



## HOME ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 18, 2026

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 18 ..... School Board Meeting at 6 pm  
Feb. 20 ..... Jeans Day for Students and Staff  
Feb. 21 ..... Baked Ziti Dinner Sponsored by Junior High Classes  
Feb. 27 ..... Jeans Day for Students and Staff  
March 2-6 ..... Love of Reading Week/ B5 Book Fair  
March 3 ..... Mid-way Point of 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period  
March 13 ..... Teacher In-Service Day: School Closed

### WELCOME BACK MRS. DREW!

We are excited to have Mrs. Kimberly Drew back as a long-term substitute teacher for Mrs. Thompson as she is on maternity leave. Please be sure to welcome her when you see her in the hallways!

### TRANSPORTATION FORMS FOR 2026-2027

Please be sure to submit your transportation forms for the 2026-2027 school year by February 27. These forms are required to secure transportation for your child(ren) for the coming school year or to be eligible to receive payment in lieu of transportation. One form must be completed for each child who will be enrolled in **Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades** next year. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Walther.

### VO LUNTEER TUITION CREDIT SUBMISSION

If you have Volunteer Tuition Credit hours to submit, please do so through this link:

[Volunteer Tuition Credit Form](#)

### BAKED ZITI DINNER

The 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (and their parents 😊) are having a delicious Baked Ziti Dinner this Saturday, February 21 from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the gym. See attached flyer for details.

### MARCH MOMMY AND ME CLASS REGISTRATION

It's time to register for Sussex Christian Schools March Mommy and Me classes! The theme for March is **Rowing**. Classes are led by Preschool teacher Lydia Barlow and will be held in her classroom each Tuesday from 9 am until 10:30 am. They are designed for children 20 months to 3 years old and a parent to interact in a preschool environment. Activities include movement and music, circle time, art and stories all while learning to socially interact with others. The cost for all 5 classes is \$62. If you would like to register, please contact the office for a registration form. Please note that space is limited so registrations will be accepted in order received. Siblings are not allowed.



## **GERTRUDE HAWK FUNDRAISER**

Last week Friday, the youngest child in each family brought home information on our Gertrude Hawk fundraiser. Please note:

- The fundraiser runs today through **February 27 (note corrected date)**
- Estimated delivery date is the week of March 23rd
- Funds raised will be used to for upgrades to the SCS playground
- The fundraiser will ONLY be on ONLINE
- To create an account please click the link [Add Your Child to a Fundraiser – Gertrude Hawk Chocolates](#)
- Multiple sellers/children can be added to one account, but prize eligibility will be based on the combined total sales for that shared account.
- If you have any questions, please reach out to Alex Little [amlittle116@gmail.com](mailto:amlittle116@gmail.com)

## **£5 BOOK FAIR**

OEL is again hosting an £5 Book Fair! It will be held March 2-6 during the “Love of Reading Week. £5 is a Christian business that works with schools to provide quality, age-appropriate literature to the next generation of readers. This book fair has been hugely successful for us in the past! Here is how the week will work:



**Wish List Days - Monday and Tuesday, March 2 & 3:** Each class has signed up for a time for students to visit the Book Fair and create a wish-list to bring home to their parents.

**Purchase Days - Wednesday and Thursday, March 4 & 5:** Each class has signed up for a time for students to go to the Book Fair to purchase books. Payments can be cash, credit card or check (made to Sussex Christian School - OEL).

**Parent Day - Friday, March 6, 9 am until noon:** Parents will have the opportunity to visit the book fair and make purchases. Parents should enter school through the gym lobby – not the main entrance.

### **How Can You Help??**

OEL would greatly appreciate any volunteers who can spare some time to assist with the book fair. There are 4 different areas we need help. If you're available and interested, please sign up using the link below. *(You can add your name to more than one time slot.)* Your support would be invaluable in ensuring the success of this event.

### **[2026 Book Fair Volunteers sign up - Google Sheets](#)**

- Set Up: Friday, February 27 at 10 am
- Wish List Days: March 2 & 3 - Help the younger students create their wish lists.
- Purchasing Days: March 4, 5 & 6 - Help students find books on their wish lists and assist with purchases.
- Clean up and pack up the books into boxes: March 6 starting at 12:30 pm.
- Let OEL borrow any “Adventure Awaits” decorations (this year's book fair theme).

Please reach out to Felicia Mann at 201-841-1101 or [feliciamann2@gmail.com](mailto:feliciamann2@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you!



**SCHOOL LUNCH MENU**  
Cost \$3 or 1 lunch ticket



To purchase a book of 10 lunch tickets, simply send in \$30 cash or a check payable to SCS-OEL in an envelope with your child's name written on it.

