

Good evening Shark Nation!

We are excited to honor our recent Aice Diploma recipients this Thursday at our 'Royal' Cambridge Aice Diploma Student Breakfast. All students invited should dress in professional attire.

Please join us for a **FAFSA presentation** on **Tuesday, January 30th** at **6pm** in the theater. Representatives from Florida Atlantic University's Office of Student Financial Aid and our school counseling department will share information regarding the new FAFSA application, scholarships, grants, loans, and more. **All parents and students interested in applying for financial aid for college and/or seeking the Bright Futures scholarship should attend** if support is needed.

Save the Date for our **Advanced Coursework Night** which will be held on **February 6th**. Current 9th-11th graders can hear more from our AP/AICE teachers and student ambassadors about our accelerated course offerings as we prepare for course selection next month.

We work hard to ensure you are informed but we can always do better. With your feedback celebrating what we do right and suggestions for improvement we can make Spanish River even better. The **School District of Palm Beach County** wants to hear from YOU! This year's **School Effectiveness Survey (SEQ)** measures the perception each stakeholder has in our schools. This information is vital to our school leaders to advance the mission of the school district - educate, affirm, and inspire each student in an equity-embedded school system. Academic excellence and growth, parental involvement, school climate, and many other topics are covered by the SEQ. The link to complete the SEQ is <http://l.sdpbc.net/zzhix>. The window to complete the SEQ will remain open until February 9. We have attached a copy of the flier with QR code to assist you in locating and completing the SEQ.

As many of you are aware the School District has purchased **metal detectors** for all high school campuses. The metal detectors have arrived and we are receiving training and direction on their implementation. While we await the delivery and implementation of the detectors themselves, we have adopted a gradual approach to prepare our students for this addition to school safety at Spanish River. We began the process during this week by only allowing students on campus **AFTER 6:45 am**. Next week, we take the second step in preparation for these increased safety measures this week:

- The second stage will begin tomorrow, Monday, January 22. In addition to the campus being closed until 6:45 am, students will also need to have their badge on their person as they enter campus as they will be badged in at the entrance. Students that arrive prior to 6:45 am will need to wait outside the gates until our scanners are ready to scan IDs upon entrance.
- The third and final stage of implementation will begin when the metal detectors arrive and are put in use. That timeframe is TBD and will depend on when the scanners arrive.

Any student without ID can inquire with their Suites or main office to retrieve a replacement. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we seek to continue to maintain a safe and secure environment.

The **PTSA annual online fundraising auction** will take place **February 5 - 12, 2024** at www.auction4sharks.com. Save the dates to go online to bid on VIP graduation tickets, reserved parking spots, Amazon gift card raffles and more! Thank you to some of the auction sponsors including Pet Supplies Plus located in Regency Court and Aronberg & Aronberg Law Firm.

The Galleon, our award winning newspaper, is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 staff. We are looking for talented **9th and 10th graders** who would like to have their voice heard. Please see the application in your child's English teacher's Google classroom. Applications will close February 6th. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Delaney at suzanne.delaney@palmbeachschools.org

Literacy Week is approaching! Monday, January 22 thru January 26 is **Literacy Week Across Florida**. Please check our literacy week calendar to see how you can participate at school and at home. Literacy week is all about sharing the joy of reading with the whole family, so what better way to kick off the week than by joining us for our **Family Literacy Week Kick Off** on January 22. Stop by anytime from 4 to 6 pm with the whole family and explore our book fair, students readings, and more. Please see the attached flier.

All members of **National Honor Society**: Please review the Google Classroom, listen to the morning announcements, and check Remind. You must review the information from our video meeting and sign the acknowledgment that you understand the requirements. **Failure to meet requirements will impact your eligibility and membership.** See Ms Donnino with any questions or email angela.donnino@palmbeachschools.org

Students interested in being a part of the **Psychology Honor Society** need to join the google classroom (class code: 43z3wnn) and complete the google form to apply by January 31st. If you were already accepted this year, you do not need to re-apply; however, if you were a member in past years and have not yet re-applied, you need to do so. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Salzman at jessica.salzman@palmbeachschools.org.

SENIORS! Herff Jones will be on campus during lunches on Tuesday, January 23, 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!

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.

Congratulations to **sophomore Carys Della Rocca** for her amazing performance last weekend at the Florida All State Choir in Tampa. She was selected through multiple rounds of very competitive auditions for this prestigious spot. Way to go Carys!

On **Tuesday 1/23 at 6:30pm** in the theater, please come out and attend **River's Got Talent!** Come support your friends, see amazing performances, and vote for the winning act. Tickets are available at the door or online at <https://L.sdpbc.net/ptiwi>

Our defending state champion **Softball team** will begin tryouts on January 22. Please make sure that you have your athletic packet complete on Aktivite prior to tryouts. Any questions see Coach Ranfone in room 8-120.

Baseball tryouts will be held 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 Aktivite packets are complete. They can be accessed and completed at aktivite.com. Please reach out to AD Suarez or Asst. AD Youell with any questions.

We would like to wish **sophomore Marvin Gao** congratulations for his Fall National Scholastic Chess Championship.

Quick Glance this week at River - SPORTS

(Note - DH = doubleheader, TH = tripleheader)

Monday, January 22nd - Girls/Boys Varsity Basketball hosts DH (G vs Boca Christian 5:30, B vs Morningside Academy 7:30, HOME)

Tuesday, January 23rd - Girls Basketball visits North Broward (JV 4:30, Varsity 7:00); Boys Basketball hosts Forest Hill (JV 6:00, Varsity 7:30. HOME);

Wednesday, January 24th - *NOTHING SCHEDULED*

Thursday, January 25th - Girls/Boys Basketball hosts Seminole Ridge TH (Girls JV 4:30, Girls Varsity 6:00, Boys Varsity Senior Night 7:30, HOME)

Friday, January 26th - Boys Basketball visits Garcia (JV 6:00, Varsity 7:30)

Saturday, January 27th - Water Polo in the Boca Raton Jamboree (1pm, Boca High Pool)

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

Monday, January 22nd - Rivers Got Talent Tryouts (1:00-5:00pm, theater)

Tuesday, January 23rd - Herff Jones (Both Lunches, Gym Lobby), Rivers Got Talent Performances (6:00-7:00pm, theater)

Wednesday, January 24th - *NOTHING SCHEDULED*

Thursday, January 25th - *NOTHING SCHEDULED*

Friday, January 26th - Holocaust Remembrance Day Video Virtual Assembly (Adjusted Bell Schedule)

Saturday, January 27th - *NOTHING SCHEDULED*

Let's make it a great week, Sharks!

Your proud principal,

Mrs. Castellano