

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of September 15

All School

Dads' Club Speaker Series Breakfast Is Friday

Dads' Club is kicking off the new school year with its first breakfast meeting this **Friday, September 20, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room on the Main Campus**. We invite you to join us for this morning of fellowship with other St. Francis dads and Head of School Steve Lovejoy, who will be speaking.

Parents' Night Out Is This Friday

Our first Parents' Night Out is this **Friday, September 20, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.**

- Participating students will enjoy a pizza dinner, games and crafts, and a rotation of activities that will include games with Just Play Sports in the gym, a spa to pamper hands and feet, cookie-decorating stations, messy science, and more. We will end the evening with popcorn and a movie in the Fine Arts Center.
- Please plan to drop off and pick up your students in the Dining Hall.
- Cost is \$45. Reserve your spot by registering online through My Backpack Program Registration or by e-mailing [Margaret Newsom](#).

PA Lunch and Learn Is All About Getting Organized

The Fall Parents Association Lunch and Learn will be held on **Wednesday**,

October 16, at 11:00 a.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall on the Main Campus.

- The PA is excited to welcome **Julie Hibbs**, founder and president of Squared Away, as our speaker. Julie is a **Certified Professional Organizer** who has spent the last 20 years helping Houstonians reduce stress, increase productivity, and manage time better through proven, dependable, and stylish organization solutions.
- Tickets are \$15 (including lunch) and can be purchased in the [PA Membership Toolkit](#) online store.
- **The deadline to register is Friday, October 11.**

Middle School Basketball Clinics With Leveil Lander

Coach Lander will be holding clinics on **September 22, September 29, October 6, October 13, and October 27 in the Crum Athletics Center from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.** These clinics will be for students in **grades 5–8**. Cost is \$125. To register, go to Program Registration in My Backpack or e-mail [Margaret Newsom](#).

Sign Up Now for Child Care This Wednesday

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for this coming week, and September 18 is a student holiday for Lower and Middle School students. **Care is available through Explore and Extend from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on this day.** Please e-mail [Margaret Newsom](#) to make reservations.

Some Explore and Extend Classes Still Have Openings

While Explore and Extend Enrichment Classes are well underway, there are still a few spots open for fall 2019:

MONDAYS

3:00–3:45 p.m.—Group Guitar for grades 2–5

3:15–4:15 p.m.—Soccer Shots for grades K–3

4:30–5:30 p.m.—Level I Woodworking

TUESDAYS

3:30–4:30 p.m.—Chess for grades K–4

WEDNESDAYS

3:30–4:30 p.m.—Manners With the Voom Room for grades 2–4

THURSDAYS

2:30–3:15 p.m.—Tae Kwon Do for Primary I and II

3:45–4:30 p.m.—Tae Kwon Do for grades K–5

FRIDAYS

2:30–3:15 p.m.—Tae Kwon Do for Primary I and II

3:30–4:30 p.m.—Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu for grades K–3

Please e-mail [Margaret Newsom](#) to register, as prorated prices may apply to some classes at this time.

Shooting for Success: Support the Sporting Clays Classic

Calling all sponsors! Take advantage of opportunities that deliver brand visibility through exclusive signage and print recognition, while supporting our fourth annual Sporting Clays Classic. For example, did you know that the event's golf cart sponsor benefits from signage on the approximately 60 golf carts used at the event? Or that an in-kind product can be used as a prize for the winner of the Mixed Target Game?

If you would like to include your company's promotional item in the event's swag bag, e-mail [Martha Chavez](#). Approximately 150 swag bags will be handed out!

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—so gather your team and 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. 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.

September Virtue of the Month: Honor

During the month of September, the St. Francis community is focusing on the virtue of honor. Our virtue verse is Romans 12:10: *“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”* As a family, you can memorize the verse together.

Table Talk: This past week, students learned American Sign Language for the word *honor*. Ask them to show you! Also, this week, students will sign the St. Francis Honor Code. Ask them what it means to them.

Admissions Is on the Hunt for New Wolves!

