

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of April 21

All School

Friendly Reminder: Tuition Payments Due Wednesday, May 1

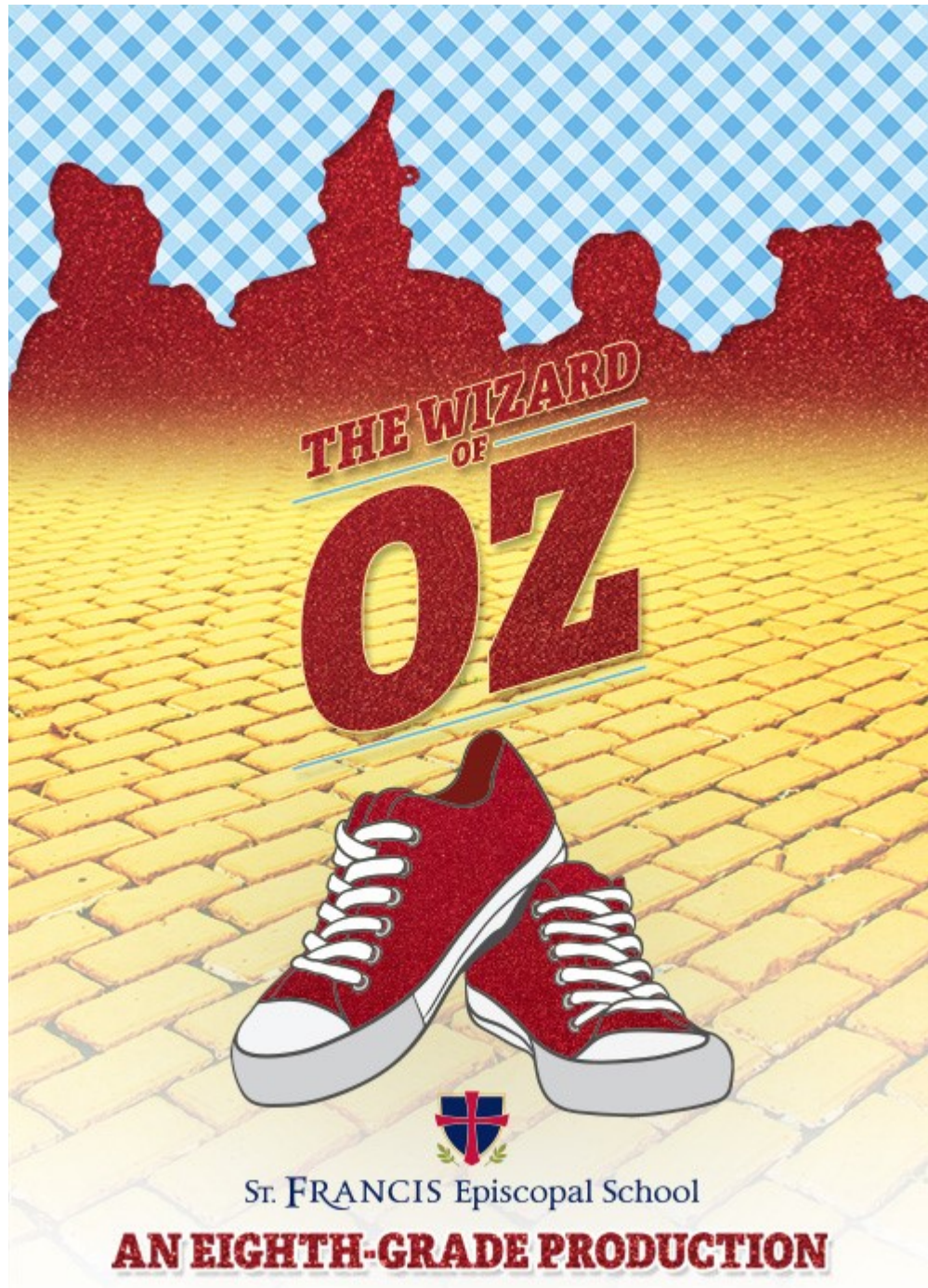
Annual tuition payments for the 2019-20 school year are due on or before Wednesday, May 1, 2019. Please bring or send your check to Chanda Hutton, accounts receivable, or log in to My BackPack and make an online payment by credit card or e-check (for non-ACH annual tuition payers only). Note: There will be an additional convenience fee for online tuition payments.

