



Looking Forward

September 15, 2023

From the Principal

Good Day SLA Family,

So, how's everyone feeling after four weeks of school? Are you into the routine of the school year yet? Are you still wishing for the summer (seriously, it was a very wet summer, so maybe not so much)? Are you wondering if the routine will slow down (May 31 in case you're wondering)?

Whether we like it or not, we make the best of what life throws at us. After all, Jesus is walking right there beside us, so, happy or sad, anxious or exhilarated, Jesus is celebrating with us or hugging us.

It is the start of a great year and we are very appreciative of the spirit that is on campus! We have a great bunch of students this year and we have you as parents to thank. So, thank you for blessing us with your children this year! We will do our best to give them the best possible education in a Christian environment that helps them to find and follow Jesus!

Have a great school year and a blessed Sabbath this weekend!

Be Blessed and Encouraged,
David Branum



8th Graders weaving baskets today. See page 15 for more details...



**DOT
DAY**



Upcoming Dates

- Sept 15-22 - Senior Survival
- Sept 22 - Picture Day
- Sept 29 - Elem Spirit Day - Tie Dye Day!
- Oct 4 - Battleship Cove Trip
- Oct 5 - Outdoor School Grades 5 & 6
- Oct 9 - Columbus Day - NO School
- Oct 10 - Teacher In-service - NO School
- Oct 11 - PSAT NMSQT Testing

After School Care Reminder



If you are planning for your child to stay in After School Care the following week, **please fill out an After School Schedule Sheet and turn it in to the elementary office by Thursday of the week before services.** These green sheets can be found just outside the elementary office window, or you can download them [HERE](#)



After School Care Hours:

Monday – Thursday 12:00 noon to **5:30 p.m.**

Friday 12:00 noon to **3:00 p.m.**

Please pick your child up before closing times, as the After School Care Director and assistant often have somewhere to be soon after closing time. Thank you!

P-1 Joint Worship

Grades P-1 met together last Friday for a joint worship. It was also the day the kids were introduced to Ms. Renzi's Friendsies, Mrs. Girma's Goslings, Mrs. Imperio's Cheerios, and Ms. Rodriguez's Royals. These groups are all part of SLA's Early Childhood Squires Serving Jesus program.



Some gentlemen of Kindergarten



Inigo Vega's Celebration



On Sunday, September 10, Inigo Vega's family invited all of us to attend a service at the College Church to celebrate the life of their beloved son.

His family shared stickers and pins that were designed for and by Inigo. We were able to read the two books he wrote, enjoy bonsai trees like Inigo loved, and listen to his favorite songs. There were two slideshows that were very moving, the first, The Before, documented the life of a vibrant, healthy, and beautiful boy. The second, The After, showed the challenges, struggle, and resilience of a child fighting the ravages of childhood cancer. It was a beautiful service, a true celebration of a short life well lived, and a testimony to Inigo's and his parents' faith in God and the promise of the resurrection morning.



If you missed the program, you can still watch it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/38jGEZk-xgA?feature=shared>



High School In-Reach Service

On September 8th, the high schoolers worked on getting in-reach hours. Different groups of students helped in different areas on campus - on the grounds, with elementary classes, in the offices, knitting hats, and some students helped clean up at the College Church after all the ceiling tiles were replaced.

The elementary teachers really enjoyed this special event, and are looking forward to the next time it comes around.



Butterflies go Free



On Thursday, September 14, Mrs. Argueta shared about the Monarch Butterflies that she had raised from when they were eggs. She did a short presentation in the 2nd grade classroom during the classroom snack time, and each student was able to go up front and get a close up look at the butterflies.

Since the two butterflies were ready to be set free, Mrs. Argueta headed out to the playground to release them next. Outside, several other classes got a chance to see the butterflies up close - Pre K, K, 1st, and 5th grades were all at recess, and after taking a look at the butterflies, all the classes gathered around for the release. The students roared in approval when the first butterfly, and then the second (whom they named Martha) flew up and away into the sky.

The Eastern Monarch Butterfly, which migrates over 2,800 miles every year from Mexico to Eastern Canada and back every year, was put on the endangered species list in 2022. Last year Mrs. Argueta raised and released 68 Monarch Butterflies, but this year despite having a garden full of milkweed, and searching every milkweed plant she encountered, she was only able to find enough eggs to raise and release 21 butterflies.

Their population has been in decline over the past 25 years, and their numbers have decreased by 90%. Their decrease in numbers can be attributed to habitat loss, the use of pesticides, and climate change. On top of all that, each egg only has a 1% chance of eventually becoming a butterfly due these things as well as predation.

