

# WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

## News for the Week of March 18

### All School

#### **Festival Fiesta 2018: Sunday, April 15**

Thank you to all the event and booth sponsors, ticket and T-shirt purchasers, faculty shirt underwriters, and dinero donors.

We want this Festival to have all the frills and thrills, and **there's still time to show your support by sponsoring one of the booths below or by sharing some dinero for a portion of the booth cost!**

**(IMPORTANT NOTE:** This is the **LAST WEEK** to purchase your T-shirts and tickets and to sponsor a booth. Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity to support the St. Francis One Community Fund!)

### The Bull Ring (on the Field)

- Figure 8 Obstacle Course
- Yard Wars (2 sponsors)
- Quad Jump
- Double Lane Slide
- Tubs of Fun (3 sponsors)
- LS/MS Silly String
- Hippo Chow Down (2 sponsors)
- High Striker

### The Plaza (on the OAC)

- Airbrush Painters

- Custom Leather Bracelets (2 sponsors)
- Face Painters
- Hair Spray
- Balloon Artist
- Pig Races (2 sponsors)
- Toro Toss
- Plinko

### **El Mercado (in the FAC)**

- Raising Cane's Chicken
- James Coney Island
- Pizza
- Grilled Burgers and Sausage
- All the Fixings
- Fiesta Snacks

Please note that if a booth doesn't have a sponsor, we won't be able to have the booth at the event.

### **REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE**

Remember, we have **online registration and payment** available.

- To view the printed packet, please [click here](#).
- For registration and payment, [click here](#).

### **WITH QUESTIONS**

If you have questions or did not receive your packet, please contact event chairs [Megan Tipton](#) and [Marjorie Dale](#).

### **Parent Community Bible Studies**

Please join us for upcoming Bible studies aimed at our parent community:

#### **MOMS' PRAYER DEVOTIONAL WITH MRS. HEINEMANN**

- **Wednesday, March 21, at 8:40 a.m. in the Chapel of St. Clare**
- This is a peaceful time of scriptural reflection, prayerful meditation, and supportive fellowship.
- All moms are welcome!

#### **DADS' BIBLE STUDY WITH FATHER WISMER**

- **Thursday, March 22, at 7:15 a.m. in the Christian Education Rooms** (at the end of the Middle School hallway)
- This study examines the New Testament book of James and seeks to apply it to life.
- All dads are welcome!

### **Please Wear Name Badges While on Campus**

Student safety is a top priority here at St. Francis. We take your children's well-being very seriously, not just because it is the right thing to do, but also because we genuinely love them.

- To help us in this effort, **all faculty, staff, and visitors should have a visible name badge while on campus.**
- Additionally, we ask that you **please make sure you are following our check-in procedures and sign in at the front desk.**

### **Primary School**

#### **From the Division Head: People for Others**

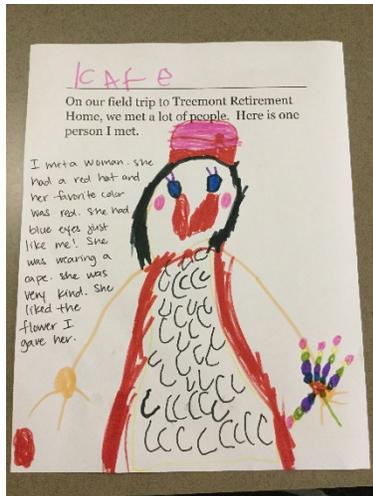
*"Let all that you do be done in love."*—1 Corinthians 16:14

At St. Francis, creating an environment that gives students opportunities to be *People for Others* is purposeful. Along with our families, who also value these experiences, we expose children to service leadership early on, beginning in the Primary School. The St. Nicholas Toy Ingathering and Pajamarama are traditions for our students that make it possible for us to have conversations about why it is important to help others, while giving thanks for our many blessings.

