



CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of October 17, 2024



What Will We Name Our Chickens?

This week, our Cardinals voted on their favorite names for our four Chicks! Students were each given four stickers that were used to “cast their ballot” next to their preferred names for our chickens. The results will be announced at Flag on Monday morning!

All School

Picture Days are Tuesday, October 29 and Wednesday, October 30

Mark your calendars! School Picture Days will take place on Tuesday, October 29 and Wednesday, October 30. Please refer to your division-specific section of the Cardinal Weekly for more details and important information about Picture Day.

Elementary and Middle Division: Tuesday, October 29

Early Childhood: Wednesday, October 30

Spirit Lunch (Parent Lunch) is TOMORROW

Tomorrow is Spirit and Parent Lunch. If you did not place your order online by Monday, October 7 at noon, please plan to pack your child(ren) lunch that day as no Choice Lunch will be served. K-8 Parents are welcome to attend for their child(ren)'s designated lunch time. We ask that all parents adhere to check-in protocol at the front office upon arrival and depart campus after their child(ren) finish their lunch. Students and parents are encouraged to wear Spirit Wear on this day (with uniform bottoms for K-8 students). Designated lunch times are as follows:

- K-1-2: 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 3-4-5: 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- 6-7-8: 12:35 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.

SpBOOKy Halloween in the Learning Commons!

All students and families are invited to join us in the Learning Commons right after the minimum day on Halloween! This annual event allows kids to “trick-or-treat” throughout the Learning Commons, where they can enjoy both candy and non-candy treats, participate in crafts, and listen to some spBOOKy stories with your Librarian, Mr. Stephens. Kick off Halloween with us at St. John’s on October 31, directly following each division’s half-day dismissal. We can’t wait to see you there!

Lost & Found: Unclaimed Items Will Be Donated After October 31

Our Lost & Found racks are overflowing! There are quite a few SJES sweatshirts, lunch boxes, and water bottles. Please stop by our Elementary Division Lost & Found and look through the items (in front of the Elementary Division Office) by Thursday, October 31. After that date, all unclaimed items will be donated. As a reminder, all clothing and personal items should be labeled with your child’s name so they can be returned to the classroom in a timely manner.

An Update on Financial Aid for the 2025-2026 School Year

Financial Aid applications for the 2025-2026 school year will open on November 1, 2024. Please note that we will be requiring 2024 tax returns as a part of the application process. First round applications for Financial Aid are due February 14, 2025. For more information, please [click here](#).

Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 27

Please join the St. John's Church and Community Lutheran along with St. John's Episcopal School for a Spooktacular afternoon of fun and festivities at our annual Trunk or Treat event on **Sunday, October 27 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** [Click here](#) to sign up to host a Trunk or Treat car or just come for the fun! Enjoy trick or treating, games, face painting, a costume parade, cake walk, crafts, food from the grill and more. Dress up in your costume or Halloween spirit best! All are welcome! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for this wonderful community event! For additional information or questions, please contact [Nikki Trueman](#) or [Rebecca Swartz](#).

NEW THIS YEAR!

Trunk or Treat is having a Cake Walk! The Cake Walk is a fun activity where children can participate for the chance to win and take home a cake or 1 dozen cupcakes. Think musical chairs with TREATS! But first - we need your help to collect the goodies. Please consider donating either a cake or 1 dozen cupcakes. Treats may be dropped off at the Admissions/ Advancement Office, Monday, October 21 – Friday, October 25 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. [Click here](#) to sign up! While we hope you join us for this fun community event, you do not need to be in attendance to participate in the donation.

Calling All K-8 Singers

St. John's Church is hosting an Interfaith Concert in celebration of Thanksgiving. We need singers for our St. John's Kids Choir on Sunday November 10 at 4:00 p.m. Please wear formal school uniform and stay for the reception to follow. If your child is interested, please reach out to [Ms. Naulls](#).

Photos for Wall of Saints are Due this Monday, October 21

Episcopalians believe that all who die in faith are saints. November 1 is All Saints' Day, followed by All Souls' Day on November 2, also known as Dia de los Muertos or "Day of the Dead." At St. John's, we remember all our friends and family who have died with our Ofrenda, the altar set up in the Columbarium of the church with traditional items such as marigolds, water, candles, and pan de muerto. We are collecting photographs of loved

ones from our St. John's community who have died to be added to our Wall of Saints. **Photos of family members or friends are welcome and should be brought to any division office or Mrs. Patti's mailboxes no later than Monday, October 21.** Photos should be no larger than 4"x 6" to be included and should only include those who we are remembering. Photos will not be returned as they are kept on the boards for use each year.

