



Community Bulletin

January 16th, 2024

Dear Shrewsbury Families,

Please note the following announcements and information related to various events or activities that may be of interest to you and your children. Announcements from non-school sources are passed on as a courtesy if they meet the requirements of the [School Committee policy](#).

School District Items

1. [Please Note](#) – February Vacation Enrichment Classes **(New)**
2. [Save the Date](#) – Kids' Night Out, January 20th **(New)**
3. [Please Note](#) – Judges Needed for SHS Annual Science Fair, February 12th **(New)**
4. [Please Note](#) – 2024-2025 Preschool Lottery Application, Deadline January 24th
5. [Please Note](#) – Career Fair Looking for Career Representatives
6. [Please Note](#) – Friday Lunch and Learn Sessions for Shrewsbury High School Students
7. [Please Note](#) – Federation for Children with Special Needs Workshop, February 1st

Community Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Police Department Bi-Monthly Newsletter **(New)**
2. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Town Meeting Member Interest Forum, February 8th **(New)**
3. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services Parent Support Group **(New)**
4. [Please Note](#) – Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Scholarship **(New)**
5. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Library Events **(New)**
6. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens **(New)**
7. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Programs **(New)**
8. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Events **(New)**

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Little League Baseball and Softball
 2. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Little League Girls Softball Winter All-Skills Clinic
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School District Items

1. Please Note – February Vacation Enrichment Classes (New)

Shrewsbury Public Schools is pleased to be offering enrichment classes for students in grades K-6 during February vacation. These classes are open to the community. [Registration](#) will open Wednesday, January 17th at 7:00AM.

Program Information

Dates: Tuesday, February 20th - Friday, February 23rd

Location: Beal School

Morning Class: 8:30-11:30 - \$100/week

Afternoon Class: 12:00-3:00 - \$100/week

Early Drop-Off: 7:00-8:15 - \$40/week

Extended Hours: 3:00-6:00 - \$85/week

Families who qualify for free or reduced meals are eligible for a 50% discount.

Each class runs Tuesday-Friday, so students may select one class for the morning session and/or one class for the afternoon session. Students who wish to enroll in both AM and PM classes can bring lunch from home and will be supervised in the cafeteria from 11:30-12:00.

Preview the catalog [here](#). If you have any questions about the program, please contact Karen Isaacson, Director of Extended Learning, at (508) 841-8727 or kisaacson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

2. Save the Date – Kids' Night Out, January 20th (New)

Shrewsbury High School Student Council is hosting a fun night just for kids! On January 20th, part of SHS will be open to children ages 5-12 to play games, watch movies, do arts and crafts, and grab dinner. SHS students are volunteering as "Big Brothers and Sisters" for the evening, running the events and activities from 6-9pm. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will be available for purchase. The cost is \$25 per child with discounts for multi-child families. Adult supervision will also be provided by SHS staff members. Entrance to the event will be at the Gym Entrance of Shrewsbury High School. Registration/admittance will open at 5:45pm. Registration is limited so make sure to [register](#) today.

3. Please Note – Judges Needed for SHS Annual Science Fair, February 12th (New)

Forty projects are scheduled to be presented in-person on Monday, February 12 in the Shrewsbury High School Media Center. Please complete [this form](#) to express your interest and availability in helping us evaluate projects this year. Your effort is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Hruskoci, Director of Science & Engineering at 508-841-8836 or dhruskoci@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

4. Please Note – 2024-2025 Preschool Lottery Application, Deadline January 24th

The 2024-2025 Shrewsbury Public Schools [Preschool Lottery Application](#) is now open. All students who will be at least 3 years old by August 31st, 2024 are eligible to apply. We encourage all age-eligible families to complete the form even if they do not plan to send their child to preschool with Shrewsbury Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year, as this is valuable information for us.

Please [click here](#) to complete the form. The application closes at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24th. For more information, please visit our [registration webpage](#).

