



# Looking Forward

August 19, 2023

## From the Principal

Good Day SLA Family,

Enjoy your last weekend of summer, because believe it or not, school starts on Monday! We always ask the same question, "Where did the summer go!" In spite of the rainy summer, I hope everyone had some great down time, took some family vacations, and we're all ready for another school year.

We've had a number of changes for this new school year including the separation of pre-school and pre-kindergarten, new teachers, classrooms changing, and some facilities improvements including the completion of blinds in every classroom, new floors, repainting of the parking lot and repairs to the elementary classroom ceilings to name a few.

Bottom line, we want to offer your child the best possible learning environment where they can not only receive and excellent education, they have an opportunity to find and follow Jesus.

Enjoy your Sabbath and have a great last summer weekend! We'll see you on Monday!

Be Blessed and Encouraged,

David Branum, Principal



Welcome Back Everyone!

### School Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
8 am - 3:30 pm

Friday  
8 am - 1 pm

### Upcoming Dates

- August 21 - 1st Day of School
- August 28 - Summer Reading Due
- Sept 1 - Financial Aid Application Deadline!
- Sept 4 - Labor Day NO School
- Sept 7 - Open House 6:30-7:30 pm

# High School and 7th & 8th Grade Schedule Change!!!

Mrs. Gardner worked very hard to make some adjustments to next year's high school bell schedule. This year, **THE HIGH SCHOOL and 7th & 8th GRADES WILL BE STARTING at 7:50 am, and GETTING DISMISSED FOR THE DAY at 3 pm!!!**



## This Monday - 1st Day of School!

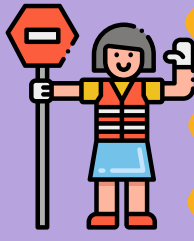
On the first day of school we ask that parents drop their children off at the door of the school, with the exception of grades Preschool, Prekindergarten, and Kindergarten. Parents of students in grades P-K are allowed to walk their children to the classroom.

## Summer Companion

Karl's dog, River, kept us all company for a few weeks this summer. His sweetness and gentle spirit have brought us all peace in the midst of the summer chaos!



# Drop Off & Pick Up



## Elementary Building

Drop Off: Elementary doors open at 7:30am.

Pick Up: Parents, please have your child's pick up numbers **VISIBLY DISPLAYED** when you get in line so the patrols know who to call. If the number is not visible it slows down the entire line.

If you do not have a copy of your child's pick up number, or need more copies, please stop by the elementary office for copies for yourself or anyone who will be picking your child up regularly.

Remember that dismissal begins at 3:15 Monday - Thursday and goes until 3:35, and begins at 12 noon on Friday until 12:20 pm.

## Academy Building

Academy doors do not open until 7:30am. Please do not drop your child off before 7:30 or they will remain locked out until then.

## Traffic Flow

Remember that there are two lanes of traffic. The right lane is for drop off, and the left is for driving through.

## Dismissal Numbers

All elementary students grades P-6 have dismissal numbers assigned to them. These Dismissal Numbers were mailed out this week, and should arrive before the first day of school. Each envelope has 4 copies of your family's Dismissal Number and a letter from Mrs. Gardner explaining the dismissal procedure.

Each family has one number for all the children in the household. Families keep the same number from year to year, so you will have the same number you had last year, unless you are a new family.

If you need additional copies of your child's Dismissal Number for grandparents or family friends who will be picking up your child on a regular basis, please stop by the elementary office for more copies.

## Traffic Safety



### DO NOT park across the street...

and walk across the street to get your child, or have him or her cross the street to meet you! This is dangerous for everyone involved, and backs up traffic on the main road.

### DRIVE SLOWLY in the left lane...

because cars pull out into the left lane suddenly.

### Elementary dismissal ENDS PROMPTLY...

at 3:35 pm Monday - Thursday  
at 12:20 pm on Fridays

### If you're LATE your child WILL GO to Daycare!

Students that have not been picked up by 3:35 pm will be sent to After School Care and charged through FACTS. Please plan accordingly.



If you have to strap your child into a car seat, please park your car and come with your number to pick up your child at the front door. This will help our dismissal line move more quickly.



# 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, please email the offices by 8:15 a.m. if possible. 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: [dvezl@mysla.org](mailto:dvezl@mysla.org)

# Picture Day!

Picture Day is Friday, September 22!

