

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of November 12

All School

Construction Notice: Fondren Road/South Piney Point Road

The City of Houston has informed us that they will soon begin repairing the sanitation line between Fondren Road and South Piney Point Road. During this time, northbound access to Fondren Road will be restricted from Westheimer Road, and barricades at the southbound entrance to South Piney Point Road from Memorial Drive will limit traffic to neighborhood residents and businesses. As we learn more, we will share plans to help navigate traffic when traveling to Couper Campus.

Grandparents and Grandfriends Days Are This Week: We Need Your Assistance!

Grandparents and Grandfriends Days on Piney Point Campus are this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday—November 15, 16, and 17. We cannot wait to welcome all of our special guests!

This is a very busy time with many people coming and going, so we need your help to make it go as smoothly as possible. **Please assist us by adhering to the following guidelines:**

- **We ask that parents not attend alongside grandparents.**
- **Please do not visit campus on these days unless necessary.** We will be offering valet services on campus for grandparents and grandfriends all day on November 15, 16, and 17. They will need every available parking spot.
- Please remember that **St. Francis visitors are no longer permitted to park in the Ecclesia Church parking lot** or access its entry points.
- **For afternoon carpool, please do not arrive before 2:40 p.m.** We need to allow time for our guests to depart the parking lot.

Thank you for your support in making these days wonderful for our students and their special visitors!

Help Make Christmas Merry and Bright for Our St. Francis Teachers and Staff!

The St. Francis Parents Organization (SFPO) invites you to contribute to this year's SFPO Christmas Gift Fund as a way to show your appreciation to all those who teach, support, and love your children at St. Francis. **Please make your contribution by Friday, December 1.**

- This program has been very successful over the years due to the generosity of our parent community. Giving to the fund is the very best way to show your appreciation for the faculty and staff of St. Francis. A cash gift is at the top of every employee's Christmas wish list!
- As a reminder, the *School Handbook* asks that parents do not organize additional class gifts. The SFPO Christmas Gift Fund is distributed evenly to all employees, including teachers, staff, sextons, Dining Hall personnel, full-time security officers, and full- and part-time coaches.
- To make a contribution, please **click here**.

Tomorrow: Gala Reservations and Sign-up Parties Open

Gala reservations and sign-up parties will open tomorrow—Monday, November 13!

- **Reservations:** **Please read these instructions** about our new process this year. The **Online Reservation Form** will open at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow (November 13).
- **Winter Sign-up Parties:** **Click here for Winter Sign-up Parties**. Please Note: You will not be able to purchase a slot at any party until you register. Visit the site and click the "Get Started" button to create your account. When sales go live at 2:00 p.m. tomorrow (November 13), there will be a "Buy" button next to each party. **We encourage you to view the site and register BEFORE the 2:00 p.m. start time.** Additional information is available on the **Gala website**.

Help Us Serve Students Better! Please Take the Parent Technology Survey

The St. Francis Technology Department would like to better understand the technology ecosystem of our students outside of school. Please take **this at-home technology survey** to help us continue to plan for and serve student technology needs.

Are You Missing Something? Check the Lost & Found by November 17

The Lost & Found closet has been filling up quickly. Please remember to **label all items** that your student brings to school, including uniforms.

- We have a team of volunteers who organize the closet once a week, and items are separated by labeled and unlabeled. **We do our best to return labeled items to their owners.**

- Every four weeks, we donate unlabeled items that have not been claimed. This includes items from the main closet under the stairs and from the clothing rack located in the boys' locker room.
- **All unlabeled items will be donated or sent to uniform resale on Friday, November 17.**
- With questions, please [email Megan Meyer](#).

Join Us at Book Fair on November 29 & 30

We're going to have a blast at Book Fair on Wednesday, November 29, and Thursday, November 30!

WHEN WILL MY STUDENT VISIT THE BOOK FAIR?

All students in grades K–8 will have a designated time to visit the Book Fair on November 29 or 30. **Parents, grandparents, and special friends are invited to come shop with their student during their designated Book Fair time.**

- [Lower School Schedule to Visit Book Fair \(by Class\)](#)
- [Middle School Schedule to Visit Book Fair \(by Class\)](#) (Middle School students will visit with their English class.)

The Book Fair will also be open on November 29 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. and on November 30 from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. **We encourage our families with Primary School students to plan on visiting during these times.**

WHY SHOULD I CREATE AN eWALLET?

