



Letter from the Head of School July 2018

Dear parents,

I hope you are enjoying your summer and are getting excited for the start of school. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and have been busy preparing for your return. The 2018- 2019 school year is shaping up to be an exciting one. I know you will welcome our new students in San Jose style with open arms.

In order to receive a classroom assignment, **health forms and online emergency forms must be submitted by August 3.** Health form information is on the enclosed checklist. An email from SanJoseEpiscopalAP@sjeds.org with a link to complete your online emergency forms will be sent at the end of July. If you have any questions or if you do not receive this email, please contact the school office at (904) 733-0352 or email office@sjeds.org.



Our staff has been busy making improvements to our campus and getting ready for your return.

Here are some highlights:

- Thanks to the Vestcor Family Foundation, LED lighting was installed campus-wide.
- New signage has been installed throughout campus.
- New hedges were installed in front of the Lower School playground along San Jose Boulevard. Thank you to our Parents Association for contributing funds toward this project.
- A new landscaping service has been contracted to keep our property in tip-top shape.
- Thanks to the Henry and Lucy Gooding Fund, new playground equipment on the Lower School playground will be installed. Installation should be completed near the end of August.

In an effort to provide increased professional development and collaboration for faculty and staff there will be one early release day each month. School will dismiss on the first Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Extended Day will open at 2:00 p.m. and Afterschool Activities will begin at their normal time.

The early dismissal dates are below:

- September 6
- October 4
- November 1
- December 6
- February 7
- March 7
- April 4
- May 2

(Please note there is no early release day in January.)

Here are some important dates to put on your calendar:

- We hope to see everyone at our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 12 at 9:30 a.m.** Bring your backpack and receive a special blessing to start the school year off right.



- **Meet Your Teacher Day is Monday, August 13.** We invite you to join your child and drop in between 10 and 11:30 a.m. to meet his or her teacher and drop off school supplies.
 - The Parents' Association (PA) will have a used uniform swap and you'll be able to sign up for volunteer opportunities during this time in the gym.
 - Fall Afterschool Activities will be on display, and Bears basketball and cheer registration will be open in the gym.
 - Extended Day will be open beginning at 10:30 a.m. and will continue until 5 p.m. Reservations are required. Please email Amy Blumstein at ablumstein@sjeds.org to secure your spot.
- **The official first day of school is Tuesday, August 14.** Early arrival begins at 7:30 a.m. in the gym for students registered for Extended Day. Morning drop-off begins at 7:45 a.m., and classes start promptly at 8:00 a.m. The tardy bell will ring at 8:05 a.m. After this time, parents will need to walk their student(s) to the office and obtain a tardy slip.
- **The first Jeans Day is Friday, August 17.** All students should plan to wear the new **yellow** spirit shirt. Bring a dollar, and wear your school-appropriate jeans. If your child does not want to wear jeans, they may wear the yellow spirit shirt with uniform bottoms.
- **Parents' Association volunteer breakfast** is Friday, August 24.
- **Open House** is Tuesday, August 28 at 6:00 p.m.
- **Early Explorers Chapel** is each Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. and **Lower School/Upper School Chapel** is each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

NEW! Our check-in procedures have been updated for added security. We now have a visitor tracking system called Lobby Track. You will need to provide your driver's license and an identification badge will be printed for you. Lobby Track will help us keep record of who is on campus but will not perform a background screening.

Get involved! Our PA, under the leadership of Schelon Seefeld, will be sending more information to you soon about volunteer opportunities. The PA does a tremendous job and is part of what makes SJEDS such a special place. We are so blessed to have amazing, involved parents and are truly grateful.

This upcoming school year has wonderful things in store for our students. We look forward to helping each child continue to develop their own unique talents and gifts as they become the person God has created them to be. We can't wait to see your child's smile and hear about their summer adventures. Here's to another great year!

With blessings and peace,

Lori G. Menger

Lori Menger
Head of School



Inspiring a passion for learning, a life of integrity, and a heart for Christian service

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