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
	2/20 - Pizza & Snack - <b>L</b>
2/25 - Chicken Nuggets & Mashed Potatoes Workers: Pamela Gonoud, Zuzana Nicoletti, Marilyn Dowden, Rebecca Scott	2/27 - Pizza & Snack - <b>T</b>
3/4 - Twin Soft Tacos Workers: Jennifer Dillon, Zuzana Nicoletti <b>Need 2 More Volunteers or Lunch will be Cancelled</b>	3/6 - Pizza & Snack - <b>L</b>

Can you lend a hand with an upcoming hot lunch? Please use this link to sign up:  
[HOT LUNCH SCHEDULE 2025-2026 - Google Sheets](#)

**VERTIAS BANQUET**

Make plans to join us on Wednesday, March 25th at Veritas Christian Academy's Annual Banquet. The funds raised will go to support our Opportunity Fund. Please RSVP at: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/annual-banquet-27> or at 973-579-6333 by March 11th.

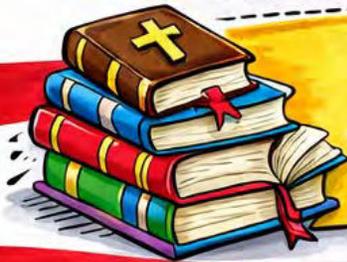
Sponsorship opportunities are also available! Please see the attached sponsorship form or contact [sbaloch@veritasnj.org](mailto:sbaloch@veritasnj.org) for more information. Thank you for your support of Veritas Christian Academy. We hope that you can join us!



# Love of Reading Week!

March 2-6

★ Let's celebrate our love for reading! ★



**Monday, 3/2:**  
Dress as your  
**Favorite Book Character!**

**Tuesday, 3/3:**  
Wear Your  
**Favorite Hat!**



**Wednesday, 3/4:**  
**Crazy Hair Day!**

**Thursday, 3/5:**  
Wear Silly Socks!



**Friday, 3/6:**  
Wear "Readable Clothes"  
Shirts with **Words!**



# SUSSEX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Jr. High

## Baked Ziti Dinner



# Saturday, February 21

Serving from 4:30pm- 7:30pm

### Tickets

Adults: \$15

Children (5-12): \$10

Children 4 & under: FREE

\*Takeout Available

Baked Ziti

Meatballs

Sausage

Fresh Bread

Salad

Dessert & Drinks

For more

information call

(973)875-5595

or contact any 6th-

8th grader

51 Unionville Avenue • Sussex, NJ

\*Snow Date: 2/28



## GERTRUDE HAWK FUNDRAISER

Dear Supporters of: **SUSSEX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

As part of our yearly OEL fundraisers, we are excited to offer **Gertrude Hawk Chocolates** once again. This year, all proceeds will go toward **upgrades to the SCS playground**, helping create a better space for our students to learn and play.

### How to participate:

It's simple. Create a new account—or log into your existing account from last year's fundraiser—add your seller's name(s), and start sharing your online store with family and friends.

### Fundraiser Details:

**Sale Dates:** February 13th – **February 27<sup>th</sup>**

**SCS Organization ID:** 127041

**Estimated Delivery:** Week of March 23rd

*(Exact date will be provided the week prior.)*

**This fundraiser is for ONLY online orders.**

<p><b>Creating or Logging into Your Account</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Visit: <a href="https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com">https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com</a></li><li>2. Click <b>Seller Sign up/ Log in</b> to create a fundraising account or access your existing one.</li><li>3. Add each student's name under "Seller", or use your family's last name if you prefer one combined seller account.</li></ol> <p><b>Note:</b> If your family chooses to create <b>one shared seller account</b> for all siblings, prize eligibility will be based on the <b>combined total sales</b> for that shared account.</p>
<p><b>How to Start Selling</b></p>	<p>Share the <b>SELLER URL LINK</b> with family and friends through text, e-mail, or Facebook to ask for their support. (See the attached instruction page for more details.)</p> <p>All online orders must be paid by <b>credit card</b> directly through the website.</p>

<p><b>Delivery Options:</b></p>	<p><b>FREE Delivery to SCS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available for all orders placed between 2/13- 3/2</li> <li>• Orders will be delivered to Sussex Christian School</li> <li>• <b>Sellers are responsible</b> for picking up their orders at SCS and distributing orders to their supporters</li> </ul> <p><b>Ship-to-Home Option</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perfect for out-of-town friends and family</li> <li>• Orders can be shipped directly to their home</li> <li>• <b>Shipping fees apply</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Earn Prizes:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every student who sells <b>at least one item</b> will receive a prize!</li> <li>• Prize levels are based on total sales.</li> <li>• If a family chooses to create <b>one seller account for all siblings</b>, prize eligibility will be based on the <b>combined total sales</b> for that shared account.</li> <li>• When selling online, please ensure the seller's name is entered <b>exactly</b> to maximize prize credit.</li> <li>• A prize sheet is enclosed- check out what your student or family can earn.</li> </ul>

