

# WOLF WATCH

WEEKLY E-NEWS

## News for the Week of November 14

### All School

#### **Gala Tickets and Sponsorship Opportunities Available Now!**

Support Gala while making a difference for our school! Sponsorships are a great way to get your company or name in front of our 500+ St. Francis families and larger community.

- After the dancing ends, this year's Gala proceeds will help with renovations to the Dining Hall, among other important priorities.
- Seating is limited, so [get your tickets soon](#) and get ready for a fun night of celebration!
- Check out the [event website](#) to discover the various ways you can participate.

#### **Dads' Club Social Is Tomorrow**

Come join Dads' Club co-chairs James Breaux and Arthur Donnelly for football, fajitas, adult beverages, and fellowship at the Dads' Club Social tomorrow—Monday, November 15—from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room. It's the Los Angeles Rams vs. the San Francisco 49ers.

#### **Grandparents/Grandfriends Days: November 17-19**

On November 17–19, St. Francis and Grandparents/Grandfriends Day Chair Kelli Calderwood will welcome our Lower, Middle, and Upper School grandparents and grandfriends to both campuses to share a meal and make memories with their grandchildren and grandfriends.

- An invitation, which you can view [here](#), was emailed to grandparents recently.
- If we do not have your child(ren)'s grandparent information, please share [this invitation](#) with them. You may RSVP for them [here](#).

- Primary School Grandparents/Grandfriends Days will take place in February 2022.
- Questions? Please [email Martha Chavez](#).

## Parent Volunteers Needed: Upcoming Opportunities

### **GRANDPARENTS/GRA NDFRIENDS DAYS: NOVEMBER 17-19**

Please help us welcome our grandparents and grandfriends as they enjoy a meal with their grandchild/grandfriend.

- Please [click here](#) to look at the various volunteer opportunities on this special day.
- If you have any questions, please [email Martha Chavez](#).

### **POINSETTIA DELIVERY AND CARPOOL PICKUP: NOVEMBER 30 AND DECEMBER 1**

The St. Francis Parents Organization is seeking volunteers on **November 30 and December 1** to help with poinsettia pickup and delivery.

- On November 30, The Brookwood Community will be delivering poinsettias to Couper Campus. Help will be needed to unload the truck and to drive large orders to customers who have purchased at least 25 poinsettias.
- On December 1, volunteers are needed to assist customers who are picking up their orders and to complete delivery of large orders. If you would like to sign up to help, please [click here](#).
- Brookwood has completely sold out of poinsettias, so our remaining allotment of plants will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. We will not have access to extra plants this year.
- [Click here](#) to easily purchase your poinsettias today!

## Don't Miss Our Next Connections Event!

There's still time to join us at our next St. Francis Connections event on Tuesday, November 30, at 6:00 p.m. Head of School Steve Lovejoy will welcome guest speaker Rob Evans to discuss "**Self-esteem: What It Really Is; What Does—and Doesn't—Help.**" Reserve your seats now by clicking on [this link](#), and please send questions for our speaker to [Info@StFrancisHouston.org](mailto:Info@StFrancisHouston.org).

## Make Christmas Merry and Bright for Our St. Francis Teachers and Staff!

Soon, all St. Francis families will receive a letter in the mail regarding the Parents Organization Christmas Collection. The Christmas Collection is a much-loved tradition

that equitably benefits all teachers and staff members, while complying with the gift-giving policy in our school handbooks.

- You may make your contribution online by clicking [here](#).
- You may also write a check, made out to St. Francis Parents Organization, and drop off your contribution in the SFPO box located in the front office of the Piney Point Campus.
- **Please make your contribution before Friday, December 3.**

## Gala: Calling All Cooks!

Love to cook or bake? Or maybe you fancy yourself more a mixologist or finger-food savant? Doesn't matter—we want it all! This year's Gala Special Projects Committee is asking families, grandparents, alumni, and teachers to dust off, dig out, and share their culinary best for a commemorative cookbook celebrating 70 years of St. Francis.

We are looking for recipes pertaining to the following categories:

- Drinks and appetizers
- Soups and salads
- Entrées
- Sides
- Desserts
- Breads and breakfast

Please consider submitting your family favorite by clicking [here](#) and following the online instructions for the chance to have your recipe included in this special fundraising endeavor. We can't wait to see all the delightful entries that roll in!