Since the milkweed plant is essential to the Monarch Butterfly life cycle, one thing we can all do to help this endangered species is plant milkweed, or at the very least, not cut down and eliminate milkweed plants that we find growing in our yards and gardens.

It is very likely that these beautiful and delicate creatures will become extinct in our lifetimes if we all don't do our parts in helping them survive.

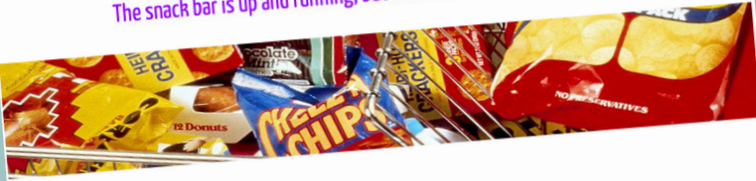




South Lancaster Academy
CRUSADERS

September 2023

The snack bar is up and running, but Crusader families...we need you!



Here is how you can help:

It's going to be run a bit differently this school year because burnout is a real thing! We want to make it super easy for families to support our Crusaders. All you need to do is sign up for one home game day. The snack bar will be cleaned, stocked, opened, and items priced. You just serve and sell at the window for one game day! That's it! We are asking for your time only. The athletic department will supply the items to sell. There will be Crusader-wear available for purchase too! Be aware that the boys and girls teams will typically play on the same night (home and away), so make sure you do not sign up to cover the snack bar if you want to watch your child play at the away game.

A big big thank you to you for making SLA Crusader Nation happen!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AaFns8qR173kdmbGpOO5De3qVxeZ058HxOOIOS2yJtE/edit#gid=0>

Keep an eye on scheduling updates.

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

Go Crusaders!

Crusaders Need Your Help!

Sign up to help in the Snack Bar:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AaFns8qR173kdmbGpOO5De3qVxeZ058HxOOIOS2yJtE/edit#gid=0>



Picture Day!

Picture Day is **NEXT Friday**,
September 22!

Order your pictures online with
Event Code: **FE134123**

**Wear UNIFORMS for
Picture Day!**

PreSchool & PreK:

DON'T WEAR GREEN!!!

Retake Day:

Thursday, October 26



Picture Day
a whole new way

Día de fotografías de una manera completamente nueva

A new school portrait experience designed by you, for you.
Una experiencia nueva de foto escolar diseñado por ti, para ti.



- Preview your pictures before you buy
Pre-visualice en línea antes de comprar
- Buy only what you want
Compre únicamente lo que desee
- Personalize your photos with a variety of backgrounds and add text
Personaliza tus fotografías con una variedad de fondos y agregar texto
- Photos ship directly to home
Las fotografías se envían directamente a su hogar
- High-res digital downloads
Descarga de alta resolución
- If you have more than one child, you can order everything together and pay only once
Si tienes más de un hijo, puedes pedir todo junto y paga solo una vez



Our "Green Screen" technology allows you to personalize backgrounds.

But it makes green clothing disappear into the background.

Don't wear green for picture day please!
¡Por favor, no utilice ropa de color verde el día de fotografías!

Get ready for Picture Day!
¡Prepárate para el día de fotografías!

SOUTH LANCASTER ACADEMY

EVENT CODE: **FE134123**
código de evento:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 - RETAKE

Sick? Stay Home!

If your child is exhibiting illness symptoms PLEASE KEEP HIM/HER HOME.

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

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.)



Absences and Tardies

If your child is absent or tardy, please email the offices by 8:15 a.m. This helps teachers and office staff keep track of attendance for the day, and prevents students from getting unexcused absences and tardies.

Phone calls DO NOT count towards excusing a tardy or absence, the excuse must be in writing, thank you.

Please Email:

Elementary: dargueta@mysla.org

High School: dvez@mysla.org



Drop Off & Pick Up

Elementary Building

Drop Off

Building doors open at 7:30am.

Pick Up

P/PK: 12-12:15 pm Monday-Friday

K-6: 3:15-3:35 pm Monday-Thursday

12:00 pm Friday

Academy Building

Grades 7 & 8, and 9-12

Drop Off

Building doors open at 7:30 am

Pick Up


3:00 pm Monday-Thursday

12:15 pm Friday



And the prize for the coolest drop off vehicle goes to...