Calling All Actors and Singers!

St. John's Church annual Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 22 at 5:00 p.m. We are looking to fill roles for Mary, Joseph, the Three Kings, shepherds, townspeople, and more. No previous acting experience is required; we just want the kids to have fun enjoying the spirit of the season!

- Rehearsals: There will be two rehearsals in December (dates to be announced after sign-ups are complete).
- Costumes: Costumes will be provided, but if your child has a favorite shepherd or angel outfit, they are welcome to wear it!
- Who Can Participate: Children ages 3 to 10 are welcome, and we may accommodate siblings outside this age range if space allows.
- Volunteer Request: Looking for parents or high school volunteers to help with set up and costumes for the dress rehearsal and the night of as well.

Please **[click here to sign up](#)** by Thursday, October 31. If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy Hennings, Director of Children's Ministries at **children@stjohns-es.org** or (949) 291-6141. We look forward to celebrating with you and your family!

Featured Athletes

Dylan Wood

Cardinal Character Trait: Resilient and Caring

"Dylan is a determined and resilient volleyball player. With each game, she has learned to communicate better with her teammates and became more confident on the court. She is always willing to ask questions and seek clarification. She has been consistent with her serves, and we are so proud of her progress on and off the court!"

- Coach Stebbins

Henry Cleworth

Cardinal Character Trait: Resilient and Respectful

"Henry is new to St. John's and new to Flag Football. He is eager to learn new positions and take risks. Henry caught a 50-yard touchdown pass vs. St Serra to secure a victory for his team." - Coach Winn

Athletics Updates

St. John's Boys Flag Football and Girls Volleyball season are well under way! [Click here](#) for updates from last week's games, as well as a look into upcoming games and matches. We always welcome Cardinals of all ages to come cheer on St. John's and show their support.

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

Friday, October 18

- ASQ Due
- *Spirit Lunch: No Choice Lunch*

Monday, October 21

- *Sensory Screening*

Sunday, October 27

- *Trunk or Treat: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, October 29

- *Picture Day for 2-Day students ONLY*

Wednesday, October 30

- *Picture Day for 3- and 5-Day students*

Thursday, October 31

- *Fall Festival: 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.*
- *SpBOOKy Halloween in the Learning Commons: 11:45 a.m.*

Friday, November 1

- *No School: In-Service Day*

Elementary Division

Friday, October 18

- *Spirit (Parent) Lunch: No Choice Lunch*

Tuesday, October 22

- *3rd Grade Environmental Nature Center*

Thursday, October 24

- *1st Grade Ocean Institute*

Friday, October 25

- *2nd Grade Pioneer Day*

Sunday, October 27

- *Trunk or Treat: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, October 29

- *Picture Day*

Thursday, October 31

- *Halloween Parade: 8:15 a.m.*
- *Elementary Division **Halloween Costume Guidelines***
- *SpBOOKy Halloween in the Learning Commons: 12:00 p.m.*

Friday, November 1

- *No School: In-Service Day*

Middle Division

Friday, October 18

- *Spirit (Parent) Lunch: No Choice Lunch*
- *MD Play Rehearsal: 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

Thursday, October 17 - Friday October, 25

- *MD Field Studies Week*

Sunday, October 27

- *Trunk or Treat: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, October 29

- *Picture Day*

Thursday, October 31

- *Halloween Parade: 8:15 a.m.*
- *Middle Division **Halloween Costume Guidelines***
- *SpBOOKy Halloween in the Learning Commons: 12:15 p.m.*

Friday, November 1

- *No School: In-Service Day*

Early Childhood Division



Five Little Pumpkins Challenge

After Mrs. Townsend showed her class the “Five Little Pumpkins” felt story, the children were challenged to create their own Five Little Pumpkins scene and story! They built a gate structure using blocks and were encouraged to make a structure large enough to hold all five “pumpkins.” Their engineering skills were tested as she encouraged them to make it as high as possible!

Early Childhood Division Picture Day is Coming Soon!

Picture Day is just around the corner. ECD students should wear school-appropriate attire.