## Support the Home Team!

The Athletics Booster Club invites you to come out and support our Wolves at this week's home games. We will be selling concessions at all games—most items are \$1. Exact change is much appreciated. [Click here](#) and scroll down to see the game schedule for the week.

## COVID Dashboard

St. Francis is updating the following COVID Dashboard weekly to track the number of active cases and total year-to-date cases for students and faculty/staff. This dashboard can also be found on the Parent Portal.

# COVID Dashboard

STUDENTS	FACULTY/STAFF
ACTIVE Cases	ACTIVE Cases
Total Active COVID+ Students	Total Active COVID+ Faculty/Staff
6	0
YTD Cases	YTD Cases
Total YTD COVID+ Students	Total YTD COVID+ Faculty/Staff
44	13

\*Updated 11/12/21 at 1:30 p.m.

## Primary School

### **From the Assistant Division Head**

This week, our Primary II classes had a big adventure! In helping to prepare the students to Step Forward to Kindergarten, Lower School opened its doors to our PII classes for a tour. Students had the opportunity to see the campus that they will be a part of next year.

Mr. Walker and Mrs. McColloch led our PII students through some key areas around the school. They were able to see the chapel, Dining Hall, and gym, before spending some time in kindergarten. The kindergarten teachers spoke with our students about what

they will experience and learn next year, and the children, in turn, pointed out many similarities between kindergarten and what they are doing this year.

Some of the similarities they noticed during their visit were as follows:

- Community times stemming from the Responsive Classroom approach, including morning meetings and closing meetings
- Kindergarten Creative Play that allows students to explore engaging activities in different classrooms, which is similar to their current PII Explorations
- *Bridges in Mathematics* in Lower School, including the daily Number Corner activity

After visiting kindergarten, the students enjoyed recess on the big playground. They were very excited to swing, climb, and slide with their friends, and we heard many students say things like, "This is so much fun!" and "I cannot wait to be here in kindergarten!" After recess, it was time to head back to Primary School—but not before the students received a special cookie as a thank-you for visiting the Lower School!

It was great to see our PII students have such a positive experience on the Piney Point Campus. Thank you, Mr. Walker and Mrs. McColloch, for taking such good care of us! We look forward to continuing this tradition as our students transition from Primary School to Lower School.

Best regards,

Ryan Kochel, MEd  
Assistant Head of Primary School

## **Christmas Dress for PS Students on December 17**

In celebration of the holiday season, Primary School students are invited to wear Christmas-themed clothing on Friday, December 17. If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress that day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress instead.

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Monday, November 15**

- *Primary I Parent Step-up*: 10:30 a.m.
  - *Lunch on the Lawn for Primary I*: 11:00 a.m.
-

## **Tuesday, November 16**

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II attends in person
  - *Primary II Parent Step-up*: 10:15 a.m. on the Piney Point Campus
  - *2-Day Pre-Primary Parent Step-up*: 10:30 a.m.
  - *Lunch on the Lawn*
    - **Primary II**: 11:30 a.m.
    - **Mrs. Oteiza's 2-Day Class**: 11:00 a.m.
- 

## **Wednesday, November 17**

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I attends in person
  - *Pre-Primary Parent Step-up*: 10:30 a.m.
  - *Lunch on the Lawn for Pre-Primary*: 11:00 a.m.
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## **Friday, November 19**

- *Primary School Thanksgiving Feast*: Students only
  - *Primary School Picture Retakes*
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## **Monday, November 22–Friday, November 26**

- *Thanksgiving Break*: School closed
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## **Monday, November 29**

- *Primary School Open Library*: 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library
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## **Tuesday, November 30**

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II attends in person
- *St. Francis Connections Event*: 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Piney Point Campus
  - Reservations required; reserve your seats now by clicking on [this link](#)

- Guest speaker Rob Evans will discuss "**Self-esteem: What It Really Is; What Does—and Doesn't—Help**"
  - Send questions for our speaker to [Info@StFrancisHouston.org](mailto:Info@StFrancisHouston.org)
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### **Wednesday, December 1**

