

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of October 6

All School

This Week's Bible Verse: 'Not to Be Served, But to Serve'

For the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. —Mark 10:45

This Week: Check Backpacks for Festival Merchandise

Festival merchandise will be coming home in backpacks this week:

- Seventh-grade students' bags will be coming home tomorrow—Monday, October 7—BEFORE they leave for their Outdoor Learning Experience (OLE).
- All other Festival merchandise will be in backpacks this Tuesday, October 8.

Please be sure to check your student's backpack!

Help Us Celebrate Traditional Dress of Hispanic Cultures

We're excited to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with our Lower and Middle School students on Wednesday, October 16! To make this event special, we're organizing a vibrant fashion show highlighting the rich traditions of Latin American countries.

If you or someone in your family has traditional clothing from any of these countries that you'd be willing to share, we'd love your help! It's a wonderful way to showcase our diverse heritage and foster appreciation for different cultures.

Please reach out to Liz Ward via [email](#) if you can contribute.

Primary School

Tomorrow: Primary School Hearing and Vision Screenings

St. Francis will be offering hearing and vision screenings for **students who have turned four years old by September 1, 2024**. Screenings will be provided by Pine Woods Screening Services (PWSS) tomorrow—**Monday, October 7**. [Click here](#) to read the letter from PWSS.

Here's what else you need to know:

- State-certified screeners will conduct the screenings during school hours.
- A copy of the results will be provided for school files. Students who have not passed a screening will receive a referral form for follow-up with a physician or specialist.
- Students who wear glasses should bring them to school.
- We do not refer to the screening as a “test.” Please help us by doing the same. The teachers will explain the process to our students, who will discover that they are playing two games with the screeners.
- Screenings are nondiagnostic and are not intended to be an equal alternative to an in-depth exam by a licensed physician or specialist.
- If you have any questions, please contact School Nurse Abigayle Harrington via [email](#) or at 713.458.6167.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 7

- *PS Hearing and Vision Screening (Students Only):* For Primary I and Primary II students who turned 4 by September 1
 - *Open Library:* 3:00 p.m.
-

Tuesday, October 8

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents are invited to attend
-

Wednesday, October 9

- *Blessing of the Stuffed Animals Chapel for Primary I:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents are invited to attend
-

Thursday, October 10

- *Primary II Field Trip*
-

Friday, October 11–Monday, October 14

- *Fall Break: No school*
-

Tuesday, October 15

- *Primary II Sings in Chapel (Capasso/Wiener): 9:30 a.m.;* Primary II parents with students in these classes are invited to attend
-

Wednesday, October 16

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.;* Primary I parents are invited to attend
-

Sunday, October 20

- *Episcopal Schools Sunday*
 - *St. Francis Festival*
-

Monday, October 21

- *Late-Start Day/No Early Birds:* Carpool starts at 9:30 a.m.

Lower School

This Week: Lower School Hearing and Vision Screenings

Lower School hearing and vision screenings are this Tuesday, October 8, with makeup screenings this Wednesday, October 9. **This is for ALL students in kindergarten, first grade, and third grade, and for any NEW second and fourth graders.** Screenings will be provided by Pine Woods Screening Services (PWSS). [Click here](#) to read the letter from PWSS.

Here's what else you need to know:

- State-certified screeners will conduct the screenings during school hours.
- If your child has had any problems we should be aware of, please send a note with them.
- A copy of the results will be provided for school files. Students who have not passed a screening will receive a referral form for follow-up with a physician or specialist.
- Students who wear glasses or contacts should bring them to school.
- Screenings are nondiagnostic and are not intended to be an equal alternative to an in-depth exam by a licensed physician or specialist. If you have concerns about your child, do not hesitate to take them to your personal physician or specialist for evaluation.
- If you have any questions, please contact School Nurse Fay Gant, RN, via [email](#) or at 713.458.6128.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 7

- *Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.
-

Tuesday, October 8

- *LS Hearing and Vision Screenings:* 8:15 a.m.–3:05 p.m. for **all** kindergarteners, first graders (in the Kindergarten Pod), and third graders (in the HBR), and for **new** second and fourth graders (in the HBR)
-

Wednesday, October 9

- *LS Hearing and Vision Screening Makeups:* 8:30–9:20 a.m. in the HBR
-

Thursday, October 10

- *Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.
-

Friday, October 11–Monday, October 14

- *Fall Break:* No school
-

Wednesday, October 16

- *LS Hispanic Heritage Month Program:* 9:40–10:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center
-

Thursday, October 17

- *Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.
-

Friday, October 18

- *LS Pep Rally for Festival:* 2:10–2:40 p.m. in the Piney Point Gym; **students only**
-

Sunday, October 20

- *Episcopal Schools Sunday*
 - *St. Francis Festival*
-

Monday, October 21

- *Late-Start Day:* Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.

