



**May 24, 2026**

We thank the JRMS PTA and the Redding/Easton Boys and Girls Club for hosting an intramural basketball session with Joel Barlow athletes. A good time was had by all, and our students experienced a real workout. The \$700 raised by the event will help purchase a permanent nine-square court for our recess area. We thank all of the planners and volunteers who made this happen.



We thank the JRMS PTA for providing students with fresh fruit and water as snacks on testing days.

In case you missed it, Dr. McKinnon posted a press release announcing the new JRMS Principal.

## ***Redding Public Schools Announces Appointment of Christopher Geissler as Principal of John Read Middle School***

*Redding, CT — Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jason McKinnon announced the appointment of Christopher Geissler as the next Principal of John Read Middle School. Mr. Geissler will be taking over from Principal Jennifer Desmarais following her well-earned retirement and distinguished service to Region 9 and the Redding Public Schools.*

*Mr. Geissler brings more than 24 years of educational experience and a distinguished background in instructional leadership, school culture, inclusive practices, and community engagement. He has served as Principal of Middle Gate School in Newtown for the past 15 years, where he led all aspects of school administration, including curriculum and instruction, staff supervision and evaluation, school safety, budgeting, scheduling, strategic planning, and social-emotional learning initiatives.*

*Prior to his tenure in Newtown, Mr. Geissler served as Assistant Principal at Fairfield Woods Middle School in Fairfield. In that role, he gained extensive middle school leadership experience overseeing student support systems, school operations, scheduling, professional development, curriculum initiatives, and collaborative team structures tailored to the middle school environment.*

*“Chris is an experienced and highly respected educational leader whose student-centered approach, collaborative leadership style, and commitment to building strong relationships stood out throughout the selection process,” said Superintendent McKinnon. “He understands the unique needs of middle school students and has consistently demonstrated the ability to foster positive school culture, support staff growth, and engage families as partners in education.”*

*“During the interview process, it became apparent that Chris’s approach to leadership is driven by his care for students and a genuine approach to relationships. Not only will Chris bring his experience as a strong instructional leader, but he also understands the importance of culture and community,” said Laura Worosz, Board of Education Chairperson. “He is a rare combination of a true listener and a strong leader.”*

*References described Mr. Geissler as visible, approachable, compassionate, and solutions-oriented. Colleagues highlighted his ability to build authentic relationships with students, staff, and families through open communication, collaboration, and a consistent presence within the school community.*

*“I am honored and excited for the opportunity to join the John Read Middle School community,” said Mr. Geissler. “I look forward to partnering with students, staff, and*

families to continue fostering a positive, inclusive, and engaging learning environment where all students can thrive.”

Mr. Geissler holds a Sixth Year Degree in Educational Leadership from Sacred Heart University, a Master of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Bridgeport, and Connecticut certification as an Intermediate Administrator and Supervisor.

He will officially begin his role as Principal of John Read Middle School on July 1, 2026.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday, May 25 - No School - Memorial Day
- Tuesday, May 26 - PTA Meeting 9:00 am - Community Room
- Thursday, May 28 & Friday, May 29 - 8th Grade Field Trip to Boston
- Friday, May 29 - NO SOP CLUB
- Wednesday, June 3 - 8th Grade Luau
- Thursday, June 4 - Art Show 5:30 pm - 8 pm
- Thursday, June 4 - Choral Concert 7 pm - Gymnasium
- Friday, June 5 - 5th Grade Trip to Discovery Museum (Suba/Muscarelle)
- Tuesday, June 9 - 5th Grade Trip to Discovery Museum (Donnelly/Steeves/Vilanova)
- Monday, June 8 - 8th Grade Rock Climbing
- Tuesday, June 9 - 8th Grade Rock Climbing
- Tuesday, June 16 - 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony at Barlow (5:30 pm)
- Thursday, June 18 - 8th Grade Field Trip to Holiday Hill
- Friday, June 19 - Juneteenth Early Dismissal (12:40)
- Monday, June 22 - Final Day of School Early Dismissal (12:40)

## SBA/NGSS TESTING

SBA/NGSS Testing begins Monday, May 18.

SBAC Testing Schedule - 6th - 8th Grade ONLY				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18 NGSS Testing 8th Grade ONLY	19 SBA Testing ELA CAT	20	21 SBA Testing Math CAT	22 SBA Math PT 8th Grade ONLY
25 HOLIDAY	26	27	28 SBA Testing Math PT	29 ALL Make-ups
1 ALL Make-ups	2 ALL Make-ups	3 ALL Make-ups	4 ALL Make-ups	5 ALL Make-ups

SBAC Testing Schedule - 5th Grade ONLY				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18	19 SBA/NGSS Testing	20	21 SBA/NGSS Testing	22
25 HOLIDAY	26	27 SBA/NGSS Testing	28 SBA Testing Math PT	29 ALL Make-ups
1 ALL Make-ups	2 ALL Make-ups	3 ALL Make-ups	4 ALL Make-ups	5 ALL Make-ups

[Parent Presentation](#)



## 8th GRADE STUDENTS HONORED

Two JRMS students were recognized by the Connecticut Association of Schools on Monday, May 18, at the Aqua Turf Club for their contributions to the school community, scholarship, and leadership.

