



## CARDINAL WEEKLY

*News for the Week of September 21*

### **All School**

#### **Lockdown Drill Scheduled for Monday**

St. John's will be conducting a lockdown drill on **Monday, September 25**. The purpose of this drill is to prepare faculty and students on what to do in the event that a lockdown is needed.

- When lockdown drills are discussed with students, we also discuss the multitude of reasons a lockdown may be called for on campus, such as adverse weather, a wild animal being on or near the campus, nearby/neighborhood emergencies, as well as immediate threats on campus. We highlight the fact that lockdown drills are to prepare us for all situations, not only worst-case scenarios. For our youngest Cardinals, we work to ensure that we are not frightening them, but rather preparing them in age-appropriate ways.
- School Counselors Madison Hall and Kendra Ostrovsky have put together some **resources and guidance** that you may use to review and discuss the lockdown drill with your children ahead of time.
- If you need further information or help explaining lockdown drills with your child, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's Division Principal or our School Counselors.
- **We will also be testing our emergency communication system. We will send a follow-up communication after the lockdown drill to ensure everyone received a message from SJES.**

#### **Join Us September 29 for a Look at the New Gym!**

We are pleased to share that St. John's Gym project is almost complete! The entire school community is invited to take a look at the new Gym on **Friday, September 29, from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.** We will be able to resume all Gym activity the week of October 2. Go Cardinals!

#### **Golf Tournament: Ticket Sales Close September 27 + Trent Edwards Speaking!**

Don't miss the opportunity to hear from guest speaker Trent Edwards, former NFL quarterback, at this year's annual SJES Golf Tournament! Participants will also have the chance to win a brand-new 2023 vehicle and will enjoy on-course games and activities.

- The event will take place on Monday, October 2, at the Coto de Caza Golf & Racquet Club.
- [Click here](#) to purchase your foursome, twosome, or single golf ticket by Wednesday, September 27.

### **Calling All Dads: Join Us September 30 for Food and Fellowship**

Men of St. John's, join us for food and fellowship on Saturday, September 30, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Light bites and refreshments will be provided, including non-alcoholic beverages and various whiskeys for tasting.

- There's no agenda, other than enjoying the chance to hang out together and possibly discussing what other group activities we may want to plan in future.
- The event will be held at a private residence in Trabuco Canyon. Please contact Paul Hinson for the address using the information below.
- **Please RSVP to Paul Hinson by Wednesday, September 27**, either via [email](#) or by texting 949.533.4516. Your RSVP will help us estimate the right amount of snacks to secure.

### **St. John's Students Continue to Make a Difference Through Service Learning**

#### **PARK TERRACE SENIOR LIVING FACILITY**

St. John's students continue in their commitment to the Park Terrace senior living facility by creating individual birthday cards for residents. Students in Mrs. Heys' art classes create, decorate, and write sweet messages throughout the year, and the first batch was delivered last week! Our Middle Division students have been delayed in their weekly visits to Park Terrace's Memory Care cottages due to a COVID uptick, but we look forward to resuming this engaging and memorable ministry as soon as it is safe for all.

#### **CHANGE FOR CHANGE DRIVE**

St. John's Middle Division Student Council is planning the Change for Change drive. MD student Delanie M. provides details about the drive below:

"Change for Change is coming in October! This fall, our donations will go to the Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii—specifically to Holy Innocents Episcopal Church of Lahaina. This beautiful church was sadly burnt down during the Lahaina fires, but the metal cross on the top was able to survive. As an Episcopal school ourselves, we think it's important that we should give back to this community that is going through a hard time, so if you can, during the month of October, bring your spare change and drop a few coins or dollars into the buckets in your classroom. Anything as small as a penny can make a huge difference for this community."

### **Play Reading Bingo With Ms. Adair!**

Librarian Tiffany Adair invites students to have a little fun these next few weeks while reading. Using the typical rules of Bingo, follow the directions in each box as a loved one reads to you or while you independently read for a minimum of 15 minutes. This is a just-for-fun activity and should not interfere with any classwork or homework requirements.

