

Good afternoon SJS Community,

Welcome to March! During March, St. John School will celebrate National Reading Month in many ways. We have already had two awesome kick off events. On Wednesday, we welcomed in storyteller Len Cabral, who regaled our students with amazing stories. I am hopeful that some of our students shared one of his stories with you. Mr. Cabral emphasized that he learned many of his stories by reading! Today, we celebrated Read Across America Day. This day emphasizes the value of literacy to our democracy and celebrates books that inspire our children to dream big, expand the limits of their understanding, and explore diverse perspectives and cultures through the eyes of others. Our Grade 8 students chose an important book to them and shared it with one of our classes. It is heartwarming to see our oldest students/leaders share an important story to them with younger students. The goal is to inspire more reading!

During the month of March, we encourage all our parents to think about reading with and to their child(ren) at home. Please see the attached letter with some data and ideas about reading at home. The benefits of sharing a story with young child are immense and lifelong – academic, social, emotional. My daughter is in Grade 6 and my son is in Grade 3 and we still lay in bed at the end of the night and read together. Sometimes we share a story with a read aloud (my son and I are in the middle of *Mr. Popper's Penguins* – a true classic) and other times we read next to each other. I love when I am reading next to them and see a smile or hear laugh or a question. It always leads to an awesome, magical conversation. One of my favorite memories of parenting is the year my daughter was one and we read her a different Dr. Seuss book each day throughout the month of March. We took a picture each day and a poster of those books and Vera is on my office wall today. IT makes me smile every time I walk past it.

We will have other events throughout March to encourage reading. We have scheduled at least one drop everything and read time, are looking at a reading marathon, and will have some story walks up in the hallway. I am also hoping to have an opportunity for our other students, faculty, and parents to share their favorite stories.

March is also Gala month! The SJS Gala, will occur on Saturday, March 23. Tickets are on sale now at <https://stjohnevangelist.ejoinme.org/2024>. We would love to see you there!

SJS Calendar

Monday, March 4 (8:45 am) – NJHS Induction

Friday, March 8 (1:30 pm) – Scratch Ticket Dress Down Day

Friday, March 8 (1:30 pm) – March Madness (Grade 8 vs Faculty and Families)

Friday, March 15 – Half Day

Basketball Banquet

We will hold our basketball banquet on Thursday, March 21 (6:00 – 7:30) to celebrate a hugely successful basketball season. It will be a pizza party. [Click here](#) to sign up (so we know how much pizza to order). We are asking for \$5 per family donation at the door to help with the cost of pizzas.

Second Notices

Scratch Ticket Dress Down Day

The annual Scratch Ticket Dress Down Day to benefit the SJS Gala will occur on Friday, March 8. In order to dress down for the day, students must bring in any type of scratch ticket. The SJS Parent Group will use the scratch tickets for a major auction item at the Gala.

SJS Summer Camps

Registration for SJS Summer Camps is open. [Click here](#) for details and [click here](#) for a registration.

Financial Aid

The financial aid application for the 2024-2025 school year is open through FACTS - <https://factsmgt.com/aid>. Financial Aid applications are due March 15 and we will make decisions in early April. Families receiving any financial aid must apply each year.

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) Tutoring

NJHS tutoring occurs every Thursday from 3:15 – 4:15 and is open to students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. Pick up is at the Main Entrance.

Helpful Links

Ebackpack - [Click here](#)

2023-2024 Calendar - [Click here](#)

2024-2025 Calendar - [Click here](#)

Chris