

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of November 28

All School

Coming Soon: St. Francis Fund Giving Week

We are about to embark on our first-ever St. Francis Fund Giving Week on December 6–10. Details will be forthcoming. Thank you to all of our St. Francis Fund donors!

A Note From the Clinic: Please Upload Vaccine Records

Whenever your child receives an immunization, please be sure to upload that vaccine record to the student's St. Francis Magnus EMR. This may be done at any time throughout the year. Thank you!

Christmas Collection: Friday Is Last Day to Contribute

This Friday, December 3, is the deadline to contribute to the St. Francis Parents Organization Christmas Collection—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. You can place the check in the envelope you should have received in the mail.
- **Please make your contribution before Friday, December 3, 2021.**

Registration for Christmas Break Camps Opens Tomorrow

Christmas Break camps will be offered again this year—Monday, December 20, through Wednesday, December 22. Registration will open tomorrow, November 29, through St. Francis's [Explore and Extend page](#). Please note that registration will be down Friday,

December 3, through Monday, December 6, to allow for setup of spring Explore and Extend registration, but will be available again starting on Tuesday, December 7.

Please see below for camp details.

HOLIDAY FUN CAMP FOR PRIMARY I AND II

Dates: Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Couper Campus

Cost: \$150

Lead Teacher: Señora Claudia Schoelman

Description: Join us for three days of holiday magic, making crafts, baking Christmas treats, playing games, and dramatic play!

CHRISTMAS MAKE AND TAKE CAMP

Grades: K–4

Dates: Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Piney Point Campus

Cost: \$150

Description: Join us for three mornings filled with making special surprises and treats, playing games, and winning prizes! Each morning will include a cooking project, art, and a special science project. Weather permitting, students will have snack and recess on the playground.

COOKIE SPECTACULAR!

Grades: 4 and up

Dates: Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Piney Point Campus

Cost: \$175

Description: Join Amy Chandler to learn the art of decorating sugar cookies and Chef Maria Cruzalegui to learn to create delectable Christmas treats. Participants will enjoy both the science of cooking and the elegance of creating edible works of art—and will come home with treats to share.

WINTER BASEBALL DEFENSIVE CAMP

Grades: Grades 6 and up

Dates: Monday, December 20–Tuesday, December 21

Time: 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Location: Couper Campus

Cost: \$60

Led By: Coach Mike August and Coach Koby Clemens

Equipment Needed: Glove, hat, baseball pants, turf shoes, and metal spikes or molded cleats

Description: Players will participate in a series of drills for infielders, outfielders, and catchers. Basic and advance fielding and throwing drills will cover skills such as

glovework, footwork, throwing to bases, and game-like situations. SFE baseball program philosophies will also be covered.

CHRISTMAS BREAK BASKETBALL HOOP FUN

Grades: 2–5

Dates: Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Crum Athletics Center on Couper Campus

Cost: \$120

Led By: Coach Harold Baber

Description: Join us for three mornings of FUN with basketball. Participating students will engage in fun games, drills, and friendly competition in our Crum Athletics Center!

CHRISTMAS GIRLS' LACROSSE CAMP

Grades: 5–8

Dates: Monday, December 20–Tuesday, December 21

Time: 9:00–10:00 a.m.

Location: Couper Campus

Cost: \$100

Led By: Coach Jamie Platt

Description: Bring your stick, goggles, and mouth guard, and join Coach Platt for two mornings of fun with lacrosse!

School of Music Recitals Are December 5 and 12

Upcoming School of Music recitals will be held in St. Francis's Fine Arts Center as follows:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 1:00 p.m.—Students of Sylvia Ouellette
- 1:45 p.m.—Students of Marc Garvin
- 2:30 p.m.—Students of Vessy Smith

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 1:00 p.m.—Students of Sarah Bouse and Callie Denbigh
- 2:00 p.m.—Students of Dr. Andrew Nishikawa

Explore and Extend Registration Opens December 7

Registration for spring enrichment and School of Music lessons through Explore and Extend will open on Tuesday, December 7, at 10:00 a.m. Course offerings will be posted by the end of the day on December 1, on the [Explore and Extend page](#) on the school website. (The registration link is on the right-hand side of this page.)

Parent Volunteers Needed This Tuesday and Wednesday

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

- This Tuesday, 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.
- This Wednesday, 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!

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
1	0
YTD Cases	YTD Cases
Total YTD COVID+ Students	Total YTD COVID+ Faculty/Staff
44	13

*Updated 11/18/21 at 9:30 a.m.

Primary School

From the Division Head

Gratitude is an attitude. We are not born with gratitude; it is something that is learned and becomes a part of us as we navigate life. Gratitude is not just recognizing the good that is happening in your life, but it is also the act of expressing appreciation and returning the kindness. Being grateful is a choice that extends beyond saying “thank you.” Research has shown that people who choose to focus on the positive things in life experience great joy and happiness. This happiness can be cultivated through daily affirmations. Finding the good in opportunities and situations can nurture gratitude in all people.