Recently, our Primary II classes had the opportunity to help others in very meaningful ways. They created handmade Valentine's Day cards for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House and for children at Texas Children's Hospital. We appreciate our parent volunteers for helping with this project and Beth Guinn for delivering the cards for us.

Last week, a field trip to Treemont Retirement Community gave our students time to visit with residents, sing songs, and deliver cards. You can imagine the joy the residents experienced seeing our happy children and joining them in

singing “This Little Light of Mine,” “God Sees the Little Sparrow,” and “Jesus Loves Me.” Father Wismer and Mrs. Heinemann joined our students and faculty at Treemont.



Our students' gifts of cards and painted paper flowers were special, but perhaps the most treasured gift was the time they spent talking with the residents. Children asked, “What’s your name?” “How old are you?” “What’s your favorite color?” and “What’s your favorite animal?” After returning to school, the children spent time journaling about this heartwarming experience. This field trip gave them a personal experience in sharing their time, talents, and treasures with others.

As our children grow older, there will be numerous opportunities for them to give of themselves. We are grateful for learning experiences such as these that impact others in such a positive and genuine way. Being *People for Others* is the St. Francis Way, and the Primary School is where it begins. Our community will be a better place because of our students' servant leadership. Thank you for your support of our mission!

Amy Whitley, MA  
Head of Primary School

### **Primary II Parents, You're Invited!**

The Lower School faculty invites you to the **Main Campus on Thursday, March 22, at 8:30 a.m.** for a presentation highlighting Lower School's programs and curriculum and for a school tour. See the students and teachers in their classrooms firsthand and get answers to any questions you have! The

presentation will be held in the **Hogan Board Room** (just off the People Place toward the church on the right).

While we did this presentation in the fall, we know many of you could not come. We hope you can join us this time! If so, please RSVP to Lower School Office Manager [Kristal St. Clair](#).

We look forward to seeing you on March 22!

Fondly,  
The Lower School Team

## **Reminders From the Primary School Clinic Manager**

### **ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL CLINICS ARE PAPERLESS**

Just a friendly reminder that St. Francis utilizes Magnus as our Medical Records Management System. All physical exams, immunization records, action plans, etc., must be scanned and uploaded into your child's Magnus account. Please do not send medical documents via your child's school bag or drop them off to a staff member.

### **ANNUAL PHYSICAL EXAM REQUIREMENT**

Headed to the doctor? Save an extra trip by having your doctor complete your child's required annual physical exam during your visit. Blank forms are available in your child's Magnus account. Should you have any questions, please e-mail [Michelle Ly](#) for assistance.

### **MEDICATIONS BELONG IN THE CLINIC**

I am more than happy to administer medication for your child as needed. Please note that medications must be dropped off and picked up from the clinic (not transported via the school bags), and be in the original container. In addition, we need to have a signed Medication Permission Form on file. This is available in Magnus, or you may sign a blank copy from the clinic.

It is an honor and privilege caring for your child.

Michelle Ly  
Primary School Clinic Manager

## Primary School Dining Hall Menu

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

### Mark Your Calendar

#### Tuesday, March 20

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.
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#### Wednesday, March 21

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I and II students wear uniforms
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#### Tuesday, March 27

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.
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#### Wednesday, March 28

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Blades drama performance; Primary I and II students wear uniforms
  - *MWF Pre-Primary Easter Egg Hunt:* Students only
  - *Primary II Fathers & Friends Lunch:* 11:00 a.m.; Please remember to bring lunch for your child!
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#### Thursday, March 29

- *T/Th Pre-Primary Easter Egg Hunt:* Students only
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## Friday, March 30

- *Good Friday*: Student holiday
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## Sunday, April 1

- *Easter Sunday*

## Lower School

### From the Division Head

Spring break is a wonderful time to relax and reset before we finish out the year. I hope each of you was able to spend refreshing time with family and friends.