Tuesday, October 29: ONLY 2-Day (Tuesday & Thursday) Students

Wednesday, October 30: 3-Day and 5-Day Students

Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)

The Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) was sent home October 9 for all 3 & 5-Day students, and October 10 for 2-Day students. The ASQ is a developmental and social-emotional screening for children between the ages of 2 and 6 that is completed by the parent/guardian. This tool is designed to pinpoint developmental progress and catch delays in young children, paving the way for meaningful next steps in learning, intervention, or monitoring. Please complete the ASQ and return it to your child's teacher no later than TOMORROW, Friday, October 18.

Sensory Screenings Are October 21 (Must opt in)

Southern California Sensory Screening will be here Monday, October 21, to provide Preschool Health Assessments for Preschool and Pre-K children, ages 3 and older. Tests include hearing screening, vision screening, speech/language screening, and gross/fine motor screening. Permission slips to opt in were sent home at the beginning of the week. The permission slip can also be found [here](#).

ECD Fall Festival Is October 31

Please join your child in some fall-themed fun and games at our annual Early Childhood Division (ECD) Fall Festival on Thursday, October 31, from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

- Monday/Wednesday/Friday students are invited to attend this fun-filled event with a parent or special guest. No siblings, please.
- Non-scary Halloween costumes or accessories are encouraged.
- If you will be attending this event, please park on the street. The ECD parking lot is for drop-off and pickup only.
- This is a Minimum Day, with dismissal at 11:45 a.m. Please be sure to check your child out before leaving the ECD.

Elementary Division



Gear Ratios in Engineering

In our Engineering classes, Elementary students are diving into the exciting world of gear ratios! They're learning how gears of different sizes work together to increase speed or power, and they're putting that knowledge to the test through hands-on experiments. Using fun gear ratio illustrations, students can see how changing the size of gears affects movement. It's an awesome way for them to understand mechanics while having a blast building and experimenting! 🚀⚙️

Monday, October 28: Parents Invited to Cardinal Character Recognition Ceremony

Our next Cardinal Character Recognition Ceremony will be held immediately after the 8:00 a.m. Flag Ceremony on Monday, October 28.

- Families of students who are receiving a recognition award will be notified in advance. This is a great event, and all parents are encouraged to attend, if possible.

- If you do attend the ceremony, please park on the street or in the LDS parking lot. Please do not park in the St. John's parking lot, as this creates difficulties for our Early Childhood Division parents.

Upper Elementary Division Grading Scale

In our transition from Achieve to Veracross, a minor error occurred when Tech Support imported the Upper Elementary Division grading scale system. Unfortunately, an incorrect grading system was put in place. We will be reverting to the original grading scale we have used for over a decade, consistent with our Parent and Student Handbook. Thank you for your understanding! Please feel free to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Elementary Division Halloween Parade: Families Welcome!

Our Elementary and Middle Division students will participate in the Annual St. John's Halloween Parade at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, October 31.

- Parents and families are welcome to come watch this fun event in the Parent Spectator Area of Reuland Field. (Click [here](#) for location details.) For safety reasons, we ask that all parents remain in the Parent Spectator Area. With so many students on the field at one time, it is essential that everyone stays in their designated areas.
- **Please do not park in the St. John's parking lot.** Street parking is available. You may also park in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' parking lot at the end of Via Con Dios.

Thank you! We look forward to celebrating this fun event with you!

Halloween Costume Guidelines for Elementary Students

As Halloween approaches, we would like to share how St. John's Elementary students may participate in this exciting time in a way that is safe, respectful, and aligned with our values. Please review the following carefully with your child. If you have any questions, please feel free to let us know. Students will be permitted to wear costumes to school on Thursday, October 31 (Minimum Day: 12:00 p.m. dismissal), as long as they adhere to the following Costume Guidelines [linked here](#).

Elementary Picture Day Is Tuesday, October 29

Picture Day for Elementary Division students will be held on Tuesday, October 29. In

addition to a big smile, Elementary students are reminded to wear their Formal Uniform, including their red sweaters. Please note the following **Formal Uniform guidelines**, which can also be found on page 92 of the **Parent and Student Handbook**.