How are you encouraging daily gratitude in your home? One fun exercise to do with your child is to identify three blessings each day. While riding home in the car, eating dinner together, or at bedtime, ask your child what three things they are thankful for in their life. It is perfectly fine for them to say the same things each time. This exercise will not only encourage grateful feelings, but it will also help their brains process positive thoughts.

I have found this exercise to be beneficial to me as an adult. Having gratitude in my personal and professional lives has allowed me to approach each day with excitement and optimism.

1. I am grateful for St. Francis and a community of bright and capable children and generous, supportive families.
2. I am grateful to work with such brilliant and capable adults who love what they do.
3. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow in a thoughtful and nurturing environment.

Enjoy reflections of gratitude shared by some of our Primary School students:

- *I am thankful for ice cream.*
- *I am thankful for friends and Barbies.*
- *I am thankful for the garbage man.*
- *I am thankful for swimming and my teachers.*
- *I am thankful for my Mimi coming to my house.*
- *I am thankful for my Mom, Grandpa, and Nana.*
- *I am thankful for dinosaurs, unicorns, dragons, and babies, because I love them.*
- *I am thankful for my mommy and sister, because they do lots of fun things with me.*
- *I am thankful for my mom and dad because they make me happy.*
- *I am thankful for cows.*

I hope your families had a wonderful, well-deserved break. It is a pleasure and an honor to partner with you and your children.

With gratitude,

Kenyetta K. Wynn, EdD
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 29

- *Primary School Open Library*: 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library
-

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
-

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*
-

Tuesday, December 7

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

Wednesday, December 8

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

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.*
-

Tuesday, December 14

- *Chapel: Students only*
 - *2-Day and 5-Day Pre-Primary Christmas Parties: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, December 15

- *Chapel: Students only*
 - *3-Day Pre-Primary Christmas Parties: 1:30 p.m.*
-

Thursday, December 16

- *Primary II Nativities and Parties*
 - **Hughes:** 9:00 a.m.; party at 9:30 a.m.
 - **Staller:** 10:00 a.m.; party at 10:30 a.m.

- **Wiener:** 11:00 a.m.; party at 11:30 a.m.
 - **Owens:** 12:00 p.m.; party at 12:30 p.m.
-

Friday, December 17

- *Christmas Dress:* Students may wear Christmas-themed clothing or Spirit Wear
-

Monday, December 20–Monday, January 3

- *Christmas Break:* School closed
-

Tuesday, January 4

- *School Resumes*

Lower School

From the Division Head

I hope that your Thanksgiving break has been filled with connections with family and friends, rest, and laughs. As we reflect on the many things for which we are thankful, I want to take this opportunity to share just a few things for which I am grateful as the head of Lower School:

- *332 children in the Lower School whom I get to watch learn and grow.*
- Lower School teachers and staff who make the work they do look easy.
- Parents who support our efforts in educating their children.

Thank you for being patient and supportive as we navigate this school year together. We are grateful for our partnership with you.

As we wrap up the first half of the school year, we will participate in a *people for others* event that will benefit Toys for Tots. Please talk with your Lower School child about this organization and how his or her donation will help others have a better holiday.

Kindly,

Clifton Walker, MEd
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 (Polar Express Day)

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 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*
-

Tuesday, 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
-

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
-

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
 - **Join Zoom Meeting**: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87516998836>
 - **Meeting ID**: 875 1699 8836
 - **Passcode**: wolves
 - *Grades 4–8 ERB Parent Meeting*: 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
 - **Join Zoom Meeting**: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87516998836>
 - **Meeting ID**: 875 1699 8836
 - **Passcode**: wolves
-

Friday, December 3

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

Monday, December 6

- *St. Nicholas Eucharist for Kindergarten Through Grade 4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 7

- *Student Step Forward for Kindergarten Through Grade 3*
 - 8:20 a.m. in classrooms

Wednesday, December 8

- *Kindergarten Christmas Concert*
 - 9:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center

Thursday, December 9

- *Chapel for Kindergarten Through Grade 2*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Celebrating December 5–January 1 birthdays

Monday, December 13–Friday, December 17

- *Holiday Dress Week*: Please see details above (after the letter from the division head)

Monday, December 13

- *Chapel for Grades 3–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Celebrating December 5–January 1 birthdays
- *Grades 1–4 Christmas Concert Rehearsal*
 - 8:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church
- *Grades 1–12 Christmas Concert*
 - 6:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church

Thursday, December 16

- *NO Chapel*
-

Friday, December 17

- *Lessons and Carols*: 8:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center; student-only event
 - *Polar Express Day*: Bring robe and slippers to wear over uniform
 - *Christmas Parties*
 - *Christmas Sing-along*: 2:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center; student-only event
-

Monday, December 20–Monday, January 3

- *Christmas Break*: Student holiday

Middle School

From the Director of Counseling

Well, it has been another whirlwind month in the Middle School halls! November has seen the return of many fun and cherished St. Francis traditions. The big headline has been the return of lockers to the Middle School. It has not taken long for the decorations to go up inside these fun spaces, and the sounds of students chatting and slamming locker doors is a familiar happy tune that we have all missed.