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I attends in person
- 

### **Thursday, December 2**

- *Primary II Crocodile Encounter:* Students only
- 

### **Friday, December 3**

- *Primary School Admissions Tour:* 9:30 a.m.
- 

### **Monday, December 6**

- *Primary School Open Library:* 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library
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### **Tuesday, December 7**

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II attends in person
  - *Explore and Extend Spring Registration Opens Online*
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### **Wednesday, December 8**

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I attends in person
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### **Monday, December 13**

- *Primary School Open Library:* 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library
  - *Primary I Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
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### **Tuesday, December 14**

- *Chapel:* Students only
  - *2-Day and 5-Day Pre-Primary Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
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### **Wednesday, December 15**

- *Chapel:* Students only
  - *3-Day Pre-Primary Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
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### **Thursday, December 16**

- *Primary II Nativities and Parties*
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### **Friday, December 17**

- *Christmas Dress:* Students may wear Christmas-themed clothing or Spirit Wear
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### **Monday, December 20–Monday, January 3**

- *Christmas Break:* School closed
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### **Tuesday, January 4**

- *School Resumes*

## Lower School

### **From the Assistant Division Head**

Tomorrow, November 15, we will be providing you with your child's first-trimester report card and portfolio. Being on a trimester cycle, report cards and portfolios will come home every nine weeks or so. We use a report card based on national standards, with indicators for each standard and objective to provide a comprehensive picture of your child's educational development.

The indicators are as follows:

- **AS=Area of Strength.** Students are consistently performing above grade-level expectations for that standard.
- **MS=Meeting Standards.** Students are meeting the expected standards for the grade level.
- **PS=Progressing With Support.** Students are moving toward meeting expectations and can meet grade-level standards with support.
- **NS=Not Meeting Standards at This Time.** Students are not able to perform to expectations, even with supports in place.

The purpose of the portfolio is for your child to share their learning process with you. To encourage a growth mindset, we teach students to focus on the process more than the final product, so pieces may not be perfect. Students select pieces of work they are most proud of from the trimester. Let your child "present" their portfolio to you. Listen to them tell you why they chose the pieces, what they learned, and any goals they have set for themselves.

The report card is one snapshot of your child. As your child conferences with you about their work, focus on their growth and the effort they applied, and give compliments specific to their efforts. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions about how they are performing. An open, ongoing conversation is the best way to help your child step forward.

Warmly,

Debbie McColloch, MEd  
Assistant Head of Lower School

### **Holiday Dress Dates for Lower School Students**

In celebration of the holiday season, Lower School students are invited to wear holiday-themed clothing on the following dates:

- **Monday, December 13:** Green and red
- **Tuesday, December 14:** Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater

- **Wednesday, December 15:** Santa's workshop
- **Thursday, December 16:** Favorite Christmas movie character
- **Friday, December 17:** Uniform with robes/slippers

If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress on a designated day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress that day instead.

## **'Tis the Season! Christmas Concert Dates**

December is right around the corner, and that means lots of music! Students are busy practicing and preparing for the holiday season ahead.

### **KINDERGARTEN CONCERT**

The kindergarten concert will be **Wednesday, December 8, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center.**

### **GRADES 1–4 CONCERT**

Grades 1–4 will be performing along with Middle and Upper School students on **Monday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church.** Students will be going by bus to rehearse at Chapelwood that morning, and permission slips will be sent home soon.

We hope you can join us for these festive holiday events!

## **Fourth-Grade Parent Meeting Is December 7**

**On Tuesday, December 7, at 7:45 a.m.**, we will host a meeting for parents of fourth and fifth graders to hear about our planning for academics and schedule enhancements. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us!

