



# Looking Forward

December 16, 2022

## From the Vice Principal

Dear SLA Families,

It has been a very busy past few weeks for the school. I know it has been a busy few weeks for families as well. If you really want to be honest, since we started school, it has been a busy time. With daily drop offs and pick ups, homework, going to various athletic events, projects, parties, programs, and all the illnesses we have had, it has been a nonstop roll of demands. But, now we are finally at our Christmas break... a good long break. I hope and pray that everyone will get some time to just relax and rest. Enjoy your families... Enjoy not having to rush... Enjoy your rest... Enjoy celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus who gives us His peace, strength, and love to meet each day!

A Christmas Prayer for You...

God grant you peace at Christmas  
And fill your heart with cheer,  
God grant you health and happiness  
Throughout the coming year,  
God guide you with His wisdom  
And keep you in His care -  
This is my special wish for you,  
This is my Christmas prayer.

Have a safe, healthy and a Very Merry Christmas! See you in the New Year!

With All His Blessings,

Ollyce Gardner  
Vice Principal, Registrar

## Dress Warmly!!!

Elementary Parents:  
Please send your child to school with sufficiently warm clothing. Children go outside for recess unless it's raining or the temperature or wind chill is 20 degrees or lower.



Caroling at SNEC



The SLA offices will be closed for Christmas Vacation starting at noon on Friday, December 16 and will be reopening at 8am, Monday, January 2, 2023.

## Upcoming Dates

- Dec 19-Jan 1 - Christmas Break, No School
- Dec 25 - Christmas Day
- Jan 2 - School Resumes
- Jan 3 - Ski Club Begins
- Jan 6 - End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester
- Jan 16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, NO School
- Jan 17 - Books and Beyond Kickoff Assembly
- Jan 23 - Feb 3 - MAP Testing
- Jan 26 - Teacher Prof. Dev. Day - Half Day of School
- Jan 27 - Elementary Sports Spirit Day
- Feb 6 - Junior's ASVAB Test
- Feb 12 - ACT Exam
- Feb 20-24 - President's Day & Winter Break - NO School

# After School Care Program Changes



Beginning January 2nd, 2023, when school resumes, the After School Care Program:

- Will no longer be collecting payments prior to the use of services
- Will no longer have an elevated Drop In Rate

Payments will be processed through a student's FACTS account, only AFTER using the After School Care Program.

We **still** strongly encourage parents to complete the "**After School Care Schedule**" to facilitate SLA staff in directing children at the end of the each school day. If we know who is expected to stay in After School Care, we are able to let the teacher know who to send to After School Care at dismissal time.

**Completing the schedule does NOT obligate the use of the After School Care Program, or payment of fees so long as the child is picked up by the end of dismissal.**



New forms are now available at the elementary office, and will be emailed out over the break.

## Kindness for Salome

This year, a new student named Salome joined the 2nd grade class. She was new to the area, spoke little English, and was having a tough time adjusting to all the recent changes in her life. Our 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Cole, was inspired to have her entire class work on a special project - to create a book about how each and every student in the class shows kindness to Salome each day. Every story was written, edited, and finally a final draft was carefully rewritten, and illustrated by the students.

Through working on this project, the class became focused on different ways to show kindness, and this started reflecting in the way the students treated one another. The project was pivotal in helping things to start improving for Salome.



All the stories and pictures from the 2nd grade class were published in a book called, **Kindness for Salome**. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please contact Mrs. Cole at: [acole@mysla.org](mailto:acole@mysla.org)

# Christmas Concert P-6



Voices, violins, percussion, brass, and ukuleles all joined together to praise God and tell of Jesus birth. The P-6 Grade Concert was quite beautiful! If you missed the concert you can still watch it here: <https://youtu.be/X52cfrFCQ3A>



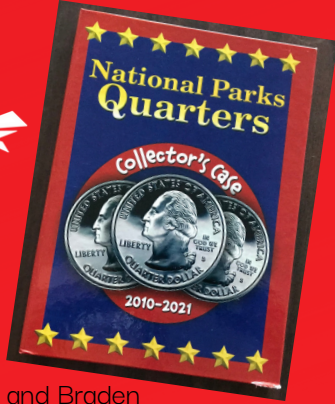
# Christmas Concert 7-12



The Choir and Il Voce sang, the Hand Bell choirs and SLA Band played, and all enjoyed the marvelous music played and lessons read by the students. The concert was a blessing to all who watched. You can watch the replay here if you missed it live: <https://youtu.be/a73pXG8A-co>



# National Park Quarter Collection



Thanks to Ryan Weaver and Braden McLaughlin, the 7th Grade finally has a Chaco Culture Quarter in their collection!

Mrs. Baldwin began collecting National Park Quarters with her 4th Grade class in 2011, and after 11 years of searching and collecting, the 7th Grade National Park Quarter Collection is finally complete!

