



CARDINAL WEEKLY

News for the Week of November 14, 2024



Bravo! That's a Wrap on Our Elementary and Middle Division Plays

A huge shout out to all of the students who performed in both Elementary and Middle Division school plays: Alice and Wonderland (Elementary Division) and Elf (Middle Division)! Both of these performances showcased the talent of our students, as well as the producers/directors, including our very own Mr. Tiatia-Garaud and Ms. Daisy Stebbins. They were a joy to watch. THANK YOU!

All School

REMINDER: No School Tomorrow

No School tomorrow, Friday, November 15. There will also be no Extended Care available.

Friendly Carpool Reminder

We kindly ask that you review and follow the **carpool rules** and obey the crossing guard when dropping off or picking up your student(s). These rules are in place to ensure the safety of all children and staff during carpool and require cooperation from all constituents. **Please note: the front Parking Lot is ONLY for Early Childhood Division families.** It is incredibly dangerous to allow your Elementary and Middle Division students out of the car in the front circle. Thank you.

You're Invited: A Special Chapel Service at St. John's

Students, faculty, and staff are invited and encouraged to attend "Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit" this Sunday, November 17 at 4:00 p.m. at St. John's Church. This service includes an inspiring and uplifting program of spiritual settings by H.T. Burleigh, Hall Johnson, William Dawson, and George Shearing, along with folk song settings by Aaron Copland. Mezzo-soprano and St. John's Music/Choir Instructor, Ms. Lisa Naulls will be performing. A suggested donation of \$20.00 per adult will benefit St. John's Church; suggested donation of \$10.00 for students and seniors. St. John's School students are free with parent or adult. All students who attend the concert will receive free dress! **Click here** for more information.

November PTF Meeting Recap

Thank you to our guest speaker, Taylor Diaz, who provided a thorough overview of the Veracross Parent Portal, as well as to all our faculty and parents who participated in Tuesday's PTF meeting. We've got some exciting happenings ahead, so if you couldn't make the meeting, be sure to **click here** to read our meeting minutes so you're apprised of all things SJES!

Donate Leftover Candy for the Marines at Camp Pendleton

Do you have leftover Halloween candy that you do not want? Fear not! Mrs. Garrett is collecting leftover Halloween candy for the Marines at Camp Pendleton. Please place your donated candy into a plastic bag and drop it off in any of the division offices. You may also stop by Mrs. Garrett's room in Sillers Hall (Room 22) to drop off candy. **Donations will be accepted through next Tuesday, November 19.**

Gratitude and Giving Week is NEXT WEEK: November 18 - 22

It is almost time for the **SJES Gratitude and Giving Week!** During this week we look to support the **Cardinal Fund**, as well as give thanks and gratitude for our wonderful St. John's community. Join us as we put the "fun" in "fundraising" and show our gratitude for all the ways you make our school amazing! [Click here](#) for a full view of the exciting events in store each day next week and help us reach our goal of 100% parent participation in the Cardinal Fund. Haven't heard of the Cardinal Fund? [Click here](#) for answers to some Frequently Asked Questions and learn why your gift to the Cardinal Fund is so critical.

Winter Sports Tryouts are Next Week

Please take note of the following important dates for Winter Sports tryouts taking place next week for grades 5-8:

Boys Basketball: Tryouts on Monday, November 18

- 5/6 Grade: Tryouts will be from 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Report to the Gym directly after school.
- 7/8 Grade: Tryouts will be from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Tryouts on Tuesday, November 19

- 5/6 Grade: Tryouts will be from 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Report to the Gym directly after school.
- 7/8 Grade: Tryouts will be from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Boys Lacrosse: Tryouts on Monday, November 18

- Tryouts will be from 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Report to the Konrad Reuland Field directly after school with all proper equipment.

Girls Lacrosse: Tryouts on Monday, November 18

- Tryouts will be from 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Report to the Konrad Reuland Field directly after school with all proper equipment.

Thanksgiving Break is Coming Up

Thanksgiving Break is just a couple of weeks away! There will be no school on Monday, November 25 through Friday, November 29. We hope you enjoy this time with your families during this season of gratitude.

Get Your Spirit Lunch Orders In!

