

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of April 2

All School

A New Face in the PPC Front Office

You may have noticed a new face at the Piney Point Campus reception desk this past week. Please join us in welcoming Rocio Martinez as our new receptionist and administrative assistant. Ms. Martinez has been providing administrative and office support to local corporations since 2011, most recently spending nearly eight years at Weaver, a Texas-based national accounting firm. Although Rose Ann Gregory, our administration office manager, has moved away from the front desk, we are grateful to say that she is still lending her talents to St. Francis and is now working closely with our Business and Human Resources departments.

Summer on the Point: For-Credit World Religion Class + JumpStart Wait-Lists

WORLD RELIGION CLASS FOR RISING SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS

This summer, **rising St. Francis sophomores and juniors will have the opportunity to participate in a blended for-credit World Religion class.** Additional blended courses may be added.

- This course will require a commitment of seven classes in person, and the rest of the work will be done in an online format.
- This course will be taught by Dr. Bill Black.
- Please see the April 9 *Wolf Watch* for more information on the course and on registration. Course fees will be \$575.

WAIT-LIST FOR JUMPSTART CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE

JumpStart classes that are full are taking names for wait-lists, and additional sections may be added to grades with a wait-list. Please email **Margaret Newsom** to be

placed on a wait-list.

This Thursday Is an Early-Release Day

In honor of Easter weekend, please note that this Thursday, April 6, is an early-release day for all divisions:

- Primary School students will be released at 11:00 a.m.
- Lower School students will be released at 11:15 a.m.
- Middle School students will be released at noon.
- Upper School students will be released at noon.

In addition, Friday, April 7, and Monday, April 10, are both school holidays.

FoFA News: School-wide Arts Festival Starts April 24

- Our **next FoFA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11.**
- Please mark your calendars for our **school-wide Arts Festival on Monday, April 24, through Sunday, April 30.** Details will be provided soon.
- We are proud to announce that our very own Justin Doran, Director of Fine Arts, will be recognized by Theatre Under the Stars as Arts Educator of the Year! This is a well-deserved honor for Mr. Doran, but also an endorsement of the fantastic arts programs at St. Francis. **If you would like to attend the TUTS recognition event to cheer for Mr. Doran, please join us on Friday, April 28, at Tony's. [Email Amy Pierce](#) to RSVP.**

Primary School

From the Assistant Head of School

Clinical psychologist Dr. Wendy Mogel is well-known for her books written to help parents raise resilient children. Some of Mogel's books include *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* and *The Blessing of a B Minus*. I've leaned on both books in my time as an educator and parent.

I had the benefit of hearing Mogel speak at a National Association of Episcopal Schools conference years ago. She looked out at the large crowd of educators and parents and said, "Your children are all very special ... and very ordinary." There was a pause and then laughter from the conference attendees. As a parent, my children are very special—to me. But I also realized back then that they are never going to be that special to anyone else, and that helping them grow into capable and resilient adults would take work—by me.

When I was in college, a girl next door to me in my freshman dorm (I'll call her "Jane" here) changed the sheets on her bed each week. Most parents would be proud to know their college-aged children did this, but you need to know the rest of this story. Jane took the sheets off her bed, neatly folded them, and put them on a shelf in her closet. She took the spare sheets from her closet and remade her bed. And then Jane repeated this every weekend. Those sheets were changed, but they never got to the washing machine. Something was missing in the steps her family had surely instructed her on in changing her sheets.

It reminds me a bit of one of my favorite children's book series, *Amelia Bedelia*. In the classic books, Amelia Bedelia doesn't get things quite right. She takes a list of housekeeping duties left by her employer literally, and things don't turn out as planned. She "dusts" the furniture (sprinkles powder on the sofa), draws the drapes (sketches a picture), measures two cups of rice (with a measuring tape), and does her best to finish all of the tasks on the list.

Did my college friend, Jane, not listen attentively, was she in a hurry, or did she not have enough practice or responsibility for doing some of the chores that would have helped her build proficiency? Amelia Bedelia is a humorous character in children's books. But when there are real life examples of not being able to take care of some basic life skills, as happened with Jane, there needs to be help provided. And then there needs to be independence, and trust. It may not be perfect, but in the imperfection, there is growth and resilience.

