

WOLF WATCH

— W E E K L Y E - N E W S —

News for the Week of May 20

All School

IMPORTANT: Tools for Back-to-School Planning

Before you head into the summer sunset, please be sure to read the letter(s) from your division head(s) in this issue of *Wolf Watch* for **important fall save-the-date details** specific to your academic division. Then **visit the Parent Portal starting Friday, May 25**, to find the following resource links:

- Tommy Hilfiger School Uniforms brochure,
- Draft calendar for 2018–19,
- St. Francis parent group and campus volunteer information, and
- St. Francis Sports Association facts.

Please note: All wrap-up St. Francis communications can now be found in Wolf Watch and on our Parent Portal—replacing the end-of-year e-mail traditionally sent in early June.

Let's Rocket to Summer: Wear Your Spirit Gear Next Week!

In honor of the Rockets and of the last week of school, all students are invited to wear Rockets gear and T-shirts, and/or St. Francis spirit shirts, next week.

Announcing the 2018-19 All-School Read

Parents, please join us next year for an all-school read and book study. During the 2018–19 school year, we'll be exploring *The Self-Driven Child: The Science and Sense of Giving Your Kids More Control Over Their Lives*, by William Stixrud, PhD. Division heads will also be hosting cross-divisional discussions about the book throughout the year.

An Update from Maureen and Paul Perea, St. Francis Fund Chairs

What a week—thank you! So many of you responded to our message about the St. Francis Fund by making gifts last week, and we are pleased to report that *almost* every single grade level saw an increase in participation! Our overall parent participation stands at 55 percent, as compared to 98 percent participation by faculty and 100 percent by the Board.

There's still time, though! Click [here](#) to make a gift to support this year's St. Francis Fund, and [here](#) to view your class's participation. Any questions should be directed to [Faith Cohen](#), director of annual gifts, at 713.458.6129.

What a Milestone: Faculty Celebrate Years at St. Francis

We are honored to congratulate these members of our community on the following service milestones reached during the 2017–18 school year!

10 Years of Service

Veronica Crummel
Rose Ann Gregory
Vickie Lovejoy
Susan Meriwether
Elfego Reynaga
Andrea Scriber
Andrea Stidham

20 Years of Service

Leslie vanArsdale

Retirement After 43 Years of Service

Gesa Muxfeldt

Information and Discussion Guide: Second Season of *13 Reasons Why* Now on Netflix

Please note that Netflix debuted the second season of the highly controversial show *13 Reasons Why* this week. The series focuses on teen suicide, so if you plan to let your child or adolescent view it, we encourage you to watch it with them.

You may find the following resources helpful:

- Learn about the new [warnings, resources](#), and [protective features](#) Netflix has created related to the series.
- View a *13 Reasons Why* discussion guide [here](#).
- Read [what mental health experts think](#) of the series.
- Read [this article](#) about the second season, published by the National Association of School Psychologists.
- Read [Common Sense Media's review](#) of *13 Reasons Why*.

¡Los Lobos Tienen Éxito Otra Vez!

Twenty-seven St. Francis seventh graders and 35 eighth graders took the National Spanish Examination in April. This two-part online assessment tests vocabulary, grammar, listening comprehension, and reading comprehension.

Out of the 157,000-plus students who took the test nationwide this year, our St. Francis test takers made quite a showing!

Congratulations to the following medalists and honorable-mention recipients:

SEVENTH GRADE

- **Gold Medal:** Luke Romere
- **Silver Medal:** Sophie Denham, Estelle Robertson
- **Bronze Medal:** Natalie Boquist, Colton Matthews, Taylor Romere, Cameron Ederle, Carys Howell, Hunter Masterson, Taylor McMullen, Sydney Perlick, Dwight Solano

- **Honorable Mention:** Christian Mikkelson, John Bratten, Katelyn Cutter, John Gibson, Cole Huff, Ava Sweitzer, Kendall Blalock, Walker Deyo