- [Click here](#) for the Reading Bingo Sheet.
- Please [email Ms. Adair](#) if you have any questions.

### **September PTF: Meeting Minutes Now Available**

If you were unable to attend our Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) meeting last week, you may [view the meeting minutes here](#).

- PTF meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. in the Learning Commons. A dial-in will be provided for those who are unable to attend in person.
- If you have any questions or are interested in getting involved in the PTF, please [email PTF President Britani Naisbitt](#).

## **Important Upcoming Dates**

### **Early Childhood Division**

#### **Monday, September 25**

- *Lockdown Drill*

#### **Wednesday, September 27**

- *Last Day to Buy Tickets for SJES Golf Tournament:* [Buy your tickets here](#)
- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin:* Art should be relevant to Matthew 21:23–32

#### **Friday, September 29**

- *Makeup Picture Day*
- *Get a Sneak Peek at the New Gym:* 2:45–3:30 p.m.

#### **Saturday, September 30**

- *Dads' Fellowship:* 1:00–3:00 p.m.; RSVP to [Paul Hinson](#) by September 27

## **Sunday, October 1**

- *Episcopal School Sunday*

## **Monday, October 2**

- *Annual SJES Golf Tournament: [Buy tickets](#) by September 27*

## **Wednesday, October 4**

- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin: Art should be relevant to Matthew 21:33–46*

## **Friday, October 6**

- *Fall Break: No school*

## **Saturday, October 7**

- *"A Tribute to Motown" Annual Church Fundraiser: 6:00 p.m.; purchase tickets online [here](#)*

## **Elementary Division**

### **Thursday, September 21**

- *Elementary Play Practice: 3:00–4:40 p.m.*

Friday, September 22

*Elementary Play Practice: 3:00–4:40 p.m.*

### **Monday, September 25**

- *Weekly Flag-Raising Ceremony: 8:00 a.m. by the flagpole; parents and guardians welcome*
- *Lockdown Drill*

### **Wednesday, September 27**

- *Last Day to Buy Tickets for SJES Golf Tournament: [Buy your tickets here](#)*
- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin: Art should be relevant to Matthew 21:23–32*

### **Thursday, September 28**

- *Elementary Play Practice: 3:00–4:40 p.m.*

### **Friday, September 29**

- *Makeup Picture Day*
- *Get a Sneak Peek at the New Gym: 2:45–3:30 p.m.*

### **Saturday, September 30**

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### **Sunday, October 1**

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- *Annual SJES Golf Tournament: [Buy tickets](#) by September 27*
- *Weekly Flag-Raising Ceremony: 8:00 a.m. by the flagpole; parents and guardians welcome*
- *Cardinal Character Recognition: Immediately following Flag-Raising Ceremony*

### **Wednesday, October 4**

- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin: Art should be relevant to Matthew 21:33–46*

### **Thursday, October 5**

- *Elementary Play Practice: 3:00–4:40 p.m.*

### **Friday, October 6**

- *Fall Break: No school*

### **Saturday, October 7**

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## **Middle Division**

### **Thursday, September 21**

- *Grade 8 Meeting for Washington, DC, Field Studies Trip: 6:00 p.m.*

### **Friday, September 22**

- *Middle Division Fall Play Rehearsal: 3:15–4:45 p.m.*

### **Monday, September 25**

- *Lockdown Drill*
- *Flag Football Games: 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at Mission Basilica*

### **Tuesday, September 26**

- *Girls' Volleyball-Valley Game: 3:30 p.m. at St. Serra*
- *Girls' Volleyball-Beach Games: 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at Mission Basilica*

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## Early Childhood Division

### **From the Division Principal**

This week, preschoolers began attending Chapel. Our first small group walked across the courtyard to the church and sat in the big chairs in the front two rows, excited about what might happen next!