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

Retake Day: Thursday, October 26

An advertisement for Jostens PIX Picture Day. The ad features the Jostens PIX logo with the tagline "PREVIEW, PERSONALIZE & PAY." and the headline "Picture Day a whole new way" with the Spanish translation "Día de fotografías de una manera completamente nueva". Below this is a dark banner with the text "A new school portrait experience designed by you, for you." and "Una experiencia nueva de foto escolar diseñado por ti, para ti." The main content includes a tablet displaying the PIX website interface with a student's photo and a "WELCOME TO JOSTENSPIX" message. To the right of the tablet is a list of benefits in both English and Spanish:

- 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 pagar solo una vez

At the bottom right, there is a green circular icon with the text "DON'T WEAR GREEN PLEASE!" and a note: "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!" The ad concludes with "Get ready for Picture Day! ¡Prepárate para el día de fotografías!" and "SOUTH LANCASTER ACADEMY" with the event code "FE134123" and dates "FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023" and "THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 - RETAKE".

# Gloria Cardoso

Gloria Cardoso passed away suddenly on July 31.

Gloria was one of SLA's regular substitute teachers, and she was always very reliable, and always willing to come in at the last minute. She was Mrs. Argueta's go-to substitute in the elementary office, and Mrs. Currie's go-to substitute in After School Care. Gloria had been working as a substitute at SLA for years, and she will be greatly missed, not only for her reliability, but also for who she was, and her kindness, and her laughter.

We thank God for the time Gloria shared with us here at SLA, and look forward to the day when we see her again in the clouds of glory.

From Gloria Cardoso's Obituary:

"Gloria "Lola" Cardoso, 62, passed peacefully on Monday, July 31, 2023 at Hartford Hospital following a brief illness. She is survived by her siblings, Francisco "Chico" Nogueira Cardoso & wife Maria Antonia Cardoso of Porto, Portugal; and Fatima Pireson & husband Pr. Joseph Pireson, of Vernon, CT; generations of nieces and nephews whom she loved as her own children, Pedro Nuno, Micael, Alexandra, Carina, Veronica, Ambrosee, Joseph II, Great-nephews and great-nieces: Leonardo, Jr., Sofia, Ricardo, and Rita; extended family and many dear friends.

Gloria was born in Penafiel, Portugal, daughter of the late Antonio & Florinda (Ferreira) Cardoso. Upon emigrating to the United States, her family settled in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where Gloria attended local schools and graduated from Taconic High School, Class of 1978. She achieved her Bachelor of Elementary Education degree from Atlantic Union College in 1984 and began her lifelong career as an educator. Ms. Cardoso was an adored teacher in the Marlborough Middle School for more than thirty years until retiring.

She was a woman of great faith, and devout member and pioneer founder of the Lowell Portuguese Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she served in various capacities, notably as Director of Pathfinders and as church treasurer. Gloria was well revered for her baking expertise and was happy to share her tasty desserts with those she loved. Thoughtful and generous, Gloria doted upon all of her nieces and nephews and lived her life by example through her devotion to faith and family.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Gloria Cardoso to: The Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 34 Sawyer St., South Lancaster, MA 01561. Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Philbin-Comeau Funeral Home, 176 Water St., Clinton. Online condolences may be placed at [www.philbincomeaufh.com](http://www.philbincomeaufh.com)





# New & Used Uniform Store - Delivery is Here!

To visit the School Uniform Store and make a purchase, please make an appointment with either the elementary or high school administrative assistants. Once again, you can see all the inventory of the store by visiting this [Google Sheet](#) that will be kept up to date by admin.



## 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!

## Ordering Uniforms

To order uniforms use the following information:

School Code: SOUT01

<https://www.globalschoolwear.com/school/SOUT01>



**For the TOPS it is recommended that you:**

- Buy 3-5 Short Sleeve Polo Shirts (depending on how often you do laundry), and be sure to order at least ONE PURPLE SHIRT for field trips, and special school events.
- Button up shirts and blouses are optional and NOT mandatory for anyone who prefers to wear a fancy shirt or blouse rather than a polo.
- Long sleeved polos are also optional and NOT mandatory. Students are allowed to wear a plain long sleeve shirt (MUST BE SOLID WHITE OR BLACK) under their short sleeve polo on chilly days.
- It is a good idea to order 1 Fleece Zip Up Sweater, or other sweater for wearing inside on cold days as well. This is also optional and NOT mandatory, but most kids like to have a sweater for the cold days.

