

May 2, 2025

Class Day Ceremony & Baccalaureate Update

Each spring, we strive to minimize conflicts between the School's culminating celebrations and the schedules for AP exams and postseason athletics. While most events can be planned well in advance, the timing of state tournaments, set by the Arkansas Athletics Association (AAA), is outside of our control. Even so, we remain committed to ensuring that as many students as possible have the opportunity to participate fully in these important traditions.

Due to projected postseason conflicts involving our boys and girls varsity soccer teams, we will make the following adjustments:

- **Class Day** will now be held on Friday, May 16, at 8:30 a.m. in the Championship Gym. This will be a combined Class Day ceremony for Middle and Upper Schools.
- **Baccalaureate** will now take place on Friday, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Cathedral.

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we work to honor our seniors in the most inclusive and meaningful way possible.

World Languages Honor Societies' 2025 Inductees

Congratulations to the outstanding students who were inducted into the World Language Honor Societies on April 29th. These high-achieving individuals have shown a genuine commitment to language acquisition and global cultural engagement. They have represented Episcopal Collegiate School's World Languages Department with distinction and will no doubt continue to grow as culturally competent leaders.



A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

Next week promises to be an exciting time in the Lower School! We're thrilled to host our annual Book Fair in partnership with Wordsworth Books, running all week long. Parents are invited to join their children during their **class's scheduled shopping time**.

On Wednesday from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., families of Kindergarten through 5th grade students are invited to Capstone Night. This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase the learning, creativity, and growth they've experienced this year. Parents—get ready to participate, too! There will be engaging, hands-on activities for the whole family. Plus, we'll have food trucks in the parking lot to make dinner a breeze.

To round out the week, we're excited to welcome best-selling author Kelly Corrigan on Friday. She'll be reading her latest story, *Marianne the Maker*, to our Kindergarten through 3rd grade students. Parents are welcome to join us for this special author visit at 2:30 p.m. in the gym.

Hope to see you next week!

Sincerely,

Catherine Schuhmacher
Head of Lower School

Teacher Appreciation Lunch Coverage - Monday, May 5

Our Teacher Appreciation Committee has planned a special week to celebrate our teachers. On Monday, May 5, there will be a food truck on campus providing lunch for our teachers. In order to allow the teachers a quiet adult lunch, the committee is asking for parent volunteers to help with lunch duty for each class. [Sign up here to volunteer!](#)

Book Fair - May 5-9

We Can't Wait to SEA You at Book Fair!

The Under the Sea Book Fair begins on Monday, May 5 through Friday, May 9. The Book Fair will be open daily from 7:30-3:45 p.m. with late hours on Wednesday for Capstone at the E! Please note, the Book Fair will not open on Monday, May 5 until 8:30 a.m. as we have a private shopping event for our auction item winners! Please see the [schedule for your child's class](#) visit to the Book Fair. Huge thank you to all of the wonderful parent volunteers, especially our Book Fair Chairs, Kori Gordon, Lauren-Blair Marshall, and Kristen Moyers, for all their hard work!

Parents, We need your help! Sign up to volunteer [here!](#)



Mark Your Calendars - Capstone at the E

Capstone night will take place on Wednesday, May 7, from 4:00-6:00 pm. This event is for families of Kindergarten through 5th grade students. This event provides an opportunity for students to showcase their learning across all classrooms, including their co-curricular classes! Plan ahead because you don't want to miss it. We will have Food Trucks to make your dinner plans easy that night, and the Book Fair will be open for all!



Kelly Corrigan Author Visit - Friday, May 9

We're excited to welcome best-selling author Kelly Corrigan to the Lower School! She'll be sharing her newest book, *Marianne the Maker*, with our Kindergarten through 3rd grade students on Friday, May 9 at 2:30 p.m. in the gym. Parents are warmly invited to attend this special author visit. If you'd like to purchase a copy of the book, you can pre-order it using [this link](#).

Library Note from Mrs. Linder

All student library books are due on Monday, May 12, 2025. If you have a lost or damaged library book, please email Mrs. Linder. Lost or damaged books can be charged to your FACTS account, or you can send cash or check (made to Episcopal Collegiate). Please do not buy replacement copies of the books because Mrs. Linder prefers to purchase library bound copies so they last longer! Happy Reading!

Chapel News

In Godly Play this week, we talked about Jesus' twelve disciples. Next week in Godly Play, we'll be in the downstairs Commons working with all the stories we've heard this semester.

