

# WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

## News for the Week of September 10

### All School

#### **Pre-Order Homecoming Food From Torchy's Tacos**

Save yourself time and [prepurchase your food tickets](#) for the Homecoming celebrations at Couper Campus on Friday, September 29. Advanced food ticket sales will close at midnight on Sunday, September 24. Limited meals will be available for purchase the day of the event, so buy in advance now!

#### **TORCHY'S MEAL OPTIONS (SERVED FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 6:00–8:00 P.M.)**

All Torchy's meal options include a half order of chips and salsa.

- 2 Chicken Fajita Tacos (\$15)—Marinated and grilled chicken, grilled onions and peppers, pico de gallo, and cheddar jack cheese, served with tomatillo sauce
- 2 Crossroads Beef Brisket Tacos (\$15)—Smoked beef brisket, grilled onions, jalapeños, cilantro, avocado, and cheddar jack cheese, served with tomatillo sauce on a corn tortilla
- 2 Kids' Grilled Chicken Tacos (\$10)—Chicken and shredded cheese on a flour tortilla
- Kids' Cheese Quesadilla (\$10)

Snacks, drinks, and the ever-popular Kona Ice snow cones will be available for purchase at both Thursday's and Friday's festivities. At Thursday's celebration, nachos will also be available for purchase from the Concession Stand.

#### **Cheer on the Wolves at This Week's Games!**

Come out and support our Upper School athletics teams! This week's theme is Camouflage, so be sure to wear your camo to the following games:

- **JV Girls Volleyball:** Thursday, September 14, at 5:00 p.m. in Piney Point Gym

- **Varsity Girls Volleyball:** Thursday, September 14, at 6:00 p.m. in Crum Gym
- **Varsity Football:** Friday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. on Couper Turf Field

### **Volunteers Needed for the Fall Teacher Appreciation Breakfast**

The St. Francis Parents Organization is looking for volunteers to help with our Fall Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. This is a fun opportunity to serve our teachers breakfast and thank them for all they do!

- [Click here to sign up.](#)
- With questions, please [email Alicyn Gawryliuk.](#)

### **Booster Club General Meeting Is Tuesday**

The Booster Club will have its second general meeting of the school year this Tuesday, September 12, at 8:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room on Piney Point Campus. Come see what's going on in Booster Club as we support athletics at St. Francis. All are welcome to attend!

### **Save the Dates for This Year's Homecoming Games**

Mark your calendars to come cheer on our Wolves during Homecoming Week at the end of this month!

- **Middle School Football Game:** Thursday, September 28, at 5:00 p.m.
- **Upper School Volleyball Game:** Friday, September 29, at 4:30 p.m.
- **Upper School Football Game:** Friday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m.

All Middle School and Upper School teams playing during Homecoming Week will be celebrated. Stay tuned—more details about Homecoming festivities are coming soon!

### **Holiday Poinsettias: Limited Number Available—Reserve Yours Now**

One way to support the arts at St. Francis is to purchase beautiful red poinsettias grown by The Brookwood Community! [Click here](#) for details and to reserve your poinsettias today!

### **Save the Date: St. Francis Gala Is February 24**

We're off to see the Wizard on Saturday, February 24, 2024! Dust off that tux, pick out that frock, and click your heels . . . it's a Gala year, and this year's theme is "Wizard of Oz." If you haven't had a chance to check out the website, please follow the Yellow Brick Road to [this link](#) to see all the exciting things we've got planned for our journey to Oz!

## Primary School

### **From the Assistant Head of Primary School**

It's hard to believe that September is already well underway. One of the events I'm looking forward to most this month is leading the St. Francis Way tradition with each class. Our students will be taking the pledge to live like St. Francis by signing a simplified version of our school's Honor Code, called the St. Francis Way in Primary School. While the Honor Code may sound a little different in Primary School, the goal is still the same—to encourage students to be respectful and kind and to take care of our community.