**For the BOTTOMS you can:**

- Order however many bottoms you feel your child might need (depending on how often you do laundry).
- All bottoms must be uniform bottoms
- Skirts are optional and NOT mandatory for girls.
- Blazers are also optional and NOT mandatory.

# Finances

There are several different scholarships that SLA Students can apply for. You will find the forms to complete linked below:



## 3 Way Plan Scholarship

- \$1400 discount per year (grades P-8)
- \$2800 discount per year (grades 9-12)
- Must be a member of ANY church
- Church treasurer signs and sends to SNEC with check



## Local Church Financial Aid Commitment Letter

- Requirement of the 3 Way Plan
- Church treasurer signs and returns to SLA
- Even if your church is NOT willing to help, getting this form signed lets SLA know, and financial aid can be adjusted accordingly



## SET Funds Scholarship

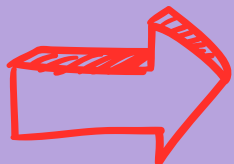
- For high school students only
- Amount is about \$1900
- Must be a member of a SNEC Church to qualify
- Fill out and return to SLA

## ○ **Financial Aid Application**

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE: Sept. 1st**
- For any student, grades K-12
- Amount is based on financial need
- \$40 application fee per family per year
- Apply here: <https://www.mysla.org/financial-aid>

- Please turn in all forms if you would like to see these discounts added to your child's tuition account. Discounts applied early will be REVERSED if forms are not turned in!

- If your tuition bill is only split into 9 payments, and you would like to increase the number of payments, please email the treasurer, JoAnn, and let her know: [treasurer@mysla.org](mailto:treasurer@mysla.org)





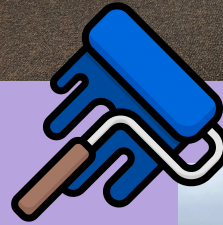
# Summer Updates

Karl has been able to finish the ceilings in the 3rd and 4th grade classrooms, and Mr. Bisson has been helping with painting walls in the elementary classrooms. There have also been a few high school students coming to help out this summer too!



**1st Grade**

Who knew there were still unpainted concrete blocks hiding behind bulletin boards?! Mr. Bissell and Karl made a new discovery this summer!



**High School Helpers**



**New Floors!**

Here you can see the new floor in the history room! Thank you Creighton Flooring for doing such an awesome job! The new floors in here and the 5th grade room are beautiful!

# Varsity Sports

- **High School Soccer Tryouts!**

- Monday, August 21 at 4pm
- All boys grades 7-12 can try out for the team

- **High School Girl's Volleyball Tryouts!**

- Monday, August 21 at 6pm
- All girls grades 6-12 can come try out for the teams!



## Elementary Summer Reading

Elementary Students - don't forget to complete your summer reading in order to participate in our Summer Reader Celebration! Summer Reading Forms are due August 28!

**You can find the packet on the school website [HERE!](#)**



## Supply Lists

Updated Supply Lists are now available!

**DO NOT USE OUTDATED LISTS !**

Use the following links:

[Grades P-8 Supply List](#)



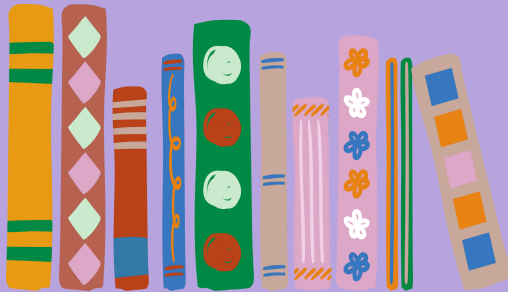
[Grades 9-12 Supply List](#)