EIGHTH GRADE

- **Gold Medal:** Sophia Crummel
- **Silver Medal:** Devin Dinsmore, Charlie Hartman, Lauren Little, Luke Weinzierl,* Kourtney Casey
- **Bronze Medal:** Makenzie Gill, Spencer Gray, Abhi Milind, Robert Morris, Foster Stephens, Kyle Braddock, Ashley Adams, Mary Lacy Rieke, Tatum Moore, David Hernandez, Diego Vergara, Pablo Vergara
- **Honorable Mention:** Berkley Matthews, Aidan Moore, Whitley O'Donnell, Audrey Post, Lauren Drury, Caldwell Graham, Michelle Iglesias, Sophie Lesniak, Wellsley Moore, Clayton Rice, Miya Voss, Claire Sanchez, Daniela Contreras, Kirk Hankamer

***Please note that Luke Weinzierl should have originally been listed as a silver-medal winner in eighth grade. Our sincerest apologies for the oversight!**

Check Lost and Found for Missing Items!

If your Lower or Middle School child is missing any items—clothing or otherwise—please be sure to check the Lost and Found area, which is **now located next to the Crum Library entrance in the closet under the fourth-and fifth-grade stairs.** It currently contains LOTS of St. Francis fleeces and sweatshirts, non-St. Francis clothing items, water bottles, and miscellaneous items.

Let the Music Play: Special Piano Sale

St. Francis will host a piano sale in conjunction with our educational piano loaner program with Kawai America Corporation. **On Wednesday, May 30, St. Francis parents are invited to a special pre-sale event featuring discounted purchase prices—and a bonus donation made to the school for every purchase!** Our School of Music students have benefited this year from use of these pianos in our practice rooms and music classrooms, and at

recitals and musical performances. Now students will have an opportunity to own the pianos on which they have been learning.

Additional pianos from other locations will also be available for sale. Please see [this letter](#) for more details and instructions for scheduling an appointment to view the pianos.

Update: \$68,750 Raised Toward \$150,000 Tellepsen Challenge

Thank you to all of those who have so generously stepped up for our children. We have three more weeks left in the challenge! If you would like to make a donation to the playground, you may do so using this [link](#). Please specify “Forward in Faith Campaign” in the drop-down menu, and under additional information, enter “Playground.” What this means for you is **double the giving power** of your Tellepsen Challenge donation! What it means for our Lower and Middle School students, however, is even more powerful. Outdoor play on fantastic updated and expanded facilities can only be made more special by the social, emotional, and physical boost that comes from time spent in nature among friends.

To help make this long-held dream a reality, please contact Head of Development [Kelly Cliburn](#) at 713.458.6172. And please join us in thanking the Tellepsen family for their game-changing kindness!

Parents, Please Take a Brief Survey to Help Us Plan

As part of our strategic planning process, we are surveying St. Francis parents. **Your input is critical in shaping our path forward.** Please take a moment to complete the survey, which is available by [clicking here](#).

Health Forms for 2018-19 Now Available

Information about health-related requirements and all the necessary health forms for 2018–19 are now available. You can access them through the Parent Portal using the “Magnus Health Information” link or by [clicking here](#).

Please note that completed Magnus Health forms for the 2018-19 school year are due by **Friday, June 1**.

2018-19 School Supplies: Online Ordering Now Available

School supplies may now be ordered online for the 2018–19 school year. Visit www.educationalproducts.com/shoppacks, and enter your division's ID code in the box provided:

- To order a school supply pack for a student in LOWER SCHOOL, enter the code STF001.
- To order a school supply pack for a student in MIDDLE SCHOOL, enter the code STF018.
- To order a school supply pack for a student in UPPER SCHOOL, enter the code STF079.

The deadline to order is Sunday, June 24, 2018.

Supplies will be delivered to your child's homeroom prior to the first day of school.

Please note:

- Incoming seventh, eighth, and ninth graders must have a TI-84 graphing calculator for the 2018–19 school year. If you don't already own one, you will want to purchase the newest model, the TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator. The TI-84 Plus CE is approximately \$135-\$165.
- Similarly, incoming sixth graders will need to purchase a TI-30Xa scientific calculator for the 2018–19 school year if they don't already own one. These are approximately \$12-\$15.
- *These items can be found at local and online retailers.*

Please [e-mail Kim Graeter](#) with questions.

Sign Up for Summer Camp Notes by Tomorrow

Summertime is almost here—and that means summer camp! As your children head off toward adventure, help Father Wismer or Mrs. Heinemann send them a bit of St. Francis love by completing [this form](#). **The sign-up deadline is tomorrow, May 21.**

Donate Your Gently Used School Uniforms for Resale

As the school year comes to an end and the kiddos get bigger, it's time to clean out those closets and make room for summer!