In addition to the Preschool Lottery Application, we are asking families of preschool students to take a [Preschool Programming Survey](#). In order to help make Parker Road Preschool accessible to as many families within our community as possible, we are seeking your input on the type of programming you would like to have available. We are eliciting your thoughts as part of our long-term planning process. Please [click here](#) to answer 5 brief questions. Thank you for your time and valuable input!

5. Please Note – Career Fair Looking for Career Representatives

On February 6th, 8:30am-11:30am, Shrewsbury High School will be hosting their annual Career Fair in the SHS Commons. We are especially looking for representatives from careers in Biomedical, Business, Childcare, Computer Science, Engineering, TV Production and Film, as well as Plumbing, Electrical, Construction and other trades. The Career Fair will provide students with access to a variety of career options, as well as post-high school options. A full list of representatives will be distributed the week before the event. If you are interested in having a table at the Career Fair, representing any career, please submit your interest [here](#). Thank you for your support of our students!

6. Please Note – Friday Lunch and Learn Sessions for Shrewsbury High School Students

Are you interested in being one of our guest speakers? An overview of the Lunch and Learn program can be found [here](#), and the schedule of future speakers with open time slots for March and April can be found [here](#). Contact kkeohane@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us if you are interested.

7. Please Note – Federation for Children with Special Needs Workshop, February 1st

The Federation for Children with Special Needs will present its online workshop, "Basic Rights: Understanding the IEP," via Zoom on Thursday February 1, 2024 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Topics covered will include: Why the IEP is important, Who is Eligible, and How the IEP is Developed. All caregivers are welcome and [pre-registration is required](#).

Community Items

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Police Department Bi-Monthly Newsletter (New)

Please [click here](#) to view the latest bi-monthly newsletter from the Shrewsbury Police Department covering November and December of 2023.

2. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Town Meeting Member Interest Forum, February 8th (New)

Join the Town of Shrewsbury for our second annual Town Meeting Member Interest Forum!

Interested in becoming a Town Meeting Member? Join us February 8th at 7PM at Oak Middle School for our second annual Town Meeting Member Interest Forum. Representatives from Town Meeting and other Town Officials will be present to answer questions and help the community learn more about its legislative body. We hope to see you there!

[Click here](#) to learn more about Town Meeting!

3. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services Parent Support Group (New)

Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services has partnered with your child's school to offer a free Parent Support Group! Parents are often focused almost entirely on the needs of their children, sometimes to the point that they ignore their own needs and feelings. This group is a chance to address your needs. We will cover topics including the importance of managing parental stress, self-care and social support, child mental health, and finding joy in parenting. There will also be two sessions focused on managing screen time as this group is part of our Screen Time Reduction and Education Program (STREP). This group will be co-led by a licensed clinical therapist and Masters level intern and will be free of charge.

Two cohorts will be offered- a Monday group and a Wednesday group. The six week sessions will begin Feb 5 (Monday Group) and Feb 7 (Wednesday Group) and all sessions will be held virtually from 12-12:45pm. We will not meet during February break. For questions and registration, please email ARobinson@syfs-ma.org. Please note that we will require cameras to be on to promote a positive and cohesive group experience.

This group is made possible through the generous support of the Reliant Foundation.

4. Please Note – Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Scholarship (New)

In 2024, the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury will be awarding three \$2,000 scholarships to high school seniors who are planning to attend college in the fall of 2024. Any high school senior who lives in Shrewsbury or attends high school in Shrewsbury is eligible to receive a Rotary scholarship. These scholarships are paid directly to the student recipient upon their certification of matriculation at college and may be used for any educational expense that the recipient chooses. Seniors can access the application on the Class of 2024 Schoology page in the Resources folder.

5. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events (New)

50+ Job Seekers Virtual Networking Group

Come meet new job seekers to expand your network, news, and views with the Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group! If you are over 50 and unemployed and actively looking, underemployed, seeking a new career direction, or re-entering the job market after a gap, this group is perfect for you.