In PreK and Kindergarten chapels, students talked about the twelve disciples and how Jesus called them to be in ministry with Him. In Community chapel we heard from Rev. Sam Meadors, Executive Director of Project Transformation Arkansas, the organization that will receive donated books from the book drive this week.

Next week, in PreK and Kindergarten chapels we'll talk about prayer and read *When I Pray for You* by Matthew Paul Turner. In Community chapel, we'll hear a performance by the middle and upper school percussion students.

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

- PreK 4: 8:20-8:40am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library
- PreK 3: 8:50-9:10am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library
- Kindergarten: 9:20-9:50am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library
- 1st-5th: 2:30-3:00pm, Erwin Performance Hall & Gymnasium

Grace & Peace,

Michelle Moore
Interim Lower School Chaplain

Pride Patrol - May 5-9

Pride Patrol is a leadership opportunity for our 4th and 5th grade students. These students should arrive by 7:30 am, help open car doors, welcome students, and walk our youngest Wildcats to their classrooms. Pride Patrol student leaders next week include:

- Will Marshall
- Eva McNally
- Brinkley Mitchell
- Helen Moyers
- Sawyer Murphy
- Henry Norwood
- Jennings Owens

Wildcat Club Peep Drop Photos

Students from our Wildcat Club engaged in an exciting STEAM activity known as the PEEP Drop. They designed parachutes using a variety of materials for their Easter

PEEPs. To evaluate their creations, the students dropped their PEEPs and observed which parachute performed the best against gravity. Check out the photos [here!](#)

Super Session Highlight

[Pokemon Club](#) - Did you miss the first Pokémon Adventure? Well we are back with another opportunity to join in on all the fun! Participate in an exciting experience where we will create our very own Pokémon cards and bracelets! With your custom card, you can engage in battles and earn special card rankings based on skills. Who will have the mightiest card?

Kinder - 3rd Grade ; Wednesday May 14th ; 4:15 PM to 5:15 PM

Summer at the E - Make This Summer One to Remember!

From hands-on enrichment camps to full-day summer fun, we've got something for every child to enjoy. Let your student discover new interests, build friendships, and create lasting memories—right here on campus! Check out all the exciting opportunities we have lined up this summer!

[Discovery Day Camp 2025](#)

[Summer Enrichment Camps 2025](#)

Looking Ahead

- May 5-9 | Book Fair
- May 7 | Capstone Night @ the E! 4-6pm
- May 9 | Kelly Corrigan Author Visit, K-3rd grades, 2:30pm
- May 20 | 5th Grade Recognition, 1:30pm
- May 21 | Field Day, LS Dismissal at 12pm

Quick Links

[Lower School Live Morning News](#)

A Note from Dr. McCormick

Dear Middle School Families,

Students and teachers enjoyed a wonderful, Wednesday afternoon Middle School Madness event this week. Some adults and many students had fun being in the dunk tank and walking the ever-popular "Cake Walk." The inflatable slide, LePops truck, photo booth and DJ were also big hits. Special thanks to Parents' Auxiliary members Bess Fontes and Amy O'Connor who planned and ran the event, to the parent volunteers who

assisted, and to Ms. Alicia Hughes for organizing things on the school side of the program!

At Thursday's Morning Meeting, eighth grade teachers recognized the Over the Top Awards for the month of April. Kudos offered by eighth grade teachers included: consistency as we approach the end of the year; strong work ethic and deep understanding of science; improvement, really tried, stood out, showed growth; effort and true understanding of the subject matter; came in during their free time; throughout the year this person has gone above and beyond; good attitude and great participation on our mythology unit; insightful contributions in class and willingness to delve deeply into a complex text like Shakespeare.

- English - Isabella Hargrave, Nakiya Owens
- Latin I - Henry Fontes, Anna Blackshaw
- Social Studies - Allie McLarty, Max McGeorge, Louisa O'Connor
- Algebra I - Rease Fields, Jiles Grobmyer
- Physical Science - Tucker Grumbles, Olivia Glover

From Mrs. Radtke re. [Semester Exams](#)

Have a wonderful weekend!