The Admissions Office is ready to begin receiving new student [applications](#) for the 2020–21 school year. Current families are not required to come on a group tour—however, you are always welcome to do so!

Please spread the word to your friends, neighbors, and coworkers about our upcoming admissions events!

SHOWCASE SUNDAY—OCTOBER 20

Primary School Stay and Play: 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

This is a casual and convenient opportunity for Primary School families to explore our state-of-the-art facility, see our South Campus, meet our faculty, and have a great time. **Please Note:** This event is different from our weekday tours. It is designed to give children a chance to enjoy our classroom spaces and will not include a formal presentation.

Lower School Stay and Play: 1:00–3:00 p.m.

This is a casual and convenient opportunity for Lower School families to explore our state-of-the-art facility, see our Main Campus, meet our faculty, and have a great time. **Please Note:** This event is different from our weekday tours. It is designed to give children a chance to enjoy our classroom spaces and will not include a formal presentation.

Middle School Showcase: 1:00–3:00 p.m.

See our campus come alive as our eighth-grade Howlers pep squad welcomes you, our volleyball and basketball teams show off their skills, and

our dance and choir students give you a sneak peek performance in the Fine Arts Center. After this showstopping introduction, our fabulous teachers will welcome you into their classrooms and tell you about all of the amazing things you'll get to experience in Middle School! Students are welcome and encouraged to attend this tour.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS GROUP TOURS

Friday, September 27, at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, November 7, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, December 6, at 9:00 a.m.

LOWER AND MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS GROUP TOURS

Tuesday, September 24, at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, October 29, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, November 8, at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 3, at 9:00 a.m.

UPPER SCHOOL ADMISSIONS GROUP TOURS

Wednesday, September 25, at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October 16, at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 13, at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 11, at 9:00 a.m.

Know a St. Francis Family Going Through Tough Times? Let the Care and Compassion Committee Know

The Parents' Association Care and Compassion Committee was created to provide help to St. Francis families in times of need. If, at any time, you hear of a circumstance in which a family might need assistance through prayer, meals, or just a thoughtful card or phone call, please let the appropriate representative know:

- [Marcela Vij](#)—T/Th Pre-Primary
- [Charlotte Hedrick](#)—MWF Pre-Primary
- [Kelli Calderwood](#)—5-Day Pre-Primary
- [Shannon Addison](#)—MWF Primary I
- [Rebecca Elmore](#)—5-Day Primary I
- [Abigail Coleman](#)—Primary II
- [Miranda Tadlock](#)—Kindergarten
- [Kate Oshins](#)—First Grade
- [Alison Meyer](#)—Second Grade

- [Lindsey Little](#)—Third Grade
- [Michelle Martin](#)—Fourth Grade
- [Erin Fowler](#)—Fifth Grade
- [Kim Graeter](#)—Sixth Grade
- [Kelly Cabbage](#)—Seventh Grade
- [Huntley Kubitza](#)—Eighth Grade
- [Jackie Sheahan Miller](#)—Ninth Grade
- [Julie Moreton](#)—Tenth Grade

If you have any questions, please contact Care and Compassion Chairperson [Colleen Dunlap](#).

LAST DAY to Update Your Directory Info

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 the end of today, September 15.**

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.](#)

Get Involved! Join Our Various Parent Groups

We are so grateful for the many parents who volunteer their time to help enrich the daily experiences of our students. Whether supporting the fine arts at school, serving as an athletics booster, or volunteering in another capacity, parents find various ways to be engaged with our community. Please [click here](#) and select the organization name to learn more and join!

FRIENDS OF FINE ARTS

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.

- Funds raised through FoFA will be distributed to St. Francis fine arts teachers based on a “wish list” of items they need to help further teach our children all about the fine arts. These items often include art books, costumes, and props used in music, art, and drama classes. Being a member of FoFA is also a great way to volunteer as little or as much as you want and meet other families at St. Francis.
- 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.
- To become a FoFA member, simply visit the online [Wolf Den Campus Store](#), select “FoFA Membership” under “Memberships,” and contribute \$25 in support of fine arts.
- Remember to [order your holiday poinsettias online today](#). St. Francis Friends of Fine Arts thanks you for your support.

