



St JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of September 28

All School

Clarification Regarding School Pictures in the Yearbook

We would like to clarify some issues regarding school pictures. This year, due to supply chain issues, our uniform vendor was unable to provide our school sweater to a significant number of students in time for school pictures. Usually, the school has a supply of sweaters that we can distribute to families needing one for pictures. However, this year, due to the sweater shortage, we did not have any overstock from which to supply families.

Therefore, we had to take pictures with students in the uniform they had available. Students who had the red/blue sweater had three pictures taken in white and three taken in red/blue; students who did not have a sweater had six pictures taken in white.

It has been the practice in past years for parents to select which photo of their student will appear in the yearbook. This will continue to be the case. However, please note that this will mean that our yearbook pictures will have some students in a red/blue sweater and some in a white shirt.

Blessing of the Animals Is October 13

Bring your pet with you to school for a special blessing from Fr. Jerry during the Blessing of the Animals on Friday, October 13, at 7:30 a.m. Students, parents, siblings, and pets are invited to come early for morning prayer in honor of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. All pets should be on a leash or in a carrying case at all times, and they must be taken off campus by an adult when classes begin. If you don't have a pet, bring your stuffed animal!

Come Cheer on the Cardinals!

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

- Flag Football 5/6 (Away) vs. OLF at Vista Hermosa Park at 3:00 p.m.

- Flag Football 7/8 (Away) vs. OLF at Vista Hermosa Park at 3:00 p.m.
- Volleyball-Beach 5/6 (Away) vs. OLF at Boys and Girls Club of San Clemente at 3:00 p.m.
- Volleyball-Beach 7/8 (Away) vs. OLF at Boys and Girls Club of San Clemente at 3:00 p.m.
- Volleyball-Valley 5/6 (Home) vs. Mission Basilica at 3:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

- Flag Football 5/6 (Away) vs. Stoneybrooke at 3:30 p.m.
- Flag Football 7/8 (Away) vs. Stoneybrooke at 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

- Volleyball-Valley 5/6 (Home) vs. St. Mary's at 3:30 p.m.

Join Us Tomorrow 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 tomorrow—Friday, September 29—from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.** We will be able to resume all Gym activity next week!

Calling All Dads: Join Us This Saturday for Food and Fellowship

Men of St. John's, join us for food and fellowship this 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** either via [email](#) or by texting 949.533.4516. Your RSVP will help us estimate the right amount of snacks to secure.

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

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.; email [Paul Hinson](#) for location details

Sunday, October 1

- *Episcopal School Sunday*
- *Cinderella (ED Play) Tickets Go on Sale at 1:00 p.m.*: Purchase tickets [here](#)

Monday, October 2

- *Annual SJES Golf Tournament*
- *Preschool and Pre-K Enrichment Classes Begin Today*

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](#)

Tuesday, October 10

- *Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting*

Wednesday, October 11

- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin*: Art should be relevant to Matthew 22:1–4

Friday, October 13

- *Blessing of the Animals*: 7:30 a.m.

Elementary Division

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

- *Dads' Fellowship: 1:00–3:00 p.m.; email [Paul Hinson](#) for location details*

Sunday, October 1

- *Episcopal School Sunday*
- *Cinderella Play Tickets Go on Sale at 1:00 p.m.: Purchase tickets [here](#)*

Monday, October 2

- *Annual SJES Golf Tournament*
- *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

- *Friday Flip Day: Students will follow Friday schedules*
- *Elementary Play Practice: 3:00–4:40 p.m.*

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](#)

Monday, October 9

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

Tuesday, October 10

- *Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting*

Wednesday, October 11

- *Rising Cardinals Volleyball Practice (Grades 3–4): 7:20 a.m.*
- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin: Art should be relevant to Matthew 22:1–4*

Thursday, October 12

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

Friday, October 13

- *Rising Cardinals Volleyball Practice (Grades 3–4): 7:20 a.m.*
- *Blessing of the Animals: 7:30 a.m.*