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Monday, November 15**

- *Chapel for Grades 3 and 4*
    - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
    - Celebrating November 14–20 birthdays
  - *Grade 3 ERB Testing*
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### **Monday, November 15–Wednesday, November 17**

- *Grade 3 ERB Testing*

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### **Thursday, November 18**

- ***NO Chapel for Kindergarten Through Grade 2***
  - ***Grandparents/Grandfriends Day***
    - **Kindergarten and Grade 1:** 8:30–9:30 a.m.
    - **Grade 2:** 10:00–11:00 a.m.
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### **Friday, November 19**

- ***Grandparents/Grandfriends Day***
    - **Grades 3 and 4:** 8:30–9:30 a.m.
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### **Monday, November 22-Friday, November 26**

- ***Thanksgiving Break:*** School closed
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### **Monday, November 29**

- ***Chapel for Grades 3 and 4***
    - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
    - Celebrating November 21–December 4 birthdays
  - ***St. Nicholas Toy Ingathering Begins***
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### **Thursday, November 30**

- ***St. Francis Connections Event:*** 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Piney Point Campus
    - Reservations required; reserve your seats now by clicking on [this link](#)
    - Guest speaker Rob Evans will discuss "**Self-esteem: What It Really Is; What Does—and Doesn't—Help**"
    - Send questions for our speaker to [Info@StFrancisHouston.org](mailto:Info@StFrancisHouston.org)
-

## **Wednesday, December 1**

- **Late-Start Day:** Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.
    - **Regular Carpool:** 7:00–8:00 a.m.; students will be supervised by staff in the Dining Hall
    - **Late-Start Carpool:** 9:30–9:55 a.m.; students will be supervised in the Dining Hall until 9:50 a.m., when they will be released to go to class
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## **Thursday, December 2**

- *Chapel for Kindergarten Through Grade 2*
    - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
    - Celebrating November 14–December 4 birthdays
  - *Grade 3 ERB Parent Meeting:* 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
  - *Grades 4–8 ERB Parent Meeting:* 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
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## **Friday, December 3**

- *St. Nicholas Toy Ingathering/Toys for Tots:* Santa visit and toy pickup by Village Fire Department; student-only event

## **Middle School**

### **From the Division Head**

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall weather this weekend! As members of the St. Francis community, we have much to be thankful for, and the start of the holiday season is a great time to share some good news and gratitude. We have our first trimester of the year in the books, and we are looking ahead to a joyful and eventful winter and spring.

As you read last week, Middle School students received their lockers on Friday. I do want to clarify that students will not be using locks at this time. Learning (or relearning) how to remain organized and efficient with a locker may take some time, and we will revisit the idea of locks after students become reacclimated to using them every day. Details about locker dimensions and locations for each grade level can be found in the “Locker Dimensions and Locations” section below.

We have also been busy researching and organizing field trips, and locking in our rescheduled OLEs. There are still destinations and venues in various stages of reopening for large group visits, but we have a few upcoming trips booked, and others

in the works. In the near term, our seventh-grade class has been reading *A Christmas Carol*, and they will be traveling to the Alley Theatre on December 2 for a special production of the stage play.

Looking to the spring, our fifth through seventh graders will be going on their OLE trips in early April. And over the course of the next month or two, we will have details of the Art à la Carte field trip experiences for each grade level. We have plans to take additional trips at each grade level, and I look forward to sharing those with you when the details are finalized.

In addition to trips, we will be hosting special grade-level events in late January and early February. We will have more details to share soon.

As a final note, I will be out of the office and not available by email or phone this coming week (November 15–19), as my soon-to-be wife and I travel for our long-delayed wedding celebration. If you need anything next week, please reach out to [Marion Tolon](#) and [Leigh Williams](#) in the Middle School Office.

Thank you, and happy (early) Thanksgiving!

Best regards,

Chris Bertha, MA  
Head of Middle School

## **Locker Dimensions and Locations**

To help you plan for locker setup, please find the dimensions and locations for lockers below.

### **MS HALLWAY—BLUE (GRADES 7 AND 8)**

16" deep  
18" wide  
57.5" tall, with an additional top shelf of 12"

### **MS BROWN (GRADE 6)**

16" deep  
11.5" wide  
58" tall with an additional top shelf of 8.5"

### **FIFTH GRADE—BLUE**

10.5" deep  
11.5" wide  
37" tall

## **The Little Mermaid JR.—Auditions Are This Week**

Auditions for the Middle School musical, *The Little Mermaid JR.*, will take place this coming week (November 15–19).

