



CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of January 18, 2024

All School

It's Tax Season: Donor Acknowledgement Letters Mailed Soon!

Many of you have generously supported St. John's Episcopal School philanthropically during the 2023 fiscal year—thank you!

- **We will be mailing donor acknowledgment letters in time for you to receive them by Wednesday, January 31.** Letters confirm all tax-deductible cash donations made to the Cardinal Fund or Gym Project, as well as Cardinella or Golf Tournament underwriting and sponsorships.
- If you supported Cardinella 2023 through ticket purchases, silent- or live-auction bidding, opportunity drawings, or the wine wall, you should have already received an email from GiveSmart directly, following the event. If you cannot locate this email, please **email the Advancement Office**, and we will be happy to send you a copy.

Kids Cardinella: Donate to Class Baskets Through January 26

Each year, our Cardinals participate in Kids Cardinella—a separate event that gives all St. John's students the opportunity to participate, have fun, and win some amazing baskets or teacher experiences.

- **Kids Cardinella will take place Thursday, February 22**, during the school day.
- Donations to Grade Level Extravaganzas support the overall fundraising efforts of Cardinella. Donations are now open, and will close on Friday, January 26. **Click here to donate today.**

St. John's Athletics Update + Come Cheer on the Cardinals!

Our winter season began last week, with excellent results! Our Girls' 5/6 Basketball team defeated OLF at home to start their season. The Boys' 7/8 Lacrosse team defeated St. Margaret's 2, and our Boys' Lacrosse 5/6 team defeated St. Serra. Go Cardinals!

Please note the following upcoming games and important dates:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

- Boys Basketball 6 vs. OLF (Home) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. OLF (Home) at 4:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

- Girls "A" Basketball Tournament at SJES
- Boys "A" and "B" SJES Tournament at SMCHS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

- Girls "A" Basketball Tournament at SJES
- Boys "A" and "B" SJES Tournament at SMCHS

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

- Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. Stoneybrooke (Away) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Serra (Away) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Basketball 6 vs. Stoneybrooke (Home) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Lacrosse 5/6 vs. St. Serra (Home) at 3:00 p.m.
- Boys Lacrosse 7/8 vs. St. Serra (Home) at 4:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

- Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Edward (Home) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Basketball 6 vs. AVCS (Away) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. AVCS (Away) at 3:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

- Winter Sports Photos at 10:00 a.m.
- Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. Mission Basilica (Home) at 3:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

- Winter Sports Pep Rally at 1:30 p.m.
- Girls 5/6 Basketball vs. OLF (Home) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Mary (Away) at 3:30 p.m.
- Boys Lacrosse 5/6 vs. St. Margaret (Away) at 3:45 p.m.
- Boys Lacrosse 7/8 vs. St. Margaret (Away) at 4:45 p.m.

Youth and Toddler Vests Have Arrived in the Student Store

It is love at first sight with our newest Student Store arrivals! We now have vests

available in both Youth and Toddler sizes to keep our youngest Cardinals warm and cozy this winter. Visit SJESStudentStore.com and order yours before they sell out!

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

Sunday, January 21

- *Mother-Son Outing*: 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at John's Incredible Pizza; [click here to buy tickets](#)

Wednesday, January 24

- *ECD Fire Authority Visit*: 10:00 a.m.

Friday, January 26

- *ECD Daddy & Me Day*: 8:15–9:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 27

- *Father-Daughter Dance*: 5:00–7:00 p.m.; [click here to buy tickets](#)

Sunday, January 28–Wednesday, January 31

- *California Association of Independent Schools Re-accreditation Team Visits*

Thursday, February 15

- *ECD Grandparents Day*

Friday, February 16

- *Minimum Day*: Dismissal at 11:45 a.m.

