



CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of October 24, 2024



Our Baby Chicks Have Been Named!

Thank you students for your votes. We are happy to officially introduce...

Silver-laced Wyandotte: **Oreo**

Rhode Island Red: **Pumpkin**

Ameraucana: **Peanut**

Blue Australorp: **Bandit**

All School

Picture Days are NEXT WEEK!

Mark your calendars! School Picture Days will take place next Tuesday and Wednesday. 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

Extended Care on Friday, November 1: LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

Next Friday, November 1 is an In-Service Day. While there will be no school for students, St. John's will be offering Extended Care for Elementary and Middle Division students – *limited spaces available*. [Click here](#) to register your child(ren) by Tuesday, October 29 at 5:00 p.m. Questions? Please reach out to [Heather Flynn](#).

Important Note: Learning Commons After School

The Learning Commons will be closed after school beginning today, on the dates listed below. It will be open after school again beginning Tuesday, October 29.

- Thursday, October 24
- Friday, October 25
- Monday, October 28

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Sign-ups Open October 31

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, November 14, and Friday, November 15. **Conference signups will open on October 31 at 2:00 p.m. on the [Parent Portal](#)** under the “Happening Now” section. Please contact the appropriate Division office if you are having trouble signing up. Please make every effort to attend your child's parent teacher conference during the scheduled conference days. As per the handbook, scheduling make-up conferences with the teacher is strongly discouraged and not always possible.

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 (located 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.

Red Ribbon Week is Coming! November 4-7

Red Ribbon Week is almost here! Held November 4 - 7, Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug-prevention program in the nation and a way for people and communities to take a visible stance against drugs. In order to be the most age-appropriate for our entire community, our Red Ribbon Week themes and discussions will be centered around making healthy choices. Our entire school community will be making a pledge to make healthy choices by signing their names on an all-school poster. Local law enforcement personnel will also be making a special visit to campus in recognition of Red Ribbon Week.

- In our ***Elementary Division***, during Physical Education, students will learn the difference between healthy versus unhealthy choices they can make for their bodies and minds. Our school counselors will also be visiting Elementary classrooms to discuss the importance of making responsible decisions.
- In our ***Middle Division***, students will dive deeper into what healthy choices look like and learn about the negative effects unhealthy choices can have on them. Middle Division will be visited by an Orange County Deputy Sheriff to discuss responsible decision-making. Teaching the importance of health and wellness to our students will help guide them in making positive choices throughout their lives.

Red Ribbon Week will have daily themes in which we encourage all St. John's students from Early Preschool to Eighth grade to participate. **Click [here](#) to view daily dress themes.** Please note that Monday through Thursday is going to be considered "free dress" according to school guidelines (as long as the student is participating in the daily theme). For example, on Monday, if a student is wearing a red shirt, he or she is allowed free-dress bottoms, and vice versa. However, students who choose not to wear red will be expected to wear their regular school uniform. **Free dress will only be permitted for those who are participating in the daily themes.**

Trunk or Treat is THIS WEEKEND: 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 through tomorrow, 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.

Join us for a SpBOOKy Halloween in the Learning Commons next Thursday!

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!

A Week of Giving in Support of RSM Cares: November 4-8

Join with St. John's Church members in our annual RSM Cares Thanksgiving Food Donation Drive. During a Week of Giving, each grade level is asked to bring items needed to create Thanksgiving Dinner Bags for those in our community who are in need. [Click here](#) to check your child's grade level request.

International Festival – Parent Volunteer Interest Form

This year, SJES PTF will be hosting the annual International Fair on Wednesday, January 29 from 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. in the SJES courtyard. This event will allow our community to represent, discover and share their cultures, or learn about a culture they are interested in

with others. If you are interested in volunteering to help create this fun learning and fellowship event, please [click here](#) fill out the three-question survey.

Christmas Card Contest Entry!

It's that time of year! Don't miss out on a wonderful opportunity for your child to showcase their creativity and festive spirit in the 2024 SJES Christmas Card. Open to students in Early Preschool to 8th grade, the Christmas Card contest encourages participants to design original Christmas-themed artwork that captures the joy, warmth, and magic of the holiday season. This year, the card will feature FIVE designs by different student artists.

- Designs should be submitted to the Advancement Office or to Ms. Heys (Art Teacher) by **Friday, November 8**.
- All submissions will be considered and voted on by St. John's Administration Team.
- With questions, please email advancement@stjohns-es.org

St. John's School Families are Invited to a Baptism – Theirs!

On Monday, November 11, during our morning Eucharist, St. John's will offer the sacrament of Holy Baptism to anyone in our school community who is interested – students, parents, members of extended families, faculty, or staff. According to the Catechism of The Episcopal Church, "Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the Kingdom of God." Baptized Christians are considered full members of Christ's Church. The sacrament is available to persons of any age. If you'd like more information, or if you or a family member would like to be added to the baptism rolls on that day, please contact **Patti Peebles** by email or at 949-858-5144, ext. 226 by Monday, November 4.

