



KEY DATES

PS-6th Grade Family Coffee

Thursday, October 1 at 4pm

Preschool Back-To-School Night

Thursday, October 1 6:00 - 7:30pm

St. James' 3rd Annual Blessing of The Stuffies & Pets

Friday, October 2 at 9:30am

Please mark your calendars for our weekly virtual family coffees with the Head of School.

Please note that <u>All School Zoom gatherings</u> are accessible with SJSLA student accounts and family coffees will be recorded so that they may be shared with those who are unable to participate.

<u>Click here to listen to the audio of the K-6 Family Coffee</u> held Monday, September 21st.

Update from The Admissions Office

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

BEYOND SCHOOL AND AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT (ASE) FALL 2020 is now in session!

Click here to locate <u>course details and dates</u>, and here for the <u>schedule</u>. If you have any questions regarding Beyond School or After-School Enrichment(ASE) courses please email beyondschool@sjsla.org or ehermeno@sjsla.org or alaffen@sjsla.org.

PHOTO CONTEST WINNER



Congratulations to our Photo Contest Winners. Each will received an In-n-Out gift card!

Congratulations **Susannah** in Mrs. Kammula's 1st grade class!

Congratulations **Moussa** in Kindergarten Readiness with Mrs. Rosel, Ms. Urrea, Mrs. Castro, and



Ms. Sarver.

St. James' Preschool's daily health procedures with Nurse Cardoza. Moussa is ready with his daily cleaned mask, blanket, lunch and water bottle.



Congratulations to kindergarten student **Kayla** in Mrs. Chau's and Mrs. Clare's classroom!

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** with the following:

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

Chapel

At last Friday's chapel, Rabbi M. Beaumont Shapiro from Wilshire Blvd Temple spoke about Yom Kippur. He explained the significance of Yom Kippur, that there is a fast throughout this day and time spent in contemplation and reflection. This most hallowed of all of the high holidays also provides space for atonement, and seeking forgiveness from friends and family. It is very typical to wear white as a sign of purity during this holiday.

BIRTHDAY VIDEOS





Happy Birthday!

Featured in last week's Birthday Blessings were: Evan, Lucy, Maisie, Audrey, Hailey, Henry, Harold, Scarlett, Sophia, Malcolm, Nathan, and Zachary.

If you wish to submit a birthday video to be shared in our weekly Chapel, please submit your video to Kathleen Lalap at <u>klalap@sjsla.org</u> by Wednesday of their birthday week.

Maisie - 8/30

PS Butterflies

Audrey - 9/2 Tatiana - 9/25

Kindergarten

Lucy - 8/27 Benjamin - 9/8 Madeline - 9/18 Clayton - 9/18 Malcolm - 9/23 Clara Ryu - 9/24

2nd Grade

Noah - 9/8 Catherine - 9/19

3rd Grade

Hailey - 9/3 Sophia - 9/23

4th Grade

Evan - 8/26 Harold - 9/22

5th Grade

Kieran - 9/7 Noah - 9/14 Harold - 9/26 Kindergarten Readiness Program

Devon - 9/16

First Grade

Zachary - 9/13 Scarlett - 9/18

Eugene - 9/19

Nathaniel - 9/19

Sixth Grade

Randall - 9/6 Henry - 9/11

Ji In - 9/23

STAFFULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Diversity, Initiative, and Inclusion (DEI) Article

Chenelle Geoffroy-Lindsey
Diversity Coordinator

Most folk will agree that this will be the most challenging school year any educator will experience. In addition to adapting to remote learning, a new school management system, and the challenges we're all facing at home, our educators have also committed to the continued integration of social justice and antiracist pedagogy into their classrooms and curricula. These practices ensure that our curricula remain inclusive and culturally relevant and that we are constantly teaching for ALL students. Here are some of the programs that our staffulty engage in as part of their ongoing commitment to social justice and antiracism:

• For our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Book Club, our staffulty are reading three excellent books:

- So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
- Stamped From the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi
- White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo
- New staffulty, as part of their onboarding experience, take part in the Diversity Boot Camp a 10-week intensive program designed to give the participant a broad introduction to various topics related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice.
- This year, we are launching Staffulty Affinity Groups safe spaces that are exclusive to people of a shared <u>identity</u>. Our groups (People of Color, White Antiracist) will gather throughout the school year to affirm identity, build community, and discuss concerns specific to their group.
- Our Equity Team is continuing to support teachers as they further develop their Social Studies programs and integrate Social Justice into the classroom.

