



CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of August 24

All School

Parent and Student Handbook Now Available on the Parent Gateway

The 2023–24 *Parent and Student Handbook* is now available on the **Parent Gateway**. Please review the Handbook and bring a signed copy of the acknowledgement page to your Onboarding appointment. Thank you!

Register Now for After-School Extended Care

Need after-school care for your kiddo(s)? To register for Extended Care, **log in to the Parent Gateway** and click on the “Extended Care” link.

Place Your Order for Our First Spirit Lunch

Welcome back, Cardinals! Our first Spirit Lunch will take place on Thursday, September 21. This year, K–8 Parent Lunches will take place alongside Spirit Lunch.

- We are kicking off the year by welcoming TK Burgers back to campus.
- All orders must be purchased in advance by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, September 7.
- To purchase your child’s burger and for more information, please **click here**.

First Day of School Is August 30

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade are to **wear the formal uniform** on the first day of school—**Wednesday, August 30**. The annual back-to-school backdrop will be set up in front of the church so that parents may take photos of their students. A line will form, so please plan accordingly.

Welcome Back Coffee and Volunteer Fair Is September 8

Save the date for the annual Welcome Back Coffee and Volunteer Fair on Friday, September 8, at 8:00 a.m.

- Stop by to enjoy gourmet coffee and tea from MoonGoat Coffee, hear a few words from Head of School Steve Lovejoy and the current Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) President, and learn more about events hosted by the PTF throughout the year.
- The PTF is in search of parent volunteers for various events during the 2023–24 school year. To preview the list of opportunities, please [click here](#) and enter your information to indicate interest.

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

Thursday, August 24

- *ECC Back-to-School Night: 5:30–7:00 p.m.; parents only*

Monday, August 28

- *Onboarding Day*

Tuesday, August 29

- *Onboarding Day*

Wednesday, August 30

- *First Day of School: Wear formal uniform*

Monday, September 4

- *Labor Day Holiday: School closed*

Friday, September 8

- *Welcome Back Coffee and Volunteer Fair: 8:00 a.m.; preview volunteer opportunities [here](#)*

Tuesday, September 12

- *Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting (All Are Welcome): 8:00 a.m.*

Wednesday, September 13

- *School Pictures*

Thursday, September 14

- *School Pictures*

Elementary Division

Thursday, August 24

- *Fall Sports Tryouts for Girls Volleyball (Grade 5)*

Monday, August 28

- *Onboarding Day*

Tuesday, August 29

- *Onboarding Day*

Wednesday, August 30

- *First Day of School: Wear formal uniform*
- *Kindergarten Parent Coffee: 8:00 a.m. in Room 10*
- *Welcome Back Chapel: 9:30–10:00 a.m.*

Monday, September 4

- *Labor Day Holiday: School closed*

Thursday, September 7

- *Elementary Play Parent Information Meeting: 2:15–2:45 p.m. on the Learning Commons Patio*

Friday, September 8

- *Welcome Back Coffee and Volunteer Fair: 8:00 a.m.; preview volunteer opportunities [here](#)*

Tuesday, September 12

- *Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting (All Are Welcome): 8:00 a.m.*

Wednesday, September 13

- *School Pictures*

Thursday, September 14

- *School Pictures*
- *Elementary Play Auditions: 2:45 p.m.*
- *Elementary Division Back-to-School Night*

Middle Division

Thursday, August 24

- *Fall Sports Tryouts for Girls Volleyball*

Monday, August 28

- *Onboarding Day*

Tuesday, August 29

- *Onboarding Day*

Wednesday, August 30

- *First Day of School: Wear formal uniform*
- *Final Payments Due for Grades 6 & 7 Field Studies Trips*
- *Welcome Back Chapel: 9:30–10:00 a.m.*

Monday, September 4

- *Labor Day Holiday: School closed*

Thursday, September 7

- *Middle Division Auditions: 3:15–4:45 p.m.*

Friday, September 8

- *Welcome Back Coffee and Volunteer Fair: 8:00 a.m.; preview volunteer opportunities [here](#)*

