

THE VANGUARD

Connection

A parent/guardian newsletter for SR1 College Preparatory and STEM Academy



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Dear Parents /Guardians,

I hope you and your family had a chance to rest and recharge over Fall Break. It is hard to believe we are already kicking off the second nine weeks of the school year! We're excited to keep the momentum going and continue supporting your child's growth academically, socially, and emotionally.

October has been filled with meaningful moments.

We began the month with College Spirit Day, where we encouraged our scholars to dream big and explore bright futures. Last week, we hosted Curriculum Night, giving families the opportunity to connect with teachers and learn more about what's happening in the classroom. Thank you to everyone who joined us!

We also came together for our Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, a powerful reminder of the strength, compassion, and unity within our school community. One of the biggest highlights for our students was Pumpkin Day at the SR1 CPSA Farm. They had a blast exploring the farm, learning about agriculture, and celebrating the season through hands-on experiences. These moments help bring learning to life and create lasting memories.

Report cards went home last week, and we encourage you to take a moment to review them with your child. Celebrate their progress, talk about goals for this nine weeks, and reach out to their teacher if you have any questions. We are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

As we move forward, I want to gently remind everyone about the importance of daily attendance and arriving on time. When students are present and begin their day on time, they are more likely to stay engaged, build strong routines, and keep up with instruction. Every minute matters especially in the morning when key concepts are introduced and classroom culture is set. We understand that life happens and occasional absences are unavoidable, but consistency makes a big difference in your child's success.

To help support families in this area, Dr. Brown, our school counselor, will be reaching out to parents whose children have five or more absences or tardies. These meetings are meant to be supportive and solution-focused. This will be an opportunity to check in, talk through any challenges, and work together to make sure every child has the best opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school family. Your involvement, encouragement, and trust mean the world to us. We're looking forward to a strong second nine weeks filled with growth, connection, and continued success.

As always, at SR1 CPSA we are Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today!

Provost La'Tesha N. Roby

SCHOOL UPDATES *and Events*

OCTOBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Professional Development Day (80% Day for Students Dismissal begins at 1:30 p.m.)

October 1

Perfect Attendance/ PBIS Celebration

October 3

Fall Break

October 6-10

Curriculum Night - 5pm - 6pm

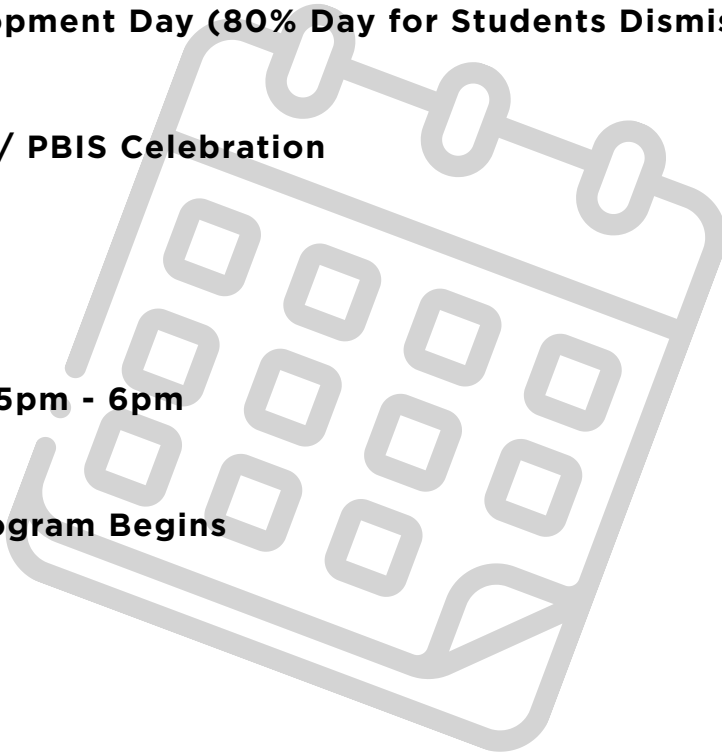
October 15

Vanguard Boost Program Begins

October 28

SR1 STEM-or-Treat

October 31



Vanguard Mascot Meaning

The mascot of SR1 College Preparatory and STEM Academy (CPSA) is the "Vanguard." A vanguard is a group of people who are the first to try new things and lead the way for others. We chose this name because we want our students to be leaders, problem-solvers, and people who make the world better. The Vanguard reminds us that students at SR1 CPSA can be brave, curious, and creative. It encourages them to step up, try new ideas, and set a good example for others to follow. In simple words, being a Vanguard means being a leader, an innovator, and someone who helps build a brighter future.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

October

The Vanguard Students of the Month at SRI CPSA are recognized for their hard work, leadership, and commitment to making a positive impact in their classroom. These students are selected for showing persistence, honesty, and genuine care for others in and out of the classroom.



