your \$10 Carowinds Festival of Music deposit by October 28.
- ◆ Parents, if you are interested in chaperoning, please contact Mrs. Marsh or Mrs. Knight.
- ◆ The cost of the trip is \$100 and the balance will be due by Feb. 16th.



Good luck to our 7th & 8th grade Robotics Club members. Five teams will travel to Indian Land, SC to compete in a VEX Robotics Competition scheduled for October 22nd. At least 20 high school and middle school teams will compete. Sevier is currently the only middle school attending, up against high school and career center students.

## Counselor's Corner



The ACE Awards Advocates for Character and Education) is an annual banquet honoring 70 male and female students in grades 8 and 12

from each of the 35 Greenville County middle and high schools. This award is designed to recognize true "unsung heroes" who all too often are not recognized for their accomplishments.

Nominations will be opened October 17 at [www.coaches4character.com/ace-awards](http://www.coaches4character.com/ace-awards)

and end January 31st, 2017. **Nominate and honor Sevier middle school 8<sup>th</sup> grade students!**



**During the month of October, we are honoring students who show Respect and Courtesy. Showing respect and courtesy means to show honor for the feelings and rights of yourself, others, and the world around you. It is being polite and having well mannered behavior towards others.**

**Congratulations to the following students chosen as October's Students of the Month!** Pictures of these students will be displayed in our hallway and students will be given the opportunity to choose a gift card from a variety of stores.

- ◆ 6th Grade: Esteban Guzman and Campbell Thompson
- ◆ 7th Grade: Garrett Stephens and Danasia Banks
- ◆ 8th Grade: Christian Hines and Emma Babetz



**Red Ribbon Week will be held October 24 - 28.**

Students will participate in daily activities, themes, and prize drawings. This year's theme is "**I elect to be drug free**". Student Council members are asked to volunteer after school on Friday, October 21, from 3:30 - 4:30pm to help decorate for the upcoming event.



Bully Prevention classroom lessons will be presented by the South Carolina Children's Theatre to all 6th grade students on Tuesday, October 25th. Thank you to our PTA for sponsoring this event.

**PSAT:** Select 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the PSAT (Pre-SAT) as part of a program sponsored by the State Department of Education. The exam will be given at Sevier on October, 19<sup>th</sup> 2016. No make-up dates are available.

### Gathering of Falcons

Each Report card grading period the school counselors will meet with students in their teams for character education, recognitions, and awards. The Gathering will occur during their wellness times. Be sure to ask your students about their awards and recognitions October 27th.

Tomiko Long, 6<sup>th</sup> grade School Counselor, 355-8377  
Darcy Storm, 8<sup>th</sup> grade School Counselor, 355-8203

Jami Crisman, 7<sup>th</sup> grade School Counselor, 355-8485  
Melinda Howard, Guidance Office Clerk, 355-8204

Sevier Middle School

1000 Piedmont Park Road • Greenville, South Carolina, 29609 • (864) 355-8200 • [www.greenville.k12.sc.us/sevier](http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/sevier)



# Basketball Tryouts

- ◆ Girls Basketball Tryouts: Oct. 31 (4:00- 5:40); Nov. 1-3 (5:40-7:20)
- ◆ Boys Basketball Tryouts: Oct. 31 (5:40-7:20); Nov. 1-3 (4:00-5:40)
- ◆ Students must have completed physical forms and birth certificate in hand to try out. Forms are available in our office and on our website. Only physicals taken after April 1, 2016 are accepted.
- ◆ Students should go to PlanetHS.com to complete required online forms prior to tryouts. Parents and students must both create accounts and then link them together to complete the forms. See Sevier website.
- ◆ Students must have passed all subjects from Spring Semester to be eligible.

## IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

All students take 6 classes daily (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, & 2 Related Arts per semester). The school year contains 180 days. To earn credit, students must attend 85 days of each 90-day (semester) course and at least 170 days of each 180-day course. Any absence in excess of ten (10) days may cause the loss of credit for the year. The first ten (10) days absences may be lawful, unlawful, or a combination. All absences beginning with the eleventh (11) must be lawful and can be excused only if they fall within the guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook.

### Perfect Attendance Criteria (Revised May 2016):

*The definition of an absence at a Greenville County Middle School is missing more than one-half of any single class period for which a student is enrolled, or multiple class periods for which a student is enrolled, during a school day. Absence in any part of the school day for a minimum of more than one-half class period, even if the student was present for all other portions of that same school day, by definition excludes a student from being determined to have Perfect Attendance.*

## Fuss Free Fundraiser

Thank you parents, students, staff, and business sponsors for donating to our PTA's Fuss Free Fundraiser. We have met our \$5000 September benchmark, and hope to reach our \$10,000 goal. Our current total is \$6,900. We will continue collecting donations through the end of October. We welcome any families who have not yet donated to please participate. PTA will hold a grade level competition, and the grade level with the highest donations will receive extra incentive time outside.

Thank you to the following businesses for their sponsorship: Vision Screenprinting & Graphics, Sharp Business Systems, Sliced Tomato Productions, Hunt Orthodontics, Pro Pitch Hit Run, Mathnasium of Greenville-Taylor, Craft Stove Store, Beauty for Ashes, Atticus Creative, ProCore Pest Control, Summers Orthodontics, Professional Engineering Associates, Wings on the Run, House of Raeford Farms, Play It Again Sports, The Original Harvey's Family Restaurant, Babb Professional Painting, Mark Thoennes Builders & Stina Thoennes Realtor, and the Calder Brothers Corporation.

A special thanks goes to Vision Screenprinting and Graphics who are creating the sponsor banners that will be displayed on our fence.

## **WALK** Falcon Walking Club

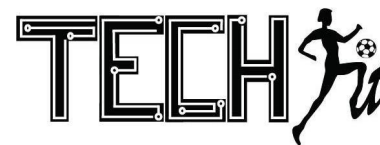
is a free program held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45 - 4:30pm on the Sevier Track, weather permitting.

Students may walk or run with friends at the own pace. They will track their laps, and earn distance level wristbands for every 20 laps (5 miles) they complete. All students must have a ride on site by 4:30pm, ready for pick up.



Students interested in joining the Chess Club should attend the Informational Parent Meeting on Thursday, October 20th at 3:45pm.

The Chess Club will meet on 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 3:45 - 4:45. Students who miss the meeting are still welcome to join. See Mrs. Haack in Room 210 for details. This club does not require a membership fee. The membership permission form is available on the Sevier website.



**TechFit members:** Aaron LaBar, Alex Holley, Anthony Bennett, Asher Daigle, Austin Thibodeaux, Ben McCormack, Camden Aiken, Christopher Oglesby, Curtis Early, Dawson Spang, Denzel Sierra, Emre Demirkilic, Isabella Muehleisen, Jackson Duncan, Jasmine Lewis, Joseph Owens, Kaley Black, Kaylena Foreman, Kenedi Deason, Lucas Rodriguez, Madison Falls, Maggie Hill, Gracie Reed, Mark Winkler, Matthew Nelson, Michael Burns, Paige Geiger, Peter Gregar, Trip Terry, Vasily Goldobin, and Yahir Sanchez.



## Beta Club

7th Grade Beta Club meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at 7:45am in Room 501. The 7th Grade sponsors are Ms. Pack and Ms. Atkinson.

8th Grade Beta Club meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8am in Room 703. Ms. Reeves and Mrs. Allison are 8th grade sponsors.

Members are reminded to begin earning volunteer hours. Completed logs with a total of 20 volunteer credit hours must be turned in at the end of the school year to remain a member.