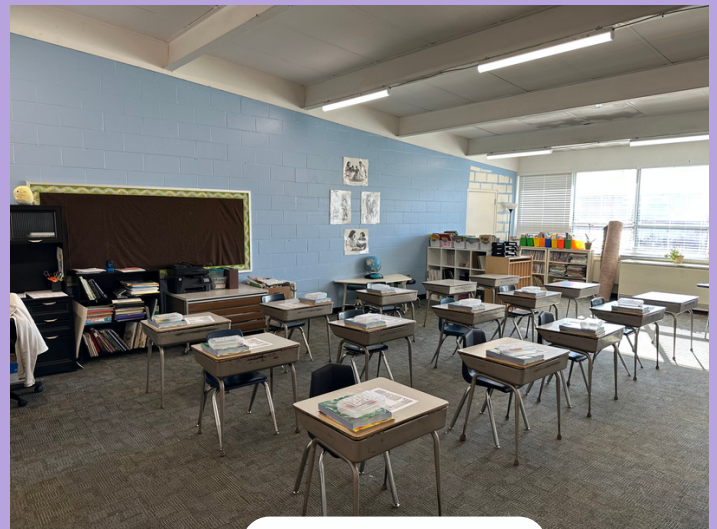
# SLA's New High School Library

The English classroom is still under construction. The desks are in their place, the flag is hanging in the corner, and the floor has been shined. What's still under construction? You might ask. The library!

If you or your student wants to see what's available currently, you can visit the library's catalog website at: [https://www.librarycat.org/lib/SLA\\_English](https://www.librarycat.org/lib/SLA_English).



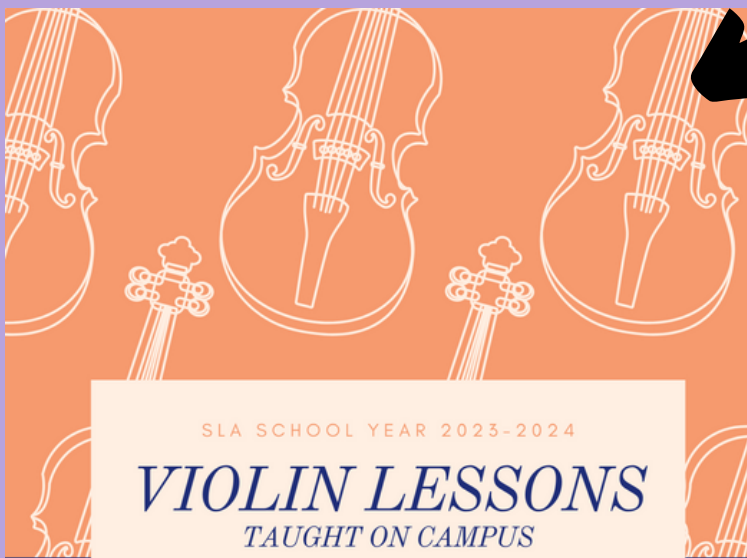
2nd Grade



3rd Grade

## Classroom Switcheroo





SLA SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024

# VIOLIN LESSONS

TAUGHT ON CAMPUS

TEACHER: ARIELLE CADY FLORES

WHEN: SCHOOL HOURS AND AFTER SCHOOL\*

COST: \$30 PER HALF HOUR

Contact Arielle at [acadyflores@gmail.com](mailto:acadyflores@gmail.com) for more information!

\*Time arranged with homeroom teacher.

If you are interested in Violin Lessons for your child, Mrs. Arielle Cady Flores will be offering lessons again this school year. Please contact her directly if you are interested: [acadyflores@gmail.com](mailto:acadyflores@gmail.com)

**KING'S KIDS**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**GOSPEL CHOIR**

Thursdays at 6:00PM  
College Church  
337 Main St.  
South Lancaster, MA

Age 5-12

Sept-Dec & Jan-June

**REGISTER AT**  
[WWW.KIROSHA.COM/KINGSKIDSINFO](http://WWW.KIROSHA.COM/KINGSKIDSINFO)

**\$75**  
per semester

**KINGDOM**  
Voice & Music  
CREATE • CONNECT • CONTRIBUTE

King's Kids Community Gospel Choir registration now open: [www.kirosha.com/kingskidsinfo](http://www.kirosha.com/kingskidsinfo)

