

# Sebastian River Times



## Celebrating a Season of Good Attendance

Are you planning a family trip for the holidays? As you think about your arrangements, we want to stress the importance of sending your child to school every day possible. Every year, absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. It's time to break that cycle.

We know that just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation.

We recognize that holidays are an important time for reconnecting with families far away. The costs of plane tickets often influence when you want to travel. Please keep in mind the costs to your children's education if they miss too much school— and the message you will be sending about the importance of attendance. Even if you request homework from the teacher, it doesn't make up for the interaction and learning that happens in the classroom. Our teachers will be teaching, and our students will be learning, right up until the last day, and they will pick up on the first day back. This holiday season, give your children the gift of an education and the habit of good attendance.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: FINAL EXAMS TAKE PLACE  
DECEMBER 17, 18, 19 and 20<sup>th</sup>!**

**Staying the Course for  
Success!**

**Sebastian River Middle School  
9400 CR 512  
Sebastian, FL 32958**

**Main Phone:**

**772-564-5111 (Answered 7:30  
A.M. - 3:15 P.M.)**

<https://srms.indianriverschools.org/>

### ADMINISTRATION

**Todd Racine,  
Principal**

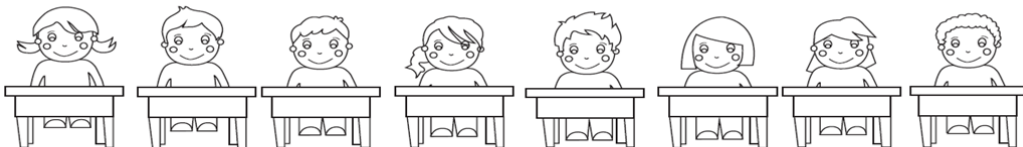
**Michele Holmes,  
Assistant Principal**

**James Thimmer,  
Assistant Principal**

**Guidance,  
772-564-5122**

**Attendance,  
772-564-5123**

**December/January Newsletter  
Volume 3, Issue 4**



**ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW**

# Attendance Corner

\*What is the criteria to be eligible for Perfect Attendance?

1. Your student has not missed anytime at school for any reason, excused or unexcused
2. Student has not been signed out of school early
3. Tardiness does count against perfect attendance



## Career Fair

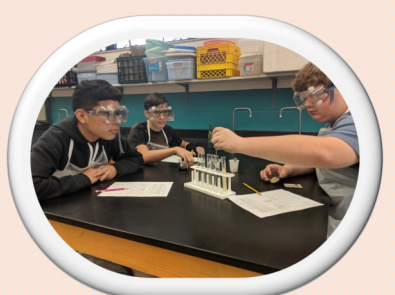
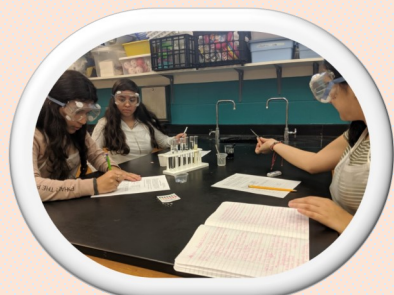
8th grade students participated in a Career Fair experience. During their Social Studies class, the students visited the fair, stopping at each booth to ask questions, see demonstrations and learn about various careers. Even SRHS had representatives talking about programs available at the high school! Some of the careers included were:

- Police Academy
- Army
- SRHS Athletics, Culinary, Science, ROTC
- Firefighters
- Various technology companies
- IRSC



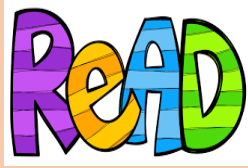
## Ms. Shultz's Lab

Ms. Shultz had a lab on Nov. 7th. Her students were learning about acids and bases. They tested 6 liquids with special paper and then poured cabbage juice and watch the liquid change colors. The acids turned pink, the bases turned green, and the neutral things stayed the same.



# News from the Media Center

Mark your calendars!



