

Items to remember for the beginning of the year in the Upper School

Summer Reading

Every student is expected to have read one or two books for English class (depending on the course and level) before the first day of school on Wednesday, August 5, 2015. These books will be the foundation of initial class activities, and you will be assessed on your understanding of the material. Please be prepared to discuss and analyze your summer readings once school begins.

Student Ambassadors

Every student new to USJ is assigned a Student Ambassador through the Student Government Association. Your ambassador will contact you before orientation and will serve as a “buddy” to guide you through your first year at USJ. The goal of the program is to make the transition to USJ more manageable and enjoyable for the newest members of the upper school.

New Student Orientation

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the USJ Library. Every student new to USJ will meet with the Student Ambassadors and will learn about the numerous opportunities available in the Upper School. There will also be a campus tour to help you find your way around USJ.

Freshmen Orientation

Wednesday, August 5, 2015, from 8:00-11:00 a.m. – meet in the Dement Gymnasium

During the orientation, you will follow an abbreviated class schedule, meet all your teachers, and receive assignments and supply lists. Please come prepared to learn!

10th, 11th, and 12th Grade Orientation

Wednesday, August 5, 2015, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. – meet in the Dement Gymnasium

During the orientation, you will follow an abbreviated class schedule, meet all your teachers, and receive assignments and supply lists. Please come prepared to learn!

Freshmen Retreat

Monday, August 3, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. We will depart from the Upper School front parking lot at 7:00 a.m. – Cost \$65

The ninth grade class will travel to Victory Ranch in Bolivar, Tennessee for our annual Freshmen Retreat. Activities will focus on the following themes: trust, leadership, communication, self-esteem, problem-solving, decision-making, teamwork, and respect. This event is a great way to develop new bonds and to strengthen existing bonds with classmates and faculty, and it has proven extremely valuable and rewarding for past classes.

Buses will depart from USJ at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, August 3 and will return at approximately 6:00 p.m. that same evening. The cost of \$65 covers registration, transportation, activities, and meals. Students must have a signed release form and an emergency medical information form (enclosed), clothes appropriate for physical activities (tennis shoes required), and a bathing suit. Victory Ranch requires girls to wear a one-piece bathing suit. Space on the buses is limited, so please one small bag or backpack per person. Checks should be made payable to USJ. **Please have the check and the release form returned to Kim Rainey by Tuesday, July 28, 2015.**

New Student Lock-in

Friday, August 14, 2015 at 10:30 p.m. to Saturday, August 15, 2015 at 6:00 a.m.

One of the highlights of the year is the annual New Student Lock-in hosted by the SGA. Bowling, roller-skating, and a scavenger hunt are just a few of the fun activities planned for the night. Every student at USJ wants to come to this, but only those who are new to USJ can!

Please let us know if you have any questions. Please do not hesitate to call Mr. Murphy at 731-695-5619.