



# Community Bulletin

November 21st, 2022

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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](#) – Update on SPS Strategic Planning **(New)**
2. [Please Note](#) – Order Your Cookie Cutters Today! **(New)**
3. [Please Note](#) – Jobs for Students New Website **(New)**
4. [Please Note](#) – Breakfast and Lunch Available on Half Days

## Community Items

1. [Save the Date](#) – Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library Annual Holiday Open House, December 3rd **(New)**
2. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Model Holiday Train Display and Penny Candy Sale, December 3rd **(New)**
3. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Presentation, December 14th **(New)**
4. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Winter Programs **(New)**
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9. [Save the Date](#) – Yuletide Market and Light the Common, December 3rd

## Youth Athletics and Activities

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Girls Softball Pitching Clinic **(New)**
2. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Youth Soccer Spring Season
3. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Registration

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## **School District Items**

### **1. Please Note – Update on SPS Strategic Planning (New)**

Focused Schools, the consultants working with the district to develop the district's next strategic plan, created [this summary](#) to share the feedback collected at the community forum on Wednesday, November 16th. Please stay tuned for opportunities to share your thoughts!

### **2. Please Note – Order Your Cookie Cutters Today! (New)**

Just in time for the holidays - cookie cutters designed and created by 7th grade students from the Oak Middle School Design Lab are available for sale! Designs range from traditional, to New England Sports, to one-of-a-kind. All are only \$5 - they would make great stocking stuffers!

All donations earned from the sale of these cookie cutters will be used to purchase consumable materials (for 3D printers, laser cutter, and vinyl cutter) and maintain classroom equipment. Directions for how to use and care for the cutters, as well as how to order and pick up, can be found on the [website](#).

Support our budding entrepreneurs and make a purchase to support the Design Lab! Limited supply - best selection if you shop early. Thank you for supporting our students!

### **3. Please Note – Jobs for Students New Website (New)**

Do you have a high school student looking for a job? Shrewsbury Public Schools has published a [list of available jobs](#) in our community. Every job listing contains a brief job description, instructions for how to apply for the job, and the contact person. It is the student's responsibility to connect with the employer and to apply for the job personally. This list will be kept up-to-date as much as possible. Please note that if your student is under 18, they must [apply for a work permit](#). Instructions for how to apply for a permit are also on the Jobs for Students page. Questions? Please email [kkeohane@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:kkeohane@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

### **4. Please Note – Breakfast and Lunch Available on Half Days**

The Food Service Department will now offer breakfast and a "Grab & Go" lunch bag on all scheduled student half days this school year. For the "Grab & Go" lunch bag, students will be asked to pre-order by indicating "yes" or "no" on the Monday before each half day so the

cafeteria staff have an accurate estimate of lunch bags to prepare. Pre-orders will be taken at each school and sent to the cafeteria.

On each scheduled half day (see 2022-2023 school calendar [here](#)), students will be afforded time before dismissal to go to the cafeteria to pick up a “grab and go” lunch bag by inputting their cafeteria PIN number.

Lunches will be eaten at home, not at school nor on the school bus. K-6 students who are in the Extended School Care Program on these early release days will still have a special lunch offered by the ESC staff. However, they may also pick up a “grab and go” lunch bag before dismissal if they so choose.

As a reminder, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts along with the federal government have fully subsidized the school lunch program for the 2022-2023 school year by providing a fixed amount reimbursement for each student meal served and documented by the district.

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### **Community Items**

#### **1. [Save the Date](#) – Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library Annual Holiday Open House, December 3rd [\(New\)](#)**

The Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library invite you to their annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be winter holiday crafts for kids, holiday magnet making, dreidel playing, holiday temporary tattoos, a holiday scavenger hunt, holiday card making, and special storytime with Santa from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. The Holiday Open House is free and fun for all ages!

#### **2. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Model Holiday Train Display and Penny Candy Sale, December 3rd [\(New\)](#)**

The Shrewsbury Historical Society will host “All Aboard: Model Holiday Train Display and Penny Candy Sale” on Saturday, December 3rd from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at 1830 Brick School on the Common.

Enjoy the festive holiday themed Lionel O Gauge Model Train. Old fashioned penny candy will be available in prepackaged bags of 10 for 10 cents, while supply lasts. Wooden train whistles will be given to children courtesy of DeAngelis Railroad Contractors and the Shrewsbury Historical Society, while supply lasts. Various Shrewsbury History related gift items will also be available for purchase.

