



The Panther News

Simmons Middle School

East Aurora School District 131

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A Publication of the Simmons Newspaper Club

Welcome to the Third Edition

By Molly Cox

Welcome to the third edition of the newspaper (THREE)! The third edition includes a teacher interview, information about the Simmons Library Book Fair, Cheese and Crackers, Haikus from Poetry Club, a display made by Acceptance Club, a short history of Simmons Middle School, and details about the Aurora Public Library Book Mobile. Until next time, Go Panthers!

Interview with a Teacher

By Nicholas Beltran

We asked Mrs. Block a few of our questions here at Newspaper Club and here are her answers.

We first asked Mrs. Block what her real name is and she told us that it is Jessica Block. Her favorite food is everything, especially soups. Then the other question we asked was what her favorite holiday is and it is Christmas. Mrs. Block's hobbies are gardening and crafts. Her favorite colors are pink and green. She attended Gregory Middle School in Naperville, Neaqua Valley High School in Naperville, College of Dupage, and University of Illinois at Chicago, where she majored in education.

Mrs. Block's favorite thing about Simmon Middle School is the students!

If she could meet her sixth grade self, she would tell herself to not worry too much about what other people think.

Mrs. Block has two cats named Charlotte and Mambe. Her favorite song is Godspeed by Frank Ocean. She played the cello in middle and high school.

When she was a kid, Mrs. Block wanted to become a first grade teacher.

If Mrs. Block won a million dollars and had to spend half of it on Simmons, she would plant flowers for the school and would spend money for trips so students could go to NYC.

Thank you to Mrs. Block for letting us ask you questions, and we look forward to seeing you next year!

Did Someone Say New Books! / Quien Quiere LIBROS?

By Ms. K. Camarillo

The Scholastic Spring Book Fair will be held 5/13 - 5/17 in the library! We had an excellent showing in the fall which provided Simmons with over \$3000 in new books! Your support allowed our library to purchase new Manga, Horror,

Nonfiction, Historical Fiction, Graphic Novels and Romance novels for the school to share. The spring book fair will allow you summer reading books along with cool stuff like invisible pens, posters, diaries and other cool stuff. Start saving! A lot of new titles will be provided, along with some of the fall favorites we had. Check out the book blurbs and our fair information below. Remember to save the date. May will be here before you know it, and then we will be on summer break. Make sure you have excellent books to read over the summer.

¡La Feria del Libro de Primavera de Scholastic se llevará a cabo del 13 al 17 de mayo en la biblioteca! ¡Tuvimos una excelente presentación en el otoño que le proporcionó a Simmons más de \$3000 en libros nuevos! Su apoyo permitió a nuestra biblioteca comprar nuevas novelas de manga, terror, no ficción, ficción histórica, novelas gráficas y románticas para que la escuela las comparta. La feria del libro de primavera le permitirá leer libros de verano junto con cosas interesantes como bolígrafos invisibles, carteles, diarios y otras cosas interesantes. ¡Empezar a ahorrar! Se proporcionarán muchos títulos nuevos, junto con algunos de los favoritos de otoño que teníamos. Consulte los anuncios publicitarios del libro y la información de nuestra feria a continuación. Recuerda guardar la fecha. Mayo llegará antes de que te des cuenta y luego estaremos en las vacaciones de verano. Asegúrese de tener libros excelentes para leer durante el verano.

[Book Fair Homepage](#)

[Books for Spring Book Fair](#)

Cheese and Crackers

By Nicholas Beltran

Have you ever wondered what the history of cheese and crackers is? Probably not, but too bad- I'm going to tell you anyway. So one day, Mr. Cheese was selling cheese... until crackers stole the place where Mr. Cheese sells cheese. Mr. Cheese got mad at crackers and told him to meet him at the park at 9 so they could fight. They both arrived at the same time; they ran up to each other to throw a punch at each other, but the punch was thrown at the same time and that made them combined to make cheese and crackers. So that's how cheese and crackers were made.