- Red sweater with name embroidered (Boys and girls)
- White polo shirt or white Oxford shirt (Boys and girls)
- Navy or khaki shorts or pants (Boys and girls)
- Plaid jumper or plaid skirt (Girls)

Monthly Enrichment Updates on the Parent Portal

Please visit the Veracross **Parent Portal** for the latest news of what's happening in each of the enrichment classes. Our fabulous enrichment teachers will be posting monthly on their Veracross webpages about the interactive and engaging learning that is taking place! To view enrichment classes, follow the steps below:

1. Login to the **Parent Portal**
2. Click the **Classes & Reports** button under your child's name
3. Click on any of the Enrichment classes listed and you will be redirected to the enrichment class webpage for that specific course

Middle Division



Tech Trekkers Club Update

Building a Virtual St. John's! Tech Trekkers Club has embarked on an exciting journey to construct a virtual St. John's Episcopal Campus! A few weeks ago, we welcomed back former Engineering and Robotics teacher, Mrs. Haggard, who introduced our students to the wonders of virtual reality. Inspired by her insights, the kids eagerly began designing their segments of the campus in Tinkercad. From the front gate to the playground, students are bringing their visions to life, crafting buildings, the fountain, lunch tables, the field, parking lots and more. Students will soon be able to enjoy a game of tag on their beautifully recreated campus in VR!

A Note About High School Recommendations

The high school application season is underway, and we have received many requests for middle school recommendation letters. So that our teachers have time to get to know our eighth graders, including those who may be new to St. John's, we wait to send high school recommendation letters and other documentation until mid-November.

- Please be assured that we are in constant communication with area high schools, are aware of deadlines, and will submit all recommendations prior to the required dates.
- If you have any further questions about the recommendation process, please feel free to email [Ryan Bourke](#) or [Patti Peebles](#) directly.

Important Information About Halloween Festivities

Costume Guidelines for Middle Division Students

Happy Halloween! We look forward to seeing all our Middle Division Cardinals in their Halloween costumes on Thursday, October 31. For your student's safety and for everyone's enjoyment, please review the following [Middle Division Costume Guidelines](#) with your student, [linked here](#).

Come Cheer on the Halloween Parade!

On October 31, St. John's will have a Halloween Parade on Reuland Field from 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend. Please arrive early so that you have enough time to go through the check-in process.

- Parents and families are welcome to come watch this fun event in the Parent Spectator Area of Reuland Field. (Click [here](#) for location details.) For safety reasons, we ask that all parents remain in the Parent Spectator Area. With so many students on the field at one time, it is essential that everyone stays in their designated areas.
- Please do not park in the St. John's parking lot. Street parking is available. You may also park in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' parking lot at the end of Via Con Dios.

Thank you! We look forward to celebrating this fun event with you!

Dismissal is at 12:15 p.m.

As a reminder, October 31 is a Minimum Day, with Middle Division dismissal at 12:15 p.m.

Middle Division Picture Day: Tuesday, October 29

Picture Day for all Middle Division students is Tuesday, October 29. Please adhere to the Picture Day guidelines for Middle Division below.

EIGHTH GRADE

All eighth-grade students should wear a solid-color sweater or blouse with a uniform skirt, or a collared shirt, tie, and jacket or sweater with uniform shorts. If a student is wearing a jacket, please bring it on a hanger, and we will store it for them. To save time, we recommend students come to school dressed for pictures. If they choose, students may bring a school polo shirt to change into after getting their picture taken.

SIXTH AND SEVENTH GRADES

All sixth- and seventh-grade students should come to school dressed in their Formal Uniform (white Oxford shirt or white polo shirt) and Chapel sweater. If you have not yet received your Chapel sweater, we will have sweaters to borrow for pictures.

Student Support Times in Middle Division

Every Middle Division teacher has an assigned Student Support Time each week. [Click here](#) to view the schedule. This drop-in time is designated for students to meet with teachers to converse about topics taught, to discuss an upcoming absence, to follow up after an absence, or to receive additional help. Parents are encouraged to reach out to teachers individually via email should they have any questions or concerns, or to request a one-on-one meeting.

Church

Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 27

Please join the St. John's church and Community Lutheran along with St. John's Episcopal School for a Spooktacular afternoon of fun and festivities at our annual Trunk or Treat event on **Sunday, October 27 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** [Click here](#) to sign up to host a Trunk or Treat car or just come for the fun! Enjoy trick or treating, games, face painting, a costume parade, cake walk, crafts, food from the grill and more. Dress up in your costume or Halloween spirit best! All are welcome! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for this wonderful community event! For additional information or questions, please contact [Nikki Trueman](#) or [Rebecca Swartz](#).