

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of August 25

All School

Next Wolf Wear Sale Is Friday, September 6

The Athletics Booster Club will hold its “First Friday” Wolf Wear sale on Friday, September 6, at 7:45–9:00 a.m. in the Concessions area near the Main Campus gym. Thank you for your support!

MySchoolAnywhere Is Now Membership Toolkit

As mentioned in last week's *Wolf Watch*, the St. Francis Parents Association (PA) will be using Membership Toolkit for our PA directory and online sales, starting with this school year. MySchoolAnywhere (MSA) has merged with Membership Toolkit, and the MSA website and app are no longer available to our families and faculty. By now, you may have already received an invitation from Membership Toolkit, but if you have not, we invite you to visit the [SFE PA Membership Toolkit website](#) to see everything the PA website has to offer. Once you create a Membership Toolkit account, you will have access via the website and mobile app to the PA directory; the listing of SFE PA board members and chairs; and the SFE PA store. Only current families and faculty have access to the website and app. If you encounter any issues, please [e-mail us](#).

Update Your Directory Info by September 15!

The PA directory chairs have begun updating information for the 2019–20 PA Mini-Directory. Please note that your family information, as shown in the My

BackPack system (available via the St. Francis Parent Portal), will be the information that's published in the Mini-Directory. **Please confirm and, if necessary, update this information by Sunday, September 15, 2019.**

To update your contact information online:

1. Log in to the Parent Portal via the school's website with your assigned username and password. If you have misplaced your login information, [contact Technology](#) for assistance.
2. Click on "My BackPack," found in the Quick Links section.
3. In the Settings section, click "My Profile."
4. Select "Edit."
5. Update your information as needed. For contacts that you do not want to appear in the online School Directory or in the printed PA Mini-Directory, place a check in the DNP (Do Not Publish) checkbox.
6. Click "Save" to save your changes.
7. Click "Done" to submit your request for changes. (You may also use the "Send note to school" option if you want to explain any of your changes in more detail.)

NOTE: Parent cell phones, e-mails, and home addresses that are NOT checked as DNP (Do Not Publish) will be printed in the Mini-Directory.

The printed Mini-Directory is available for purchase from the Membership Toolkit online store. If you have any questions or concerns, please [e-mail the PA Mini-Directory chairs](#).

Lost and Found Reminder: Label, Label, Label

With the new school year upon us, please take a minute to label all of your student's items. Outerwear and water bottles are the items most commonly lost. When uniform items are lost and are not labeled, it is almost impossible to know to whom they belong, so please remember to label. When labeling outerwear, please attach a name label or write the name clearly on the tag or the neck area of the garment (instead of on the garment care label near the waist), as this makes it much simpler to identify the owner of the item.

Click [here](#) for an example.

The main campus Lost and Found closet is located under the fifth-grade stairwell (next to the entrance to the Crum Library). If you have any questions, please [e-mail Ali Williams](#), lost and found coordinator.

Have You Submitted Your Grandparent Information Form?

Here at St. Francis, we know how important grandparents and grandfriends are to our students, and we love connecting with them! Our monthly [Keepin' Track of the Pack](#) grandparent newsletter provides up-to-date information on student events and activities, and our annual Grandparents and Grandfriends Days provide a wonderful opportunity to spend time with grandchildren here at the school. If you'd like us to connect with your child's grandparents or grandfriends—and help them stay connected with student life at St. Francis—please e-mail a completed Grandparent Information Form to [Danielle Richardson](#), gift records and data analysis manager. (You can download the Grandparent Information Form by clicking [here](#) or by visiting the “All Division Essentials” section of the Parent Portal.

Save the Date(s) for Grandparents and Grandfriends Days!

Get ready for a St. Francis favorite! This school year, we will welcome our grandparents and grandfriends to enjoy Chapel, classroom visits, and a visit to the book fair! Detailed information will be available on the invitation that will be mailed out to grandparents in October (LS/MS/US) and January (PS).

- **November 21 and 22—LS, MS, and US**
- **February 12 and 13—PS**

If you need to update the grandparent information St. Francis has on file for your family or if you have any questions regarding Grandparents and Grandfriends Days, please contact Anne Chisholm at 713.458.6141 or [via e-mail](#).

