



**ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL SCHOOL**  
ENGAGING HEART, MIND, AND SPIRIT



## OCTOBER 5TH EDITION

### KEY DATES

**Special Latinx & Hispanic Heritage Month Chapel**

Thursday, October 8th at 9:30am

**PS FAMILY COFFEE**

Thursday, October 8th at 4:00pm

**Back To School Night**

Thursday, October 8th  
6:00 - 7:30pm

**Friday, October 9th - NO SCHOOL**

**All School Zoom Gatherings**

(accessible with SJSLA student account)

Please mark your calendars for our weekly Virtual Family Coffees with the Head of School. This week, we will have a Chapel on Thursday, October 8th at 9:30am. Please note that all Family Coffees will be recorded so that they may be shared with families who are unable to join our live events.

## **Update from the Admissions Office**

Admission Tours are offered every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for the K-6th Grade Campus.

### **All-School Coffee - Friday, October 2nd, 2020 Recap**

What a week it was! This week's All-School Coffee was held on Friday, at 1 pm. Mr. Reinke shared with the community that in a swift turn of events, Dr. Barbara Ferrer of Los Angeles County made the announcement on Tuesday of last week that all schools could be invited to apply for a waiver to return to in-person learning. The waiver currently applies to Grades K-2 only, but we anticipate this opening up for Grades 3-6 in the coming weeks.

Mr. Reinke was thrilled to report that all the hard work the school has done through this year has put the school in the enviable position of being ready for in-person learning. Pods have been created, and classrooms have been reconfigured to create social distancing and provide safety for all students and staff.

Mr. Reinke also shared that most of the school's teachers are ready to return to in-person learning. As part of the waiver process, it is imperative that the school include letters of support, and dissension, from faculty and staff. Mr. Reinke will include both, as we do have a few teachers that have some concern about returning to on-campus learning.

Families were able to ask questions such as when would this happen? How will you ensure my child(ren)'s safety? Will *St. James' at Home* still be an option? Mr. Reinke answered that, should we be fortunate to receive the waiver, we anticipate returning to campus in mid to late October. *St. James' at Home* will continue to be an option for those who do not wish to return to campus for any reason. Mr. Zapata, the school's Director of Security, shared with families the extensive cleaning protocols that the school has enacted and the ways in which the school will be cleaned daily.

The good news is that students will still be provided with a recess time and outdoor play. While lunch will be served in the classroom, in pre-packaged, sealed containers, students will have ample time to spend outdoors. The school will continue to reinforce social distancing requirements, but all families should be comforted knowing that the day will not be spent entirely in desks.

There will be no Coffee today, Monday, October 5th, so that Mr. Reinke can continue moving forward with the pieces necessary to complete the waiver. He will keep all families apprised of the situation. Mr. Reinke will also continue to meet with faculty to ensure that all members of the St. James' community feel safe returning to campus.

## PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

**Congratulations Naveed!** in Ms. Chao and Ms. Clare's Kindergarten class for winning this week's photo contest. Naveed is so intrigued by today's Religion class about St. Francis and how he was a great teacher!