Tuesday, September 12

- *Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting (All Are Welcome): 8:00 a.m.*
- *Middle Division Back-to-School Night*

Wednesday, September 13

- *School Pictures*

Thursday, September 14

- *School Pictures*

Friday, September 15

- *Middle Division Play Rehearsal: 3:15 p.m.*
- *Middle Division Social: 1:00–3:05 p.m.*

Early Childhood Division

From the Division Principal

It was wonderful to see our families yesterday at our Early Childhood Division Playdate and Summer Social. So many great connections were made between students, families, and teachers, which is just the beginning as we get ready to kick off the 2023–24 school year here at St. John's.

We look forward to seeing all of you at Back-to-School Night this evening. Please join us at 5:30 p.m. just inside the main gate by the fountain.

Mr. Lovejoy and I will say a few words before we dismiss you to your child's classroom. Our teachers have prepared informative presentations to answer any questions you may have and to help you prepare your child(ren) for the start of the school year.

Warmly,

Carole Magaldi
Interim Early Childhood Division Principal

Brightwheel App: Invitation to New Families Emailed Yesterday

In the Early Childhood Division, we use an app called Brightwheel. This app will be the primary source of communication between teachers and families. It will also be the app that is used to sign your child in and out from the Early Childhood Center.

- New families were emailed an invitation to set up their Brightwheel account yesterday—Wednesday, August 23.
- You must have your Brightwheel account set up prior to the first day of school so that you may sign your child(ren) in and out.
- Please note that anyone authorized to drop off or pick up your child must have their own Brightwheel account with their own unique PIN.

We will share more information about Brightwheel this evening during Back-to-School Night and at your Onboarding appointment.

New Procedure for Extended Care Registration

Extended Care is offered until 5:00 p.m. Parents interested in Extended Care (daily

or occasionally) will need to register via the “Extended Care” link on the Parent Gateway to secure the discounted hourly rate.

- Please note that there will be no Extended Care on Minimum Days, Conference Days, or Inservice Days, as many of these days involve all SJES faculty in collaborative meetings.
- We will share more information regarding Extended Care this evening at Back-to-School Night and at your Onboarding appointment.

Please Schedule Your Onboarding Appointment

Held Monday, August 28, and Tuesday, August 29, Onboarding sessions allow our Cardinals and their families to come to campus, meet with their teacher(s), and see their classrooms for the 2023–24 school year.

If you haven't already, please schedule your Onboarding appointment using the pertinent link below:

- [Cardinal Nest Infants and Toddlers](#)
- [Early Preschool, Preschool, and Pre-K](#)

With questions about Onboarding, please reach out to Early Childhood Division Administrator [Susan Gomez](#).

Join Us This Evening for Back-to-School Night

Please join us this evening for Early Childhood Division Back-to-School Night. The event will kick off at 5:30 p.m. just inside the main gate by the fountain. **A parent-only event, Back-to-School Night will conclude no later than 7:00 p.m.**

Important Information About Drop-off and Pickup

In the Early Childhood Division, **drop-off will begin at 7:45 a.m. every morning in front of the Early Childhood Center (ECC).** When you arrive, you will use the Brightwheel app to sign your child in at one of the iPad stations, and a staff member will walk your student into the ECC. You will use the same process in reverse when picking up your child. **Children need to be picked up by 12:00 p.m. if they are half-day, by 2:45 p.m. if they are standard-day, and no later than 5:00 p.m. if they are staying for the entirety of Extended Care.**

Elementary Division

From the Division Principal

It was great to see so many of you at yesterday's Summer Social! As a new member of the St. John's Community, this event was very meaningful. I hope you enjoyed it, as well. For those of you who weren't able to attend, there will be many other opportunities to connect with the faculty and staff of our incredible school.

As we quickly approach the beginning of the year, I am aware that some of our Elementary students may be experiencing a combination of excitement and nervousness! Please reassure them that it is normal to be a little uneasy about new situations. Our teachers are prepared to make students' entry to the new school year seamless. You'll see, after no time at all, that our Cardinals—no matter the grade level—will feel right at home.