### **INTERESTED IN AUDITIONING?**

Students interested in auditioning need to do the following:

- Pick up an audition packet from Mr. Murillo or Ms. Oppenheim.
- Sign up for one rehearsal to learn the audition music on either Monday, November 15, or Tuesday, November 16, during Flex-time.

### **AUDITION DATES AND DETAILS**

**Auditions will take place Wednesday, November 17–Friday, November 19**, before school, during recess, and during Flex-time.

To audition, you will need to do the following:

- Sign up for one audition slot.
- Have a signed audition form.

Callbacks may occur on November 29 and 30. You will be emailed for a callback. If you are not asked for a callback, that does not mean you are not cast in the show.

## **Holiday Dress Dates for MS Students**

In celebration of the holiday season, Middle School students are invited to wear holiday-themed clothing on the following dates:

- **Monday, December 13:** Green and red
- **Tuesday, December 14:** Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
- **Wednesday, December 15:** Santa's workshop
- **Thursday, December 16:** Favorite Christmas movie character
- **Friday, December 17:** Uniform with robes/slippers

If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress on a designated day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress that day instead.

## **Handbook Reminders: Attendance and Dress Code**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Please notify the school if your child will be absent, arriving late, or picked up during school hours. As a reminder, you can do this through the Parent Portal, an email to Leigh Williams and your child's advisor, or a call to the Middle School Office.

## **DRESS CODE**

With the weather cooling down, clothing options change, and we have a few important reminders on dress code:

- Sweatshirts and other lightweight outerwear must be from St. Francis.
- Shorts and skirts need to be at the length outlined in the *Middle School Handbook* (fingertip length with arms hanging at sides).
- School uniform bottoms are required Mondays through Thursdays, and students may wear blue jeans on Fridays. No athletic shorts, pants, or leggings are allowed, absent special permission.

## **Grade-Level Meetings: Mark Your Calendar**

In December, we will host meetings to discuss topics especially relevant to your child's grade level. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

### **GRADES 4 AND 5**

- **Tuesday, December 7, at 7:45 a.m.**
- **Topics:** Hear how we are working on academics and schedule enhancements

### **GRADES 6 AND 7**

- **Wednesday, December 8, at 7:45 a.m.**
- **Topic:** Middle School experience

### **GRADE 8**

- **Thursday, December 9, at 7:45 a.m.**
- **Topics:** Updates to travel and closing events of the eighth-grade year

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Sunday, November 14**

- **Locker Setup:** 3:00–6:00 p.m. in the Middle School Hallway
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### **Monday, November 15**

- **"D" Day**
- **Dress Uniform**
- **Grade 5 Washington, DC, Trip:** Applications and checks are due today

- *Middle School Chapel*: 9:21–9:46 a.m.
  - *ERB Makeup Testing*: 11:00 a.m. and 2:05 p.m.
- 

## Tuesday, November 16

- *"E" Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Bible Studies (Grade 8 Girls/Grade 7 Boys and Girls)*: 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
  - *No Morning Tutorials Due to MS Division Meeting*
- 

## Wednesday, November 17

- ***"B" Day***
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Trimester 2 Honors Opt-in Forms Due*
- ***Auditions for The Little Mermaid JR.***: See above for more information
- *Bible Study (Grade 8 Boys)*: 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
- *Grandparents/Grandfriends Day Lunch for Middle School*
  - ***Grades 5 and 6***: 11:00–11:45 a.m.
  - ***Grades 7 and 8***: 12:20–1:00 p.m.

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## Thursday, November 18

- *"A" Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - ***Auditions for The Little Mermaid JR.***: See above for more information
  - *Bible Studies (Grade 6 Boys and Girls)*: 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
  - *Middle School Chapel*: 9:21–9:46 a.m.
- 

## Friday, November 19

- *"C" Day*
- *St. Francis Spirit Wear With Uniform Bottoms or Blue Jeans (No Athletic Shorts)*
- ***Auditions for The Little Mermaid JR.***: See above for more information

- *Bible Studies (Grade 5 Boys and Girls)*: 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
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## Monday, November 22–Friday, November 26

