



CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of February 15, 2024

All School



***Wholly Engaged on a Holy Day:** During Ash Wednesday Chapel, students in grades K–8 engaged in experiential worship, visiting stations where they explored the different elements of the holy day—dust, water, light, and the imposition of ashes.*

Kids Cardinella Is Next Thursday: Buy Your Tickets Now!

Kids Cardinella is NEXT WEEK on Thursday, February 22. This exciting day will also include In-N-Out Burger (orders must have been placed by February 9), a Magic Show, music, games, and more. We have lots of fun and exciting Teacher Experiences and Grade Level Extravaganzas to offer this year, and YOU will have a chance to win! Tickets are on sale now—[click here](#) to purchase yours!

Reminder: Tomorrow Is a Minimum Day

By way of reminder, tomorrow—Friday, February 16, is a Minimum Day, with early pickup for all students according to the following schedule:

- **Early Childhood Division:** 11:45 a.m.
- **Elementary Division:** 12:00 p.m.
- **Middle Division:** 12:15 p.m.

New Markdowns in the Student Store

Ready, set, save! We have new markdowns this week in the Student Store. Shop our new [Sale Items](#) and [\\$10 Deals](#) before they sell out, or look for the sale rack outside of the store.

STUDENT STORE HOURS

- **Wednesday, February 21:** 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, February 22:** 7:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
- **Friday, February 23:** 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

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

You've only got a few weeks left 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.

Book Fair: There's Still Time to Shop!

There's still time to explore St. John's annual book fair! Stop by the Multipurpose Room today or tomorrow to browse the hundreds of books we have available. Shopping times are before school, during library time, on recess breaks, and after school. You may also [shop online here](#). With questions, please [email Ms. Adair](#).

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

Friday, February 16

- *Last Day of Spirit Week*
- *Spirit Wear Friday:* Show off your Cardinal spirit with St. John's Spirit Wear!
- *Minimum Day:* Dismissal at 11:45 a.m.
- *Student Store Open:* 7:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Monday, February 19

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 20

- *Faculty and Staff Inservice Day: No school*

Wednesday, February 21

- *Student Store Open: 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.*

Thursday, February 22

- *Kids Cardinella: [Click here](#) to purchase opportunity-drawing tickets*
- *Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-ups Open Today*
- *Student Store Open: 7:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.*

Friday, February 23

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *Student Store Open: 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.*

Friday, March 1

- *Minimum Day: Dismissal at 11:45 a.m.*
- *End of Second Trimester*
- *Spirit Wear Friday*

Thursday, March 7

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences: Sign-ups open February 22*

Friday, March 8

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences: Sign-ups open February 22*

Saturday, March 16

- *Cardinella: Tickets to St. John's annual school benefit go on sale soon*

Elementary Division

Friday, February 16

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

- *Spirit Wear Friday*: Show off your Cardinal spirit with St. John's Spirit Wear!
- *Student Store Open*: 7:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Monday, February 19

- *Presidents' Day Holiday*: No school

Tuesday, February 20

- *Faculty and Staff Inservice Day*: No school
- *Extra-Day Extended Care Available From 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.*: [Click here to register](#)

Wednesday, February 21

- *Student Store Open*: 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 22

- *Kids Cardinella*: [Click here](#) to purchase opportunity-drawing tickets
- *K–8 Spirit Lunch*
- *Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-ups Open Today*
- *Student Store Open*: 7:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Friday, February 23

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *Student Store Open*: 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Monday, February 26

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

Wednesday, February 28

- *Dress Rehearsal for ED Variety Show*: 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, February 29

- *Dress Rehearsal for ED Variety Show*: 11:30 a.m.

Friday, March 1

- *Minimum Day*: Dismissal at 12:00 p.m.