Please bag up any *clean, gently used* uniform items your child has outgrown and drop them at the location that's most convenient for you:

- On the **Main Campus**, please leave them at the front desk with Rose Ann Gregory.
- On the **South Campus**, please leave them at the front desk with Leslie vanArsdale.

Questions? E-mail [the Uniform Resale Boutique](#).

Thank you!

Angela Bookmyer, Jill Smith, and Kristin Valicek

Primary School

From the Division Head

To all of our new families, welcome to St. Francis's Primary School—you are about to experience amazing things! To our returning families, thanks for a great year! St. Francis is an awesome place to grow up.

As the school year comes to a close, we are already planning for an exciting 2018–19. I am honored to begin my second year with you. I know that you share the feeling I had when I first visited this wonderful school. It was evident that this is a place where people genuinely care for each student as an individual, and seek to help each child achieve his or her personal best. With the upcoming launch of the St. Francis Upper School division, it is truly an exciting time for our community.

While you make plans for the coming year, please note the following dates. (All events take place on the South Campus.) ***Primary II parents, be sure to read Carol Christ's letter in the Lower School section of Wolf Watch this week, as well, as it outlines important dates for rising kindergarteners.***

- **Friday, May 25**—Check the St. Francis Parent Portal for these helpful links: Tommy Hilfiger School Uniforms brochure, draft calendar for 2018–19, St. Francis parent group and campus volunteer information, and St. Francis Sports Association details for Primary II students.
- **Tuesday, August 21**—If you are new to St. Francis, you will want to attend our New Family Chapel at 3:30 p.m. All are then invited to our Primary School Meet the Teacher event from 4:00–6:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, August 28**—We will host our New Parent Meetings at 8:15 a.m. for Pre-Primary parents and 10:00 a.m. for Primary I and Primary II parents.

If there is anything we can help you with, please feel free to contact the Primary School Office at 713.458.6166. This summer, St. Francis will be open from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. All school offices will be closed on Fridays.

Have a fabulous summer, and we will see you in August!

Sincerely,

Amy Whitley, MA
Head of Primary School

Let's Rocket to Summer: Wear Your Spirit Gear Next Week!

In honor of the Rockets and of the last week of school, all students are invited to wear Rockets gear and T-shirts, and/or St. Francis spirit shirts, next week.

Morning Bus Service Will Be Discontinued in 2018-19

At the beginning of the 2017–18 school year, St. Francis began offering a morning bus service that ran from the Primary School to the Lower School. We were happy to serve our community during a very hectic start to the semester due to Hurricane Harvey, and a few people did use the service. However, use has dwindled, so we have made the decision to discontinue the service in 2018–19 so that the St. Francis buses can be available for other uses, including as field trip transportation. Thank you for your understanding as we continue to strive to be the best possible stewards of our resources.

Announcing the 2018-19 All-School Read

Parents, please join us next year for an all-school read and book study. During the 2018-19 school year, we'll be exploring *The Self-Driven Child: The Science and Sense of Giving Your Kids More Control Over Their Lives*, by William Stixrud, PhD. Division heads will also be hosting cross-divisional discussions about the book throughout the year.

Last Day for After-School Care Is May 24

The last day for regular Explore and Extend after-school care is Thursday, May 24.

Thanks to all for a great school year! Registration for after-school care for fall 2018 will open on Monday, August 13.

St. Francis Summer Camps: Spaces Still Available

Summer vacation is right around the corner, but if you haven't gotten around to registering your child for Summer on the Point—St. Francis's beloved summer program—it's not too late! The following Primary School camps still have space available:

June 4-8

Things That Go (full-day and half-day still open)
Mini-Stars Soccer (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

June 11-15

A Week with Mo Willem (full-day and half-day still open)
Gymnastics (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

June 18-22

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom (full-day and half-day still open)

June 25-29

Tae Kwon Do Fun Camp (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)

For more information and to register, [click here](#) or select "Program Registration" in My BackPack.

Parents, Please Take a Brief Survey to Help Us Plan

As part of our strategic planning process, we are surveying St. Francis parents. Your input is critical in shaping our path forward. Please take a moment to complete the survey, which is available by [clicking here](#).