DADS’ CLUB

Created for the fathers of St. Francis students, the Dads’ Club meets regularly for breakfast and other activities. The group focuses on community service, relationship-building among dads, education, and school support, and sponsors and organizes guest-speaker visits throughout the year.

The goal of the organization is to provide a forum for St. Francis dads to become a greater part of their children’s education. Here are some things you can expect when you join the Dads’ Club:

- **Awareness:** Increasing insight into St. Francis activities and direction
- **Input:** Providing feedback and support to the school
- **Friendship:** Fostering relationships with other dads
- **Focus:** Participating in dad-centric events and conversations

To join the Dads' Club, simply visit the online [Wolf Den Campus Store](#), select "Dads' Club Membership" under "Memberships," and contribute \$50 in support of the St. Francis Dads' Club.

ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB

The Athletics Booster Club helps support the school's athletics program through Wolf Wear clothing sales, concessions sales during home games, and other activities. The club also fosters school spirit at home and away games, assists with pep rallies and spirit days, and helps with hosting tournaments held at St. Francis. To join the Athletics Booster Club, simply visit the online [Wolf Den Campus Store](#), select "Booster Club Membership" under "Memberships," and contribute \$25 in support of St. Francis athletics.

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](#).

Primary School

From the Assistant Division Head

We are looking forward to seeing you this week at Primary School Parent Information Night! **Pre-Primary Parent Information Night is on Tuesday, September 17, at 6:30 p.m.** We will start in the Primary School multipurpose room. **Primary I and Primary II Parent Information Night is Thursday,**

September 19, at 6:30 p.m. We will begin in the Crum Athletic Center. Both nights are dedicated to strengthening our parent and school partnership. We hope you will arrive at 6:30 p.m. to enjoy light refreshments and get to know other Primary School families.

Parent Information Night is an opportunity for you, as a parent, to get familiar with your child's classroom learning environment. At this annual event, you'll get valuable information about your child's classroom routines, daily schedule, learning experiences, and academic and developmental goals for the year. You will also be provided with opportunities to get involved in your child's class or grade level, as well as to meet and network with other parents in your child's classroom.

Our Primary School faculty has been busy planning and preparing for your attendance. We look forward to seeing you on Parent Information Night this week!

Sincerely,

Clifton Walker, MEd
Assistant Head of Primary School

Primary School Dining Hall Menu

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

Mark Your Calendar

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. in Crum Gym*
-

Friday, September 20

- *Dads' Club Breakfast: 7:30–9:00 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR) on the Main Campus*
 - *Parents' Night Out (Explore and Extend): 6:00–10:00 p.m. for students in Primary II through grade 5; registration required; please see additional details in the "All School" section above*
-

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)*
-

Tuesday, October 1

- *Blessing of the Stuffed Animals (2-Day Pre-Primary and Primary II)*
 - *Primary II Furry Friends Picnic*
 - *Parents Association Meeting: 8:00–10:00 a.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall on the Main Campus*
 - *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
-

Wednesday, October 2

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Blessing of the Stuffed Animals (Primary I)*
-

Friday, October 4

- *Wolf Wear Sale: 7:45–9:00 a.m. in the Concessions area near the Main Campus gym*
-

October 7–11

- *Homecoming week see the detailed schedule in the coming weeks for games and spirit days*
-

Tuesday, October 8

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

Wednesday, October 9

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

Thursday, October 10

- *Primary II Field Trip*
-

Monday, October 14

- *Columbus Day Holiday: No School*
-

Tuesday, October 15

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Primary II Sings in Chapel (Owens, Staller, Hughes)*
-

Wednesday, October 16

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Primary II Sings in Chapel (Dominick, Wiener)*
-

Sunday, October 20

- *Showcase Sunday Admissions Event: Primary School Stay and Play for prospective families*

Lower School

From the Division Head

Parent Night was such a great success due to your participation! Thank you for coming to learn more about your child's educational experiences. We LOVE sharing everything we do and why we do it with you! Don't ever hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions. (And remember, conferences are this coming Wednesday and are another great time to connect with your child's teacher. Sign up for a time if you haven't already!)

