



Southern Oregon Success Academy Monthly Newsletter

March 2024

Prom Information

Mark your calendars! Prom will be held at the Fruitdale Grange on Saturday, May 4th. The prom theme for this year is decades, the 50s through the 90s.

Graduation Ceremony

The Class of 2024 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 4th at 6:00 pm at the Merlin Community Park. Graduates and families, please make sure to order your cap and gown from Jostens by using the QR code or by going to [jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com).



Resources to Help Your Child

Are you interested in taking free courses presented by parenting experts? Would you like access to evidence-based resources that will help your family? By going to parentguide.org, you can gain beneficial information from specialized therapists and also receive weekly emails with popular answers to topics like anxiety, depression, suicide intervention, self-worth, relationships, grief and loss, parenting tips, and parenting with a purpose.

Go to parentguidance.org to access the entire library. If you have additional questions or need more resources, you can contact Mrs. Cassie, SOSA School Counselor, by phone or email at 541-476-2524 ext. 1512 or cassie.banuelos@threerivers.k12.or.us.

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Student Success Corner

This month, we would like to take a moment to celebrate student success here at SOSA. Meet Darien Thill, an outstanding SOSA student who has both set and achieved remarkable goals and who has also graduated early. Darien's dedication and hard work have earned him special recognition from the Grants Pass Lions Club as the SOSA Student of the Month. Darien is now in the running for a \$750 scholarship from the Lions Club.

Darien's passions go beyond academics. He loves capturing moments through photography to admire nature. He also enjoys lending a helping hand to animals. We want to congratulate Darien on his achievements and we wish him the best of luck!



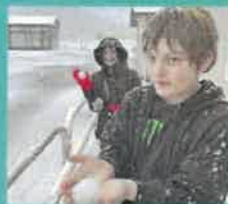
Learn with IXL at home

Did you know your student has access to this online program at home? IXL is a great resource to build up those math and language arts skills. Students who use IXL score as much as 15 percentile points higher in math and 17 percentile points higher in language arts. Research shows that students who answer at least 15 questions per week outperform all the others. IXL is designed to support students toward skill proficiency and mastery when they consistently practice two skills each week. Contact the SOSA school office if you have any questions on using IXL.



Middle School News from SOSA West

Students have been working hard with our ELA teacher, Ms. Gina, and our math tutor, Cadin, this semester. In ELA, they are strengthening their reading comprehension and writing skills. Cadin is an IVHS senior and comes daily. He can offer students a more peer-led learning opportunity and has been an amazing addition to our teaching team. We have also started our Zones of Regulation curriculum which focuses on recognizing how we are feeling daily while providing the tools students can use to regulate their emotions. There has been amazing growth so far and we are so proud of them. They were also happy to take some time away from learning to play in the snow!





Staff Feature

Meet Ms. Allyson Kelley, SOSA's Special Education Teacher. Ms. Allyson has been a part of the SOSA family for 5 years. Some things Ms. Allyson likes about being at SOSA are working with like-minded professionals and creating a viable and consistent learning environment that fosters positive relationships between students, staff, and families. For Ms. Allyson, SOSA is a place where "SUCCESS" is an action word that's used daily with students, families, and colleagues. "We are a team in every sense of the word. Our goal is to embrace all students and instill this in them." Ms. Allyson's favorite part of her job is being able to help students navigate the next parts of their educational journey by giving them the tools they need to either return to their home school or graduate from SOSA.

Ms. Allyson enjoys organic gardening, cooking, the beach, reading, spending time with friends and family, and making cardboard forts for her cat, Rose! She also enjoys being able to guide students along their unique path toward independence. For her, it's the tiny glimpses students give that show they belong, are safe, and are loved.

SOSA Art Show

Attention all students! The 2024 SOSA Art Show will be from March 18 to May 1. All SOSA students (online and in-person) may enter. Prizes will be rewarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Entries may be original 2-D art on what SOSA symbolizes to you. It can be a mascot, collage, or anything that is school-appropriate and positive. Paper art should be on 8.5x11" paper. No digital art, please. One entry per student. Please deliver paper entries to the SOSA Merlin campus or the IV SOSA West campus. Each entry must have the student's first and last name, the title of the art piece, and a brief description that is attached to the art or must be written on the back of the art. Email scanned entries to kirsten.edwards@threerivers.k12.or.us. (The Josephine Community Library reference desk in Grants Pass provides free scanning which can be transferred to email).

February Raffle Winner

The February monthly incentive raffle is complete. Remember, this is for all SOSA students (both on campus and online). Every time you finish a class, your name will be entered into a drawing to win a gift card. The winner for February is Ashley Salzmann. Congratulations Ashley!

MEET MS. ALLYSON KELLEY, SOSA'S SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER



Monthly Challenge

This month's challenge focuses on connecting with others by gaining a deeper understanding of whatever they are experiencing. So, instead of just asking someone how their day is or how they are feeling, go beyond that and ask why they had that kind of day or why they feel that way. Follow it up by having them tell you more about their response. You can use questions like "Why was this challenging for you?" or "How can I help?" You can also use a simple statement like "tell me more." These are some things we can do that can help us understand why someone we love and care for is feeling the way they do.