



# Looking Forward

December 2, 2022

## From the Principal

Good Day SLA Family!

It's the most, the bestest, the most amazing, the ultimate experience time of the year! I love this time of the year! I love decorations, family time, vacation time, down time, helping others, and everything that comes along with the Christmas Season! Well, not the shopping part, at least there is Amazon!

You know what the best part of Christmas is? I know you do. Christ's birth! How can anything be more amazing than Christ's birth!? The beginning event on Earth of our salvation, that is so awesome! And when this Earth is over and He's come to take us home, it's going to be forever Christmas! That will never get old, especially since there will be no more shopping!

Enjoy your Christmas season, share God's love with everyone you meet and remember the greatest gift that we have all received, God's grace! Enjoy!

Be Blessed and Encouraged,  
David Branum

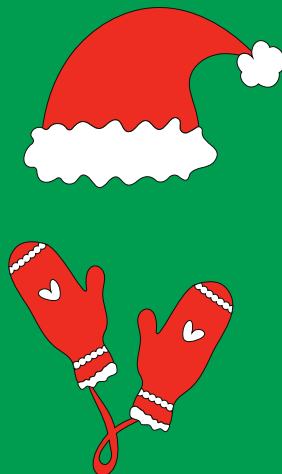


Students in the Nursing Home Ministry visiting with residents of River Terrace Nursing Home  
(read more on page 2)



## 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.



## Upcoming Dates

- Dec 2 - Grades P-6 Christmas Concert
- Dec 4 - SAT Testing
- Dec 5-9 - SA Spirit Week
- Dec 7 - SA Winter Banquet
- Dec 8 - Basketball Season Begins!
- Dec 9 - SA Pep Rally
- Dec 9 - Grades 7-12 Christmas Concert
- Dec 15 - SLA Board Meeting
- Dec 16 - Elementary Celebrate Christmas Spirit Day
- Dec 16 - SA Christmas Party
- Dec 19-Jan 1 - Christmas Break, No School
- Jan 2 - School Resumes
- Jan 3 - Ski Club Begins

# Nursing Home Visit

On Friday morning, November 18th, students from SLA's Nursing Home Ministry visited the folks at the River Terrace Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in Lancaster, MA. It was our first visit since December 2019, due to the pandemic.

Lorenzo Ruiz, shared this quote about his visit, "Richard was a really cool guy. He played the trumpet like I play the trumpet now, and he was really fun to talk to."

Juwan Koh, shared "It was hard to communicate with most of the people in the nursing home, but it was still a good experience to be with them as a foreign student."

One of the staff told us "Thank you so much for sharing your amazing students with our residents! I was very impressed by their care and interactions. You have a great group of kids."

We had a wonderful time singing and helping the residents paint picture frames for their rooms. We all were blessed with our time visiting with the residents and staff of River Terrace Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center.

Story by Lira Cady



# Answered Prayers

Mirabel from 1st grade is a new SLA student this year. Her mother, Jie, is a Christian, and has been wanting Mirabel to come to SLA since last year. Jie has noticed that since starting here at SLA, Mirabel's character has been completely changed, and she's been moved by these changes in her daughter. Mirabel has always struggled with understanding the differences between right and wrong, but in learning about Jesus and his love for us from the teachers at SLA, she has come to understand the importance of honesty and kindness.

This week, Mirabel has been witnessing to students from her mother's vocal studio and telling them about Jesus - she is so proud to be a Christian and attending a Christian school. She told the story of how she went to practice the harp at home the other day, and how a string was lost so she couldn't practice. Mirabel and her mother had searched everywhere to no avail. Finally she said to her mother that they needed to pray and ask God to help them find the string. The very moment she finished praying and saying "Amen," she opened her eyes and saw the missing string by her foot.

Mirabel is the youngest winner in of the DFW Icon Singing Competition, a premier vocal competition for youth. Tonight we will all be graced by Mirabel's singing at the P-6 Christmas Concert, and I for one am very excited for her performance.

Story written by Debora Argueta with the help and permission of Jie Weston.