Elementary Division

Friday, January 19

- *Spirit Wear Friday*

Sunday, January 21

- *Mother-Son Outing*: 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at John's Incredible Pizza; [click here to buy tickets](#)

Monday, January 22

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Weekly Flag-Raising Ceremony and Cardinal Character Recognition*: 8:00 a.m. by the flagpole; parents/guardians welcome

Thursday, January 25

- *Spirit Lunch/K–8 Parent Lunch*: [Click here](#) to pre-order your child's meal

Friday, January 26

- *Spirit Wear Friday*

Saturday, January 27

- *Father-Daughter Dance*: 5:00–7:00 p.m.; [click here to buy tickets](#)

Sunday, January 28–Wednesday, January 31

- *California Association of Independent Schools Re-accreditation Team Visits*

Monday, January 29

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Weekly Flag-Raising Ceremony*: 8:00 a.m. by the flagpole; parents/guardians welcome

Friday, February 2

- *Spirit Wear Friday*

Monday, February 5

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*

Friday, February 16

- *Minimum Day*: Dismissal at 12:00 p.m.
- *Grandparents & Special Friends Day*

Middle Division

Friday, January 19

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 3:15–6:00 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. OLF (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. OLF (Home): 4:30 p.m.*

Saturday, January 20–Sunday, January 21

- *Girls "A" Basketball Tournament at St. John's*
- *Boys "A" and "B" SJES Basketball Tournament at SMCHS*

Sunday, January 21

- *Mother-Son Outing: 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at John's Incredible Pizza; [click here to buy tickets](#)*

Monday, January 22

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Boys Lacrosse 5/6 vs. St. Serra (Home) at 3:00 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. Mission (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. Stoneybrooke (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. Stoneybrooke (Away): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Lacrosse 7/8 vs. St. Serra (Home) at 4:00 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Serra (Away): 4:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. Stoneybrooke (Home): 4:30 p.m.*

Tuesday, January 23

- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Edward 2 (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. AVCS (Away): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. AVCS (Away): 4:30 p.m.*

Wednesday, January 24

- *Winter Sports Photos: 10:00 a.m.*
- *Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. Mission (Home): 3:30 p.m.*

Thursday, January 25

- *Spirit Lunch/K–8 Parent Lunch: [Click here](#) to pre-order your child's meal*
- *Winter Sports Pep Rally: 1:30 p.m.*
- *Girls 5/6 Basketball vs. OLF (Home): 3:30 p.m.*

- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Mary (Away): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Lacrosse 5/6 vs. St. Margaret (Away): 3:45 p.m.*
- *Boys Lacrosse 7/8 vs. St. Margaret (Away): 4:45 p.m.*

Friday, January 26

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 3:15–6:00 p.m.*

Saturday, January 27

- *Father-Daughter Dance: 5:00–7:00 p.m.; [click here to buy tickets](#)*

Sunday, January 28–Wednesday, January 31

- *California Association of Independent Schools Re-accreditation Team Visits*

Monday, January 29

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. OLF (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. OLF (Home): 4:30 p.m.*

Tuesday, January 30

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. AVCS (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Margaret's (Away): 4:45 p.m.*

Wednesday, January 31

- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. AVCS (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. AVCS (Home): 4:30 p.m.*

Thursday, February 1

- *Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. Mission (Away): 3:30 p.m.*

Friday, February 2

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 3:15–6:00 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 6 vs. Mission (Away): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Mary's 2 (Home): 3:30 p.m.*
- *Boys Basketball 7/8 vs. Mission (Away): 4:30 p.m.*

Monday, February 5

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. CVCS 2 (Home): 3:30 p.m.*

Tuesday, February 6

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Girls Basketball 5/6 vs. Stoneybrooke (Home): 3:30 p.m.*

Wednesday, February 7

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*
- *Boys Basketball 5 vs. St. Serra 2 (Home): 3:30 p.m.*

Friday, February 9

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 3:15–6:00 p.m.*

Monday, February 12

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*

Friday, February 16

- *Minimum Day: Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.*
- *Grandparents & Special Friends Day*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 3:15–6:00 p.m.*

Early Childhood Division

From the Interim Division Principal

Currently, there are many ideas regarding the education of young children. Research shows us that engaging children in deep conversations about what they are doing and asking open-ended questions encourages their thinking.

