

February 20, 2026

Junior High Cheer and Varsity Cheer/Dance Sign Ups (February 27 Deadline):

Coaches Melissa, Selby, and Gammill are excited about the 2026-2027 spirit squads! *Students* need to check their email for a link to sign up for their squad of interest. Any student wishing to cheer or dance next school year must complete the Google Form by Friday February 27. Additionally, there will be a parent-athlete interest meeting on Tuesday March 10, 5:30 pm, in the Championship Gym. The coaches will cover next year's calendar, cost estimates, competitions, and expectations. Please make plans to attend. Should you have any questions, please reach out to the following coaches:

- JH Cheer: mwilson@episcopalcollegiate.org
- Varsity Cheer: sboyd@episcopalcollegiate.org
- Varsity Dance: mgammill@episcopalcollegiate.org

Save the Date: Wild Game Dinner - March 14, 2026



Join us for a night outdoors full of delicious food, live music with the band Dial Up, and even better company on March 14, 2026, for [the Wild Game Dinner](#)! Every other year, the Episcopal Collegiate community gathers for this fun and casual event to raise money to support enhancements for the School's outstanding fine arts and athletic programs.

Share Your Snow Day Photos

The yearbook staff would like the recent snow and ice event to have a special place in the upcoming yearbook. Please email your fun pictures to mbalgavy@episcopalcollegiate.com. Please include your student's first and last name(s), their grade level(s), and a few details along with the photos.

A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

We had a joyful and busy week in the Lower School, highlighted by our Shrove Tuesday celebrations and Ash Wednesday service. After several weeks of indoor recess, the beautiful weather has been a welcome blessing, and we hope it's a sign that spring is just around the corner.

Our Lost and Found is currently overflowing with unlabeled items. Families are welcome to stop by the Used Uniform Room to check for any missing belongings. Please add names to all outerwear so we can return them to students promptly.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Catherine Schuhmacher
Head of Lower School

Congratulations, RoboCats!

On February 14, the Episcopal Collegiate Lower School RoboCats competed at the VEX Robotics: Crushing Cupid Regional Tournament at Bethel Middle School in Alexander, facing 26 teams from across Arkansas. RoboCats (Team 90125A) emerged as the highest-performing team of the entire tournament, earning one of the event's three state qualifying awards. ([View Photo Album](#))

RoboCats posted the tournament's top scores in both Driver Skills (74 points) and Autonomous Programming (30 points) for a combined Skills total of 104, and led the field in Teamwork Driving performance. Their consistency across all areas earned them both the Driver Skills Championship and the event's highest honor, the Excellence Award—recognizing overall strength in robot performance, programming, design process, engineering notebook, and teamwork. With this achievement, RoboCats (90125A) advance to the Arkansas State Championship on March 9th, where both Episcopal robotics teams will compete to defend their 2025 VEX Robotics State Championship title.

RoboCats Deux (90125B) also competed well at the Crushing Cupid Regional Tournament, finishing 3rd overall in Skills with a combined score of 84 points (56 Driver, 28 Programming), and have already secured their qualification for the Arkansas State Championship.

Please congratulate the following students for their exceptional performance this past weekend. RoboCats (90125A): Max Gutierrez, Lucia Gutierrez, Tommy Hogate, Alexandra Kuperman, Landry Tracy, Sam Williams, and Everett Weirich. | RoboCats Deux (90125B): Kennedy Smith, Bonnie McCauley, Frankie Patton, Margaret Bronni, Charlotte Rudofsky, and Theo Howell.

Congrats,
RoboCats and Coach Rogers!



Chapel News

In Community Chapel this week we celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. Next week in Community Chapel we will welcome our Head of School, Dr. Jamie Griffin, to give our chapel offering. In PreK and Kinder chapels next week, we'll watch a video lesson about Jesus' being anointed in Bethany.

We hope you can join us for Chapel on February 25:

- 1st-5th: 8:00-8:30am, Erwin Performance Hall & Gymnasium
- PreK 3: 8:50-9:10am, Godly Play Classroom, Room 142 (next to Library)
- PreK 4: 9:20-9:40am, Godly Play Classroom, Room 142 (next to Library)
- Kindergarten: 10:00-10:20am, Godly Play Classroom, Room 142 (next to Library)

Chapel Duties for Community Chapel on Wednesday, February 25, 2026:

Procession

- Cross: Kennedy Smith
- Candle: Sadie Prater
- Candle: Sawyer Murphy

Readers

- Aaron Virani
- Channing Chase
- Parker Easley

Cantors

- Bradley Suffridge
- Molly Painter
- Sterling Harvey
- Ming-An Chen

1st Grade Partners

- Frankie Patton
- Hank Adams
- Jett Ludwig
- Kayleigh Dillett
- Max Gutierrez
- Nama Scarborough

You can view the schedule of chapel duties for the remainder of the school year using the link [here](#) or on the Godly Play Canvas page.

