



# GSL eNews



Sunday,  
April 5, 2026

## THIS WEEK AT-A-GLANCE

### April 6

Easter Monday, No School

### April 7

Classes resume

### April 8

4th Grade Leadership Breakfast, 8-9 a.m.,  
Trezevant Hall

### April 9

Garden Day Celebration for Preschool Students  
(Parents: Please see info below for dates you are invited to come volunteer with your child's classroom)

### April 10

All-School Orange Dress-Down Day per decree of Honorary Head of School for the Day Paul Blankenship (Parents: This Anchor Auction item is up for bid again this year!)

Celebration Chapel Hosted by Gillian Stewart,  
8:05 a.m., Church (Parents welcome to attend)

Annual Anchor Auction, 6:30-10 p.m., Loflin Yard

### April 11

Chess Tournament, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Anchor Center Cafeteria (see info below)

[Click here for online School & Athletic Calendars](#)

## NEXT WEEK AT-A-GLANCE

### April 14

Middle School Chapel, 8:05 a.m., Church

Meet & Greet for Incoming Head of Middle School Pam Smith, 5:30-7 p.m., Anchor Library  
(All 4th-8th grade parents are invited; see separate email sent 4/1/26)

### April 15

Lower School Chapel, 8:05 a.m., Church

3rd Grade Music Performance for Parents, 8:15-9 a.m., McClure Hall



### Sign Up Now for Middle School Fall Sports

Want to play Middle School sports this coming school year? The deadline to sign up is this Friday, April 10 by midnight. Any registrations received after this date will be put on a waitlist and may not play. You may only sign up for one major sport and one minor sport so that practices/games do not conflict. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

Please be sure to sign all required forms listed on the sign-up. Questions? Email Assistant

**April 16**

All-School Chapel with 8th Grade Chapel Talks by Joseph, Ella, and Miles, 8:05 a.m., Church

Preschool Chapel, 8:35 a.m., ACE Room

**April 17**

All-School Dress-Down Day Celebrating Earth Day

Earth Day Celebration Chapel Hosted by Julie Binder & Elizabeth Bayzie, 8:05 a.m., Anchor Gym  
(Parents welcome to attend)

Earth Day Activities for Grades SK-8th, 8 a.m.-Noon

7th/8th Grade Dance (Glow Theme), 7-9 p.m., Anchor Center Cafeteria



**Anchor Auction Bidding Opens This Tuesday!**  
**Presented by Independent Bank**

Online bidding for this year's Anchor Auction will open this Tuesday at 8 a.m.! An informational email will also be sent out that morning with instructions on how to register to bid online and answers to some FAQs.

The Anchor Auction is this Friday, April 10 at Loflin Yard, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thank you to all who purchased tickets to this annual P.A. fundraiser!

Have questions? Contact Auction Event Chairs [Kendall Franklin](#), [Heather Grosvenor](#), or [Liz McKee](#).



**Garden Planting Days for Parents**

Parents are invited to help refresh the Preschool Outdoor Classroom garden for spring. We ask that you plan to come on your child's classroom day as outlined below. Look for information from your child's teacher for more details. **Dates are as follows:**

Friday, April 10: Playful Peacocks and Terrific Tigers

Monday, April 13: Zippy Zebras and Kind Capybaras  
Tuesday, April 14: Snappy Sea Turtles & Lucky Llamas  
Wednesday, April 15: Jolly Giraffes and Creative Caterpillars  
Thursday, April 16: Little Saints and Outstanding Otters



***Shelby County Chess Tournament at GSL***  
**Saturday, April 11 at 9 a.m., Anchor Center**  
**(Registration begins at 8:15 a.m.)**

Enter the April Showers Chess Tournament!  
4 round chess tournament with no eliminations.  
Sections based on chess skill level  
Open to all scholastic players regardless of skill level!  
Cost \$20 (\$25 on site)  
[Click here](#) to register online.

**TENNIS AND LUNCH TICKETS AVAILABLE!**

GRACE-ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL

**Saints Slam**

PRESENTED BY  
**RAYMOND JAMES**

**NOT A TENNIS PLAYER? NOT A PROBLEM! JOIN US FOR LUNCH, SHOPPING AND SPECTATING IN THE VICTORY VILLAGE**

***Saints Slam Tennis & Lunch Tickets Available!***  
**Presented by Raymond James**

GSL ladies - register with a doubles partner today for our first-ever P.A. women's tennis tournament, Saints Slam, presented by Raymond James! Tickets include round-robin doubles tennis, a courtside buffet lunch, drinks, Victory Village shopping, and community-building. **Not a tennis player? Not a problem! Join us for lunch, shopping, and spectating!**

[Click to buy your tickets today!](#)

Doubles Team Registration: \$180

Lunch Tickets (non-player attendees): \$65

**Questions?** Need help finding a doubles partner? Please contact event chairs [Lindsey Myers](#) or [Elizabeth Warren](#).

