

Dear Lower School Families,

It is hard to believe, but the 2022-2023 school year is here! Our first few days of in-service with both new and returning teachers have been fantastic, and I feel confident that we have an incredibly strong team of Lower School teachers and staff in place to make this a remarkable year for your family.

We realize the start to each school year can feel a bit overwhelming, so I wanted to provide some additional information to help us all get off to a great start! I am including orientation details again below, along with some carpool changes and general information that you may find helpful.

Orientation/Open House Schedule:

- Please be respectful of the times noted based on your last name. We will be moving approximately 800 or more people through the building that morning, so we appreciate your patience and help making this experience go as smoothly as possible.
- Used Uniforms will be set up in the Lower School cafeteria all day. Honor system applies for checkout.
- Wildcat Warehouse will be open during orientation times.
- Nuts and bolts of the classroom will take place during the virtual meeting, not during open house time.

New Carpool Plan: Please read the updated carpool plan thoroughly.

- Note different drop off locations for early morning versus regular drop off.
- PreK will dismiss when all students dismiss beginning this year.
- Parents should not enter the building to pick up their students in the afternoon. If you park rather than drive through the line, it is best to hold your carpool sign up outside so our carpool team can go inside and get your student. Carpool runs most efficiently when students are quiet and can hear names called over the speaker.
- Keep in mind that carpool often takes a week or so to become really efficient. We appreciate your patience as we work out any kinks and get everyone back into a good routine!

Breakfast:

- SAGE will serve breakfast in the Lower School cafeteria beginning at 7am.
- Students in PreK, K, and 1st will need to arrive before 7:30am if they would like to eat breakfast at school.
- Breakfast will be charged to the student's FACTS account.

- Parents may park in the parking lot and join their child for breakfast. We ask that you do not join your child for breakfast until the second week of school.

Uniforms:

- Click [here](#) for a link to our school uniform policy. A few reminders:
 - Regular school shoes should be predominately white with white laces.
 - First dress uniform day will be September 7.
 - We will have a spirit day every Friday. You can purchase spirit shirts in the Wildcat Warehouse or students can wear green and white shirts with uniform bottoms or jeans. No leggings allowed. Spirit wear does not have to be Episcopal branded.

First Day of School:

- Class begins at 8am.
- Parents should not plan to walk students into school on the first day. Please plan to drop off in the carpool line or walk them to door entrances where they will walk to their classes.
- Episcopal themed photo backdrop will be set up at the north end of the football field. Parents are welcome to park and take a first day of school picture with their child there. Teachers will also take class photos throughout the day and share those with you.
- Chapel will take place at 9:15am in the LS gym that day. Parents are welcome to join. We ask that parents do not plan to stay and join students for lunch.

Have a question?

- [Tonya Thomas](#) - parking stickers, green carpool signs, last minute carpool changes, check in/out needs, forgot to send a lunch, etc.
- [Whitney Rawn](#) - Lower School nurse
- [Mary Jane Briggs](#) - Admission needs
- [Julie Fitz](#) - Veracross questions
- [Leigh Keener](#) - Canvas questions
- [Catherine Radtke](#) - Director of Student Support, academic needs
- [Catherine Schuhmacher](#) - Head of Lower School

We look forward to seeing you all at orientation on Monday!

Sincerely,

Catherine Schuhmacher
Head of Lower School