This week, I'd like to continue discussing two crucial tenets of our educational program. Student OWNERSHIP of the learning process helps to create student AGENCY. What is agency, you ask? There are several different opinions about agency, so I turned to the wonderful online resource *Education Reimagined* for a clear definition. Jennifer Davis Poon, a fellow at the Center for Innovation in Education, defines agency in four parts:

- Setting advantageous goals
- Initiating action toward those goals
- Reflecting on and regulating progress toward those goals
- Internalizing self-efficacy

Most importantly for us educators, Poon writes, "Educators can work with young people to intentionally and progressively develop each of the four components." Here is what developing agency looks like in action:

- **Goal Setting:** Teachers direct students on which path to take regarding goal setting. This is a significant part of our program; students set personal and academic goals throughout the year and constantly strive to meet those goals. In the portfolios your children construct, you will see how this process evolves throughout the school year. Students have already been using these first few weeks of school to actively set their learning goals. Our students in grades 2–4 will be sharing those goals, hopes, and dreams with you as part of the conferences on Wednesday!
- **Initiating:** Then, our students don't just sit and wait for instruction to be delivered, they take initiative and go for it. In order for a student to have the internal desire to dig in, concepts such as voice, choice, allowing for inquiry, and working on the "just-right" level are crucial. Who wants to dig in when it's not interesting, too hard, or too easy?
- **Reflecting/Redirecting:** Students with agency not only plan and act on their goals, but also reflect on them and redirect themselves when needed. Grit, self-discipline, and perseverance play a very important role in reflecting and redirecting, and our teachers provide opportunities for students to self-reflect and take into consideration feedback from peers and adults. One example is our writer's workshop, where students confer with both peers and teachers to hone their craft. After math assessments, teachers return papers with notations. The students then have the opportunity to rework problems, determining what went wrong where. An action plan can be determined if extra practice is needed. If the teacher simply passes back corrected papers, and the student does

nothing with the information, no new learning takes place. We provide many opportunities each day for students to persevere, reflect on learning, and redirect their path when needed.

- **Internalizing:** The fourth component of the definition is internalizing self-efficacy, or “one’s belief in their own ability to succeed with their level of effort and their ability to persist when facing challenges” (Poon). Learned helplessness is the opposite of self-efficacy: “The belief that they have no power over what goes on around them and nothing they do contributes to their success or lack of it” (Poon). In our culture of growth mindset, students are taught not only to face challenges, but also to embrace them! They truly know challenges are ways to grow and learn.

Utilizing differentiated instruction, choice, inquiry, and reflection in all we do—while promoting a growth mindset for our students—surely contributes to our goal of helping students have AGENCY in and OWNERSHIP of their learning journey.

Next week, we will look at how PLAY, MOVEMENT, and SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING also are significant components of our program. Until next Sunday!

Cheers!

Carol R. Christ, MEd
Head of Lower School

Lower School Scrapbooks Are Now on Sale

On the fence about purchasing last year’s scrapbook? Go take a sneak peek in the Crum Library, where the scrapbook samples are on reserve this month! Make your purchase in the [PA Membership Toolkit](#) store, online or via the app. These beautiful Shutterfly memory books are grade-specific. Remember to order for your child’s grade last year. With questions about how to purchase, please [e-mail the Parents Association](#).

Mark Your Calendar

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:* Students in grades 2–4 will attend the beginning of their conference
-

Friday, September 20

- *Dads' Club Breakfast: 7:30–9:00 a.m.* in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)
 - *Parents' Night Out (Explore and Extend): 6:00–10:00 p.m.* for students in Primary II through grade 5; registration required; please see additional details in the "All School" section above
-

Monday, September 23

- *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between September 15–28 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Wednesday, September 25

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

Thursday, September 26

- *Parent Meeting for Grades 2–4:* "How to Help Your Child With Home Practice and Reading," 8:15 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)
-

Friday, September 27

- *Parent Meeting for Kindergarten and Grade 1: “Early Literacy,”* 8:15 a.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall
-