I will be visiting each classroom over the next few weeks to introduce our students to, or remind them of, the St. Francis Way, which includes the following four principles:

1. Listen carefully to teachers and friends.
2. Be kind to others.
3. Be safe.
4. Take care of our school.

*All* members of the Primary School will acknowledge their understanding of, and intent to live by, these principles by placing their fingerprints on our St. Francis Way documents. You can support the St. Francis Way at home by discussing these principles with your children and by considering tying them in with your home expectations.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Primary School Parent Information Night on Tuesday or Thursday of this week, depending on your child's grade level:

- **Pre-Primary Parent Information Night:** Tuesday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Primary I and Primary II Parent Information Night:** Thursday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m.

These events provide a great way for you to connect with teachers, learn more about the approaches used in Primary School, and get tips for supporting your child's development at home. Attending also provides a fantastic way to foster a strong connection between school and home.

Fondly,

Ashley Stephenson  
Assistant Head of Primary School

### **Memory Books: Order by Friday**

**Primary and Lower School Memory Books** (for last school year) are available for purchase, with an order deadline of Friday, September 15. [Click here](#) to buy your memory

books today. With questions, email [Crystal Neustadt](#).

### **PS Grandparents and Grandfriends Days Are in February**

Save the dates! Primary School Grandparents and Grandfriends Days will take place in February, according to the following schedule:

#### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

- Primary II, in the morning

#### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024**

- Pre-Primary and Primary I, in the morning

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **Monday, September 11**

- *Open Library*: 3:00 p.m.
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#### **Tuesday, September 12**

- *Chapel*: Primary II parents may attend
  - *Pre-Primary Parent Information Night*: 6:30 p.m.
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#### **Wednesday, September 13**

- *Chapel*: Primary I parents may attend
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#### **Thursday, September 14**

- *Primary I and Primary II Parent Information Night*: 6:30 p.m.
-

**Monday, September 18**

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
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**Tuesday, September 19**

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
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**Wednesday, September 20**

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
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**Monday, September 25**

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
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**Tuesday, September 26**

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
- 

**Wednesday, September 27**

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
- 

**Monday, October 2**

- *Primary School Picture Day*
  - *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

### **Tuesday, October 3**

- *Primary II Blessing of the Stuffed Animals Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
  - *Primary II Furry Friends Picnic:* Students only
- 

### **Wednesday, October 4**

- *No Chapel Today for Primary I: Moved to Friday*
- 

### **Thursday, October 5**

- *Primary II Field Trip*
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### **Friday, October 6**

- *Primary I Blessing of the Stuffed Animals Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
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### **Monday, October 9**

- *Fall Break:* No school
- 

### **Tuesday, October 10**

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
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### **Wednesday, October 11**

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend

## **Lower School**

### **From the Division Head**

The month of September is off to a great start, and there are many more wonderful learning experiences to look forward to in Lower School. Now that Labor Day is behind us, we are officially settled in and on track for a wonderful nine months of school together.

I want to thank you for your morning carpool waves as you hold on to the steering wheel and give your Lower Schooler goodbye kisses and hugs, reminders about the day, and reminders about after-school activities. Your kindness helps make my mornings in Lower School even better!

Next Thursday's Chapel will focus on leadership as we participate in the fourth-grade Leadership Induction Chapel. Students in K–3 will attend this Chapel to worship God and learn about the leadership opportunities ahead of them. Please note that only fourth-grade parents are invited to attend this unique Lower School Chapel in the Fine Arts Center (FAC), and parent parking will be available in the Ecclesia back lot.

St. Francis's Leadership Induction Chapel is part of our Lower School approach to developing leaders. Our Fourth-Grade Leadership Council work aligns skillfully with our SFES mission of being people for others. We are excited to celebrate our fourth graders and witness their commitment to learning while helping others through their council work.

Kind regards,

Clifton Walker, MEd  
Head of Lower School

### **Memory Books: Order by Friday**

**Primary and Lower School Memory Books** (for last school year) are available for purchase, with an order deadline of Friday, September 15. [Click here](#) to buy your memory books today. With questions, email [Crystal Neustadt](#).