Calling all Singers 4th through 8th Grade!

The St. Johns Children's Choir has once again been invited to participate in *Santa Margarita High School's Annual Nick Kraus Memorial Concert* by singing a special song selection in honor of the much-loved Percussionist Instructor, Nick Kraus, who passed suddenly in 2014. Our students participated in this incredible concert last year. The experience of singing to an audience in the Segerstrom Concert Hall is such an amazing opportunity for our students.

The concert will be held at the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall on Wednesday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m. We will rehearse starting next week, October 29, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:15 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. in Ms. Naulls' music

room. You must commit to the 10 rehearsal sessions between now and the performance. Please email **Ms. Naulls** and let her know as soon as possible if your child is interested in participating.

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

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*

Friday, November 8

- *Christmas Card entries due*

Elementary Division

Thursday, October 24

- *Elementary Division Play Rehearsal (Red Cast): 3:10 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.*

Friday, October 25

- *2nd Grade Pioneer Day*
- *Elementary Division Play Rehearsal (Blue Cast): 3:10 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.*

Sunday, October 27

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

Monday, October 28

- *Elementary Division Play Practice (Red Cast): 3:10 p.m. - 4:40 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*

Monday, November 4

- *Elementary Division Play Dress Rehearsal (Blue Cast)*

Tuesday, November 5

- *Elementary Division Play Dress Rehearsal (Red Cast)*

Friday, November 8

- *Christmas Card entries due*

Middle Division

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*

Friday, November 8

- *Christmas Card entries due*

Early Childhood Division



Spider Launch

Mrs. Kamholz' preschool class used a catapult to launch plastic spiders. This is a great hands-on way to introduce preschoolers to basic physics concepts like tension, energy, and force. The activity also helps develop their math skills, such as measuring length and number recognition, by turning the experiment into a friendly competition to see whose spider traveled the farthest. This kind of experiential learning helps young children grasp abstract concepts in a playful, engaging manner!

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

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, next 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



Connections from the Classroom to Enrichments

Third grade students' beautifully painted paper plates were turned into looms for their fiber unit. This cross-curricular study is paired with the book, "Charlotte's Web", which they are reading in class.

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 this Monday, October 28.

- If your child has been selected to be a recipient of an award at this ceremony, your child's teacher will notify you via email. *Please keep this a secret*, as we like to surprise our Cardinals!
- 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.

Elementary Picture Day is NEXT 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)

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 Division Play: Buy Tickets Now for Alice in Wonderland!

Don't miss your chance to see our Elementary students in Alice in Wonderland with shows at 3:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6 (Blue Cast), and Thursday, November 7 (Red cast). To purchase play tickets for the Blue Cast performances, click [here](#). To purchase tickets for the Red Cast performances, click [here](#).

Alice in Wonderland: Request for Crew and Ushers!

The Elementary Division Play is almost here! For St. John's students who are interested in helping out on the Stage Crew (6th Grade and up), or Ushering (4th Grade and up), please complete this [form](#). Please note that CreativeKidsPlayhouse is unable to accept all applicants; therefore, selections will be made via raffle, conducted on the morning of October 28. Thank you.

Middle Division



Field Studies Week

Our Middle Division students are having a blast this week! Wherever they are – Pali, SeaCamp, or Washington D.C. – the pictures speak a thousand words! Please be sure to check out each grade level's shared album to catch a glimpse into their field studies experience by clicking the links below:

[6th Grade - Pali](#)

[7th Grade - SeaCamp](#)

[8th Grade - Washington D.C.](#)

Middle Division Picture Day is NEXT 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.

Robotics Team Update

The St. John's Robotics Team was able to compete, learn, and grow at last weekend's **Robotics Competition**! It was an amazing time for all. We are so proud of our young Robotics Engineers and how well they represented St. John's. **[Click here](#)** to read more about the competition. Way to go Cardinals!

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.

Alice in Wonderland: Request for Crew and Ushers!

The Elementary Division Play is almost here! For St. John's students who are interested in helping out on the Stage Crew (6th Grade and up), or Ushering (4th Grade and up), please complete this [form](#). Please note that CreativeKidsPlayhouse is unable to accept all applicants; therefore, selections will be made via raffle, conducted on the morning of October 28. Thank you.

Middle Division Field Studies Medication Pick-Up

Attention Middle Division Families: Please pick up and sign out your child's medication from the Health Office. Contact the [Health Office](#) if you wish to keep some of your child's medication on campus for the remainder of the school year. Medication that the Health Office has previously had stored for your child (Epi Pen, Inhaler, Daily medication, etc.) will continue to be held in the office. **Medication will NOT be given to a student to transport home; a parent must pick up the medication.** If your medication is not picked up by **Friday November 8**, it will be disposed of. The Health Office is open Monday to Friday, from 7:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. Thank you!

Church

Trunk or Treat: Join us THIS Sunday, October 27

Please join 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](#).

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!