Another long-standing tradition, Grandparents and Grandfriends Day, was rekindled and celebrated across multiple divisions of the school. In Middle School, students—along with their grandparents and grandfriends—were treated to a wonderful luncheon and enjoyed a special time of fellowship. Thank you to all of our visitors for making this day so special. We look forward to our next gathering!

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I wanted you all to know how grateful we are that you have trusted us to partner with you in your child's educational journey. From the moment they step out of the car to the moment they step off the field or the stage, all of our students bring such joy and fill our classrooms with possibility. Know that we are so thankful that you are part of our St. Francis family.

GO WOLVES!

Ted Lakoski, MA
Director of Counseling

No MS Athletics Practices on Wednesday Due to Late-Start Schedule

Due to the late-start schedule this Wednesday, December 1, there will be no Middle School athletics practices that day. Students will be picked up at 3:50 p.m. from the Piney Point Campus Dining Hall location unless they have a game, which will go on as scheduled.

Spring Sports Selections for Middle Schoolers

We will survey students for their spring sports selections in the coming days. These selections are very important as we plan rosters, coaches, scheduling, equipment, transportation, and more. Please encourage your student to select the sport he or she would like to commit to for the spring season.

Offerings for the spring season include baseball, softball, boys' lacrosse, girls' lacrosse, coed golf, coed tennis, coed track and field, and physical education.

- Baseball will practice at Piney Point Campus and will play home games at Baseball USA.
- Softball will practice and play games at Piney Point Campus on Don Hicks Field.
- Boys' and girls' lacrosse teams will practice and play games at Couper Campus.*
- Track and field will practice at Piney Point Campus.
- Tennis will practice off campus.**
- Golf practices will be done on the student's own time off campus. The team will compete in tournaments against other schools throughout the season.**
- Physical education classes will be held at Piney Point Campus.

*For team sports, we will need enough interested students to field a team. If we do not have enough interest for a particular program, we will communicate back with the list of players/families who have signed up and explain options for the season.

**Please note: Roster sizes for golf and tennis are restricted due to limited facility availability and playing opportunities. There are no guarantees of playing time for golf or tennis. Students should have experience and some knowledge of the sport if interested in participating on the school team. Specific details will be shared with those students and families who select either sport.

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

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.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, November 29

- "D" Day
 - Dress Uniform
 - Middle School Chapel: 9:21–9:46 a.m.
-

Tuesday, November 30

- *"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*
 - *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
-

Wednesday, December 1

- *Late-Start Day: Classes start at 10:00 a.m.*
 - *"A Day" (Modified)*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *No Bible Study*
-

Thursday, December 2

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *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*
 - *Grade 7 Field Trip to Alley Theatre for A Christmas Carol: Busses load at 8:30 a.m.*
 - *Middle School Chapel: 9:21–9:46 a.m.*
-

Friday, December 3

- *"C" Day*
 - *St. Francis Spirit Wear With Uniform Bottoms or Blue Jeans (No Athletic Shorts)*
 - *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*
-

Monday, December 6

- *"D" Day*
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Middle School Eucharist: 11:00 a.m.*
-

Tuesday, December 7

- *"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, December 8

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Bible Study (Grade 8 Boys): 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway*
-

Thursday, December 9

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *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, December 10

- *"C" Day*
 - *St. Francis Spirit Wear With Uniform Bottoms or Blue Jeans (No Athletic Shorts)*
 - *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*
-

Monday, December 13

- *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Green and red
 - *Christmas Concert:* 5:00–7:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church
-

Tuesday, December 14

- *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Ugly holiday sweater
-

Wednesday, December 15

- *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Santa's workshop (elves, Santa, reindeer, etc.)
-

Thursday, December 16

- *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Favorite Christmas movie character
-

Friday, December 17

- *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Uniform with robes and slippers
- *Lessons and Carols (Students Only):* 9:30 a.m. in the FAC

Upper School

From the Division Head

Welcome back to school. We hope that you were able to have a restful time with friends and families over the break.

As we return, we are pleased to welcome **the Fontaine Center** back to our campus on Monday and Tuesday. At St. Francis, we feel that social-emotional learning is a vital element of a young person's education. On a monthly basis, we explore themes in advisory through different activities. So far this year, we have had activities on personal responsibility and stress management. This coming week, the staff from the Fontaine Center will speak with each class on the topic of healthy relationships, with a focus on two areas—healthy communication and conflict-resolution strategies. Juniors and seniors will have a special session on Wednesday during lunch.