The group meets on Zoom from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on first and third Wednesday mornings, with repeat sessions on the same topics offered in the evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on second and fourth Wednesday evenings. Registration is required for each session (register [here](#) for morning sessions; register [here](#) for evening sessions). This group is sponsored by more than 60 Massachusetts public libraries. Find the full list of topics and registration [here](#). This group is sponsored by more than 60 Massachusetts public libraries.

SPL Spanish Conversation Club

Are you looking for a casual space in which you can practice your Spanish and learn more about the multiple cultures of those who speak that language? Join the Spanish Conversation Club most Tuesdays at the Shrewsbury Public Library (6:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab on the second floor). No registration required. Visit our [events calendar](#) to check dates.

¿Buscas un espacio informal en el que puedas practicar tu Español y aprender más de las múltiples culturas que hablan este idioma? Únete a nuestro club de conversación la mayoría de los martes en la biblioteca pública de Shrewsbury a las 6:00 p.m. en el laboratorio del segundo piso. No es necesario registrarse. Visita nuestro [calendario de eventos](#) para verificar citas.

SPL Spanish Culture Club

The Spanish Culture Club provides an open and casual learning environment outside of the classroom for adults to learn and practice the language as well as to celebrate the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries around the world. This club is not only about learning Spanish, but learning about Hispanic culture: cuisine, idioms, movies, food, and more. The group will meet every other Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Public Library; no registration required. Visit the library's [events calendar](#) to confirm dates.

Tech Tuesday: Digital Privacy and Security

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library at 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab for Tech Tuesdays! This program is intended for proficient computer users aged 13+ who are familiar with navigating the internet. Laptops will be provided. Space is limited, so [registration](#) is required.

Writing Workshop

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library for a series of writing workshops on Saturdays, February 3rd and March 2nd at 2:00 p.m.! A writing workshop is a place where writers can gather together, share writing, and receive feedback. A writing prompt will be given for the workshop, and time will be set aside for participants to write in response to said prompt. Afterwards, share and discuss your work with peers to improve your writing! Writing workshops are facilitated by Ashton Hooley, a published writer.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

Shrewsbury Public Library Makerspace Survey

Calling makers of all ages! Shrewsbury Public Library is looking to start a makerspace and we would like your input. [Click here](#) to complete a survey to help us build the best makerspace possible.

Lions, Tigers, and...Bulldogs? An Ivy League Writer's Road to Publishing

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Tuesday, January 16th at 7:00 p.m with Ivy League alumnus and professional writer and educator Matt Robinson. He will discuss his book, Lions, Tigers, and... Bulldogs? An unofficial guide to the legends and lore of the Ivy League and the lessons he learned while writing and publishing it.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania who is married to a Dartmouth graduate and the son of a Brown graduate, Matt Robinson has been steeped in Ivy League culture for most of his

life. Matt has had an interest in the history and traditions of the “Ancient Eight” and a knack for remembering the mascots of many schools for far longer than that.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

Medicare Workshop

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Wednesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m. with expert Medicare Russ. He will guide you through Medicare coverage options and recent changes in Medicare policy that will affect Massachusetts Medicare beneficiaries.

For a brief video description, please [click here](#). This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

New Year: Fresh Start Through Meditation

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Thursday, January 18th at 7:00 p.m. with Eileen Carlotta for this powerful program. Learn a simple meditation technique to bring joy, peace, positivity and relaxation in your daily routine. This program will offer the attendees the opportunity to experience a powerful meditation technique and ask questions about how to use it in your life. This will be explained and practiced during the session. This workshop will help you be better prepared to start the New Year with a fresh practice and approach.

With over 40 years of meditation experience to draw on, Eileen offers workshops on various aspects of meditation and spirituality. Eileen has demonstrated how, in the middle of a jam-packed, daily schedule, you can integrate your meditation practice into your own busy life.

This program will take place on Zoom; please [register](#) to attend.