### **Fall First Communion Classes for Grades 2+ Begin Sunday**

Interested in having your student receive communion at our Lower School Eucharist Chapels? First Communion Classes offered by St. Francis Episcopal Church begin this coming Sunday, September 17. For more details, please see the "Church" section of this *Wolf Watch*, below.

### **LS Grandparents and Grandfriends Days Are in November**

Save the dates! Lower School Grandparents and Grandfriends Days will take place in November, according to the following schedule:

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

- Fourth grade, in the afternoon

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

- Third grade, in the morning
- Second grade, in the afternoon

### **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

- First grade, in the morning
- Kindergarten, in the afternoon

### **Walk-In Tech Support Available Daily**

Members of the St. Francis Technology Department are available each morning to help students resolve issues with accounts, devices, and key applications like Veracross, Google, and Outlook. **Walk-in tech support is available between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. in Room 226 on Couper Campus and Room A150 on Piney Point Campus.**

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **Monday, September 11**

- *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.
  - *Crime Stoppers Cybersafety Presentation for LS Parents*
    - 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room
    - Please park in front of the school.
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#### **Thursday, September 14**

- *LS Leadership Induction Chapel (Fourth-Grade Parents Only)*
    - 8:20 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center
    - Parents, please park in the Ecclesia parking lot.
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## **Monday, September 18**

- *Honor Code 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, September 19**

- *Early Literacy Parent Meeting for Kindergarten and First Grade*
    - 8:30–9:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room
    - Parents, please park in front of the school.
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## **Thursday, September 21**

- *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.
- 

## **Monday, September 25**

- *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.
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## **Thursday, September 28**

- *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.

## **Middle School**

### **From the Director of Counseling**

We are excited to announce that St. Francis Middle and Upper Schools have launched a

partnership with [The Social Institute](#) (TSI), a national leader in curriculum designed to equip students to navigate the complex intersection of well-being, social media, and technology.

At a time when students spend many hours a day on digital devices, and cyberbullying and reputation-damaging posts run rampant, TSI equips students to make positive, healthy, and high-character choices that fuel their health, happiness, and future success. Our school will be adopting TSI's comprehensive program, called #WinAtSocial, which promotes character, empathy, teamwork, and other important life skills.

Whether or not your child uses social media or a device of their own, we hope that you will consider how the resources outlined below could be useful to your family.

To be clear, information offered through this partnership does not instruct anyone how to parent. Instead, these [supplementary resources](#) provide insight into social media, technology, and student experiences, offering family discussion prompts and informative resources that you can incorporate into family conversations as much or as little as you like.

## **HOW YOUR FAMILY CAN PARTICIPATE**

1. **Continue the conversation at home.** As students experience #WinAtSocial each month, Family Huddle questions will be available to you through a link in *Wolf Watch*. These are completely optional to run as a family!
2. **Activate your free account to access the Parent Toolkit.** Many families refer to this as the CliffsNotes of social media and technology! Go to the [Toolkit](#), click "Activate Account," and enter our school code: **28edCDD8EF644B**

The #WinAtSocial lessons will be explored during Advisory two to three times per month, and we will be starting in the next week or so. Our first lesson is designed to help students get familiar with the #WinAtSocial platform. Please contact me or Upper School Counselor [Jennifer Choi](#) with any questions you might have.

Go Wolves!

### **Ted Lakoski**

Director of Counseling and Director of Experiential Travel

### **From the Dean of Students: St. Francis Eighth Graders Lead the Way**

I want to take a moment to recognize our eighth graders and tell you a little bit about what makes them—and their eighth-grade year—special here at St. Francis. Years ago when I worked at another independent school here in Houston, I would light up when the St. Francis buses pulled up with eager and excited eighth graders. The St. Francis students were always some of the most caring, respectful, energetic, and polite young people. The students who ended up coming to our high school did not disappoint at all. Many of them went on to hold leadership positions, including student body president.