Below is an abbreviated list Lilian Katz, early childhood professor and researcher, has found to be “standards of experiences” for all young children in all programs:

- Being intellectually engaged, absorbed, and challenged
- Being involved in sustained investigations of aspects of their own environment worthy of their interest, knowledge, and understanding

- Taking initiative in a range of activities and accepting responsibility for what is accomplished
- Helping others to find out things and to understand them better
- Applying their developing basic literacy and numeracy skills in purposeful ways
- Feelings of belonging to a group of their peers

St. John's Early Childhood Division is intentional about providing these experiences to our students. As educators, we look for ways to provide children with experience to fulfill these objectives so that our students learn to be lifelong learners, creative, problem-solvers, socially conscious, and more!

Warm regards,

Carole Magaldi
Interim Early Childhood Division Principal

Save the Date! ECD Grandparents and Special Guests Morning Is February 15

Soon, we will email our grandparent community an invitation to Grandparents and Special Guests Morning for the Early Childhood Division. A copy will also be sent to our parent community so that you can forward the invitation to a grandparent or special friend in case they do not receive it directly.

- The event will place on **Thursday, February 15, beginning at 8:00 a.m.**
- Please note that this is a Special Schedule morning. If your child does not regularly attend on Thursdays, they may join for the morning so long as they are accompanied by a grandparent or special friend who is an adult.
- If your child does not wish to attend with a special friend or grandparent, they may just participate in the normal school day.
- Stay tuned for more information regarding the agenda.

Daddy and Me Day Is January 26

Please save the date for our annual Daddy and Me Day. The event will take place on Friday, January 26, from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. on the ECD playground. More details will be available soon.

Special Visitors This Month

In January, our ECD students learn about Community Helpers. This **Wednesday, January 24, at 10:00 a.m.**, the students will enjoy a visit from the Orange County Fire Authority!

Elementary Division

From the Division Principal

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Parent Writing Workshop on Tuesday! I know it was challenging to come to campus since students weren't here.

Please know that as we move further into this work, we will hold other workshops in the future. Again, the more parents are aware of our instructional approaches and curriculum, the better it is for students!

Warmly,

Ryan Bourke
Elementary Division Principal

Annual Elementary Division Variety Show: Dates + Details

It's time to start preparing for St. John's annual Elementary Division Variety Show! This is a wonderful opportunity for our Cardinals to show off their skills and have a great time performing with friends.

ENTRY FORM DETAILS

- We will provide important details and the entry form in a letter in the next Monday Folder. If your child is interested in participating in this exciting event, please complete and return the entry form to your child's music teacher by Monday, February 12.
- To be considered for an emcee or stage-crew position, please indicate interest on your child's entry form.

VARIETY SHOW: IMPORTANT DATES

- Video Audition Deadline—Monday, February 12
- Variety Show Dress Rehearsal—Wednesday, February 28, at 11:30 a.m.
- Variety Show Dress Rehearsal—Thursday, February 29, at 11:30 a.m.
- Variety Show—Friday, March 1, at 10:15 a.m. in the Cardinal Gym; please arrive 15 minutes early to check in

QUESTIONS?

With questions or concerns, please [email Jason Roberts](#) or [Lisa Naulls](#). We're looking forward to a wonderful show!

Save the Date! Grandparents and Special Friends Day Is February 16

Soon, we will email our grandparent community an invitation to Grandparents and

Special Friends Day. A copy will also be sent to our parent community so that you can forward the invitation to a grandparent or special friend in case they do not receive it directly.