We were grateful to have Chaplain Patti Peebles share her special message with our young learners. The children followed her hand motions, echoed her words to new prayers and songs, and were fascinated when she pulled shiny eggs from her basket.

Mrs. Patti explained that they were frog eggs, and that the eggs hatched into pollywogs, which are the same as tadpoles. As the lesson progressed, the pollywog grew legs and lost its tail, becoming a big green frog that croaked—to the delight of the children!

All about growth and change, Mrs. Patti's lesson was sure to be memorable for these children, who know just what it feels like to be a special part of a bigger plan.

Have a wonderful week!

Carole Magaldi  
Interim Early Childhood Division Principal

### **Photo Proofs Available Soon + Makeup Pictures Are September 29**

Those who participated in Picture Day last week will receive a printed proof of their photo early next week, which will include instructions for purchase.

Want a photo retake? You're in luck! Makeup Picture Day is next Friday, September 29, for those who were absent or are interested in a retake. If participating, simply let your child know to be prepared with a big smile!

### **Enrichments Begin in October**

Library, Music, and Fitness Fun enrichment classes for Preschool and Pre-K students will begin the first week in October. These classes take place in the morning, so please be sure to arrive at school on time so that your child does not miss out on these valuable classes.

## **Elementary Division**

### **From the Division Principal**

It was great to see so many families at our Back-to-School Night last week. Thank you for coming out and being a part of the event! Our teachers appreciated your presence, your enthusiasm, and your support. Whether you attended or weren't able to make it, please know that your teacher is always available if you ever have any questions.

During lunch recess earlier this week, a group of students noticed a large praying mantis walking up the trunk of a tree. The students were enthralled at the uniqueness of this insect: its elongated body, the contrast of its green color against the tree trunk, as well as the folded front legs. Many students had stories to share of other experiences with animals—some also knew some facts about how praying mantises capture their food.

Though a very brief episode in their day, this experience is but one example of how students' intellectual curiosity fuels their excitement to learn. As our Cardinals go about their day at St. John's, there are hundreds of similar opportunities for them to make observations and ask questions. A large part of our job as educators is to take time to slow down and explore these little moments of awe and wonder. As small as they may seem to us as adults, these experiences mean the world to children.

At St. John's, we strive to create lasting memories in which students associate learning with real-world experiences.

Have a great week, and never hesitate to reach out to me!

Sincerely,



Ryan Bourke  
Elementary Division Principal

### **Coffee and Conversation With the Elementary Division Principal**

Please join Elementary Division Principal Ryan Bourke this **Tuesday, September 26, at 8:00 a.m.** in the Learning Commons Patio for Coffee and Conversation. (Yes, coffee will be served!)

- This informal event will provide you with the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas about your child's school experience.
- It will also allow Mr. Bourke to share some more information about him and his educational approaches and beliefs.
- With any questions, please [email Mr. Bourke](#).

We hope you are able to join us!

### **Please Review the Carpool Map**

To increase the safety and efficiency of carpool drop-off and pickup, we are asking all families to review and follow the procedures outlined in our Carpool Map ([English/Mandarin](#)). Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

### **Cardinal Character Recognition Ceremony**

On Monday, October 2, immediately following the Flag Ceremony, we will hold our first Cardinal Character Recognition.

- Each month, students who are selected to receive recognition will have their names announced, along with a short description of their character achievements. After the ceremony, the students will have their picture taken with the Head of School and Elementary Division Principal.
- Parents or guardians of students who will be recognized will be notified by their child's teacher.
- As with all our Flag Ceremonies, parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

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## **Middle Division**

### **From the Division Principal**

In the Middle Division, we work hard to foster a positive and caring environment that directly impacts our school's culture and nurtures the development of student character. As the Middle Division Principal, I observe students committing acts of kindness and generosity daily, both inside and outside of the classroom. One of my greatest joys is "catching" students doing these good deeds when they think no one is watching.

