

Good evening Shark Nation!

Course Selection for FY25 has begun. The course selection process will be explained in English classes. Please speak with your child in regards to their choice of electives for next year. Your child will visit the theater soon with counselors to choose their electives for FY25. All core classes will be chosen by teachers and administration. Please check your email as emails are sent out separate from the callout. Core teachers will use current grades, prior grades, and test scores to place students in core classes and academic (AICE and AP) electives. Administration will revisit all course placements in the Spring and Summer when NEW test scores come in for this year and will make adjustments accordingly. Please reach out to your child's counselor if you have any questions. Counselor assignments are on our website.

On **Thursday, March 7th, 2024**, Spanish River High School will administer the **School Day SAT** for **all 11th grade students and select 12th graders**. All 11th graders and select 12th grade students who still need to meet the ELA or math graduation requirements are automatically pre-registered for this exam. There is **NO** fee for this exam. **SAT School Day** provides schools, districts, and states a way to offer the official SAT to juniors in school, on a weekday, expanding access to a globally recognized college admission test that's accepted at all U.S. colleges. **Students will be in the testing block from 7:30am-2:50pm**. Students who are not testing will be in a holding room during this time. Following testing, students will go to lunch and then on to 7th period. For SAT testing on Thursday, March 7th we will operate on an altered bell schedule. Any students on campus that are not testing will be in a holding room. There will be 3 early release times. Student's dismissal color will be listed on the testing location sheet. **If students prefer to go home following testing, this Blue Pass Google Form MUST be filled out no later than 8:00 PM on Wednesday, March 6th. Students will not be released before 1:00 PM, and students testing in extended time rooms will likely go past 1pm.**

Please reach out to **Dr. Harrison** (lisa.piscatelliharrison@plambeachschools.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

Attention ESOL Families - the **English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Department** will be hosting our **Spring Parent Leadership Council (PLC) Meeting** Thursday, February 29th from 6 - 7 pm. Please plan to arrive early to get set up with headphones and a translator if needed. Please contact ESOL Coordinator Elizabeth Contreras (elizabeth.contreras@palmbeachschools.org) with any questions.

Applications for the **Latinos In Action Leadership** class are now available. If you are interested in planning Hispanic Heritage Month, learning about Latin Culture, and tutoring Elementary school students while working in teams, pick up an application packet in the blue or silver suite and turn it in room 8140 by Friday, March 15th. Remember, you don't have to be Latino to join our FamiLIA. Spots are limited. If you have any questions email Mr. Torres at frank.torres@palmbeachschools.org

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

ANY student taking a **Cambridge** course this year received a **Statement of Entry and Notice to Candidates** paper from one of their teachers this week. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that students review the information and are sure to follow all the rules that are listed so as not to invalidate a test taking session. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Mara J. Goron, Assistant Principal/Cambridge Coordinator at mara.goron@palmbeachschools.org or students may stop in to see her before school or during lunches in the 1000 Building.

Applications for the **Chick-Fil-A Leadership Academy (CFA)** are now open for upcoming Juniors and Seniors! **CFA** is a unique organization that combines students from all backgrounds to join in one goal: community service through leadership. Unlike other clubs and academies, no one member has the same interest or

focus, and the result is a diverse group of driven students. It is not only a respectable addition to your resume, it is an opportunity to meet new peers and affect change in a meaningful way – with some food on the side! If you are interested in applying for **CFA**, please grab an application packet from the Blue or Silver Suite and submit it to Mr. Torres in room 8-140. **Deadline for applications is Monday, February 26.** We only have 60 spots. Please contact Mr. Torres (frank.torres@palmbeachschools.org) or Mrs. Wilson (loren.wilson@palmbeachschools.org) with any questions.

All parents were sent a letter from our Communications Department via SIS on Friday regarding the implementation of **metal detectors** on our campus. We will begin implementation on **Monday, March 4th**. Students have been shown videos and received lots of information regarding this implementation on the morning announcements.

A mandatory mock exam is being held for all **AICE International History** students in the cafeteria on February 27th and 28th from 3-445. Please reach out to Mr Kipp (joseph.kipp@palmbeachschools.org) for me information.

Sharks, we are participating in the Boca Raton Community Spirit Race 5k on March 2. This is a great **COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** for our students. If interested, please sign-up on this link page: [Race Sign Up](#). For more information regarding the race, use this link: [Race Information](#). If you have any questions, please email Hannah Smith; she is the Marketing & Communication Manager for Spirit of Giving (hannah@spiritofgivingnetwork.com).

Do you need **Community Service hours**? Want to earn them while watching Netflix? Do you love helping animals? Blessing Blankets made with Love is a non-profit that makes fleece blankets for rescues. They are easy to make, no sew fleece blankets given to local rescues so that every animal is adopted with something of their own. Materials and directions are provided. Any questions, please email angela.donnino@palmbeachschools.org.

SENIORS! Reminder - we are selling prom tickets!!! This year's theme is "**24k magic**" and will be held on Saturday, April 6 from 6-10 PM. **Prom tickets** are on sale this week for \$165 and are available for purchase at both lunches in the courtyard. *NOTE - ALL OBLIGATIONS MUST BE PAID IN ORDER FOR YOU TO PURCHASE/KEEP YOUR PROM TICKET.* Guests that do not go to Spanish River High School must be approved first before you can purchase their ticket. Please pick up a guest form in Suite Silver asap to get your guest approved. Buy yours early as the ticket prices will increase throughout the sale. See Mr. Torres or Miss LaBelle for more information.