All parents of students in grades K–8 are encouraged to [create an “eWallet”](#) for their student(s) to facilitate shopping. **eWallets created last year can be easily reloaded/reactivated for this year.** This will do away with the need for kids to keep up with cash and will allow family and friends with a student's eWallet link to contribute to that student's Book Fair shopping funds. In addition to eWallets, cash, debit cards, and credit cards will be accepted.

HOW CAN I DONATE BOOKS TO TEACHERS?

For those shoppers wishing to donate a book to a teacher, each teacher will also be creating his or her own eWallet. Once these are set up, the unique URL link for each teacher will also be shared via *Wolf Watch* and will be available at the Book Fair for those wanting to make a donation.

HOW ARE BOOK FAIR PROCEEDS USED?

All Book Fair proceeds are used to purchase new books for the library.

New Explore and Extend Registration Portal Launches December 4

Beginning Monday, December 4, we will launch an exclusive registration portal for all things

Explore and Extend and School of Music. The new portal will facilitate registration for the following:

- Explore and Extend After-School Care
- Daily Drop-ins to Explore and Extend
- Enrichment Classes for Spring and Fall
- School of Music Lessons for Spring and Fall
- Summer on the Point Camps
- Parents' Night Out Events

Stay tuned for more details!

Spring Enrichment Classes: Registration Opens December 13

Mark your calendar! Registration for Explore and Extend Spring 2024 enrichment classes will launch on Wednesday, December 13, at 10:00 a.m. [Click here](#) for a sneak peak at the class list! The full schedule of classes will also be posted next week on the Explore & Extend web page.

Please note the following **changes to Explore and Extend, beginning this spring:**

- **The enrichment-class schedule on Piney Point Campus will include two time frames**—classes that begin at 2:45 p.m. and classes that begin at 3:45 p.m. The new schedule provides more choices for students who dismiss earlier in the afternoon and opens more spots for students at 3:45 p.m.
- On Couper Campus, we will be **adding enrichment classes for our Pre-Primary students**.
- Beginning January 1, 2024, **Explore and Extend drop-in rates will be as follows:**
 - \$35 per day until 4:30 p.m.
 - \$35 per day from enrichment-class dismissal until 6:00 p.m.
 - \$50 per day until 6:00 p.m.
- We will be offering **Homework Club for our Lower School students between dismissal and 4:00 p.m.** More details to come!

Next FoFA Meeting Is This Friday

Join us this Friday, November 17, at 8:30 a.m. for the next Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA) meeting, which will be held in the Advancement Conference Room of the Administration Building (9000 Westheimer Road).

Holiday Poinsettias Are Going Fast: Don't Miss Out!

Hurry—they're going fast! Support the fine arts at St. Francis and Friends of Fine Arts by purchasing beautiful holiday poinsettias grown by The Brookwood Community. [Order yours today](#), then plan to pick them up in the afternoon on Thursday, November 30, or in the

morning or afternoon on Friday, December 1, on Couper Campus. [Click here](#) for details and to purchase your poinsettias today!

Primary School

From the Assistant Division Head

Last week, our Primary II students visited the Piney Point Campus for their Step Forward day. They were so excited to visit the kindergarten classrooms and to see several important parts of the campus where they will attend school next year. Riding on the St. Francis bus was an added bonus!

The first stop on the tour was the Chapel, where our PII friends were excited to find Father Wismer. They had a chance to take a good look at the altar and to sit in the pews. Then they were off to the library, where Mrs. Stubbs shared an engaging story that had everyone chiming in throughout. Upon arriving in the kindergarten pod, students got to meet the kindergarten teachers, play an exciting game of Four Corners, and visit each kindergarten classroom.

While in the kindergarten pod, PII students discovered some parallels between their grade level and kindergarten. Here are just a few of the similarities they noticed:

- Both grade levels enjoy community times, including morning meetings and closing meetings. (These stem from the Responsive Classroom approach.)
- Their current PII Explorations look a lot like Kindergarten Creative Play—both allow students to explore engaging activities in different classrooms.
- Bridges in Mathematics in Lower School features a familiar daily Number Corner activity!

The visit concluded with time to play—which, as you might have guessed, was a highlight for many! Everyone was excited to receive a special sticker and a Wolfie cookie to commemorate the trip.