Chuck McCormick

Semester Exam Schedule - Spring 2025

Thursday, May 15th

- MS Advisory | 8:00 - 8:30
- English | 8:30 - 10:30
- Conflicts | TBD

Monday, May 19th

- MS Advisory | 8:00 - 8:30
- Science | 8:30 - 10:30
- US Advisory/MS Advisory | 10:30 - 11:30
- Lunch | 11:30 - 12:30
- World Languages | 12:30 - 2:30

Tuesday, May 20th

- MS Advisory | 8:00 - 8:30
- History and Social Sciences | 8:30 - 10:30
- Conflicts | TBD

Wednesday, May 21st

- MS Advisory | 8:00 - 8:30
- Math | 8:30 – 10:30
- Conflicts | TBD

Helpful Tips on How to Support Your Teen During the Busy Season

As we approach the final stretch of the school year, many students begin to experience signs of burnout—both emotionally and academically. Students may begin to feel overwhelmed by the pressure of exams, final projects, and packed schedules. This can lead to stress, fatigue, and a drop in motivation—especially for middle and upper schoolers. It's important for families to recognize when their teens may be struggling and to help them find ways to recharge and stay balanced. A little support and encouragement can make a big difference in helping students finish strong. We've included an article ([linked here](#)) with helpful tips on how to support your teen during this busy season.

Summer For-Credit Courses (Rising 9th-12th Grade)

Episcopal Collegiate is excited to offer three for-credit courses this summer for rising 9th - 12th grade students. These courses may be used to meet graduation requirements for Health, Wildcat Wellness, and Oral Communications. Each course is designed to provide the same level of instruction that students would receive during the school year.

Registration for these courses should be done through the registration portal at [THIS LINK](#). Payment for these courses will be made at the time of registration. All summer course registrations are due by the end of Friday, May 9.

Babysitter's Club (Rising 6th-12th Grade)

Considering a job in babysitting? Make excellent money and become a valuable commodity. Here are some of the things you will do:

- Write up a resume
- Learn how to properly prepare foods
- Learn entertaining and interactive games to play
- Diapering and diaper rash
- Caring for their basic needs
- Know what to do in case of emergency

Summer at the E is offering an in-person class for you to earn your Babysitting Certification along with CPR, AED and First Aid Certifications taught by

Nurses Whitney Rawn and Lenna Hopkins. June 2 and June 4, 2025: 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM, rising 6th-12th Grade. [Sign up today!](#)

A Note from Dr. Graham

Today is College T-Shirt & Senior Family Picnic Day. Our seniors are wearing t-shirts that represent the college or university they will be attending this fall, and today during FLEX/lunch, senior families will join us for lunch to celebrate the Class of 2025.

On Monday, our concert choirs and orchestra put on an incredible spring concert that featured a range of pop tunes. Our spring sports teams are rounding into postseason play; on Tuesday, Varsity Track & Field competed in the District Meet, and the Conference Tournament for Girls Soccer starts today. We also held our World Language and National Forensic League Induction Ceremonies earlier this week during chapel.

Looking ahead to next week...

AP exams start on Monday, May 5th. Please see the schedule below, and encourage your child to get a good night's sleep the night before and a hearty breakfast the day of their exam. Kids who are taking an AP exam will not be asked to sit for any other school assessments on the day of their AP exam.

And the last day of school for seniors is Wednesday, May 7th.

Please keep reading to learn more about what's happening in Upper School.

See you soon,

Kellen

Updates, Reminders, and Action Items

AP Testing 2025

AP Testing will begin on Monday, May 5th, and conclude on Friday, May 16th. See here for the [Testing Calendar](#). Additionally, here is a link to the [Room Assignments Calendar](#). Ms. Byrd will send an email the day before an exam indicating testing room assignments and providing reminders and important updates. Please check these as room assignments may change at the last minute.

Students who have an 8:00 AM test will need to be in the testing location no later than 7:45 AM. Students who have a 12:00 PM test, will need to be in the testing location no later than 11:45 AM. Students need to come to their tests with a fully-charged laptop and charger. Snacks will be provided for students testing.

Once testing has started, late students cannot be admitted to the room and will be required to take the test during the **late testing administration session** the week of May 22nd. Let Ms. Byrd (lbyrd@episcopalcollegiate.org) know if you have any questions!

Regarding AP Scores

- Sophomores and Juniors - ignore pop-ups and emails asking you to send scores to colleges. **Do NOT** send your scores.
- Seniors **should** send scores to their college.