The next Spirit Lunch will take place on Friday, December 13. We are excited to have TK Burgers back on campus! Orders must be placed in advance, online by Monday, December 2 at Noon. There will be no Choice Lunch served on this day. [Click here](#) to place your

order. Additionally, K-8 parents are invited to attend Spirit Lunch at their child(ren)'s designated lunch time.

Yearbook Dedication Pages

Looking for a way to tell your son or daughter “I am proud of you”? Purchase a dedication page in the yearbook! Dedication pages are now on sale for the 2024-2025 school yearbook. There are four different sizes to choose from (1/8, 1/4, 1/2, and full page). [Click here](#) to view the flyer for instructions and pricing. The first price increase will take place on December 1, so purchase yours today for the lowest price! Questions? Contact [Beth Sarachman](#).

Take a Stroll Down Candy Cane Lane

Our favorite Cardinal tradition is heading to campus December 2 - 6. [Candy Cane Lane](#) is a special holiday event that allows Pre-K through 8th grade students the opportunity to “surprise” friends and family with holiday gifts of their choice, while also learning how to shop and budget. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will have assistance from their school PALS/Buddies while they shop. Be on the lookout next week for more information in your student’s Monday Folder, including Shopping Wish Lists and important information about the event. **Please return [Shopping Wish Lists](#) and checks (if paying by check) to your teachers/advisors by next Friday November 22.** No cash will be accepted. There’s “Noel” time like the present to start holiday shopping!

You're Invited! RSVP to Wine Wall

Last week, you received an invitation via email to Wine Wall, St. John’s annual holiday party. This event will take place on Saturday, December 7 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We hope you will join us for this fun evening of fellowship as we kick off Cardinella. Enjoy the festivities while wearing your coziest attire, generously hosted at the Keil Family home. This will be an adult only evening – so line up your sitters! Didn't receive the invitation? Please email Advancement@stjohns-es.org.

Save the Date: Christmas Concerts are Just Around the Corner!

Mark your calendars! Here are the upcoming dates for our annual Christmas performances for each division:

- Early Childhood Division: Friday, December 20 at 11:15 a.m.
- Elementary Division: Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m.

- Middle Division: Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Dennis Used Uniform Sales End January 31, 2025

As we begin our final transition to our new uniform provider, **Tommy Hilfiger School Uniforms**, we would like to make you aware of a few dates and allow you time to prepare.

Dennis used uniforms will be available for sale in the Student Store until January 31, 2025. Beginning February 1, 2025, only Tommy Hilfiger *used* uniforms will be available. If you think that your student may need a Dennis used uniform item to get you through the remainder of the school year, be sure to purchase it before January 31. Students are permitted to wear Dennis uniforms throughout the 2024-2025 school year. For more information, **click here** for a copy of the email that was sent earlier this week.

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 and share their cultures with others, while discovering and learning about cultures which may be new to them. If you are interested in volunteering to help create this fun and educational fellowship event, please **click here** and fill out the three-question survey.

Financial Aid for the 2025-2026 School Year: PLEASE NOTE NEW REQUIREMENT

Financial Aid applications for the 2025-2026 school year are now open on FACTS. Please note that we will be requiring 2024 tax returns as a part of the application process this year – this is a change from prior years. The deadline for applications for Financial Aid for 2025-26 is February 14, 2025. Any applications received after this date will be reviewed subject to available funds, as awards will be made in the order in which applications are received. For more information, **click here**.

Important Upcoming Dates

Early Childhood Division

Friday, November 15

- *Parent Teacher Conferences: NO SCHOOL*

Friday, November 22

- *Candy Cane Lane Shopping **Wish Lists** Due (Pre-K students only)*

Monday, November 25 - Friday, November 29

- *Thanksgiving Break: NO SCHOOL*

Monday, December 2 - Friday, December 6

- *Candy Cane Lane (Pre-K students only)*

Elementary Division

Friday, November 15

- *Parent Teacher Conferences: NO SCHOOL*

Monday, November 18

- *Boys Basketball Tryouts*
- *Boys Lacrosse Tryouts*
- *Girls Lacrosse Tryouts*

Tuesday, November 19

- *Girls Basketball Tryouts*

Wednesday, November 20

- *Free Dress for students who participated in (and/or went to) the Elementary or Middle Division Plays*