Thanks to Mr. Walker, Ms. Peña, and everyone else involved for welcoming our Primary II friends with open arms and giving them a peek at what's to come in kindergarten. It's always a special treat to connect with our Lower School friends.

Also, parents, remember that your Step Forward days are happening Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week. This will allow you to hear from the teachers your children will have next year and to gain insights into what to expect during the transition. The dates for each parent Step Forward event are as follows:

- **Pre-Primary to Primary I:** Monday, November 13, at 10:45 a.m.

- **Primary II to Kindergarten:** Tuesday, November 14, at 9:45 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room on Piney Point Campus (Please see the Paperless Post email for detailed parking information.)
- **Primary I to Primary II:** Wednesday, November 15, at 10:45 a.m.

Have a wonderful week!

Ashley Stephenson
Assistant Head of Primary School

Spirit Wear Pop-up During Lunch on the Lawn

The Spirit Store Committee will be hosting a pop-up sale at the Primary School during this week's Lunch on the Lawn events on Monday, November 13; Tuesday, November 14; and Wednesday, November 15. The sale will feature the Spirit Store's stock of Primary-sized items, as well as visors and youth-sized hats. All major credit cards and Apple Pay will be accepted.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, November 13

- *Pre-Primary Parent Step Forward:* 10:45 a.m.
- *Pre-Primary Lunch on the Lawn:* 11:00 a.m. at the playscapes
- *Spirit Store Pop-up Sale During Lunch on the Lawn*
- *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 14

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
- *Primary II Parent Step Forward:* 9:45 a.m. in the Hogan Board Room (Piney Point Campus)
- *Primary II Lunch on the Lawn:* 11:00 a.m. at the large playscape
- *Spirit Store Pop-up Sale During Lunch on the Lawn*

Wednesday, November 15

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
- *Primary I Parent Step Forward:* 10:45 a.m.
- *Primary I Lunch on the Lawn:* 11:00 a.m. at the large playscape

- *Spirit Store Pop-up Sale During Lunch on the Lawn*
-

Monday, November 20–Friday, November 24

- *Thanksgiving Break: No school*
-

Monday, November 27

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

Tuesday, November 28

- *Chapel: Primary II parents may attend*
-

Wednesday, November 29

- *Chapel: Primary I parents may attend*
 - *Book Fair in Crum Library (Piney Point Campus): Primary School families are encouraged to visit from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.*
-

Thursday, November 30

- *Book Fair in Crum Library (Piney Point Campus): Primary School families are encouraged to visit from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m.*
-

Monday, December 4

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

Tuesday, December 5

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, December 6

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
-

Monday, December 11

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

Tuesday, December 12

- *Chapel:* Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, December 13

- *Chapel:* Primary I parents may attend
-

Monday, December 18

- *Primary I Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
 - *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, December 19

- *Primary II Nativities and Parties*
 - 9:00 a.m.—Hughes
 - 10:00 a.m.—Wiener
 - 12:00 p.m.—Capasso
 - 1:00 p.m.—Owens

Wednesday, December 20

- *Primary I and Primary II Lessons and Carols Chapel:* No parents in Chapel—students only
- *Pre-Primary Christmas Parties:* 1:45 p.m.

Thursday, December 21

- *Early Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.*
- *No Explore and Extend*

Friday, December 22–Friday, January 5

- *Christmas Break:* No school

Lower School

From the Division Head

Our first trimester of the school year is almost complete, and we have many great events to look forward to as we finish the first half of the school year.

This week, we are hosting Grandparents and Grandfriends Days in the Lower School. We are excited to thank and celebrate our special and grand guests while they spend time with their grandchildren in the Chapel and other areas. Teachers and students have been hard at work planning fun activities, creating ways to share their learning, and exploring how to demonstrate what makes the St. Francis Lower School unique.

Please see the “Mark Your Calendar” section below for your child’s Grandparents and Grandfriends Day schedule.

Lower School’s Trimester 1 report cards will be available for viewing in the Parent Portal on Friday, November 17. Student portfolios will be sent home the same day so that your child may share his or her progress with you. Teachers have worked with students to select work and to reflect on what was learned in the process of completing the assignment.

Please plan to spend time with your child so that he or she can share the portfolio and reflections with you. Parents are also asked to reflect on the sheet provided with their child’s

portfolio. **All student portfolios and parent reflections should be returned to school by Monday, November 27.**

Thanks in advance for your support of this reflective process aimed at celebrating the learning that has happened and setting goals for the learning ahead.

