

Good evening Shark Nation!

Welcome back Shark Nation!!! It's the email/call some of you have been dreading. Time to get back to work! We are excited to have all of you back on campus Tuesday morning to start off the 2nd semester!

Grades for 1st semester will be posted if they have not been already by tomorrow evening. Students please check your grades and your updated GPAs!

Friendly reminder that our **Spanish River % 2024 Graduation Date** was announced prior to winter break. We will honor our Seniors on **Monday, May 13th at 1:00 PM** at the So FL Fairgrounds. More important Senior Dates will be sent out in late February or early March. **Please note that Seniors are expected to come back to campus to take any AP and AICE exams that are scheduled after graduation.** These tests complete their important requirements of earning a 6.0 for the course. Failure to attend and do their best may negatively impact their college acceptances. We will review all of this at our meeting with Seniors in March.

Next week on **Wednesday, January 17th** and **Thursday, January 18th**, our **9th and 10th graders will take PM2**, the second of the three progress monitoring/FAST assessments. This important test will help us determine what standards we need to focus on prior to PM3 (graduation requirement). Please note that the results of this PM2 test will drive our instruction for the remainder of the school year. We will differentiate where possible assigning students that are NOT performing above grade level extra assignments to ensure they are prepared for the graduation requirement assessment in late April/May. **Students that do NOT perform up to standard may have their schedule changed, receive additional technology extra practice, and/or be required to attend MANDATORY tutoring leading up to PM3 later this year.** All 9th graders will test on **Wed. 1/17** and all **10th graders** will test on **Thursday, 1/18**. Please be on time with a FULLY charged device ready to test so that you do not have to be pulled from classes later on to make up this important test. There will be an altered bell schedule(attached) for those two days.

As many of you are aware the School District has purchased **metal detectors** for all high school campuses. **The metal detectors are expected to arrive sometime this Spring.** We will begin to prepare for these increased safety measures next week. We will prepare for implementation in stages. **Please do NOT drop off students prior to 6:45 AM. After January 16th, if students arrive prior to that time they will need to wait outside the gates until our scanners are ready to scan IDs upon entrance.** Any student without an ID should get on this week. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding and we seek to continue to maintain a safe and secure environment. The following was shared with students prior to break.

*"Students as we prepare for the implementation of metal detectors in the near future, beginning January 16th you will **not be allowed to enter campus until 6:45 AM** in the morning. Teachers will not allow students on campus prior to 6:45am. Students will wait outside of the three entrances in the morning. Arrive early so there is time for you to badge in. Please make sure to have your school ID present and visible, as you will need to **scan** it each morning."*

As a reminder, if you are enrolled in **AICE CLASSES** this year, make sure you have joined your grade level Cambridge Google Classroom. **It is very important that you know when your exams are because there are NO MAKEUPS for AICE exams.**

The google classrooms contain the detailed Spring AICE exam schedule. Google Classroom codes are as follows: Seniors: *hcompareo*; Juniors: *ldlnyyj*. Sophomores: *pkx75j2*. Freshmen: *jgkqyya*. Questions? Email Mrs. Goron at mara.goron@palmbeachschools.org

Did you come up just short on an AICE exam you thought you should have passed last year? Do you need that point to earn your diploma? If you have taken a **Cambridge Exam** in past years, and want to **retake an exam** for a course you already took last year during the **June 2024 Exam Series**, please review the form, posted on the Cambridge Grade Level Google Classrooms, and is attached to the written portion of this callout, in its entirety and follow ALL of the directions precisely. Please be sure you are aware of the exact deadline of **Friday, January 12, 2024** and note there are NO EXCEPTIONS to this deadline. Please note that this is **NOT for students** who will take a Cambridge Exam this June **for**

classes they are currently enrolled in for the first time during the June 2024 Exam Series. Students are automatically signed up for AICE exams for courses they are currently enrolled in for the 2023-2024 school year. Questions? Please email Mrs. Goron, Assistant Principal/Cambridge Coordinator at mara.goron@palmbeachschools.org. Use form link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsgoVe1R4b4eK9vReUUXz6bJuW5abUhyt6Ncmnmzoe2MhZzw/viewform?usp=sf_link

The **PTSA's** fundraising auction will take place February 5 - 12 online at www.auction4sharks.com. This is the largest fundraiser to support River's students and teachers. Parents, you can help! If your business can donate goods, services, gift certificates or other items that can be auctioned off, please contact the PTSA at auction4sharks@gmail.com or become an auction sponsor by going online to www.auction4sharks.com.

SENIORS! Herff Jones will be on campus during lunches on January 18, 2024 in the gym lobby to take cap and gown orders. If you have not already ordered, this is the date to do so! You **MUST** have a cap and gown from Herff Jones in order to participate in the graduation on May 13, 2024 at the Fairgrounds!