Monday, September 30

- *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between September 29–October 5 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Friday, October 4

- *Dress Uniform Day and Individual/Group Pictures*
 - *Feast of St. Francis Eucharist:* 8:05 a.m.
 - *Grade 4 Blessing of the Animals:* 9:00 a.m. in the Courtyard
-

October 7–11

- *Homecoming week* see the detailed schedule in the coming weeks for games and spirit days
-

Monday, October 7

- *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between October 6–12 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today
-

Monday, October 14

- *Columbus Day Holiday:* No School
-

Wednesday, October 16

- *Birthday Chapel:* Students with a birthday between October 13–19 will receive a birthday pencil in Chapel today

Middle School

From the Division Head

I have many thoughts to share as we wrap up our fourth week of the 2019–20 school year, but first among them is a desire to be a bit selfish and share a few words on my experience working with you and your children at St. Francis. I had occasion to visit friends out of town last weekend, and I was asked the inevitable question about how the new job is going. Each time I was asked, I found myself swelling with pride as I spoke about our school and community.

In short, I am impressed! I am impressed by your kids and by our faculty and staff, and I am grateful to have the opportunity to serve a community of people who genuinely care for each other. St. Francis is a special place, and I appreciate our collective efforts to make people feel welcome here.

I know that I have been “feeling the love,” and I hope that you are having a similar experience. I would love to hear from some of you and learn if your experience this year is mirroring mine. I invite you to reach out to me and share your family’s story if you are inclined to do so.

Thank you for sharing your children with us and for all you do to enrich our school!

Best regards,

Chris Bertha, MA
Head of Middle School

Fall Sports Update

After putting in lots of hard work to prepare for the 2019 fall season, the Wolves are off to a great start! The majority of our teams have competed already, and some teams have played multiple games. [Click here](#) for an update on the Wolves’ season so far, provided by Director of Athletics T Riley.

Join Us for Parent Information Night Tomorrow

We look forward to seeing you at the Middle School Parent Information Night tomorrow, **Monday, September 16**. The event begins at **6:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center** with a brief presentation, followed by grade-level breakout sessions.

If you are in need of a St. Francis name tag, please let [Leigh Williams](#) know as soon as possible, and we will have it ready for you when you arrive!

Volunteers Needed to Help With School Photos

Individual school photos for Middle School will be taken on **Monday, September 23**. We are looking for volunteers to help students prepare themselves for photos and to help the photographers with organizing. If you are interested in helping out, please [click here](#) to sign up for a one-hour shift.

Around the World With St. Francis

We are excited to announce our travel program opportunities for next summer! The Wolf Pack will enjoy adventures to Washington, D.C.; Costa Rica; and Greece/Italy. Please review our [travel flyer](#) and mark your calendar for upcoming parent information meetings. (**Please note:** The popular national parks trip to the Grand Canyon will be offered every other November, with our next one taking place in November 2020.)

Welcome to the Den Conferences Are Wednesday

Welcome to the Den conferences will be held this Wednesday, September 18, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. These 20-minute meetings between parents, students, and advisors will focus on student life and goals for the year. If you haven't already, please use the e-mailed SignUpGenius link to sign up for available meeting times.

Attention, Fifth-Grade Families: Purchase Last Year's Scrapbook

On the fence about purchasing last year's fourth-grade scrapbook? Go take a sneak peek in the Crum Library, where the scrapbook samples are on reserve this month! Make your purchase in the [PA Membership Toolkit](#) store, online or via the app. These beautiful Shutterfly books capture memories from your child's last year in Lower School. Remember to order for your child's grade

last year (fourth grade). With questions about how to purchase, please [e-mail the Parents Association](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, September 16

- *Monday Schedule/Dress Uniform (No Blazers)*
 - *Chapel/Honor Code Signing: 10:45–11:15 a.m. in the Chapel*
 - *MS Parent Information Night: 6:30–8:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC)*
-

Tuesday, September 17

- *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*
 - *High School Information Night (Grade 8 Parents Only): 6:00–8:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC)*
-