Middle School

Grades 5–7: OLE Trip Information

This week, Middle School students in fifth, sixth, and seventh grades will be traveling to Camp Olympia for their Outdoor Learning Experience (OLE) field trip. Emails were sent on Thursday, October 3, with packing lists and more specific travel information.

FIFTH GRADE

- **Departs:** Thursday, October 10, at 7:45 a.m. (Drop students off at 7:15 a.m. Students will gather in the Fine Arts Center before they board the bus.)
- **Returns:** Thursday, October 10, at 6:30 p.m.

SIXTH GRADE

- **Departs:** Wednesday, October 9, at 7:45 a.m. (Drop students off at 7:15 a.m. Students will gather in the Fine Arts Center before they board the bus.)
- **Returns:** Thursday, October 10, at 2:00 p.m. (Pick up in MDPC Lot A.)

SEVENTH GRADE

- **Departs:** Tuesday, October 8, at 7:45 a.m. (Drop students off at 7:15 a.m. Students will gather in the Fine Arts Center before they board the bus.)
- **Returns:** Thursday, October 10, at 2:00 p.m. (Pick up in Couper Campus East Lot for all students except football players on the 7/8 football team. Those players will be transported to River Oaks Baptist School for their game.)

Important Festival News: Check Backpacks for Merch + Student Service Hours Available

THIS WEEK: CHECK BACKPACKS FOR FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE

Festival merchandise will be coming home in backpacks this week!

- Seventh-grade students' bags will be coming home tomorrow—Monday, October 7—BEFORE they leave for their Outdoor Learning Experience (OLE).
- All other Festival merchandise will be in backpacks this Tuesday, October 8.

Please be sure to check your student's backpack!

STUDENTS, EARN SERVICE HOURS AT FESTIVAL!

Middle School students, if you would like to earn St. Francis Service Hours by volunteering at Festival, please sign up [here](#) to work a shift with one of your parents or another adult chaperone.

Coming Soon: Hearing and Vision Screenings for MS Students

Middle School hearing and vision screenings are this **Wednesday, October 9, for fifth graders and for NEW students in eighth grade.** (Please note that **seventh graders will be screened on Friday, October 18.**) Screenings will be provided by Pine Woods Screening Services (PWSS). [Click here](#) to read the letter from PWSS.

Here's what else you need to know:

- State-certified screeners will conduct the screenings during school hours.
- If your child has had any problems we should be aware of, please send a note with them.
- A copy of the results will be provided for school files. Students who have not passed a screening will receive a referral form for follow-up with a physician or specialist.
- Students who wear glasses or contacts should bring them to school.
- Screenings are nondiagnostic and are not intended to be an equal alternative to an in-depth exam by a licensed physician or specialist. If you have concerns about your child, do not hesitate to take them to your personal physician or specialist for evaluation.
- If you have any questions, please contact School Nurse Fay Gant, RN, via [email](#) or at 713.458.6128.

This Week: Parent Meeting for Costa Rica Trip + Recordings Available

Liz Ward will be hosting a Parent Information Session via Zoom for the rising eighth-grade trip to Costa Rica tomorrow—Monday, October 7. See below for details and the Zoom link. Links to recordings of the Parent Information Sessions for trips to Washington, DC; Europe; and Yellowstone are also below. With questions, please contact Ted Lakoski, Director of Experiential Travel, at 713.458.6157 or via [email](#).