- *After-School Extended Care Available From Dismissal to 5:00 p.m.:* [Click here to register](#)
- *End of Second Trimester*
- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *ED Variety Show:* 10:15 a.m. in the Cardinal Gym; please arrive 15 minutes early to check in

Thursday, March 7

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences:* Sign-ups open February 22
- *Extra-Day Extended Care Available From 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.:* [Click here to register](#)

Friday, March 8

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences:* Sign-ups open February 22
- *Extra-Day Extended Care Available From 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.:* [Click here to register](#)

Saturday, March 16

- *Cardinella:* Tickets to St. John's annual school benefit go on sale soon

Middle Division

Friday, February 16

- *Minimum Day:* Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
- *Grandparents & Special Friends Day*
- *Last Day of Spirit Week*
- *Spirit Wear Friday:* Show off your Cardinal spirit with St. John's Spirit Wear!
- *No Spring Musical Rehearsal*
- *Track & Field Registration Opens*
- *Student Store Open:* 7:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Monday, February 19

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 20

- *Faculty and Staff Inservice Day:* No school
- *Extra-Day Extended Care Available From 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.:* [Click here to register](#)

Wednesday, February 21

- *Student Store Open: 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.*
- *Spring Sports Tryouts*
 - *Coed 7/8 Soccer: 3:15–4:30 p.m. on Reuland Field*
 - *Boys 7/8 Volleyball: 3:15–4:30 p.m. in Cardinal Gym*

Thursday, February 22

- *Kids Cardinella: [Click here](#) to purchase opportunity-drawing tickets*
- *K–8 Spirit Lunch*
- *Student-Led Conference Sign-ups Open Today*
- *Student Store Open: 7:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.*
- *Spring Sports Tryouts*
 - *Coed 5/6 Soccer: 3:15–4:40 p.m. on Reuland Field*
 - *Boys 5/6 Volleyball: 3:15–4:30 p.m. in Cardinal Gym*

Friday, February 23

- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *Student Store Open: 7:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 3:15–6:00 p.m.*

Monday, February 26

- *Formal Uniform Day for K–8*

Tuesday, February 27

- *Spring Sports Awards: 3:15 p.m. in Cardinal Gym*

Friday, March 1

- *Minimum Day: MD dismissal at 12:15 p.m.*
- *After-School Extended Care Available From Dismissal to 5:00 p.m.: [Click here to register](#)*
- *End of Second Trimester*
- *Spirit Wear Friday*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 1:00–4:00 p.m.*

Thursday, March 7

- *No School for Students*
- *Extra-Day Extended Care Available From 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.: [Click here to register](#)*
- *Student-Led Conferences: Sign-ups open February 22*

Friday, March 8

- *No School for Students*
- *Extra-Day Extended Care Available From 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.: [Click here to register](#)*
- *Student-Led Conferences: Sign-ups open February 22*
- *MD Spring Musical Rehearsal: 2:00–5:00 p.m.*

Friday, March 15

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

Saturday, March 16

- *Cardinella: Tickets to St. John's annual school benefit go on sale soon*

Early Childhood Division

From the Interim Division Principal

Between Spirit Week, Valentine's Day, and Grandparents and Special Guests Day, this has been a busy week for our young learners! It has been so much fun to see children arrive in their Spirit Week–themed outfits each day, giving us a bit more insight into their interests and aspirations.

Students also enjoyed celebrating Valentine's Day, including the preparatory work leading up to it. They spent time creating Valentine's Day cards for their parents this week, and were excited to give and receive cards from friends on Wednesday. As parents, I know we always look for ways to teach our kids the importance of being loving, kind people, and Valentine's Day offers an excellent opportunity for us to model kindness and compassion—which is truly the best way to teach our children to care for others!

Finally, Early Childhood Division Grandparents and Special Guests Day was Thursday morning, and children welcomed our special visitors with a selection of songs they learned in music class. One child enjoyed all of the hustle and bustle so much that she was quoted as saying, "This has been the best day ever in preschool!"

Warm regards,

Carole Magaldi
Interim Early Childhood Division Principal

Parent-Teacher Conferences Are March 7 & 8

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 7, and Friday, March 8. Sign-ups for conferences will open on Thursday, February 22, when a SignUpGenius link will be provided via *Cardinal Weekly*. Conference sign-ups will close on Sunday, March 3.

Elementary Division



Mission Accomplished: After learning about California's 21 missions, St. John's fourth graders completed a two-day STEAM build of their very own "22nd Mission." Students were first tasked with creating a layout of their original mission concept, and then given tools and resources to express their creativity and understanding of mission life!

