

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of April 7

All School

Bayou Bash Festival 2019: Merci Beaucoup!

Thank you to all the event and booth sponsors, ticket and T-shirt purchasers, faculty shirt underwriters, and Bayou Bucks donors. Your generous support of this year's event is greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS

It takes a village, y'all! We have over 300 volunteer shifts that need to be filled. [Click here](#) to sign up. Want to make your volunteer time even more fun? Sign up with friends!

Also, **Middle School students can work alongside a parent at Festival to earn service hours.** We ask that parents carefully look at the description of the volunteer tasks, and help their students select a role they feel comfortable in (excluding the Pick-A-Chop booth). Sign up for a shift, and add your child's name in the "comments" section. On Festival day, parents and students should check in and out at the Volunteer Booth.

T-SHIRT SURPLUS SALE

Forgot to order your student a T-shirt? Not to worry. Plan to attend our T-shirt surplus sale on **Tuesday, April 23, and Wednesday, April 24.** On the Main Campus, the sale will be held in the People Place from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. On the South Campus, the sale will be held in the Primary School lobby from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, and while supplies last on Wednesday during parent/teacher conferences. Shirts are \$18. Cash or check only, please.

BAKE SALE

Do you like to bake (or buy) sweet treats? Sign up via the volunteer [SignUpGenius](#) to bring something for our bake sale. We offer **curbside drop-off on Saturday, April 27.**

Annual Fund Update: Why Should I Give?

Fun Fact: The little things matter! Textbooks, classroom supplies such as arts and crafts materials, technology needs, and even light bulbs are funded by the St. Francis Annual Fund.

Tuition does not cover the full cost of educating each student, and that's where the Annual Fund comes into play, bridging that gap. Annual Fund dollars allow our educators to provide the best possible learning environment for our students in each division.

- You can give online by credit card [here](#), and you can also mail a check payable to St. Francis Episcopal School to the Development Office (335 Piney Point, 77024). Gifts of stock are also welcome, and we can provide transfer instructions.
- Please contact [Laura Lanigan](#), director of annual and alumni giving, for more information or if you are unsure whether you have given this fiscal year.

Thank you so much for embracing this community-wide effort!

Virtue of the Month: Grace

During the month of April, the St. Francis community is focusing on the virtue of grace. Our virtue verse is Psalm 103:8: "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love." As a family, you can memorize this verse together.

Table Talk: What is the first image that comes to mind when you hear the word grace?

Dads' Club Speaker Series Breakfast Is Thursday

Dads, please join us this **Thursday, April 11**, for the St. Francis Dads' Club Speaker Series Breakfast at **7:30 to 8:30 a.m.** in the Hogan Board Room on the Main Campus.

Our guest speaker will be Steven Scales, EdM, St. Francis's director of college counseling and interim head of admissions and enrollment management. **Mr. Scales will discuss how to prepare for college, regardless of the current age of your children.** We will leave plenty of time for questions.

Win With the SFE Spring BeKIND (Bingo) Challenge

The BeKIND Challenge is underway! Winning cards are being turned in—have you submitted yours yet?

Our chaplains created the BeKIND Challenge for the Lenten season to foster our community's commitment to being "people for others." The game card has 25 acts of kindness that encourage students to be a source of light in their family and community. As a family, complete five acts of kindness in a row (vertically, horizontally, or diagonally) on the game card to win. Each child will win a special prize. Any family that completes the entire game card will receive a bonus prize!

Return completed game cards to Rev. Heinemann by April 26, the Friday after Easter. [Click here](#) to get the game card.

Save the Date! MS and US Theater Productions

Save the date—the St. Francis Theater Department's spring productions are just around the corner!

- Our Upper School students will present William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. on the South Campus.
- Our Middle School students will perform *The Wizard of Oz* on Friday, May 3, and Saturday, May 4, at 7:00 p.m. on our Main Campus.

A box office link will be available through *Wolf Watch* in the coming weeks.

Register Today for Summer on the Point

Have you checked out all the neat camps your child can take during Summer on the Point 2019?

- [Click here](#) for camp descriptions and to download the Summer on the Point brochure.
- Registration for students **3 years old through grade 10** is now open and available through "Program Registration" in My BackPack.
- **Summer sessions will run June 3-28 and July 8-August 2.**
- Yearly favorites are returning, and new camps are coming for summer 2019—including baseball, photography, fashion design, speed and agility sessions, field hockey, lacrosse, coding, LEGO design, self-defense, newly redesigned math sessions for Middle and Upper School grades, and many more.