Our current eighth graders embody those same traits. All the wonderful things they do, they do with pride and a smile on their faces. They make me (and St. Francis) so proud.

They are kind to each other and to all the younger students. Every time I turn around, there is an eighth grader helping someone out. Our Middle School golden rule is that no one sits alone at lunch, and our eighth graders make sure nobody does.

They are also leaders on and off the field, in the classrooms, and in the arts. These eighth graders started the year off as leaders on their own—student council elections had not yet taken place, and clubs and councils had not yet been put in place. But wherever help was needed, our eighth graders were there to lend a hand and offer support. At New Student Orientation, they were there to welcome the new students and make sure they knew what to expect on the first day of school. The WEB leaders helped the fifth graders transition to Middle School. We had eighth graders show up on Parent Information Night to help the parents navigate their student's schedule.

Tomorrow, on September 11, each of our eighth graders will receive a special tie during our traditional Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony. With this tie comes great responsibility. The tie is a badge of honor and signifies leadership in the Middle School community, and I truly feel each eighth grader is up for the challenge of leading the Middle School to excellence.

In a few weeks, the eighth-grade class will take a trip to Boston. In the past, this trip has taken place in May, but we have opted to move the trip up to the fall. The earlier trip will allow them to bond as a class and be even stronger as a class, which is our goal.

St. Francis's eighth grade is truly filled with people for others. It's one thing to say you are, and another to live it. They live it daily. I'm so proud to be their Dean of Students.

Coach T

### **Summer 2024 Travel Opportunities: Trip Details Now Available**

The St. Francis Travel Program offers Middle and Upper School students the opportunity to broaden their horizons, expand their minds, and embrace what it means to be global citizens through carefully curated learning adventures. In the next few weeks, you and your student will have the opportunity to learn more about these incredible trips from the faculty members who will be leading them. [Click here](#) for more information about the program, as well as for details about the trip offerings for Summer 2024.

### **Seventh-Grade OLE: Medication Form Due Tomorrow + Updated Packing List**

Please note that the [Medication Form](#) for this week's seventh-grade OLE (September 13–15) is due by the end of the day tomorrow—Monday, September 11. An [updated packing list](#) is also available.

### **Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony Is Tomorrow**

The Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony will be held tomorrow—Monday, September 11—from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center (FAC). Eighth graders are required to wear their dress uniforms at this event.

### **Fifth-Grade Parents: Order Memory Books by Friday**

**Fourth-grade Memory Books** (for last school year) are available for purchase, with an order deadline of Friday, September 15. [Click here](#) to buy your memory books today. With questions, email [Crystal Neustadt](mailto:Crystal.Neustadt).

### **MS Grandparents and Grandfriends Day Is November 15**

Save the date! Middle School Grandparents and Grandfriends Day (for sixth and eighth grades only) will take place on Wednesday, November 15, in the morning.

### **Walk-In Tech Support Available Daily**

Members of the St. Francis Technology Department are available each morning to help students resolve issues with accounts, devices, and key applications like Veracross, Google, and Outlook. **Tech support is available between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. in Room 226 on Couper Campus and Room A150 on Piney Point Campus.**

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **Monday, September 11**

- *“B” Day*
  - *Grades 5–7: Regular uniform*
  - *Grade 8: Dress uniform*
  - *Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony/Middle School Chapel: 9:30–10:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center*
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#### **Tuesday, September 12**

- *“A” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Eighth-Grade Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in Mrs. Gutierrez’s room, right off of Crum Library*
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## Wednesday, September 13

- *“B” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Seventh-Grade OLE at Carolina Creek*: Students depart campus at 8:30 a.m.
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## Thursday, September 14

- *“A” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Seventh-Grade OLE at Carolina Creek*
  - *Middle School Chapel*: 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
  - *Fifth-Grade Bible Study*: 12:30 p.m. in Mrs. Gutierrez’s room, right off of Crum Library
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## Friday, September 15

- *“B” Day*
- *SFES Spirit Dress*: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms
- *Seventh-Grade OLE at Carolina Creek*: Students return to campus around 3:30 p.m. (We will text when the students are close to campus.)

