

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of April 14

All School

Check-in With the Chair: An Update From the Board of Trustees

The school year has been action-packed, from a full calendar of events to *challenging what's possible* each day. Your Board of Trustees is also active behind the scenes, ensuring financial oversight of the school's resources as well as implementing long-term initiatives, including the results of the Strategic Planning Committee.

It has been thrilling to witness the inaugural class of the Upper School in action, from their sold-out opening night of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* to seeing "Wolfie" in the Art Car Parade.

On the fundraising front, while still in the quiet phase, *Forward in Faith: Phase II* has raised significant funds that are critical as we continue to build the Upper School and complete much-needed renovations on the Main Campus. The Board remains committed to maintaining the quality and standards of all four of our divisions.

We are pleased to report that, with a wildly successful Gala, St. Francis will be able to make improvements to the Main Campus library over the summer, in addition to funding technology and security needs.

The Board has also worked to control costs, raising tuition by 3.8 percent compared to an average tuition increase of 4.5 percent at other area independent schools. The Board will continue to focus on the overall

strategy of the school while entrusting our energetic head of school, Steve Lovejoy, with its operational management.

In closing, we look forward to unveiling the Strategic Plan with you and sharing more about *St. Francis 2025* on Tuesday, May 14—mark your calendars! We will have two sessions: one on the South Campus at 8:30 a.m. in the Primary School Crum Library, and one on the Main Campus at 6:00 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room. To accommodate those attending the evening session, pizza and child care will be available. A big thank-you to our [Strategic Planning Committee](#)—and each of you—whose input and time was critical in its creation.

Upper School Play Tickets Now Available!

St. Francis Episcopal Upper School proudly presents:



by William Shakespeare

Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m.
South Campus Lawn, General Admission

The natural beauty of our South Campus transforms into an enchanted forest, peopled by lovers and fairies. Comic misadventures, mistaken identities, and unrequited love come together to create the Bard's most magical romp—the perfect experience to introduce your family to the world of Shakespeare.

- Boxed picnics from Tres Market are available for advance purchase to enjoy on the lawn.
- Seating is not reserved. Blankets are encouraged and low-back lawn chairs are welcome.

Adult tickets: \$10

Student tickets: \$8

Boxed picnics: \$15/each

- Please [click here](#) to purchase your tickets.
- Tickets for the Middle School's production of *The Wizard of Oz*—which is scheduled for Friday, May 3, and Saturday, May 4, at 7:00 p.m. on the Main Campus—will be available via a link in next week's *Wolf Watch!*)

From the Parents Association: End-of-School-Year Faculty Gift

Twice a year, the Parents Association asks each family to contribute toward faculty and staff appreciation gifts. **Both at Christmas and the end of the school year, the PA provides monetary gifts to each and every person employed by St. Francis.** All faculty, staff, sextons, Dining Hall personnel, police officers, full- and part-time coaches, and Explore & Extend after-school teachers are included and recognized. The funds raised are distributed evenly to all employees, including those working part-time, as a Christmas and end-of-year bonus.

These gifts help the entire parent community show their appreciation and honor the *School Handbook* policy that prohibits the purchase or solicitation of individual gifts for faculty and staff.

You may make your contribution via credit card or PayPal by visiting the Parents Association's online store using either the PA app on your mobile device or the PA website [here](#). If you would prefer to pay by check, please make it payable to the St. Francis Parents Association, write "End-of-Year Gift" in the memo section, and drop it in the Parents Association Box in the Main Campus reception area. All contributions must be received by **Sunday, May 5, 2019.**

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: Play "pass the story." One family member starts a story and each family member adds a new part. See how many examples of grace you

can add to the story. For an extra challenge, use the following words: "egg," "forgive," "jump," and "spring."

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.**

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.

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

Parenting can be difficult. Families have busy schedules and very little discretionary time. The combination of work, raising children, staying connected with friends and family, volunteering, and trying to take care of yourself can be overwhelming. There's seldom time to read or research solutions for behavioral challenges that seem to present themselves at the most inopportune times.

I have very clear memories of some of the challenges I faced when my children were young. Guiding their behavior so that they would learn to be

responsible members of a community was important to me. I knew that the time I was investing in this guidance would be an investment in my children. It wasn't easy. Like all parents, I was tired and tempted to let things go because I lacked the energy to persist. But I knew there were risks in not being consistent. *Has this ever happened to you?*

Do you ever feel that, just as you've figured out what to do to redirect a behavior, your child has moved on to something else that is challenging?