### **3. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Historical Society Presentation, December 14th (New)**

The First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury presents “Reflections on our Past” with special guests from The Shrewsbury Historical Society and presented by Bill Whitehead and a colorful cast of characters on Wednesday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an exciting and informative stroll through our past and a close look at the founding of our church and town. Who were the people who settled here? What motivated and differentiated them? Where did they come from? Have a seat in our meetinghouse, which will be adorned with poinsettias, wreaths, and window candles and gaze upon its incredible architectural features. Hear about the original building, the present building, and the various changes and additions through the years. Listen to the stories and tales that have been recorded in our historical documents. View some of the pictures from our archives and see how our Church on the Green looked so many years ago. Enjoy a music program that will include piano, our hand bell choir, the Shrewsbury Ringers, and our Cassavant organ. You will learn what our founding families endured in order to establish this wonderful faith community and how we continue to evolve and minister to needs in the area. Join us afterwards for refreshments and comradery.

### **4. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Winter Programs (New)**

Fall Online Registration - Currently accepting registration for winter programs listed below. Additional programs will be added throughout November/December. Pre-registration is required for all of the Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited.

Home Safety - Ages 9 and up on Saturday, December 3rd from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Oak Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$37.

Babysitting Course - For grades 6-8 on Thursdays, December 1st and December 8th from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. at Oak Middle School Cafe. Cost is \$57.

Children's Conversation Skills Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Tuesday, December 13th from 7:20 to 8:20 p.m. at Oak Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$50.

Social Skills Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Tuesday, December 13th from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. at Oak Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$60.

Dining Etiquette "Prep for the Holidays" Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Tuesday, December 13th from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at Oak Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$60.

Adult Indoor Pickleball - Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. Visit our website for fees, dates and schedules.

Visit our website! [shrewsburyma.myrec.com](http://shrewsburyma.myrec.com) Create a new account if you have not done so within the past year.

## **5. Please Note – Unified Basketball Program Looking for New Partners! (New)**

Shrewsbury Parks and Recreation are currently looking to add new partners to their Special Olympics Unified Basketball program. Partners play alongside our amazing athletes or those who may step up to coach! We plan on having two basketball teams this winter, with the junior team being ages 8-15 and the adult team being ages 16 and older. Practices are at Sherwood Middle School on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. starting November 29th through March 14th. We also have qualifiers for division play, which is determined at a later time. Register at [Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation](#).

## **6. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events (New)**

### Jewelry Making for Moms

HEY MOM! It's a fun class just for you! Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Monday, November 28th at 7:00 p.m., leave the kiddos at home, and enjoy a relaxing evening making jewelry for yourself or to give as a gift. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. This event will take place in person at the library, please register to attend [here](#).

### Stealing Rembrandts

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Tuesday, November 29th at 7:00 p.m. for this fascinating talk. Rembrandt has been the chief target of art thieves because everyone knows that he is considered perhaps the greatest painter in history and, therefore, his works are highly valuable. His acclaim--and the fact that his works are in every major museum--make him irresistible to thieves looking for a get-rich-quick scheme. However, what becomes of the paintings after they are stolen? What do thieves think they will do with the works when they have them in their hands? Anthony Amore, author of *Stealing Rembrandts*, will explain the answers based on his years of experience investigating art heists using examples of Rembrandt heists from Massachusetts to illustrate his points. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. This event will take place in person at the library, please register to attend [here](#).

### Spanish Conversation Club

Are you looking for a casual space where you can practice your Spanish and learn more about the multiple cultures of those who speak that language? Join the Spanish Conversation Club every Tuesday in November and December at the Shrewsbury Public Library (6:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab on the second floor). No registration required.

¿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 todos los martes de noviembre y diciembre en la biblioteca pública de Shrewsbury a las 6:00 p.m. en el laboratorio. No es necesario registrarse.

#### 50+ Job Seekers Virtual Networking Group

The Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Zoom. If you are unemployed and actively looking, underemployed, seeking a new career direction, or re-entering the job market after a gap, this networking group program is perfect for you! Each meeting features a new topic and includes activities such as presentations, hands-on workshops, guest speakers, access to hiring managers, small group breakout rooms to network, and 1-on-1 coaching guidance. The November 16th meeting will focus on interview practice.

Find the full list of topics and registration [here](#). This group is sponsored by a partnership between the public libraries in Andover, Billerica, Chelmsford, Danvers, North Andover, Shrewsbury, Tewksbury, Westford, and Wilmington.

### **7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens (New)**

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

- Friday, December 2nd - Friday Crafternoon - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. You made it through another week of school! Try a fun craft or activity that will change each month. No crafting experience (or talent) necessary, just try it out!
- Fridays, December 2nd, 9th, 16th - Self Improvement Club - 4:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Explore self improvement, productivity, self reflection, and happiness. You will be sure to learn something useful while also having fun! Led by Arnav N and Harish R of SHS.
- Sunday, December 4th - Coding with Minecraft - 3:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab. Grades 5-8. [Registration](#) required. Learn to code using a drag-and-drop visual programming language called Blockly to solve a series of Minecraft challenges.
- Monday, December 5th - Harry Potter Trivia Night! - 6:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. All ages. [Registration](#) required. The first Monday of the month means trivia for the whole family with pizza and prizes! Test your knowledge of spells, character lore, creatures, and more.
- Friday, December 9th - Friday Afternoon Movie - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Celebrate the end of the week by relaxing with a movie and snacks!

