

Good Morning, Silver Knights! Today is Friday, January 11th and values matter today and everyday at Jose Marti MAST. This month, the Values Matter Miami Core Value is the Pursuit of Excellence.

Please rise for the pledge of allegiance.

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Please remain standing for a moment of silence. *MOMENT*

You may be seated.

Students, make sure you return the acknowledgement form, with your parent signature, of the updated Code of Student Conduct. Homeroom teachers, please make sure your students return these forms as soon as possible.

If you need help with your math homework, you can get help from our math honor society every Monday and Thursday after school in room 1328.

If you need help in Algebra 1, you can get help from Mrs. Henderson every Wednesday in room 1328, after school.

Middle school students, do you play golf? Then join the Golf Team by meeting Mr. Cruz in room 1120 next Monday. Golf tryouts will take place Monday, January 14th afterschool. Meet in Mr. Cruz's class.

F.E.A. and Drama will be having a mandatory meeting on Monday, January 14th at 2:25 in room 1228. Please be on time; refreshments will be served. All members must attend.

Seniors, the last day to pay for the senior breakfast is Monday, January 14th. Please see Dr. Lopez during home room only if you would like to attend. Also, Grad Bash payments are being accepted through Monday, January 28th.

High school students. Do you need to improve your SAT Math Score? Swing by room 1328 next Wednesday, January 16th, after school for peer tutoring with SAT Math questions.

Students, do you like to tweet? We need your help by tweeting about the great things happening at our school. Please be sure to tweet out Hands on Learning and then tag our school at @JoseMartiMAST. We will then re-tweet to help get the word out about our great school.

Today is Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

Human Trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purpose of unpaid labor or a commercial sex act. Force, fraud or coercion are methods used to get an individual to comply.

An estimated 100,000 children are trafficked each year in the United States. The average age is between 12-14 years. Any child, male or female, is vulnerable. Recruitment occurs on the internet, in the malls, in the parks and in schools. Human Trafficking is non-discriminatory. Children from all ethnicities and socio-economic groups are trafficked.

South Florida is third in the nation for sex trafficking. Human traffickers pick on the most vulnerable people in our communities. Those that are vulnerable include runaways, children who have been rejected, ejected, or abandoned by parents or guardians, and young people who are experiencing family problems. Signs of human trafficking include unexplained absences from school, chronic running away, frequent travel and suddenly being in possession of expensive items.

Awareness and reporting are the best ways to combat this crime. If you or any one you know is a victim of human trafficking, please report it to a counselor, a teacher or an administrator. You may also report it to the police or call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888. Let's shine a light on this crime that affects the most vulnerable members of our society.

That's it for us today, Silver Knights. Have a great day!