## Upper School

### **From the Division Head**

"Molly is gone," my wife, Sarah, said. "Come home right away." The news sent a shiver through me. Leaving my office quickly, I jogged across the cul-de-sac through the rain and wind toward our house. Having just moved down to New Orleans from Massachusetts to assume my new position as Head of Middle School of Metairie Park Country Day School, we had only been in town for one week.

Molly was our dog. Being a mix of breeds, she weighed about 50 pounds and was white with blotches of brown here and there. Although she was generally fearless, Molly was petrified of two things: fireworks and thunder. Each had caused her to run away during our tenure in Massachusetts, but she had found her way back home both times.

After arriving home, I surmised that the thunderstorm had caused her to wriggle under the gate in the backyard. Once out of the yard, she must have just taken off at a dead run. Scrambling into our car, I drove around for an hour, scanning each neighborhood carefully.

Making a wide circle around our house, I traveled every street within about a mile of us until I finally gave up. Returning home and despondent over the loss, I slumped into a chair. Where did she go? Would we ever see her again? Was she even still alive? She had been a member of our family for nine years, but now she was gone—possibly forever.

Sarah brought me back to my senses. "We need to pray," she said calmly. "Today is Wednesday, so I am going to church. You stay here so that you will be here when the phone call comes." *When* the call comes . . . not *if* it ever comes. That was rather optimistic. How could she be so positive about this?

Brand new to the neighborhood, Molly didn't know it at all. Furthermore, she was still wearing the collar with our Massachusetts information on it. Even if someone found her, that person wouldn't be able to locate us. We had only been here for a week. Nevertheless, my wife was calm and confident. I, however, was not.

After Sarah headed for church, I reluctantly began to pray, but I didn't feel like it was helping. Then a thought struck me—Molly wasn't really lost because God knew where she was. I didn't know where she was, but God did, and that gave me some comfort.

And then another thought came to me: I suddenly realized that I was praying all wrong. I had been praying for God to bring her back, but that was not what I should have been praying for. I realized that was selfish and was best for me, but it was not necessarily what was best for Molly. Pondering this further, I wondered what would be best for her? Then, it came to me—I asked God simply to stay with her in her travels and to show her the way to wherever she needed to go, no matter where the path may take her. I even understood that could mean her journey might take her to a new family, and that we might not ever see her again. But, for some reason, I was OK with that. A sense of peace and calm washed over me as I felt that God was watching over her.

A few minutes later, the telephone rang. "Is this Mark Kelly?" said a voice. *Yes, it is.* "My name is Don Garner. Do you own a dog named Molly?" *Yes, I do.* "Well, I have her. She is fine—tired and wet—but she is OK. She is welcome to stay here until you can come and get her."

*How did you find her?* "I didn't. She found us. When I got home from work and got out of the car, I suddenly felt like I was being watched. You know that feeling you can get? Well, our garage is a separate building, not attached to the house, and there is a small space, maybe two or three feet, between our garage and our neighbor's garage. Well, I peered down the space between the two buildings, and, shoved way in the back and pressed up against the back fence, was Molly looking at me. She was shivering; she was pretty frightened, I guess. Anyway, I coaxed her out, brought her inside, and towed her off. She plunked down at my feet, and she has been sleeping ever since."

*How did you ever find me?* "Well, I tried the Massachusetts telephone number on her collar, but that number was disconnected. But, I work for the phone company, you see, so, using

some of my connections, I was able to trace you down here and get your New Orleans number. It didn't take too long."

Breathing a sigh of relief, I thanked him, wrote down his address, and then looked it up on a map. The realization of where she had journeyed and how far she had gone gave me goosebumps. Molly had traveled over four miles. Furthermore, she had crossed Metairie Road (similar to Briar Forest), Veterans Highway (similar to Westheimer around the Galleria area), and all eight lanes of I-10 before finally holing up at Mr. Garner's house—all during rush hour traffic and a driving thunderstorm.