Sports News

- Support our Teams!
 - See all UP TO DATE Game Schedules and locations on [Arbiter Live](#) 
 - Site is not mobile friendly, but there is an app available too!
- Elementary and Middle School Basketball Practices
 - Girls: Sundays from 10am-12pm
 - Boys: Times are yet to be determined
- Open Gym for ALL Grades
 - Focus is on Basketball
 - Sunday mornings 8-10 am
- There will be NO PRACTICES THIS SUNDAY due to the Pathfinder Camporee this weekend!



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2023

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
OCTOBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

- OCT 06 - VESPERS & AFTERGLOW SERVICE
- OCT 07 - SABBATH SCHOOL & CHURCH SERVICE
- OCT 07 - VESPERS SERVICE & BANQUET DINNER
- OCT 07 - ALUMNI VS. STUDENTS COMPETITION
- OCT 08 - ANNUAL MEETING
- OCT 08 - 5K COLOR WALK/RUN
- OCT 08 - COMMITTEE OF 100 BANQUET

Alumni Weekend Events!

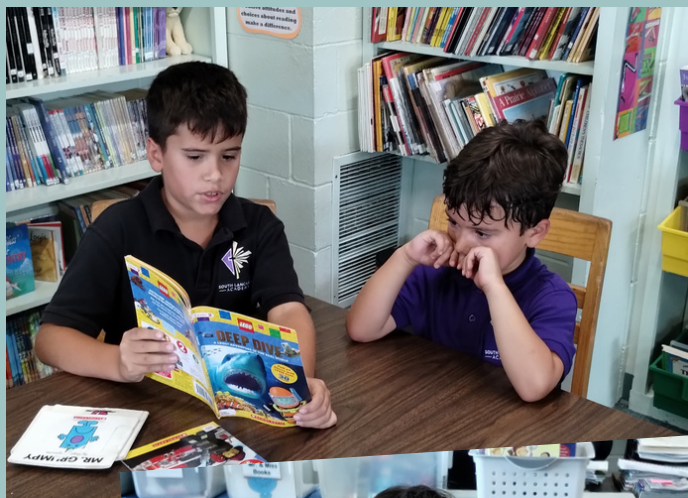
Learn more, register, & purchase mealls tickets at: [MYSLA.ORG/ALUMNI](https://mysla.org/alumni) or email alumni@mysla.org

Recess Time is the Best Time!



4th Grade Reading Partners

On Tuesday, the 4th graders paired up with 1st graders for some reading time in the library.



Reader's Celebration

Since the Reader's Celebration happened on a very very hot day, the event took place indoors rather than outside in the heat. All the students in grades P-8 that turned in their completed summer reading forms gathered in the high school chapel for story time. Mr. Branum read two books, *If You Take a Mouse to School*, and *If Kids Ran the World*.





Hot Lunches

Hot Lunches begin this next week! Lunches are class fundraisers for our high school, and 8th grade classes.

All orders must be placed through your FACTS Family Portal under Student > Lunch.

Lunch orders close by 9am Monday mornings! Late orders will not be accepted.

If you do not get a receipt from FACTS after you paid for the lunches, then the order might not have been completed. You must complete the payment for the order to go through.

See the lunch instructional flyer for directions on how to place an order.

What's for Lunch?

- Monday
 - Vegetarian Hotdogs
 - Snack & Drink
- Tuesday
 - 2 Slices of Cheese Pizza
 - Snack & Water
- Wednesday
 - 2 Grilled Cheese Sandwiches
 - Juice
- Thursday
 - 2 Slices of Cheese Pizza
 - Snack & Juice
- Friday
 - 2 Cheese Empanadas
 - OR 2 Pizza Empanadas
 - Snack & Juice



Instrument for Sale



Student 3/4 size Cello:

Used student Bellafina Cello. Might need new strings and a good tuning. \$50.

Please see/email Debora in the elementary office to purchase this cello.



Uniform Buyback Program & Uniform Store

SLA now has a Uniform Store with new uniforms at full price, as well as gently used uniforms available for sale at 50% off retail price.

SLA is now buying back gently used uniform pieces at 30% of retail cost with logo fee. The monetary value of uniforms that are bought back will be credited to a student's account. Credit will be given for used uniforms that are in good shape, with NO holes, NO stains, NO rips, and that are NOT faded.

New or used uniform pieces can be brought in to the elementary or high school offices anytime the offices are open.

To purchase uniform pieces from the store, please see Denisse in the high school office. The uniforms are kept in the high school building.

Because this will be the first year of the Uniform Store, and we are still learning what sort of uniform pieces are most popular, we may not have the pieces you need, but you can see the current inventory by visiting Denisse in the high school building.