Time to Team Up: Sporting Clays Classic Is October 25!

Shoot for success at the St. Francis Sporting Clays Classic on Friday, October 25! Come enjoy lunch, 72 sporting clay targets plus ammunition, an exhilarating flurry competition, golf cart transportation, and an awards ceremony.

Check out the [event website](#) or [Team and Sponsorship Commitment Form](#) to discover the various ways you can participate. Please note that this event is not just for our school community; it's also a chance to entertain clients, reconnect with former classmates, and introduce new families to our school.

The Sporting Clays Classic benefits The Patrick Nicosia C.A.R.E. Fund, which provides cultural, academic, and recreational enrichment (C.A.R.E.) for students who otherwise would not have the opportunity to participate fully in our school programs. For more information, visit the [Special Events page](#) under the Giving tab on the St. Francis home page. You may also e-mail SportingClays@StFrancisHouston.org or contact [Will Stacy](#), Sporting Clays Classic chair.

Support the Fine Arts at St. Francis

Do you love the fine arts? Do you want to help provide the best possible fine arts opportunities for St. Francis students? If so, please consider joining Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA), a volunteer organization that supports fine arts activities across all St. Francis school divisions.

- As a FoFA member, you'll be at the forefront of enriching the fine arts at St. Francis, and you'll be among the first to hear about FoFA activities and fun, fine arts–related volunteer opportunities.
- Simply visit the online [Wolf Den Campus Store](#), select “FoFA Membership” under “Memberships,” and contribute \$25 in support of fine arts to become a member.

St. Francis Friends of Fine Arts thanks you for your support!

Register Today for SFSA Sports

Registration is now open for basketball, T-ball, baseball, softball, and volleyball through the St. Francis Sports Association. [Click here](#) to register, and please note:

- We are happy to announce that, this year, we will be offering Primary II basketball.
- For more information or with questions about registration, please [e-mail Ragan Cain](#).

Today: First Cub Scout Meeting

St. Francis Episcopal Church is proud to sponsor Cub Scout Pack 1703. Cub Scouting is available for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Once per month, each age group meets after school in their “den” under the supervision of parent leaders. There is one weekend pack activity each month, including

campouts, pinewood derby car racing, and a night aboard the USS Lexington aircraft carrier! Scouting is a great way to learn new skills, make new friends, and enjoy the great Texas outdoors.

Want to find out more about St. Francis Cub Scout Pack 1703?

Join us for our first pack meeting of the school year. We'll be meeting this afternoon—Sunday, August 25—at 4:30 p.m. in St. Francis Episcopal Church's Wheatcroft Parish Hall.

- Watch a Cub Scout flag ceremony.
- Learn about the campouts and other planned activities.
- Enjoy burgers and hot dogs.
- Build a toy wooden airplane.
- Meet the leaders.
- Fill out registration forms for new Cub Scouts.

Cub Scouts can [register for the new school year online here](#).

For more information, please [click here](#) or [e-mail Will Ashby](#), Pack 1703 leader.

Primary School

From the Division Head

Welcome back! It is so good to have children in the Primary School again. In the early weeks of the school year, we see a wide range of emotions in young children. There are highs and lows as students adjust to new responsibilities and grow in confidence in their classrooms. A new year brings excitement, with opportunities and growth as children adapt to change and become more resilient. Friendships develop, and being part of a group—a school family—helps children build empathy and appreciate the value of their community. Sometimes there are tears, but there is also so much joy.

Thank you for the time you have spent meeting with teachers to help us get to know your child better. We value your trust in sharing with us so that we can work closely with you this year. I encourage you to read the Tadpoles communication sent by teachers. They send daily reflections that highlight studio and project work, literacy, collaboration, exploration of materials inside and outdoors, and children deeply engaged in play. Weekly *Wolf Watch*

updates will help you stay current on what is happening in the classroom and in the Primary School. You'll receive an e-mail and text prompt on Sunday afternoons to open *Wolf Watch*.

Thank you for choosing St. Francis Episcopal School for your child. We are privileged to be able to share in your child's growth this year. Please let us know how we can help your family in this journey.