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

PRESENTING SPONSOR

### RAYMOND JAMES

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### Save the Date for Your Child's Spring Musical Performance

As part of Music Teacher Braden Jensen's curriculum, students present musical performances for parents every spring. They are working hard on these now, so be sure to save the date for your child's performance.

**All Lower School shows will be in McClure Hall at 8:15 a.m.**

3rd Grade: Wednesday, April 15

2nd Grade: Wednesday, April 22

1st Grade: Wednesday, April 29

SK: Wednesday, May 6

4th Grade: Wednesday, May 13

**Also please note:** 5th/6th Grade's 3rd Trimester music performance is Thursday, May 7 at 6 p.m. in McClure Hall.

### Calling All Parents: Spring Faculty/Staff Appreciation

To close out the school year, the Parents' Association is organizing several ways to show love to our GSL faculty/staff, and we need your help! **SIGN-UP HERE TO VOLUNTEER:**

- **TEACHER COVERAGE** (Friday, April 24): The Massage Institute of Memphis will be on campus to provide massages for faculty/staff. We will **need 1 volunteer for each Preschool class** to assist with teacher coverage for 1 hour (Lower School and Middle School teachers will go during their special subjects and do not need coverage).
- **SNACK CART SERVICE** (Thursday, May 7): **Help us stock the snack cart!** Sign up to purchase and drop off snack items between now and Tuesday, May 5. Drop Off Location: Admin Building Front Desk with Ms. Angela.
- **BYWAY COFFEE TRUCK** (Tuesday, May 5): Coffee truck will be on-site, courtesy of the P.A. and GSL school. No volunteers needed!

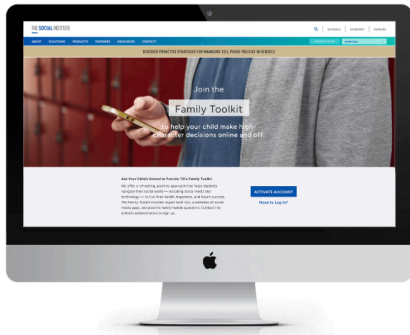


Thanks for your help to make this a success! For questions, please reach out to P.A. Faculty/Staff Appreciation Chairs **Elizabeth Warren** or **Amy Golden**.

### The Social Institute Toolkit for 3rd-8th Grade Families

Last week, Middle School faculty members Jeff White and Courtney Ciaramitaro held a coffee for Middle School families to discuss our online lives and our partnership with the Social Institute's platform of teaching tools.

# The Family Toolkit



Whether your child uses devices and apps regularly, or is just beginning to ask questions—the resources offered through this partnership are designed to be flexible and family-friendly. We understand that each household has its own values and approach to technology, and we hope you will consider this a useful toolkit to use in whatever way fits your family best.

**As a reminder to 3rd-8th grade families, here are ways you can access and utilize the Social Institute:**

- **Register for your free Social Institute Toolkit.** Go to the [Toolkit](#), click Activate Account, and fill out the brief contact information form, using our school access code: 49e87C11F1008C.

In the Family Toolkit section, look around and you'll find:

- **Playbooks:** Detailed information for specific apps. What apps kids are using for what purpose, how to use the settings, etc.
- **Family Huddles:** Similar to the lessons they are getting in the classroom that include follow up questions at home. Might be useful if you have questions about how to talk to our child about a specific topic.
- **Wall of Wins:** Real life testimonials.

There's also a **Family Social Standards Agreement**, a fairly comprehensive guide that includes your child's input in setting boundaries and expectations for your family.

We encourage you to explore and learn more!

## Reminders for EFS Recipients

The TN EFS program continues to run smoothly for 2025–26, with final payments expected soon and already reflected in FACTS accounts. Planning for 2026–27 is underway, though final award amounts are still pending state approval. Action is required to ensure your student's enrollment and billing adjustments are processed correctly.

- The 2026–27 application period has closed; current recipients are assumed to have renewed.
- You must designate GSL as your student's school in the [EFS portal](#) to finalize participation.
- FACTS payment schedules will not be adjusted until this step is completed and enrollment is verified.
- The deadline to complete enrollment verification is June 30, 2026.
- Estimated award amount is \$7,295; adjustments will be made if the state finalizes a different amount.
- Please contact the business office ([dfundo@gslschool.org](mailto:dfundo@gslschool.org)) with any questions. You can [click here](#) to access full email recently sent separately to all recipients.