If you chose the Annual by ACH tuition payment plan option on your 2019-20 enrollment contract, the school will draft your bank account on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

If you chose the Monthly by ACH tuition payment plan option on your 2019-20 enrollment contract, the school will draft your bank account on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, for the first monthly tuition payment for the 2019-20 school year. Moving forward, the monthly ACH tuition drafts will occur on the first business day of each month starting June 2019 through January 2020.

Announcing the Middle School Musical!

The St. Francis Theater Department proudly presents:



Friday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 4, at 7:00 p.m.
Fine Arts Center, Main Campus
Gold Reserved Tickets: \$10
Blue Reserved Tickets \$8

Everyone loves the story of Dorothy Gale, the farm girl who dreams of escaping her mundane life in Kansas. Come follow the yellow brick road through the land of Oz, where you'll meet the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, the Lion—and Dorothy's little dog, Toto, too—in our eighth-grade

theater production of *The Wizard of Oz*. As we travel over the rainbow, this family classic will delight you and remind you of the magical power of home.

Stay tuned—the link to purchase tickets will be published in next week's *Wolf Watch!*

Bayou Bash Festival 2019: Where Our Volunteers At?!

VOLUNTEERS

It takes a village, y'all! We still need your help to make our Bayou Bash Festival an amazing day. We have over 300 volunteer shifts that need to be filled in order to keep booths open. [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? Need to swap out a size? 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!**

Thank you for all of your support! We'll see you on the Bayou!

Buy Your US Play Tickets Today

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.

Final Wolf Wear Sale of the School Year Is May 2

The Athletics Booster Club's final Wolf Wear sale of the school year will be held **Thursday, May 2**. Visit us in the People Place on the Main Campus from 7:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please note: This takes the place of the sale previously scheduled for Friday, May 3.

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Francis Athletics Booster Club!

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: It's family challenge time! Challenge each family member to live out the virtue of grace within the family. Take turns sharing about times when you saw other family members being people of grace.

BeKIND Challenge—Return Completed Cards by Friday

The BeKIND Challenge ends this week! Completed cards are due to Rev. Heinemann by this Friday, April 26. Make sure your family submits yours!

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!

[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

I am a fan of baseball. I love the pace of the game and appreciate that baseball fans don't necessarily expect to win every game. I spent years watching games at Alex Box Stadium at LSU and, like many others, enjoyed the legacy of Coach Skip Bertman. I also like Skip because he is a master storyteller who knew how to attract talent, build a program, and—of course—win!

Coach Bertman won five College World Series championships in his years at LSU. Along with building a storied baseball program, he believed in finding a way to bring families to the stadium.

He built a loyal fan base. Even though Bertman retired as coach in 2001, the LSU program continues to benefit from his legacy and has held the record for highest baseball-game attendance for the last 22 years.

My nephew traveled from Florida every summer from the time he was probably 7 or 8 until he was in high school to attend Skip's summer camps. These camps were packed with kids who wanted to be part of something led by this coach. I showed up for the closing ceremonies each year to hear Skip speak. My daughter still teases me about taking notes. (It's true, I did!) Skip was a storyteller, and his words are still profound to me. He spoke about players he had coached and what it means to be part of a team. He typically had one of those former players—then playing in the major leagues—speak to the impact of education, commitment, and hard work. And, like Skip, they had stories to tell.