# Christmas Concert Grades P-6 Call Times

Location: The College Church

Date & Time: Tonight, December 2, **7:30 p.m.**

**\*\*\*Note the Time changes!**

- **Concert Attire**
  - Girls - Sabbath dresses/skirts - no slacks
  - Boys - Sabbath attire, slacks, button down shirts with ties, sweaters or jackets (no jeans)
- **Warm up times:**
  - SLA Band - Arrive at **6:00** p.m. to tune and warm-up
  - 5th grade - Arrive at **6:45** p.m. to tune and warm -up
  - 4th and 6th grade - Arrive at **7:00** p.m. to set up and warm-up
  - P-3rd grade - Arrive at **7:15** pm

# Christmas Concert Grades 7-12 Call Times

Location: The College Church

Date & Time: December 9, **7:30 p.m.**

**\*\*\*Note the time changes!**






- **Concert Attire**
  - 7th & 8th Grade Girls - Sabbath dresses/skirts - no slacks
  - 7th & 8th Grade Boys - Sabbath attire, slacks, button down shirts with ties, sweaters or jackets (no jeans)
  - SLA Choir and Band Ladies - Long Black with a touch of red - no slacks
  - SLA Choir and Band Men - Sabbath attire, slacks, button down shirts with ties, sweaters or jackets (no jeans or sneakers)
  - Vocé and SLA Bells - Concert attire
- **Warm up times:**
  - Voce/SLA Choir - **6:00** p.m.
  - 8th Grade - **6:30** p.m.
  - SLA Bells - **6:45** p.m.
  - SLA Band - **7:00** p.m.
  - 7th Grade - **7:15** p.m.



  
 South Lancaster Academy's  
**NIGHT ON THE RED CARPET**  
 6-9 PM  
 December 7, 2022  
 "The Manor"  
 42 W Boylston St, West Boylston, MA  
 \$25 for students  
 \$35 for visitors  
 (See Amalia, Shaily, and Julia for tickets)

12/5-12/9

## Spirit Week

Monday		Pajama Day Wear your favorite pajamas!
Tuesday		Twin Day Twin with one of your peers!
Wednesday		Country vs. Country Club Dress up like you're from the south or dress preppy & rich.
Thursday		Character Day Dress up as a character from a tv show or movie
Friday		Class Colors Wear your class colors! Seniors - gray Juniors - black Sophomores - white Freshman - purple

More class participation leads to more points towards a prize for your class! (Please follow dresscode guidelines)



# Field Trip Grades 2 & 4

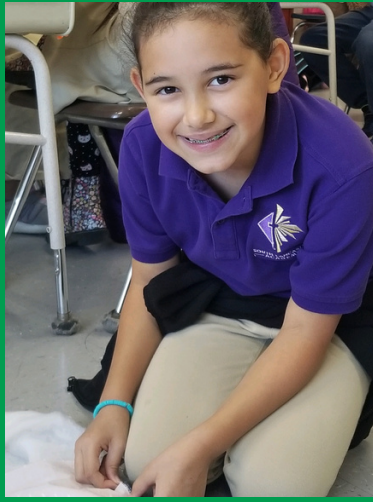


On December 1st, Grades 2 and 4 went on a field trip to Monty Tech High School to watch a production of The Nutcracker Ballet.



# Underground Railroad Quilts

The 4th Grade Class has been working on making Underground Railroad Quilts for this year's History Fair in the spring!



# Thanksgiving Parade



The 2nd Grade led out in our Thanksgiving Day Parade last week.





# Sports News



## Basketball Practices Varsity & JV

### Mondays:

JV Girls & Boys 3:45-5:15  
V Girls 5:15-7:15  
V Boys 7:15-9:15

### Tuesdays:

JV Girls & Boys 3:45-5:15  
V Girls 5:15-7:15  
V Boys 7:15-9:15

### Wednesdays:

JV & V Girls 5:15-7:15  
JV & V Boys 7:15-9:15

### Thursdays:

JV Boys 3:45-5:15  
V Girls 5:15-7:15  
V Boys 7:15-9:15

### Fridays:

JV Girls 12:30-2:30



## Basketball Practice for Grades 4-8

### Monday:

4-6 Boys @ Lancaster Comm Center  
7/8 Girls with JV @ SLA 3:45-5:15 half gym

### Tuesday:

7/8 Boys @ Lanc Comm Center 3:30-5:15  
7/8 Girls with JV @ SLA 3:45-5:15 half gym  
4-6 Girls @ Lanc Comm Center 5:00-6:30

### Wednesdays:

4-6 Boys @ Lanc Comm Center 3:30 - 5:15  
7 & 8 Girls @ SLA 3:45-5:15



## Basketball Season Begins!

Basketball Season begins **December 8th** with a home game for the JV Boys at 5:30pm, and two away games for the Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys at Sizer starting at 4:30 pm!