Primary School

From the Division Head

One of my favorite parts of car travel is having time to listen to podcasts. Last year, I wrote an article in Wolf Watch about podcasts for children. Many of you let me know that you enjoy podcasts with your children, too. Podcasts have the advantage of giving everyone in the car a chance to hear the content together, and they are a break from screen time. Children are required to listen to be able to follow the story or song. Developing listening skills helps children focus on a story line, sequencing, and other skills that help them build a foundation for reading.

Below is a list of some new podcasts you might like to try out. I've included a short description from the publishers summarizing the podcast content. These are rated for young children, but you may want to preview them first.

[Story Time—Bedtime Stories for Kids. Storytime Anytime.](#)

“Each story is usually less than 20 minutes long, hopefully just long enough to keep your toddler, preschoolers, and little ones engaged. Story Time is an audiobook podcast for children ages 2-13.”

[What If World—Stories for Kids by Eric O’Keeffe](#)

“What if a tiny dragon lived in my closet? What if there were a never-ending bowl of ice cream? What if cats ruled the world? Join Abacus P. Grumbler, Randall Radbot, and Whendiana Joan as they help Mr. Eric tell wacky stories inspired by your questions!”

[Ear Snacks With Andrew and Polly](#)

“Ear Snacks is a musical podcast for kids about the world. Andrew and Polly

and their friends consider music, science, art, and culture in a fun-filled podcast that parents enjoy and younger kids eat right up.”

And here are a few adult podcasts that you might enjoy. I would suggest listening to these when you’re by yourself, as in some cases they may contain content that’s not appropriate for young children.

[Quiet: The Power of Introverts With Susan Cain](#)

“*Quiet* is hosted by Susan Cain, author of the bestselling book *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can’t Stop Talking*. In the 10-part podcast series, Cain focuses on parenting introverts. It addresses the special challenges (and joys) that can come with introverted children, such as parenting an introvert when you’re an extrovert, how to support and encourage introverted children in school and sports, whether you have a quietly gifted child, and more. Bite-size (20-30 minute) segments make this an easy one to catch up on while running errands in the car.”

Note: I’m a big fan of Susan Cain’s work. We’ll plan a parent education session in Primary School next year examining her book, *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can’t Stop Talking*.

[TED Radio Hour](#)

If you like TED Talks, you’ll enjoy TED Radio Hour. This podcast combines TED Talks with a common theme into well-narrated episodes that examine education, religion, economics, health, science, psychology, and other areas of interest.

If you have podcasts that you enjoy with your children or by yourself during trips or your commute, please share them with me. I’d love to hear from you!

All the best,

Amy Whitley, MA
Head of Primary School

Primary School Dining Hall Menu

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

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, April 9

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.
 - *Open Library Time*: 2:45-4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Crum Library
-

Wednesday, April 10

- *Primary I Fathers and Friends*: 8:15 a.m.
 - *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.
-

Thursday, April 11

- *Primary II Drama Performances*

9:00 a.m.—Blades

9:40 a.m.—Staller

10:20 a.m.—Wiener

11:00 a.m.—Owens

11:40 a.m.—Hughes

Tuesday, April 16

- *PS Parent Education Series ("Setting Limits and Healthy Boundaries")*: 8:30 a.m. in the Primary School Crum Library
 - *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.
 - *Open Library Time*: 2:45-4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Crum Library
-

Wednesday, April 17

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.
- *Easter Egg Hunt (5-Day Pre-Primary)*

Thursday, April 18

- *Easter Egg Hunt (Ferguson T/Th Pre-Primary)*
 - *Primary II Author Visit*
-

Friday, April 19

- *Good Friday Holiday: No school*
-

Monday, April 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No school*
-

Tuesday, April 23

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Open Library Time: 2:45-4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Crum Library*
-

Wednesday, April 24

- *Primary School Parent/Teacher Conferences: Student holiday*
-

Thursday, April 25

- *Primary II Field Trip*
-

Friday, April 26

- *Primary School Pep Rally*
-

Sunday, April 28

- *Festival 2019: A Bayou Bash: 12:00-4:00 p.m.*
-

Monday, April 29

- *Late Start Due to Festival: Primary School begins at 9:00 a.m. (no Early Birds)*
-

Tuesday, April 30

- *Pre-Primary Mothers and Others: Ferguson T/Th, Oteiza, and Meriwether*
 - *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Open Library Time: 2:45-4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Crum Library*
-

Wednesday, May 1

- *Pre-Primary Mothers and Others: Ferguson M/W/F and Britton*
 - *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Chapel Dramatization (Wiener)*
-

Thursday, May 2

- *Primary II Mothers and Others: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Friday, May 3

- *Primary II Step-up to Kindergarten Field Trip: 8:30 a.m.*
- *Primary I Mothers and Others: 1:30 p.m.*

Lower School

From the Division Head

I hope you've had a great weekend!