A Journey into AI and its Impact on Our Lives

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Wednesday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m. with Fabricio Murai, an Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Data Science at WPI. He earned his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

In this talk, we will unravel the mysteries of AI and reveal its profound influence on our daily lives. Dr. Murai will provide a brief history of AI and a simple overview of how current AI models can learn from data. Next, we will see how AI is currently shaping our routines through practical examples, exploring its transformative impact in education, healthcare, and the workplace. Last, we will delve into the ethical considerations of AI and catch a glimpse of future trends.

Sponsored by the Shrewsbury Public Library Foundation. This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

6. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens (New)

We have some great events for tweens and teens happening in January at the Library!

Please remember that program attendees in grades 5-6 must be accompanied to the library by a parent/parent's representative who will remain in the building during the program and rejoin the attendee at the conclusion of the program.

- Tuesday, January 2nd-Wednesday, January 31st - Scavenger Hunt - in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Try our monthly Scavenger Hunt! Find all the hidden items and you're entered to win a fun prize. This month's prize is a kiwi Squishmallow!
- Wednesdays, January 10th-24th - Make a Friend: Sew a Stuffed Bear - 4:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. Make a new friend - a stuffed bear! Fun to keep or give as a gift. In this three-part series we'll cover basic sewing skills such as threading needles, the running stitch, and the whip stitch, then use those skills to make a unique stuffed animal. All participants are automatically registered for all three parts of the series.
- Friday, January 19th - Friday Snack Craft - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. What's more fun than food? School is over - come hang out and create something delicious. A new seasonal snack creation each month! This month we're making our own bubble tea. Those with food allergies should please exercise caution.
- Saturday, January 20th - Dot Mandala Workshop - 2:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. Join us to paint a dot mandala and enjoy this relaxing and fun activity. No artistic ability is needed! Dot mandala painting is a traditional art form with a very meditative and therapeutic effect on your mind and body. You will paint along with Bindu Gupta of Dots with Bindu to make your very own masterpiece using simple step-by-step instructions. Get ready to relax, unwind, and create!
- Monday, January 22nd - Teen Advisory Meeting - 8:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. What is Teen Advisory? It's a way for you to connect with the library and make your voice heard. It's a chance to see your ideas and opinions come to life. It's an easy way to earn volunteer credit by attending monthly meetings. Join us to meet some new people, eat snacks, and help us make our Teen Room (and library) THE BEST!
- Friday, January 26th - Friday Trivia - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Drop in for trivia fun! We'll do trivia lightning rounds - try one or stay for the whole game!

Check our [digital calendar](#) and [online calendar](#) for more details and registration!

7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Programs (New)

Pre-registration is required for all of the Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited. Visit our [website](#) for more information and registration and follow us on Facebook or Instagram for updates and photos!

Winter Program Guide

Registration is now open for winter programs! Click [here](#) to check it out.

BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTNER! We are planning more events than ever before, and are seeking community partners to help support our initiatives. Do you or someone you know enjoy our free or low cost events - like Summer Concerts in the Park, Truck or Treat, and the Food Truck Festival - and would like to take advantage of the opportunity to give back to your community while also promoting their business or organization? Take a look at our [Sponsorship Packet](#) and see how we can work together!

Youth Programs

- Little Kid (2-5 yrs) & Big Kid (6-8 yrs) Creative Drama
 - Tuesdays, 4:30-5:15 and 5:30-6:15, beginning January 16, Oak Middle, \$185/child
- Kids Test Kitchen
 - Tuesdays, beginning January 16, 4:30 pm for 6-10 year olds and 5:45 pm for 11-15 year olds, Oak MS Cafe, \$18/child
- Lacey's Makeup Academy
 - Wednesdays, beginning January 10, grades 5-8, 5-6 pm, Senior Center, \$78/child
- Babysitting Courses
 - March 9, Ages 12-15, 10 am - 12:30 pm, \$60/person
 - Option to add CPR & AED Certification from 1-3 pm on each date, \$70/person
- Skills & Drills Basketball Clinic Spots Still Available!
 - Thursdays, beginning January 11, Sherwood MS Gym, \$78/child
 - First Graders: 6-6:45 pm; Second Graders: 6:45-7:30 pm
- February Break Camps
 - Minds In Motion STEM Programs - Tuesday 2/20-Friday 2/23, Floral St. School
 - Chemical Creations for ages 6-10, 9am- Noon
 - CSI for ages 7-11, 12:30-3:30 pm

Adaptive Programs

- Adaptive Gym Games with Coach Chip Collins, Wednesdays, Floral St. School
 - NEW START DATE: January 17- We have pushed back the start date of Adaptive Gym Games so that we can get a few more registrations! Ages 6-15 from 6-7 pm, and ages 15 and up from 7-8 pm. Volunteers welcome!