One of my favorite Skip stories focused on his approach to recruiting players. It's one I reminded my own children of many times. He said that when he was scouting students in high school, there were some things he always looked for. He liked to show up early and watch players getting off the bus, as they arrived for a game. He wanted to see who got off the bus first, and who wore their hat facing forward. Skip believed these were both indicators of the kind of players he wanted on his team. They were winners. He said that he could teach players how to play baseball, but it was the character of those players that mattered most to him. That character came from their families.

I like that. It's the way you want your children to be when you're not there to "coach" them.

Coaches like Skip Bertman are rare, because being a *great* coach is a hard job. But he had four daughters, and I think even he would say that parenting is the hardest job of all.

Investing time in the character development of your children is worth it. The alternative would be to just hope they learn on their own, without guidance. And everyone benefits from coaching!

I hope this Easter holiday is giving you an opportunity to spend some extra time together as a family—and watch some baseball!

Happy Easter!

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

Monday, April 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday*: No school

Tuesday, April 23

- *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale:* Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—8:45-9:45 a.m. in the Primary School Lobby
 - *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
 - *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale:* Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—during Parent/Teacher Conferences (while supplies last) in the Primary School Lobby
-

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

- *Spring Book Fair*
 - *Final Wolf Wear Sale of the School Year*: 7:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the People Place on the Main Campus
 - *Primary II Mothers and Others*: 1:30 p.m.
-

Friday, May 3

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

Tuesday, May 7

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

Wednesday, May 8

- *PS Parent Education Series (Toilet Training)*: 8:30 a.m. in the Primary School Crum Library
 - *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.
-

Thursday, May 9

- *T/Th Pre-Primary Step-up to Primary I: 9:00 a.m.*
-

Friday, May 10

- *3- and 5-Day Pre-Primary Step-up to Primary I: 9:00 a.m.*
 - *Primary I Step-up to Primary II: 9:00 a.m.*
 - *Primary II/Kindergarten Parent Coffee ("Engaging Your Child in Summer Reading"): 8:45-9:30 a.m. in the Crum Library on the Main Campus*
-

Tuesday, May 14

- *Strategic Plan 2025: 8:30 a.m. in the Primary School Crum Library*
 - *Chapel (Dr. Wishnow Visits): 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Chapel Dramatization (Hughes)*
 - *Open Library Time: 2:45-4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Crum Library*
 - *Strategic Plan 2025: 6:00 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room on the Main Campus*
-

Wednesday, May 15

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

Thursday, May 16

- *Splash Day (Ferguson T/Th and Primary II)*
-

Friday, May 17

- *Splash Day (3- and 5-Day Pre-Primary and Primary I)*
-

Monday, May 20

- *Pre-Primary End-of-Year Party (Britton and Ferguson): 1:30 p.m.*

Tuesday, May 21

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Pre-Primary End-of-Year Party (5-Day and Ferguson T/Th): 1:30 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, May 22

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Primary I End-of-Year Party: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Thursday, May 23

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

Friday, May 24

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

Lower School

From the Division Head

I hope you are having a blessed Easter Sunday!

We are at our farm this weekend enjoying the beautiful weather! Every Easter, I still pull out the papier-mâché Easter egg baskets that my boys made in kindergarten. I fill them with lots of goodies and treats, and they look forward to dumping them out every year. While they think the baskets are childish and a bit silly, I think they are adorable!

I still remember going to the store to select the Easter napkins to be used in the basket-making project. There were SO many fancy, elaborate napkins from which to choose, and I was so excited about the options! My oldest son kept repeating, "I just want blue—solid blue." When it was time for my youngest son to choose his napkins for the basket project, he chose the wildest and most outrageous option available. While these choices may seem insignificant, we still laugh every year when we pull out the baskets; these napkins reflect the boys' personalities to a "T" to this day, at ages 18 and 20. I also recall going to their school to help make the eggs in art class, and I can assure you that I was much more interested in and excited about this project

than they were! What fond memories! I'm sure you and your family have many wonderful traditions on which to build.