## ACE News: Featured Enrichments

Please check out some of our upcoming featured enrichments!

### Volleyball Look-Ahead for Rising 5th and 6th

Look ahead to what playing volleyball in middle school is like with Coaches Lily Davis and Abby Hensley. All skills are welcomed and encouraged to come out! Players will learn fundamentals like passing, setting, serving, rules of the sport, and working as a team.

Grades: 5th - 6th

Day of the Week: Wednesday

Dates: April 8, April 15, April 22, and May 6 (No class on April 29 due to class trips)

Time: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Instructors: Lily Davis and Abby Hensley

Cost: \$150

[Click here](#) to register by Monday at 5 p.m.

### **A Ring, A Shift and the End of an Era!**

Are you excited to celebrate Taylor Swift's engagement? Come join us as we celebrate all things wedding and Taylor Swift. Join us for fun, crafting, dancing, singing and exploring all things in the new era of her life. We can't wait to see you!

Grades: JK - 2nd

Day of the Week: Wednesday

Date: April 8

Time: 2:45 - 3:30 p.m.

Instructors: Mimmie Fisher and Allie Dudley

Cost: \$45

[Click here](#) to register by Monday at 5 p.m.

### **Crafter's Workshop: Minecraft Keychains**

Crafter's Workshop: Minecraft Keychains is a hands-on enrichment activity where students design and create their own Minecraft-themed keychains. Using beads, shrink plastic, or foam squares, students will build pixel-style characters, tools, and blocks inspired by the game. This enrichment encourages creativity, fine motor skills, and problem-solving as students turn their Minecraft ideas into personalized keychains they can take home or trade with classmates.

Grades: SK - 3rd

Day of the Week: Friday

Date: April 10

Time: 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.

Instructor: T'Kye Thomas

Cost: \$60

[Click here](#) to register by Monday at 5 p.m.

### **The Twinkle Tales Book Club - Part 3**

Join Ms. Cynthia (Head of Preschool) for The Twinkle Tales Book Club. We will share a variety of fun stories and crafts in a four-part book club series. Part 3 is Giggles & Grow Stories Craft: Painting and pot painting.

Grade: LL

Day of the Week: Monday

Date: April 13

Time: 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

Instructor: Cynthia Hill

Cost: \$40

[Click here](#) to register by Friday at 5 p.m.

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### **SummerFest 2026 Camps & CIT Opportunity**

**Camps:** [Click here](#) to take a look at all our camp options this summer and register now so your child can join us!

**CIT Positions for 7th & 8th Graders:** Each year we invite our rising 7th and 8th graders and graduating 8th graders to volunteer as a counselor-in-training (CIT) for our youngest Lukers at Miss Lee's and Lower School. If your child enjoys working with young children and is interested in volunteering this summer, please fill out the [attached application](#) by May 13. This is an opportunity for your son/daughter to get involved and gain leadership experience.



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## *News from the Church*

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### ***Easter Season Updates & Youth Celebration Sunday***

See graphic here for schedule updates this Easter.

Last week we announced Grace-St. Luke's Church's Youth Led Sunday and All Parish Luncheon on April 12. We hope that you plan to be there, not only **to support GSL alumnus Glover Patton '22** as he

presents his sermon, but to give a special recognition to all of our seniors during the luncheon. Please **RSVP** and help spread the word by Monday, April 6.

If you have a high school senior living in your household, please **email Marta** with the following:

1. Full spelling of graduate's name
2. Current high school name
3. Special recognitions/sports/awards
4. Next steps (college, gap year, work or military)



## Youth Schedule Changes

- \* Parish office closed 4/6 - 4/10.
- \* No EYC on Easter Sunday.
- \* Biscuits & Bible will return 4/15.

*Enjoy your Easter season!*

## QUICK LINKS

- [Anchor Fund - GIVE TODAY!](#)
- [MyGSL Parent Portal](#) for Class Lists, Lunch Info, Uniform Guidelines, and Preschool & Lower School/Middle School Handbooks
- [Online Spirit Wear Store](#)
- [ACE: After School & Enrichment](#)
- [2025-26 Important Dates](#)
- [2026-27 Important Dates](#)
- [Create a Family Library Account](#)
- [Refer a Friend to GSL](#)

### **Contacting ACE After School Hours**

To connect with ACE after school hours, call the Auxiliary Programs line at 901.677.2245.

### **Weekly eNews Distribution**

To add an email address to the eNews distribution list, please email **Director of Communications** [Marci Woodmansee](#).



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