With the support of Peter Reinke and Elizabeth Desmarais, the staffulty at St. James' continues to expand our knowledge and understanding so that we can better prepare our students for the world they will inherit.

Chenelle Geoffroy-Lindsey

Diversity Coordinator

Art and Culture Exchange/Workshops/Exhibitions

Josh Friedman

Mid-January through early February of this year, I was invited to speak and demonstrate in a traveling art and cultural exchange series of workshops and exhibitions in Thailand. I'm very thankful for Mr. Reinke's and the St. James' Administration's support of my participation in this learning opportunity to share and promote our incredible young artists' artistic accomplishments with

an international audience. The Thai government created the series to promote the exchange of art practices, art education, and an international creative dialogue between professional artists and art educators. The events took place in Nakhon Sawan, located in the northern central region of Thailand, in Krabi, a southern coastal city, and in Bangkok, Thailand's capital.

In Bangkok, St. James' students' artwork were exhibited in an exhibition hall at Thailand's Ministry of Culture, Department of Cultural Promotion alongside the work of professional artists and professors from Thailand, the US, Italy, and Poland. Our young K-6 artists collectively showed "Growing Plants," a grouping of color pencil still-life drawings still of plants presented in seven folios organized by grade level. Each folio highlighted works created in classes taught by Mrs. Fleisher and myself. Their works were shown alongside "Snam (Field)," a nine by eighteen-foot artwork I created on linen with incense and fire. This piece is part of a series exploring our precarious relationship with the environment. Since beginning the series two years ago, it has taken on new meaning in light of our recent wildfires.

The exhibition coincided with a children's arts festival of painting, sculpture, printmaking, poetry, architecture, and traditional Thai dance, which is held quarterly in different locations throughout Thailand. Our students' drawings were viewed and appreciated by hundreds of students and faculty attending the festival and the general public over the two-week duration of the exhibition. Observing young Thai student artists (both contemporary to our students and older) create and present their artwork introduced me to new approaches to art education from another cultural perspective. I had the good fortune of meeting and sharing best practices with many educators and professional artists from around the Bangkok region and Asia.

Our hosts and organizers of the series interwove tours to local museums, temples, markets, and national parks before starting the workshops in each of the three cities. In a short time, a sense of each region's distinct cultural identities became apparent, and I readily took the opportunity to source new art materials and incorporated them into my working process and demonstrations. Like much of my artwork responding to surface and place ideas, the mixed-media pieces I created in the workshops were informed by observations and impressions of Nakhon Sawan and Krabi. Accompanying my demonstrations

was a presentation of St. James' students' artwork and an overview of our art program. In each city we visited, our students' artwork was very well received and met with much curiosity and discussion amongst students and faculty alike. Many workshop visitors commented that our St. James' students' artwork was their first introduction to what school life and culture was like in the United States.

I'm grateful for the many learning opportunities this trip presented. Immediately upon returning to St. James' I began introducing our young artists to new works and ideas I gleaned in Thailand. It was a privilege sharing St. James's artists' artwork with an international audience and observing the excitement and inquiry that our young artists' work sparked in Thailand. To further reinforce and inspire our artists, I shared photos and videos of the positive feedback and reactions to their artwork. My hope is that each and every young artist at St. James' will have grown in confidence knowing that their observations and thoughts communicated through visual art have touched and enriched the lives of thousands of people they may never meet on the other side of the world. That's the power of art.

click to view video





















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

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