As I think about the napkin choices made by my sons and why those choices were made, I am reminded how every child is different and develops at a different pace. Temperament—as well as social, emotional, and academic development—are the most important aspects to consider when we examine educational practices.

Each child is unique, even ones in the same family. It's hard not to compare progress, interests, and passions. If one child started reading early, why isn't the other one? These are natural thoughts, but we have to deliberately choose not to go down that path. Research tells us that most early development levels out, and everyone gets down the path at his or her own pace. It is important to work with your teachers to help your child become his or her best. They understand the developmental stages children go through, have years of experience working with a variety of students, understand learning styles and appropriate progression, and know how to help children get to the next stage in their own time and way. Our teachers have experience with many different students who have developed at a variety of rates, and they are the experts to help you on this journey. Celebrate the growth of each child as he or she goes through these stages and achieves these milestones.

Remember, these are the years you will look back on and treasure!

Cheers!

Carol Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

KOBI Photo Exhibit Deadline Is Thursday

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 is this 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 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday:* No school
-

Tuesday, April 23

- *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale:* Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—8:45-9:45 a.m. in the Primary School Lobby
-

Wednesday, April 24

- *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale:* Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—during parent/teacher conferences (while supplies last) in the Primary School Lobby
 - *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
-

Thursday, May 2

- *Final Wolf Wear Sale of the School Year:* 7:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the People Place on the Main Campus
 - *Meet and Greet:* Welcome our new Middle School administrative team to campus from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. in the Crum Library
-

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.
-

Tuesday, May 7

- *Grades 1-4 Parent Coffee ("Avoiding the Summer Slide")*: 8:15 a.m. in the Crum Library
-

Wednesday, May 8

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

Friday, May 10

- *Primary II and Kindergarten Parent Coffee ("Engaging Your Child in Summer Reading")*: 8:45 a.m. in the Crum Library
-

Monday, May 13

- *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between May 12-18 and in the month of June will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Wednesday, May 15

- *Dress Uniform Day*
 - *Ascension Eucharist*: 8:05 a.m.
-

Friday, May 17

- *Field Day for Grades 3 and 4*: 8:30-11:30 a.m.
- *Field Day for Kindergarten and Grades 1 and 2*: 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Middle School

From the Division Head

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

In this short week, we prepare for next Sunday's Festival, which is always a fun day for the whole school. Abby Clark and her team have been working around the clock, making provisions and preparations for what will surely be a great day.

Get ready for the Upper School's production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at South Campus! I encourage our MS students and families to attend this unique, creative event, which is a pioneering effort in our Upper School's first year. Break a leg, cast and crew!

Here are some recent articles of interest related to mind, brain, and education research:

- ["Many Students Don't Know How to Study. Here's How Parents Can Help."](#) (*The Washington Post*)
- ["How to Improve Your Memory \(Even if You Can't Find Your Car Keys\)"](#) (*The New York Times*)
- ["Reading Your Way to a More Empathetic Self"](#) (National Association of Independent Schools)

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

Sincerely,

Connor Cook, EdD
Head of Middle School

NJHS Needs Your Help!

DONATE PET SUPPLIES FOR THE CAP SHELTER

Help St. Francis's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society collect supplies for the dogs at the Citizens for Animal Protection shelter.

- All supplies will be exchanged for Festival tickets at the following exchange rate:
 - Cage items: 4 tickets
 - Food: 3 tickets
 - Leashes and collars: 2 tickets
 - Toys: 2 tickets
- **Collection and exchange will take place in the People Place on Tuesday, April 23, and Wednesday, April 24, from 7:15 to 8:00 a.m.**
- Donations will also be collected at the NJHS Festival booth. Come pet a dog!

SUPPORT THE NJHS HOMELESS SHELTER GROUP

The NJHS Homeless Shelter Group is raising awareness of and collecting toiletries for homeless shelters around Houston.