As we get closer to the winter break, it's a great time for students to reflect on the academic and non-academic goals they set for themselves at the beginning of the year. These were the "SMART" goals they presented in parent conferences. This past week in advisory, students reviewed these goals and set new goals for the second trimester.

We are excited to see how students' growth in the first trimester propels them forward in Trimester 2!

Warmly,

Marc Addington, MA
Head of Upper School

Spring Sport Selections for Upper Schoolers

We will survey students for their spring sport selections in the coming days. These selections are very important for planning purposes concerning rosters, coaches, scheduling, equipment, transportation, and more. Please encourage your student to select the sport he or she would like to commit to for the spring season. Students who commit to a sports team are expected to attend practices and games consistently.

Offerings for the spring season include baseball, softball, coed golf, coed tennis, and coed track and field.

- Baseball and softball teams will practice at Piney Point Campus and Couper Campus. Both programs may combine with our Middle School players, if necessary, to field a team.
- Track and field will practice at Couper Campus, Piney Point Campus, and possibly off campus. Specific practice information will be shared with the interested students prior to the start of the season.
- Tennis will practice off campus in the morning before school. Tennis players will be responsible for transportation to practice, and the school will provide transportation back to campus.
- Golf will practice off campus. Specific golf plans will be shared prior to the start of the season.*

*Please note: Golf rosters will need to be restricted due to limited facility availability and playing opportunities. Playing experience and some sport knowledge are preferred for Upper School-level golfers. There is no guarantee of match/tournament participation on the golf team. More specific details about spring-season golf will be shared in advance of the season.

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 29

- "A" Day
 - Regular Uniform
 - **Special Schedule**
-

Tuesday, November 30

- "B" Day
 - Regular Uniform
 - **Special Schedule**
 - *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**
-

Wednesday, December 1

- "A" Day
 - Regular Uniform
 - *Late Start Today:* 10:00 a.m.
 - *Upper School Chapel:* 1:05–1:45 p.m.
 - **Special Schedule**
-

Thursday, December 2

- "B" Day
- Regular Uniform

- *Upper School Admissions Tour: 9:30–11:30 a.m.*
-

Friday, December 3

- *"A" Day*
 - *Eucharist School Uniform*
 - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:35 a.m.*
 - ***Eucharist Schedule***
-

Monday, December 6

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Tuesday, December 7

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *College Counseling Program for Parents of Freshmen and Sophomores: 6:00 p.m. in Crum Loft on Couper Campus*
-

Wednesday, December 8

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Thursday, December 9

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, December 10

- *"B" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:35 a.m.*

Church

Christmas Angel Tree Program Starts November 14

The Christmas Angel Tree is a beloved tradition at St. Francis. **The tree will be in the Narthex from Sunday, November 14, through Sunday, December 5.**

- Through this program, families and individuals from Lord of the Streets, Brigid's Hope, and the Positive Black Male Association receive Christmas gifts generously provided by members of the St. Francis Parish. As a result, the lives of both givers and receivers are enriched greatly during this joyous holiday season.
- Please note: If the angel you take indicates a bicycle, do not purchase a bicycle. (The Angel Tree Committee will purchase gift cards for bicycles.)
- For more information on the Christmas Angel Tree, **[contact Heather Burkhart](#)**.

Help the Confirmation Class Provide Breakfast and Gift Bags for LOTS

This year's Confirmation Class (eighth and ninth graders) will continue a longtime group tradition for their Christmas Outreach Project, benefiting individuals at Lord of the Streets (LOTS). The students will visit LOTS on Sunday, December 5, to worship with the homeless men and women, serve them breakfast, and hand out gift bags they have made.

- **To fund the cost of the gift bags, the class will be selling gift cards before and after Sunday services on November 21, November 28, and December 12.**
- You may also purchase the cards at any time in the church office or by contacting **[Cindy Hutson](#)**.
- The cards are \$5 each and make wonderful Christmas gifts for teachers, coworkers, family members, and friends.

Support the Confirmation Class in this special outreach effort!

Dedicate a Poinsettia This Year

Be a part of the St. Francis tradition of making a Christmas Poinsettia dedication that will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship bulletins. Make your dedication "In Memory" of a loved one or "In Thanksgiving" for your many blessings. Dedication forms are located on the tables in the Narthex, or you may submit the form and payment online **[here](#)**. The suggested donation is \$30.

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 December 1

The high school Bible study continues meeting every other week at the Houston Racquet Club, with the next meeting planned for Wednesday, December 1. 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.

- **Future Assisi Choir practice 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. (**Resumes November 30**)
 - **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. (**Resumes December 2**)
 - **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 December 1**)
 - **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.
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](#).