Primary School Dining Hall Menu

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

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, May 21

- *MWF Pre-Primary End-of-Year Party: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, May 22

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *T/Th Pre-Primary End-of-Year Party: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, May 23

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I and Primary II students wear uniforms*
 - *Primary I End-of-Year Party: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Thursday, May 24

- *Primary II End-of-Year Party: 1:00 p.m.*
-

Friday, May 25

- *Last Day of School!*
- *Early Dismissal at 11:00 a.m. for Primary School*
- ***No Explore and Extend Today***

Have a great summer!

Lower School

From the Division Head

As I sign off for this school year, I want to extend an official welcome to all of our new families who will join the Lower School this coming fall! While our Primary II friends are not technically new to St. Francis, they will be fresh-faced in our division and on the Main Campus.

To our current families, thank you once again for entrusting us with your child's educational journey.

This past year was one of tremendous progress. We stayed the course in executing best practices in education and examining how we can continue to grow. The 2018–19 year will be a time of self-study to prepare for our accreditation the following year; we will also be developing our strategic plan for the school. These are very exciting and dynamic processes—and ones in which you will certainly play a part. I feel honored to be a member of such a collaborative, supportive community.

On a practical note, please mark your calendar with the following important dates:

- **Friday, May 25**—Check the St. Francis Parent Portal for these helpful links: Tommy Hilfiger School Uniforms brochure, draft calendar for 2018–19, St. Francis parent group and campus volunteer information, and St. Francis Sports Association details.
- **Monday, August 20**—If you are new to St. Francis, you will want to attend our New Family Chapel at 3:30 p.m. in the church. Then, stay for our Meet the Teacher event from 4:00–6:00 p.m. If you are a new

kindergarten parent, we will also offer a very informative parent meeting for you at 6:15 p.m. (We will have some teachers on hand to care for any students who attend.)

- **Monday, August 27**—We will host a meeting for returning families at 8:15 a.m., followed by a New Family Meeting for all new families at 2:00 p.m. Both events will be held in the Hogan Board Room on the Main Campus.

Contact the Lower School Office at 713.458.6122 if you have questions or if we can assist you with anything. Our office manager, Kristal St. Clair, is a wealth of knowledge!

This summer, St. Francis will be open from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. All school offices will be closed on Fridays.

Have a restful and enjoyable summer, and we will see you in August!

Sincerely,

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

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- Read [this article](#) about the second season, published by the National Association of School Psychologists.
- Read [Common Sense Media's review](#) of *13 Reasons Why*.

Handouts for 'Avoiding the Summer Slide' Presentation

We recently hosted a very informative parent meeting for rising second-, third-, and fourth-grade parents on the topic of avoiding the summer slide. Kiddos lose so much traction over the summer, and we all shared ideas on how to keep learning fun and engaging. Click [here](#) for the presentation; click [here](#) for the summer math ideas handout; and click [here](#) for ideas on fun math games.

Last Day for After-School Care

Monday, May 21, is the last day for Short Stay after school. Middle School has

early dismissal for the remainder of the week, and there is no 3:45 p.m. carpool after May 21. All Lower School students either should be picked up in the 3:15 p.m. carpool or should attend Explore and Extend after school.

The last day for regular Explore and Extend after-school care is Thursday, May 24.

Thanks to all for a great school year! Registration for after-school care for fall 2018 will open on Monday, August 13.

St. Francis Summer Camps: Spaces Still Available

Summer vacation is right around the corner, but if you haven't gotten around to registering your child for Summer on the Point—St. Francis's beloved summer program—it's not too late! The following Lower School camps still have space available:

June 4–8

Ade Youth Soccer Camp (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
Pokémon World Building (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
Kickboxing Fundamentals (1:00–4:00 p.m.)
Volleyball for Grades 2–5 (8:00–10:00 a.m.)

June 11–15

Kitchen Chemistry (half-day and full-day camps available)
Wolf Ninja Warriors (1:00–4:00 p.m.)
Variety Dance Camp (1:00–4:00 p.m.)

June 18–22

Fashion Time Machine (Art and Design!) for Grades 2–6 (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
Geometrical Design with Amanda Heidemann (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
Lego Robotics for Grades 2–5 (9:00–11:00 a.m.)
Fun with Fairytales for Grades K–2 (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)

June 25–29

Amazing Race Bakeries (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
Hip Hop and Jazz (12:00–1:30 p.m.)
Table Top and Role Play Games (1:00–4:00 p.m.)

