

Looking Forward

January 13, 2023

From the Principal

Good Day SLA Family,

I drove into my house the other night and realized my house is one of the last ones in my neighborhood with its Christmas lights still on. Sad, but I guess it's time for the lights to go off and settle into the winter doldrums.

Good thing God's light never goes off. Always on, always there to guide us even when we can't see our hand in front of our faces for the darkness.

Gotta love that! Remember, Spring is coming! Have a blessed Sabbath!

Be Blessed and Encouraged,

David Branum, Principal







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.









Calling all high school students! Come join us at SLA from 7-9pm TONIGHT! Veggie hot dogs and smores are provided. When the weather is good everyone meets outside by the shop. If the weather is bad everyone meets inside the SLA Chapel.

Upcoming Dates

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

March 1 - Constituency Meeting

March 12 - SAT Exam 7:30 am

March 13 - Teacher In-service NO School

Books and Beyond Kickoff!



Elementary parents, your child took home a Books and Beyond Packet today. This year's theme is:

READ. LEARN. CHANGE. GROW!!!

Books and Beyond officially begins on Tuesday,
January 17th, but students can begin counting
books and pages starting today at noon during our
"headstart" weekend! When we get back to school
on Tuesday Mrs. Crand, our Books and Beyond
Coordinator, will be meeting with all the classes
(Grades P-8) and introducing the details of the
program to the students.

Ski Season



Ski Season began on a rainy day last Tuesday, but that didn't dampen spirits as the students rushed around excitedly getting ready for their first bus ride to Mt. Watchusett. This year so many kids signed up for ski club through their schools that the mountain ran out of lessons for new students!

This Tuesday was a beautiful day, and the clear skies made it a perfect day for skiing. The kids had a great time skiing, and are looking forward to next week! Only 4 weeks left in the season!



3rd Graders Help the Homeless

For the past 10 years or so, Mrs. Ford's class has collected new and gently used warm clothing at Christmastime for a men's' shelter in Marlborough. The third grade class collects socks, hats, gloves, scarves, shoes, coats, and other warm clothing, bundles it all up with a devotional book, and the Weaver Family takes it to the shelter. It's a lot of fun, and a wonderful opportunity for the students to serve others.

Walk-a-thon Update

Mrs. Velez has been busy getting the iPads set up. The iPad cart arrived over break, and it's already parked in the elementary library. We also have the chargers and cases! Now we just need to get the iPads completely set up before the kids can start using them!











Financial Advice for Students and Their Parents



You don't have to be accepted to a college to submit the FAFSA for financial aid? Not sure where you want to go to college? The FAFSA allows you to include 10 colleges so include any you would consider. You don't have to wait to be accepted to a college to include them on your FAFSA.

JoAnn Shaul SLA Treasurer, Ext. 101

DecemberStudent of the Month



Congratulations to the Spanish Class

Mrs. Vanegas' Spanish class WORKED HARD the first semester Gracias Profesora Vanegas!

Certificado de méxito

This certificate is awarded to

MRS VANEGAS'S STUDENTS

by IXL on JANUARY 6, 2023

for outstanding completion of 60,000 Spanish questions





DUOLINGO STREAK

días seguidos aprendiendo idiomas!

duolingo

Emily M 303 Makayla 235 Brianna 175 Tristan 140

Juwan 129 Andrea 129

Nathaly 128

Arthur 128

Samuel 127 Lorenzo 116

Bruna 107

Sophie 105

Inigo's "love is the Care" 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. 29th**, his father wrote the following:

"We are so happy for Inigo and we are so thankful to see his progress. His mood, cognition, and his physical abilities have improved. We are seeing good signs and we are so happy about that. Arriving at a holiday week with so many positives makes us feel excited and warm inside...

To live day to day is extremely difficult. As humans, of course, we plan. We plan for everything; our lives, our future, our children's lives, we plan for holidays, vacations, careers, and we plan some more. Cancer teaches you that your best laid plans don't really hold much weight. As we have learned from the day of Inigo's diagnosis, and continue to remind ourselves from day to day and month to month that we have to learn to love the day in which we are living...

We have so many wonderful stories of people supporting us through this. Thank you for supporting us. Thank you for reading our updates and being a part of our journey with us. Inigo's story is not in vain. His life is not in vain. Hopefully, as we share his story with you, you can see how we love and we hope that will give you some joy this Christmas season."

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



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

Group Worship for Grades P-2

Last Friday all the students from preschool to second grade gathered in the elementary lobby to have a joint worship. After singing several songs together, Ms. Simpson took out some ice cream and toppings and told a story while assembling an ice cream sundae.

She explained how when we're kind to others our lives are sweet and every kind action leads to more sweetness in life. Then the story took a drastic turn, and Ms. Simpson told how just as kind actions lead to sweetness, unkind actions and words lead to sour and upleasant things in life. Ms. Simpson illustrated this lesson by adding soy sauce and other sour and salty toppings no one would want to add to a sundae! It was a lesson not easily forgotten by this group!



Sports News



Basketball Games Continue!

Games are taking place several times a week, so there's always a chance to support the Crusaders every week!

See all the most up to date scheduling information for high school teams on **Arbiter Live!**

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

Mondays:

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

Tuesdays:

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



Cruzader Beanies

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.

After School Care Program Changes

Starting January 2nd of this year, 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



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.

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.

Robotics Fundraising

Support the SLA Robotics Team! Good food for a good cause!

Panera Fundraiser

- Sunday, January 29, from 4-8 pm
- Bring a copy of this flyer with you when you eat at the Leominster Panera.

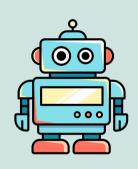


Donut Fundraiser

- Fundraiser ends February 3. No orders will be accepted past this date.
- Only glazed donuts will be sold. 1 dozen for \$12. All profits will be towards the Robotic clubs.
- Cash or Check payable to SLA will be accepted
- Drop off date is February 14. (This is the day the donuts will be dropped off at SLA for delivery)
- If you don't know a student in Robotics you can still place an order at either one of the school offices.









Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found Collections are getting full of:

- Sweaters of all sorts
- Shirts
- Shorts
- Lunch box & backpack
- Water bottles
- Hats & Gloves

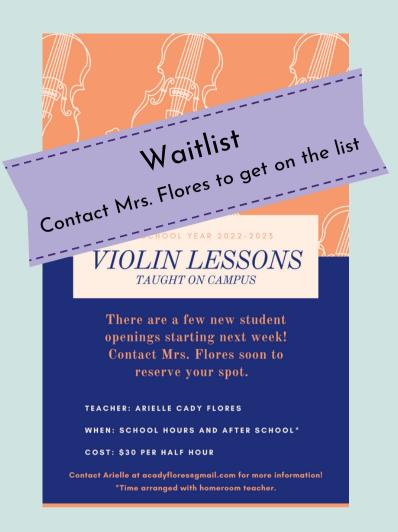




If your child is missing anything, please stop by and look at our collection. **Things that** do not get claimed are eventually discarded/donated, and there's a lot of stuff here!













QUEEN ESTHER

AS SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Calling 9th - 12th 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^{TH} FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

7-8:30 pm 129 Bolton Rd. Lancaster

Contact information:

CEO: JESUS

Becki Renzi- Faithful Servant 978-870-0266 <u>tambolleo1953@gmail.com</u>
BRING A FRIEND- INTRODUCE THEM TO AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD FOOD