The students had such a fun time getting a preview of their grade level for next year. We look forward to sharing that with you during our Parent Previews later in the month. See the "Mark Your Calendar" section below to find your time.

Each spring, administrators can feel as though we are living in two worlds—the school year continues to click along, but plans for the next school year really start in February. So, hour to hour right now, I'm not sure which school year I'm in!

One task for this week has been researching great options for a parent summer read and consequent parent meetings in the fall. As I have been doing this, I have been reminded of SO many amazing parenting books. I thought I'd share some of those with you in case you are wanting to gain some great parenting advice.

One of my all-time faves is *Blessings of a Skinned Knee* by Wendy Mogel, PhD. It's all about letting your children experience struggles and how that will shape their future in all areas. It's a really funny read, and Ms. Mogel has posted several entertaining YouTube videos as well. Here is the publisher's summary:

"All parents hope their child will be self-reliant, optimistic, and well-mannered, but this has become particularly challenging in our current culture. Clinical psychologist and Jewish educator Wendy Mogel distills the ancient teachings of the Torah, the Talmud, important Jewish thinkers, and contemporary psychological insights into nine blessings that address key parenting issues. She covers realistic expectations for each child, respect for adults, chores, mealtime battles, coping with

frustration, developing independence and self-control, and resisting over-scheduling and over-indulgence.”

If you like that one, you'll enjoy *Blessings of a B Minus*. More of the same, but the focus is on the teenage years. From the publisher:

“Mogel’s sage advice on parenting young children has struck a chord with thousands of readers and made her one of today’s most trusted parenting authorities. Now, in a long-awaited follow-up, Mogel addresses the question she hears most frequently: what to do when those children become teenagers, their sense of independence and entitlement grows, the pressure to compete and succeed skyrockets, and communication becomes fraught with obstacles.”

If you are yearning to learn more about brain research and how it impacts work, home, and school, dive into *Brain Rules*. We actually read this as a faculty a few summers ago, and it is brimming with practical information about how to get the most out of your brain. It's a very entertaining and easy read. Here's the publisher's summary:

“Most of us have no idea what's really going on inside our heads. Yet brain scientists have uncovered details every business leader, parent, and teacher should know—such as the brain's need for physical activity to work at its best. How do we learn? What exactly do sleep and stress do to our brains? Why is multi-tasking a myth? Why is it so easy to forget—and so important to repeat—new information? Is it true that men and women have different brains? In Brain Rules, molecular biologist Dr. John Medina shares his lifelong interest in how the brain sciences might influence the way we teach our children and the way we work. In each chapter, he describes a brain rule—what scientists know for sure about how our brains work—and then offers transformative ideas for our daily lives. Medina's fascinating stories and sense of humor breathe life into brain science. You'll learn why Michael Jordan was no good at baseball. You'll peer over a surgeon's shoulder as he finds, to his surprise, that we all have a “Jennifer Aniston neuron.” You'll meet a boy who has an amazing memory for music but can't tie his own shoes.”

If you are interested in personality temperaments, introvert vs. extrovert, *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain is simply amazing. I read this last summer and

incorporated this topic into several professional development opportunities for our faculty. Several teachers chose to learn about this topic for their professional goals. Learning about your child's temperament is helpful, as this has a tremendous impact on how he or she processes and learns, but you will discover a great deal about yourself in this amazing book.