For more information and to register, [click here](#) or select “Program Registration” in My BackPack.

Parents, Please Take a Brief Survey to Help Us Plan

As part of our strategic planning process, we are surveying St. Francis parents. Your input is critical in shaping our path forward. Please take a moment to complete the survey, which is available by [clicking here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, May 21

- *Dress Uniform Day*
 - *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between May 20-31 and in the month of July will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Friday, May 25

- *Fourth-Grade Completion Ceremony:* 10:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center
- *Last Day of School/Early Dismissal:*
 - 11:15 a.m.—Kindergarten and First Grade
 - 11:30 a.m.—Second, Third, and Fourth Grade

Middle School

From the Division Head

Happy Sunday, Middle School families—I hope this finds you all well today.

I want to welcome our new Middle School families to the Wolf Den! We are excited for the journey ahead with our new students.

Thank you all for a wonderful 2017–18 school year! With your support and partnership, we have provided our students with an excellent educational experience. It has been an honor and a privilege to celebrate our students' greatest victories, as well as to help them learn from their greatest challenges. Thank you all for trusting our faculty and staff to care for our young people during these formative years.

The homestretch is here: We've reached the last week of school. During finals and final assessments, it's important for our students to get plenty of sleep, eat well, hydrate regularly, and get outside as much as possible. We have special schedules and events planned, so please take a moment to review the Middle School events calendar below.

On the Mind, Brain, and Education Science front, I've included [this](#) article about the teenage brain. This piece brings us full circle with the work our faculty has done all year. It also provides a springboard for next year's deeper dive into research-informed strategies, which will deepen our students' understanding of their brains' learning processes.

Our back-to-school e-mail will go out in early August. This communication will provide additional information for the start of the school year. In the meantime, please note the following important dates:

- **Monday, May 25**—Check the St. Francis Parent Portal for these helpful links: Tommy Hilfiger School Uniforms brochure, draft calendar for 2018–19, St. Francis parent group and campus volunteer information, and St. Francis Sports Association details.
- **Tuesday, August 21**—If you are new to St. Francis, you will want to attend our New Family Chapel at 1:30 p.m. and our New Student Orientation at 2:00 p.m. New and returning families are encouraged to attend our Meet the Teacher event, pick up schedules, and set up student lockers from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Over the summer, please contact the Middle School Office at 713.458.6140 with any questions you may have as you prepare for the new school year. We are here from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. All school offices will be closed on Fridays.

You can also reach [Cathleen Flaniken](#), our division office manager, via e-mail.

On a much lighter note, I hope the Rockets win today—and I hope you all have a great week.

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

Sincerely,

Connor Cook, EdD
Head of Middle School

Let's Rocket to Summer: Wear Your Spirit Gear Next Week!

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- View a *13 Reasons Why* discussion guide [here](#).
- Read [what mental health experts think](#) of the series.

- Read [**this article**](#) about the second season, published by the National Association of School Psychologists.
- Read [**Common Sense Media's review**](#) of *13 Reasons Why*.

Last Day for After-School Care Is May 24

Tuesday, May 22, through Thursday, May 24, are early dismissal days for Middle School. Explore and Extend is available on these days, beginning at 12:15 p.m. Students will have time for lunch, study time, and quiet individual time before regular after-school care begins. To make reservations, e-mail [**Margaret Newsom**](#).

The last day for regular Explore and Extend after-school care is Thursday, May 24.

Thanks to all for a great school year! Registration for after-school care for fall 2018 will open on Monday, August 13.

St. Francis Summer Camps: Spaces Still Available

Summer vacation is right around the corner, but if you haven't gotten around to registering your child for Summer on the Point—St. Francis's beloved summer program—it's not too late! The following Middle School camps still have space available:

June 5–7

Dr. Connor Cook presents Wolves Lacrosse Sticks Camp for boys in grades 4–6.

June 4–7 and July 30–August 2

Coach Cydryce McMillian offers volleyball for girls in grades 2–12.

June 4–15

Coach Steve Johnson heads up 7-on-7 football camps, which will culminate with a fun tournament.