Do you get embarrassed or overwhelmed when your child misbehaves in public and won't listen to you?

Are you concerned about manners or respectful behavior with others or unsure about what you should expect from your child?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you are not alone!

That's why the second meeting in our spring parenting series will be about "Setting Limits and Healthy Boundaries." We'll meet casually in the Primary School Crum Library this Tuesday, April 16, from 8:30 to 9:20 a.m.

I hope you'll join me, and other Primary School parents, to share stories of successes and challenges in your parenting journey. I look forward to seeing you Tuesday morning.

All the best,

Amy Whitley, MA
Head of Primary School

Sign Up Now: Spring Conferences Are April 24

Primary School Spring Conferences are Wednesday, April 24. Please sign up for a conference by clicking the name of your child's teacher below:

PRE-PRIMARY

[Britton](#)

[Ferguson](#)

[Meriwether](#)

[Oteiza](#)

PRIMARY I

[Burrow](#)

[Capasso](#)

[Porter](#)

[Scriber](#)

PRIMARY II

[Blades](#)

[Hughes](#)

[Owens](#)

[Staller](#)

[Wiener](#)

Primary School Dining Hall Menu

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

Mark Your Calendar

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

Happy Sunday! I hope this finds you enjoying some downtime with your kiddos!

I wanted to update you on a few faculty happenings:

- **Laura Persia**, one of our kindergarten teachers, is back with her students for the remainder of the year after her maternity leave. Her baby boy, Shepherd, is a doll, and we have loved having him visit!
- Mrs. Persia's return frees up **Dana Kenningham**, her long-term substitute, to assume the role of our teaching fellow, Christine Nguyen. (Ms. Nguyen is currently teaching third-grade math for Mrs. Gonzales, who is home with her baby boy, Luke.) Mrs. Kenningham will be in and around all grade levels, providing support, pulling groups of students, and lending a hand where needed. Many thanks go to Mrs. Kenningham for always being here for us in whatever capacity we need. Please give her a big thank-you if you see her in the halls!
- And yes, another teacher is expecting a bundle of joy at the end of the month. **Lauren Pena**, our beloved drama teacher, will begin her maternity leave on April 23. Her long-term substitute is Mr. Bryan Kaplun. Mr. Kaplun is a friend of hers from her days at Main Street Theater. He has years of experience working with students in camps, programs, and performances. We are so fortunate to have him with us while Mrs. Pena spends time with her baby girl!

We spent a bit of time with our architect last week preparing for the renovation of our kindergarten pod. The finished product is going to be amazing for our youngest Lower School friends! We are looking so forward to having five sections of kindergarten students as we welcome our PII families and several new families to St. Francis, all while keeping class sizes small.

As we begin to see the light at the end of the school-year tunnel, know that we are maintaining consistent schedules, routines, and rigor for our students. Please try to do the same at home. Spring brings baseball, softball, recitals, programs, and other exciting events, but it is really best for children to have a predictable home and school environment for consistency.

Thank you for partnering with us every day!

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

KOBI Photo Exhibit Deadline Extended to April 25

Our annual KOBI (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.
- **The entry deadline has been extended to Thursday, April 25.**
- **This year's theme is JOY!**
- For the KOBI photography exhibit entry form, [click here](#).
- Read the exhibit rules [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

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*
-

Sunday, April 28

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

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
-

Monday, May 6

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

Wednesday, May 8

- *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between May 5-11 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today

Middle School

From the Division Head

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

This past week, we had a beautiful Spring Choir Concert. Mrs. Jurick, Mrs. Fair, Mrs. Elder, and their students worked so hard to prepare for the event, and they sounded fabulous. It was a wonderful display of Lower and Middle School collaboration! Thanks to FoFA for its support, as well.

Another highlight of late last week was the visit by Dr. Crystal Collier of the Pathways program. The topic of discussion for parents and students—technology and its effects on behavior—was so timely, especially as we prepare for summer and its increased screen time. I recall our eighth-grade trip to Big Bend at the end of last school year. The escape to West Texas unplugged all of us from technology, and it made us more mindful of existing and participating in the present moment. As this spring gets busier, I encourage all of us to unplug as often as possible and maintain that important work-life balance.