2019-20 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

January 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>

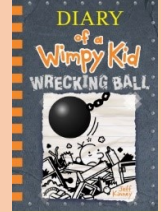
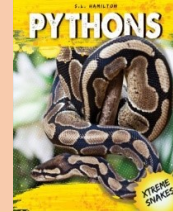
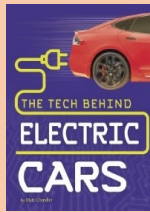
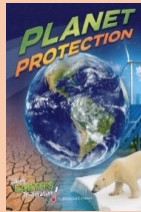
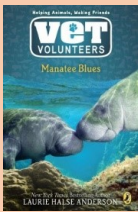


The Sebastian River Middle School Media Center will host our **Scholastic Book Fair** January 27<sup>th</sup> - February 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of this year's Literacy Week events. Students will visit with their Language Arts classes. We need adult volunteers to help with the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mrs. Beller in the Media Center at 564-5153.

This year's Sunshine State Young Readers Award Vote and Celebration is scheduled to take place April 7<sup>th</sup> in the SRMS Media Center. Students will need to read three of this year's fifteen titles and register with Mrs. Beller or Mrs. Zimei by March 31<sup>st</sup> to receive an invitation. Check out this year's selection of Grades 6-8 titles for Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Program at the following link:

[https://www.floridamediaed.org/uploads/6/1/4/2/61420659/6-8\\_annotated\\_list\\_2019-2020.pdf](https://www.floridamediaed.org/uploads/6/1/4/2/61420659/6-8_annotated_list_2019-2020.pdf)

## New Titles at SRMS:



The SRMS Media Center is open for students in the morning from 7:30 A.M. - 7:50 A.M. Students may read, check-out books, use computers for school related activities, study and complete assignments. As always, keep Reading!



Students who got A Honor Roll or A, B Honor Roll were invited to come out during their homeroom/lunch and enjoy fun in the sun. The students were served hamburgers, cheeseburgers, and hotdogs. Students also got to enjoy playing games outside for their lunch and homeroom periods. How fun, we can't wait for the next one!





# Holiday Store



The PBIS Holiday Store will be open for business December 9-13th from 7:30-7:55 AM in the multipurpose room for students to shop for presents for the holiday. Students—be sure to bring all those Cowboy Credits that you have been saving up! That's what you will use to purchase the gifts!

## CONGRATULATIONS

# Student of the Month!

### November 2019



Congratulations goes out to Taylor Hunter, who was selected as November's Exchange Club Student of the Month. Taylor, her family, and Mrs. Lahodik were treated to a luncheon at Captain Hiram's to celebrate all the nominated students. Mrs. Lahodik said, "Taylor Hunter is an amazing young lady, she is intelligent, thoughtful, caring, and unselfish. Taylor often makes our classroom a better place, she has shown a deep sense of righteousness by standing up for good behavior even when that choice has not been very popular. Taylor displays many of our IB character and learner traits, and is an excellent role model to others. Way to go, Taylor!"

# Thanksgiving Lunch

The Thanksgiving lunch took place on November 20th. The food served was turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, and pumpkin pie. Thanksgiving is the celebration of the 1621 harvest feast shared between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag people.



# IB NEWS

## October & November Top Volunteers

**Students:** Alex Tuerke, Mia Harrell, Veronica Kostan, Ethan Paiement, Maria Salazar, Yahir Moreno

**Parents:** Christina Calkins, Tammy Green, and Shynette Buxton

*A huge thank you to the students and parents who are logging their hours and helping our community!!! Please visit the SRMS website and click on the IB & Middle Years Program tab for the new volunteer logging website.*

## IB Community Project News

The Community Project is a required project by the IB Programme to be completed in Year 3 (8<sup>th</sup> Grade). SRMS students have been working on the Project in their Advanced Language Arts classes. Students have been researching a need within a community and now they are developing a plan for action. Students are organizing their "action" by gathering materials, finding a location for event, creating posters/brochures, etc. Please continue to help, support, and guide your child through the Community Project.