Grace & Peace,

Michelle Moore
Lower School Chaplain

Pride Patrol - February 23-27

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:

- Preston Robinson
- Landry Rolston
- Vivian Rudofsky
- Wyatt Sappington
- Nama Scarborough
- Oliver Sherrill

Mark Your Calendars

- March 6 | 3rd Quarter Ends
- March 13 | Parent/Teacher Conference Day, No School
- March 23-27 | Spring Break, No School
- April 3-6 | Easter Break, No School

Helpful Links: [Lower School Live Morning News](#) [Wildcat Parent Hub](#)

A Note from Dr. McCormick

Hello, Families,

We have been trying to recognize kindness in our daily endeavors this week in recognition of Random Acts of Kindness Week. In advisory, students were challenged to commit to a particular act of kindness for someone in the community. Later in the week, advisors shared Kindness Bingo cards with advisees, and those who "got bingo" by doing things like picking up trash in the community and writing a note were able to enter into a drawing to win a sweet treat at Thursday's Morning Meeting. Students and teachers are also busy preparing for our student-led conferences on Conference Day in March. I hope that everyone will take advantage of this program, which empowers students to own their academic experiences and is considered a best practice in the Middle Grades.

Two of our Middle School teachers, Mrs. Ghasedi and Ms. Lewis, are sponsoring the Pulaski County Spelling Bee this Saturday in our Dining Hall, and a number of our middle school girls will be competing in Lacrosse versus Bentonville on Blass Field at 6:00 pm on Saturday. Eighth-grade boys will be competing for our Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Team against Bentonville at 10:00 am on Sunday morning. Good luck to all!

Stay well,

Chuck McCormick

Attention Wildcat Cheerleaders & Dancers- February 27 Deadline

Coaches Melissa, Selby, and Gammill are excited about the 2026-2027 spirit squads! Students should check their email for a link to sign up for their squad of interest. Any student wishing to cheer or dance next school year must complete the Google Form by Friday, February 27.

Additionally, there will be a parent-athlete interest meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 5:30 pm, in the Championship Gym. The coaches will cover next year's calendar, cost estimates, competitions, and expectations. Please make plans to attend. Should you have any questions, please reach out to the following coaches:

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Middle School Conference Day- March 13

Parents—You should have received an email on Thursday, February 19 at 12:00 p.m. about the upcoming student-led conference day. If you did not receive it, please contact your child's advisor.

Reminder: Community Service Hours completed by May 1

Every middle school student needs to complete five community service hours and document them on a community service form by May 1, 2026.

Wildcat Club is Now Accepting Volunteers!

Looking for a fun way to get involved on campus? WildCat Club is now accepting volunteers! We have several opportunities available — from helping during after-school activities to supporting special events. Take a moment to explore the form below to learn more about how you can get involved. If you have any questions, please reach out to Izzy Jackson via email at ijackson@episcopalcollegiate.org. [Sign Up Here!](#)

A Note from Dr. Graham

Big shoutout to our boys and girls varsity basketball teams and our varsity cheer team for their great performances in this week's conference tournament, which we hosted here on campus. Both basketball squads have qualified for next week's regional tournament in Jessieville. Go, Wildcats! Yesterday, I emailed you information about Spring Conference Day, which is set for Friday, March 13. We ask all 9th, 10th, and 11th graders, joined by at least one parent/guardian, to hold a 30-minute conference with their faculty advisor on March 13th. My email is linked below, in case you missed it. If you have any questions or trouble signing up for your child's conference, please let me know. Please keep reading to learn more about what's happening in Upper School.

See you out there,
Kellen

Updates, Reminders, & Action Items

Spring Conference Signups

Spring Conference Day is set for Friday, March 13th. More info about Conference Day, including how to sign up for your child's conference, is linked [here](#). All 9th, 10th, and 11th graders are expected to attend their conference, along with the faculty advisor and at least one parent/guardian. Classes will not be held on Conference Day.

Attention Wildcat Cheerleaders & Dancers

Coaches Melissa, Selby, and Gammill are excited about the 2026-2027 spirit squads! Students should check their email for a link to sign up for their squad of interest. Any student wishing to cheer or dance next school year must complete the Google Form by Friday February 27. Additionally, there will be a parent-athlete interest meeting on Tuesday March 10, 5:30 pm, in the Championship Gym. The coaches will cover next year's calendar, cost estimates, competitions, and expectations. Please make plans to attend. Should you have any questions, please reach out to the following coaches:

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College Talk: Finding the Right Fit in a College- February 24

The college counselors will present the next in our series of College Talks for parents on helping your student find the right fit in a college through thoughtful research on Tuesday, February 24 at 5:30 p.m. in Upper School Room 215. As many of our 9th-11th graders are starting to think about college fit, parents can learn how to assess the differences in colleges, how to help their students research colleges from home, and how to set up and make the most of those important college visits.

