

Swissvale Library

A Quarterly Newsletter for Friends & Patrons

Winter 2020



Preschool Classes – possible changes

Our preschool classes have been meeting at 11 a.m. on Mondays for the past 20+ years. But they no longer seem to be what families are interested in—whether because most children are in full-time Day Care/Preschool Centers, or for other reasons. We will continue to meet on Mondays at 11 through May, because we have a printed schedule. But we may also begin new classes in March, at another day and time, which will be open to parent and young children of all ages. These will be simpler, half-hour classes of stories, finger-plays, and art fun. Would you be interested in such classes, and what day & time would best suit you? Please talk to either Kate, Cece, or Bonnie.

Saturday Fun – 1 p.m.

There's a different activity each week—largely games & crafts, with some cooking classes, and a Book Lunch each semester. (The next Book Lunch is scheduled for March 28th.) You can pick up a schedule of all the activities at the library.

Games – Mondays 4 p.m.

After school lets out, come to the library and play boxed games for an hour. On the first Monday of each month, we play BINGO—with prizes, of course.

The next WIZARD Tournament is on the horizon

Beginning on February 1st, come to the library every Saturday at 7 p.m., and play a card game called WIZARD. Everyone receives a tiny prize each week—no matter how abysmal your score!—and at the conclusion of the 10 week tournament, the 3 top-scoring players receive gift cards. If you haven't played before, come a little early, and learn the rules.

Are you reading for “Book Bucks”? It's not too late to start!

This year is the 20th for this reading encouragement program. It is open to anyone, of any age, who knows how to read. Pick up forms at the desk, and keep track of your reading from that day forward. The deadline for turning in lists is May 15th. On May 17th, the library will hold its annual Auction. Your reading points become play money (“Book Bucks”), and it's the only valid currency to enable you to buy books, toys, games, kitchen stuff, gift certificates, and lots of other items. The more BB you have, the more you can buy, but everyone can go home with stuff! (We have a side area called a Store, where items are sold outright for small sums.) And you won't go home hungry, because we promise you a cookie table orgy!

Little Listeners

If you have a pre-reader at home, read that child 15 books, and exchange that list for a small prize. Lists are at the desk.

Do you read, and would you like to discuss your thoughts with others?

We now have 5 book clubs which meet monthly. Join whichever one(s) appeals to you, by day or subject. Lists for all of them are available. Come whenever you like—there is no commitment and no cost.

Upcoming Books are:

1st Thursday, 7 p.m – Eclectic Club

February 6th – *Bear Town* (Frederik Backman)

March 5th – *The Story of Ain't, Its Language, and the Most Controversial Dictionary Ever Published* (David Skinner)

April 2nd – *The Light Between Oceans* (M. L. Stedman)

2nd Thursday, 3 p.m. – Eclectic Club

February 13th – *Flygirl* (Sherri L. Smith)

March 12th – *Galileo's Daughter: a Historical Memoir of Science, Faith, and Love* (Dava Sobel)

April 9th – *The Winter Garden* (Kristin Hannah)

4th Monday, 2 p.m. – Mystery Club

February 24th – *A Better Man* (Louise Penny)

March 23rd – *The Witch Elm* (Tana French)

April 27th – *Fear Nothing* (Lisa Gardner)

4th Monday, 7 p.m. – Mystery Club

February 24th – *The Silent Patient* (Alex Michaelides)

March 23rd – *An Elderly Lady Is Up to No Good* (Helene Tursten)

April 27th – *High Tide Club* (Mary Kay Andrews)

[The February & March books are likely to be switched, due to unavailability.]

2nd Sundays, 1 p.m. – Book & Brunch Club (aka, the Yummy Book Club)

February 9th – *Like Water for Chocolate* (Laura Esquivel) – bring a chocolate recipe

March 8th – *Out of the Dust* (Karen Hesse) – bring a Depression era recipe

April 12th – Read about your favorite president, and make a matching recipe

Ask Kate about the public meetings about the library's future; the spring book sale; the next health fair (?), and other topics.