Kind regards,

Clifton Walker, MEd
Head of Lower School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, November 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.
-

Wednesday, November 15

- *Grandparents and Grandfriends Day for Fourth Grade: 12:30–2:15 p.m.*
-

Thursday, November 16

- *Grandparents and Grandfriends Day for Third Grade: 8:45–10:30 a.m.*
 - *Grandparents and Grandfriends Day for Second Grade: 12:30–2:15 p.m.*
-

Friday, November 17

- *Trimester 1 Report Cards Released via Parent Portal*
 - *Grandparents and Grandfriends Day for First Grade: 8:45–10:30 a.m.*
 - *Grandparents and Grandfriends Day for Kindergarten: 12:30–2:15 p.m.*
-

Monday, November 20–Friday, November 24

- *Thanksgiving Break*: School closed
-

Monday, November 27

- *Deadline to Return Student Portfolios and Parent Reflections*
 - *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.
-

Wednesday, November 29

- *Book Fair in Crum Library*: [View the LS Book Fair Visitation Schedule \(by Class\)](#)
-

Thursday, November 30

- *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.
 - *Book Fair in Crum Library*: [View the LS Book Fair Visitation Schedule \(by Class\)](#)
-

Friday, December 1

- *St. Nicholas Toy Ingathering With Santa*: Student-only event
-

Monday, December 4

- *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, December 5

- *Kindergarten Christmas Concert*: 9:00–9:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center
-

Thursday, December 7

- *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.

Middle School

From the Eighth-Grade Dean

Our eighth graders recently had an opportunity to spend four days in the “Birthplace of the American Revolution” (as many people from Boston consider their hometown). From historical events to interdisciplinary activities to team-building exercises, the students were able to experience many new adventures throughout their time in Boston.

BOSTON TRIP: DAY 1

We started the trip with a journey to the USS *Constitution*, learning about the glory of “Old Ironsides” during the ship’s time in the War of 1812. From there, students walked along Freedom Trail, following the history of Revolutionary-era Boston to the Bunker Hill Monument, where they learned about the impact of the first battle of the American Revolution. After a long day of travel, the students relaxed with some quality time together as they bowled, ate pizza, and played pool.

BOSTON TRIP: DAY 2

On the second day, students visited the Museum of Science, Boston, where they were able to see how their science and math studies apply to real-world scenarios. They experienced the wonders of electricity and Tesla coils, the future of artificial intelligence, the beauty of geometric figures and patterns, and the physics of a playground.

Students then embarked on a Boston Duck Tour (quack, quack!), where they learned about the city’s history while taking in important sights such as Trinity Church, Faneuil Hall, and ducklings Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Ouack, Pack, and Quack. We then toured the beautiful red-brick campus of Harvard University, got an authentic cannoli in Little Italy, and ended the day with a trip to the Paul Revere House.

BOSTON TRIP: DAY 3

Day 3 gave the students a head start on Native American Heritage Month as they toured the Plimoth Patuxet Museums and experienced true indigenous peoples’ culture by learning

about the Wampanoag Native Americans. We were able to speak with a member of the Wampanoag tribe about his life and his passion for his rich ancestry, including the pride he felt for a member of his tribe, Chef Sherry Pocknett, who was the first indigenous woman to win a James Beard Award. At this living history museum, students were also introduced to actors who portrayed life as it would have been for some of the first settlers to New England, including seeing the dreary and cramped conditions they would have experienced on the Mayflower.

Later, students got a behind-the-scenes tour of the oldest professional baseball field, Fenway Park. Many of our avid baseball fans were ecstatic to be in such a historic stadium, where they could learn how the field had grown and changed over the years to fit the needs of the community.

We ended the night with a wonderful performance of *Disney's Frozen: The Musical*—and you better believe that some of our students were struggling to not sing along!

BOSTON TRIP: DAY 4

Our last day included a final delve into American history with a trip to Lexington and Concord to see the actual trail that Paul Revere, the minutemen, and the militia traveled during the first battle of the American Revolution. Students put themselves in the shoes of the Sons of Liberty, reenacting the town hall meeting (huzzah!) where they ultimately decided to throw tea into Boston Harbor in an act that would later become known as the Boston Tea Party. Our last adventure was a visit to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, where students learned about some of the most historic events of the 20th century and the impact that JFK had on our world.

Our eighth graders returned late at night, exhausted but fulfilled by their experiences learning about our history, building our community, and spending time in the wonderful city that is Boston.

Sincerely,

Matthew King
Eighth-Grade Dean of Students

Last Call! Sign Up for Summer Travel by This Wednesday

The deadline to sign up for summer trips with the St. Francis Travel Program is fast approaching! Students must register by this Wednesday, November 15. [**Click here for details on the June 2024 trips to Costa Rica, Spain/France, and Washington, DC.**](#)

The Social Institute: 'Handle the Pressure'

During the last week, each advisory group ran a specific Social Institute lesson on the topic of "Handle the Pressure," considering and exploring adaptive ways to manage stress and

challenges. 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.

- [Grade 5: "Controlling the Controllable, From Our Texts to Our Breaths"](#)
- [Grade 6: "Overcoming FOMO on Texts, Apps, and Time With Friends"](#)
- [Grade 7: "Navigating Shifts in Our Friendships"](#)
- [Grade 8: "Exploring the Link Between Social Media, Gaming Avatars, and Body Image"](#)

Celebrate Your Eighth Grader With a Yearbook Ad

You are invited to purchase a student recognition ad in the 2023–24 edition of *The Howler*, St. Francis's yearbook. Yearbook ads are a great way to commemorate your eighth grader's experiences at St. Francis and to celebrate their accomplishments and contributions to special teams or clubs. Parents will design and pay for recognition ads through the Jostens platform. [Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to view the flyer.

Note On Early Pickup for Students in Grades 6–8

If you are planning on picking up your sixth-, seventh-, or eighth-grade student after 2:35 p.m., you will need to go to Athletics and sign them out.

- If your student plays a sport, you will need to email the coach ahead of time and then walk to the coach and sign them out.
- If your student is in PE, you will need to sign them out with the PE instructor in the OAC or gym.
- For teams on Piney Point Campus, please remember that parking at Ecclesia is not allowed. Instead, park at the front of the school and enter through the Courtyard to go to the fields or gyms.
- Please [email Kelly Murray](#) with any questions.

Submit Fall Sports Photos for the Yearbook

The Yearbook needs your fall sports photos! [Click here to submit photos](#). With questions, please [email Monica Gutierrez](#), yearbook advisor.

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, November 13

- *“A” Day*
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Trimester Two Begins*
 - *Middle School ERB Testing*
 - 8:00 a.m. start time
 - 7:45 a.m. start time for students with extended time
 - *Middle School Chapel:* 10:30 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
-

Tuesday, November 14

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

Wednesday, November 15

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Grandparents and Grandparents Day for Grades 6 & 8:* 8:45–10:25 a.m.
 - *Seventh-Grade Boys Bible Study:* 12:35 p.m. in the Mac Lab
-

Thursday, November 16

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Middle School Chapel:* 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

Friday, November 17

- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Uniform or St. Francis Spirit Shirt and Jeans*
- *Clubs C1*
- *Trimester 1 Report Cards Released at 4:30 p.m.*

Monday, November 20–Friday, November 24

- *Thanksgiving Break: School closed*

Monday, November 27

- *“B” Day*
- *Dress Uniform*
- *Middle School Chapel: 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*

Tuesday, November 28

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

Wednesday, November 29

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Book Fair in Crum Library: [View the MS Book Fair Visitation Schedule \(by Class\)](#)*
- *Seventh-Grade Boys Bible Study: 12:05 p.m. in the Mac Lab*

Thursday, November 30

- *“A” Day*

- *Regular Uniform*
 - *Book Fair in Crum Library: [View the MS Book Fair Visitation Schedule \(by Class\)](#)*
 - *Middle School Chapel: 9:55 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary*
 - *Sixth-Grade Boys and Girls Bible Study: 12:30 p.m.; boys and girls meet separately, in either the Mac Lab or the MakerSpace*
-

Friday, December 1

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform or St. Francis Spirit Shirt and Jeans*
- *Clubs C2*

Upper School

From the Division Head

We have just been informed that the St. Francis Upper School has earned Silver recognition on the 2023 Advanced Placement (AP) School Honor Roll. Before placing us on the Silver Honor Roll, the College Board reviewed the number of students in St. Francis’s AP program, analyzed our AP scores, and reviewed the number of AP classes taken by each student.

In addition to receiving Silver recognition, the St. Francis Upper School has been awarded the AP Access Award. The AP Access Award recognizes our school’s efforts to provide AP opportunities to all students, including those in underrepresented populations.

Both of these achievements are significant for our school, especially considering that we are only in our third year of offering Advanced Placement classes. Congratulations to St. Francis’s teachers and students!

Warmly,

Mark Kelly
Interim Head of School

The Social Institute: 'Handle the Pressure'

In the past week, each advisory group ran a specific Social Institute lesson on the topic of “Handle the Pressure,” considering and exploring adaptive ways to manage stress and challenges. 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.

- [Grade 9: “Handling the Pressure of Representing Something Much Bigger Than Yourself”](#)
- [Grade 10: “Examining the Impact of Stress on Your Secret Superpower: Sleep”](#)
- [Grade 11: “Managing External and Internal Pressures as We Choose a Path After High School”](#)
- [Grade 12: “Harness Your Latest Failures and Missteps to Fuel Future Success”](#)

Reminder: College Family Night for Grades 9 & 10 Is December 5

Ninth- and tenth-grade students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to attend College Family Night on Tuesday, December 5, at 6:30 p.m. in Crum Gym. Come learn more about college admissions and how underclassmen can prepare for their future! The event will be led by Director of College Counseling Claudia Mejia, along with college admissions professionals.

Last Call! Sign Up for Summer Travel by This Wednesday

The deadline to sign up for summer trips with the St. Francis Travel Program is fast approaching! Students must register by this Wednesday, November 15. [Click here to view details of the Japan and Spain/France trips in June 2024.](#)

Celebrate Your Senior With a Yearbook Ad!

Parents of seniors, celebrate your student’s accomplishments and achievements with a Yearbook Student Recognition Ad! [Click here to view the parent letter](#), and [click here to view the ad flyer](#).

Submit Your Fall Sports Photos for the Yearbook

The Yearbook needs your fall sports photos! [Click here to submit photos](#). With questions, please [email Monica Gutierrez](#), yearbook advisor.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, November 13

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Trimester 2 Begins*
 - *Add/Drop Period for Trimester 2 Electives*
-

Tuesday, November 14

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Add/Drop Period for Trimester 2 Electives*
-

Wednesday, November 15

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym*
 - *Add/Drop Period for Trimester 2 Electives*
-

Thursday, November 16

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Add/Drop Period for Trimester 2 Electives*
-

Friday, November 17

- *“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 Crum Gym*
 - *Add/Drop Period for Trimester 2 Electives*
-

Monday, November 20–Friday, November 24

- *Thanksgiving Break: School closed*

Church

Confirmation Class Fundraiser: Christmas Cards for LOTS

This year's Confirmation Class will continue a longtime group tradition for their Christmas outreach project benefitting individuals at Lord of the Streets (LOTS).

- The class will be selling Christmas cards before and after Sunday services on November 19, November 26, and December 10.
- You may also purchase the cards at any time in the church office or by emailing [Cindy Huteson](#).
- 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!

Children's Christmas Party Is December 2

Join us for the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 2, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bring your family to enjoy a visit from Santa Claus and his elves, reindeer games, face painting, balloon art, Christmas crafts, hot chocolate, cookies, and . . . REAL SNOW!

- Rain boots/water-friendly shoes are recommended.
- Come in through the main school entrance and elves will guide you to the snow and fun!
- If you would like to help, [click here to volunteer](#).

Make an Advent Wreath on December 3

On Sunday, December 3, stay after the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service to participate in the treasured St. Francis tradition of making an Advent wreath for your home!

- We gather 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.
- If you would like to help, [click here to volunteer](#).

Outreach Ministries: Opportunities to Serve

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.

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](mailto:SallyJoFlores@stfrancis.org) 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](http://www.stfrancis.org).

Bible Studies at St. Francis

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Articles of Religion
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](mailto:DavidPrice@stfrancis.org)
 - **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 November 14.**)
 - **Study:** The Book of Genesis (Life of Jacob)
 - **Location:** [The Corner Bakery](http://www.thecornerbakery.com) (9311 Katy Fwy.), breakfast included
 - **Contact:** [Sally Jo Flores](mailto:SallyJoFlores@stfrancis.org)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Women of the Old Testament
 - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](mailto:LouiseRichman@stfrancis.org)
 - **Location:** Via Zoom (Contact Louise for additional information.)

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Nehemiah
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](mailto:GeorgeHippard@stfrancis.org)

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://www.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.