She wonders now... what collection should they start next?



**Complete Collection**



# Snow Ball Fighting in Preschool and PreK!

Yesterday the Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten students got into the most intense snow ball fight of their lives! Their teacher, Mrs. Girma, set the rules, and the battle began.

No one got hurt because the snowballs were actually giant pompoms, but that didn't diminish the ferocity of the pajama clad competitors!



# Winter Banquet

November Student of the Month for Kindness



This year's Winter Banquet took place at The Manor in West Boylston. The theme was the Hollywood Red Carpet, and students were dressed to impress. It was said that this was the best banquet many students had ever been to. What do you think?



# Inigo's "Love is the Cure" Cancer Journey

SLA has been following, sharing, and supporting Inigo's fight against medulloblastoma. Despite homeschooling since the start of the pandemic, Inigo will always be a part of our SLA Class of 2030 (currently in 5th Grade).

In the latest update to Inigo's Go Fund Me page on **Dec. 7th**, his father wrote the following:

"Thank you to those of you who have supported our journey. This is what it's about for us. It's about extending our life together. It's about having the ability to have these moments. It's about walking back from the gates of death and realizing that our story is not over yet. We have more miracles to experience and tell about, but we need help to continue our story in the way that is right for Inigo. It truly takes a village, a community, and a tribe. Thank you for being that for us. I pray that having seen the support extended to us, we would do for others everything in our ability to support others going through such a life-changing event. I hope that I would have done the same for someone if we had not gone through this experience. From everything that is us, thank you to you all. Love is truly what this is all about. During this holiday season, we want to thank you for your sacrifice in supporting us.  
Love is the Cure"

This Shirt campaign is still going on if you'd like to be a part of their story and show support for Inigo: <https://www.bonfire.com/inigos-posse/>

Whether donating or not, to read more about Inigo's story and get updates, please visit Inigo's Go Fund Me: <https://gofund.me/83f0e17c>



## Inigo's Posse



When students/parents purchase shirts, the shirts are sent out in batches every 10 days.



## Caroling at SNEC



Yesterday, the 1st and 4th grade classes walked to SNEC (Southern New England Conference) and surprised all the SNEC employees with a serenade of Christmas Carols in the Education Department Office. It may have been dreary and wet outside, but inside, everyone's hearts were warmed by the cheerful singing.



# SA Spirit Week!



Last Week was the Student Association's Spirit Week, and it concluded with the Pep Rally on Friday. There was Pajama Day, Twin Day, Country vs Country Club Day, Character Day, and Class Colors Day. Can you tell who's dressed up as what?



## Pep Rally!



Students from grades 7-12 gathered in the gym last Friday to participate in the Pep Rally. There was fog and spotlights, and lots of excitement as the students celebrated their sports teams.





# Walk-a-thon Update



These past couple of weeks Mrs. Velez has been busy getting the iPads set up. She's also been doing research on on screen protectors and cases, and has selected a really great charging cart to store them in!



## Kindergarten Class Spreads Some Holiday Cheer



Mrs. Imperio's Cheerios helped donate 100 paper gingerbread decorations to an international nursing home this year! These colorful gingerbread men will brighten up the Shoreham Village Continuing Care Facility in Nova Scotia!



## Financial Advice for Students and Their Parents



Christmas is almost here! Consider talking with your kids about a plan to spend any monetary gifts they receive during the holidays. For older children consider the 50/30/20 rule: 50% spent on needs, 30% spent on wants, 20% put into savings. The younger children consider the jar method for 3 categories (spent, give, save).

Here is a website for more ideas for different age groups <https://freedomspout.com/budgeting-for-kids/>

JoAnn Shaul  
SLA Treasurer, Ext. 101





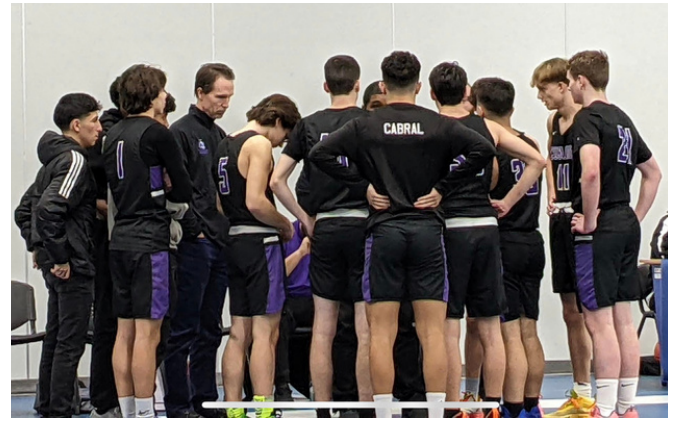
# Sports News



## Basketball Season Underway!

Congratulations to our 7 & 8th Grade Girls' Team for winning their First Game! We also have had several victories for the Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams!