Progress reports go online this week, so please check in with your students about how the first six weeks of the third trimester have gone. Please encourage your students to stay connected and motivated for the next six weeks, as we look forward to a strong finish to the 2018-19 school year.

As I write this, the MS has performed a total of 12,346 acts of kindness. Aesop once said, “No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” I look forward to many more in the coming weeks.

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

Sincerely,

Connor Cook, EdD
Head of Middle School

KOBI Photo Exhibit Deadline Extended to April 25

Our annual KOBI (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.
- **The entry deadline has been extended to Thursday, April 25.**
- **This year's theme is JOY!**
- For the KOBI photography exhibit entry form, [click here](#).
- Read the exhibit rules [here](#).

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

We're calling it the **South Campus Sip & See!** 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.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 15

- *Monday Schedule/Dress 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.*
 - *Trimester 3 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*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers Practice: 11:20-11:55 a.m.*
-

Thursday, April 18

- *Eucharist Schedule (Maundy Thursday)/Dress 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*
 - *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*
 - *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*
 - *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*
 - *Casual Dress: All MS students should wear Festival T-shirts and uniform bottoms*
 - *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 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

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

Monday, April 29

- *Special Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *MS Student Council Election Posters Go Up in MS Hallways*
 - *Late Start Due to Festival: School begins at 9:00 a.m.*
 - *MS Spring Musical Tech Rehearsal #2: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the FAC*
 - *End of Spring Season Honor the Wolves: 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the gym, the FAC, and classrooms*
-

Tuesday, April 30

- *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*
- *LS/MS Spring Fine Art Gallery Reception: 7:15-8:00 a.m. in the HBR*
- *MS Spring Musical Dress Rehearsal #1 and Photo Call: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. in the FAC*

- *Advisory: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
 - *High School Information Night (Grade 7): 6:00 p.m. in the Crum Gym on the South Campus*
-

Wednesday, May 1

- *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: 10:45-11:15 a.m.*
 - *Grade 8 High School T-Shirt Day Reception: 1:55-2:30 p.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
 - *MS Parent Coffee With the Head of School: 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Crum Library*
 - *MS Spring Musical Dress Rehearsal #1: 9:30-10:40 a.m.*
 - *MS Spring Musical Dress Rehearsal #2 and Photo Call: 2:30-6:30 p.m.*
-

Thursday, May 2

- *Thursday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *National Day of Prayer*
 - *Spring Book Fair: Through May 3 in Crum Library*
 - *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*
 - *St. Francis 101 (New Parent Welcome): 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *MS Councils/Student Council Officer Elections: 9:15-10:00 a.m. in Chapel and classrooms*
 - *Howlers Practice (Grade 7): 11:20-11:50 a.m.*
 - *MS Spring Musical Final Dress Rehearsal: 2:30-6:30 p.m. in the FAC*
-

Friday, May 3

- *Friday Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
- *Honors Contracts and Appeal Letters Due*
- *NJHS Officer Induction: 7:15-7:50 a.m. in the HBR*

- *Wolf Wear Sale*: 7:45-9:00 a.m. in the concessions area near the Main Campus gym
 - *Advisory*: 10:45-11:15 a.m.
 - *WEB Farewell Activity (Grade 8 Only)*: 10:45-11:15 a.m. in Mr. Duran's classroom
 - *Spring Musical Opening Night*: 7:00-9:00 p.m.
-

Saturday, May 4

- *New Student Honors Testing*: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Crum Library
 - *Spring Musical Performance*: 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the FAC
-

Sunday, May 5

- *School of Music Spring Recital*: 1:30-5:00 p.m. in the FAC
- *MS Summer Travel Meeting (Parents and Students)*: 1:00-6:00 p.m. in the HBR

Upper School

From the Division Head

“Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass. It’s about learning how to dance in the rain.”

—Vivian Greene

“I never paint dreams or nightmares. I paint my own reality.”

—Frida Kahlo

“Practicing gratitude invites joy into your life.”