- ***Yellowstone National Park and the Tetons***
 - **Who:** Rising/re-enrolled seventh graders
 - **Date:** June 16–20, 2025
 - **Trip Leader:** Dr. Eric Lloyd
 - **Trip Information and Application:**
 - [Trip Details and Registration Information](#)
 - [Required St. Francis Travel Application \(To Be Printed\)](#)
 - **Parent Information Session:** [Click here](#) to watch the recording.
- ***Washington, DC***
 - **Who:** Rising/re-enrolled sixth graders
 - **Date:** June 1–5, 2025
 - **Trip Leader:** Maria Cruzalegui
 - **Trip Information and Application:**
 - [Trip Details and Registration Information](#)
 - [Required St. Francis Travel Application \(To Be Printed\)](#)
 - **Parent Information Session:** [Click here](#) to watch the recording.
- ***Costa Rica***
 - **Who:** Rising/re-enrolled eighth graders
 - **Date:** June 1–14, 2025
 - **Trip Leader:** Liz Ward
 - **Trip Information and Application:**
 - [Tentative Itinerary](#)
 - [Required St. Francis Travel Application \(To Be Printed\)](#)
 - **Parent Information Session via Zoom:**

- **Date:** Monday, October 7, at 12:15 p.m. (A recording of this session will be made available in *Wolf Watch*.)
- [Zoom Link for Parent Information Session](#)
Meeting ID: 871 836 5147
Passcode: Wolves21
- **Europe**
 - **Where:** London, Paris, Italy, Lucerne, and more!
 - **Who:** Rising/re-enrolled Upper School students (rising grades 9–12)
 - **Date:** June 2–13, 2025
 - **Trip Leader:** Ted Lakoski, assisted by Marion Tolon (Coach T)
 - **Trip Information and Application:**
 - [Trip Details and Registration Information](#)
 - [Required St. Francis Travel Application \(To Be Printed\)](#)
 - **Parent Information Session:** [Click here](#) to watch the recording.

A Note About Community Service Hours

St. Francis Episcopal School recognizes and celebrates students who involve themselves in helping others. During the 2024–25 school year, students in each grade level are required to participate in completing a minimum number of service hours, as follows:

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

To submit your service hours, complete the [Community Service Hours Request Form](#) and drop it off in the Middle School Office or email a PDF to [Sarah Flores](#). **The deadline to submit volunteer hours for the 2024-25 school year is Friday, May 2, 2025.**

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 7

- *“B” Day*
- *Dress Uniform*
- *Regular Class Schedule*
- *MS Chapel: 9:50–10:20 a.m.*

Tuesday, October 8

- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*

- *Regular Class Schedule*
 - *Grade 7 Leaves for OLE Field Trip: 7:45 a.m.; drop students off at 7:15 a.m.; students will gather in the FAC prior to boarding bus*
-

Wednesday, October 9

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
 - *Grade 6 Leaves for OLE Field Trip: 7:45 a.m.; drop students off at 7:15 a.m.; students will gather in the FAC prior to boarding bus*
-

Thursday, October 10

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
 - *Grade 5 OLE Field Trip*
 - **Departure:** 7:45 a.m.; drop students off at 7:15 a.m.; students will gather in the FAC prior to boarding bus
 - **Return:** 6:30 p.m.
 - *Grade 6 Returns From OLE Field Trip: 2:00 p.m.; pick up in MDPC Lot A*
 - *Grade 7 Returns From OLE Field Trip: 2:00 p.m.; pick up in Couper Campus East Lot for all students except football players on the 7/8 football team—those players will be transported to River Oaks Baptist School for their game*
-

Friday, October 11–Monday, October 14

- *Fall Break: No school*
-

Tuesday, October 15

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
-

Wednesday, October 16

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Special Schedule*
 - *Hispanic Heritage Program: 9:40–10:30 a.m.*
-

Thursday, October 17

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
 - *MS Chapel: 9:50–10:20 a.m.*
-

Friday, October 18

- *“A” Day*
- *St. Francis Spirit Wear: St. Francis Spirit tops with full-length blue jeans or uniform bottoms*
- *Regular Class Schedule*

Upper School

Almost Time for Upper School Musical Auditions!

The Upper School is thrilled to announce auditions for the upcoming spring musical, *High School Musical!* Check out the [audition announcement](#) for the what, when, and where.

Important Festival News: Check Backpacks for Merch + 2-for-1 Student Service Hours Available

THIS WEEK: CHECK BACKPACKS FOR FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE

Festival merchandise will be coming home in backpacks this Tuesday, October 8. Please be sure to check your student's backpack!

STUDENTS, EARN 2-FOR-1 SERVICE HOURS AT FESTIVAL!