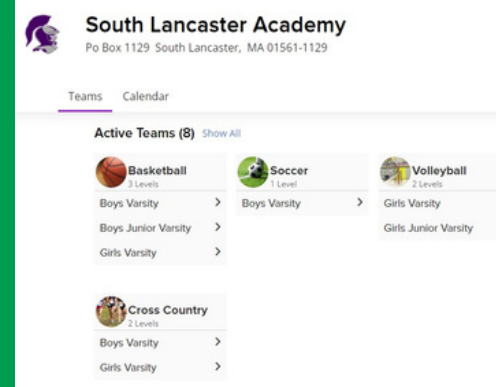
See all the most up to date scheduling information on

**Arbiter Live!**



To see the always up-to-date Athletics Calendar go to Arbiter Live:

<https://www.arbiterlive.com/Teams?entityId=21380>



SPORTS CALENDAR

## What is Arbiter Live?

SLA has 14 High School Sports Teams, and 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. On Arbiter Live you can see who's playing where and when. You can also see wins and losses. It's the perfect way to stay up to date and informed for all high school sports 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.





# 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 Nov. 24th, his father wrote the following:

"We are so thankful this week even more so. It just feels like a milestone to walk into another Thanksgiving week together. We love our community. You have sent us pictures with Inigo swag on. We have been showing him every time someone sends us a new picture and he just smiles. I think at first Inigo was confused that everybody was going to be part of our little posse. This has been such a process for the three of us. And that's what he sees. But we definitely make it known to him that there are so many more people that are on his side. I don't know how much of that he truly understands at the moment, but we make sure that we continue to drive home to him how important it is to have people around him and us that love us so much. Hopefully one day he will truly understand the size of his posse."

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>



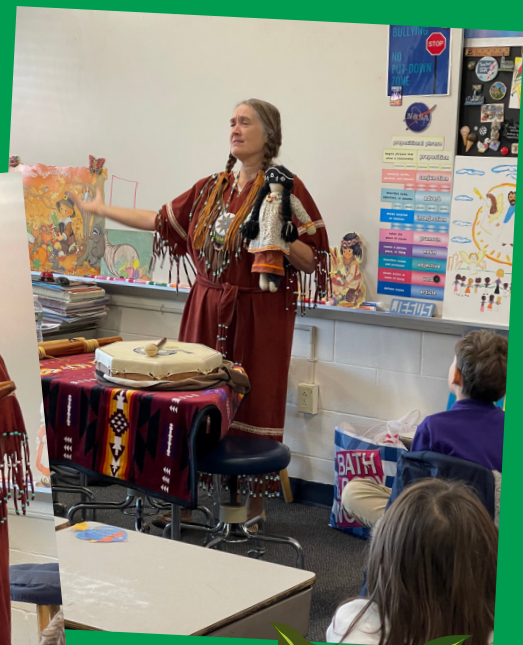
## Inigo's Posse



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

# Native American Studies

Third Grade had Mrs. Braman visit and teach them about Native American culture. She played Native American songs on several different flutes, and also played a traditional drum. Mrs. Braman told the class a story about the No Face Doll, which explained why Native American dolls have no faces.





# Operation Christmas Child



Shoeboxes were packed on Thursday, November 17th. Students brought in "wow gifts" and the school provided the rest. In the end SLA sent off over 70 boxes to Samaritan's Purse. These boxes will be going to children outside of the United States who live in areas with poverty, war, famine, and disease. Each box will provide a child with a little Christmas love and cheer from SLA.





# Instrument Urgently Needed!!!

There is a student who would like to play the baritone saxophone, but SLA does not have one to loan out.

If you are a family with a baritone saxophone in good condition and you'd consider donating or loaning it to this student, please reach out to Mrs. Lira Cady: [lcady@mysla.org](mailto:lcady@mysla.org)

Thank you!!!

Baritone Saxophone



# Walk-a-thon Update



The iPads are here! Mrs. Velez has been busy getting the iPads set up, and ordering screen protectors and cases for them. Steps are also being taken to make purchases of playground equipment and an iPad cart with the Walk-a-Thon funds.

## In Search of a Quarter



7th grade only needs one more National Parks Quarter to finish their collection!!!  
\$5 reward to anyone who finds the "Chaco Culture" quarter for us!!

## Stone Soup

Every Thanksgiving Season Mrs. Ford and her students make a soup called, "Stone Soup."

The students cut, peel, slice, and dice veggies for their soup. The moral behind the story of the soup is that if everyone shares and brings a little to add to the soup, you can make a wonder meal that feeds everyone.







### Is your child interested in art? Would they like to participate in art club?

I am in the process of planning the art club year and need to know how many kids would be interested in participating. I plan to run art club for 1st & 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th, and 8th-12th this year if there is interest. Each age group will meet once a week for 2-3 weeks after school, starting in December. I would also like to plan a paint night before Christmas.