Wednesday, September 18

- *Student Holiday*
 - *Welcome to the Den Conferences (Students and Parents Meet With Advisors): 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. in classrooms*
 - *Costa Rica Parent Meeting: 9:00–10:00 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)*
 - *Greece/Italy Parent Meeting: 10:00–11:00 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)*
-

Thursday, September 19

- *Tuesday 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 20

- *Friday Schedule/Friday Attire: Wolf Wear or SFES spirit gear with blue jeans or uniform bottoms*
 - *Dads' Club Breakfast: 7:30–9:00 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)*
 - *Parents' Night Out (Explore and Extend): 6:00–10:00 p.m. for students in Primary II through grade 5; registration required; please see additional details in the "All School" section above*
-

Monday, September 23

- *Monday Schedule/Full Dress Uniform (Blazers for Photos Only)*
 - *Individual Pictures During History Classes: 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
 - *Chapel: 10:45–11:15 a.m. in the Chapel*
 - *NJHS Induction Ceremony: 6:00–6:30 p.m. in the Chapel*
 - *NJHS Induction Ceremony Reception: 6:30–7:15 p.m. in the Gay Foyer*
-

Tuesday, September 24

- *Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *No Bible Study for Eighth Graders*
-

Wednesday, September 25

- *Grade 5: Wednesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Grades 6, 7, and 8: Wednesday Block 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*
- *“See You at the Pole” Chapel: 10:45–11:15 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC)*

Thursday, September 26

- *Grade 5: Thursday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Grades 6, 7, and 8: Thursday Block Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *OLE Trip for Grades 5 and 6: September 26–27*

Friday, September 27

- *Friday Schedule/Friday Attire: Wolf Wear or SFES spirit gear with blue jeans or uniform bottoms*
- *OLE Trip for Grades 5 and 6: September 26–27*

Monday, September 30

- *Grades 5 and 6: Monday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Grades 7 and 8: ERB Special Block Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *ERB Testing for Grades 7 and 8: 7:55 a.m.; students report to assigned classrooms*
- *Chapel: 10:45–11:15 a.m. in the Chapel*

Tuesday, October 1

- *Grades 5 and 6: Tuesday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Grades 7 and 8: ERB Special Block 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*
- *ERB Testing for Grades 7 and 8: 7:30 a.m.; students report to assigned classrooms*

Wednesday, October 2

- *No MS Chapel*

- *Grades 7 and 8: ERB Special Block Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Grades 5 and 6: 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*
 - *ERB Testing for Grades 7 and 8: 7:30 a.m.; students report to assigned classrooms*
-

Thursday, October 3

- *Grade 5: Thursday Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Grades 6, 7, and 8: Thursday Block 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*
 - *ERB Makeup Testing: 7:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.*
-

Friday, October 4

- *Eucharist Schedule/Dress Uniform*
 - *MS/US Eucharist (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi): 11:20 a.m.–12:10 p.m. (note time adjustment)*
 - *Chapel: 10:45–11:15 a.m. in the Chapel*
 - *ERB Makeup Testing: 7:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.*
-

October 7–11

- *Homecoming week see the detailed schedule in the coming weeks for games and spirit days*

Upper School

From the Director of College Counseling

Our trailblazing freshmen and founding sophomores just returned from the second annual Upper School retreat refreshed, excited, and closer than ever!

Students participated in a variety of activities designed to harness their energy, communication skills, and ability to bond with classmates. From archery tag to mud courses to questionable dancing skills in a lip-sync battle, the high school heroes demonstrated how to have fun while being people for others.

Faculty joined in on the fun, as well! The entire Upper School team braved the elements to ensure the program's success, including our outstanding arts faculty. Rev. Heinemann and Fr. Wismer were special guest stars, and the latter helped us conclude our retreat with a special outdoor chapel.

Check out [St. Francis's Instagram feed](#) for fun pics and videos. There is an archive of Upper School stories (memories) that you can view for a long time to come!