Once again, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Ryan Bourke
Elementary Division Principal

Onboarding Sessions Are August 28 and 29

Held Monday, August 28, and Tuesday, August 29, Onboarding sessions allow our Cardinals and their families to come to campus, meet with their teacher(s), and see their classrooms for the 2023–24 school year.

- If you haven't already, be sure to schedule your Onboarding appointment by [clicking here](#).
- With questions, please reach out to Elementary Division Administrator [Kimberly Cahuantzi](#).

First Day of Kindergarten Parent Gathering: Join Us After Drop-off

Please join us at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 30, in Room 10 for a brief gathering of kindergarten parents after you have dropped your child off in the classroom. Head of School Steve Lovejoy and Elementary Division Principal Ryan Bourke will introduce themselves to those whom they have not yet met. They will

share a few thoughts with you about the kindergarten year and be available to answer any questions you may have.

Attention, Kindergarten Parents: Important Information From the Health Office

California law requires that all immunizations be up-to-date in order for a child to attend the first day of kindergarten. There are NO exceptions to this rule. Updated copies of immunization records must be submitted for all incoming kindergarten students, regardless of whether they attended St. John's Early Childhood Center.

- Please **submit a current copy of one of the following documents** to St. John's Health Office. These mandatory documents were due to the Health Office on August 18.
 - A copy of your child's yellow California Immunization Card, **OR**
 - A copy of the immunization record from your doctor's office.
- For your convenience, you may fax a copy of your child's immunization records to the Health Office at 949.858.1403.
- **With questions or concerns**, please contact the Health Office at 949.858.5144, ext. 223, or **via email**.

Middle Division

From the Division Principal

The SJES Summer Social was a wonderful event that brought together the faculty, staff, and Cardinal Community. Creating opportunities for everyone to connect builds a sense of belonging.

The upcoming Onboarding sessions will be crucial for introducing students to campus and helping them feel comfortable in their environment in Middle Division.

The first day of regular classes for students begins at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 30, with new schedules in hand, smiling Cardinals in formal uniform, and welcoming teachers excited to begin a new year. I am aware that some uniform items are back-ordered, so do not worry if your student has not received certain items.

All of us in the Middle Division are here to welcome the students and ease their transition back to school.

Looking forward to a fantastic year,

Sheryll Grogan
Middle Division Principal

Onboarding Sessions Are August 28 and 29

Held Monday, August 28, and Tuesday, August 29, Onboarding sessions allow our Cardinals and their families to come to campus, meet with their advisor, and see their classrooms for the 2023–24 school year.

- If you haven't already, please schedule your Onboarding appointment using the pertinent link below:
 - [Sixth Grade](#)
 - [Seventh Grade](#)
 - [Eighth Grade](#)
- With questions about Onboarding, please reach out to Middle Division Administrator [Rhiannon Overmire](#).

Attention, Seventh-Grade Parents: Important Information From the Health Office

California law requires that incoming seventh-grade students be up-to-date on the Tdap immunization and on their second dose of varicella immunization for the 2023–24 school year.

- **Please ensure that your child's updated immunization record is on file with the Health Office.** These mandatory records were due August 18.
- With questions or concerns, please contact the Health Office at 949.858.5144, ext. 223, or [via email](#).

Middle Division Field Studies: Final Payments Due August 30

- **Sixth-grade students** will enjoy their first outdoor field studies trip to Pali Institute in Running Springs. Deposits in the amount of \$100 were submitted last spring. Final payments are **due by Wednesday, August 30**. Please [click](#)

[here to submit your final payment](#), which will enable us to secure our reservation.

- **Seventh-grade students** will travel to SEACAMP San Diego for their outdoor field studies trip. Your \$100 deposit was submitted this past spring. So that we may secure our reservation, please [click here to submit your final payment](#) by **Wednesday, August 30**.