

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of January 14

All School

Cozy Up: Pajamarama Is January 26

On Friday, January 26, St. Francis will celebrate our annual Barker's Pajamarama Day ingathering. On this day, **children in Primary, Lower, and Middle School are invited to wear appropriate pajamas to school to celebrate the *weeklong ingathering of pajamas, books, and other items.*** (If students choose not to wear pajamas, they may wear their regular uniform or house T-shirt and jeans.)

Named after Dianne Barker, head of Primary School from 1992–2008, Pajamarama continues the tradition she introduced of wearing pajamas to school one day a year in conjunction with collecting books for donation.

All donations will benefit [Arms Wide Adoption Services](#) (previously Spaulding for Children), an organization that supports foster children awaiting permanent homes. As in the past, the focus of the ingathering for Primary and Lower School is pajamas and books. **However, Arms Wide has asked for a variety of other items that will allow them to serve the children in their care more comprehensively. For this reason, the Middle School ingathering will focus on other items, as listed below under "What should you donate?"**

As usual, Pajamarama Day promises to be a lot of fun, and your support in helping our children become *people for others* is truly appreciated.

A few guidelines to remember:

- ***What should you donate?***
 - **Primary School and Lower School**—One pair of new pajamas and one new book in the zipper-lock bag sent home with your child
 - **Middle School**—The following items, in travel or regular size
 - Grade 5—Brushes and combs, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, shower gel
 - Grade 6—Socks, underwear
 - Grade 7—Wipes, toothbrushes, toothpaste
 - Grade 8—Pull-ups, diapers
- ***Where should you donate?***
 - PS—Boxes in the pods
 - LS—Pajama boxes in the People Place
 - MS—House boxes in the People Place
- ***When can you bring your donation?***
 - Monday, January 22–Friday, January 26

A Note From the Development Office: Woolrich Fund and Luncheon 2018

As we continue to seek ways to be good stewards of the philanthropic funds that are donated, St. Francis is committed to increasing transparency in how we raise, and spend, the donations from our incredibly generous donors. **Each month for the near future, we will focus on providing information about our most current fundraising efforts.**

For 13 years, the Sarah W. Woolrich Fund for Faculty has provided St. Francis faculty with the type of learning adventures that ignite classrooms, inspire curiosity, and bring the far-away to the fingertips. Established in honor of our esteemed first principal, Sarah W. “Sally” Woolrich, these awards underwrite unique professional development journeys that span the globe.

The Sarah W. Woolrich Fund for Faculty is an endowed fund at St. Francis. This means that the monies that are contributed are invested, and the monies spent are from the investment income. **The corpus of the Fund does not get spent, but rather generates a continual source of income. In this way, a gift to an endowed fund has an impact over a longer period of time.** The percentage of the overall value of the Fund that is spent is determined by the board of trustees.

[Click here to purchase a ticket to or table at the Woolrich Luncheon on February 8 or to make a donation.](#)

Announcing the 2018-19 Parents Association Board

Please join us in congratulating the newly slated 2018–19 Parents Association Executive Board. The following nominees have accepted officer roles for the coming school year:

- *President:* Maureen Perea
- *President-Elect:* Carol Lee Lyons
- *Treasurer:* Kasey Keller
- *Communications:* Audrey Chin
- *Curriculum Support:* Leigh Williams
- *Parent Education:* Paola Lehman
- *At Large:* Lauren Biggs

Uniform Resale Boutique: Pop-Up Shop This Thursday!

Come shop with us in the People Place this **Thursday, January 18, from 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

- \$5—Shirts, pants, shorts, and culottes
- \$10—Sailor dresses, with a free tie!
- Cash or check only, please

Donate your clean, gently used uniforms to make way for these great deals!

PA Parent Education Winter Event Is January 24

The birds and the bees ... oh help me, please!!

Presented by Megan Michelson of The Birds & The Bees, this program promises to empower parents and give you the tools you need to have age-appropriate conversations with your children about sex.

The breakfast will be held on **Wednesday, January 24, at 8:30 a.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall** on the Main Campus. Reserve your seat now at the [MySchoolAnywhere store.](#)

Primary School

From the Division Head

On **Friday, January 26**, Primary School will be hosting **Barker's Pajamarama Day**. Children may wear their pajamas to school on that day, will participate in special activities, and are encouraged to participate in the all-school ingathering.