- *Thanksgiving Break*: School closed
- 

## Thursday, November 30

- *St. Francis Connections Event*: 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Piney Point Campus
    - Reservations required; reserve your seats now by clicking on [this link](#)
    - Guest speaker Rob Evans will discuss "Self-esteem: What It Really Is; What Does—and Doesn't—Help"
    - Send questions for our speaker to [Info@StFrancisHouston.org](mailto:Info@StFrancisHouston.org)
- 

## Wednesday, December 1

- *Late Start at 10:00 a.m.*
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## Thursday, December 2

- *Grade 7 Field Trip to Alley Theatre for A Christmas Carol*
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## Upper School

### **From the Division Head**

This last week concluded a whirlwind of events. Right after exams, students began returning full-time to preparations for the musical and started a new sports season. Immersions and Explorations offered students an opportunity to write their own poetry, design and build planters, explore the science of toxicology, attend art shows all around the city, explore the rich history of our fair Houston, and see how an NBA franchise actually functions behind the scenes. The students in our musical were also given time to prepare for the incredible performances we saw on Friday and Saturday. Lastly, our

juniors moved forward considerably in their preparations for college, including three on-campus tours (University of Houston, Rice, and Texas A&M University).

They were busy, to be sure, but Immersions and Explorations was a fitting way to transition from the stress of exam week. Without the burden of returning to the regular expectations of the classroom environment, there was a nice pause that allowed students to learn without worrying about grades.

This week, we start Trimester 2. There are new electives to be offered, and we have balanced our sections so that there is now better parity of numbers. In some cases, we have even added sections to further reduce class sizes. All changes are already updated in Veracross, and students have received their new schedules.

Finally, we hope you take time to read through comments from the first trimester. These give our initial impressions of your student's performance.

We also have our official Trimester 1 grades. For parents new to academic records, only trimester-length courses (electives) are recorded directly on the transcript. Trimester grades for yearlong courses (English, Spanish, geometry, etc.) are averaged with the remaining trimesters, and appear on the transcript at the end of the academic year as a single grade. This allows students who did not perform as well as they wanted in the first trimester to improve over the year by doing their best in the second and third trimesters.

Since there will not be another *Wolf Watch* prior to Thanksgiving, we wish you a restful time with family and friends. We at St. Francis are so grateful for the gift your students bring to our campus. Have a great holiday.

Warmly,

Marc Addington, MA  
Head of Upper School

## Upper School Sports Season Update

With all fall sports complete and the successful Upper School fine arts productions behind us, we are looking forward to the winter sports season. Congratulations to our Varsity Boys Basketball team members, who played in the first-ever varsity basketball games in school history this past Friday and Saturday!

Please see below for detailed winter sports information:

- US Girls Basketball begins tomorrow—Monday, November 15. Practices will be held in Crum Gym and Piney Point Campus Gym throughout the season.

- US Boys and Girls Soccer practice will begin tomorrow—Monday, November 15. Practices will be held on Monday/Wednesday/Friday at Couper Campus throughout the season.
- US Swimming practice begins this Tuesday, November 16, at the Dad's Club Aquatic Center. Practice will be held from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m. on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday. Parents or students will provide their own transportation to practice, and the school will provide transportation from Dad's Club back to Couper Campus after practice.
- The JV and Varsity Boys Basketball teams have already begun their season and will continue with practices and games this coming week.

Players and parents already on the roster are receiving updates via email. If any students are still interested in joining a winter sports team, they should [email T Riley](#).

## Holiday Dress Dates for Upper School Students

In celebration of the holiday season, Upper School students are invited to wear holiday-themed clothing on the following dates:

- **Monday, December 13:** Green and red
- **Tuesday, December 14:** Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
- **Wednesday, December 15:** Santa's workshop
- **Thursday, December 16:** Favorite Christmas movie character
- **Friday, December 17:** Christmas PJs with robes/slippers

If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress on a designated day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress that day instead.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Monday, November 15

- *"A" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Upper School Report Cards Released at 4:00 p.m.*

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### Tuesday, November 16

- *"B" Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
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## **Wednesday, November 17**

- "A" Day
  - Regular Uniform
  - Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:35 a.m.
  - Upper School Admissions Tour: 9:30–11:30 a.m.
  - Balfour Ring Presentation for the Junior Class: 12:00–1:00 p.m. in the Admissions Cottage
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## **Thursday, November 18**