- Each Middle School grade that donates 250+ toiletries will be able to send a pre-selected teacher to participate in a pie-eating contest at Festival. The contest will be held at 3:30 p.m.
- Middle School students have pre-selected the following teachers to represent their grades:

Grade 8: Mr. Bogrand
 Grade 7: Mr. Johnson
 Grade 6: Ms. Dunn
 Grade 5: Mrs. McQueen

- Do your part! Bring toiletries, support homeless shelters, and get a chance to win a free-dress day for your grade or a popsicle treat.

KOBI Photo Exhibit Deadline Is Thursday

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 is this 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.

Meet and Greet: Welcome Our New Middle School Administrative Team

We hope you can join us on **Thursday, May 2**, in the **Crum Library** as we welcome our new Middle School administrative team to campus. Chris Bertha will be leading our Middle School division next year, and this is your chance to connect with him before the school year begins.

Mark Your Calendar

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: Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—8:45-9:45 a.m. in the Primary School Lobby*
 - *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: Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—during Parent/Teacher Conferences (while supplies last) in the Primary School Lobby*
 - *Chapel: 10:45-11:15 a.m. in the FAC*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers Practice: 11:20-11:55 a.m. in the Dance Room*
 - *Sophomore Reunion Dinner: 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Molina's on Westheimer*
-

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*
 - *Grade 8 Howlers and Wolfie Practice: 1:45-2:30 p.m. in the gym*
 - *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 in eighth-grade classrooms*
 - *MS Spring Musical Rehearsal: 2:30-6:00 p.m. in the FAC*
 - *Upper School Play (A Midsummer Night's Dream): 7:30 p.m. on the South Campus Lawn; purchase tickets online [here](#)*
-

Saturday, April 27

- *PSIA State Tournament in Fort Worth*
 - *MS Spring Musical Tech Rehearsal #1: 1:30-8:30 p.m. in the FAC*
 - *Upper School Play (A Midsummer Night's Dream): 7:30 p.m. on the South Campus Lawn; purchase tickets online [here](#)*
-

Sunday, April 28

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

Monday, April 29

- *Special Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *No Chapel*
 - *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
 - *South Campus Sip & See (MS/US Mixer):* 6:00-8:00 p.m.
-

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
 - *Final Wolf Wear Sale of the School Year:* 7:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the People Place on the Main Campus
 - *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
 - *Meet and Greet:* Welcome our new Middle School administrative team to campus from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. in the Crum Library
-

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
 - *Advisory:* 10:45-11:15 a.m.
 - *WEB Farewell Activity (Grade 8 Only):* 10:45-11:15 a.m. in Mr. Duran's classroom
 - *Middle School Play (The Wizard of Oz):* 7:00 p.m. in the FAC
-

Saturday, May 4

- *New Student Honors Testing*: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Crum Library
 - *Middle School Play (The Wizard of Oz)*: 7:00 p.m. in the FAC on the Main Campus
-

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
-

Monday, May 6

- *Monday Schedule/Dress Uniform*
 - *Eighth-Grade Art Show*: Through May 10 in the People Place and on Main Street
 - *Bible Study for Eighth Graders*: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
 - *Chapel (Grades 5-8 Community Service Certificates)*: 10:45-11:15 a.m.; students only
-

Tuesday, May 7

- *Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Grade 8 Trip to Boston*: Through May 10
 - *Bible Study for Eighth Graders*: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
 - *Grade 7 People for Others Service Day (Generation One)*
 - *Advisory*: 10:45-11:15 a.m.
 - *MS/LS Art Show*: Through May 11 on Main Street and in the People Place
-

Wednesday, May 8

- *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.
 - *Grades 5-7 Physicals*: 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the gym
-

Thursday, May 9

- *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*
 - *MS Councils: 9:15-10:00 a.m. in classrooms*
 - *Grade 7 Howlers Practice: 11:20-11:50 a.m. in the Dance Room*
-