**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

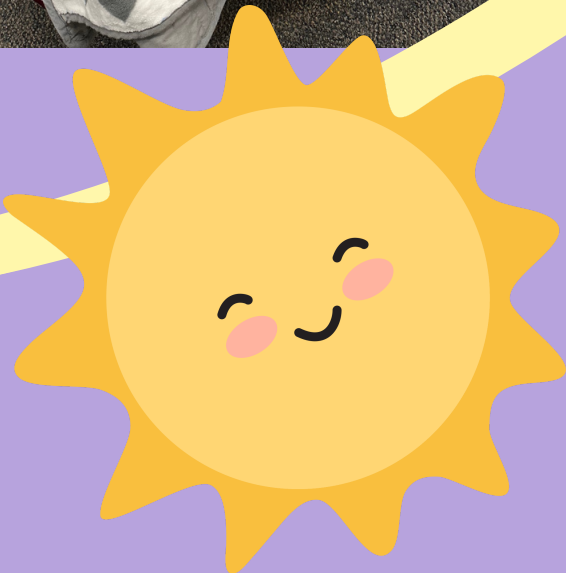


# Used Nap Mat & Sleeping Bags Available!

If you need a nap mat/sleeping bag for your Preschooler or Prekindergartener who is staying in After School Care, or your Kindergartener, we have some that need new homes. Two identical dinosaur sleeping bags, and one Snoopy Nap Mat with the attached pillow and blanket. Please email Debora in the elementary office if you are interested. They are \$5 each.

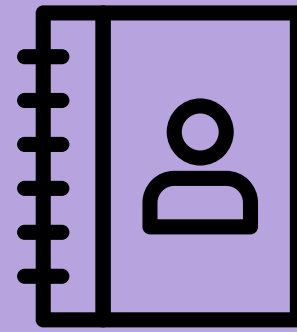


welcome  
**BACK<sup>TO</sup>**  
**SCHOOL**



Welcome back everyone! We are all excited to see everyone again!

# School Directory



Do you ever need to get in contact with someone at SLA, but you don't know how? Here is a complete directory for SLA Staff this school year!



**SOUTH  
LANCASTER  
ACADEMY**

Serve. Love. Achieve.

## 2023-2024 Staff Directory

Phone: 978-368-8544

Fax: 978-365-2244

Name	Department	Extension	Staff Email
Argueta, Debora	Elementary Administrative Assistant	106	dargueta@mysla.org
Baldwin, Joanne	7th Grade Teacher	157	jbaldwin@mysla.org
Bissell, Jonathan	6th Grade Teacher	156	jbissell@mysla.org
Bisson, Kevin	Secondary Math/Physics	163	kbisson@mysla.org
Bloom, Tom	Secondary Social Studies	165	tbloom@mysla.org
Brahmia, Tish	Secondary Science	167	tbrahmia@mysla.org
Branum, David	Principal	110	principal@mysla.org
Cady, Lira	Music	161	lcady@mysla.org
Cole, Analyn	2nd Grade	153	acole@mysla.org
Creitz, Kristie	3rd Grade	152	kcreitz@mysla.org
Currie, Judith	After School Care Director	112	jcurrie@mysla.org
DeOliveira, Henrique	Athletic Director/5-12 P.E.	109	hdeoliveira@mysla.org
Drew, Cheryl	Treasurer Assistant	102	cdrew@mysla.org
Gardner, Ollyce	Vice Principal	105	vp@mysla.org
Girma, Kathy	Preschool/PK/K-4 P.E.	160	kgirma@mysla.org
Herrera, Arlin	Secondary Spanish		aherrera@mysla.org
Hernandez, Karl	Maintenance/Transportation	107	maintenance@mysla.org
Imperio, Mindy	Kindergarten	150	mimperio@mysla.org
Iria, Veronica	Secondary Art, Business	114	viria@mysla.org
Jones, Lauren	5th Grade	155	ljones@mysla.org
Larsen, Heidi	4th Grade	154	hlarsen@mysla.org
Neidigh, Jonathan	School Board Chair		chair@mysla.org
Neidigh, Shauna	Development Director	108	development@mysla.org
Nicholas, Thomas	Secondary Religion	159	tnicholas@mysla.org
Oetman, Linda	Nurse	115	loetman@mysla.org
Olivera, Damarie	8th Grade	158	doliveira@mysla.org
Prather, Roger	Secondary English	164	rprather@mysla.org
Rodriguez, Yaliza	1st Grade	162	yrodriguez@mysla.org
Shaul, JoAnn	Treasurer/Accounting	101	treasurer@mysla.org
Velez, Denisse	Secondary Administrative Assistant	100	dvelez@mysla.org

Last Updated 7/28/2023