

March 20, 2026

Happy Spring Break, Wildcats!

Wishing our Wildcat community a wonderful Spring Break, March 23–27. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, March 30!

Mark Your Calendars - Parents' Auxiliary Meeting: Friday, April 10

Join us for the final Parents' Auxiliary meeting of the school year on Friday, April 10, at 12:00 p.m. in Upper School Room 215. We hope to see you there!

Gates and Concessions - Volunteers Needed

Spring sports are off to a great start! We could still use some help with gates and concessions so please [check the sign up](#) and grab your spot. Thank you!

Laura Scnackenberg and Mary Margaret Wippo

2026-2027 Planning Calendar Update

The updated 2026–2027 Master Calendar is [linked here](#) for easy reference.

Please note that while this calendar reflects the most current schedule, dates are subject to change as school programs, activities, and events continue to develop throughout the year. We encourage families to refer back to the calendar periodically for the latest updates.

Episcopal Education Freedom Accounts for 2026-2027

The application window for Education Freedom Accounts (Tuition Vouchers) for the 2026/27 school year is now open and expected to remain open only through June 1, 2026. *The Department of Education is encouraging families to complete the renewal survey as soon as possible to help ensure their place in the program for the upcoming school year.*

Students that participated this year and want to renew their application to participate next year must complete this process through their ClassWallet account. Parents will have the opportunity to update any contact information and will need to complete a few satisfaction survey questions.

Students that are new to the program will complete their application at <http://arkansasefa.com>. New applicants will be asked to provide documentation of the following:

- Arkansas Residency: One form of verification matching the physical address and name of the applicant (parent) as listed on the application, for example a current Arkansas Driver's License.
- Student Age Verification: One form of legal documentation for the student's date of birth. The document must match the student's name as listed on the application, for example a Birth Certificate or a Passport.

A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

Congratulations to our ChessCats on an impressive 2nd-place finish at the Central AR CPR & LR Knights chess tournament last Saturday! Please join me in celebrating Thomas McNulty, Mark Dementyev, Willa Dalvi, and Middle School students Hamilton and Houghton Fitzgerald for their hard work and strong performances throughout the tournament. Way to go, ChessCats!

When we return from break, we will enter Holy Week and celebrate Holy Eucharist during Chapel on Wednesday. All students should wear their Dress Uniform with tennis shoes that day.

I hope you all have a wonderful and relaxing Spring Break!

Catherine Schuhmacher
Head of Lower School



Standardized Testing, Grades 3-5, April 7-10

Students in grades 3-5 will take ERB CTP-V standardized testing April 7-10. This testing will run from approximately 8:00 am to 10:30am each day. Please make sure students arrive at school on time and minimize appointments during those testing times.

Book Fair Volunteers Needed!

ECS Lower School Book Fair is coming up May 4-8! Preparations for Book Fair will get really busy after Spring Break, and the Book Fair Committee could use your help. Please take a moment and let us know your interest in helping Mrs. Linder and the committee with our prep this year. This sign-up is to help us find volunteers interested in helping with prep ahead of the week of Book Fair. The sign-up for volunteer shifts for the week of Book Fair, including shifts to help with classroom shopping, will be sent out at a later date. [Click here to sign up!](#)

Chapel News

In Community Chapel this week we heard a great performance from the middle and upper school students in Percussion II and III. When we return from Spring Break we will celebrate Holy Week with Holy Eucharist. Our Community Chapel will be 45 minutes, ending at 8:45am. In PreK and Kinder chapels we watched a video lesson about the Garden of Gethsemane and at our next chapel we will watch a video lesson about Good Friday.

We hope you can join us for Chapel on April 1:

- 1st-5th: 8:00-8:45am, 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, April 1, 2026:

Procession

- Cross: Kayleigh Dillett
- Candle: Channing Chase
- Candle: Landry Rolston
- Assist with Eucharist: John Allen
- Assist with Eucharist: Kenzie Cook

Readers

- Ellie Daniel
- Bonnie McCauley

Cantors

- George Wright
- Jett Ludwig
- Charlotte Rudofsky
- Layla Turner

1st Grade Partners

- Ace Blake
- Alexander Eubanks
- Emma K Baker
- Evie Peek
- Thomas Utter
- Willa Dalvi

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- March 30-April 2

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:

- Sterling Harvey
- Tommy Hogate
- Merritt Holcomb

- Molly Hyde
- Jasmine Jones
- Rush Jones

Mark Your Calendars

- March 23-27 | Spring Break, No School
- April 3-6 | Easter Break, No School
- May 4-8 | Book Fair
- May 7 | Capstone Night @ the E! 4-6pm
- May 19 | 5th Grade Recognition Ceremony, 1:30pm
- May 20 | Field Day, ½ Day Dismissal, No Wildcat Club

Helpful Links

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

Attention Parents of Students in both Lower and Middle Schools

Following Lower School dismissal, if you are waiting for your Middle School students in the parking lot near the track or along the sidewalk leading to the quad, to the right of the dumpsters. Middle and Upper School classes remain in session until 3:35 p.m., and noise in that area can be disruptive. Additionally, materials outside Mr. O’Connell’s classroom were recently damaged. We appreciate your help in keeping these areas quiet and clear during this time.