Friday, May 10

- *Friday Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Choir Competition at Splashtown Choral Festival (Grade 7 Choir)*
-

Saturday, May 11

- *School of Music Spring Recital: 1:00-4:00 p.m.*

Upper School

A Note From Fr. Bates

The Gospels give accounts of the last week of the life of Jesus before his crucifixion, which we now call Holy Week. Holy Week is filled with images that are foreign to us, such as a teacher and Lord riding a donkey while devoted followers wave palms and recite psalms. (Although we did have a donkey and palms actually inside St. Francis Church for Palm Sunday, so maybe not that foreign after years of liturgical re-enactment?)

Despite strange events, there are two Holy Week images found in the Gospels that stand out to inspire all of us. The first is the image of Jesus, the master and Lord, bending down at the feet of his disciples and washing them in a basin of water (which was a servant's job). Jesus revealed by this action that greatness would be defined by humility and service to others. The second image is of Jesus on the cross giving absolute forgiveness, saying, "Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

This striking image reminds us that in order to forgive others, we must not return the evil done to us, but rather bear it and not allow the cycle of evil to continue. Then, love and forgiveness may be given. In this way, we find our own forgiveness and find the path to forgive others. No one said this is an easy path, but I believe it is the way to life and peace.

May grace and peace be yours in this holy season.

The Rev. Stuart Bates

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.

KOBI Photo Exhibit Deadline Is Thursday

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 is this 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 22

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No School*
-

Tuesday, April 23

- *Day 1 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale: Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—8:45-9:45 a.m. in the Primary School Lobby*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal: 4:00-9:00 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, April 24

- *Day 2 Schedule/Regular Uniform*

- *Festival T-shirt Surplus Sale*: Main Campus—7:45-8:30 a.m. in the People Place; South Campus—during Parent/Teacher Conferences (while supplies last) in the Primary School Lobby
 - *Fine Arts Play Rehearsal*: 4:00-9:00 p.m.
-

Thursday, April 25

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

Friday, April 26

- *Day 4 Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Upper School Play (A Midsummer Night's Dream)*: 7:30 p.m. on the South Campus Lawn; purchase tickets online [here](#)
-

Saturday, April 27

- *Upper School Play (A Midsummer Night's Dream)*: 7:30 p.m. on the South Campus Lawn; purchase tickets online [here](#)
-

Sunday, April 28

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

Monday, April 29

- *Day 5 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Late Start Due to Festival*: School begins at 9:00 a.m.
-

Tuesday, April 30

- *Science Service Day*
- *Casual Dress*: Long pants, long-sleeve T-shirt, closed-toe shoes, hat

- *South Campus Sip & See (MS/US Mixer): 6:00-8:00 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, May 1

- *Day 6 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
-

Thursday, May 2

- *Day 1 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Final Wolf Wear Sale of the School Year: 7:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the People Place on the Main Campus*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
-

Friday, May 3

- *Day 2 Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Middle School Play (The Wizard of Oz): 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Main Campus*
-

Saturday, May 4

- *Middle School Play (The Wizard of Oz): 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Main Campus*

Church

Fall First Communion Classes Start September 8

First Communion classes begin Sunday, September 8. This is an 8-week course designed for second-grade students preparing to receive the Holy Eucharist.

Contact Allison Devlin [via e-mail](#) for information or to sign up.

St. Francis in the Woods Is October 25-27

Save the date! St. Francis in the Woods—a family-friendly retreat held at Camp Allen—is scheduled for **October 25-27, 2019**. Parishioners and friends of St. Francis gather for a weekend of fun, fellowship, worship, crafts, s'mores, and outdoor adventures.

For more details or to sign up to attend, contact Cindy Huteson [via e-mail](#) to be added to St. Francis in the Woods communications.

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.

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.](#)

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.