## IB Evaluation Year

In order to maintain our status as an IB World School, SRMS is required to participate in an ongoing process of review every five years to ensure that the IB Standards and Practices are being upheld with fidelity. As part of this process, we must complete a self-study to assess the implementation of the IB Programme at SRMS. In February, a pair of evaluators from the IBO will be visiting SRMS to verify our self-study, interview teachers, administrators, students, and parents, and give us feedback to improve our program. Parents, if you are interested in being part of this process, or wish to provide feedback about the IB Programme at SRMS, please email me at [Bradley.wright@indianriverschools.org](mailto:Bradley.wright@indianriverschools.org).

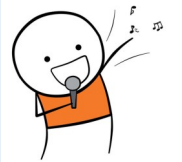
## Important Dates

**Portfolio Extravaganza** - Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

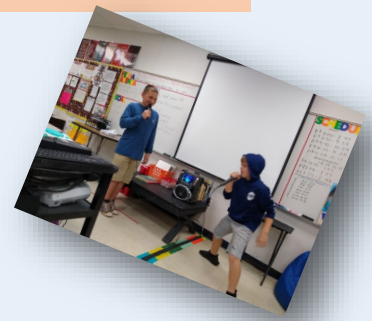
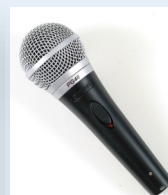
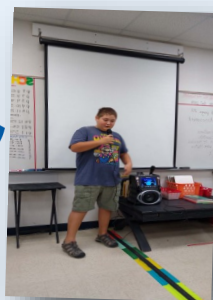
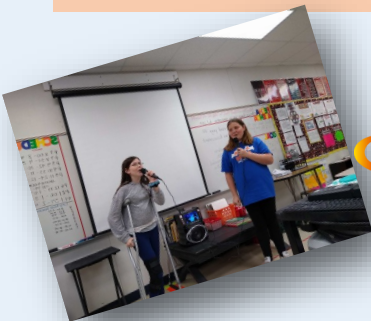
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Wave and Pebble Ceremony** - Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020



# Fun Day in Spanish Class!

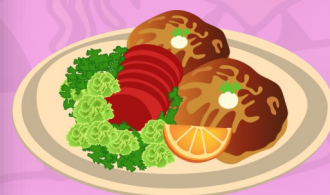


In Mrs. Pagan's class, students bravely and skillfully sang in Spanish the song "¿Como soy yo?" to demonstrate mastery of the learning goal! That takes a lot of courage, but these cowboys managed easily! Keep up the great work, students!



# Madrigal Dinner Concert

On the nights of December 5th and 6th, our Madrigals performed their concert at the St. Sebastian Catholic Church. Doors opened at 6:15 PM and the concert started 7 PM. Dinner services were provided, which included salad, main entrée, sides, and a dessert. **AMAZING JOB MADRIGALS, YOU NEVER FAIL TO LEAVE US IN AWE!!**



## Drama Club!



### Drama Club:

On Wednesday, December 11th from 6:30 - 7:30, is our Drama Club's annual performance. The play, *This is your Brain on Social Media*, is a satirical /comical look at the effects of too much social media and how it impacts our lives. Students from 6th, 7th and 8th grade will be performing. Please come out to see this amazing show. You don't want to miss it! There is no charge!

## Yearbook News!

"Attention Parents & Students": The time to redeem any discount coupon for the \$5.00 off the standard yearbook price is coming to an end. All coupons will expire on December 17th. Also, Student Celebration ad pages are filling up. Reserve your half-page or full-page as soon as possible to ensure your student is celebrated in the yearbook.



# WHAT'S NEW?



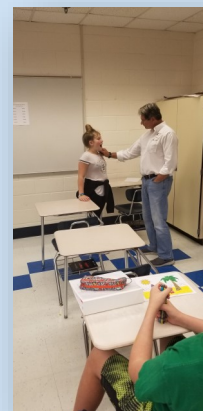
Here at SRMS we want to make sure everyone knows new staff. One very special teacher is Mrs. Johnson! She attended John I. Leonard High School in Lake Worth, Florida. The reason she wanted to be the ESE Support Facilitator is that she loves the variety of students, and she likes to meet all different kinds of students. She used to work in West Virginia where she was at a middle school for 3 years and a high school for 9 years. She attended Marshall University. She has a bachelor's and masters degree. Mrs. Johnson loves to kayak read and travel!