I wanted to point out that this year we are adding a “**Next Year’s Grade Level Preview**” for all parents, backing up to your child’s Declamation day and time. You will enjoy hearing about your child’s grade level for next year, meeting the teachers, and seeing the classroom spaces. These previews are scheduled between April 17–23. Please see the school calendar for specific dates and times. This information will also be on your child’s Seesaw or website weekly update.

We had several students participate in the **PSIA District** meet again this year. We are very proud of our scholars! Below is the list of Lower School students who placed sixth or higher ... and we have four students representing Lower School at the state competition!

- **Mathematics 2–3**: Nicholas Hendricks, 4th place
- **Mathematics 4**: Christopher Zhang, 1st place; Will Burba, 5th place; Carlton Walton, 6th place
- **Music Memory 3–4**: Emma Salinas, 1st place; Christopher Zhang, 2nd place; Genevieve Ederle, 3rd place
- **Number Sense 4**: Christopher Zhang, 3rd place
- **Spelling 4**: Carlton Walton, 5th place
- **Creative Writing 1**: Alexis Chin, 5th place
- **Creative Writing 2**: Karina Shah, 6th place
- **Ready Writing 3**: Ashley Conoscenti, 1st place

- **Ready Writing 4:** Sophia Cabbage, 2nd place; Cindy Wang, 3rd place; Caroline Kubitza, 4th place
- **Storytelling 1:** Max Aviles, 2nd place
- **Storytelling 2:** Zaryan Merchant, 4th place
- **Storytelling 3:** Charlie Uerling, 6th place

Have a great week!

Carol Christ, MEd  
Head of Lower School

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Monday, March 19**

- *Dress Uniform Day*
  - *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between March 11-24 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
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### **Wednesday, March 21**

- *Regular Uniform Day*
  - *FAC Chapel:* 8:05 a.m.
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### **Thursday, March 22**

- *Second-Grade Biome Bonanza:* 1:00-1:45 p.m. in the second-grade pod and classrooms; parents welcome
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### **Monday, March 26**

- *Dress Uniform Day*
- *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between March 25-31 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today

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## Thursday, March 29

- *Dress Uniform Day*
  - *Maundy Thursday: Holy Week Eucharist, 8:05 a.m.*
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## Friday, March 30

- *Good Friday: Student holiday*

## Middle School

### **From the Division Head**

Hello, Middle School Families. I hope you all have had a wonderful spring break.

This week, our seventh-grade team hosts the Medieval Feast. Thanks go to Dr. Staller, Dr. Bedard, Mrs. Krueger, Ms. Pruett, and Mrs. Dawson for their planning and partnership with Eloise Taussig and Adrienne Cutter—our Feast chairs—as well as to our numerous parent volunteers for their help. I'm looking forward to seeing our school transform and turn back time for this great event.

On the Mind, Brain, and Education Science research front, I have included a very interesting article about remembering and forgetting [here](#). Our teachers have experimented with the process of interleaving throughout the 2017–18 year, spacing their direct instruction to better serve students' memory consolidation and recall. Battling the forgetting curve is a tough task, but our teachers and students are up for it.

I have included another [interesting article](#) about the use of cell phones at dinner, which is a challenge for all of us.

The fourth quarter begins this week, and it's a long stretch filled with wonderful activities in every division of SFES. I'm looking forward to a strong finish to the 2017-18 school year.

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

Connor Cook, EdD  
Head of Middle School

### **Seventh-Grade Medieval Feast Is Friday**

The Medieval Feast is **Friday, March 23!** Seventh-grade parents should plan to attend the **Grand Procession in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** The feast will be closed to parents at 12:00 p.m. so the kids can be fully immersed in medieval times.

All seventh-grade parents should have received a Paperless Post invitation to the **Medieval Feast Preview Party on Thursday, March 22, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall.** Please remember to RSVP.