- "B" Day
  - Regular Uniform
- 

## **Friday, November 19**

- "A and B" Day: All classes will meet; modified schedule found [here](#)
  - Regular Uniform
  - Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:35 a.m.
  - Grandparents/Grandfriends Day Lunch With Students: 12:00–12:50 p.m. in the Upper School Crum Gym
  - Individual Picture Retakes for Upper School: 9:00–10:00 a.m. in the Primary School Library
- 

## **Monday, November 22–Friday, November 26**

- Thanksgiving Break: School closed
- 

## **Thursday, November 30**

- St. Francis Connections Event: 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Piney Point Campus
  - Reservations required; reserve your seats now by clicking on [this link](#)
  - Guest speaker Rob Evans will discuss "**Self-esteem: What It Really Is; What Does—and Doesn't—Help**"
  - Send questions for our speaker to [Info@StFrancisHouston.org](mailto:Info@StFrancisHouston.org)

## **Church**

### **Advent Wreath-Making: Join Us November 28**

Join us on Sunday, November 28, after the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. services for the treasured St. Francis tradition of making an Advent wreath for your home! We will gather in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall to make beautiful, tabletop wreaths with fresh evergreens, festive decorations, and four candles that symbolize the four weeks of Advent. There is a suggested donation of \$25 per wreath. For more information, please [email Allison Devlin](#).

### **Children's Christmas Party Is December 4**

Bring your kids on Saturday, December 4, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. to enjoy a visit from Santa Claus and his elves, games, face painting, balloon art, crafts, and REAL SNOW! Be on the lookout for an Evite soon. Want to help? [Email Allison Devlin](#).

### **Christmas Sing-along Potluck Is December 12**

Join us for the Christmas Sing-along Potluck on Sunday, December 12, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. The church will provide the meat; you provide the sides. Come sing your favorite songs!

### **In-Person Worship**

The Holy Eucharist is offered at 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. We also offer an evening Eucharist on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing all those who are ready to return. For those who are not comfortable returning to in-person worship, we will continue to livestream our worship service on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Access the livestream via our church [website](#), [YouTube channel](#), or [Facebook page](#). Instructions for livestreaming are included at the bottom of this section.

### **Moms, Join Us for Bible Study**

The SFES Moms' Bible Study meets on **Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m.** and is led by **Allison Devlin**, director of family ministry. Please contact Allison via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725 for more meeting details.

### **Join Mrs. Devlin for In-Person Let It Shine!**

Join Mrs. Devlin each Sunday for in-person Let It Shine! Children's Bible Breakout. All children from Pre-K to middle school are invited to participate.

## **Middle School Bible Study: Meets Every Sunday**

We invite your Middle School-aged children to meet for Bible study each Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. service.

- **Who:** Middle School students
- **What:** Bible study and fellowship
- **When:** Meets every Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service
- **Where:** CE212 (GLOW room, upstairs above church office)
- **Why:** Study on *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

For more information, please contact Allison Devlin [via email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

## **High School Bible Study: Next Meeting Is November 17**

The high school Bible study continues meeting every other week at the Houston Racquet Club, with the next meeting planned for Wednesday, November 17. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. to have dinner and to study *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. All high schoolers are invited to attend. For additional information, please contact Allison Devlin [via email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

## **Calling All Musicians—We Are Back!**

All those who missed sitting with your peers in the Assisi Choir and playing instruments at the 11:00 a.m. service, we are coming back together! If you have ever sung in a choir, thought about singing in a choir, or played an instrument, now is the time to join us.

- **Through November 28, Assisi Choir practice is on Sundays at 10:15 a.m.** Thereafter, rehearsals will be on Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. in the church.
- Instrumentalists are invited to join in a small rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays in the church.
- The Praise Choir and Band has resumed singing and playing at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday service. This group meets to rehearse Sundays at 8:45 a.m. in the church.
- If you have a love of singing or playing, please [contact Richard Keith](#).