Sincerely,

Steven Scales
Director of College Counseling

Fall Sports Update

After putting in lots of hard work to prepare for the 2019 fall season, the Wolves are off to a great start! The majority of our teams have competed already, and some teams have played multiple games. [Click here](#) for an update on the Wolves' season so far, provided by Director of Athletics T Riley.

Reminder: Welcome to the Den Conferences Are Wednesday

There is **no class this Wednesday, September 18**, so that advisors can conduct **Welcome to the Den conferences**. With the assistance of their advisor, students will lead the conversation on academic and social/emotional strengths, and set goals for this year. If you haven't already, please click the name of your child's advisor below to sign up.

- [Mrs. Matzen](#)
- [Mrs. Allub](#)
- [Dr. Jones](#)
- [Mr. Madden](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, September 15

- *Clue Rehearsal: 1:00–5:00 p.m.*
-

Monday, September 16

- *Day 2 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Clue Rehearsal (Production Class): 6:00 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, September 17

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:20 a.m. in Andrews House*
 - *Clue Rehearsal: 4:00–6:00 p.m.*
 - *Volleyball vs. School of the Woods: 5:00 p.m. at School of the Woods*
-

Wednesday, September 18

- *Student Holiday/Welcome to the Den Conferences*
 - *Clue Rehearsal: 1:00–4:00 p.m.*
-

Thursday, September 19

- *Day 4 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Clue Rehearsal (Production Class): 5:45 p.m.*
 - *Volleyball vs. The Emery/Weiner School: 4:00 p.m. at The Emery/Weiner School*
-

Friday, September 20

- *Day 5 Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Dads' Club Breakfast: 7:30–9:00 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR) on the Main Campus*
 - *Clue Rehearsal: 4:00–5:30 p.m.*
-

Saturday, September 21

- *Second Baptist Annual Soaring Eagles Cross-Country Meet: All day at Second Baptist Church's West Campus*
-

Sunday, September 22

- *Clue Rehearsal: 1:00–5:00 p.m.*
-

Monday, September 23

- *Day 6 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Clue Rehearsal (Production Class): 6:00 p.m.*
 - *Volleyball vs. Houston Christian Academy: 5:00 p.m. at Houston Christian Academy*
-

Tuesday, September 24

- *Day 1 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:20 a.m. in the Andrews House*
 - *Clue Rehearsal: 4:00–5:45 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, September 25

- *Day 2 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
- *Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the Andrews House*
- *Clue Rehearsal (Production Class): 5:15 p.m.*

- *Volleyball vs. St. John's School: 5:00 p.m. in the Crum Gym*
-

Thursday, September 26

- *Day 3 Schedule/Regular Uniform*
 - *Clue Rehearsal: 4:00–6:00 p.m.*
-

Friday, September 27

- *Day 4 Schedule/SFES Spirit Dress*
 - *Clue Rehearsal (Production Class): 5:45 p.m.*
-

Saturday, September 28

- *Clue Rehearsal: 10:00–4:00 p.m.*
-

Sunday, September 29

- *Clue Rehearsal: 1:00–5:00 p.m.*
-

October 7–11

- *Homecoming week see the detailed schedule in the coming weeks for games and spirit days*
-

Church

Bible Studies for Moms on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

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](#).

Order Your Holiday Poinsettias—and Support the Fine Arts at SFES!

Love fine arts? Want to support the fine arts department at St. Francis Episcopal School? Don't forget to become a member of Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA)!

FoFA is also selling **beautiful 16" poinsettias** for the holiday season! **The deadline to order is Friday, October 4.** All proceeds go directly to support the fine arts teachers' "wish lists," which include an array of items that further support our children's arts learning.

Click [here](#) to become a member of FoFA and to order your poinsettias.

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.
- **God Lights Our Way (GLOW):** Students in **grades 5 to 8**, join us at **10:00 a.m. in CE 212** for "The 24/7 Experience," and learn what it means to follow Christ every day in the real world.
- **Adult Education:** What does it look like to serve God the other six days of the week? Find out during the *Faith and Work* series based on the book *Every Good Endeavor* by Timothy Keller. This four-week class begins **Sunday, September 15**, and will meet at **10:00 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (HBR)**.
- **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.