Publisher's note:

*“At least one-third of the people we know are introverts. They are the ones who prefer listening to speaking; who innovate and create but dislike self-promotion; who favor working on their own over working in teams. It is to introverts—Rosa Parks, Chopin, Dr. Seuss, Steve Wozniak—that we owe many of the great contributions to society. In *Quiet*, Susan Cain argues that we dramatically undervalue introverts and shows how much we lose in doing so. She charts the rise of the Extrovert Ideal throughout the 20th century and explores how deeply it has come to permeate our culture. She also introduces us to successful introverts—from a witty, high-octane public speaker who recharges in solitude after his talks to a record-breaking salesman who quietly taps into the power of questions. Passionately argued, superbly researched, and filled with indelible stories of real people, *Quiet* has the power to permanently change how we see introverts and, equally importantly, how they see themselves.”*

A significant book from 2015, *Most Likely to Succeed*, is one of the most important reads in recent years in the world of education. Tony Wagner, professor of innovation at Harvard, and Ted Dintersmith, venture capitalist and entrepreneur, help us to think about education from a different, current lens—one of real learning, creative problem-solving, and the joy of discovery. This was an all-school read four years ago and has been the blueprint for our programming and innovative changes. From the publisher:

“From two leading experts in education and entrepreneurship, an urgent call for the radical reimagining of American education so that we better equip students for the realities of the 21st Century economy. Today more than ever, we prize academic achievement, pressuring our children to get into the “right” colleges, have the highest GPAs, and pursue advanced degrees. But while students may graduate with credentials, by and large they lack the competencies needed to be thoughtful, engaged citizens and to get good jobs in our rapidly evolving economy. Our school system was engineered a century ago to produce a workforce for a world that no longer exists.

Alarmingly, our methods of schooling crush the creativity and initiative young people need to thrive in the 21st century. In Most Likely to Succeed, best-selling author and education expert Tony Wagner and venture capitalist Ted Dintersmith call for a complete overhaul of the function and focus of American schools, sharing insights and stories from the front lines, including profiles of successful students, teachers, parents, and business leaders. Most Likely to Succeed presents a new vision of American education, one that puts wonder, creativity, and initiative at the very heart of the learning process and prepares students for today's economy. This book offers parents and educators a crucial guide to getting the best for their children and a road map for policymakers and opinion leaders.”

I hope you will enjoy one (or more) of these books, as all of them pertain to what we do here every day with your children. We love sharing this journey with you!

See you around!

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

Display Your Best Photos at the KOBİ Exhibit

Our annual KOBİ (Keep On Being Incredible) photography exhibit is just around the corner—in time for the Bayou Bash Festival on April 28.

- **Students in grades K-9** and their families are invited to participate in this tribute to Kobi Pickett, child of former St. Francis second-grade teacher Mrs. Pickett and St. Francis alumna, who passed away unexpectedly four years ago. Kobi had a passion for art, photography, and her faith. She would spend her free time taking photographs, writing Scriptures in her sketchbook, and making art. The first year of the exhibit, Kobi's photographs were on display alongside our amazing student photographs—Mrs. Pickett was so moved, we vowed to keep Kobi's memory alive.
- **This year's theme is JOY!**
- For the KOBİ photography exhibit entry form, [click here](#).
- Read the exhibit rules [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 8

- *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between April 7-13 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
 - *Joyful Sounds and Middle School/Upper School Choir Spring Concert*: 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center
-

Wednesday, April 10

- *FAC Chapel*: 8:05 a.m.
-

Monday, April 15

- *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between April 14-20 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Wednesday, April 17

- *NO Chapel*
-

Thursday, April 18

- *Dress Uniform Day*
 - *Eucharist (Maundy Thursday)*: 8:05 a.m.
-

Friday, April 19

- *Good Friday Holiday*: No school

Monday, April 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No school*
-

Wednesday, April 24

- *Third-Grade Declamation: 9:35 a.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
 - *Incoming Fourth-Grade Preview: 10:50 a.m. in fourth-grade classrooms*
-

Thursday, April 25

- *Second-Grade Declamation: 9:45 a.m. in classrooms*
 - *Incoming Third-Grade Preview: 11:00 a.m. in the third-grade pod*
-

Monday, April 29

- *Late Start Due to Festival: School begins at 9:00 a.m.*
 - *NO Chapel*
 - *Incoming First-Grade Preview: 12:00 p.m. in the first-grade pod*
 - *Kindergarten Declamation: 12:40 p.m. in classrooms*
-

Tuesday, April 30

- *Incoming Fifth-Grade Preview: 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. in fifth-grade classrooms*
- *Fourth-Grade Declamation: In the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*

9:45 a.m.—Springmann/Tamlyn
2:00 p.m.— Lockhart/Armintor

Wednesday, May 1

- *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between April 21-May 4 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
- *First-Grade Declamation*: 10:00 a.m.