See all the most up to date scheduling information for high school teams on [Arbiter Live!](#)



## Arbiter Live

To see the always up-to-date Athletics Calendar go to Arbiter Live:  
<https://www.arbiterlive.com/Teams?entityId=21380>

High school games are always being added, postponed, delayed, or rescheduled. SLA uses Arbiter Live to make sure everyone is able to access the latest, most up to date schedule for all our teams.

## Grades 4-8 Game Schedules

For Schedules for Grade 4-8 Basketball Games you can use the following site instead: <https://www.cmybl.org/launch.php>

Click on the Schedule Tab, then search for the team's schedule you need. You should also be receiving regular updates from your child's coaches.



## Different practice schedules during Christmas Break!

Pay close attention to communications from basketball team coaches over the vacation. The practice schedules will be different, and your coach will let you know **if and when** practice will be happening!

## Games during Christmas Break?

Besides the elementary and middle school games this coming Sunday, December 18, there are no other games during Christmas Break itself.

All games resume starting on January 3rd of the new year.



# Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found Collections are getting full of:

- Sweaters
- Coats
- Pink wireless headphones
- Lunch boxes
- Water bottles
- Hats & Gloves



If your child is missing anything, please stop by and look at our collection. Things that do not get claimed are eventually discarded/donated, and there's a lot of stuff there!

## Absent?

If your child is absent, **please EMAIL the offices by 8:15 am** if possible. **Let us know if you need a hot lunch moved too!** This avoids unnecessary calls to you. Please refer to pages 47-49 in the Handbook for our Attendance Policy and list of excused absences.

Elementary: [dargueta@mysla.org](mailto:dargueta@mysla.org)

High School: [dvelez@mysla.org](mailto:dvelez@mysla.org)

## Hot Lunch



Lunch orders can be placed for the following week from Fridays at 12:30 pm - Monday at 9:00 am of the lunch week.

If your child is absent on a day where you have ordered a lunch, please remember to email the offices by 8:15 am and ask Mrs. Argueta or Mrs. Velez to move the order ([dargueta@mysla.org](mailto:dargueta@mysla.org) or [dvelez@mysla.org](mailto:dvelez@mysla.org)).

Note: If the offices are not notified to move the order by 8:15 am, the lunch will not be credited.





We would like to thank all the parents that are complying with the illness guidelines in order to make our campus safe. Please continue to monitor your child if he/she shows signs of illness (runny nose, cough, fever, etc.)

If your child is exhibiting illness symptoms **PLEASE KEEEP KEEP HIM/HER HOME!**


If your child has a fever or vomiting, he/she cannot return to school until 24 hours have passed without a fever or vomiting (without the aid of medication). Your cooperation helps keep kids and teachers healthy.

## School Closings

**PARENT ALERT** is a mass notification system comprised of text messaging, voice calls and email. It is designed to send messages to thousands of individuals in minutes. In cases of emergencies, Parent Alert provides instantaneous communication to the school community. It is very important that you keep your information updated at the school. Please do not call the teachers, administrators or staff. 

In bad weather when it is unsafe to drive to school, parents can expect teachers to conduct class remotely and/or provide "blizzard packs." 

Communication is very important to keep learning uninterrupted. 

Please be aware that **"Snow Days" are automatic "Remote Days," and are Half Days.** All grades, Preschool-12th grade, will Google Meet whenever weather prevents safe travel to school and a snow day is called. If a delayed start is called, Mrs. Girma's classroom will Google Meet that day. The teacher will be in contact with you regarding the details when such a situation arises. 

Merry Christmas



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Crusader Beanies



\$15 EACH

Crusader Beanies available for sale now. Show your support for SLA Crusaders while keeping your head warm!



QUEEN ESTHER

AS SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Calling 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth

THIS MEANS YOU

THE HOUSE OF REFUGE INVITES YOU TO A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENTS TOGETHER. A PLACE WHERE FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH COLLIDE.

JOIN US THE 4<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

7-8:30 pm 129 Bolton Rd. Lancaster

Contact information:

CEO: JESUS

Becki Renzi- Faithful Servant 978-870-0266 [tambollo1953@gmail.com](mailto:tambollo1953@gmail.com)

BRING A FRIEND- INTRODUCE THEM TO AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD FOOD

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

# MASS CHOIR

We want your talent!  
 ALL are welcome: Age 12 & up  
 To perform at our  
 Black History Month:  
 Celebrate Unity & Courage concert  
 February 11th 6:30pm  
 College Church

**REGISTER HERE**  
[kirosha.com/masschoir](http://kirosha.com/masschoir)

**COLLEGE CHURCH**

KIROSHA VOICE & MUSIC  
THE VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE