

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of October 1

All School

Gala News: There's No Place Like a FLOCKED Home

Calling all St. Francis families—let's show our support for the 2024 Gala! Your kids will be elated when they get home from school to see their yard "flocked" with Wizard of Oz–themed signs and props. Join in the fun by taking a picture and tagging @StFrancisHouston on Instagram with #WolvesinOZ. There are limited spots available, so don't miss out!

- [Register here](#) through Friday, October 6, at noon.
- With questions, please email SFESYardFlocking@Gmail.com.

Spirit Wear Restocked! Shop October 4

Come shop the most popular styles from this year's Spirit Wear collection! The sale will be held on **Wednesday, October 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Piney Point Campus**. Toddler through adult sizing will be available.

Join Us Tuesday for the SFPO General Meeting

Catch up with the St. Francis Parents Organization (SFPO) on **Tuesday, October 3, at 8:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center** on Piney Point Campus. Open to all parents, this meeting is an opportunity to hear updates from SFPO committee chairs and learn how to get involved with the SFPO.

Sporting Clays Classic Is October 20—Register Today

Join us for a casual and fun day at the Greater Houston Sports Club on Friday, October 20! Our Sporting Clays Classic is open to the whole community, so family, friends, clients, and colleagues are all welcome. Purchase a team ticket for four guests or an individual ticket.

The registration fee includes entry, 12- and 20-gauge ammunition, targets, golf cart transportation, a light breakfast, and lunch. [Register here!](#)

Primary School

From the Assistant Head of School

As you receive your *Wolf Watch* today, our community is celebrating Episcopal School Sunday and the installation of Dr. Chelsea Pope Collins as our new Head of School. It's an important milestone in the life of the school.

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Be a steward of our Episcopal faith and identity while affirming all children as unique creations, celebrating their God-given purpose and passion.

Mr. Robert Pierce, Chair, Board of Trustees:

Lead with the school's cornerstones of faith, courage, dignity, and scholarship and ensure the school's continued legacy as a premier academic institution developing Houston's next generation of people for others.

Mrs. Mary Peña, Assistant Head of Lower School:

Champion lifelong learning and support faculty in nurturing the academic, spiritual, and social-emotional needs of students.

Miss Kate Spinelli, Student Body President, 2023–24:

Motivate and challenge students to discover our talents and interests so that we may grow—personally and intellectually—to be imaginative, critical thinkers and people for others.

Mrs. Rita Pace, President, St. Francis Parents Organization:

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If you haven't yet gotten to know our new Head of School, please make a point of doing so. She's a passionate educator and dynamic communicator who engages every child and adult with a smile. Her joyful and faith-filled heart is genuine. Dr. Collins is a visionary—and she's competitive! She doesn't settle for mediocrity. She expects the best, and she sets the same standard for herself. She is a dreamer—and a doer.

It's an exciting time to be at St. Francis. Along with our faculty and staff, it is an honor to work alongside Dr. Collins. The best days are ahead!

Blessings,

Amy Whitley, MA
Assistant Head of School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 2

- *Primary School Picture Day*
 - *Reggio Coffee and Conversations (Caffè e Conversazione):* 9:00 a.m. in the Primary School Library
 - *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, October 6
-

Thursday, October 5

- *Primary II Field Trip*
-

Friday, October 6

- *Primary I Blessing of the Stuffed Animals Chapel: Primary I parents may attend*
-

Monday, October 9

- *Fall Break: No school*
-

Tuesday, October 10

- *Chapel: Primary II parents may attend*
-

Wednesday, October 11

- *Chapel: Primary I parents may attend*
-

Monday, October 16

- *Open Library: 3:00 p.m.*
-

Tuesday, October 17

- *Chapel: Primary II parents may attend*
 - *Primary II Sings: Classes TBD*
-

Wednesday, October 18

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
-

Friday, October 20

- *Sporting Clays Classic:* At the Greater Houston Sports Club; [click here to register](#)
-

Monday, October 23

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, October 24

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
 - *Primary II Sings:* Classes TBD
-

Wednesday, October 25

- *Primary School Parent Conference Day:* Student holiday
-

Monday, October 30

- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, October 31

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, November 1

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend

Lower School

From the Assistant Head of School

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Walk-In Tech Support Available Daily

Does your student need tech support? Members of the St. Francis Technology Department are available each morning to help students resolve issues with accounts, devices, and key applications like 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.
- No appointment is needed.
- Please continue to send non-urgent tech support requests to ServiceDesk@StFrancisHouston.org.
- **For Veracross-related concerns or to request student records, please contact our system administrator/registrar, [DaleLynn Settle](#).**

Sign Up Now: Parent Lunches With Students Start Tomorrow

We're thrilled to let you know that, starting tomorrow—Monday, October 2—we will kick off our parent lunches with students! Please use the links below (also emailed this past week) to sign up for lunch with your child:

- [Kindergarten Parent Lunch Sign-up \(10:50 a.m.\)](#)
- [First Grade Parent Lunch Sign-up \(11:10 a.m.\)](#)
- [Second Grade Parent Lunch Sign-up \(11:35 a.m.\)](#)
- [Third Grade Parent Lunch Sign-up \(11:00 a.m.\)](#)
- [Fourth Grade Parent Lunch Sign-up \(11:20 a.m.\)](#)

GUIDELINES FOR LUNCH VISITORS

Due to space and safety concerns, lunch visitors are subject to important guidelines:

- All lunch visitors must follow established check-in/checkout procedures and will receive a name tag upon arrival, which must be worn at all times while on campus.
- Lunch visitors are asked to follow the dining procedures on pages 30–31 of our *Lower School Handbook*, as follows: *"Parent/guardian lunches for students in kindergarten through grade 4 will be scheduled from October through April using Veracross. (The link will be sent in September and will also be accessible via the Parent Portal.) Each family will be allotted three lunch dates within the school year. (Note: The lunch count is per family and not per child.) Please be aware that some dates may not be available due to previously scheduled events on campus. The school will limit the number of reservations per day to avoid congestion in the parking lot and within the school building."*
- **St. Francis uses Veracross for scheduling family lunch dates** to ensure efficient organization of highly attended dates when limited space is available.

Parents are encouraged to eat with their Lower School child at the tables along Main Street or at outdoor picnic tables in the Courtyard adjacent to the Fine Arts hallway. Students are not allowed to invite their friends to eat with their parents and them.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 2

- *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, October 3

- *Lower School Individual Student Photos*
-

Wednesday, October 4

- *Grades K–4 Eucharist Chapel and Fourth-Grade Blessing of the Animals*
 - 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.
-

Friday, October 6

- *Lower School Parent/Teacher Conferences:* Student holiday
-

Monday, October 9

- *Fall Break:* No school
-

Thursday, October 12

- *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, October 16

- *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, October 17

- *Fourth-Grade ERB Testing*
 - *LS Makeup Picture Day:* Only for students who were absent on the original date
-

Wednesday, October 18

- *Fourth-Grade ERB Testing*
-

Thursday, October 19

- *Fourth-Grade ERB Testing*
- *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.
-

Friday, October 20

- *Fourth-Grade ERB Testing*
- *Sporting Clays Classic: At the Greater Houston Sports Club; [click here to register](#)*

Middle School

From the Assistant Head of School

As you receive your *Wolf Watch* today, our community is celebrating Episcopal School Sunday and the installation of Dr. Chelsea Pope Collins as our new Head of School. It's an important milestone in the life of the school.

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Blessings,

Amy Whitley, MA
Assistant Head of School

Eighth-Grade Boston Trip: Parent Meeting Is October 10

The eighth-grade trip to Boston will take place Monday, October 23–Thursday, October 26. [Click here](#) to view the tentative itinerary.

- We will have a parent meeting on Tuesday, October 10, at 10:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room. The meeting will also be streamed live via Zoom.
- If you have any questions, please [email Marion Tolon](#).

MS Individual Picture Day Is Tomorrow

Individual picture day for Middle School is tomorrow—Monday, October 2—from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Please be sure your student wears the dress uniform.

Walk-In Tech Support Available Daily

Does your student need tech support? Members of the St. Francis Technology Department are available each morning to help students resolve issues with accounts, devices, and key applications like 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.
- No appointment is needed.
- Please continue to send non-urgent tech support requests to ServiceDesk@StFrancisHouston.org.
- **For Veracross-related concerns or to request student records, please contact our system administrator/registrar, [DaleLynn Settle](#).**

A Note About Community Service Hours

St. Francis Episcopal School recognizes and celebrates students who involve themselves in helping others. During the 2023–24 school year, **students in each grade level are required to complete a minimum number of service hours**, as follows:

- **Fifth Grade:** 10 hours
- **Sixth Grade:** 10 hours
- **Seventh Grade:** 15 hours
- **Eighth Grade:** 20 hours

At the Recognition and Awards Ceremony in the spring, **students in any grade level who have completed 20, 30, 50, or 100+ service hours during the school term will receive a certificate recognizing their achievements**. In addition, one graduating student will be recognized for exemplifying and representing the quality of being a “person for others.”

To submit your service hours, complete this [Community Service Hours Request Form](#) and drop it off in the Middle School Office or email it to [Kelly Murray](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 2

- *“A” Day*
- *Dress Uniform*
- *Individual Picture Day:* 8:00 a.m. to noon
- *Middle School Chapel:* 9:35 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
- *Eighth-Grade Boys Bible Study:* 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace

Tuesday, October 3

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Seventh-Grade Girls Bible Study:* 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace

Wednesday, October 4

- *“A” Day*
- *Dress Uniform*
- *MS Feast of St. Francis Eucharist Chapel: 9:35 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
- *Seventh-Grade Boys Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the Mac Lab*
- *Eighth-Grade Girls Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace*

Thursday, October 5

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Sixth-Grade Boys and Girls Bible Studies: 12:30 p.m.; boys and girls meet separately, in either the Mac Lab or the MakerSpace*

Friday, October 6

- *Parent/Student Conferences (No School):* To sign up for an October 6 conference, navigate to the Parent Portal. Look on the right side, and click the green notification that says “Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up.”