God had, indeed, answered my prayers. Not only had He stayed with her to show her the way as she safely crossed all of those streets, but also He had shown her the way to the house of the one person who could help her get home—the man who worked for the phone company. I was overwhelmed with gratitude.

While driving over to retrieve her, several thoughts took shape:

- First, I understood that I had to let go of my own selfishness to get to the point where I was praying for the right thing.
- Second, I had to trust in Him that He would show Molly the way that was best for her, even if it meant she was never returned to us.
- Third, I had to have faith in her to follow the path that God had laid out for her.
- Finally, I had to have the patience to allow Him to show her the way in the time that she needed to follow that path.

When Sarah walked through the door after church, she was beaming. "Molly is back, isn't she? I knew it. I could feel it at church. Halfway through the service, I felt a great sense of peace about this. I knew she was OK." Hmmm . . . halfway through church . . . just about the time Mr. Garner called.

I learned something else that night. I learned that having faith isn't necessarily about getting what you want. It is about being shown a path to follow when we are lost and confused, and it is about seeing rays of light when we are in the dark.

Mark Kelly  
Interim Head of School

### **This Wednesday: Junior Parent College Information Meeting**

[[New Date!]] Join us for the Junior Parent College Information Meeting this Wednesday, September 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Nau Dining Hall (Student Life Center).

- We'll discuss junior-year expectations and the college admissions timeline, and we'll share other important information with parents of juniors.
- Students are not required to attend.

## **COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS: SCHEDULE AVAILABLE**

[Click here](#) to view the current list of scheduled college representative visits. Please note that more colleges will be added throughout the fall, and the updated list will be forwarded to parents as necessary.

## **Summer 2024 Travel Opportunities: Trip Details Now Available**

The St. Francis Travel Program offers Middle and Upper School students the opportunity to broaden their horizons, expand their minds, and embrace what it means to be global citizens through carefully curated learning adventures. In the next few weeks, you and your student will have the opportunity to learn more about these incredible trips from the faculty members who will be leading them. [Click here](#) for more information about the program, as well as for details about the trip offerings for Summer 2024.

## **Mum and Garter Sales Close Wednesday (+ Mum & Garter FAQ)**

Show your support for the Wolves at the big Homecoming game with a custom mum or garter! Both mums (\$100) and garters (\$75) can be personalized with the student's name, year, and/or sport.

- **What are mums and garters? Who are they for? [Click here for MUM AND GARTER FAQs!](#)**
- [Check out pictures here.](#)
- [Click here](#) to order by this Wednesday, September 13.
- All mums and garters will be delivered to students the week of Homecoming.
- Questions? Email [Charity Todd](#).

## **Homecoming Week Is September 25–29**

Homecoming Week is a celebration of school spirit from Monday, September 25, to Saturday, September 30. [Click here for details!](#)

## **US Grandparents and Grandfriends Day Is February 8**

Save the date! Upper School Grandparents and Grandfriends Day (for ninth and twelfth grades only) will take place on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at the lunch hour.

## **Walk-In Tech Support Available Daily**

Members of the St. Francis Technology Department are available each morning to help students resolve issues with accounts, devices, and key applications like Veracross, Google, and Outlook. **Walk-in tech support is available between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. in Room 226 on Couper Campus and Room A150 on Piney Point Campus.**

## Mark Your Calendar

### Monday, September 11

- *“B” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

### Tuesday, September 12

- *“A” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Balfour Rings Representative on Campus for Juniors: 11:50 a.m.–12:50 p.m. near the Student Life Center stairs*
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### Wednesday, September 13

- *“B” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
  - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Student Life Center*
  - *Junior Parent College Information Night: 6:30 p.m. in the Nau Dining Hall (Student Life Center); rescheduled from September 14 due to a parking conflict*
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### Thursday, September 14