Dallas Barrera, 3rd Grade



Ma'Kiyah Merriweather, 2nd Grade



Justice Jones, 1st Grade



Trekira Carson, 1st Grade



Landon Brown, Kindergarten



Skylar Patrick, Kindergarten



Micah Green, Pre-K

VANGUARD FAMILY Enroll for 2026-2027 Academic Year



Are you ready for another year of learning and discovery? Applications for PreK-3rd grade are now open for returning students at SRI CPSA!

And starting in 2026-2027, we will be introducing 4TH Grade!

We remain committed to providing a **FREE**, top-tier education focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).

If your child is passionate about learning and aspires to become a future leader in driving positive change, SRI CPSA is the perfect place to thrive!

Visit srlcpsa.org to apply while slots are available!

PERFECT ATTENDANCE CELEBRATION

In recognition of **Attendance Awareness Month**, SR1 CPSA challenged our Vanguard students and parents to show up on time, every day—and they rose to the occasion! Students who met the challenge were rewarded with a fun pizza party to celebrate their commitment and hard work.



Why does attendance matter?



At SR1 CPSA, we want the very best for every student. One of the most important ways to support your child's success is by ensuring they attend school every day. Each day in class is a step toward a bright future—good attendance builds the foundation for academic achievement and lifelong learning.

When students attend school consistently, their brains have the opportunity to grow and develop new skills each day. Research shows that students who attend regularly perform better academically than those who do not. For example, one study found that only 17% of children who missed a lot of school in kindergarten and first grade could read well by third grade, compared to 64% of children with good attendance. Regular attendance also increases the likelihood of earning higher grades in reading and math—and ultimately, graduating from high school.

This month, we are excited to launch our new Monthly Attendance Recognition Program! Students with perfect attendance will be celebrated and recognized each month. In addition, students—and their parent or guardian—who meet our monthly attendance goal (90% for November) will receive special awards.

We know that families and schools must work together to help children succeed. With your partnership, we can ensure every child is present, learning, and growing each and every day. Thank you for being a valued partner in your child's education!

Sincerely,
Provost Roby

THE JOURNEY

PEPA PIÑATA

A Story of Celebration, Culture, and Connection

Story

Meet Pepa the Piñata! She's not just full of candy—she's full of stories. Pepa is here to take you on a colorful adventure around the world, showing how piñatas are part of celebrations in many cultures.

From China to Spain, Mexico to Latin America, Pepa will teach you about traditions, languages, and the joy of sharing special moments with others. Get ready to travel, learn, and celebrate with Pepa—and maybe even make your own class piñata! Are you ready? ¡Vamos!



Vocabulary

Piñata

A colorful container filled with treats, broken during celebrations.

Hispanic

Related to Spanish-speaking people or countries.

Celebration

A special event with joy and fun.





STEM OF TREAT!



FALL FESTIVAL GUIDELINES

4:30-6:00 P.M. | FRIDAY
OCT 31, 2025

320 GARRETT STREET, CANTON, MS
SR1 COLLEGE PREPARATORY & STEM ACADEMY
COSTUME CONTEST, STEM ACTIVITIES,
&
TREATS!

STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO DRESS UP DURING THE SCHOOL DAY AND FOR THE EVENING FESTIVAL! WHILE WE ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY AND FUN, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- NO MASK
- NO TOY WEAPONS OR SHARP PROPS (EXAMPLE: SWORDS OR KNIVES)

WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO ENJOY THE STEM-OR-TREAT RESPONSIBLY AND RESPECTFULLY.



Types of Pumpkins



Champion

Also known as the Jack-O-Latern, Pumpkin Champion is typically 30 pounds or more. It perfect for carving and decorating.



Pipsqueak

This tabletop pumpkin with curling handle is unique in shape and can weigh up to 8 pounds.



Jill Be Little

Flattened-shaped mini pumpkins. These pumpkins are good for tabletop and window displays.