Primary School will be collecting and donating new pajamas and books to Arms Wide Adoption Services, an organization that provides pajamas and books to foster children waiting for a permanent home in order to help create a warm and nurturing bedtime ritual.

The pajama ingathering is named after Dianne Barker, head of Primary School from 1992–2008, who started the Primary School tradition of wearing pajamas to school one day a year in conjunction with collecting books for donation.

In addition, the Parents Association has arranged for *Arts Alive!* to do a special music and movement activity with the children.

Important Information:

- Primary School's Barker's Pajamarama Day is on **Friday, January 26**.
- T/Th Pre-Primary students will celebrate Pajamarama Day on **Thursday, January 25**.
- All children may wear pajamas to school on their designated day.
- To participate in the ingathering, please place one pair of new pajamas and one new book in the zipper-lock bag that will be sent home with your child.
- Each bag will have a label attached. Please indicate on the label the age and gender of the child who should receive the pajamas and book. (Please try to coordinate the book and pajamas: For example, pajamas for a four-year-old girl should accompany a book that would likely appeal to a four-year-old girl.)
- Zipper-lock bags containing the pajamas and book may be brought to school between January 22–26.

Best,

Amy Whitley, MA
Head of Primary School

Primary School Dining Hall Menu

To view the Primary School Dining Hall menu for January, please click [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, January 15

- *Martin Luther King Day*: Student holiday (no school)
-

Tuesday, January 16

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.
-

Wednesday, January 17

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I and II students wear uniforms
-

Thursday, January 18

- *Primary II Winter Field Trip*: Students only
 - *T/Th Pre-Primary Fathers and Friends Breakfast*: 8:15 a.m.
-

Friday, January 19

- *MWF Pre-Primary Fathers and Friends Breakfast*: 8:15 a.m.
-

Monday, January 22-Friday, January 26

- *Pajamarama Ingathering:* Throughout the week; look for information in your child's blue bag this week
-

Tuesday, January 23

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.
-

Wednesday, January 24

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I and II students wear uniforms
-

Thursday, January 25

- *T/Th Pre-Primary Pajamarama Party:* 8:45 a.m.; students only
-

Friday, January 26

- *Barker's Pajamarama Day:* Students only

Lower School

From the Division Head

I hope you had a wonderful weekend!

This week I wanted to share a bit about our math progression in Lower School. We are making excellent progress in the curriculum!

- Our Primary II students are using the Bridges curriculum alongside Lower School; this provides a strong foundation on which to build. Our kindergarten and first-grade classes are using the on-level curriculum as a start, and our teachers are accelerating the students as they determine the need.

- **Differentiation in the classroom and flexible grouping are instructional strategies that aid in achieving this purposeful goal.** We continue to be diligent in creating an organic scope and sequence for instruction that is tailored to our students at each grade level.
- By second, third, and fourth grades—once each student’s foundation in math has solidified—teachers begin combining grade-level concepts that accelerate the students as determined by skill/concept acquisition. **By combining concepts and skills from the students’ current grade level with those covered in the next grade level, we ensure that we meet our students’ academic and developmental needs and help them continue progressing.**

I will continue to keep you updated on the classroom work and effort that goes into nurturing strong, engaged students. In the meantime, please reach out to your child’s teacher; our math specialist, Holly Plost; or me if you have questions about our math curriculum progression.

Also, **please mark your calendars for our Parent Meeting on Friday, January 26, at 8:15 a.m.** A guest from The Parish School will be speaking about developing social competence and resilience in our children. I look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Have a blessed week!

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

3d Lacrosse Clinic Sign-up

The St. Francis Athletics Department is excited to announce that it will be hosting a free **3d Lacrosse Clinic** again this year.

3d Lacrosse is the nation’s leading lacrosse training organization for youth. Last year’s clinic was a huge success, and we are fortunate to have 3d Lacrosse return for a second year in a row.

The event will take place February 10-11, 2018, at the St. Francis South Campus.