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, August 27

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Pre-Primary New Parent Meeting: 8:15 a.m. in the PS Library*
 - *Primary I and Primary II New Parent Meeting: 10:00 a.m. in the PS Library*
-

Wednesday, August 28

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

Friday, August 30–Monday, September 2

- *Labor Day Holiday*
-

Tuesday, September 3

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Explore and Extend Enrichment Classes Begin*
-

Wednesday, September 4

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

Tuesday, September 10

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

Wednesday, September 11

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

Tuesday, September 17

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Pre-Primary Parent Information Night: 6:30–8:00 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, September 18

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

Thursday, September 19

- *Primary I and Primary II Parent Information Night: 6:30–8:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, September 24

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

Wednesday, September 25

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

Friday, September 27

- *Primary School Admissions Tour: 9:00–11:00 a.m.*

Monday, September 30

- *Individual and Group Pictures (3-Day Pre-Primary and Primary I)*

Lower School

From the Division Head

The classrooms and hallways were finally full of life this past week! We had an amazing start to our school year. Thank you for your partnership in getting your children here on time and ready to learn! The students have already started working on our Lower School Social Contract, a document outlining guiding principles for working together as a school family to foster an optimal learning environment. We have begun our initial individual academic assessments, gathering data on each child in order to ensure we are fostering a program where students are working in their [Zone of Proximal Development](#). Research tells us this is essential for meaningful, effective learning to occur.

Tuesday afternoon, the Lower School Faculty spent a bit of time together [reflecting on the WHY of WHAT and HOW we do what we do](#).

I knew after reading the teachers' thoughts that you'd also like to hear what they had to say, since your children spend most of the day with these amazing people. We presented prompts, to which they gave the following responses:

When you visit our division, I hope you notice:

Teamwork; how much love we have for our students; collaboration; joy; teachers laughing and smiling with others; our positive attitude and teamwork; a content and joyous environment; how responsive we are to our students; how we have fun as we learn; how engaged the students are in their learning; our true sense of comradery

Great teachers know:

You never finish learning; kids will be kids—celebrate childhood; how to inspire their students and make a difference; when to change gears; how to build relationships with students; when to abandon ship and improvise; how to be flexible; that we are not perfect; there is always more to learn; when to be stern and when to apologize; how to lead, motivate, and inspire; that every student has immense potential; when there is a full moon

I love teaching because:

Every day and every year is an adventure; it keeps you on your toes; it's never static, and there's always room for creativity and humor; students make me laugh; the students are excited to come to class; we create and develop the future; I am energized and recharged by my students every day; we learn new things every day; the growth displayed by my students in a year brings me joy

I am inspired by:

My team; the awesome teachers here; our students; the minds of fellow educators; all of the support given by the staff; all of the amazing work in everyone's classrooms; the collaboration of colleagues; artists; learning from each other

As you can see, we love your children, love what we do, and stay abreast of current research on how we learn best.

I can't stress enough the importance of reading *Wolf Watch* each week—it is full of very important information and is one way to partner with us in your child's education. Please tell your friends if they are not reading it!

Enjoy your Sunday, and we look forward to this week with your precious children!

Cheers,

Carol R. Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, August 26

- *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between August 1–31 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Tuesday, August 27

- *Parent Meeting*: 8:15 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)
 - *NEW Parent Meeting*: 8:45 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)
-

Wednesday, August 28

- *Fourth-Grade Leadership Induction Chapel*: 8:05 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC); dress uniform required
-

Friday, August 30–Monday, September 2

- *Labor Day Holiday*
-

Wednesday, September 4

- *Dress Uniform Day*
 - *Opening Eucharist (Pentecost): 8:05 a.m.*
-

Friday, September 6

- *Spirit Dress Day*: Students may wear a St. Francis shirt with jeans or uniform bottoms
-

Monday, September 9

- *No Chapel*
-

Tuesday, September 10

- *Parent Information Night*: 6:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC)
-

Wednesday, September 11

- *Birthday Chapel*: Students with a birthday between September 1–14 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Monday, September 16

- *Dress Uniform Day*
 - *Honor Code and Social Contract Signing Chapel*: 8:05 a.m.
-

Wednesday, September 18

- *LS, MS, and US Student Holiday*
- *Welcome to the Den Conferences:* Please sign up for a time via the e-mail sent at the beginning of September

Middle School

From the Division Head

The opening days of 2019–20 have been full of laughter, hugs, and energy. After a full summer preparing for students to return, it has been great to walk through hallways and have the opportunity to meet your kids and share in the excitement of the new year. On behalf of the Middle School faculty and staff, thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your children and for your partnership in their education. We are thrilled to have you back!