Amy Chandler offers ceramics and jewelry making to Middle School and Upper School girls.

Steve Johnson offers robotics, electronics, and 3-D design to Middle School students.

June 25–29

Leveil Lander offers basketball for Middle School students.

July 23–August 6

We offer sessions in math, writing, keyboarding, Spanish, and technology. These are designed to prepare students for the new school year.

For more information and to register, [click here](#) or select “Program Registration” in My BackPack.

Parents, Please Take a Brief Survey to Help Us Plan

As part of our strategic planning process, we are surveying St. Francis parents. **Your input is critical in shaping our path forward.** Please take a moment to complete the survey, which is available by [clicking here](#).

Join the Shutterfly Account for Your Child's Class

Please consider joining the Shutterfly account for your child's class. As parents, we often take great photos of sports events, school events, and special times at St. Francis. Photos from these sites are frequently used by the yearbook team, during Honor the Wolves, and by alumni and parents who want to keep a record of their time in the Wolf Den.

- If your child is currently in eighth grade, please join [here](#).
- If your child is currently in seventh grade, please join [here](#).
- If your child is currently in sixth grade, please join [here](#).
- If your child is currently in fifth grade, please join [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, May 21

- *Grades 5-7: Regular schedule; dress uniform day*

- *Grade 8*: Special schedule; casual dress day (per *School Handbook* guidelines)
 - *Grade 5 Has PE*
 - *End of Fall Preview*: 3:00-3:45 p.m.
 - *Chapel*: 10:45-11:15 a.m.
 - *Regular Dismissal*: 3:45 p.m.
 - *MS Final Exams*
 - *Graduation Rehearsal*: 3:05-3:45 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center and Chapel
-

Tuesday, May 22

- *Grades 5-7*: Special schedule; regular uniform day
 - *Grade 8*: Special schedule; casual dress day (per *School Handbook* guidelines)
 - *MS Final Exams*
 - *Chapel*: 8:05-8:25 a.m.
 - *Study Hall and Locker Clean Out*: 11:45 a.m.-12:10 p.m.
 - *Early Dismissal*: 12:15 p.m.
-

Wednesday, May 23

- *Grades 5-7*: Special schedule; regular uniform day
- *Grade 8*: Special schedule; casual dress day (per *School Handbook* guidelines)

- *MS Final Exams*
 - *Study Hall and Locker Clean Out: 11:45 a.m.-12:10 p.m.*
 - *Early Dismissal: 12:15 p.m.*
-

Thursday, May 24

- *Grades 5-7: Special schedule; regular uniform day*
- *Grade 8: Special schedule; house T-shirts, athletic shorts, and athletic shoes*
- ***MS Last Day of School***
- *MS Final Exams*
- *Locker Clean Out: 11:45 a.m.-12:10 p.m.*
- *Early Dismissal: 12:15 p.m.*
- *Eighth-Grade Field Day: 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the field, in the gym, and on the Outdoor Activities Center*
- *Eighth-Grade Graduation Rehearsal: 11:10 a.m.-12:10 p.m. in the Chapel and the Fine Arts Center*
- *Eighth-Grade Graduation Group Photo: **MUST ARRIVE BY 5:30 p.m.**; photo will be taken in the Chapel*
- *Eighth-Grade Graduation: 6:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center*
- *Eighth-Grade Graduation Reception: 7:30 p.m. in the gym*

Upper School

Notes for Next Year

Welcome, founding families! We are so excited to open our doors to the freshman class and to partner with you on this journey called Upper School. In the summer months, we will be working hard to open the interim academic building and to prepare the table for the upcoming school year.

What can our students look forward to?

- Mind, body, and spirit wellness
- Innovative, integrated curriculum
- Student voice and choice
- Mentorship
- Leadership opportunities
- Nurturing adults
- Healthy challenge and healthy competition
- So many opportunities for creativity and fun!

We know you will continue to have questions, so please check the St. Francis Parent Portal on the website after May 25 for important school information, such as the following:

- Draft of the school calendar for 2018–2019
- SFES volunteer information
- Uniform brochure
- St. Francis Sports Association information

Additionally, please continue to check the New Family Portal on the website for all back-to-school information, including the summer reading selection, the

freshman orientation itinerary, and on-campus summer meetings for sports and the arts.