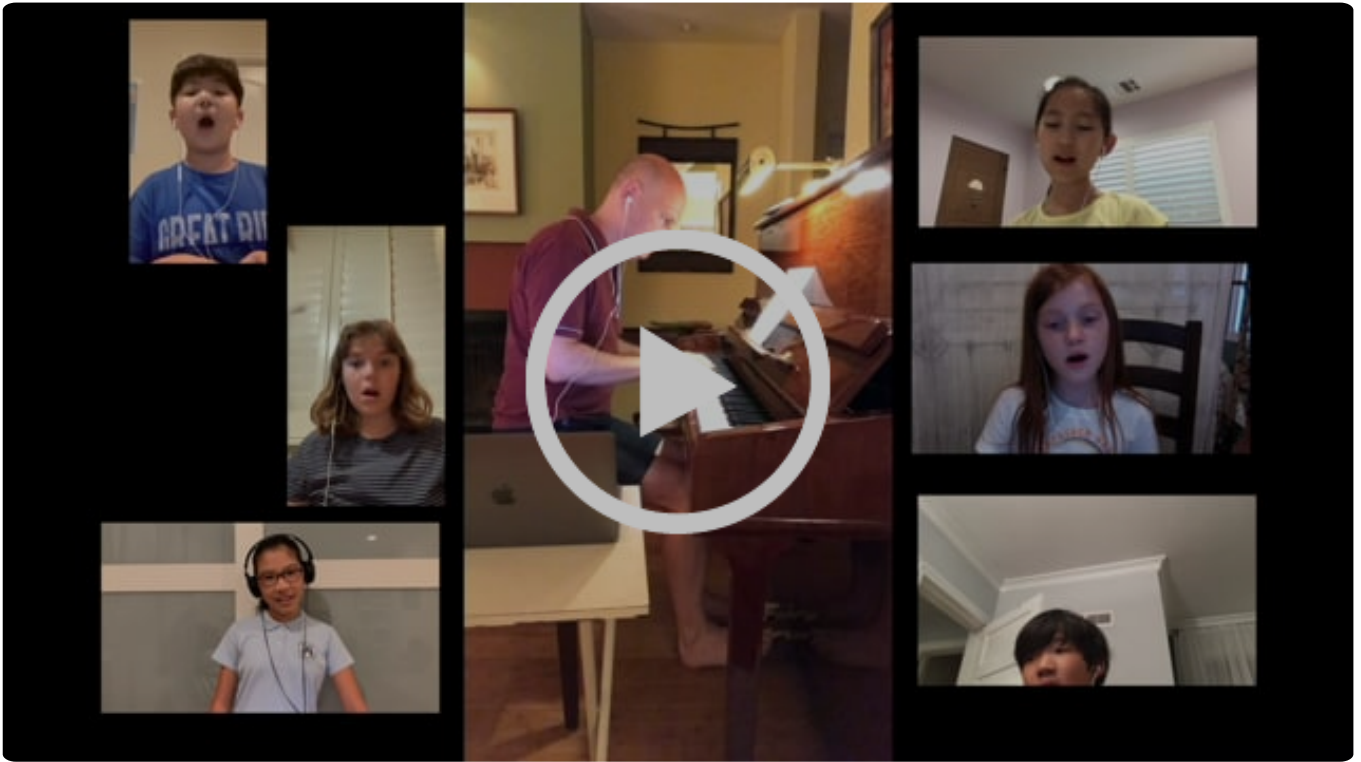
Thank you to all that entered last week into our Weekly Photo Contest.



### **Enter for a chance to win an In-n-Out gift card!**

To enter, please send a photo of your student(s) that best encapsulates them learning at home, alongside a caption that must briefly describe a lesson and how they interacted with it. Then send your photo(s) and caption(s) to [photos@sjsla.org](mailto:photos@sjsla.org) with the following:

1. Subject line "WEEKLY PHOTO CONTEST"
2. Student's full name, grade, and the name of the teacher



The Animals Marching

# ST. JAMES' 3RD ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE STUFFIES AND PETS

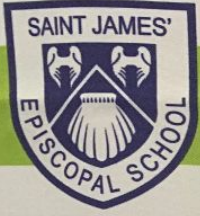
On Friday, October 2nd, the entire St. James' community came together for our weekly Virtual All-School Chapel. With almost 300 participants, we had a terrific turnout. This Chapel was particularly special as we celebrated St. Francis of Assisi and the Blessing of the Animals. St. James' added a spin to these blessings, and all students were invited to bring their special "stuffedie" to the service for a blessing as well.

Mr. Reinke gave a beautiful homily where he shared with us the beauty of having a special friend in our animals and/or stuffies. These stuffies and animals are a child's first confidant and, in many cases, a child's first and best friend. Through our stuffies and animals, children learn to create an intimate relationship that goes above and beyond casual friends. These relationships allow children to have someone in their life to whom they can share anything and everything. Whatever it is - joy, sadness, disappointment, excitement - our stuffies and animals are those that for young children are essential. Our stuffies provide us with comfort and companionship in a way that many others cannot at such a young age.

The students were thrilled to share their animals and stuffies with Mr. Reinke and the entire St. James' community. Of course, this service would not have been completed without a special blessing from Mother Kate. As students held their beloved stuffies and animals for all to see, Mother Kate blessed them all and asked God to watch over them. This was truly a special service indeed.

This week's chapel will be held on Thursday, at 9:30am. Please note the change of date in observance of the long weekend beginning on Friday. We look forward to a special celebration of Latin X month and will have a guest speaker.

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# BIRTHDAY VIDEOS

# Happy birthday, Huskies!

## *Happy Birthday!*

Featured in our weekly Birthday Blessings video includes:  
Phoebe, Tijaan, Tim, and Arthur.

View below our September 28th - October 2nd Birthdays!

### **Kindergarten**

Arthur - 10/1

### **2nd Grade**

Phoebe - 9/30

### **3rd Grade**

Ines - 9/29

### **4th Grade**

Tijaan - 9/28

### **5th Grade**

Marielle - 9/30

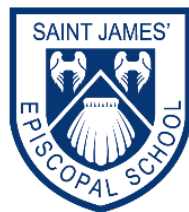
### **6th Grade**

Keira - 9/29

Tim - 10/2

If you wish to submit a birthday video to be shared in our weekly Chapel, please submit your video to Kathleen Lalap at [klalap@sjsla.org](mailto:klalap@sjsla.org) by Wednesday of their birthday week.

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