## SWAT News

On Thursday—November 14<sup>th</sup>, the SWAT Club members were visited by Mr. Bob Herbst. Mr. Herbst showed a video about the consequences of smoking and vaping. He also gave the students a first-hand view of one of his consequences of smoking. Mr. Herbst has a hole in his throat and he has to use a voice box to speak. He allowed the students to look in his throat, as well as use his voice box.

Joniah Holson peers into the hole in Mr. Bob Herbst's throat. The hole in Mr. Herbst's throat is a consequence of smoking.



Mr. Bob Herbst shows Rylie Raynor how to use a voice box.



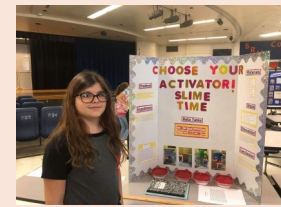
## Veteran's Breakfast

Thank You  
\*\*\* FOR YOUR \*\*\*  
**SERVICE**

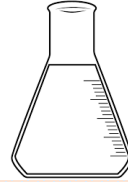
The SRMS Annual Veteran's Day Breakfast was held on November, 4th. It was a great success! Thank you to everyone who came, and thank you for your service!



# Science Fair



Science fair took place on December 4th in the SRMS Café. Judges were blown away at the amazing experiments that students conducted. Students who participated get to participate in a field trip to the planetarium! Way to go, Scientists!



## EXAM SCHEDULE

### Monday, 12/16

Time	Period	Notes
8:00 – 9:04	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period	
9:08 – 10:12	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period	
10:16 – 11:20	4 <sup>th</sup> Period	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch: 10:16 – 10:46 HR: 10:46 – 11:20
11:24 – 12:28	5 <sup>th</sup> Period	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch: 11:24 – 11:54 HR: 11:54 – 12:28
12:32 – 1:36	6 <sup>th</sup> Period	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch: 12:32 – 1:02 HR: 1:02 – 1:36
1:40 – 2:45	1 <sup>st</sup> Period	

### Tuesday, 12/17

Time	Period	Notes
8:00 – 9:04	7 <sup>th</sup> Period	
9:08 – 10:12	8 <sup>th</sup> Period	
10:16 – 12:45	1 <sup>st</sup> Period EXAM	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch: 10:20 – 10:50 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch: 11:10 – 11:40 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch: 12:15 – 12:45

### Wednesday, 12/18

2 <sup>nd</sup> Period EXAM	8:00 – 10:05
3 <sup>rd</sup> Period EXAM	10:10 – 12:45
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	10:20 – 10:50
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	11:10 – 11:40
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	12:15 – 12:45

### Thursday, 12/19

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 5 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 4 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 4 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM	8:00 – 10:05
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 6 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 6 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade – 5 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM	10:10 – 12:45
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	10:20 – 10:50
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	11:10 – 11:40
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	12:15 – 12:45

### Friday, 12/20

7 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM	8:00 – 10:05
8 <sup>th</sup> Period EXAM	10:10 – 12:45
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	10:20 – 10:50
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	11:10 – 11:40
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch	12:15 – 12:45

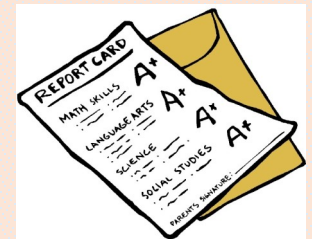


### Tips

- Study days before the test.
- Get a good and long nights sleep.
- Eat a good breakfast to have energy for the test!
- Don't overwork or stress about it!
- Try your best when



Time for Exams



Report Cards for the second quarter and the first semester come out on January 8th, 2020!