From the Division Principal

At St. John's, our STEAM emphasis lends itself to interdisciplinary learning. We recognize that each content area is NOT mutually exclusive; rather, when students are presented with rich tasks, they naturally integrate multiple content areas.

By walking through our Elementary Division classrooms on any given day, an observer will catch glimpses of interdisciplinary learning. Just recently, our fourth-grade students participated in the annual Fourth-Grade Mission-Building Project. This creative event represents the culmination of their social studies unit, as well as an opportunity to thoughtfully design and engineer a unique mission structure. Being present while students engaged in this process, I can say with confidence that students drew not only upon multiple content areas, but also upon the history of California, the architecture of their mission field trip, principles of design and engineering, and their own individual interests.

In other areas of our Elementary curriculum, I ask you to consider the following: Where does collaboration, technology, music, engineering, the Bible, and LEGO intersect? Why, at St. John's, of course! In her religion classes, Mrs. Patti has been using LEGO in a variety of ways. Second-, third-, and fourth-grade students learn the books of the Bible in order using song and LEGOs. Students are provided a baggie full of color-coded LEGOs, and while they sing the "Books of the Bible" song, they put them in order with a partner. It is a colorful, collaborative, and lively learning experience.

Third graders are currently in the "LEGO Bible Stories" unit and, oh, is it fun! In pairs, students select a Bible story and study it using their Bibles and resources in the Cardinal Guides. Then they storyboard their project and, finally, they use LEGO, flannel-board pieces, clay, and other supplies to build their scenes. Students take photos using their class iPads, and then work together to create an iMovie complete with subtitles, narration, and sometimes music. The final projects are shown to the class at the end of the school year. Students enjoy the unit very much and speak of it in later years.

In reality, St. John's isn't just a STEAM school—when you add in "Religion," it's a STREAM school, too!

Warmly,

Ryan Bourke
Elementary Division Principal

Grandparents and Special Guests Day Is Tomorrow

Grandparents and Special Guests Day is tomorrow—Friday, February 16. We hope our grandparents and special guests will join us for a joyful morning of activities and fellowship. For additional details, [click here to view the email](#) that was sent to grandparents and special guests.

Parent-Teacher Conferences Are March 7 & 8

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 7, and Friday, March 8. Sign-ups for conferences will open on Thursday, February 22, when a SignUpGenius link will be provided via *Cardinal Weekly*. Conference sign-ups will close on Sunday, March 3.

Kindergarten: Oral Health Assessment Form Due May 31

California law requires that students enrolled in kindergarten receive an oral health assessment by a licensed dental health professional, and submit a completed Oral Health Assessment Form to the child's school. Oral health assessments must occur between 12 months prior to the start of kindergarten and the end of the kindergarten year on May 31.

To fulfill the requirement, please **complete and submit this Oral Health Assessment Form**, as follows:

1. Parent/guardian must complete Section #1.
2. Licensed dental professional must fill out and sign or stamp Section #2.
3. Parent/guardian must return the completed form to the St. John's Health Office by Friday, May 31.
4. To claim an exemption from this requirement, parent/guardian must complete Section #3 and return to the Health Office by Friday, May 31.

If you have any questions, please call the Health Office at 949.858.5144 x223.

Middle Division



Winter Social in a Western Hat: Middle Division students enjoyed a country-western evening of music, treats, line dancing, and fun at their first dance of the year—last Friday's Winter Social!

From the Division Principal

An incredibly fun and uplifting time, Spirit Week serves to build and strengthen the entire Cardinal community by getting everyone involved around a common theme. This inclusivity helps build connections among students from all three divisions.

In Middle Division, students dress in crazy outfits or costumes based on the daily themes, and participate in a range of diverse activities throughout the week. Middle Division and Elementary Division Student Council members voted on the daily themes, giving our student leaders another opportunity to demonstrate their leadership and responsibility. **During Spirit Week, all SJES students get to let loose and have fun,**

while practicing character values such as individuality, fairness, and respect for themselves and others.