AP Exam Schedule

[*AM = 8:00-12:00 | PM = 12:00-4:00]

Mon, 5/5	Biology - AM European History - PM
Tue, 5/6	Chemistry - AM
Wed, 5/7	English Literature - AM
Thur, 5/8	Statistics - AM World History - PM
Fri, 5/9	US History - AM Art & Design (Portfolio deadline = 8:00 PM)
Mon, 5/12	Calculus AB & BC - AM Seminar - PM
Tue, 5/13	No Exams
Wed, 5/14	English Language - AM Physics C: Mechanics - PM
Thur, 5/15	Spanish Language - AM
Fri, 5/16	Psychology - PM

Spring Semester Exam Schedule

Thur, 5/15	English Exams (8:30-10:30 AM)
Fri, 5/16	No Exams
Mon, 5/19	<p>Science Exams (8:30-10:30 AM)</p> <p>World Language Exams (12:30-2:30 PM)</p> <p>*Students who have a science and world language exam are required to stay on campus between exams. Lunch will be served in the dining hall between exams.</p>
Tue, 5/20	History & Social Sciences Exams (8:30-10:30 AM)
Wed, 5/21	Math Exams (8:30-10:30 AM)

Spring Exam Prep Guide

Check out this helpful resource that guides our students through the exam review process. It was created by Learning Specialist Ms. Paige London and Director of Student Support Services Ms. Catherine Radtke. Closer to exam week, we will hold three advisory study halls during which advisors will review study strategies with students.

Helping Kids Avoid End-of-Year Burnout

[Written by US Learning Specialist Paige London]

As we approach the final stretch of the school year, many students begin to experience signs of burnout—both emotionally and academically. Students may begin to feel overwhelmed by the pressure of exams, final projects, and packed schedules. This can lead to stress, fatigue, and a drop in motivation—especially for middle and upper schoolers. It's important for families to recognize when their teens may be struggling and to help them find ways to recharge and stay balanced. A little support and encouragement can make a big difference in helping students finish strong. We've included [this article](#), which has helpful tips on how to support your teen during this busy season.

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Contact Us if Your Child is Absent, Late, or Checking Out

Parents, if your child is absent from or will arrive late to school for any reason, or if they need to check out during the school day, it is imperative that you contact the School and let us know. If your child is absent, please either call us in the Main Office at **501-372-1194 ext. 3** and leave us a detailed message or email Selby Boyd at sboyd@episcopalcollegiate.org. Upper School students are expected to communicate any known absences with their teachers, coaches, and advisor in advance. Parents, we also expect to hear directly from you any time your child is absent.

College Counseling News

Princeton Review SAT Course

Episcopal Collegiate School is pleased to offer a free Princeton Review SAT Test Prep Workshop to rising 11th and 12th grade students this summer in preparation for the August 23rd SAT. 20 hours of in-person instruction will be provided to students using Princeton Review SAT test preparation books and online practice problems in preparation for the digital SAT on August 23. Students will have access to all of Princeton Review's practice tests and materials. The course is taught by Episcopal Collegiate School faculty trained by Princeton Review.

Date:

Monday, July 28 - Friday, August 1

Monday, August 4 - Thursday, August 7

1:00-3:30 pm

Students will have a final review day on Sunday, August 17.

[Register here](#) by May 9.

College T-shirt Day

Seniors and their families will celebrate their college choices at a picnic in the gym on Friday, May 2 from 12:10-1:20 pm. Seniors should wear a college t-shirt with the name of their future college in large lettering on the front. Families should bring lunch for themselves and their senior. Drinks and desserts will be provided. The class picture will begin at 12:50 pm.

Junior College Counseling Meetings & Surveys

Juniors - if you and your parents would like to hold a year-end meeting with your college counselor to discuss your college list, continued standardized testing, summer plans, or college tours, please make an appointment soon with your college counselor.

[Lauren Byrd Sign-Up](#)

[Tricia Morgan Sign-Up](#)

Also, please help your college counselor and teachers write those valuable letters of recommendation by giving them some additional information in the Student and Parents Surveys in [Scoir](#).

Babysitter's Club (Rising 6th-12th Grade)

Considering a job in babysitting? Make excellent money and become a valuable commodity. Here are some of the things you will do:

- Write up a resume
- Learn how to properly prepare foods
- Learn entertaining and interactive games to play
- Diapering and diaper rash
- Caring for their basic needs
- Know what to do in case of emergency

Summer at the E is offering an in-person class for you to earn your Babysitting Certification along with CPR, AED and First Aid Certifications taught by Nurses Whitney Rawn and Lenna Hopkins. June 2 and June 4, 2025: 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM, rising 6th-12th Grade. [Sign up today!](#)

Coming up Next Week

AP Exams (see the schedule above)

Senior Yearbook Signing Party

Seniors will receive their yearbooks at our annual senior yearbook signing party, which is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6th during FLEX and lunch on the Quad.

