

Welcome to Junior High at Seffner Christian Academy 2025-2026



Important Dates:

- **New to SCA Students (August 5) - All new to our school Junior High students**
Schedule: 9:00 am - Meet and greet with staff and administration
9:30 am - Required New Family Orientation
10:30 am - New Family Open house (tour classrooms, info.packets, iPad set up, etc.)
- **Returning Students (August 5th) - Returning SCA students Open House**
Schedule: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm (tour rooms, talk to staff, info. packets, etc.)
- **August 7th- First Day of School! (7:50 -3:00)**

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **What can I do to prepare for the upcoming year?**
 1. **Prioritize reading the Student Handbook before the first day of school (School Website - under Resources)**
 2. Make sure to review the supply list (School website under resources)
 4. Visit Risse brothers for school uniforms
 5. Attend Back to School Orientation / Open House
 6. Familiarize yourself with the Resources available through the school WebSite and the Family Portal
- **How can I access my child's schedule, grades and homework?**

Once you have received the email stating that Student Schedules have been released (approximately 5 days before school begins), please log into your FACTS account. Information regarding new student set up will be sent home.

Teachers update RenWeb grade books throughout the week. Parents and students may log into RenWeb accounts to access student grades. Automated progress reports are emailed home every weekend. Please allow teachers one school week to grade papers and enter grades. Junior High teachers grade over 500 assignments per week, so your patience is greatly appreciated as Practice and Assessment scores are entered into RenWeb.

Homework is posted for the week in RenWeb by Monday morning. Please understand that this is a projection of the week's homework. It may change throughout the week due to teachers modifying lesson plans to best fit the needs of their students. All students are asked to utilize their iPad calendar and record their homework for each class. Teachers will help remind students of this on a regular basis, but it is the students' responsibility to track their homework using their iPad. RenWeb and Canvas are also a great resource for additional class resources and handouts if they are lost or misplaced. ☺

- **What can I expect during new student orientation(August 5th)?**

You will be given the opportunity to meet with the Head of School, your child's principal, meet teachers, see classrooms, follow your schedule, set up your iPad (textbooks, email, RenWeb, etc), pick up your class syllabi, Sign up for the JH retreat, Sign up for the 8th grade DC trip.

- **What do I need to do to set up my iPad?**

The tech office will prepare the iPads for each student. Each student will receive their email address and passwords. It is important to save all Passwords in a secure location and to not share passwords with fellow students. All students need to have a protective case by the first day of school (see supply list). All apps that you will need will be automatically loaded onto your iPad. Students are not permitted to download any apps. There will also be a **Junior High School tech help during lunch on August 11th - 13th**. This will be helpful for students who are still struggling to adjust to the iPads.

- **What is the best way to stay informed about Junior High?**

Email - this tool is used for students and parents. Parents, please make certain that your email address stays up to date in our records.

Facts - holds student records, grades, and homework

SCA Website - contains links to all departments - spend time in the Junior High section, sports, calendar, and resources. There is a wealth of helpful information

Social Media Channels - the Junior High department maintains a Facebook and Instagram account

Text Alerts - the Junior High will send text alert reminders when needed. **Parents, please make certain that the correct phone number is up to date in our records**

Junior High Parent News - information that pertains only to junior high will be sent home through email and social media throughout the year

- **What is the Junior High retreat?**

The entire Junior High goes off campus for a one day retreat at the beginning of the school year. This day serves to help set the tone for the year. Students are assigned their houses for the year, they get to sit in different workshops that deal with age appropriate discussions on bullying, social media, how to live out The Sader Way, and leadership tools. They will also be able to participate in house games and will be served breakfast and lunch. The students will be off campus from 8:00 am - 2:55 pm. Students are required to have a signed permission slip in order to participate.

- **Can my Junior High student have a cell phone during the day?**

S.C.A. encourages **waiting until 8th grade** to introduce a cell phone. Students in Junior High are **not** permitted to have a cell phone during the school day. There are **3 phones** available for use in the Junior High office. If your child has a cell phone, it must remain **powered down** and **in the bookbag** from the moment they exit the car until they are picked up, signed in to Crusader Care or go to sports practice.

- **What is Early Release?**

Students are released at 1:45 every Wednesday. This valuable time allows the teachers and staff of SCA to participate in professional development and engage in meaningful planning to continue to meet the needs of each student.

- **Where do I sit at lunch and how do I order my lunch?**

School officials will be present during lunch to help everyone get settled, and there will be signs posted on the tables so that students will know where to sit.

Parents will need to provide funds in their child's Facts lunch account in order for students to order lunch

- **What do I do if I do not know where to go during the day?**

Just ask any teacher or staff member, they will be happy to help. Your daily schedule will be in Facts. It is a good idea to screenshot your **schedule** and make it your **homescreen**.

Practice walking your schedule during orientation

- **Why do some 7th and 8th graders have a blank period in their schedule?**

The blank periods are elective periods for 7th and 8th graders. **If your student has not already signed up for their electives, this can be done during orientation or the first 2 days of school.**

- **When should I pick up my child?**

The school day ends at 3:00 for secondary students. It is recommended that secondary parents pick up their child around **3:05**, so they have time to gather their things and go to the car line. Car line is open until **3:20**.

Any student who is not picked up from the car line at **3:20** pm will be sent to after care for appropriate supervision (there is an additional charge for this service). **All Junior High students are required to be picked up in the Junior High car line. The High School car line may only be used if they have a High School sibling. Please do not ask your student to stand anywhere else on campus to be picked up. Junior High parents who do not have an elementary aged child will be issued a car tag to expedite the car line wait time.**

- **How do I contact my student's teachers?**

Teacher information is posted in Facts and on the school website (under the SCA Team section). The Junior High teachers teach approximately 140 plus students throughout the course of the day, so email is the best and most efficient way to contact teachers and school staff. Please allow at least two full school days for a response.

- **What is a redo?**

The grades at SCA are divided into **Practice** grades and **Assessment** grades. Practice grades are given throughout the unit of study to determine how the student is progressing with mastery of the material. Any practice grade that is below a 90 indicates that mastery has not been achieved. Students are offered an opportunity to ask the teacher for a redo in order to strengthen their understanding of the material **prior** to the assessment. Students can earn up to a 90 on a redo.

- **What if my child needs extra help?**

The Junior High teachers offer help classes one day a week after school. The teacher will be available for students to come and receive additional assistance with content they are learning in class. Help classes are for additional assistance but do not act as one-on-one tutoring. If a tutor is required, please contact Mrs. Kretzer for assistance. **Help Class schedules are posted in classrooms, the school website and will be emailed home.** Students who wish to attend help class should come to class with a specific question, homework assignment, or concept that they need assistance with.

- **How does the Junior High celebrate birthdays?**

Students are permitted to bring a birthday treat to share in Bible class. Please email the Bible teacher ahead of time, so that they can prepare.

Looking forward to a great 2025-2026 school year. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact akretzer@scacrusaders.com