Monday, October 9

- *Fall Break:* No school

Tuesday, October 10

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Eighth-Grade Parent Meeting About Boston Trip: 10:30 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room; in person and via Zoom*
 - *Seventh-Grade Girls Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace*
-

Wednesday, October 11

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Seventh-Grade Boys Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the Mac Lab*
 - *Eighth-Grade Girls Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the MakerSpace*
-

Thursday, October 12

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Middle School Chapel: 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
 - *Fifth-Grade Boys and Girls Bible Studies: 12:30 p.m.; boys and girls meet separately, in either the Mac Lab or the MakerSpace*
-

Friday, October 13

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform or St. Francis Spirit Shirt and Jeans*

Upper School

From the Assistant Head of School

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Assistant Head of School

Sophomores and Juniors: Digital PSAT Setup Is Monday and Tuesday

This week during advisory, sophomores and juniors will access the Bluebook application that has been preloaded on their laptops and perform their exam setup for the Digital

PSAT. **Sophomores will perform the setup tomorrow—Monday, October 2—and juniors will perform the setup this Tuesday, October 3.** Technology Department staff will be on hand to help with any issues.

- **REQUIRED: Students MUST bring their FULLY CHARGED laptop along with the charging cord to successfully complete their exam setup.**
- **Please make sure the laptop has been updated** by following these steps:
 1. Plug in your computer.
 2. Run all system updates.
 3. Restart.
 4. Check to see if Bluebook software is installed.
- With questions, please [**email Director of College Counseling Claudia Mejia.**](#)

Walk-In Tech Support Available Daily

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- Please continue to send non-urgent tech support requests to [**ServiceDesk@StFrancisHouston.org.**](mailto:ServiceDesk@StFrancisHouston.org)
- **For Veracross-related concerns or to request student records, please contact our system administrator/registrar, [**DaleLynn Settle.**](#)**

The Social Institute: 'Strike a Balance'

During the month of September, the Upper School has successfully launched the #WinAtSocial platform in our advisories. At a time when students spend many hours a day on digital devices, and cyberbullying and reputation-damaging posts run rampant, this program equips students to make positive, healthy, and high-character choices that fuel their health, happiness, and future success.

In September, each grade ran a specific lesson that explored the social standard of “Strike a Balance.” Please click on your student’s grade link below for further information on the curriculum and for resources that will help you continue the conversation at home.

- [**Ninth Grade**](#)—Debating Tech Giants’ Newest Features and the Science of Screen Time
- [**Tenth Grade**](#)—Exchanging Our Favorite Productivity Hacks and Time-Savers to Start the Year Strong
- [**Eleventh Grade**](#)—Reimagining Mental Health and Preventing Burnout in Our School Community

- **Twelfth Grade**—Assessing Representation in the Latest Media We’re Consuming

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 2

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Tuesday, October 3

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Wednesday, October 4

- *“A” Day*
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Feast of St. Francis Eucharist Chapel:* Buses load at Couper Campus at 9:35 a.m. to head to St. Francis Episcopal Church
-

Thursday, October 5

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Hispanic Heritage Month Dance and Fashion Show:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym; hosted by JEDI Council
-

Friday, October 6

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences:* No school for students; please visit the Parent Portal for conference sign-ups
-

Monday, October 9

- *Fall Break*: No school
-

Tuesday, October 10

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

Wednesday, October 11

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel*: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Crum Gym
-

Thursday, October 12

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

Friday, October 13

- *"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 Crum Gym

Church

Outreach Ministries: New Opportunities Now Available!

For additional information about any of the following outreach opportunities, please contact the church's Director of Outreach [Heather Burkhart](#).

- **Lord of the Streets** needs weekday volunteers between 8:00 a.m. and noon to serve our homeless neighbors. Over 300 hot meals are served daily. St. Francis also collects men's clothes on an ongoing basis—men's shoes are always needed.
- **Memorial Assistance Ministries** has an urgent plea from the pantry team.
- The **Fair Haven Food Pantry** needs volunteers and non-perishable food donations.

Moms' Bible Study Meets Wednesday

- **What:** This fall, the Moms' Bible Study is centering 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 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.
- **Where:** Richmond House on the Couper Campus
- **For More Information or to Sign Up:** Contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

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:



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:** [George Hippard](#)
 - **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 October 10.**)
 - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
 - **Study:** The Book of Genesis (Life of Jacob)
 - **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:** Nehemiah
 - **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.