Capstone Date Change - Thursday, May 7

Capstone at the E will take place on Thursday, May 7, from 4:00–6:00 p.m. This special event gives students in Kindergarten through 5th grade the opportunity to showcase their learning from the year—not only from their homeroom classrooms, but also from their co-curricular classes. The Book Fair will be open, and food trucks will be on site for families to enjoy. We hope you’ll join us for this celebration of our students’ hard work and creativity—you won’t want to miss it!

A Note from Dr. McCormick

Dear Families,

Thank you to those seventh and eighth grade families who joined us at last Thursday night’s STEAM Expo. Our students and teachers did a wonderful job designing and displaying research projects, showing their results and models, and speaking articulately about their work. Congratulations, too, to those who visited with their advisors at last Friday’s student-led conferences. When challenged and supported through these experiences, students reflect on and gain practice in speaking about their own learning. When we authentically engage with our students in these conferences, we are truly “raising adults,” which should be everyone’s goal. During last Thursday’s Morning Meeting, our sixth and seventh grade teaching teams recognized students for exemplary effort and perseverance during the month of February. Below please find award recipients and a snippet of what their teachers said in recommending them.

Seventh Grade

- English - strong self-advocates Mary-Eleanor Parnell, Simon Mangum
- Social Studies - students represent perseverance, commitment to writing demonstrated in their willingness to stay after school to work - Hunter Turner, Maddie Walsh
- Pre-Algebra - two students consistently attending math lab and who are constantly asking questions - Margaret Dake, Blaikely Williams
- Science - two students always doing what they need to do despite being busy with outside-of-school commitments - Sofia Mitcham, Marcy Agee
- Exploratory Design - February is a hard month to be a student, expectations are a little higher, weather is bad, one of longest stretches between breaks - This student's enthusiasm has never waned - Presley Peacock
- Spanish - consistent model of respect, reverence, and responsibility in Spanish class, kindness and work ethic make our classroom a better place - Annabelle Reed

6th Grade Top Cats

- Intro to Romance Language - true appreciation for language learning - Charlotte Hogate and Keller Lee
- Math 6 - Commitment to improving, always take the chance to improve - Henry Wright, Landon Rodgers
- History 6 - Demonstrate a positive attitude and leave spaces better than when they got there - Jane Rojas, Vivie Stiles
- Science 6 - finishing strong, initiative in getting caught up after being absent - Payton Robinson, Jackson McLarty
- English 6 - study of literature can be uncomfortable, with difficult questions and tough topics - two students have not shied away from these challenges - Rosemary Walker, Graves Dement
- Writing 6 - come to participate, good attitudes, showing up, awesome spirit to keep trying - Emma Young, Leoni Snowden

ERB Testing - 6th and 7th Grade Students

6th and 7th grade students will take ERB CTP-V standardized testing April 13th-15th. This testing will run from approximately 8:00am to 12:10pm each day. Please make sure students arrive to school on time and minimize appointments during those testing times. Missed testing will not be made up.

PSAT for 8th Graders

Students in grades 8-10 will take PSAT 8/9 & PSAT10 on Thursday, April 16th. This testing will run from approximately 8:00 am to 11:00. Please make sure students arrive on time on those days and minimize appointments during those testing times.

Reminder: Community Service Hours

Every middle school student needs to complete five hours of community service prior to the conclusion of each school year. These hours need to be documented on a Community Service Form (where the organization sponsor signs to verify participation) and turned in to Mrs. Britt in the Middle School office by April 15. Students who need ideas about how to complete their service hours should consult their advisors or Dr. McCormick.

7th Grade Vaccine Reminder

This is a reminder that when kids enter 7th grade they are required to have a meningococcal vaccine (Usually called Menactra, MENVEO, or MemACYW). Most students get both meningococcal and Tdap vaccines when they turn 11. If you are unsure if your kids had the vaccine, reach out to their pediatrician or Nurse Hopkins to see if they are up to date.



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Reminder: Procedure for Obtaining an Excused Absence

If your child has to miss a full day of school or more, their adults need to email Dr. McCormick requesting the given time off and do so at least one week in advance. After this has been approved, the student will collect a Planned Absence Form from the Middle School Office, take it around to their teachers whose classes they will be missing for their signatures, and then bring it back to the Middle School office for Dr. McCormick's signature. They will also be given a copy to take with them.

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

We are pumped up for this afternoon's Variety Show, which our students organize and run every year on the day before the start of Spring Break. Can you imagine singing a song or performing a sketch or sharing some other talent in front of everyone in your high school when you were a kid? Our students show off their incredible talent and courage when they jump on stage.

Another highlight from this week was the triumphant return of our Advisory Cheese Dip Competition. Each Advisory entered a cheese dip into the competition, and students and faculty advisors moved from room to room on Wednesday during FLEX, sampling and voting on their favorite cheese dips.

Our team wishes you a wonderful Spring Break!