If you would like to order individual or group pictures, **please return your photo form and payment to Dr. Staller by Thursday, March 22.**

### **2017–18 Winter Sports Season Recap**

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

The Varsity Blue girls basketball team finished with an overall record of 11–7. The Wolves were 8–4 in conference play, including a six-game winning streak to open conference play. The team advanced to the Houston Junior Preparatory Conference tournament semifinals before falling to the eventual conference champion. This was good for a top-four finish on the season. The team also took home a bronze division championship in the Kinkaid tournament. Overall, it was a very good year for the Wolves on the court.

“The girls put their all in this season,” said first-year head coach and former WNBA star Dominique Canty. “I noticed so much progress from the beginning of the season until the end. All the players put their hearts into it.”

The Sixth Grade Blue and White teams combined for 19 wins on the season. The Sixth-Grade Blue team took home second place in both the St. Mark's tournament as well as in our own St. Francis tournament. The Sixth-Grade White team won the St. Mark's tournament championship.

## **BOYS BASKETBALL**

Varsity Blue boys basketball finished the season with an overall record of 11–6. The team was 6–5 overall in conference play.

The Wolves accomplished some very good things on the court this year, including winning the Houston Christian eighth-grade tournament championship, advancing to the gold bracket of the Kinkaid tournament, and finishing the regular season on a five-game winning streak.

The Varsity White team finished the year with six wins, including back-to-back wins to close out the year.

The Sixth-Grade Blue and White teams combined for 18 total victories, including a first- and second-place finish at the Presbyterian KATS Classic tournament.

## **GIRLS SOCCER**

First-year head coach Jenny Gebhardt literally stepped off the playing field at HBU and onto the coaching field at St. Francis for this winter's soccer season. The Wolves finished the regular season with a 5–5 record in conference play. This record, although it was sufficient to get them into the tournament, does not reflect the amount of growth this team had over the course of the season.

Coach Gebhardt noticed an improved competitive nature from start to finish and an increased overall respect for the game. The team did many good things on the field this winter, and there were quite a few highlights. In game one of the ROBS tournament, the girls powered through freezing temperatures and fought hard against Duchesne to a 0–0 tie, which sent the game to overtime. The Wolves ended up winning the game in exciting fashion in penalty kicks. Another highlight was a 2–0 win over the eventual conference champion, St. John's. It was a rainy and muddy game, and the girls played extremely hard, coming out on top with a shutout win.

All in all, it was a great season for the girls, and they should be very proud!

## **BOYS SOCCER**

The Varsity boys soccer team started off the season with six straight wins. During the first few weeks of practice, the Wolves focused a lot on spacing, covering, and defending tactics. Mid-season, the team started to work on the quick switch of the field with a transitioning shift as a collective group, as well as on communication.

Things started to click as a team. There were a lot more touches on the ball, and the boys were looking great in their positions because they understood what to do in certain situations.

Team members dealt with some key injuries midway through the season, but kept working hard and relied on each other for support. The Wolves finished with an overall record of 8–6, and lost a hard-fought game to Kinkaid in the opening round of the conference tournament.

### **SWIMMING**

The St. Francis swim team had another super season in 2017–18. The young team consisted of 5 boys and 5 girls, all of whom were in sixth and seventh grades. For the first half of the season, only five members were able to compete due to the flu. Despite the challenges, the team showed a ton of improvement this season, with all swimmers dropping lots of time in their swims. A season highlight was when Matthew Thibault broke the school record in the boys 50-yard freestyle.

Next year should build on current successes, as this year's swimmers will be a year older and more members will be added to the team!

### **WRESTLING**

The young Wolves had a great season in 2017 and 2018. It was a small team in numbers, age, and size, which turned out to be a good thing for maximizing practice time and allowing additional focus on developing wrestlers.