Friday, November 22

- Candy Cane Lane Shopping ***Wish Lists*** Due
- Fall Sports ***Registration*** Due

Monday, November 25 - Friday, November 29

- *Thanksgiving Break: NO SCHOOL*

Monday, December 2 - Friday, December 6

- *Candy Cane Lane*

Middle Division

Friday, November 15

- *Parent Teacher Conferences: NO SCHOOL*

Monday, November 18

- *Boys Basketball Tryouts*
- *Boys Lacrosse Tryouts*
- *Girls Lacrosse Tryouts*

Tuesday, November 19

- *Girls Basketball Tryouts*

Wednesday, November 20

- *Free Dress for students who participated in (and/or went to) the Middle Division or Elementary Division Plays*

Friday, November 22

- Candy Cane Lane Shopping ***Wish Lists*** Due
- Fall Sports ***Registration*** Due

Monday, November 25 - Friday, November 29

- *Thanksgiving Break: NO SCHOOL*

Monday, December 2 - Friday, December 6

- *Candy Cane Lane*

Early Childhood Division



THANKFUL Early Childhood Students!

This month, Early Preschool is talking about all things THANKFUL. Mrs. Evenson's and Mrs. Lytle's classes are learning about what it means to be thankful. They have been reading books about being grateful and thankful, and made a list of what they are each thankful for, followed by dancing to "If You're Thankful and You Know It." Students also made a unique collage of feathers during Art to decorate their class turkey. We have so much to be thankful for this holiday!

Early Childhood Service-Learning Project

Early Childhood students decorated placemats for the 8th graders to deliver on November 19 when they travel to Camp Pendleton to participate in Operation Rack Pack welcoming home Marines who have been deployed overseas. These placemats will brighten their tables for Thanksgiving dinner. [Click here](#) to see some of our Cardinals participating in the project!

NO SCHOOL Tomorrow, November 15

REMINDER: There will be no school tomorrow, November 15 during Parent Teacher Conferences. Extended Care will not be provided.

Thanksgiving Break is Coming Up!

Thanksgiving break is just a couple of weeks away! There will be no school on Monday, November 25 through Friday, November 29. We hope you enjoy this time with your families during this season of gratitude.

Elementary Division



Miners and Missionaries and Carrots?! Oh my!

Fourth graders brought California history to life while participating in the much-loved “Walk Through California” interactive assembly. Our Cardinals were challenged with memorizing and performing a term related to California regions, industries, landforms, and history along with dressing to match. Much fun and learning were had as they moved back through time, experiencing California’s journey to statehood!

Chapel Sweater Requirement Begins Next Week

Beginning next week on Monday, November 18, Elementary and Middle Division students will be required to wear their formal sweaters twice per week. All students will wear their formal sweaters on Mondays for All-School Chapels, as well as on their second Chapel Day (Tuesday for grades K-2, Thursday for grades 3-5, and Wednesday for grades 6-8).

Winter Athletics Registration: 5th - 8th Grade Basketball and Lacrosse

We are excited to launch our Winter Sports Athletic programs. If your 5th to 8th grade student is interested in participating, please [click here](#) to register by next Friday, November 22. All registrants must complete the forms on the [Athletics Webpage](#) to participate. Questions? Please reach out to [John Roland](#).

Elementary Christmas Concert is December 19

We're pleased to invite you to our K-5 Christmas concert on Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. This event is a wonderful opportunity for our Elementary Division students to share their talents and what they have been learning in our music program with the entire school community. We are looking forward to a memorable and festive evening! [Click here](#) for details.

Engaging Reading Tool in Upper Elementary

During Parent Teacher Conferences today and tomorrow, your teacher will have provided you with a [flyer](#) about an engaging reading tool for Upper Elementary students. Grades 3, 4, and 5 are using [Microsoft Reading Progress & Reading Coach](#), integrated into Microsoft suite of apps, to enhance reading skills, track progress, and inspire a love for reading. Reading Progress helps teachers monitor and support students' reading development, while Reading Coach offers personalized, independent practice using AI. Parents are encouraged to have their children use Reading Coach at home for at least 20 minutes daily. This initiative is part of a private pilot with other schools from around the country, aiming to share successes and challenges to improve the tools. Teachers will provide more information at upcoming conferences.