See you out there,
Kellen

Updates, Reminders, & Action Items

Upcoming College Visits:

10th & 11th graders are welcome to join these meetings in College Counseling. Sign up in SCOIR under “Visits & Deadlines” & bring your Green College Visit Permission Slip both to your teacher to sign before class and to the visit. These slips can be picked up in the College Counseling Office.

- Monday, March 30th - 8:15 AM - University of Arizona

Seniors - please see flyer below for a senior spring college counseling checklist!



PSAT for 8th through 10th Grade Students

Students in grades 8-10 will take PSAT 8/9 & PSAT10 on Thursday, April 16th. This testing will run from approximately 8:00 am to 11:00. Please make sure students arrive on time on those days and minimize appointments during those testing times.

SWEET 16 - Check-up and Vaccine Requirement Reminder

[Written by Nurse Lenna]

This is a reminder, that as your kids are turning 16 years old, don't forget to make their 16 y/o check-up with their pediatrician. At this visit they will get their second meningococcal (booster) dose that is required for students who are 16 years of age or older on or after September 1, 2025. This meningococcal vaccine goes by names like: Menactra, MENVEO, or MemACYW.

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 inform their teachers, coaches, and advisor of any known absences in advance.

Conversations about Substance Abuse & Prevention

[Written by Dr. Aaron Leverette, US Counselor]

This past week, Justin Buck, Executive Director of the Wolfe Street Foundation, and his colleagues spoke to upper school students in grade-level meetings about identifying their core values to help students create the lives they want to live. They talked about how choosing a values-driven life builds resilience against substance use. Several team members also shared their personal journeys of recovery. Our students were moved by these authentic stories, with many noting it was the highlight of Wolfe Street's presentation. We are so thankful for the Wolfe Street Foundation's partnership in supporting our students through these vital conversations.

9th Grade Spring Service Project

9th Graders are invited to participate in a spring service project on Monday, April 6th at the St. Francis House. The St. Francis House is an organization established in January 1970 as a social outreach of the Episcopal Church to the State of Arkansas.

This project will take place on the Monday of Easter Break. Students will be working on a project in the morning for a few hours. The work the students do will be determined by how many sign up for it so please RSVP in the poll that was posted on the Class of 2029 GroupMe. If you are not on the GroupMe, please email Monica Warren with your child's name to: monica_mullens@yahoo.com.

Candy Needed for Annual Easter Egg Hunt

[Written by Paige London, US Learning Specialist]

Episcopope is excited to host the 3rd annual Upper School Easter Egg Hunt on Wednesday, April 1st! In order to make this event a success, we need candy...a lot of candy. Students are encouraged to bring in individually wrapped candy to Ms. Gammill or Ms. Paige by Tuesday, March 31st. Thank you so much, and happy Easter!

Coming Up Next Week...

Easter Break

School will be closed on Friday, April 3 in observance of Good Friday and Monday, April 6 for Easter Monday.

Chapel Schedule

- Monday, 3/30 - Emma Schnackenberg '26
- Tuesday, 3/31 - Dr. Hayden Dunn
- Wednesday, 4/1 - Percussion Performance
- Thursday, 4/2 - College Trip Reflection

Athletics Schedule

Let's go, Wildcats!

Beyone this Week...

- Prom Pep Rally - Friday, April 10
- Prom - Saturday, April 11
- Spring Athletes College Signing Ceremony - Tuesday, April 14
- PSAT Day (8th, 9th, 10th Grades) - Thursday, April 16
- Shrek: The Musical - Thursday, April 16 - Saturday, April 18
- Percussion Concert in the Quad - Tuesday, April 21
- Cum Laude Induction Ceremony - Thursday, April 23
- Spring Choir/Orchestra Concert - Monday, April 27
- World Language Honor Societies Induction Ceremony - Tuesday, April 28
- Fine Arts Awards & Performances - Wednesday, April 29
- Spring Athletics Recognition Assembly - Wednesday, April 29
- National Forensic League Induction Ceremony - Thursday, April 30
- College T-Shirt Day & Senior Picnic - Friday, May 1
- AP Exams - Monday, May 4 - Thursday, May 14
- Last Day of School for Seniors - Wednesday, May 6
- Handshake Farewell Ceremony - Wednesday, May 6
- Senior Exams - Thursday, May 7 & Friday, May 8
- In-Class Exam Review Days - Monday, May 11 & Tuesday, May 12
- Rising Senior Blazer Ceremony - Tuesday, May 12
- End of Quarter 4 - Wednesday, May 13
- Reading Day - Wednesday, May 13
- Graduation Rehearsal - Wednesday, May 13
- End-of-Semester Exams - Thursday, May 14/Monday, May 18 - Wednesday, May 20
- Class Day - Friday, May 15
- Baccalaureate - Friday, May 15
- Last Day of School for Students (9th, 10th, 11th Grades) - Wednesday, May 20

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.

Go Wildcats!

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. Click 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 the 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

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.

Spring Break Childcare:

Please fill this form out if you plan to utilize WildCat Club during Spring Break. Please note this coverage is for 12-Month Families only.

- [Spring Break Child Care 2026](#)

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.