My sister taught her children to do their own laundry when they were ten. They took care of washing, folding, and putting their clothes away independently. When I taught my children to fold towels and put them away, they weren't always done the way I would do it, but they were done. I had to let go of that, and eventually they got better at this task. It had to start somewhere.

The same thing happened with school projects. As a teacher, I cringed sometimes when my son completed a poster project without using a ruler to line up his writing, didn't "pre-plan" where he would glue pictures, and overall ended up with a poster that looked like he did it himself—because he did. It was his project, and the assignment was given to him—not me. That letting go as a parent was hard. But it was necessary. His work got better.

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learn and perform ordinary tasks. But they won't bother trying if we, their parents, don't erase the false distinction between work that is worthy and work that is not."

Blessings,

Amy Whitley, MA
Assistant Head of School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 3

- *Pre-Primary Play Day (Britton and Husain)*
 - *Open Library*
-

Tuesday, April 4

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend*
-

Wednesday, April 5

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend*
-

Thursday, April 6

- *Primary School Early Dismissal: 11:00 a.m.*
-

Friday, April 7

- *Good Friday Holiday: No school*
-

Monday, April 10

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No school*

Tuesday, April 11

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend
 - *Art à la Carte In-Person Orientation*
 - 1:30–2:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room
 - **Anyone with a rising kindergartener through eighth grader who has never done AALC and plans to apply is required to attend one of the three offered orientations.**
 - Sign-up link will be sent this week.
-

Wednesday, April 12

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend
-

Thursday, April 13

- *Art à la Carte Zoom Orientation*
 - 1:00–2:00 p.m.
 - **Anyone with a rising kindergartener through eighth grader who has never done AALC and plans to apply is required to attend one of the three offered orientations.**
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-

Friday, April 14

- *Primary II Plays*
-

Monday, April 17

- *Open Library*
-

Tuesday, April 18

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend
 - *Art à la Carte In-Person Orientation*
 - 8:30–9:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room
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 - Sign-up link will be sent this week.
-

Wednesday, April 19

- *Chapel*: 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend
-

Friday, April 21

- *Parent Conference Day*: No school
-

Sunday, April 23

- *St. Francis Festival*: 1:00 p.m.

Lower School

From the Assistant Head of School

Clinical psychologist Dr. Wendy Mogel is well-known for her books written to help parents raise resilient children. Some of Mogel's books include *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* and *The Blessing of a B Minus*. I've leaned on both books in my time as an educator and parent.

I had the benefit of hearing Mogel speak at a National Association of Episcopal Schools conference years ago. She looked out at the large crowd of educators and parents and said, "Your children are all very special ... and very ordinary." There was a pause and then laughter from the conference attendees. As a parent, my children are very special—to me. But I also realized back then that they are never going to be that special to anyone else, and that helping them grow into capable and resilient adults would take work—by me.

When I was in college, a girl next door to me in my freshman dorm (I'll call her "Jane" here) changed the sheets on her bed each week. Most parents would be proud to know their college-aged children did this, but you need to know the rest of this story. Jane took the sheets off her bed, neatly folded them, and put them on a shelf in her closet. She took the spare sheets from her closet and remade her bed. And then Jane repeated this every weekend. Those sheets were changed, but they never got to the washing machine. Something was missing in the steps her family had surely instructed her on in changing her sheets.

It reminds me a bit of one of my favorite children's book series, *Amelia Bedelia*. In the classic books, Amelia Bedelia doesn't get things quite right. She takes a list of housekeeping duties left by her employer literally, and things don't turn out as planned. She "dusts" the furniture (sprinkles powder on the sofa), draws the drapes (sketches a picture), measures two cups of rice (with a measuring tape), and does her best to finish all of the tasks on the list.