Upper School students, sign up [here](#) to volunteer at Festival, and earn two service hours for every one hour served!

Tomorrow: Hearing and Vision Screening for New US Students

Upper School hearing and vision screenings are tomorrow—Monday, October 7. These are for any **NEW** Upper School students. Screenings will be provided by Pine Woods Screening Services (PWSS). [Click here](#) to read the letter from PWSS.

Here's what else you need to know:

- State-certified screeners will conduct the screenings during school hours.
- If your child has had any problems we should be aware of, please send a note with them.
- A copy of the results will be provided for school files. Students who have not passed a screening will receive a referral form for follow-up with a physician or specialist.
- Students who wear glasses or contacts should bring them to school.
- Screenings are nondiagnostic and are not intended to be an equal alternative to an in-depth exam by a licensed physician or specialist. If you have concerns about your child, do not hesitate to take them to your personal physician or specialist for evaluation.
- If you have any questions, please contact School Nurse Madeleine Tiemann, RN, via [email](#) or at 713.458.6167.

Grades 10 and 11: How to Prepare for PSAT/NMSQT on October 16

Tenth- and eleventh-grade students have successfully completed their exam setup and can prepare for the PSAT/ NMSQT on the Bluebook application on their St. Francis laptop.

The PSAT/NMSQT will be held on **Wednesday, October 16**. Please note the following:

- Exam Arrival Time: 8:00 a.m.
- Exam Start Time: 8:30 a.m.
- Exam End Time(s): 12:00 p.m. (standard testing) or 1:00 p.m. (testing with accommodations)

How to be ready on exam day:

- Restart and update your laptop the night before.
- Bring your fully charged, St. Francis–supported laptop and laptop charger.
- Bring your calculator. (Review the SAT Calculator Policy [here](#).)

With questions, please [email Claudia Mejia](#), Director of College Counseling.

Grades 10–12: Upcoming College Representative Visits

College representatives visit our school each fall. Students in grades 10–12 can view the list of visiting colleges via their Scoir accounts. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are encouraged to attend these informational meetings with college representatives to learn more about different colleges, major programs, and personal goals.

- College representatives visit during the advisory period.
- [View the list of upcoming college representative visits.](#)
- For further information, please contact [Claudia Mejia](#), Director of College Counseling.

Europe Trip in Summer 2025: Parent Info Recording Available

This summer, St. Francis is offering our Upper School students the trip of a lifetime, visiting amazing sites in England, France, Italy, and Switzerland. For more information, please watch the recorded information session (link below) or reach out to Ted Lakoski, Director of Experiential Travel, at 713.458.6157 or via [email](#).

- **Where:** London, Paris, Italy, Lucerne, and more!
- **Who:** Rising/re-enrolled Upper School students (rising grades 9–12)
- **Date:** June 2–13, 2025
- **Trip Leader:** Ted Lakoski, assisted by Marion Tolon (Coach T)
- **Trip Information and Application:**
 - [View Trip Details and Registration Information](#)
 - [Required St. Francis Travel Application \(To Be Printed\)](#)
- **Parent Information Session:** [Click here](#) to watch the recording.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 7

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Hearing and Vision Screenings (New Students Only): 11:00 a.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Tuesday, October 8

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

Wednesday, October 9

- *“B” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Thursday, October 10

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, October 11–Monday, October 14

- *Fall Break: School closed*
 - *Midpoint of Semester One*
-

Tuesday, October 15

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

Wednesday, October 16

- *Half Day/Special Schedule Due to PSAT/NMSQT Testing*
 - *Grades 9 & 12: Community service*
 - *Grades 10 & 11: PSAT/NMSQT testing*
-

Thursday, October 17

- *“A” Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Fentanyl Awareness: 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Friday, October 18

- *“B” Day*
 - *SFES Spirit Dress: Wear a St. Francis Spirit shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms*
 - *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym*
-

Sunday, October 20

- *Episcopal Schools Sunday*
- *St. Francis Festival*

Church

Wednesdays: Women's Bible Study and Fellowship

Women of all ages and life stages are invited to join us for Women's Bible Study and Fellowship every Wednesday through November. Join us for a Bible study on the Gospel of John at 9:30–11:00 a.m. in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall. For more information or to sign up, [email Allison Devlin](#).