Over the course of the first three weeks at school, I have had many such sightings already. I've observed students hold the door for peers; pick up footballs after recess when they weren't even playing with them; offer to give up a seat for another student; console a friend who was having a difficult moment; and thank me for taking the time to hear a request—among other shining moments. Each event makes me smile and fills my heart.

In return, we recognize and reward these positive behaviors with Cardinal Winner coupons that lead to a free dress opportunity in Middle Division. This is a wonderful way to acknowledge good deeds and reinforce the values of kindness and caring in our Cardinal community. I love seeing the look on students' faces when I enter a classroom to surprise a student with a coupon when it's least expected, and seeing the smile that follows when I share why the student is receiving a Cardinal Winner.

By celebrating acts of kindness and caring in this way, we are promoting good behaviors that contribute to building a more inclusive and supportive Middle Division Cardinal community.

A little kindness goes a long way, every single day!

Sincerely,

Sheryll Grogan  
Middle Division Principal

### **Congrats, Student of the Week Winners!**

Congratulations to our first Student of the Week winners! Click on each student's name below to learn a little more about him or her:

- [\*\*Amanda L.\*\*](#), Eighth-Grade Student of the Week
- [\*\*Tanith M.\*\*](#), Seventh-Grade Student of the Week
- [\*\*Christian C.\*\*](#), Sixth-Grade Student of the Week

### **St. John's Athletics Recap: A Strong Season Start**

Our fall sports season is off to a great start!

- Last week, Mrs. Dietz's 5/6 Volleyball team defeated Mission Basilica 2–0 at Laguna Beach Volleyball Club, and Coach Patin's 7/8 team also defeated Mission Basilica 2–0.
- Our Flag Football teams also had a great week! The 5/6 team defeated Our Lady of Fatima 28–0, while the 7/8 team won 36–6 vs. OLF.

Go Cardinals!

### **Come Cheer on the Cardinals!**

Join us on the following dates to cheer on our Cardinals Flag Football and Volleyball teams:

#### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

Flag Football at Mission Basilica at 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

Girls' Volleyball-Valley at St. Serra at 3:30 p.m.

Girls' Volleyball-Beach at Mission Basilica at 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

Girls' Volleyball-Valley at St. Edward at 3:30 p.m.

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## **Church**

### **Middle School Movie and Game Night Is September 30**

St. John's Episcopal Church invites all middle schoolers to a movie and game night on Saturday, September 30, at 5:00 p.m. Wear your comfy clothes, and bring a pillow, a blanket, and a friend (if desired)! Snacks and drinks will be provided. Activities will be held in SJES Music Teacher Lisa Naulls' classroom. With questions or for more information, please [email Ms. Naulls](mailto:Ms.Naulls).

### **Episcopal School Sunday Is October 1**

Join us for a special Sunday worship service in celebration of Episcopal schools at 10:00 a.m. on October 1 at St. John's Episcopal Church. Head of School Steve Lovejoy will give the morning message, and members of the school choir will perform during the service.

### **'A Tribute to Motown': Annual Church Fundraiser Is October 7**

The church will hold its annual fundraiser, "A Tribute to Motown," on Saturday, October 7, at 6:00 p.m. on the St. John's campus. We'll have food, drink, a wine wall, lots of great music, raffles, a silent auction, and a live auction! Tickets are \$60 per person, and may be purchased [online here](#) or by [emailing Rebecca Swartz](#), Church Administrator.

### **Calling Student Artists! Submit Artwork for Sunday Bulletin**

We invite all students to submit artwork to be featured on the Sunday bulletin. Every week, we will choose a new piece of art to feature. Artwork should be relevant to the provided Bible verses. Students should submit work to SJES Art Teacher Lee Heys by Wednesday each week.

- **Bible Verses for Wednesday, September 27:** Matthew 21:23–32
- **Bible Verses for Wednesday, October 4:** Matthew 21:33–46