If you have any questions, please contact Alex Little at 201-874-0114 or [amlittle116@gmail.com](mailto:amlittle116@gmail.com)

YOU'RE INVITED

# ANNUAL BANQUET



**MARCH 25, 2026**  
**6-8 PM**

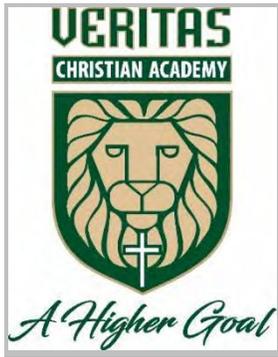
**VERITAS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**  
**385 HOUSES CORNER ROAD**  
**SPARTA, NJ 07871**

The cost of the evening is generously underwritten by local business owners.

Donations will benefit the Opportunity Fund and future growth of Veritas Christian Academy.

Please RSVP with the QR code to the right or at [veritasnj.org](http://veritasnj.org) or (973) 579-6333 by March 11th





VCA Annual Banquet

**Underwriting Pledge Form**

**Event Date: March 25, 2026**

Veritas Christian Academy  
 Event Planning Committee  
 385 Houses Corner Road  
 Sparta, NJ 07871

Please print information below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Levels: Please place a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check next to your chosen donation.	
<input type="checkbox"/> PLATINUM Sponsor: \$1,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> GOLD Sponsor: \$500.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business name &amp; logo on <i>VCA Annual Banquet</i> website (<a href="http://www.veritasnj.org">www.veritasnj.org</a>) with a link to your site.</li> <li>• Full Page advertisement in banquet program.</li> <li>• Business name &amp; logo displayed on a table placard.</li> <li>• Business advertisement featured in the banquet slideshow.</li> <li>• Business name recognized during ceremony closing.</li> <li>• A table of 8 will be reserved for you and your guests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business name &amp; logo on <i>VCA Annual Banquet</i> website (<a href="http://www.veritasnj.org">www.veritasnj.org</a>) with a link to your site.</li> <li>• Half Page advertisement in banquet program.</li> <li>• Business name &amp; logo displayed on a table placard.</li> <li>• Business advertisement featured in the banquet slideshow.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> SILVER Sponsor: \$250.00	<input type="checkbox"/> BRONZE Sponsor: \$150.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business name &amp; logo on <i>VCA Annual Banquet</i> website (<a href="http://www.veritasnj.org">www.veritasnj.org</a>) with a link to your site.</li> <li>• Business card sized advertisement in banquet program. (include with your response)</li> <li>• Business name &amp; logo displayed on a table placard.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business name &amp; logo listed in the banquet program. (include with your response)</li> </ul>
Total Donation (For Tax Purposes Only) \$ _____	
Signature of Company Representative: _____	Signature of VCA Representative: _____

- While I am pleased to help underwrite or donate to the banquet, I request my business/name remain anonymous.
- Please represent my business/name as detailed in the [above] Underwriting Pledge level. Please send artwork content via email to [sbaloche@veritasnj.org](mailto:sbaloche@veritasnj.org)
- I would like to attend the banquet. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ number of seats at a banquet table.

Please make checks payable to **VCA** or pay online with a credit card at <http://www.veritasnj.org> by **March 1st**

A copy of your Underwriting Pledge Form will be signed by a VCA representative and returned for your records. We thank you in advance for your financial consideration in support of Veritas Christian Academy. Veritas Christian Academy is a 501c (3) non-profit organization. Please consult your tax professional to determine the extent to which your contribution is tax deductible.



# 2026 RECRUIT CLASS JUNIOR SHERIFF'S ACADEMY

Sussex County  
Sheriff's Office

County Residents entering  
6th, 7th, or 8th Grade

**40 SPOTS AVAILABLE!**



Applications available at the Sheriff's Office or online at [www.sussexcountysheriff.com](http://www.sussexcountysheriff.com) beginning Monday, March 30, 2026 and accepted beginning Monday, April 7, 2026. Applicants will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Deadline for returning the completed application packet will be Friday, May 8, 2026. Class size will be limited to 40 Junior Sheriff's Recruits. Vetting procedures will be utilized for acceptance into the program.

**\$100**  
PER CHILD

Fee to be collected with application - check or money order payable to: **County of Sussex**. Payment will not be deposited until after enrollment closure and recruit is accepted into the Academy.

**8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**July 6-10, 2026**

*5 days of training  
and activities!*

**Location**

**Sussex County Public Safety  
Training Academy**  
114 Morris Turnpike,  
Newton, NJ 07860  
(across from Sussex County Main Library)



Questions regarding this program may be directed to:  
[jracademy@sussexcountysheriff.com](mailto:jracademy@sussexcountysheriff.com)