Monday, October 16

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

Tuesday, October 17

- *Author Jennifer Chambliss Bertman Visits Grades 3–5*

Wednesday, October 18

- *Rising Cardinals Volleyball Practice (Grades 3–4): 7:20 a.m.*

Thursday, October 19

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

Middle Division

Thursday, September 28

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

Friday, September 29

- *Makeup Picture Day*
- *Get a Sneak Peek at the New Gym: 2:45–3:30 p.m.*
- *Middle Division Fall Play Rehearsal: 3:15–4:45 p.m.*

Saturday, September 30

- *Dads' Fellowship: 1:00–3:00 p.m.; email [Paul Hinson](#) for location details*
- *Church-Sponsored Middle School Movie and Game Night: 5:00 p.m. in Ms. Naulls' classroom*

Sunday, October 1

- *Episcopal School Sunday*
- *Cinderella (ED Play) Tickets Go on Sale at 1:00 p.m.: Purchase tickets [here](#)*

Monday, October 2

- *Annual SJES Golf Tournament*

Tuesday, October 3

- *Flag Football 5/6 vs. OLF: 3:00 p.m. at Vista Hermosa Park*
- *Flag Football 7/8 vs. OLF: 3:00 p.m. at Vista Hermosa Park*
- *Volleyball-Beach 5/6 vs. OLF: 3:00 p.m. at Boys and Girls Club of San Clemente*
- *Volleyball-Beach 7/8 vs. OLF: 3:00 p.m. at Boys and Girls Club of San Clemente*
- *Volleyball-Valley 5/6 vs. Mission Basilica: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*

Wednesday, October 4

- *Flag Football 5/6 at Stoneybrooke: 3:30 p.m.*
- *Flag Football 7/8 at Stoneybrooke: 4:30 p.m.*

- *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

- *Friday Flip Day: Students will follow Friday schedules*
- *Middle Division Fall Play Rehearsal: 3:15–4:45 p.m.*
- *Volleyball-Valley 5/6 vs. St. Mary's: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*

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](#)*

Monday, October 9

- *Flag Football 7/8: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*
- *Volleyball-Beach 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*
- *Volleyball-Beach 7/8: 4:30 p.m. at St. John's*

Tuesday, October 10

- *Parent Teacher Fellowship Meeting*
- *Volleyball-Beach 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*
- *Volleyball-Valley 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at Stoneybrooke*
- *Volleyball-Beach 7/8: 4:30 p.m. at St. John's*

Wednesday, October 11

- *Flag Football 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*
- *Flag Football 7/8: 4:30 p.m. at St. John's*
- *Deadline to Submit Art to Mrs. Heys for Possible Inclusion in Sunday Church Bulletin: Art should be relevant to Matthew 22:1–4*

Thursday, October 12

- *Volleyball-Valley 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*

Friday, October 13

- *Blessing of the Animals: 7:30 a.m.*
- *Middle Division Fall Play Rehearsal: 3:15–4:45 p.m.*

Monday, October 16

- *Volleyball-Valley 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at Mission Basilica*

Tuesday, October 17

- *Author Jennifer Chambliss Bertman Visits Middle School*
- *Volleyball-Beach 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at Aliso Viejo Christian School*
- *Volleyball-Valley 5/6: 3:30 p.m. at St. John's*
- *Volleyball-Beach 7/8: 4:30 p.m. at Aliso Viejo Christian School*

Thursday, October 19

- *Eighth Grade Leaves for Washington, DC*

Early Childhood Division

From the Division Principal

On Tuesday morning, I went with the Toddlers to their playground. Usually, when these one-year-olds are outside, they like to build in the sandbox, push toys with wheels, and play with an assortment of small toys.

However, on this morning, one of their teachers had planned a new activity. She covered the entire surface of a sensory table with a large piece of paper; set the table on the ground; and added three large, slick paint sticks. Right away, one of the children reached over the side of the tub, picked up a stick, and made a mark. Curious about the result, she turned it over and looked closely at the stick, drew again, touched the stick, and then dug into it with her fingers. Now the color was on her fingers. She tried another color and repeated the process. Looking at her fingers, she attempted to put them in her mouth, but was quickly stopped before she could learn what they tasted like.

Another child was curious and chose to crawl into the sensory tub and sit on the paper to make her marks with the paint sticks. Rather than digging into the paint stick, she repeatedly rubbed the ends of two sticks together, each time stopping to look at both colors as if she was expecting that somehow something would change.