—Brené Brown

Dear Founding Freshmen Families,

I hope that this week’s message finds you enjoying a leisurely Sunday. The quotes above are all quotes that I happened upon during the past week, and

they seem connected and worth sharing with you. The first quote appeared in an e-mail message from a local mindfulness coach who wrote about Thich Nhat Hanh's teaching that "we must develop our capacity to experience joy." The second is the quote of the week that Beth Looser chose and shared with her students—your children—during last week's art history class. The final quote is from one of my favorite local thought leaders—[Brené Brown](#)—whose research demonstrates a link between gratitude and joy. When I consider these quotes together, I think about the importance of embracing our own reality—all of it—and learning to appreciate the rhythm of the highs and lows of life.

I am grateful for the [collaboration](#) I have witnessed this week between the Upper School and Primary School students during afternoon rehearsals for the upcoming production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. I am grateful for the courage of our student performers and the patience and encouragement of our fine arts faculty, who just returned from Austin. I am grateful for a spectacular [SFES Art Car](#) experience. I am grateful for all of you and your commitment to the process of learning and practicing.

You bring me joy. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cara Henderson
Head of Upper School

Drop-off and Pickup Reminder

In case you missed the e-mail from a few days ago, please note that we've made a slight modification to our before-school and after-school procedures.

- Beginning tomorrow—**Monday, April 15**—students will begin and end their day in Crum Loft. **If you drop off anytime between 7:30 and 8:25 a.m., please plan to drop your child at Crum. The same will apply for afternoon pickup between 3:40 and 4:30 p.m.** (provided that there is no afternoon play rehearsal).
- **If your child needs to be dropped off before 7:30 a.m., please continue to drop off at Andrews House.** Also, please remember that Cara Henderson and Cathleen Flaniken arrive at school between 7:00

and 7:15 a.m. each day, so we appreciate you not dropping off your child until 7:15 a.m. at the earliest.

- In the afternoon (especially after April 26, when there will be no more afternoon rehearsals), any students who are still in Crum Loft after 4:30 p.m. will be escorted to the main Primary School building (next to Richmond House, with the circular drive in front), where they will be able to begin homework in a quiet waiting area until you are able to pick them up (by 6:00 p.m. at the latest).
- Finally, if you are dropping off after 8:30 a.m. (the start of our school day) or picking up before 3:40 p.m. (the end of our school day), you will need to drop off or pick up your child at Andrews House for sign-in and/or sign-out access at Ms. Flaniken's desk.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Cara Henderson by phone at 713.458.6360 or [by e-mail](#) at your convenience.

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KOBI Photo Exhibit Deadline Extended to April 25

Our annual KOBI (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.
- **The entry deadline has been extended to Thursday, April 25.**
- **This year's theme is JOY!**

- For the KOBI photography exhibit entry form, [click here](#).
- Read the exhibit rules [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 15

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-6:00 p.m.*
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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.*
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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*
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Thursday, April 18

- *Day 6 Schedule/Dress Uniform*
 - *Holy Thursday Eucharist: 11:00 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 3:30-5:00 p.m.*
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Friday, April 19

- *Good Friday Holiday: No School*

Monday, April 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No School*
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Tuesday, April 23

- *Day 1 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 4:00-9:00 p.m.*
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Wednesday, April 24

- *Day 2 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 4:00-9:00 p.m.*
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Thursday, April 25

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 4:00-9:00 p.m.*
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Friday, April 26

- *Day 4 Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Upper School Play: 7:30 p.m. in the Andrews House*
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Saturday, April 27

- *Upper School Play: 7:30 p.m. in the Andrews House*

Sunday, April 28

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

Church

Holy Week and Easter Sunday Schedule

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:00 a.m.—Palm Sunday service

9:00 a.m.—Service begins in outdoor courtyard; youth Passion play

11:00 a.m.—Service begins in outdoor courtyard

5:00 p.m.—Palm Sunday service

HOLY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

6:00 p.m.—Tenebrae followed by dinner

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18

7:00 p.m.—Worship service

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19

12:00 p.m.—Good Friday liturgy

12:00 p.m.—Children's walk to Calvary

1:00 p.m.—The Seven Last Words of Jesus

2:00 p.m.—Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.—Private confessions in the Chapel

4:00 p.m.—Easter Eve baptisms (If you wish to be baptized, please contact [Amy Homer](#).)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

7:30 a.m.—Easter service

9:00 a.m.—Easter service followed by Easter egg hunt

11:00 a.m.—Easter service

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.](#)

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.