Upper School Head Cara Henderson will be in touch with the back-to-school e-mail in early August. And we look forward to seeing you at a parent information meeting on Monday, August 20, in the afternoon... more details to come!

Please reach out to me at 713.458.6154 or AFlowers@StFrancisHouston.org throughout the summer if you have questions or concerns regarding the transition into high school. We can't wait to get started!

Angela Flowers
Interim Head of Upper School/Head of Curriculum and Instruction

Announcing the 2018-19 All-School Read

Parents, please join us next year for an all-school read and book study. During the 2018–19 school year, we'll be exploring *The Self-Driven Child: The Science and Sense of Giving Your Kids More Control Over Their Lives*, by William Stixrud, PhD. Division heads will also be hosting cross-divisional discussions about the book throughout the year.

Information and Discussion Guide: Second Season of *13 Reasons Why* Now on Netflix

Please note that Netflix debuted the second season of the highly controversial show *13 Reasons Why* this week. The series focuses on teen suicide, so if you plan to let your child or adolescent view it, we encourage you to watch it with them.

You may find the following resources helpful:

- Learn about the new [warnings](#), [resources](#), and [protective features](#) Netflix has created related to the series.
- View a *13 Reasons Why* discussion guide [here](#).
- Read [what mental health experts think](#) of the series.

- Read [**this article**](#) about the second season, published by the National Association of School Psychologists.
- Read [**Common Sense Media's review**](#) of *13 Reasons Why*.

Parents, Please Take a Brief Survey to Help Us Plan

As part of our strategic planning process, we are surveying St. Francis parents. **Your input is critical in shaping our path forward.** Please take a moment to complete the survey, which is available by [clicking here](#).

Church

Summer Women's Bible Study Starts June 11

On June 11, the Monday Women's Bible Study will begin a 12-week study on the book of Daniel. The study will be held from 6:30–7:30 p.m. in the Guild Room, and will conclude on August 27.

Please contact [**Allison Devlin**](#), Director of Family Ministries, if you plan to attend, and we will provide you with a study guide.

Don't miss this wonderful summer opportunity!

Week of Wonder (WOW) Is July 30-August 3

WOW Week will be held July 30-August 3, and is based on stories from the Book of Genesis. WOW Sunday will be held August 5 at the 9:00 a.m. service.

Date: July 30–August 3

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Theme: Time Lab—Discovering Jesus from Eternity Past to Eternity Future!

Ages: Children from 4 years old to those entering fourth grade (must turn 4 by July 30, 2018)

Registration Fee: \$50 per child

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We have 16 spots available per age group entering pre-K (full), kindergarten (full), first grade, second grade, third grade, and fourth grade. Once registration is full for an age group, you can be placed on a waiting list. Registration will be done online using this

Deadline to register is Friday, June 29.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

It's not too late to join the already AWESOME Week of Wonder team of volunteers. We only need three more adults to complete our team.

Thank you to the following for joining in this Children's Ministry at St. Francis: Jessica Antel, Chelsea Lerner, Allison Devlin, Marilyn Weaver, Nicki Black, Lauren Biggs, Judy Parker, Andrea Vogelsang, Jim Anderson, Cabell Wood, Jada Powell, Stacey Merchant, Carla Banks, Carla Roth, Colleen Dunlap, Nicole Blaine, Kathleen Roche, Kay Forker, Bob Forker, Tracy Simmons, Jaclyn Simmons, Amy Homer, Kathryn Adkins, Father Wismer, and Father Price.

Contact Nichole to join our amazing team!

Jessica Antel, Co-Chair
jessica.antel@gmail.com

Nichole Hilgert, Co-Chair
nvhilgert@comcast.net

SCENES Summer Theater Camp

Registration for SCENES, one of the highest-quality theater camps in Houston, is open! [Visit our website for more information and to register.](#)

CAMP #1: URINETOWN

July 9–13
Grades 7–12

CAMP #2: HONK

July 16–27
Grades 2–High School

CAMP #3: MUSICAL REVIEW

July 30–August 3
Songs from Disney, *Matilda*, *Annie*, and Classic Musical Theater
Grades K–6

Fall First Communion Classes

First Communion classes begin **Sunday, September 16**. This is an eight-week course designed to prepare second-grade students to receive Holy Eucharist. To sign up or for further information, please contact [Nichole Hilgert](#).