Did my college friend, Jane, not listen attentively, was she in a hurry, or did she not have enough practice or responsibility for doing some of the chores that would have helped her build proficiency? Amelia Bedelia is a humorous character in children's books. But when there are real life examples of not being able to take care of some basic life skills, as happened with Jane, there needs to be help provided. And then there needs to be independence, and trust. It may not be perfect, but in the imperfection, there is growth and resilience.

My sister taught her children to do their own laundry when they were ten. They took care of washing, folding, and putting their clothes away independently. When I taught my children to fold towels and put them away, they weren't always done the way I would do it, but they were done. I had to let go of that, and eventually they got better at this task. It had to start somewhere.

The same thing happened with school projects. As a teacher, I cringed sometimes when my son completed a poster project without using a ruler to line up his writing, didn't "pre-plan" where he would glue pictures, and overall ended up with a poster that looked like he did it himself—because he did. It was his project, and the assignment was given to him—not me. That letting go as a parent was hard. But it was necessary. His work got better.

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Blessings,

Amy Whitley, MA
Assistant Head of School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 3

- *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
 - *First-Grade Field Trip to Nature Discovery Center: Student-only event*
 - **Breeding and Hitchcock:** 9:30–10:15 a.m.
 - **Jules and DuByne:** 10:15–11:00 a.m.
-

Thursday, April 6

- *Maundy Thursday Eucharist Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
 - *Lower School Early Dismissal:* 11:15 a.m.
-

Friday, April 7

- *Good Friday Holiday:* No school
-

Monday, April 10

- *Easter Monday Holiday:* No school
-

Tuesday, April 11

- *Art à la Carte In-Person Orientation*
 - 1:30–2:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room
 - **Anyone with a rising kindergartener through eighth grader who has never done AALC and plans to apply is required to attend one of the three offered orientations.**
 - Sign-up link will be sent this week.
-

Thursday, April 13

- *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
 - *Art à la Carte Zoom Orientation*
 - 1:00–2:00 p.m.
 - **Anyone with a rising kindergartener through eighth grader who has never done AALC and plans to apply is required to attend one of the three offered orientations.**
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-

Monday, April 17

- *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
-

Tuesday, April 18

- *Art à la Carte In-Person Orientation*
 - 8:30–9:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room
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-

Wednesday, April 19

- *First-Grade Learning Celebration*
 - **Jules/DuByne:** 9:00–9:30 a.m.
 - **Breeding/Hitchcock:** 10:30-11:00 a.m.
-

Thursday, April 20

- *Chapel for Grades K–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Please be advised that there are limited parking spots in front of the school.
 - *Steam Fair:* 8:00–3:00 p.m.
 - *Lower School Class Retake Photos (Some Classes):* 8:50-10:30 a.m.
-

Friday, April 21

- *Lower School Festival Pep Rally:* 2:00–2:30 p.m.
-

Sunday, April 23

- *St. Francis Festival:* 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Middle School

From the Assistant Head of School

Clinical psychologist Dr. Wendy Mogel is well-known for her books written to help parents raise resilient children. Some of Mogel’s books include *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* and *The Blessing of a B Minus*. I’ve leaned on both books in my time as an educator and parent.

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Amy Whitley, MA
Assistant Head of School

MS Parents: Get Involved in Booster Club for 2023–24!

The Booster Club is looking for parents to join our team at both a committee level and in leadership roles.

- The Booster Club's purpose is to foster school spirit, provide a sense of community, and enhance the student experience.
- The Booster Club coordinates team parents; manages concessions; provides team banners; assists with senior recognition; and provides decorations and spirit items for pep rallies, tournaments, and championships.
- We support all St. Francis teams in grades 6–12, our coaches, and the Athletic Department.
- The Booster Club also helps organize special events throughout the year, including Homecoming and Hoops & Scoops.

The Booster Club needs your help to expand and continue to promote our school spirit and community! **To get involved, please [click here](#) or email [Colleen Dunlap](#) or [Charity Todd](#).**

This Thursday Is an Early-Release Day

In honor of Easter weekend, Middle School students will be released at noon this Thursday, April 6. Please note that Friday, April 7, and Monday, April 10, are both school holidays.