Family Programs & Events

- Summer Program Information Night: January 23, 6-8 pm, Senior Center
- Family Bingo Night , January 26, 6-8 pm, Senior Center, \$20/family
- A Syrup Soiree, March 23, 10-11 am, Pure BS Maple Shack in Auburn, \$25/family
- Ice Fishing Clinic , February 6, 2-4 pm, Jordan Pond, Registration Required, No Fee!
- Eggstravaganza, Saturday, March 30, 10 am -Noon, No Registration or Fee!

Adult Programs

- Meditation
 - Wednesdays, 6:45-7:45 pm, begins February 7, \$95, Senior Center
- CPR & AED Certification
 - March 9, 1-3 pm, \$70
- Pickleball
 - Sunday Lunch Hour Open Play, 11:30-1:30 at Beal Elementary

Please [click here](#) for the Parks & Recreation website.

8. Please Note – Shrewsbury Historical Society Events (New)

Shrewsbury Historical Society Upcoming Programs

- January 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Shrewsbury Historical Society (17 Church Road):
“Shrewsbury Charitable Society” by Tom Kelleher
 - Early Americans sought to improve their society and the world by organizing into voluntary associations to address particular problems. Shrewsbury, Massachusetts was no different. In 1832 several women of Shrewsbury formed a Charitable Society, banding together to socialize and aid their less fortunate neighbors. Based on the work of the late Jack Larkin, long time Chief Historian at Old Sturbridge Village, this presentation will look at the Shrewsbury Charitable Society during its first decade, its work, and the women who formed it.
 - Tom Kelleher is currently Historian and Curator of Mechanical Arts at Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. He regularly teaches and demonstrates at museums and historical societies around the country. Tom holds a Master’s degree in history from the University of Connecticut, and writes often for a variety of magazines and journals, including Early American Life.
- February 28th: “Hebert Candies, Past to Present: Creation of the Candy Mansion” by Paul Smith (at Hebert Candy Mansion)
- March 27th: “Needle & Thread: The Art and Skill of Clothing an Early 19th-Century Family” by Rebecca Beall
- April 24th: “Spectacle and Substance: Tracking a Tale of Victorian America” by April Jones Price
- May 22nd: Annual Meeting and “Having Fun: Wish You Were Here: Historical Society Game Night!” by Erik Larson, President

Mission Statement

The Shrewsbury Historical Society was organized on January 7, 1898, and incorporated on June 23, 1902. The purpose of the Society shall be to keep alive and increase interest in the history of the Town of Shrewsbury; to collect and preserve items of special value, traditions, and curiosities; to encourage general public interest in its work; and to maintain such personal properties and real estate that may come under the control of the Society. Questions? Email shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com.

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Little League Baseball and Softball

PLAY BALL! Spring registration for Shrewsbury Little League Baseball and Softball is now open for softball ages 4-16 and baseball ages 5-12 (born before September 1st). Join your friends for fun on the field! Registration closes February 4th. [Click here](#) to register today.

2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Little League Girls Softball Winter All-Skills Clinic

Whether you are just beginning softball or are a veteran, this clinic will sharpen your skills and give you a head start on the spring season. [Click here](#) to register today.

The program runs for 7 weeks (Saturdays) beginning February 24 as follows:

Tee and Rookie: 2:00-3:00 p.m.; Minor: 3:00-4.30 p.m.; Major and Seniors: 4.30-6:00 p.m.

Location: Sherwood Middle School

Cost: \$155