DuByne in the HBR
Masini in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall
McCormick in the Crum Library
Shindler in the first-grade pod

- *Incoming Second-Grade Preview*: 10:55 a.m. in the second-grade pod
-

Friday, May 3

- *Fourth-Grade OLE Trip to Stoney Creek Ranch*: 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m.; more details to come

Middle School

From the Division Head

Hello, Middle School families! I hope this finds you well!

This week, we welcome back Dr. Crystal Collier, founder of Pathways, a program that helps families prevent and cope with high-risk behaviors. Dr. Collier will address the topic of technology boundaries. Technology is changing our social and emotional landscape, skills, and levels of intimacy. How can parents set healthy boundaries for themselves and their children when use of technology permeates our lives so inextricably? The presentation and workshop will cover the effects of technology on the developing brain and integrate aspects of the earlier workshops into a home plan for sound, brain-based rewards and consequences where technology is concerned. **On Wednesday, April 10, the parent presentation will offer a preview of what students will see on Thursday, April 11.**

I have included the following articles of interest for this week:

- [“Stop Asking Kids What They Want to Be When They Grow Up”](#)

- [“Chicken, Eggs, and Bloom’s Taxonomy: Fact Knowledge Before Higher Order Learning?”](#)

I wish you all a wonderful week! It’s a beautiful day, and we are Wolves!

Sincerely,

Connor Cook, EdD
Head of Middle School

Display Your Best Photos at the KOBİ Exhibit

Our annual KOBİ (Keep On Being Incredible) photography exhibit is just around the corner—in time for the Bayou Bash Festival on April 28.

- **Students in grades K-9** and their families are invited to participate in this tribute to Kobi Pickett, child of former St. Francis second-grade teacher Mrs. Pickett and St. Francis alumna, who passed away unexpectedly four years ago. Kobi had a passion for art, photography, and her faith. She would spend her free time taking photographs, writing Scriptures in her sketchbook, and making art. The first year of the exhibit, Kobi’s photographs were on display alongside our amazing student photographs—Mrs. Pickett was so moved, we vowed to keep Kobi’s memory alive.
- **This year’s theme is JOY!**
- For the KOBİ photography exhibit entry form, [click here](#).
- Read the exhibit rules [here](#).

Join Us for Our First MS/US Mixer on April 30

Save the date! On **Tuesday, April 30**, we will be hosting our first Middle and Upper School Mixer on the **South Campus** from **6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Fifth-, sixth-, and seventh-grade students and parents are invited to meet faculty, tour the Upper School facilities, and learn more about our newest division. For seventh-grade families, this will immediately follow High School Information Night, led by Christie Crummel, at 5:45 p.m. Formal invitation to follow.

Sixth Graders to View Program on Setting Boundaries

This week, sixth-grade students will participate in the *Your Boundaries*,

Your Call! program. Boys will watch the program with Mr. Lakoski **tomorrow, April 8**, and girls will watch the program with Dr. Curtis this **Tuesday, April 9**.

This program was designed for middle school students by Praesidium, creator of the Safeguarding God's Children program that adult volunteers and staff members must attend. The student program consists of a three-part DVD series paired with guided group discussions that teach students how to define their personal boundaries, respond if someone tries to violate these boundaries, and reach for help if someone is sexually abusing them or someone they know.

Please contact Ted Lakoski (713.458.6157), director of school counseling, or Dr. Laurie Curtis (713.458.6118), head of student support services, with any questions.

Pathways Assembly for Parents: Technology Boundaries

Join us to learn how parents can set healthy technology boundaries for their children (and themselves!) on **Wednesday, April 10, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room**. Led by Dr. Crystal Collier of Pathways, this is the fourth in a series of 2018-19 parent workshops focused on social and emotional health.

On Thursday, April 11, Dr. Collier will present to our Middle and Upper School students on the same topic in grade-level assemblies, which should provide the basis for some meaningful conversations at home.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, April 7

- *MS Spring Musical Rehearsal: 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the FAC*

Monday, April 8

- *Monday Schedule/Dress Uniform*
- *Joyful Sounds and MS/US Choir Concert Rehearsal: 7:00-10:00 a.m.*

- *MS Honors Testing—Math, Part 1: During math class*
 - *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
 - *Joyful Sounds and MS/US Choir Spring Concert Rehearsal: 1:00-3:00 p.m.*
 - *Joyful Sounds and MS/US Choir Spring Concert: 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the FAC*
-