As we get into the year, I will use this medium to share thoughts, MS highlights, and important goings-on around campus. I encourage you to read the relevant sections of *Wolf Watch* thoroughly to make sure you are current on community happenings and news. If you ever have questions, please feel free to reach out to someone in the MS Office and we will be happy to help.

Best,

Chris Bertha, MA
Head of Middle School

Frozen JR. Auditions Start Tuesday

Auditions for the eighth-grade production of *Frozen JR.* will start on **Tuesday, August 27, at 7:15 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC)** and will continue on **Wednesday, August 28, and Thursday, August 29, at 7:15 a.m. in the Dance Studio**. During this time, we will teach music and choreography from the show, plus students will be provided with sides from the script.

Auditions and callbacks will continue the following week, beginning on Tuesday, September 3, and continuing through Friday, September 6, in the FAC.

To help you prepare for *Frozen JR.* auditions, please take a look at the following YouTube links to learn basic choreography for *Love Is an Open Door*.

- <https://youtu.be/Axh81QCAsy8>
- <https://youtu.be/F9SmBWrpFVg>

Please [e-mail Mrs. Traber](#) with any questions you have about the show, the audition process, or the rehearsal calendar.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, August 26

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

Tuesday, August 27

- *Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *New Parent Meeting: 2:00–3:00 p.m. in the Crum Library*
-

Wednesday, August 28

- *Grades 6, 7, and 8: Wednesday Block Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Grade 5: Wednesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:45–11:15 a.m. in the Chapel*
-

Thursday, August 29

- *Grades 6, 7, and 8: Thursday Block Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Grade 5: Thursday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, August 30–Monday, September 2

- *Labor Day Holiday: No School*

Tuesday, September 3

- *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*

Wednesday, September 4

- *Eucharist Schedule/Dress Uniform*
- *Bible Study for Seventh and Eighth Graders: 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
- *MS/US Opening Eucharist (Pentecost): 11:05–11:55 a.m. in the Chapel*

Thursday, September 5

- *Grades 6, 7, and 8: Thursday Block Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Grade 5: 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*

Friday, September 6

- *Friday Schedule/Friday Attire: Uniform bottoms with Wolf Wear or SFE spirit dress*
- *NJHS Meeting: 7:15–7:50 a.m. in Dr. Bedard's classroom*
- *Wolf Wear Sale: 7:45–9:00 a.m. in the Concessions area near the Main Campus gym*

Upper School

From the Division Head

Happy New (School) Year! It was a joy to get started reviewing what we already know, and it's going to be a wonderful year of growth and learning.

For a short week, we've been busy! On Tuesday during orientation, Mr. Lovejoy encouraged our new students to (1) try something new, (2) ask for help when needed, and (3) take charge of their education. On Wednesday, we officially kicked off the new year with the first assembly, during which we talked about making new (school) year resolutions that students shared in advisories at the end of the day. I have asked students to join me in resolving to (1) be present, (2) be our authentic selves, and (3) be kind to ourselves and to one another.

After a special schedule on Wednesday, students had the opportunity to experience two full days of our rotating block schedule on Thursday and Friday. So, at this point, they have been to all of their classes twice. Please remember my two-week rule for settling into a new routine, and encourage your child to visit with a teacher or advisor if/when a need or concern arises.

The entire Upper School team hopes that your children have had a wonderful week in high school. We are grateful that you are at St. Francis, and we are very excited for the adventures of the upcoming year!

Sincerely,

Cara Henderson, EdD
Head of Upper School

P.S. Please enjoy [this picture](#) from our first day!

