



SADDLE RIVER
DAY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 6, 2025

PARENTS GUILD NEWSLETTER

It's a Great Day to be a Rebel!

We hope you are enjoying the Snow Day today! Welcome to the SRDS Parents Guild Newsletter full of the information that would have been presented at our February meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you next month on Thursday, March 6th at 8:45am in the PAC. Have a fabulous weekend!

Heather Holder & Jacqueline Vasquez, Co-Presidents SRDS Parents Guild

PARENTS GUILD HIGHLIGHTS AND UPDATES

GALA Save the Date is in your home mailbox. As we celebrate our school's many successes and race toward an exciting future, it seemed fitting for our Annual Gala to be themed **"Off to the Races."** We hope you will join us on Saturday, April 26th as we celebrate our amazing school. Proceeds from Gala 2025 will be dedicated to expanding our innovative programs and initiatives, giving our students the edge they need to race forward and succeed in our fast paced and evolving world.

50/50 Tickets are now available for purchase with a potential \$10,000 in winnings. Be sure to share this opportunity with your friends at Super Bowl Sunday this weekend!

The srd25.givesmart.com link is now open for Tickets, Ad Journal and Sponsorship opportunities. Check out all the ways you can support our students!

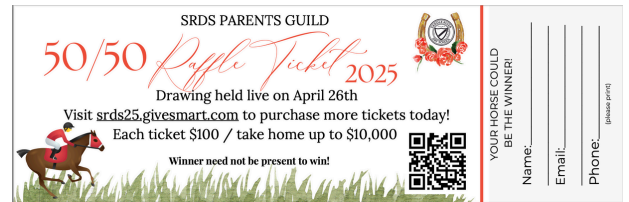
Co-Presidents Heather and Jacque also invite you to join them on **Thursday, February 20th at 8:30am** at Panera at Tice's Corner (Woodcliff Lake, NJ) for a casual **REBELS COFFEE & CHAT**. Nothing formal, just a chance to casually chat and make new friends!

Rebel Dads is meeting again on February 28th at 6-9pm at Four Leaves in Park Ridge. The last event sold out so be sure to purchase your tickets soon! See attached flyer for details.

Thank you Alyson Sugar, Tanya Hall and all our amazing parent volunteers for organizing and hosting our annual LS (PreK3-2nd Grade) **Snowball Dance**! We truly appreciate everything you and the many people who made this event a success especially after moving it a night earlier to avoid the snow storm!

Also sending a huge thank you to Sara Aufgang, Monica Jain and all the MS parents who are helping with set-up and clean-up for the **MS Winter Dance** tonight!

Finally, as we celebrate Love & Kindness throughout our school, we want to thank Nassdja Anthony, Dina Terranova, and all of the generous parent volunteers who donated treats and beverages to our **Love & Kindness Faculty Heart Carts**. Our amazing teachers and administrative teams are so appreciative!



ADMISSIONS UPDATE

Geoffrey Bowman, Director of Admissions

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*Chris Lebovits, Director of Community Engagement
and Assistant Director of LS Admissions*

Re-Enrollment Contracts are due today, February 6th. Kris Sweeny is reaching out to remind everyone. It is very important we receive a contract or communication regarding a family's plan for next year. We need to know how many spots we have in a grade before we can release new student decisions. This is essential so we don't over-enroll a grade.

Decisions for new students for all grades will be released next Friday, February 14. They are due back in the beginning of March.

Thank you to Parents Guild Members who continue to assist with our programs and connect with our visitors and accepted families.

It remains a busy and exciting time in admissions!

Intro to College Counseling Workshop for families with students in 8th grade will be held on Thursday, February, 13th. An email was sent out with a link to register, students are encouraged to attend as well.

Code ala Mode, Wednesday, March 12th, 5:30pm-6:30pm. The flyer and registration link will go out in the next day or so.

Rebel Readers, Wednesday, March 20th 7:00pm, Lower Level Main Hall. There will be no meeting in March.

Pickleball will pick up in March. Unfortunately, our gym is not available until then and although I looked into alternate court space, everything is booked for the winter.