On **Saturday February 17th**, River's two aerial drone teams competed at a local competition at Don Estridge High Tech Middle School. River is the first Palm Beach county high school to have an aerial drone competition team. Although the teams just started practicing in January, the **two teams were able to secure 2nd place and 7th place over all out of 9 teams competing** (including teams from Don Estridge, Sagemont in Westin, and a group of teams from Bradenton, FL).

The River team of **Logan Damle, Adam Siegel, and Kyle Vilme** won 2nd place. The team also earned the "Inspire" and "Skills" Awards for having the best Skills Field competition score and the best teamwork competition score. They had the highest scores in 2 categories: teamwork (by over 20 points) and in piloting skills (by over 40 points). Their overall scores qualified them to compete at the southeast regional competition in Jackson, Mississippi in April. The River team of **Joshua Gurman, Kai Gao, Max Rispler, and Jessica Strizik** had the highest (by over 25 points) Autonomous Flight score where the team worked to program the drone to fly through an obstacle course, earning points for flying through and looping keyhole and archway obstacles.

Team members **Marvin Gao and Sophia Marchalleck** were not able to attend the competition but contributed greatly to the preparation over the past 6 weeks. The two teams will next compete in mid-March. Participation in this competition was made possible due to a GoTeach! Grant from the Palm Beach County EdFoundation award to Maura Sullivan and Mary Fish.

Congratulations to senior **Helena Parada**, senior **Alexandre Dorcil**, and sophomore **Talia Avivi** for their outstanding performance this weekend at the **Southern Region ACDA Honor Choir in Louisville, KY**. These students were selected by audition as some of the finest singers from the 11 states in the region. Way to go Sharks!

Congrats to our **Girls Tennis Team** on their win over American Heritage last week. This week our Girls host the ladies from Palm Beach Central. Match time is 3:30.

The **Spanish River Wrestling** team competed at the Regional Tournament placing 9th out of 31 teams. Two Spanish River wrestlers placed and qualified for the State Championship in Orlando next week! **Daniel Alvarez** placed 2nd at 150 lbs, qualifying for state for the second straight year. **Enzo Dasilva** finished 4th qualifying for his first state appearance. Cheer them on this week if you see them as they prepare for this weekend!

Best of luck to our **Spanish River Bull Sharks Club Hockey team** as they competed this weekend in the state competition.

Congrats to **Laney Williams** for placing 1st in the 3200m last Friday night at the Louie Bing Invitational. She also earned 1st place in the 1600m event on Saturday in the second group. Congrats to **Ethen Cook** who ended up placing 5th in the FINALS for the 110M Hurdles at the Louie Bing Invitational on Saturday. (other results known were included last week in the callout)

Quick Glance this week at River - SPORTS

(Note - DH = doubleheader, TH = tripleheader)

Monday, February 26th - Girls Lacrosse DH hosts Pope John Paul (4:30 pm JV, 6:00 pm Varsity, Shark Pit); JV Baseball visits Garcia (6:30 pm)

Tuesday, February 27th - Tennis hosts Palm Beach Central (3:30 pm); Boys Varsity Lacrosse visits Palm Beach Central (6:00 pm); Flag Football DH visits Royal Palm Beach (6:00 pm JV; 7:15 pm Varsity); Varsity Baseball hosts Somerset (6:30 pm); Softball vs Boca High (6:30 pm)

Wednesday, February 28th - Girls Lacrosse DH hosts Archbishop McCarthy (4:30 pm JV, 6:00 pm Varsity, Shark Pit); Softball hosts Wellington (6:30 pm)

Thursday, February 29th - Water Polo DH hosts Jupiter (3:30 pm girls, 4:30 pm boys, Boca High pool); Boys Weightlifting visits Atlantic (4:00 pm); Flag Football DH visits Palm Beach Gardens (6:00 pm JV; 7:15 pm Varsity); Varsity Baseball visits Park Vista (6:30 pm); Softball visits Dwyer (6:30)

Friday, March 1st - Wrestling State Tournament (Kissimmee FL); Weightlifting State Tournament (Kissimmee FL); Boca Invite Water Polo Tournament (4:45 pm girls first match, 6:30 boys first match); Flag Football DH visits Palm Beach Central (6:00 pm JV; 7:15 pm Varsity); Varsity Baseball visits Key West (7:30 pm)

Saturday, March 2nd - Weightlifting State Tournament (Kissimmee FL); Boca Invite Water Polo Tournament (2:20 pm girls first match, 11:35 am boys first match); JV Baseball DH hosts Somerset (10:00 am and 12:00 pm); Baseball visits Key West (7:30 pm)

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

Monday, February 26th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Tuesday, February 27th - DePaul University visit (10:00 am)

Wednesday, February 28th - *Nothing Scheduled*

Thursday, February 29th - Tulane University visit (8:00 am); Palm Beach State College visit (9:00 am); Herff Jones (both lunches)

Friday, March 1st - DECA States (times and participants vary)

Saturday, March 2nd - DECA States (times and participants vary)

***Instructions to attend our college visits: Juniors and seniors can sign up for college visits by joining the College Counseling Google Classroom. The code to join is zfhborc. Please complete the Google Form for the visit(s) you wish to attend.*

Let's make it a great week, Sharks!

Your proud principal,
Mrs. Castellano