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, August 26

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Volleyball vs. Briarwood School: 4:30 p.m. at Briarwood School*

Tuesday, August 27

- *Day 4 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:20 a.m. in Andrews House*
-

Wednesday, August 28

- *Day 5 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in Andrews House*
 - *Volleyball vs. Duchesne Academy: 5:00 p.m. in the Crum Gym*
-

Thursday, August 29

- *Day 6 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, August 30–Monday, September 2

- *Labor Day Holiday: School closed*
-

Tuesday, September 3

- *Day 1 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:20 a.m. in Andrews House*
-

Wednesday, September 4

- *Day 2—Special Schedule/Dress Uniform*
 - *Eucharist: 11:00 a.m. in the Main Campus Chapel*
 - *Volleyball vs. Second Baptist: 5:00 p.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Thursday, September 5

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, September 6

- *Day 4 Schedule/SFES Spirit Wear*
 - *Volleyball vs. St. Constantine School: 5:00 p.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Saturday, September 7

- *Cross-Country Rosehill Christian Meet: All day in Burroughs Park*

Church

Today: First Cub Scout Meeting

St. Francis Episcopal Church is proud to sponsor Cub Scout Pack 1703. Cub Scouting is available for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Once per month, each age group meets after school in their “den” under the supervision of parent leaders. There is one weekend pack activity each month, including campouts, pinewood derby car racing, and a night aboard the USS Lexington aircraft carrier! Scouting is a great way to learn new skills, make new friends, and enjoy the great Texas outdoors.

Want to find out more about St. Francis Cub Scout Pack 1703?

Join us for our first pack meeting of the school year. We’ll be meeting this afternoon—Sunday, August 25—at 4:30 p.m. in St. Francis Episcopal Church’s Wheatcroft Parish Hall.

- Watch a Cub Scout flag ceremony.
- Learn about the campouts and other planned activities.
- Enjoy burgers and hot dogs.
- Build a toy wooden airplane.
- Meet the leaders.
- Fill out registration forms for new Cub Scouts.

Cub Scouts can [register for the new school year online here](#).

For more information, please [click here](#) or [e-mail Will Ashby](#), Pack 1703 leader.

Fall First Communion Classes Start September 8

First communion classes begin Sunday, September 8. This eight-week course is designed to prepare second-grade students to receive the Holy Eucharist.

Contact [Allison Devlin](#) for information or to sign up.

Bible Studies for Moms Kick Off September 10

Moms, give yourself the gift of studying God's Word with other St. Francis moms! Seeking God first puts everything in perspective.

Join us at either (or both!) of these times:

- **Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. in CE 212 on the Main Campus, beginning September 10**
- **Wednesdays at 8:15 a.m. in Andrew's House on the South Campus, beginning September 11**

Come whenever you can—in workout or work wear! We will study the book of **Ephesians**.

Register Today for SFSA Sports

Registration is now open for basketball, T-ball, baseball, softball, and volleyball through the St. Francis Sports Association. [Click here](#) to register, and please note:

- We are happy to announce that, this year, we will be offering Primary II basketball.
- For more information or with questions about registration, please [e-mail Ragan Cain](#).

Sundays at St. Francis Episcopal Church

- **Service Times:**

- **8:00 a.m:** Holy Eucharist, Rite I (casual and contemplative service)
- **9:00 a.m:** Family worship with Holy Eucharist (kid-friendly; updated music; all ages welcome)
- **11:00 a.m:** Holy Eucharist with organ and choir (traditional worship with beautiful music)
- **5:00 p.m:** Holy Eucharist, Rite I (casual and reflective service)
- **Let It Shine! Children's Bible Breakout:** After the children's message during the 9:00 a.m. service, all children in pre-K through middle school are invited to follow the cross to participate in the Let it Shine! Children's Bible Breakout. Children will learn lessons from the Bible, act out Bible stories, memorize key verses from Scripture, and pray together. They will return to the service during the announcements.
- **LightHouse Expressions in Art:** During the 10 o'clock hour, children in pre-K to middle school are invited to meet in the Guild Room to create an art project reinforcing the Bible lesson and key verse discussed during Let it Shine! High school youth are invited to serve as leaders and helpers during this time.
- **Breakfast Bites and Fellowship:** Please join us in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall for coffee, donuts, and light bites after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.