## **Help Meet MAM's Updated Supply Needs**

Memorial Assistance Ministries recently let us know that your generous donations have been helping to keep the organization's pantry well supplied. Thank you! They do still have some urgent needs, so if you are able to help, please consider donating the following items:

- Laundry detergent

- Size 6 diapers

For additional information, contact our church liaison, Andrea Eubanks, [via email](#) or at 713.859.1448.

## Fair Haven Food Pantry Needs Canned Beans

The Fair Haven Food Pantry needs our help! The ministry, which has been providing food assistance to people in the Spring Branch/Memorial area since 1975, has requested donations of **canned beans** in November.

- The pantry also needs your help to sort and box produce from the Houston Food Bank and to distribute food boxes in the drive-through pickup line.
- To volunteer, please [click here](#).
- For additional information, email [Jessica Antel](#).

## Share Your Prayer Requests Online

Share your prayer requests with us using the “Prayer Requests” link on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#). Please feel free to submit prayer requests for yourself or for someone you know. All prayer requests are confidential and will not be added to the spoken prayer list, but will be prayed for by our staff and Pastoral Care Council over two months.

## Upcoming Bible Studies at St. Francis

St. Francis is hosting the following Bible studies, either in-person, via Zoom, or both. To join a Zoom event listed below, please click the provided link or copy and paste it into your web browser’s address bar. Then, enter the meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** New study on the book *Bad Girls of the Bible and What We Can Learn From Them* by Liz Curtis Higgs
  - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/651248716>
  - **To participate, email** Louise Richman.

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** Acts and After You Believe
  - **Contact:** [Martin O'Malley](#)

- **Location:** Wheatcroft Parish Hall
- Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00–9:30 a.m. (**Next meeting is December 14)**
  - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
  - **Study:** Simply Good News
  - **Location:** Wheatcroft Parish Hall
  - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
- Thursdays at 6:30–8:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** Acts of the Apostles
  - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84213782442>
    - **Meeting ID:** 842 1378 2442
    - **Passcode:** 1c6HEL

## **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** The Book of Job
  - **Location:** Hogan Board Room (St. Francis Episcopal School)
  - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81068388948>
    - **Meeting ID:** 810 6838 8948
    - **Passcode:** 767200

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS—BIBLE STUDIES AND MEETINGS**

- Sundays at 10:00–10:45 a.m.
  - **Meeting:** GLOW Middle School
  - **Study:** C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters*
  - **Location:** Classroom CE212
  - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
- Wednesdays at 6:30–8:00 p.m. (**Every other week; next meeting is November 17)**
  - **Meeting:** High School Dinner and Bible Study
  - **Study:** C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters*
  - **Location:** Houston Racquet Club
  - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)

## **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AND PRAYER**

- Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.
  - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
  - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
  - **In-Person Meeting Place:** The Bride's Room
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
    - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298

- **Passcode:** 05741
- Wednesday Night Eucharist, Program, and Dinner (**\$10 per person**)
  - **Contact:** [\*\*Fr. David Price\*\*](#)
  - **Location:** Church and Wheatcroft Parish Hall
- Thursdays at 7:00 a.m.
  - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
  - **Contact:** [\*\*Fr. David Price\*\*](#)
  - **In-Person Meeting Place:** The Bride's Room
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
    - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
    - **Passcode:** 057417
- Thursdays at 6:15–6:45 a.m.
  - **Meeting:** Prayer Session (We read Scripture and go through a prayer cycle of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession.)
  - **Contact:** [\*\*Heather Burkhart\*\*](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79725936159>
    - **Meeting ID:** 797 2593 6159
    - **Passcode:** 678123
- Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
  - **Meeting:** Spiritual Enrichment
  - **Contact:** [\*\*Fr. David Price\*\*](#)
  - **Location:** The Bride's Room

## How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

If you would like to join St. Francis Episcopal Church's 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, here's how to watch:

1. Open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the St. Francis website—[\*\*sfch.org\*\*](http://sfch.org).
2. Click on the “Watch Live Stream Worship Services” button. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available. If you prefer to watch from Facebook or YouTube, click on the links to go to those streaming servers.

Prelude music will begin on the livestream 10 minutes before the service to allow time for your connection and your inspiration. If you miss the live video, a recording of the service will also be available on [\*\*St. Francis's YouTube channel\*\*](#).