9th-11th Grade Yearbook Signing Party

9th, 10th, and 11th graders will receive their yearbooks at our annual underclass yearbook signing party, which is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7th during FLEX on the Quad.

Last Day of School for Seniors

Wednesday, May 7th is the last day of "regular" school for our seniors. After that, they are required to be on campus only when they are taking AP or end-of-semester exams.

Handshake Farewell Ceremony

Our beloved Handshake Farewell Ceremony, during which our seniors will walk through a receiving line of Upper and Middle School students, faculty, and staff and exchange handshakes, fist bumps, and hugs, will take place on Wednesday, May 7th at 2:30 pm, weather permitting, on the Quad.

Senior Sunset

Senior Sunset, a social event here on campus for the senior class, is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30 pm. We're continuing this traditional gathering, one final time for the class to be together with no agenda, no rehearsals, and no pressure. The Parents Auxiliary is providing a food truck, student leaders are providing the playlist, and seniors can bring their own lawn chairs or blankets to Mourot Stadium. In the words of one of our seniors, it will be "a nice chill time!"

Please contact Mr. Binder with questions.

Senior (Non-AP) Exams

Those seniors who must sit for an end-of-semester exam in their non-AP courses will be notified by their teachers of their exam status by the end of the day on Monday, May 5th. Senior exams will take place on campus on Thursday, May 8th and Friday, May 9th; the exact schedule will be announced next week.

In-Class Review Day

Our first In-Class Review Day will take place on Friday, May 8th.

Chapel Schedule

- Mon, 5/5 - ECTV
- Tue, 5/6 - Boyd Bethel '19
- Wed, 5/7 - Handshake Farewell Ceremony (*2:30 pm)

- Thu, 5/8 - Reverie (Literary Magazine) Dedication
- Fri, 5/9 - Father Rob

Athletics Schedule

Athletics Schedule - Let's go, Wildcats!

Service Opportunities

We will share **new service opportunities** for our students as they come to us.

Beyond Next Week (Mark Your Calendars)

- Mon, 5/12 - In-Class Exam Review Day
- Mon, 5/12 - Moving Up/5th-Grade Welcome (Chapel)
- Tue, 5/13 - In-Class Exam Review Day
- Tue, 5/13 - Rising Senior Blazer Ceremony (Class of '26)
- Wed, 5/14 - End of 4th Quarter
- Wed, 5/14 - Reading Day (Student attendance = optional)
- Wed, 5/14 - Graduation Rehearsal
- Thur, 5/15 - English Exams (Grades 9-11)
- Fri, 5/16 - Upper School Class Day
- Fri, 5/16 - Baccalaureate
- Sat, 5/17 - Graduation Day (Class of '25)
- Mon, 5/19 - Science & World Language Exams (Grades 9-11)
- Tue, 5/20 - History Exams (Grades 9-11)
- Wed, 5/21 - Math Exams (Grades 9-11)
- Wed, 5/21 - Last Day of School for Students
- Thur, 5/22 - College Common Application Writing Workshop (for Class of '26)

Natural State Lacrosse League - May 3-4

Natural State Lacrosse League, the state's league for Boys and Girls High School Lacrosse, will hold the state playoffs this weekend, May 3rd and 4th, at Hendrix College in Conway at Young-Wise Memorial Stadium. The girls play Saturday at 1:30 pm and the boys play Saturday at 4:00 pm. Programs from Central and Northwest Arkansas will participate in the playoffs. Please review **this press release** for the announcement and schedule.

Summer Rowing Camps

Join us for our 2025 Summer Rowing Camps! Open to beginners and intermediate rowers, camps run Monday–Thursday mornings near the Two Rivers Bridge beginning in June. Spots are limited to 10 per camp and fill fast! To sign up, contact Coach Ted

Riedeberg at rowcoachjax@gmail.com or text 904-553-7557. More information at [this link.](#)

Episcopal Wildcats Hudl Page

Wildcat Athletics has moved live streaming to the Episcopal Collegiate Hudl Fan Page. This page includes a live stream of events as well as highlights, team schedules, and rosters.

Episcopal Wildcats Hudl Page

Please note, we will no longer be using the Episcopal Athletics Youtube Page.

The Hudl Fan App is supported by Roku TV, Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, and Android TV.

Go, Wildcats!