- The event will take place on **Friday, February 16, beginning at 8:00 a.m.** Please note that February 16 is a Minimum Day.
- This is a Special Schedule day. If your child does not wish to attend with a special friend or grandparent, they may stay home.
- The event will include a welcome reception with breakfast for the grown-ups, followed by exciting program rotations alongside our SJES Cardinals.
- Our beloved Book Fair will be back for grandparents and special friends to enjoy, as well.

Stay tuned for further details.

Middle Division

From the Division Principal

This week marks the halfway point in the school year for our Middle Division students. I want to take a moment to reflect on how far our students have come and how much more we want to share with them before the year ends, with a particular focus on their maturity and growth in such a brief time.

As a 24-year veteran working in Middle Division, people often ask me how I can still love my job. The answer is simple. It is because of the wonderful adults I have had the opportunity to gain experience from and work with, and the amazing students I have had the pleasure to teach, meet, mentor, and guide.

The transformation from nervous and anxious students on the first day of school to the confident and knowledgeable students of today reflects the positive impact of a supportive school environment. And every year at this time, we see the hard work and commitment pay off. Students are no longer nervous and anxious, but confident and calm in knowing who they are.

During our recent Sneak Peek Day, our current sixth graders welcomed rising fifth graders like they had been doing it their entire life. Showcasing a wonderful sense of community and camaraderie, it was inspiring to watch them take on leadership roles as they spent time with their new buddies.

This is something we can all take a moment to reflect on. No matter the class, no matter the students, no matter the individual personalities, they all find themselves at this point in the year. They have learned so much and they have so much more to learn, and we know they can.

Resilience, curiosity, and resourcefulness have been their guiding Cardinal Character Traits and, in no time at all, they will reflect on another school year and realize how much they have grown in body, mind, and spirit. Here is to continued success and growth for our Middle Division Cardinals as they navigate the second half of this amazing school year!

Warmly,

Sheryll Grogan
Middle Division Principal

Yearbook Dedication Pages: Order a Personalized Ad for Your Student Today

Don't forget to give your student a special "shout-out" in the yearbook with a personalized ad! [Click here](#) for more information. With questions, please [email Beth Sarachman](#) in the Middle Division.

MD Winter Dance Is February 9

We are excited to announce that the **Middle Division Winter Dance will be held on Friday, February 9**, as a kickoff to Spirit Week. The dance will take place from **6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Gym**.

Yeehaw! We have a Country and Western theme this year! More information to follow with Spirit Week announcements.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Join Us! MD Variety Show Is February 15

Please join us for our annual Middle Division Variety Show!

- The event will take place on **Thursday, February 15, at 1:30 p.m.** in the Cardinal Gym. Please arrive 15 minutes early to check in.
- Dress rehearsals for the Middle Division Variety Show will be held on **Monday, February 12, at 12:45 p.m.** and **Wednesday, February 14, at 12:45 p.m.**

We're looking forward to a wonderful show!

Save the Date! Grandparents and Special Friends Day Is February 16

Soon, we will email our grandparent community an invitation to Grandparents and Special Friends Day. A copy will also be sent to our parent community so that you can forward the invitation to a grandparent or special friend in case they do not receive it directly.

- The event will take place on **Friday, February 16, beginning at 8:00 a.m.** Please note that February 16 is a Minimum Day.
- This is a Special Schedule day. If your child does not wish to attend with a special friend or grandparent, they may stay home.
- The event will include a welcome reception with breakfast for the grown-ups, followed by exciting program rotations alongside our SJES Cardinals.
- Our beloved Book Fair will be back for grandparents and special friends to enjoy, as well.

Stay tuned for further details.

Church

Opportunities for Students to Sing in Church

All students are invited to perform at church with Lisa Naulls on the following dates:

- Sunday, January 28, at 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Sunday, February 4, at 12:30 p.m. Ministry Fair
- Sunday, February 25, at 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Students should wear their Formal Uniform. If interested, please **[email Mrs. Naulls.](#)**