Please email Veronica Iria at [viria@mysla.org](mailto:viria@mysla.org) with your child's name, grade, and if you are interested in signing up for art club, paint night, or both.

Please email Mrs. Iria if you are interested in Art Club for your child!

If there are no emails or inquiries, she will have to assume there is no interest.



## Financial Advice for Students and Their Parents



Did you know...

There are several savings account options you can use to support your child's education beyond high school. There are advantages and disadvantages with each option.

Consider reading the article at to learn what might fit your needs:

<https://www.savingforcollege.com/article/6-ways-you-can-save-for-college>

JoAnn Shaul  
SLA Treasurer, Ext. 101



## Ski Club



**TIME TO SIGN UP FOR SKIING- TIME TO THINK ABOUT SNOW**

With the beautiful fall weather we have been blessed with it is hard to believe we will soon be heading to the slopes. **IN 5 SHORT WEEKS THE SLOPES WILL BE COVERED WITH SNOW AND OUR PROGRAM WILL BEGIN**

**South Lancaster Academy Ski Program Online codes \*\*\* STLA\*\*\***

The school ski program starts on Tuesday Jan. 3, 2023 and will run for 6 consecutive Tuesdays with a makeup day planned for Feb. 14, 2023. The program is open to students in **grades 4 thru 12** of all skiing levels. Please note that first time skiers **MUST** take lessons. Students are bused to Wachusett Mt. (for an additional fee of \$35.00 payable to SLA), will leave from school promptly at 1:30 and return to school by 7:00 pm. This is an opportunity for students to experience a winter sport at a reasonable expense and enjoy the snow. To participate in the school program and leave school early you must **sign up online thru the Student ski school program listed below:**

[www.wachusett.com/schoolgroups](http://www.wachusett.com/schoolgroups) Program code: **STLA**

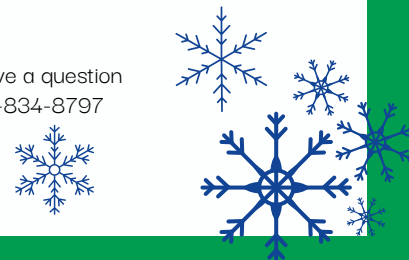
**Registration is open for you to sign up your child .**

Brochures with the cost of pass, equipment rental and lessons are available on line [www.wachusett.com](http://www.wachusett.com)

Remember to participate you must purchase your pass thru the school student ski program listed above!!

After reading this information you find you have a question please call Linda Oetman, Coordinator @ 617-834-8797

[loetman@mysla.org](mailto:loetman@mysla.org)





# Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found Collections are getting full of:

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



Parents, **PLEASE LABEL SCHOOL SWEATERS!**

You can write your child's name in pen on the white label at the hip, or with a sharpie inside the logo.

# 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.



# Sick? STAY HOME

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.



# Wreaths for Sale



Support the Sophomore class of 2025 by purchasing a homemade Christmas wreath!

Cost: \$15 per wreath

Absolute last day to submit an order:  
December 14, 2022



# Candy-Gram

Wish your friends, teachers, and family a Merry Christmas by purchasing a candy bag: \$1 each  
Options: Dairy-Free or Chocolate Treat

Orders due to offices by December 14  
Deliveries on December 16

# YOU'RE INVITED

to #bingeJesus with the College Church of SDA



Season 3 picks up where season 2 left off. After Jesus completes a sermon that turns the world upside down, all 12 disciples (including newcomer Judas) are ready to follow him to the ends of the earth. But problems remain.

📍 337 Main Street  
South Lancaster, MA 01523

🕒 Saturday, December 10  
Begins at 6:00 pm

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE  
GET TICKETS: [HTTPS://WEARECC.NET/THE-CHOSEN](https://wearecc.net/the-chosen)

SCAN ME



JOIN OUR COOKIE FUNDRAISER



\$45 PER PERSON  
DIY COOKIE  
CLASS

SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 4TH  
AT 4:00 PM

CONTACT  
ARIELLE FLORES  
TO RESERVE  
YOUR SPOT  
[ACADYFLORES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ACADYFLORES@GMAIL.COM)

COLLEGE CHURCH 337 MAIN STREET LANCASTER, MA 01523



## Christmas Pops Concert in Clinton

Saturday night, December 3rd, at the Clinton Town Hall.

Il Voce, Salisbury Singers, and the Central MA Symphony will be joining together to perform holiday favorites.

Click on the link below to see and purchase available tickets:

<https://clintonrec.recdesk.com/Community/Program>