Career Day, April 10th. We are looking for businesses to host 10-12 Upper School students with a chaperone for about an hour or two. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be, please reach out to me.

LOWER SCHOOL NEW AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Dana Stern, Head of Lower School

Dear Lower School Families,

February is off to a busy and exciting start, and there's so much more to look forward to this month!

First, a **huge thank you** to all the families who helped make our **Snowball Dance** such a wonderful success, even with the last-minute date change. Your flexibility and support made the evening truly special! We also want to extend our appreciation to **Dr. Parmar** for presenting an informative and fun **Dental Assembly** to our PreK3-Kindergarten students, teaching them all about the importance of good dental hygiene.

Upcoming Events:

- **Super Bowl Celebration in the cafe with Chef Mark today/Friday!!!!**
- **Jump Rope for Heart Assembly – Today/Friday!** Presented by our 4th-grade **Rebels with a Cause**
- **Love & Kindness Week (Feb. 12-16):**
 - **Monday:** *Peace, Love & Kindness* – Wear groovy gear
 - **Tuesday:** *Team Up for Kindness* – Wear your favorite jersey
 - **Wednesday:** *Dreaming of Kindness* – Wear PJs
 - **Thursday:** *Kindness in the Community* – Wear Rebel gear
 - **Friday:** *Show the Love* – Wear anything Valentine's Day-related

Be sure to check out all the amazing **assemblies and events** we have planned this month. And don't forget to browse our **LS Photo Album** for pictures capturing these special moments! *Web addresses to both are below.*

Thank you for your continued support—we can't wait to celebrate more exciting moments together! Happy Friday and have a wonderful weekend!

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WOgrs8Fa6eV_OITXyP1fQDcfyi5TMRsldAUlsjmm2k/edit?tab=t.0

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipM3Hsi6D-H6a5ltku8mkD1hvADB2H84mKroUKcsBOOSs3uHluD-36MMYwt3_8bPTg?key=MFFLOGlRclBwa2k2NHhLZG1RaOpXLWJqVEFtYUx3

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Anastasia Kelly, Head of Middle School

Greetings Middle School Families,

I hope everyone is enjoying the snow day! **This month, our focus is on Love and Kindness**, as well as recognizing **Black History Month**. We have some exciting and educational assemblies planned, along with a Love and Kindness Week next week, led by the Upper School Student Council. While I'm still figuring out what Taylor Swift might wear for "**Kindness Era**" **Tuesday**, I have no doubt the students already have it covered! And of course, **Pajama Day Wednesday** is always a favorite. *A quick reminder: for students not participating in the themed dress days, regular school dress is required. This means no sweatpants or graphic sweatshirts of any kind.*

MS Winter Dance – This Friday! We are looking forward to our Middle School Winter Dance this Friday and hope for 100% participation! While we know that might not be possible, we encourage all students to attend this fun community event. We are still looking for parent volunteers to help with cleanup at the end of the night, so please let Ms. B know if you are available to assist.

Upcoming Events

- **8th Grade College Information Session** – It's never too early to start thinking about the college admissions process! The SRDS team has planned an informative and interactive night for 8th-grade parents on Thursday.
- **Spelling Bee – Round Two** – Our next round of competition takes place next week.
- **National STEM Honor Society Field Trip** – Our first NSTEM field trip is coming up, and we're excited for this enrichment opportunity.
- **SRDS Debate Tournament** on 2/22

Of course the pending snow forecast for next week may change some of these dates - so keep an eye on the Happenings document and your email!

This month in advisory, we will emphasize treating every member of our community with love and kindness. Students will also review their **report cards**, which were released today, and reflect on their progress—whether that means celebrating achievements or setting goals for improvement in the second semester. Additionally, we continue to focus on social-emotional learning and navigating social interactions with the help of Win at Social Partners.

As always, thank you for your support! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

UPPER SCHOOL NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Shai Zacaraev, Head of Upper School

Hello from Upper School!