- *“A” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

### Friday, September 15

- *“B” Day*
  - *SFES Spirit Dress: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms*
  - *Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Student Life Center*
  - *Camp Allen Retreat for Ninth Grade: 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.*
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## Monday, September 18

- *“A” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

## Tuesday, September 19

- *“B” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

## Wednesday, September 20

- *“A” Day*
  - *Dress Uniform*
  - *Honor Code Signing Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Student Life Center*
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## Thursday, September 21

- *“B” Day*
  - *Regular Uniform*
- 

## Friday, September 22

- *“A” Day*
- *SFES Spirit Dress: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms*
- *Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Student Life Center*

## Church

### **Moms’ Bible Study Resumes Wednesday**

- **What:** This fall, the Moms’ Bible Study will center around the First15 app, which lets you connect with God every day and explore different topics through daily devotions that feature Scripture reading, devotional thought, guided prayer, and action steps.

During weekly meetings, we will gather to discuss the theme of the week, reflect on the Scriptures, and pray. Download First15 for free from the App Store or Google Play.

- **When:** Wednesdays at 8:15 a.m., beginning September 13
- **Where:** Richmond House on the Couper Campus
- **For More Information:** To sign up or with questions, contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

### **First Communion Classes Begin Next Sunday**

Children in second grade and up are invited to attend First Communion Classes to prepare for receiving the Holy Eucharist.

- **Class Schedule:** 10:00 a.m. on the following Sundays: September 17, September 24, October 15, and October 22
- **Class Location:** School library
- **Parent Coffee:** Sunday, September 17, at 10:00 a.m.
- **Family Session:** Saturday, November 4, at 2:30 p.m.
- **First Communion Sunday:** Sunday, November 5, at 9:00 a.m.

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

### **Pizza and Bingo Night Is September 24**

Join us for fellowship, pizza, and bingo on Sunday, September 24, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center.

### **Blessing of the Animals Is October 1**

Bring your furry, feathered, or fishy pet friends to the school courtyard on Sunday, October 1, at 4:00 p.m. to receive a special blessing as we honor God and His amazing creation.

### **Join Us Each Sunday for Our Family-Focused Service and Events**

- **Sunday Family Worship Service:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Let It Shine Children's Bible Lesson:** On Sundays during the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service, join Mrs. Devlin to learn about the Bible as we act out Scripture with costumes and props and pray together.
- **Coffee, Donuts, and Crafts:** Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service), get a cup of coffee and enjoy fellowship while young children color, create an art project based on the lesson learned at Let it Shine, and have fun with friends.

### **Students, Join Us for Weekly Book Studies on Sundays**

On Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the cafeteria, join your friends for weekly meetings to talk about

some amazing, Biblically inspired stories. Books will be provided. Please contact [Allison Devlin](#) to sign up.

- **Grades 1–4:** *The Dead Sea Squirrels* by Mike Nawrocki
- **Grades 5–8:** *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis

### High School and Adult Volunteer Opportunities: Sign Up Now

This year, we are tracking and giving awards to high school students and adults for completing hours of service at St. Francis Episcopal Church.

- There will be a Gold Wolf Award for completing 50+ service hours, a Silver Rabbit Award for completing 25–49 service hours, and a Bronze Bird for completing 10–24 service hours. Award recipients will be recognized in May on Mother's Day.
- We need volunteers to help lead weekly book clubs and First Communion Classes, set up crafts and supervise kids on Sundays, and serve at events like Pizza and Bingo Night, the Blessing of the Animals, the Children's Christmas Party, and much more!
- To sign up, please [click here](#) or scan the QR code below with your mobile phone:



### 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](#).

### Healing Prayers and Anointings Available

Healing prayers and anointings are always available after Sunday Eucharist services, or you may schedule an appointment with a priest. For more information or to schedule an appointment, email [Sally Jo Flores](#) or call 832.325.2983.

## 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

### 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. (**The next meeting is September 12.**)
  - **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](#)

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** Ezra
  - **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](http://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.