Just seeing these two children makes one realize that each one of us perceives things differently. We see our youngest learners, still unable to verbalize, immersing themselves in the materials. They investigate with their eyes, hands, sense of smell, taste, and touch.

How might they continue their explorations? Individually, they use their methods and strategies for getting to know and understand the materials. Eventually, they will use this knowledge to choose which tools they want to use to create a piece of art.

Warmly,

Carole Magaldi
Interim Early Childhood Division Principal

Enrichments Begin Monday

Our Preschool and Pre-K students started Chapel last week. Beginning this Monday, October 2, Preschool and Pre-K students will attend Library with Ms. Adair, Music with Mr. Roberts, and Fitness Fun with Mrs. Dietz. Please do your best to arrive at school on time so that your child does not miss out on these fun and valuable classes.

No School on October 6

Mark your calendars! Due to Fall Break, there is no school on Friday, October 6.

Photo Proofs Available + Makeup Pictures Are Tomorrow

Those who participated in Picture Day should have received a printed proof of their photo, including instructions for purchase.

Want a photo retake? You're in luck! Makeup Picture Day is tomorrow—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!

Elementary Division

From the Division Principal

Thank you to those of you who attended the Coffee and Conversation meeting with me on Tuesday. It was great to be able to spend some time with you.

For anyone who wasn't able to attend, please know that I am always willing to meet or speak. Working as partners with you—the families of St. John's—is very important, and I value your feedback, questions, and ideas.

Sincerely,

Ryan Bourke
Elementary Division Principal

Cinderella Play Tickets Go on Sale Sunday

Beginning this **Sunday, October 1, at 1:00 p.m.**, *Cinderella* play tickets will be available for purchase on the Creative Kids Playhouse website [here](#). Reserve your seat now to guarantee your spot in the audience for this fun-filled play!

Flag-Raising + Cardinal Character Recognition Ceremony Is Monday

Elementary Division parents and guardians are welcome to join us this **Monday, October 2, at 8:00 a.m.** for our weekly Flag-Raising Ceremony. On this day, we will also hold our first Cardinal Character Recognition. If your child has been selected to receive Cardinal Character Recognition, you will have been notified in advance.

Next Thursday: Students Will Follow Friday Schedules

Due to the Fall Break, next Thursday, October 5, is a Friday Flip Day. All students will follow their Friday schedules.

No School on October 6

Mark your calendars! Due to Fall Break, there is no school on Friday, October 6.

Grades 3-5: Bestselling Author to Visit and Sign Books on October 17

On Tuesday, October 17, *New York Times*–bestselling author Jennifer Chambliss Bertman will visit with third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students during a special presentation she has crafted for our Cardinal Community. Ms. Bertman penned the popular series *Book Scavenger*, and is also an author of one of the novels on the Battle of the Books list, *Sisterhood of Sleuths*.

- **Ms. Bertman has generously offered to sign copies of her books while she is visiting for the day!** If you and your upper elementary student are interested in this option, please purchase one of her books through a local bookstore or wherever you may buy books. **This purchased book must be given to Ms. Adair no later than Friday, October 13.** It is imperative that you write your child's name on a sticky note and place it on the purchased book so that Ms. Adair and Ms. Bertman know who owns the book.
- To learn more about Ms. Bertman's books, [visit her web page here](#).
- Please feel free to [email Ms. Adair](#) with any questions.

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If you would like a photo retake, you're in luck! Makeup Picture Day is tomorrow—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!

Middle Division

From the Division Principal

We are heading into the first week of October: the days are getting shorter, the sun is setting sooner, the nights are getting cooler, and the school year is in full swing! The classes are beginning to develop their individual personalities, and while each is different, there is one common thread that binds them all together—they are enthusiastic and passionate learners!

They are curious, and they want to learn more about the world around them. They engage us in open-ended questions daily. St. John's students require us to answer with so much more than a yes or a no. They challenge teachers and parents to explain the "Why," the "How," and the "What," and we need to do the same in return.