There is a lot going on in the Upper School and I'm thrilled to be sharing some of the highlights:

- We are fully back in school and successfully finished the first semester
- **Grades** should be out early next week, students will be reviewing them with their advisors
- We had an assembly to learn about **what it means to be a Social Entrepreneur**. Tommy Head, Founder and CEO of the Childhood Cancer Society gave an incredible presentation and we are looking forward to having our students volunteer with the organization!
- **Rebel Lounge**, the return of the annual SRDS open mic night was a huge success and all the performances by the students and faculty were inspiring.
- Earlier in the week we had our first assembly on **Black History Month**. Chef Mark led students and faculty in a great presentation and we will have a few more events throughout the month of February.
- Coming up, US will also participate in **Love and Kindness Week** and we are excited for all the activities
- Over the last few weeks our students have participated in so many events below is a short list of what we did and some items to come:
 - **Science Olympiad** - Wednesday 1/8/2025
 - **Guggenheim Field Trip** - Tuesday 1/14/25
 - **Model UN Trip** - Depart Thursday, 1/23 to the weekend; We had one today too, but delayed due to snow, but the kids will go tomorrow after school; Another conference at the end of the month
 - **NY Philharmonic Field Trip** (for our chorus, band, music theory students) - cancelled for now due to snow, but hoping to find a way to make it happen
 - **Our students volunteered for the Special Olympics of NJ Winter Games, Tuesday 2/4 (all day)**
 - Tomorrow our students will participate in the **Monmouth University High School Hackathon**
 - Tuesday our Videography students will head to **Los Angeles** to learn about film, editing, and production and they will help distribute the items we have collected to support the LA community over the last few weeks
- Toward the end of the month we will begin talking about **course selections** for next year, we will have zoom invites for parents in early march (ahead of the Parent Led conferences) where the deans will share the options that we will be discussing with the students.

Our athletics teams have also been doing a great job throughout the winter!

Hoping you are enjoying the snow day!!

ATHLETICS UPDATE

PJ Petrow, Athletic Director

Spring Sports Registration is Open!

- **Deadline:** Monday, February 17
- **Who:** Upper School (US) & Middle School (MS) athletes
- **Details & Registration:**
<https://saddleriverdayrebelsathletics.com/2024/10/24/winter-sports-registration/>

🏆 Softball Clinic - see the attached flyer

- **When:** Sundays, starting February 16
- **Grades:** 5-12
- **Where:** Challenge U, Wyckoff
- **Registration & Info:** <https://www.challengeusoftball.com/srds>

🏆 Baseball Clinics - see the attached flyer

- **When:** Sundays
- **Where:** Power Arm Performance, Ramsey
- **Contact:** Jake Miller at jake@powerarm.co

🏐 Volleyball Clinics (Middle School Ages) - see the attached flyer

- **When:** Wednesdays, 7:30–9:00 PM
- **Grades:** 5-8
- **Registration:**
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeVMJqzKeouSOMMnX6vRwpX-jEsdymiP9PCsXF_d3JRtDtLaw/viewform

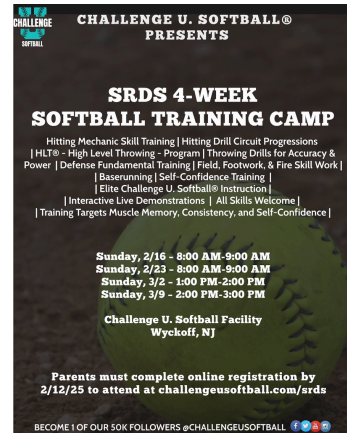
🏐 Volleyball Clinics (Upper School Ages)

- **When:** Sundays, 7:30–9:00 PM
- **Grades:** 8-12
- **Contact :** Lauren Cassels at lcassels26@saddleriverday.org

⚽ Futsal/Soccer Training

- **When:** Fridays (January & February)
- **Details & Registration:**
<https://futsal201.leagueapps.com/camps/4454018-january-february-futsal201-group-training>

Stay active and keep training! 🔥



See you on
MARCH 6
@ 8:45am in the PAC

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Heather Holder & Jacqueline Vasquez
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