Tuesday, April 9

- *Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Bible Study for Eighth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
 - *WEB Activity (Grade 5): 10:45-11:15 a.m. in classrooms*
 - *MS Student Council Officer Registration: During lunch in the Dining Hall*
-

Wednesday, April 10

- *Wednesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *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 (Holy Week Reflection): 10:45-11:15 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *Pathways Assembly for Parents: 1:30 p.m. in the HBR*
 - *Spring Training for Grade 7 WEB Leaders: 12:00-2:30 p.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
-

Thursday, April 11

- *Pathways Special Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *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*
 - *Pathways Assembly for Grades 5 and 6: 8:15-9:15 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *Pathways Assembly for Grades 7 and 8: 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *MS Student Council Officer Registration Deadline*
-

Friday, April 12

- *SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Grades 5, 7, and 8: Friday Schedule*
 - *Grade 6: Special Schedule*
 - *NJHS Meeting (Officer Elections): 7:15-7:50 a.m. in Dr. Bedard's classroom*
 - *Grade 6 AALC Field Trip to Houston Museum of Natural Science: 7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.*
-

Monday, April 15

- *Monday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m. in the Chapel*
-

Tuesday, April 16

- *Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Bible Study for Eighth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
 - *Advisory: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
 - *Progress Reports Online at Noon*
 - *MS Honors Testing: English Writing Sample in English Classes*
 - *MS Student Officers' Pledge and Speech Due to Ms. Crummel*
-

Wednesday, April 17

- *Wednesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Bible Study for Seventh Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
 - *MS Councils (No Chapel): 10:45-11:15 a.m. in classrooms*
-

Thursday, April 18

- *Eucharist Schedule (Maundy Thursday)*
 - *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*
 - *Maundy Thursday Eucharist: 11:05-11:55 a.m. in the Chapel*
 - *Main Campus Rally Meeting: 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the HBR*
-

Friday, April 19

- *Good Friday Holiday: No school*
 - *Passover: April 19-27*
-

Monday, April 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No school*
-

Tuesday, April 23

- *Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Bible Study for Eighth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
 - *Honors English Literature Test: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., during English classes*
 - *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale: 8:30-9:00 a.m. in the People Place*
 - *Advisory: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers Practice: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
-

Wednesday, April 24

- *Wednesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Bible Study for Seventh Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
- *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale: 8:30-9:00 a.m. in the People Place*

- *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers Practice: 11:20-11:55 a.m.*
-

Thursday, April 25

- *Thursday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *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*
 - *Class Meeting: 9:15-10:00 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *MS Festival Pep Rally: 2:35-3:05 p.m. in the gym*
-

Friday, April 26

- *Friday Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers Cheer at PS Pep Rally: 9:00-9:30 a.m. on the South Campus*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers Cheer at LS Pep Rally: 2:00-2:30 p.m. in the gym*
 - *Be a Howler for the Day: LS Gala winners will shadow eighth-grade Howlers*
 - *MS Spring Musical Rehearsal: 2:30-6:00 p.m. in the FAC*
-

Saturday, April 27

- *PSIA State Tournament in Fort Worth*
 - *MS Spring Musical Tech Rehearsal #1: 1:30-8:30 p.m. in the FAC*
-

Sunday, April 28

- *Bayou Bash Festival: 12:00-4:00 p.m.*

Upper School

From the Division Head

April is a busy month at St. Francis! Among this month's activities is the Bayou Bash Festival, and our Upper School students have expressed interest in being volunteers. They have identified the Dunk Tanks as “their booth.”

Volunteer tasks will include taking tickets, gathering the softball, managing the line . . . and, yes, getting IN the dunk tanks. Shifts are one hour long, and we encourage at least one parent to volunteer alongside the students for each shift. Please take a moment to review your family’s schedule and sign up for a shift that works best for you. To sign up, visit the SignUpGenius page [here](#) or click the Volunteer tab on the [Festival website](#).

Finally, please enjoy an April overview from Mr. Zacaraev below.

Appreciatively,
Cara Henderson

From the Academic Technology Chair

As we put two trimesters into the record books and are now several weeks into the third and final trimester of our first year of high school, we are really cooking. From the student-led assemblies highlighted in last week’s *Wolf Watch* to the excitement buzzing about the play, we have all come back from spring break and hit the ground running. The faculty is getting into the thick of finishing plans for next year, with a continued focus on student growth and development.