Middle Division



Paleolithic Cave Art

This week, sixth grade students completed an activity where they recreated Paleolithic cave art based on the Lascaux cave paintings in France. After completing an interactive tour of the Lascaux caves, students were asked to recreate some of the images they saw in the Lascaux caves. To make it more authentic, they were tasked with the challenge of creating their art using the walls or underside of their desks as their work surfaces because early humans didn't create their cave art using desks! Students also had to create their art with minimal lighting, as early humans did not have overlit classrooms!

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LAST CALL: We Need Your Christmas Art Submissions!

We need help from our Middle Division students! This is a LAST CALL to submit Christmas-themed artwork to be considered for this year's Christmas card. Submissions **MUST be turned in by Monday, November 18** to the [**Advancement Office**](#).

8th Grade Act of Service: Trip to Camp Pendleton

On Tuesday, November 19, our Eighth grade class will live out the St. John's mission to "*encourage our students to pursue lives of service and purpose*" by traveling to Camp Pendleton North, to prepare barracks for the return of the Marines from the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. After having been deployed – and away from family and friends for an extended period – the Marines of 1/5 are expected to return on November 22. Our 8th Grade students have been given the opportunity to perform acts of service by stuffing care packages and placing them in each room, as well as decorating the rooms with posters, banners, and individually written letters from our K-5 students.

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We are excited to launch our Winter Sports Athletic programs. If your 5th to 8th grade student is interested in participating, please [**click here**](#) to register by Friday, November 22. All registrants must complete the forms on the [**Athletics Webpage**](#) to participate. Questions? Please reach out to [**John Roland**](#).

Cardinal Character Awards for November

In Middle Division, each month we recognize a 6th, 7th, and 8th grader who exemplify a specific Cardinal Character Trait. The Cardinal Character Trait for the month of November is "Collaborative". A collaborative St. John's student nurtures community through adaptable, flexible, cooperative and open-minded teamwork. In November, the History department teachers highlighted three students who showed the Cardinal Character Trait "collaboration" in class. Students received their award during Cardinal Connection Time (CCT) yesterday, November 13.

Congratulations to our collaborative Cardinals: Cooper Crandall, Josephine Hellinga and William Kemmerle!

Mark Your Calendars: Middle Division Christmas Concert is December 17

We are so excited to welcome Middle Division families to our Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 17. Mr. Roberts (Band), Ms. Naulls (Choir), Ms. Stebbins (Dance), and Mr. Tiatia-Garaud (Drama) are so proud to showcase what the students have been working on in their respective classes. The event is divided into two separate shows, occurring on the same night but at different times:

- If your child is in *Band or Choir*, your portion of the show will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- If your child is in *Dance or Drama*, your portion of the show will begin at 7:00 p.m. More information will be communicated by your child's Performing Arts teachers. We look forward to seeing everyone for a wonderful evening put on by our Middle Division Performing Arts students.

Church

You're Invited: A Special Chapel Service at St. John's is THIS Sunday

Students, faculty, and staff are invited and encouraged to attend "Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit" this **Sunday, November 17 at 4:00 p.m. at St. John's Church**. This service includes an inspiring and uplifting program of spiritual settings by H.T. Burleigh, Hall Johnson, William Dawson, and George Shearing, along with folk song settings by Aaron Copland. Mezzo-soprano and St. John's Music/Choir Instructor, Ms. Lisa Naulls will be performing. A suggested donation of \$20.00 per adult will benefit St. John's Church; suggested donation of \$10.00 for students and seniors. St. John's School students are free with parent or adult. All students who attend the concert will receive free dress! [**Click here**](#) for more information.

Thanksgiving Worship: Save the Date

Join us for a special Holy Eucharist service in celebration of Thanksgiving! This joyful gathering will take place on **Wednesday, November 27 at 6:00 p.m. at St. John's Church**, and will be a time to reflect on gratitude and share in the blessings of community and faith. After the service, stay for a delicious pizza dinner where we'll enjoy fellowship and give thanks together. All are welcome—bring your family, friends, and anyone who would like to celebrate. We look forward to seeing you there!