This Afternoon: Blessing of the Animals

Join us today at 4:00 p.m. in the school's Courtyard for St. Francis's annual Blessing of the Animals. Along with blessings and pictures, bring a donation for Citizens for Animal Protection (CAPS). Representatives from a local veterinary clinic will be in attendance to answer your pet-related questions.

October 13: Book Study—'How to Know a Person'

Fr. David Price will lead a book study on the bestseller *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen* on four consecutive Sundays—October 13, October 20, October 27, and November 3.

- Author David Brooks, an op-ed columnist for *The New York Times* and writer for *The Atlantic*, draws from many fields to present a hopeful, integrated approach to human connection. Consider purchasing your own copy, reading, and joining in.
- Discussions will take place at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Office Conference Room.
- For more information, please [email Fr. Price](#).

October 13: Introduction to St. Francis

Join Fr. Bates for an introduction to St. Francis Episcopal Church on Sunday, October 13, or Sunday, November 3. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the new library near the Wheatcroft Parish Hall and nursery. Parents, you are welcome to leave your children in the nursery. This is a great opportunity for new or prospective members to get to know SFEC and Fr. Bates as he gives an overview of our mission, ministry, and programs. [RSVP to Julie Lowery](#)—or just stop in, and we'll happily welcome you!

October 20–27: Kitty's Coat Drive

The annual Kitty Elliott Coat Drive for Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) starts Sunday, October 20, and will continue through Sunday, October 27. The annual children's coat drive

supports MAM by collecting new and used coats so they are available to children in Spring Branch Independent School District before the cold temperatures hit.

- A collection area will be set up in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Narthex. Please bring your new or gently used coat donations (in children's and youth sizes) to church on these Sundays or to the church office while the coat drive is running.
- Sorting of coats takes place on Tuesday, November 5, in CH209, and your help would be much appreciated. For more information, please [email Jeb Burkhart](#).

Join Us Each Sunday for Worship and Family-Focused 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 and Donuts:** Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service), get a cup of coffee and enjoy a time of fellowship.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II Traditional Service With Choral Music:** 11:00 a.m.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite I Service:** 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the St. Clare Chapel

Join Us for Lower and Middle School Book Clubs

On Sundays after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service, Lower and Middle School students are invited to join their friends for weekly meetings to talk about some amazing, Biblically inspired stories. Book clubs will meet in rooms ch204 and ch207, upstairs in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall.

- Grades 1–4: *The Dead Sea Squirrels* by Mike Nawrocki
- Grades 5–8: *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan

We need more high school-aged volunteers! For more information or to sign up or volunteer, please [email Allison Devlin](#).

Now on Spotify: Sermons From St. Francis

[Sermons From St. Francis](#) are now on Spotify. You can listen on an Apple or Android device, on your desktop computer, or on your tablet. The Sunday sermons are available anytime you want to be inspired while on the go. No Spotify account is necessary. [Click here](#) to start listening today!

Outreach Ministries: Opportunities to Serve

For additional information about any of the following outreach opportunities, [visit the St. Francis Episcopal Church Outreach page](#) or contact the church's Director of Outreach [Heather Burkhart](#).

- **Memorial Assistance Ministries** has an urgent plea from the pantry team for baby wipes, tissues, size 6 diapers, dish soap, and spray cleaner.
- **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.
- The **Fair Haven Food Pantry** needs volunteers and donations of non-perishable food.

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 on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#) by clicking on "Prayer & Worship" at the top left of the website, then clicking on the "Prayer Requests" link in the dropdown menu.

Bible Studies at St. Francis

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Gospel of John
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** La Madeleine (except on second Tuesday of each month, when group meets in Wheatcroft Parish Hall)
- Men's Fellowship Breakfast and Study: Second Tuesday of Each Month at 8:00–9:30 a.m.
 - **Study:** The Book of Genesis (Life of Joseph)
 - **Location:** Wheatcroft Parish Hall
 - **Contact:** [Sally Jo Flores](#)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** The Gospel of John
 - **Location:** Wheatcroft Parish Hall
 - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
- Thursdays from 9:00–10:00 a.m.
 - **Book Study:** Christian Character
 - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
 - **Location:** Via Zoom (Contact Louise for passcode.)

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Gospel of Mark
 - **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. Scroll down to the "Watch Our Live Stream" section. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available.