As we begin to wrap things up, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight one of our extended inquiry-based and interdisciplinary projects, spearheaded by Angela Flowers. The project centers on the play the students will be performing at the end of the month, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Starting with the teaching goal of helping students better understand the characters they will portray, the students are creating multiple forms of creative and analytical touchstones for the play, using technology to bring 17th century Shakespearean theater to today’s modern world. I suspect you have seen your children creating their fictional Shakespearean Facebook and Instagram pages (capitalizing on our appropriate use of technology experiences and lessons from the beginning of the year). Next week, they will begin their individually selected research

with the goal of providing support for the production team. Students have expressed their desire to research everything from global warming to costume and set design.

In Math II, students were able to delve into a deeper understanding of geometry through their work on set design. Additionally, in their science course—through their study of the relationship between people and their environment—the students reflected on the theme of cities vs. nature, specifically debating whether nature was an escape from the tensions of cities or if cities were an escape from the dangers of nature. Finally, capitalizing on the knowledge of our Spanish III students, the play was slightly modified to seamlessly include a brief dialogue in Spanish that will be included in the live performance during ISAS.

One of the most exciting ancillary benefits of this project is a brilliant move by our Arts Chair Justin Doran, who has incorporated 20 students from the Primary II class. Some of the youngest members of our community will star as little fairies, and we could not be more grateful to the Primary School leadership, faculty, parents, and students for eagerly jumping on board—allowing us to further integrate our growing school community.

As of the end of this week, we now have the beginnings of our stage for the play up in front of the Andrews House, and we have launched our freshman engineering course under the flag of the Engineer Your World Curriculum developed at UT Austin. **We are also looking ahead to ISAS on April 11 and 12, the Houston Art Car Parade on April 13, the play on April 26 and April 27, the Bayou Bash Festival on April 28, and the science field trip on April 29.** All this as we inch closer and closer to the end of our very first year of high school at St. Francis Episcopal School!

Best,

Shai Zacaraev
Academic Technology Chair

Pathways Assembly for Parents: Technology Boundaries

Join us to learn how parents can set healthy technology boundaries for their children (and themselves!) on **Wednesday, April 10, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room.** Led by Dr. Crystal Collier of Pathways, this

is the fourth in a series of 2018-19 parent workshops focused on social and emotional health.

On Thursday, April 11, Dr. Collier will present to our Middle and Upper School students on the same topic in grade-level assemblies, which should provide the basis for some meaningful conversations at home.

Display Your Best Photos at the KOBİ Exhibit

Our annual KOBİ (Keep On Being Incredible) photography exhibit is just around the corner—in time for the Bayou Bash Festival on April 28.

- **Students in grades K-9** and their families are invited to participate in this tribute to Kobi Pickett, child of former St. Francis second-grade teacher Mrs. Pickett and St. Francis alumna, who passed away unexpectedly four years ago. Kobi had a passion for art, photography, and her faith. She would spend her free time taking photographs, writing Scriptures in her sketchbook, and making art. The first year of the exhibit, Kobi's photographs were on display alongside our amazing student photographs—Mrs. Pickett was so moved, we vowed to keep Kobi's memory alive.
- **This year's theme is JOY!**
- For the KOBİ photography exhibit entry form, [click here](#).
- Read the exhibit rules [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, April 7

- *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 1:00-5:00 p.m.*
-

Monday, April 8

- *Day 4 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-6:00 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, April 9

- *Day 5 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-5:00 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, April 10

- *Day 6 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-7:00 p.m.; dinner provided*
-

Thursday, April 11

- *Students Attend ISAS Arts Festival in Austin*
-

Friday, April 12

- *Students Attend ISAS Arts Festival in Austin*
-

Saturday, April 13

- *Houston Art Car Parade: 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.*
-

Monday, April 15

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-6:00 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, April 16

- *Day 4 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-6:00 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, April 17

- *Day 5 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-6:30 p.m.*
 - *US Parents Meeting With the Head of School: 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Andrews House*
-

Thursday, April 18

- *Day 6 Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Holy Thursday Eucharist: 11:00 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-5:00 p.m.*
-

Friday, April 19

- *Good Friday Holiday: No School*
-

Monday, April 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No School*

Church

Calling Young Dancers for the Resurrection Dance

Calling all dancers! Children in pre-K, kindergarten, and first grade are

invited to participate in the first annual Resurrection Dance on **Sunday, April 28**, during the **9:00 a.m. family worship service**.