Used Book Drive - Tuesday, February 24th - Wednesday, February 25th

[From Ms. Self, US Dean of Students]

The Upper School Student Council is partnering with St. Mark's Episcopal Church to collect books for St. Mark's third annual Used Book Sale, which benefits their Free Read program. Free Read is a volunteer-run outreach that distributes books to individuals in Arkansas prisons, halfway houses, recovery centers, and homeless shelters.

Student Council members will host collection tables at both the student parking lot and the carpool line on Tuesday and Wednesday morning next week. Students may drop off donated books as they enter the building. As an added incentive, every 5 books donated earns one raffle ticket. Raffle prizes include an advisory pizza party, a free dress day, and other exciting prizes.

Mini College Fair - Tuesday, March 3rd, 7:50-8:15 AM - Upper School Commons

We will have a mini college fair with college representatives from across the country in the Upper School Commons before school on Tuesday, March 3rd. Colleges visiting will include: University of Alabama, University of Alaska, American University, Mississippi State, University of Mississippi, University of Missouri, Samford University, University of Tulsa, and more! This event is open to all Upper School students and we highly encourage stopping by to learn more information about colleges attending!

Thanksgiving Italy Trip Interest Meeting - Wednesday, March 4th

[From Ms. Self, US Dean of Students]

This November, students will travel to Rome for an immersive experience that brings history, art, and culture to life in unforgettable ways - from the Colosseum and the Vatican to day trips to Florence, Tivoli, and Ostia Antica. This trip is open to current 8th–11th graders.

Join us for an interest meeting in the US Simpson Library on Wednesday, March 4th at 5:30 pm, and check out our [website](#) for full details and registration information.

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, you must 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 a detailed message or email Selby Boyd at sboyd@episcopalcollegiate.org. Upper School students are expected to communicate any known absences in advance with their teachers, coaches, and advisor.

Coming Up Next Week...

Chapel Schedule

- Monday, 2/23 - Cash Lee '26
- Tuesday, 2/24 - Percussion Performance
- Wednesday, 2/25 - Celebration of Black History Month
- Thursday, 2/26 - Orchestra Performance
- Friday, 2/27 - Gabby Taylor '26

Athletics Schedule

Beyond Next Week...

- Choir/Orchestra Concert - Monday, March 2

- Interest Meeting for Thanksgiving Break '26 Italy Trip - Wednesday, March 4
- End of Quarter 3 - Friday, March 6
- Spring Conference Day (No Classes) - Friday, March 13
- Wild Game Dinner - Saturday, March 14
- Spring Break - Saturday, March 21 - Sunday, March 29
- Easter Break - Friday, April 3 - Monday, April 6

New Athletics App!

We're excited to introduce our new Athletics App, a convenient, mobile-friendly way to stay connected to Wildcat athletics. Designed to complement our website and existing communications, the app puts schedules, scores, team information, and athletics news all in one place. Users can also opt in to push notifications for weather delays, game changes, and important reminders—so you never miss a moment.

We encourage all athletes, parents, and community members to download the app and start using it today. Instructions are included below.

DON'T MISS ANOTHER SCORE, SET, GOAL OR RUN!
The Episcopal Wildcats App is the best source for the latest news, schedules, scores and rosters. Follow every team and club in one mobile app!

START USING THE EPISCOPAL WILDCATS APP TODAY!

STEP 1: Download the app by visiting the Apple or Google Play app store and search "Episcopal Wildcats". Make sure you Allow/Enable Push Notifications

STEP 2: Sign in with your 10-digit mobile number for login code to access the app...only have to do this once!



STEP 3: Browse through NEWS, TEAMS and the SCHEDULE. Check on TEAMS and scroll through the list. Tap on the bell icon to follow a team.

STEP 4: Tap on teams to view their NEWS, SCHEDULE, SCORES and ROSTER. Select the bell in the top right corner to manage notifications.



Concessions

Parents, please check the sign up and grab your spot(s) to help support our winter sports. We still have lots of opportunities to volunteer for gate or concessions that we would love to fill. If your middle or high schooler needs service hours, bring them along. Thank you in advance! Also, a huge thank you to all of our December volunteers! ([Volunteer Sign-up](#))

Thank you.

Laura Schnackenberg and Mary Margaret Wippo

Varsity Athlete Letterman Jacket Orders

Parents and Athletes,

Here is the order form for varsity athletes to order letterman jackets for all fall and winter athletes. These jackets are optional and you should be able to customize them on the website. [Letterman's Jacket Link](#)

Student-Athlete Recognition Updates

Dear Parents,

I hope your family is off to a great start this school year. I want to share an update regarding how we will recognize and celebrate our student-athletes moving forward. Beginning this year, athletic recognitions will take place during the school day in special assemblies, replacing the traditional evening sports banquets.