# Choir UCF Trip



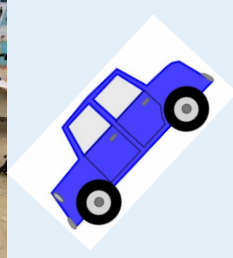
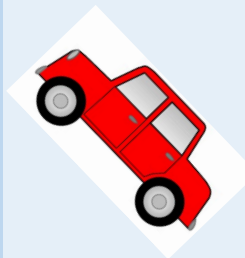
What a success! SRMS Choir visited the campus of UCF on Friday the 22nd. The students participated in a full campus tour, enjoyed dinner on campus, and attended the UCF Winter Choir Concert. Go Knights!



## Attention 8th Graders!!

Attention 8th graders! Gradventure is quickly approaching! Eligibility starts at the beginning of second semester. More information to come! Be sure to listen to morning announcements and check the school website for upcoming information. You are not going to want to miss this trip - best one of the year!!

## Driving in Language Arts?!



IMPORTANT



8th grade students in Ms. Taflinger's classes completed a unit of study "Approaching Adulthood" in their literature book. After much discussion and viewing teen driving videos, students researched "Driving and Distractions". Students then made a poster displaying their research using pictures, graphs, quotations, statistics, facts, a bibliography, and an objective summary. The students enjoyed the project.



# Band Concerts



The SRMS Beginning Band had a concert on December 5th. The drumline opened for the beginning band students. What a talented group of students. Thank you to Ms. Fontaine for holding a beautiful performance!



Don't forget that the other four bands; Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band will perform at the high school on December 16th. Hope to see you there; you won't want to miss it!

## Student Council News

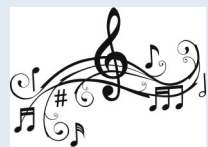
Attention! Do you love to wear slides to school? If you do, you may want to read this section closely. Student Council will be having a collection for the Hibiscus House on 12/18, 12/19, and 12/20 before school in the holding areas and in the cafeteria. For a \$1 donation, students may wear slides and they will receive candy for their generous donation. The money raised will be to purchase luggage and over-night bags for children at the center. What an incredibly fun way to raise money for a wonderful cause!



## Walk Like an Egyptian...



In Ms. Kurrus' World Culture classes, the students researched and created a 3D Artifact representing something from the ancient Egyptian culture. They presented them to their class and explained their research and creation process. What a fun way to learn about Ancient Egypt! Keep up the great work in social studies, cowboys!



# Sebastian River Middle School Band Calendar 2019-2020



\*Ensemble Codes: BB = Beginning Band, CB = Concert Band, SB = Symphonic Band, WE = Wind Ensemble, J = Jazz

Date	Event	Description	Ensemble*
Dec 13th, 9am-1:30pm	PRISM Concert Field Trip to SRHS	All eligible band students may travel to SRHS during the school day to attend the PRISM Concert. Permission slip, band fee, and shirt fee must be paid to attend.	All
Dec 16th, 6:30pm, SRHS Auditorium	WE, SB, CB and J Winter Concert @ SRHS	Winter Concert for the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band and Jazz band. This is a graded event and counts towards the mid-term grade. Beginning band students may attend for extra credit.	WE, SB, CB, J
Jan 30th	Jazz Showcase Concert @ SRHS	The Jazz band will be performing with other IRC jazz bands in the Jazz Showcase. This will serve as a "Pre-MPA" performance to prepare for MPA. This is a graded event.	J
Feb 4-5, time TBD	Jazz MPA	Jazz Music Performance Assessment performance for Jazz Band students. This is a graded performance. Transportation provided.	J
<b>Wind Ensemble MPA Schedule</b>	SRMS Band room and multi-purpose room	<i>Wind Ensemble only:</i> Possible sectional dates: 3pm-4:30pm on January 28, February 10, February 12. <b>Mandatory Rehearsals: 3pm-5pm on February 24, March 2, March 9</b> MPA Camp: Saturday February 22nd, 9am-3pm *Rehearsals are required and graded. Participation in MPA camp is mandatory to perform at MPA.	<b>WE</b>
Feb 19, 6-9pm	Pre-MPA Concert and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting	Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band Pre-MPA concert and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting hosted by SRHS. ALL 8 <sup>th</sup> grade parents should plan to attend the meeting (including Concert Band 8 <sup>th</sup> grade parents.)	WE, SB, 8 <sup>th</sup> grade parents
March 10-12, time TBD	<b>Concert MPA</b>	Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band students will be performing at the District Music Performance Assessment. This is a graded event. Transportation is provided.	WE, SB
April 4th	Spring Trip – Disney Workshop	Students in their 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of band will be eligible to participate in our spring trip. This is a day trip where students will be learning new music and about careers as soundtrack musicians. Students must have orange band shirt, all passing grades, and no referrals in the 45 days prior to the trip to be eligible to attend.	WE, SB, CB
April 24 and 25	Solo & Ensemble Festival	All students are encouraged to sign up for and perform a solo or in an ensemble for the festival. Directors will be available in the months prior to the event for individual assistance. 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students are expected to participate.	All