- Dancers will perform a praise dance choreographed by Miranda Tadlock to the music of *Remember* by Lauren Daigle.
- Rehearsals are **Saturday, April 13, AND Saturday, April 27**, from **11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**
- Dancers will wear a leotard and tights with a tutu of their choosing.
- To participate, please [e-mail Allison Devlin](#).

Week of Wonder VBS Is July 29-August 2

A weeklong faith experience for children ages 4 years old through rising fourth graders, Week of Wonder (WOW) is five fun-packed days of themed music, crafts, science projects, outdoor play, and Bible stories.

Date: July 29-August 2

Time: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Theme: Salt Water Gospel

Ages: Children from 4 years old to those entering fourth grade (must turn 4 by July 29, 2019)

Registration Fee: \$50 per child

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All children are welcome (you don't have to be a church member to attend), but we recommend registering early as space is limited to 15 children per age group. Once registration is full for an age group, you will be placed on a waiting list. [Register online here.](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

WOW is a rewarding volunteer opportunity for adults, high schoolers, and middle schoolers! We need lots of teachers, decorators, crafters, snack distributors, and behind-the-scenes helpers to make this a great week for the kids. Please consider joining the fun! [Register to volunteer here.](#)

Forgiveness Workshop Scheduled for Saturday

Father Bates will lead a forgiveness workshop on **Saturday, April 13**, from **9:00 a.m. to noon**. This will be a time during Lent to consider whom you need to forgive, and to work through a process of learning to release others and yourself.

“Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive.” –C.S. Lewis

Please RSVP to Amy Homer [via e-mail](#) or at 832.325.2983 if you plan to attend.

Join Us for New Member Orientation on May 5

If you started attending St. Francis Episcopal Church within the last two years and have not made your membership official yet, we invite you to become a member of our family by attending our New Member Orientation class on **Sunday, May 5, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Guild Room of the Wheatcroft Parish Hall.** (Lunch will be served.) Join Father Bates to learn about our church, our mission, and how membership in Christ’s Body at St. Francis can help you deepen your relationship with God.

Please RSVP to Amy Homer [via e-mail](#) or at 832.325.2983.

Sunday Programs at St. Francis Episcopal Church

- **Breakfast Bites and Fellowship:** Meet in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall for coffee, donuts, and light bites after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.
- **Lighthouse Expressions in Art:** Children in pre-K through middle school meet in the Guild Room to create an art project reinforcing the Bible lesson and key verse discussed during Let it Shine!
- **Adult Bible Study:** Meet in the People Place to develop a closer relationship with God through reading and reflecting on Scripture.
- **Adult Series:** Father Bates is currently leading the series *24 Hours That Changed the World*. Meet in the Hogan Board Room.
- **God Lights Our Way (GLOW):** Middle and high school students meet upstairs in CE 212 for lessons and activities.

Sunday Worship Services

St. Francis Episcopal Church holds four services on Sundays, as follows:

8:00 A.M.—HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

This is a contemplative service that includes a traditional sermon, communion, and time for prayer and reflection. Held in the St. Clare Chapel

(accessed through the main church entrance), this service is ideal for those who like to get an early start to their Sunday.

9:00 A.M.—FAMILY WORSHIP WITH HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

This is a family-friendly service with a blend of updated music, a children's message, Rite II liturgy, and full communion.

- Held in the sanctuary, you'll see youth ages 3 and older participating in parts of the service. Everyone is welcome, from newborns to centenarians. You don't need to have children to enjoy this service!
- After the children's message, students in pre-K through middle school are invited to Let It Shine! with Allison Devlin in the Robert Gay Foyer for a group lesson and project. High school youth are invited to join and help the younger students during this time. All children will return to the service during the announcements.
- After the service, please join us for breakfast bites and fellowship in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall, followed by [Sunday School](#) activities for all ages.

11:00 A.M.—HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II, WITH ORGAN AND CHOIR

Appropriate for adults and families, this is a beautiful service with traditional liturgy and hymns, communion, sermon, full choir, and professional musical accompaniment. After the service, please join us for breakfast bites and fellowship in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall.

5:00 P.M.—HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

This reflective service in the St. Clare Chapel includes an adult message and communion and is appropriate for adults and teenage children. Casual dress is welcome.

CHILDCARE

Please note that childcare and playtime in the church nursery are available on Sundays from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. to allow parents time for church and adult Sunday School.