We believe this new format will create a more meaningful and spirited experience for students, and here's why:

- **Improved Attendance:** Holding the event during the school day ensures that all student-athletes are present.
- **Celebrated by Their Peers:** Recognizing our teams and athletes in front of classmates allows the entire student body to share in their accomplishments.
- **Fewer Conflicts:** Moving away from evening events reduces scheduling challenges with family obligations, extracurricular activities, and other school commitments.

Each season will have its own recognition assembly for the Fall, Winter, and Spring, celebrating our athletes in grades 7-12. While the setting has changed, the level of recognition for our students remains the same, and the focus will be on making the experience spirited, inclusive, and student-centered. Thank you for your continued support of our athletic program and student-athletes. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Go Wildcats!

Micah Marsh

Digital Ticketing System

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well. I want to share an important update regarding our digital ticketing system for athletic events.

Beginning this school year, we will be transitioning to GoFan as our exclusive platform for purchasing tickets to all home athletic events. This change is part of our ongoing efforts to improve the game-day experience for our families and fans.

Here's why we're making the switch:

- **User-Friendly:** GoFan offers a more streamlined and user friendly experience for purchasing and accessing tickets.

- Widespread Adoption: Over 90% of schools using digital ticketing in Arkansas currently use GoFan, making it easier for families to use one platform for both home and away games.
- Consistency with AAA: The Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) utilizes GoFan for all postseason events, so aligning with this system creates a consistent experience throughout the season and into playoffs

Season Tickets and events are ready to purchase when you are ready. You'll receive step-by-step instructions on how to access and use GoFan with your purchase. We're confident this transition will benefit everyone involved and we appreciate your continued support.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Please note **this link** also includes individual game tickets.

Go Wildcats!

Micah Marsh, Director of Athletics

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

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

Summer at the E

The countdown to Summer 2026 has officially begun! Enrollment opened on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Please head to our **Summer at the E webpage** for additional information.

New Spring Supersessions Now Available!!

Supersessions are now LIVE! Sign up via **Homeroom**.

Pick-Up for Super Sessions

Should you have a student in a session please park and walk up to the LS Main Office Entrance for pick-up. We kindly ask that session pick-ups do not sit in the carpool lane in order to avoid congesting the lane for WCC pick-ups. Should you need a student early from a session please then call (501)-804-6649, notify what session your student is attending and a member from our team will go get them.

Faculty Members

Want to meet this year's 2025-26 Wildcat Club Faculty Members? **Check out the full list right here!**

Reminders

Daily use of carpool signs is required — this is crucial for the safety and security of our students. We must be able to quickly and clearly identify every vehicle in the line. Please see the "Pickup Protocols" section below for additional information. As we continue to fine-tune our program, here are a few important reminders for the weeks ahead:

Tuesday Pick-Ups - On Tuesdays, we share our carpool lane with Chorale students, who are released at 4:15 PM. Please be mindful as we merge both groups.

Homework Time in WCC - Each day, we dedicate 20–30 minutes to homework, adjusting based on grade level and student needs. We also stay in touch with homeroom teachers to help reinforce any focus areas from class. Soon, a few of our middle and upper school Wildcats will also be joining us to lend a hand — another layer of support we're excited to roll out!

Here's What's Happening this Year

- **STEAM Fun Every Week:** Each week, we'll dive into an exciting, hands-on project that sparks curiosity and creativity.
- **Monthly Big Events:** One Friday each month, we'll go big with an interactive, themed event for all students to enjoy.
- **Fun Fridays:** Every Friday we'll celebrate the week's hard work and positive behavior with a sweet treat. (We will have alternative options for students who have allergies or dietary restrictions)

For our Busy Bees in Activities

If your child participates in sports, dance, gymnastics, baseball, or any other extracurriculars that require them to change clothes and head out promptly, please let us know their schedule in advance. When we have those details ahead of time, we can make transitions smoother and help ensure our students arrive on time and ready to shine.

Pickup Protocols

For any and all pick-ups please call the WCC phone number located on either entrance of the Lower School, (501)-804-6649, notify the team of who you are picking up and wait at the door for our arrival.

- Daily use of carpool signs is required — this is crucial for the safety and security of our students. We must be able to quickly and clearly identify every vehicle in the line.
- PK–1st Grade: Picked up at the Main Entrance.
- 2nd–5th Grade: Picked up at the Gym Entrance.
- Siblings in Multiple Grades: All siblings will be picked up at the Main Office Entrance for convenience.