## Lacrosse Tryouts

Girls Lacrosse try-outs are on Monday, Feb. 3rd. Girls interested must have all forms turned in to try out. Girls Lacrosse conditioning is being held NOW! Come out Tuesdays and Thursdays to prepare for the upcoming try-outs! See Coach Johnson for more information

## Thank you!

Mrs. Lahodik says, "I would like to thank the Recycle Club for donating 30 Spanish leveled readers to our school. They have also donated school supplies for teachers and students. Additionally, they collect empty printer cartridges and exchange them for reams of paper for teachers. I also obtained funding through donors choose dot org for 71 additional books. These books are essential—Thank you!!"

# SRMS COWBOYS 2019-2020 GIRLS/BOYS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
12/09	Monday	Oslo Middle	<b>SRMS</b>	4:30/5:45pm
12/10	Tuesday	Yearling Middle	<b>Yearling</b>	4:30/5:45pm
12/12	Thursday	Imagine	<b>SRMS</b>	4:30/5:45pm
12/16	Monday	Renaissance Charter	<b>SRMS</b>	4:30/5:45pm
01/09	Thursday	Oslo Middle	<b>Oslo</b>	4:30/5:45pm
01/13	Monday	Gifford	<b>SRMS</b>	4:30/5:45pm
01/14	Tuesday	Yearling	<b>SRMS</b>	4:30/5:45pm
01/16	Thursday	Osceola	<b>Osceola</b>	4:30/5:45pm
01/27-01/30	Mon.-Thurs.	District Tourney	<b>TBA</b>	TBA

\*Girls-4:30pm game time, Boys-5:45pm game time

## Basketball Rosters

### SRMS 2019-20 BOYS BASKETBALL ROSTER

#### 8th graders:

Cameron Ryan  
Elijah Smith  
Matthew Boswell

#### 7th graders:

Tyreke Brown  
Jay Green  
Lecedric Chaney  
Randall Godwin

Tyrone Davis  
Matthew Essig

Andrew Simpson

#### 6th graders

Eric Johnson  
Rayshawn Johnson

#### Coaching Staff:

**Jason Armstrong**  
Head Coach

**Bethany Spagnuolo**  
Assistant Coach



### SRMS 2019-20 GIRLS BASKETBALL ROSTER

#### 8th graders:

Shaneria Shelly  
Emma Blair  
Cateria Bishop  
Daphne Gibson  
Clara Sepulveda

#### 7th graders:

Ariyah Brown  
Samiya Adams  
Jayda Pickard  
Haven McIntyre  
Emily Krajewski  
Peyton DeGroat

#### 6th graders

Soraya Villalobos  
Kaeley Ciceron  
Sofia Mercado

#### Coaching Staff:

**Bill McCarthy**  
Head Coach

**Katie Carr**  
Assistant Coach