Volunteers Needed for Seventh-Grade Medieval Faire Day

Seventh-grade parents, please **save the date** for this year's Medieval Faire Day on **Friday, May 5!**

ABOUT MEDIEVAL FAIRE DAY

Medieval Faire Day is a fun-filled day spent exploring multiple cultures during the medieval time period. Students immerse themselves in the different cultures by participating in interactive and hands-on activities that highlight art, music, food, clothing, weaponry, and daily life in Medieval Europe, Japan, and the Arabian Peninsula. This event fully aligns with the seventh-grade World History curriculum students have been studying.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON MAY 4 & 5

In order for this day to be a success, **we need lots of moms and dads to volunteer**—both on **Thursday, May 4, to help with setup** as we transform multiple parts of the school, and **during the entire Medieval Faire Day on May 5**. A SignUpGenius link will be sent soon. We look forward to seeing you!

MS Service Hour Opportunity: Volunteer at Festival!

Setup and cleanup shifts are available to Middle School students who would like to earn service hours by working before or after the St. Francis Festival on Sunday, April 23. [**Click here to sign up!**](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 3

- *Dress Uniforms*
 - *Middle School Chapel: 9:50 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
 - *Sixth-Grade Bible Study: 12:45 p.m. in Mrs. Flores's room (boys' Bible study) and Mrs. Gutierrez's room (girls' Bible study); both rooms are right off of Crum Library*
-

Tuesday, April 4

- *Regular Uniform*
 - *Advanced Academic Placement Test (English Exam): 7:15–8:15 a.m.*
-

Wednesday, April 5

- *Regular Uniform*
 - *Advanced Academic Placement Test (Math Exam): 7:15–8:15 a.m.*
-

Thursday, April 6

- ***Middle School Early Dismissal at Noon***
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Middle School Maundy Thursday Eucharist Chapel: 10:05 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
-

Friday, April 7

- *Good Friday Holiday: No school*
-

Monday, April 10

- *Easter Monday Holiday: No school*
-

Tuesday, April 11

- *Art à la Carte In-Person Orientation*
 - 1:30–2:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room
 - **Anyone with a rising kindergartener through eighth grader who has never done AALC and plans to apply is required to attend one of the three offered orientations.**
 - Sign-up link will be sent this week.
-

Thursday, April 13

- *Art à la Carte Zoom Orientation*
 - 1:00–2:00 p.m.
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-

Tuesday, April 18

- *Art à la Carte In-Person Orientation*
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Upper School

From the Assistant Head of School

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Assistant Head of School

Sports and PE Class Selection Survey Is Tomorrow

Students in grades 9–11 will complete a Sport and Physical Education Class Selection Survey for the 2023–24 school year during advisory tomorrow—Monday, April 3. This information is very helpful to us, as we are currently working on plans for next school year.

US Parents: Get Involved in Booster Club for 2023–24!

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Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 3

- *“A” Day*
 - *Free Dress Day:* As declared by our temporary head of school, fourth grader Tyler K!
-

Tuesday, April 4

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Wednesday, April 5

- *“A” Day*
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Upper School Maundy Thursday Eucharist:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. on Piney Point Campus
-

Thursday, April 6

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Upper School Early Dismissal at Noon:* View the special schedule [here](#).
-

Friday, April 7

- *Good Friday Holiday:* School closed
-

Monday, April 10

- *Easter Monday Holiday:* School closed
-

Tuesday, April 11

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Junior Ring Ceremony:* 6:00 p.m. in St. Francis Episcopal Church on Piney Point Campus
-

Wednesday, April 12

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Upper School Chapel:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym
-

Thursday, April 13–Saturday, April 15

- *ISAS Art Festival*
-

Thursday, April 13

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, April 14

- *“B” Day*
- *St. Francis Spirit Dress:* Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms

Church

Upcoming Schedule for Holy Week Services

APRIL 2: PALM SUNDAY

- Service this evening at 5:00 p.m.

APRIL 6: MAUNDY THURSDAY

- Service at 7:00 p.m.