SLA's uniform store will have limited styles and quantities, so to order online from our uniform vendor visit: <https://www.globalschoolwear.com/school/SOUT01>



Dress Code Reminders

- **Jewelry is not allowed** (no earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc.)
- Skirts and shorts cannot be more than 3 inches above the back of the knee
- Shirts must be Black, Gray, White, or Purple
- Bottoms must be Black, Navy, or Khaki "uniform bottoms" No cargo pants/shorts.



If uniform orders have not yet arrived, students can wear solid colored polos in Black, Gray, White, or Purple. Pants can be Black, Navy, or Khaki, but must be "uniform pants" and not cargo pants or leggings.

Fridays are "Crusader Fridays" when students can wear jeans along with either a school polo or any Crusader Gear on top! **This NEXT FRIDAY is Picture Day, so students must come in uniform for photos.**

Clothing Drive

Clean out your closets and get rid of all the clothing you never wear, and household textiles you never use - all while helping the Crusaders Basketball Teams!

Bring clean clothing in durable garbage bags to either building lobby.



FUNDrive® Coordinator

Cameron
(508) 853-2102
cmloss@juno.com

Our Goal: \$500
125 Large Yard Bags (avg. 20 lbs.)
Fundraiser Dates:
07/11/2023 - 09/24/2023

Community Collection Days

September 24 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM
The College Church
337 Main Street
South Lancaster, MA 01561

Clean out your closets for
South Lancaster Academy!

We Are Collecting

Clothes

men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Please gather clothes and household textiles in bags. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

We are collecting gently used clothing. We need it delivered in durable garbage bags. We will collect through Sunday, September 24, or if necessary by special arrangement.

If you want to drop clothes off during the school day, please check in at the office.

Please spread the word and help us meet our goal of returning to Texas in 2024!

FUNDrive®

FUNDrive® is an eco-friendly fundraiser for nonprofit organizations. Collect gently-used items in your community and FUNDrive® will buy them.

Visit <https://FUNDrive.savers.com> to learn more.



Learn More about your Teachers!

Want to learn more about the Faculty and Staff at SLA? Read fun bios on the Faculty & Staff Page of the school website. Right now there are bios for: Mr. Branum, Mrs. Argueta, Mrs. Renzi, Mrs. Girma, Mrs. Rodriguez, Mrs. Larsen, Mr. Bissell, Mrs. Baldwin, Ms. Brahmia, Mr. Bloom, and Mr. Prather!

[Check them out HERE!](#)



Robotics Fundraiser



Order donuts with any Middle School Robotics Team member, or at the elementary and high school offices.

The delivery date is yet to be determined.

Youth Night!



Crosswalk New England would like to invite all youth, grades 7-12, to join us for an evening of games, food and fun! This event will be on Saturday, September 16th from 7-10 PM at 112 Crescent St, West Boylston, MA. We hope to see you there



Get rid of all your old and broken electronics for free!




Support the CPUsaders Robotic Teams!



Order your dozen delicious glazed donuts with a Robotic Team member!

\$14.00 for a dozen glazed donuts
Payment due at the time of order.

Everything is Better With Donuts

RECYCLE

Your Old & Broken Electronics



Accepting any of the following starting Tuesday!
The more we recycle, the better!

- Phones
- Smart Tablets
- Laptops
- Desktops & Monitors
- Printers/Scanners
- Smart Thermometers
- Chromebooks
- TVs
- And more!

*Upcycle scrubs all personal information from the electronics.



Only six 8th graders didn't go to the Pathfinder Camporee this Friday! They had a rather relaxing day with Mrs. Olivera and learned how to weave baskets from cups and twine.



REGISTER NOW
RHYTHM & REST
 A MUSICIANS GATHERING

Limited Space

Soloist
 Praise Teams
 Instrumentalist
 Choir Directors
 Songwriters

Presenter
 Kirosha, KVM Founder


**23 Sept, 2023 | SNEC Bailey Hall
 Lancaster, MA 2:30PM-6:30 PM**

FOOD | FUN | NETWORKING | TRAINING | SPECIAL GUESTS | GIFTS
 Need assistance? Ask your local church to sponsor you for this training event

Only \$23!

KINGDOM VOICE & MUSIC
 CREATE • CONNECT • CONTRIBUTE

www.kvmworship.com

OVERFLOW WORSHIP

10.27.23 • 7 pm

Overflow Worship

College Church Free Concert Series
Friday, October 27 at 7 pm
Because of His Love, I Know Who I Am
featuring musical guests, Everlasting Worship
and speaker Kevin Maldonado