This year's Spirit Week began with the MD Winter Social last Friday night. Students enjoyed an evening of music, treats, line dancing, and fun. We had a fabulous turnout for the evening, and our middle schoolers were excited to participate in their first dance of the year.

Monday, we welcomed students dressed as Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Harry Potter, Stitch, Barbie, and more, as they showed their love for their favorite fictional character.

Tuesday included a walk to the movies for popcorn, Slurpees, and a special showing of *Wonka*. The afternoon continued with lunch at the food court and ice cream for dessert. The students returned to campus to participate in a service project for the RSM Cares Food Pantry. Making tie blankets in Advisory to donate to others helps to instill empathy and compassion. The blankets will be distributed next week, with the hope of warming the hearts and bodies of young children in the community.

Throughout the week, the daily themes continued, and students showed their commitment to their favorite sports teams, displayed their individuality with mismatched clothes, and enjoyed special Valentine's Day snacks provided by our treasured Room Parents. Along the way, they had the opportunity to shop at the Literati Book Fair during lunch and after school.

Finally, the eighth-grade girls and boys participated in the long-standing tradition of Steal-Your-Heart Day, for which the girls decorate heart shapes and wear them to school. They then refrain from talking to the boys. If a boy gets a girl to talk, he gets her heart. At the end of the day, we see which boy has the most hearts and which girls kept their hearts.

The fun will be reciprocated on Not-A-Peep Day, which happens in March. On Not-A-Peep Day, eighth-grade boys come to school wearing a marshmallow Peep, and the opposite happens. The girls try to get the boys to talk so they can have their Peeps. These traditions create a sense of shared experiences and memories that the sixth and seventh graders look forward to in the years to come.

The enthusiasm demonstrated by faculty, staff, and students during Spirit Week creates a sense of unity and camaraderie, fosters student-to-student and student-to-teacher connections, and promotes the positive Cardinal environment that helps make St. John's such a special place!

Warm regards,

Sheryll Grogan
Middle Division Principal

Athletics: Track & Field Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the 2024 SJES Track & Field team! To register, please [click here](#).

Congratulations, Students of the Week!

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

- [Cash A.](#) and [Stella L.](#), Eighth-Grade Students of the Week
- [Hannah F.](#), Seventh-Grade Student of the Week
- [Tatum M.](#), Sixth-Grade Student of the Week

Grandparents and Special Guests Day Is Tomorrow

Grandparents and Special Guests Day is tomorrow—Friday, February 16. We hope our Grandparents and Special Guests will join us for a joyful morning of activities and fellowship. [Click here to view event details](#) in the email that was sent to grandparents and special guests.

Athletics: Spring Sports Tryouts Are Next Week

Tryouts for spring sports are scheduled for next Wednesday, February 21, and Thursday, February 22:

- **Wednesday, February 21:** Spring Sports Tryouts
 - *Coed 7/8 Soccer:* 3:15–4:30 p.m.
 - *Boys 7/8 Volleyball:* 3:15–4:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, February 22:** Spring Sports Tryouts
 - *Coed 5/6 Soccer:* 3:15–4:40 p.m.
 - *Boys 5/6 Volleyball:* 3:15–4:30 p.m.

Student-Led Conferences Are March 7 & 8

Student-led conferences for Middle Division parents and their students will be held on Thursday, March 7, and Friday, March 8. Sign-ups for conferences will open on Thursday, February 22, when a SignUpGenius link will be provided via *Cardinal Weekly*. Conference sign-ups will close on Sunday, March 3. As a reminder, MD student attendance is required at all conferences.

Church

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School Is June 17-21

Save the Date for Scuba Vacation Bible School the week of June 17–21! Kids will dive

deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God.

- At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word of God and discover what living water is really all about! Each day, kids will launch into field-tested rotations that reinforce relevant Bible points and immerse kids in new adventures.
- Registration will open in early April.
- With questions, please [email Chrissy Hennings](#).

We hope to see you all there!

Opportunity for Students to Sing in Church

All students are invited to perform with Lisa Naulls at St. Francis Episcopal Church's 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on **Sunday, February 25**. Students should wear their Formal Uniform. If interested, please [email Mrs. Naulls](#).