Children spend a good portion of time at school, and I am sure you want to know about their day. Next time your child gets in the car, **dare to ask an open-ended question** that encourages them to extend their thinking, increase their language development, and give meaning to their experiences. For instance, the following questions will invite conversation:

- What was the best part of your day? The hardest part of your day?
- Tell me about one of your friends at school.
- Who do you eat lunch with, and what do they eat for lunch?
- What are you reading? Tell me about it.
- What is the funniest thing that happened today?
- What do your friends do after school?
- What is the most interesting thing you learned today?
- What is your plan for . . . ?
- Why do you think that happened today?

These types of questions boost critical thinking, because there are no right or wrong answers. **They give children the opportunity to think through different possibilities.** They **spark creative thinking** because children can think beyond the obvious and utilize their imagination. They **increase communication** since the answers require more than one-word

responses, encouraging children to stretch their vocabulary. And they **build confidence** because they empower children to express their thoughts and ideas with others.

Open-ended questions are a powerful means to learn about what children are interested in and further their development. When we take an interest, we create an environment where they feel comfortable sharing and expressing themselves, and they flourish in ways we never knew were possible.

Sincerely,

Sheryll Grogan
Middle Division Principal

No School on October 6

Mark your calendars! Due to Fall Break, there is no school on Friday, October 6.

Congrats, Student of the Week Winners!

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

- [Caelin T.](#), Eighth-Grade Student of the Week
- [Ryan M.](#), Seventh-Grade Student of the Week
- [Britain M.](#), Sixth-Grade Student of the Week

MD Students Shine at the Model United Nations Conference

Last Saturday, students in the Model United Nations (MUN) elective had the opportunity to participate in the South Orange County Model United Nations, a MUN conference hosted by Santa Margarita Catholic High School. Middle Division students Amaar B., Ronan L., Ishaan P., Zack S., and Samna V. took on the role of delegates from the country of Angola, participating in various committees that focused on global issues including malnutrition, deforestation, and clean energy. Our students gave speeches, collaborated with students from all over the region, and drafted resolutions to the different issues. The day proved to be a wonderful experience for our MD students!

Middle Division: Bestselling Author to Visit and Sign Books on October 17

On Tuesday, October 17, *New York Times*–bestselling author Jennifer Chambliss Bertman will visit with Middle Division students during a special presentation she has crafted for our Cardinal Community. Ms. Bertman penned the popular series *Book Scavenger*, and is also an author of one of the novels on the Battle of the Books list, *Sisterhood of Sleuths*.

- **Ms. Bertman has generously offered to sign copies of her books while she is visiting for the day!** If you and your Middle Division student are interested in this option, please purchase one of her books through a local bookstore or wherever you may buy books. **This purchased book must be given to Ms. Adair no later than Friday, October 13.** It is imperative that you write your child's name on a sticky note and place it on the purchased book so that Ms. Adair and Ms. Bertman know who owns the book.
- To learn more about Ms. Bertman's books, [visit her web page here](#).
- Please feel free to [email Ms. Adair](#) with any questions.

SMCHS Parent Information Night for Students in Grades 6-8

Santa Margarita Catholic High School is hosting a Parent Information Night at SJES. The event is scheduled for **Monday, November 6, at 6:30 p.m. in Siller's Hall, Room 25.** Interested families of current St. John's sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students are encouraged to attend.

St. John's Athletics Recap: Week of September 18

The Flag Football 5/6 team won its second straight game to remain undefeated for the season. The girls' Valley Volleyball team also won its first match vs. Stoneybrooke in three games. Go Cardinals!

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Church

Decorate Your Car for Trunk-or-Treat

On **Sunday, October 29, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**, we will hold our Trunk-or-Treat event in the front parking lot of St. John's. We are seeking volunteers to decorate their trunks and pass out candy or goodies to our students and community members. [Sign up here](#), and [email Rebecca Swartz](#), Church Administrator, if you have questions.

Middle School Movie and Game Night Is Saturday

St. John's Episcopal Church invites all middle schoolers to a movie and game night this 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](#).

Episcopal School Sunday Is This Weekend

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, October 4:** Matthew 21:33–46
- **Bible Verses for Wednesday, October 11:** Matthew 22:1–4