APRIL 7: GOOD FRIDAY

- Good Friday Liturgy at noon in the church
- Walk to Calvary at noon; meet in the Fine Arts Center
- Seven Last Words at 1:00 p.m. in the church
- Stations of the Cross at 2:00 p.m. in the church

APRIL 8: HOLY SATURDAY

- Confession at 11:00 a.m.

APRIL 9: EASTER SUNDAY

- Services at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 a.m. in the garden area behind the Fine Arts Center
- Fabulous food in the Fine Arts Center

Join Us at 9:00 a.m. Each Sunday for the Following:

- **Sunday Worship**
- **Let It Shine Children's Bible Lesson**
- **Lighthouse Expressions in Art:** Meet in the school's People Place (across from the Dining Hall) to create an art project based on that day's Let It Shine.
- **GLOW for Middle School Students (Volunteer Opportunities):** Contact [Allison Devlin](#) to sign up and receive service hours.

Walk to Calvary Is Friday

Children, meet in the Fine Art Center this **Friday, April 7, at noon** to follow Father Wismer and Mrs. Devlin on an interactive journey of the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. Please note: Children ages 6 and up can be dropped off while parents attend

the Good Friday service in the church.

Kids' Easter Egg Hunt Is Easter Sunday

Kids, join us for He Is Risen! at Let It Shine this coming **Sunday, April 9, at 9:00 a.m.** We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, enjoy an Easter egg hunt, and pet and feed bunnies.

Eighth Graders, Join Us for Confirmation Class

Eighth graders, if you missed the Confirmation Class Ice Cream Social and Orientation, you can still join the 2023–24 Confirmation Class. If you are in eighth grade and have not been confirmed, please contact Cindy Huteson via [email](#) or call the church office at 713.782.1270.

Join Us Wednesdays for Mom's Bible Study

- **WHAT:** *Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family* by Paul David Tripp
- **WHEN:** Wednesdays at 8:15 a.m.
- **WHERE:** Richmond House on the Couper Campus
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION:** To sign up or for more information, contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Outreach Ministries

- **Memorial Assistance Ministries** has an urgent plea from the pantry team. For additional information, contact the church's Director of Outreach [Heather Burkhart](#).
- The **Fair Haven Food Pantry** needs volunteers and food donations. For additional information, email [Heather Burkhart](#). To volunteer, [click here](#).

Dress for Success Houston Needs Our Help!

For 25 years, Dress for Success Houston (DFSH) has been dedicated to the mission of empowering women to achieve economic independence by providing professional attire, a network of support, and development tools to help women thrive in work and life. Each year, DFSH holds the Her Path Forward giving campaign, which helps provide women with access to programs, services, and tools that will help them achieve economic advancement.

How can St. Francis Outreach support DFSH's Her Path Forward Campaign? It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. [Click here](#) to make a financial donation to the Her Path Forward Campaign.
2. Purchase high-need attire from DFSH's [Amazon Wishlist](#).
3. Donate handbags and closed-toe shoes at DFSH (3310 Eastside). Donations are accepted on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

With questions, please [email Karen Bloomfield](#).

Share Your Prayer Requests Online

Share your prayer requests with us using the "Prayer Requests" link on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#).

Bible Studies at St. Francis

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Book of James
 - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
 - **Contact:** [Martin O'Malley](#)
 - **Location:** La Madeleine (1st, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays of each month)
- Second Tuesday of Each Month at 8:00–9:30 a.m. (**Next meeting is April 11.**)
 - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
 - **Study:** The Life of Abraham
 - **Location:** [The Corner Bakery](#) (9311 Katy Fwy.), breakfast included
 - **Contact:** [Sally Jo Flores](#)
- Thursdays at 6:30–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Romans
 - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84206856514>
 - **Meeting ID:** 842 0685 6514
 - **Passcode:** Bi6Ga0

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Paul's Letter to the Romans
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)

How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

To join St. Francis Episcopal Church's 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the St. Francis website—sfch.org. Click on the "Watch Live Stream Worship Services" button. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available.