### Amelie Gerbracht

Teachers describe Amelie as a humble and thoughtful student. She is a deep thinker and likes to grapple with complex problems. Quiet by nature, Amelie leads by example. She is quick to step in when she sees a need. She is dependable, conscientious, and responsible. She serves as a role model for others, balancing her many out-of-school obligations with her schoolwork. No matter the situation, Amelie exudes a sense of calm. A can-do spirit that makes anything seem possible.

### Liam Lambrech

Each day, Liam greets each and every person in the building with a smile. Not only is he a strong student, but he cares about his community. As a musician, he brings music into our lives. He is a person who brings the school motto of “Be Kind” to life. He accepts all and transcends friend groups. He is somebody that we can count on to do the right thing.

## JRMS SPIRIT DAYS

### FUN FRIDAY SPIRIT DAYS

For the remainder of the school year

**FREAKY FRIDAY**

**Freaky Friday**  
Friday May 22nd

Students dress up as teachers. Teachers dress up as students.

**First Letter of Your Name Day**  
Friday May 29th

Dress up as anything that begins with the first letter of your name

**Rainbow Color War**  
Friday June 5th

In recognition of Pride month that begins on June 1st

Grade Level Rainbow Color War—Which grade will wear the most rainbow



Christopher

**Decades Day**  
Friday June 12th

Dress accordingly:

5th Grade - 1960's, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - 1970's,  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade - 1980's, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - 1990's  
Staff - The Future





**Anything but a Backpack**  
Friday June 19th

Must be able to go up stairs and be carried for the WHOLE day

## JRMS at BARLOW PALOOZA

Approximately 50 JRMS students had their art showcased at the annual Future Falcons Joel Barlow Palooza on May 21. It was a wonderful evening celebrating the incredible creativity and talent of our students, and we were so proud to see their amazing artwork on display for the community to enjoy.



## SUMMER ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS



**JOHN READ MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**2026 SUMMER ENRICHMENT ACADEMY**

- ★ Week 1: June 29 - July 2 (4 day week)
- ★ Week 2: July 6 - July 10
- ★ Week 3: July 13 - July 17
- ★ Week 4: July 20 - July 24
- ★ Week 5: July 27 - July 31



John Read Middle School  
Dream. Create. Innovate.

Linked is the live Summer Enrichment Academy Brochure with an internal link for registration.  
Registration is now open.

[Summer Enrichment Academy 2026](#)

[2026 Summer Enrichment Registration Form](#)

## **HIKING OPPORTUNITY: Contact Scouts to Attend**



**Love Spending time In the outdoors?**

**Interested In leadership opportunities?**

**Want to meet fellow outdoorsy girls in the community?**

**Have you ever wanted to try camping, hiking, and other outdoor recreation?**

**Join Redding Troop 306 for a hike of Saugatuck Falls Natural Area on**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:50 In front of JRMS**

**Scouting America Troop 306 is open to girls age 11-17**

**Please contact Kelly Donahoe at**

**t306scoutmaster@gmail.com**

**for more info or to RSVP**



# SAVE THE DATE



## JRMS SPRING CHORUS CONCERT

PERFORMANCES BY THE  
5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CHORUS,  
6<sup>TH</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CHORUS &  
THE JRMS CHAMBER CHOIR

JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

7:00PM IN THE JRMS GYM

*JRMS*  
ART SHOW



Art by Genevieve Gelineau

*John Read Main Hallway*

June 4<sup>th</sup> 5:30-8:00

\*\*\*\*\* COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS \*\*\*\*\*

**MARK TWAIN LIBRARY**

Take a look at the many teen offerings offered by the folks at the Mark Twain Library. [MTL Teen Offerings](#)



**NEW POND FARM**

AND other programs at the Farm. <https://newpondfarm.org/>





## 2026 SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CAMPS & CLINICS

 JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL, 100 BLACK ROCK TPK, REDDING, CT 06896

**NEW:** email & contact info:  
 Email: [ctcrushvb@gmail.com](mailto:ctcrushvb@gmail.com)  
 Mavi @ 917 767-2044

➔ All players, please use new e-registration form.