Despite being young, the team had a great showing in the City of Houston tournament. The Wolves only brought six wrestlers; however, the team took away four medals, with Jack Hantak and Luke Romere winning silver, Jack Hardison winning the bronze, and Rob Britton making it to fourth in the city. In the state tournament, Hantak and Stanley Fowler made it to the quarter finals, while Romere and Hardison made it to the sweet 16.

Next year should see a bigger team, led by experienced wrestlers and replenished with young talent.

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Monday, March 19**

- *Regular Schedule/Dress Uniform Day*

- *Q4 Begins*
  - *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
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## **Tuesday, March 20**

- *For Grades 6-8: Regular Schedule/Regular Uniform Day*
  - *For Grade 5: Casual Dress Day*
  - *Fifth-Grade Day Trip to Camp Allen*
  - *Bible Study for Eighth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
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## **Wednesday, March 21**

- *Regular Schedule/Regular Uniform Day*
  - *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.*
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## **Thursday, March 22**

- *Regular Schedule/Regular Uniform Day*
  - *No Seventh-Grade Athletics Events Today*
  - *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*
  - *MS Class Meeting: 9:15-10:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center*
  - *Q3 Report Cards Online at Noon*
  - *Seventh-Grade Parent Medieval Feast Preview Party: 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
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## **Friday, March 23**

- *For Grades 5, 6, and 8: Regular Schedule/Regular Friday Uniform*
- *For Grade 7: Special Schedule/Regular Friday Uniform*
- *Seventh-Grade Medieval Feast: Wheatcroft Parish Hall*

- *NJHS Meeting: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in Dr. Bedard's classroom*
  - *Q3 MS/LS Student Art Show: March 23-29 on Main Street*
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### **Monday, March 26**

- *Regular Schedule/Dress Uniform Day*
  - *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
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### **Tuesday, March 27**

- *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*
  - *Eighth-Grade Trip Parent Meeting: 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center*
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### **Wednesday, March 28**

- *Regular Schedule/Regular Uniform Day*
  - *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.*
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### **Thursday, March 29**

- *Special Schedule/Dress 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*
  - *Eucharist Chapel (Maundy Thursday): 11:05-11:55 a.m.*
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### **Friday, March 30**

- *Good Friday*: Student holiday

## **Church**

### **Lenten and Holy Week Booklet Is Available Online**

Our Lenten journey began on Ash Wednesday. Lent is the season of preparation for Easter and a time of fasting, penitence, reflection, and prayer. Regardless of whether we are giving something up or taking something on, our focus is on Christ and coming to know and love Him better.

To view the St. Francis Lenten and Holy Week booklet online, [click here](#).

### **Father Bates to Lead Forgiveness Workshop**

Father Bates will lead a forgiveness workshop on **Saturday, March 24, from 9:00 a.m. to noon**. Consider whom you need to forgive and work through a process of learning to release others and yourself. Please RSVP to [Amy Homer](#) at 713.458.6307 if you plan to attend.

### **Good Friday: Children's Walk to Calvary With Father Wismer**

**Friday, March 30, at noon**, children meet with Father Wismer in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall to participate in their own journey of the Stations of the Cross.

- This is an interactive experience, and families are welcome to participate with their children.
- This year, we are asking our sixth graders to take on the responsibility of organizing and giving leadership.
- All children and youth are welcome.
- To participate, [sign up here](#).

### **Holy Saturday Baptisms**

Easter Eve baptisms take place at 4:00 p.m. in the church. If you would like to schedule your baptism for Holy Saturday, please contact [Amy Homer](#) at 713.458.6307.

## **Join Us for Daily Prayer During Lent**

During Lent, lay leaders and clergy will lead corporate offerings of the Daily Office in the Chapel of St. Clare.

- **Morning Prayer will be at 7:00 a.m., Mondays through Saturdays.**
- **Evening Prayer will be at 5:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.**
- These simple prayer offices, offered without sermons, are about 20 minutes long, start to finish.

We encourage you to enter into this rhythm of prayer as often as you can.