Softball tryouts will begin January 22. Please make sure that you have your athletic packet complete on Aktivate prior to tryouts. Any questions see Coach Ranfone in room 8-120.

After-School Drivers Education course will be offered starting January 24th. If your child is interested in signing up please have them see the school announcements regarding dates and times. If you have any further questions please contact dionne.newman@palmbeachschools.org.

We want to wish our **DECA** students the best of luck as they compete in DECA districts this weekend. Starting on Friday, about 300 of our Sharks will represent our school and its amazing entrepreneurial academy in district competition.

Congratulations to **Mariana Padilla**, the president of **National Art Honor Society Club**, for organizing a Christmas Toy Drive to send gifts to the Guatemalan-Maya Center. Your efforts helped to make Christmas magical for many children.

Attention **prospective baseball players** - there will be a player and parent meeting on **Thursday, January 11** in the cafeteria at **6:30pm**. All tryout and season information will be shared in that meeting. Additionally, **tryouts** will be held starting January 22, 23 and 24. **Freshmen and sophomores** will start at 4pm each day, while **juniors and seniors** will start at 6:30pm. Tryouts will be held on campus at the baseball field. If you have any questions, please reach out to head coach Jose Zabala at jzcurro@gmail.com.

A general reminder to all **prospective spring sport athletes**: please make sure your Aktivate packets are complete. They can be accessed and completed at aktivate.com. Please reach out to AD Suarez or Asst. AD Youell with any questions.

Speaking of athletes we are so PROUD of the Fall Sports' Athletes below that were recognized by the community for their accomplishments.

Bowling – Ayla Hemley – Sun Sentinel 1st team All-County

Cross Country – Doug Horn – Sun Sentinel Coach of the Year

Cross Country Boys – Preston Sangely – Sun Sentinel-BOYS RUNNER OF THE YEAR; FACA All-star meet invitee, **Jacob Garrett** – Sun Sentinel 1st team all-county; FACA All-star meet invitee, **Daniel Reyes** – Sun Sentinel 1st team all-county; FACA All-star meet invitee **Casey Sangely** – Sun Sentinel 1st team all-county; FACA All-star meet invitee, **Ryan Wilson, David Falkins** – FACA All-star meet invitee

Cross Country Girls – Katelyn Sadorf – Sun Sentinel 1st team all-county; FACA All-star meet invitee, Laney Williams – Sun Sentinel 1st team all-county; FACA All-star meet invitee.

Football – Ian Headley – Palm Beach Post Coach of the Year

Football-Blake Wallace – Palm Beach Post All County Offensive player of the year; 1st team all-county; Lou Groza Award Finalist; All American National Combine invitee, **AJ Trullio** – Palm Beach Post 1st team all-county; Palm Beach vs. Martin County all-star game, **Cole Cooper** – Palm Beach Post 1st team all-county, **Anthony Clark** – Palm Beach Post 1st team all-county; Palm Beach vs. Martin County all star invitee, **Zach Russell** – Palm Beach Post 1st team all-county; Palm Beach vs. Martin County all star invitee, **Nico Stephens** – Palm Beach vs. Martin County all-star game invitee, **Ben Lamas** – US Army combine invitee.

Quick Glance this week at River - SPORTS (Note - DH means doubleheader)

Monday, January 8th - *Nothing Scheduled/PDD Day (school closed for students)*

Tuesday, January 9th - Girls Soccer DH hosts Wellington (JV 6pm, Varsity 7:30, Shark Pit)

Wednesday, January 10th - Boys Basketball DH hosts West Boca (JV 6pm, Varsity 7:30, John Jones Court); Boys Varsity Soccer hosts John I Leonard (6pm, Shark Pit)

Thursday, January 11th - Boys Varsity Soccer hosts Jupiter (6pm, Shark Pit); Girls Basketball DH hosts West Boca (JV 6pm, Varsity 7:30, John Jones Court); Girls Soccer DH visits Dwyer (JV 6pm, Varsity 7:30); Baseball Prospective Player/Parent Meeting (6:30 pm, cafeteria)

Friday, January 12th - Boys Varsity Basketball visits Olympic Heights (7:30pm); Boys Varsity Soccer visits West Boca (7:30pm); Girls Varsity Basketball at the MLK Invitational (Details TBD); Wrestling at The Ridge Individual Bracket Tournament

Saturday, January 13th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Quick Glance this week at River - College Visits and Other School-Wide Events

Monday, January 8th - *Nothing Scheduled/PDD Day (school closed for students)*

Tuesday, January 9th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Wednesday, January 10th - ELA 9th Grade Bootcamp

Thursday, January 11th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Friday, January 12th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Saturday, January 13th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Let's make it a great week back, Sharks!

Your proud principal,
Mrs. Castellano