Haikus from Poetry Club

By Ms. C Andres

Poetry Club is an after school club sponsored by Ms. Andres. In this club we focus on creative writing: poetry, short stories, rap. We play writing games and listen to each other's work. Below are some Haikus we wrote. Haikus are a Japanese form of poetry with only these rules: the poem is 3

lines, first line, 5 syllables, second line, 7 syllables, third line 5 syllables. These haikus focus on themes of love: having it and losing it.

Love is so useless.

So fragile, easy to break.

Love, idiotic.

Rosa Maria Perez Garcia (Grade 8)

Your soft beauty love

Is made from heaven itself

I'll always choose you.

Rosa Maria Perez Garcia (Grade 8)

Losing you was hard

Me being here is harder

Can it be better?

Maleeyah Embrey (Grade 7)

I will cherish you

Things remind me of you

Happy Birthday friend.

Maleeyah Embrey (Grade 7)

I wasn't over

It just wasn't enough for me

Will you still miss me?

Blanca Velazquez (Grade 6)

I don't just like you

I really love you so much

I just don't show it

Blanca Velazquez (Grade 6)

Take a Positive Note

By Molly Cox

Acceptance Club wrote uplifting affirmations on sticky notes and posted the notes, in the shape of a heart, in the hallway outside of the Simmons library. All passersby were encouraged to take a sticky note. The display slowly diminished in size, until every positive declaration found a reader. Both sincere and funny, the statements ranged from encouraging ("You've got this!") to comical ("If nothing else, look intelligent.")

Another activity that has been at Simmons for awhile is the Special Olympics. One can see photographs of Simmons students participating in the Special Olympics in the eighth grade hallway. There is also a banner about the Special Olympics in the New Gym.

There are so many other clubs, activities, and sports at Simmons. See Edition 2 of the Panther Times for a list of Club and Sports that existed in the 2023-2024 school year.

Aurora Public Library Bookmobile Information

Summer 2024 Bookmobile Stops June 1 - August 17

Mondays

9 - 10 a.m.

Storytime at Arrow Wood Park for ages 3+ with a caregiver. Join us for music, read-alouds, and more!

- Colorado Ave. & N. Commonwealth Ave.

1 - 2 p.m.

McCullough Park with Sci-Tech. For ages 6-11 with a caregiver. Stop by for hands-on STEM activities.

- 150 W. Illinois Ave.

Wednesdays

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Brooks Elementary School

- 2700 Stonebridge Blvd.

2:30 - 3 p.m.

Alden Gardens of Waterford

- 1955 Randi Dr.

Saturdays

9 - 11 a.m.

Farmers Market

- 65 Water St.

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Savannah Subdivision

- Savannah Dr. & Flagstone Ln.

Tuesdays

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Activities on the Go at Phillips Park Zoo with Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry. Children ages 6-11 and their caregiver may join us for art, STEM, and other fun summer activities. People of all ages may take home free bags of family-friendly foods.

- 1000 Ray Moses Dr.

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Plum Park with Northern Illinois Food Bank

- 337 Plum St.
- The Northern Illinois Food Bank will offer free and nutritious boxed meals for youth ages 18 & under.

2 - 3 p.m.

Constitution House with Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry

- 2131 W. Galena Blvd.

Thursdays

2:30 - 3:15 p.m.

With Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry. People of all ages may take home free bags of family-friendly foods.

- Church Rd. & Edison Ave.

Fridays

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Lakewood Valley Clubhouse

- 2529 Dickens Dr.

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Cambridge Chase Park

- 3168 Bennett Pl.

2 - 3 p.m.

Carillon Stonegate

- 1300 Mansfield Dr.



Call us at 630 -723- 2705

www.aurorapubliclibrary.org/bookmobile





Special Stops

Summer Reading Kick-off

Santori Library
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 1

Eola Road Branch
555 S. Eola Rd. from 1 - 2 p.m. on the following Wednesdays:

- June 5 & 19
- July 3, 17, 31
- August 14

Aurora Christian School
2255 Sullivan Rd. from 1:30 - 2 p.m. on the following Thursdays:

- June 6 & 20
- July 18
- August 1

Weston Avenue Park
323 Weston Ave. from 1:30 - 2 p.m. on the following Wednesdays:

- June 12 & 26
- July 10 & 24
- August 7