- Tuesday, December 13th - Mason Jar Cookies - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Get a head start on your holiday gifts or make yourself a nice treat! Drop in while supplies last to make mason jar cookies - all the ingredients you need to make delicious cookie mixes in a charming mason jar, complete with instructions.
- Friday, December 16th - Friday Afternoon Videogames - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. School is over - work off a little steam with videogames! We'll have some of the most popular multiplayer games for the Nintendo Switch, like Super Smash Bros, Mario Party, and Overcooked. Show up ready to play or just watch your friends!
- Monday, December 19th - Teen Advisory Meeting - 8:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. Join us to meet some new people, eat snacks, and help us make our Teen Room (and library) THE BEST! Earn volunteer hours for attending and participating.

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

## **8. [Save the Date](#) – Turkey Trot for the Memory, November 24th**

Preparations are underway for the 11th running of the Turkey Trot for the Memory and we can't wait to see you! On Thanksgiving morning at 8:00 a.m., we will gather with friends and family on the Shrewsbury Town Common to show support for those who've been impacted by Alzheimer's disease and to raise funds to support patient care, caregiver support, and research. Please join us for the 2-mile or 5-mile race, fun run, or walk.

We are grateful to our presenting sponsor, Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union, and to the First Congregational Church for generously welcoming us back year after year despite the fact that we've grown exponentially! This event would not be possible without the Church, our sponsors, volunteers, and you!

Registration is live - [click here](#) to sign up early and get a t-shirt. See you at the starting line on Thanksgiving morning!

## **9. [Save the Date](#) – Yuletide Market and Light the Common, December 3rd**

The Shrewsbury Town Center Association announces the 2022 Yuletide Market and Light the Common on Saturday, December 3rd from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the Town Common and Chiampa Funeral Home on Church Road. You are invited AND it will be magical! There will be shopping, music, and entertainment.

The Market will open at 4:00 p.m. and the Light the Common will dazzle at 4:45 p.m. Food, beverages, and festive treats will be sold, including the Shrewsbury Fire Department's delicious "Fire House Chili" and a variety of other food trucks.

Admission is free. Pets are not allowed. Please [click here](#) to see the flier. For more information, including parking locations, visit [www.shrewsburytca.com](http://www.shrewsburytca.com).

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### **Youth Athletics and Activities**

#### **1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Girls Softball Pitching Clinic (New)**

Shrewsbury Girls Softball will be sponsoring a pitching clinic for ages 7 through high school beginning Sunday, December 11th and running through mid-February. The clinic will be led by Claire Roll, assistant pitching coach at Wellesley College and former head coach at Emmanuel College. [Sign-ups](#) are open from now until Wednesday, December 7th. The cost is \$175 per player. If you have any questions, please contact [shrewsburygsb@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburygsb@gmail.com).

#### **2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Soccer Spring Season**

Registration is now open for the Spring season for all Shrewsbury Youth Soccer age groups (pre-kindergarten through grade 12). Our season is scheduled to start in early April 2023 and will run to the end of the school year. [Click here](#) to register. If you did not register for fall 2022, we have migrated our registration system to Sports Connect. Some important points for registration:

- If you do not currently have a Sports Connect account, you will have to create one and add each of the players you would like to register for the spring.
- You do not have to upload a birth certificate.
- If you are ordering a travel uniform, please be sure to select the corresponding fee buttons under "Additional Registration Information."
- The Fan Wear Clothing Store that Sports Connect forces you into at the end of the registration process, much like an amusement park where you are dropped into the souvenir shop at the end of the ride, does not offer the travel uniforms; they have to be selected at the top of the registration form.

#### **3. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Registration**

Registration is now open for the spring 2023 season for all Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse age groups (girls and boys in grades 1-8). The girls' and boys' lacrosse programs recently combined, so you can easily register your athletes in one easy location. Please reach out to Alison Smith [alison.smith@shrewsburylacrosse.org](mailto:alison.smith@shrewsburylacrosse.org) if you have questions. [Click here](#) to register. We migrated our registration system to a new platform. Some important points for registration:

- If you do not currently have a Demosphere account, you will have to create one and add each of the players you would like to register for the fall.
  - You do not have to upload a birth certificate.
  - Uniform ordering will come in a few weeks. We appreciate your patience as we manage the growing pains of switching platforms and combining programs.
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