Saturday, February 10

8:00–9:30 a.m. Girls (Grades 3-5)
9:30–11:00 a.m. Boys (Grades 3-5)
12:00–2:00 p.m. Girls (Grades 6-8)
2:00–4:00 p.m. Boys (Grades 6-8)

Sunday, February 11

1:00–2:30 p.m. Boys (Grades 3-5)
2:30–4:00 p.m. Boys (Grades 6-8)

This free clinic is for St. Francis students only. Your young laxer will need to provide his or her gear and stick.

To sign up, please [send an e-mail to Coach Robinson](#), director of Middle School athletics, stating that your son or daughter would like to attend the 3d Lacrosse Clinic. In the e-mail, include your child's name and grade.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, January 15

- *Martin Luther King Day*: Student holiday (no school)
-

Wednesday, January 17

- *Regular Uniform Day*
 - *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between January 14-20 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Monday, January 22

- *Dress Uniform Day*
 - *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between January 21-27 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Friday, January 26

- *Barker's Pajamarama Day*: Students may wear appropriate pajamas to school; please see the All School section of this *Wolf Watch* for details
- *Lower School Parent Meeting*: Guest speaker from The Parish School is talking to us about developing social competence and resilience in our children; 8:15 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room

Middle School

From the Division Head

Happy Sunday, Middle School families. I hope you all are having a wonderful long weekend—one more day sure does help!

We have this Monday, January 15, away from school, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and it's important to remember his wisdom, faith, and courage. Author, motivational speaker, and marketing consultant Mr. Simon Sinek discusses the “power of why,” and he specifically references MLK’s transformational leadership [here](#).

This Wednesday, we are excited to host our very own eighth graders at our SFES Upper School for a visit and lunch. The students will tour the Crum Gym, the Design Den, as well as the Andrews and Richmond houses, and they will engage in some fun learning opportunities with members of our Upper School faculty.

Recently, I read [this](#) research study about how a rise in perfectionism since the 1980s has created the by-products of enhanced pressure, anxiety, and unhealthy competition within young people.

As Mr. Steve Lovejoy clearly articulated to our young Wolves in Middle School Chapel this past Monday, our community needs nothing more than for our students to live the mission of our great school. Whether it's picking up litter in the hallways, offering a kind greeting to guests on our campus, or thanking a teacher for his or her help, what separates our students from others is just that—they are people for others.

We need to celebrate our lack of perfection, for the imperfections make us who we are. After all, as MLK said, the true judge is “the content of our character.”

It's a beautiful day, and we are Wolves!

Connor Cook, EdD
Head of Middle School

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Mark Your Calendar

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- *Martin Luther King Day*: Student holiday (no school)

Tuesday, January 16

- *Regular Schedule/Regular Uniform Day*
- *Bible Study for Eighth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*

Wednesday, January 17

- *Regular Uniform Day/Regular Schedule for Grades 5-7/Special Schedule for Grade 8*
- *Bible Study for Seventh Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
- *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
- *Eighth-Grade Upper School Visit and Lunch: 12:00-1:10 p.m., South Campus*

Thursday, January 18

- *Regular Schedule/Regular Uniform Day*
- *Bible Study for Fifth and Sixth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
- *Middle School Councils: 9:15-10:00 a.m. in classrooms*

Friday, January 19

- *Regular Schedule/Regular Friday Uniform*
- *NJHS Meeting: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in Dr. Bedard's classroom*
- *WEB Activity: 10:45-11:15 a.m. in the fifth-grade classrooms*

Saturday, January 20

- *Annie Rehearsal: 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center*

Church

Disco Night Is February 3

Please join us on **Saturday, February 3**, for Disco Night, an adults-only party and fund-raiser for St. Francis Episcopal Church.

- Enjoy great food and music, silent and big board auction items, a wine toss, and fun with your St. Francis friends. The silent auction is filled with fabulous goods and services, and the spirited live auction includes exciting vacation getaways!
- Tickets will be on sale on Sundays at morning services, or you can purchase them online [here](#).
- To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please click [here](#).

Celebrate Good Times ...Come On!!

Shrove Tuesday Party Is February 13

Our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Mardi Gras Party is scheduled from **5:00-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13**—the evening before Ash Wednesday.

Join us for some family fun as we feast on pancakes, sausage, red beans and rice, and gumbo. There will also be crafts for the kids and Zydeco music provided by Rick Keith & friends.

For further details and to RSVP, [click here](#).