**E-Registration**

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL														
<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>SUMMER CLINIC</b></p> <p>Tues/Thurs Evenings 5:30-7:30pm</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><u>Tues</u></td> <td style="border: none;"><u>Thurs</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">June 30</td> <td style="border: none;">July 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">July 7</td> <td style="border: none;">July 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">July 21</td> <td style="border: none;">July 23</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">July 28</td> <td style="border: none;">July 30</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Aug 4</td> <td style="border: none;">Aug 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Aug 11</td> <td style="border: none;">Aug 13</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Tues</u>	<u>Thurs</u>	June 30	July 2	July 7	July 9	July 21	July 23	July 28	July 30	Aug 4	Aug 6	Aug 11	Aug 13	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>MINI CAMPS</b> (check all that apply)</p> <p>Tues/Wed/Thurs 9am-11:30am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> June 30-July 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> July 7-9</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> July 28-30</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Aug 4-6</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Aug 11-13</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>MINI CAMPS</b> (check all that apply)</p> <p>Tues/Wed/Thurs 9am-11:00am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> June 30-July 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> July 7-9</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> July 28-30</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Aug 4-6</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Aug 11-13</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>SUMMER CAMP</b></p> <p>Aug 17-21 9am-11:30pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>INVITATION ONLY</b>  <small>(Your player will receive an invitation by August 1st)</small></p> <p>Aug 11-15 1pm-4pm</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>SUMMER CAMP</b></p> <p>Aug 17-21 9am-11am</p> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>4 Sessions Get \$25 Off                      5 Sessions Get \$50 Off                      6 Sessions Get \$75 Off                      7 Sessions Get \$125 Off                      8 Sessions Get \$175 Off</p> <p>Ask about our sibling discount!</p> </div>
<u>Tues</u>	<u>Thurs</u>																	
June 30	July 2																	
July 7	July 9																	
July 21	July 23																	
July 28	July 30																	
Aug 4	Aug 6																	
Aug 11	Aug 13																	

Please check all sessions you will be attending!

ABSOLUTE ATHLETICS CT PRESENTS

# FUTURE FALCONS BASKETBALL CAMP

**SIGN UP  
HERE!**



**JULY 13-16, 2026**  
Boys Entering 1st - 4th Grade

<b>EARLY REGISTRATION</b>	<b>\$175</b>	<b>LATE REGISTRATION</b>	<b>\$250</b>
Before June 22nd		After June 22nd	

\* Includes a FREE T-Shirt For Each Participant \*

Location:

Joel Barlow High School

Times:

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

USE QR CODE OR THIS LINK TO REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/rQokPJzB9oyniEga8>

Instagram: @absoluteathleticsct

Facebook: Absolute Athletics CT

E-mail absoluteathleticsct@gmail.com

ABSOLUTE ATHLETICS CT PRESENTS

# FUTURE FALCONS BASKETBALL CAMP

**SIGN UP  
HERE!**



**JULY 20-24, 2026**

**Boys Entering 5th - 9th Grade**

**EARLY REGISTRATION \$300    LATE REGISTRATION \$375**

Before June 22nd

After June 22nd

**\* Includes a FREE T-Shirt For Each Participant \***

**Location:**

**Times:**

**Joel Barlow High School**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**USE QR CODE OR THIS LINK TO REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/rQokPJzB9oyniEga8>**

Instagram: @absoluteathleticsct

Facebook: Absolute Athletics CT

E-mail [absoluteathleticsct@gmail.com](mailto:absoluteathleticsct@gmail.com)

## REDDING-EASTON FOOTBALL (REF)

**REGISTER NOW!** For the 2026 Future Falcons Summer Camp

Run by Joel Barlow High School head coach TJ Cavaliere, JBHS Football Staff and players, this camp is to show the future falcons the game of football by running drills, learning plays, and scrimmaging to get the next generation of JBHS football players excited for the game of football.



SCAN ME

**When:** June 29 - July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9AM - 12PM

**Who:** Youth entering 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Where:** Joel Barlow High School  
Football Stadium

**Cost:** \$150 per child



Please be sure to have your child bring water and wear sneakers/cleats and athletic wear during camp. For those who register prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>, a T-shirt is included with your registration, however, after the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, we cannot guarantee your child will be able to get a shirt due to restrictions from the vendor.

**Look who's coming to Danbury for a live concert!**



Sophie Shao, cello

### Sophie Shao & Friends

Sunday, June 7 at 3 p.m.

Visual & Performing Arts Center,  
on the west side campus of  
Western Connecticut State University

43 Lake Avenue Extension, Danbury

**FREE admission for grades 3 to 12**

courtesy of the Danbury Cultural Commission.

Optional donations by accompanying adults are appreciated,  
in any amount you choose.



Carmit Zori  
violin



Cara Pogossian  
viola



Max Zeugner  
bass



Amy I-Lin Cheng  
piano

They'll play Elena Ruehr's Sonata for Cello and Piano; Schubert's lyrical "Trout" Quintet for Piano and Strings; and, to honor the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding, a piano trio by world-famous composer Charles Ives, a Danbury native.

No advance tickets are required: Arrive by 3 p.m., pick your seats (there's plenty of open, in-the-round seating) and enjoy the exciting sound of live music. After the performance, come meet the artists at our informal reception—all are welcome!

For information call Kathy Kloss at 203.938.8766 or, para español, Maria Del Pilar Vargas, 203.448.0294, or see [www.danburyconcert.org](http://www.danburyconcert.org)

**The Danbury Concert Association Inc.**

*Beautiful music... where you live*