Porcelain Doll

A unique colored pumpkin that can be used for pies, soups, or any meal.



Blaze

Flashy yellow, orange-striped pumpkin.



Polar Bear

Extra-large white pumpkin that can exceed over 100 pounds!

Our largest Polar Bear Pumpkins weighs approximately **70 lbs.**

WHAT ARE WE GROWING?

SR1 Agriculture and Food Science Department is proud to be producing various forms of pumpkins at our Canton farm. The various pumpkins have been growing since July and we want to make sure you know the different types and what they can be used for.

FUN PUMPKIN FACTS

- Pumpkins are a fruit because they come from the flowers of their plants . That makes it a fruit.
- Each pumpkin contains about 500 seeds.
- Pumpkins take about 90 to 120 days to reach full growth.
- There are 45 different types of pumpkins
- Every part of the pumpkin is edible.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS



Vanguard Health, Safety & Wellness

Halloween is a night filled with creativity, fun, too many sweets, and perhaps a bit of stress. The following tips can help ensure your children have a fun yet safe trick-or-treating experience!



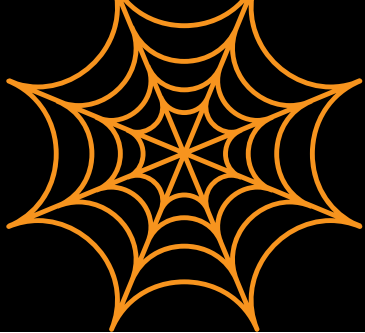
QUICK TIPS!

- Go only into familiar neighborhoods, and stop only at houses that are well lit.
- Carry flashlights and use reflective tape on clothing and bags.
- Walk, do not run. Use sidewalks, not streets. If there are no sidewalks, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.
- Slow down when approaching driveways to avoid exiting or entering cars, and do not run out between cars.
- Discard commercially produced candy if the wrapper is loose or the seal has been broken.
- Examine the outside of fruit for any suspicious cuts or holes. Wash and slice it into small pieces, checking for inedible objects.
- If anything is suspicious about treats, report this to the police or other appropriate authorities.
- When in doubt, throw it out.



We also encourage families to participate in a school, family, or neighborhood Halloween gathering. This can help reduce the need for children to go door-to-door in unlit or potentially unsafe areas.





October

Breakfast Menu



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Pancakes Yogurt Berries	2 Hash Potatoes Scrambled Eggs	3 Grits Apples	4
5	SCHOOL BREAK	7	8	9	10	11
12		13 Whole Grain Donuts Fruit	14 French Toast Banana	15 Muffins Strawberry Yogurt	16 Chicken Biscuit Fruit	17 Cereal Fruit
19	20 Grits Bacon Fruit	21 Pancakes Yogurt Berries	22 Sausage Toast Fruit	23 Cereal Fruit	24 French Toast Banana	25
26	27 Muffins Strawberry Yogurt	28 National Chocolate Day Chicken Biscuit Fruit	29 Cereal Fruit	30 Whole Grain Donuts Fruit	31 Sausage Toast Fruit	
November						



October

Lunch Menu



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Turkey Burgers Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Milk	2 Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Roasted Vegetables Fruit	3 Orange Chicken Fried Rice Broccoli Fruit Milk	4
5	SCHOOL BREAK	7	8	9	10	11
12		13 Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Roasted Vegetables Fruit	14 Orange Chicken Fried Rice Broccoli Fruit Milk	15 Meatball Subs Broccoli Fruit Milk	16 Turkey Burgers Sweet Potato Fries Fruit Milk	17 BBQ Chicken Green Beans Peaches Scalloped Potatoes Milk
19	20 Swedish Meatballs Mashed Potatoes Gravy Fruit Milk	21 Fish Sandwich Pasta Salad Peaches Milk	22 Chicken Noodle Soup Grilled Cheese Mixed Vegetables Fruit	23 Chicken Tacos Rice Mandarin Oranges Milk	24 Chicken Patty Pasta Salad Fruit Milk	25
26	27 Pepperoni Pizza House Salad Grapes Milk	28 National Chocolate Day Chicken Wings Mac and Cheese Green Beans, Fruit	29 BBQ Chicken Green Beans Peaches Scalloped Potatoes Milk	30 Orange Chicken Fried Rice Broccoli Fruit Milk	31 Halloween Meatball Subs Broccoli Fruit Milk	

November

