April 24, 2026

Education Freedom Account Update

4th Quarter Voucher Payment Now Due: The 4th quarter Education Freedom Account funds are in your EFA account and payment is now due. It is important to know that the school does not receive the tuition voucher funds directly from the Department of Education. The school only receives payment when you authorize your tuition voucher funds to be used to pay Episcopal Collegiate School via ClassWallet.

This video walkthrough will show how to respond to a payment request in ClassWallet: **ClassWallet Payment Request**

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

Students that participated this year: Renew by completing a survey through your ClassWallet account. Completing the survey will renew your Education Freedom Account for next year.

Students that are new to the program will complete their application at **http://arkansasefa.com**.

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.

Spring Sports Athletics Recognition Ceremony

Our Athletics Recognition Ceremony will be Wednesday, 4/29 at 2:35pm in the Championship gym

A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

The Lower School Book Drive supporting Project Transformation will continue through the end of next week. Students are invited to donate gently used books by placing them in the boxes at both school entrances. The Wildcat Chorale will honor first responders during their Spring Chapel performance on Wednesday, April 29 at 8:00 a.m. in the Erwin Hall Performance Hall & Gymnasium. We would be honored to welcome any first responders as our students express their gratitude to you through song.

Congratulations to our April Wildcat Wow Award recipients! We are grateful to these students for being leaders in the Lower School!



Have a wonderful weekend!
Catherine Schuhmacher
Head of Lower School

Ahoy Mateys - Book Fair Information!



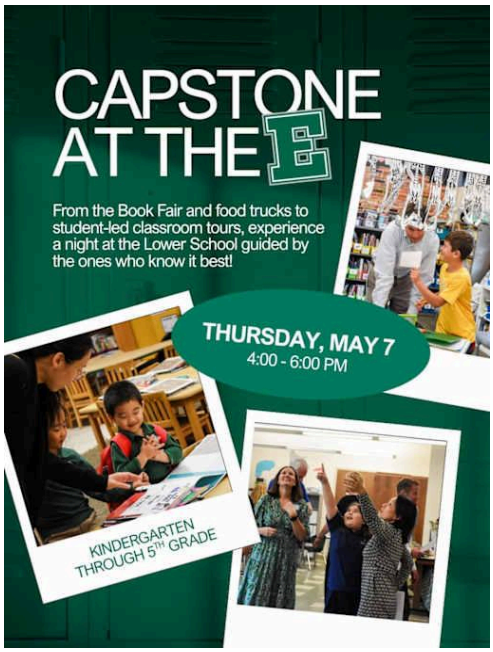
The Treasured Tales Book Fair will be May 4-8, 2026 in the Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Lower School Library. The **class schedule is here** and grown ups are welcome to attend during their students' class visit. The book fair will also be open during Capstone the E on Thursday, May 7 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Our **online fair** is now open and families are welcome to shop between now and May 8, 2026. All orders will be shipped to the school at the end of the book fair and delivered to your student(s). You can also purchase many of your **Summer Reading books** through our online fair. These purchases all benefit the library!

Online Teacher Wish Lists are also available. These books go directly to your student(s) classroom libraries. All books purchased online will be delivered to the school at the conclusion of the book fair. There will also be an in person Teacher Wish List, but there are many more options that teachers "wish" to have online.

Thanks so much to those of you who have helped Mrs. Linder prepare craft items and those that have signed up to help with decorations. Now we are in need of volunteers to help with the daily operation of the book fair the week of May 4-8! **Click here to sign up!**

Save the Date - Capstone Night at the E!



Chapel

In Community Chapel this week we heard from our 1st grade class about "responsibility" in our final character trait presentation of the school year. Next week, we'll enjoy a performance by the Wildcat Chorale as they present a special tribute to first responders.

We hope you can join us for Chapel on April 29:

- 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 29, 2026:

Procession

- Cross: Hank Adams
- Candle: Mykenna Kloske
- Candle: Sadie Prater

Readers

- Landry Rolston
- Cole Irwin
- Cantors
- Parker Easley
- Stella Mangum
- Evie Slabaugh
- Molly Painter

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 - April 27-May 1

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:

- Clark Tucker
- Layla Turner
- Everett Weirich
- William Wells
- Jaegar Whaley
- Sam Williams

Teacher Appreciation Week - May 4th - 8th

Please consider signing up to cover a Lower School classroom on Wednesday, May 6th, so our teachers can step away and enjoy lunch from the taco truck, we truly appreciate your support in making this possible! **Sign-Up/ Teacher Appreciation Sign -Up**

Mark Your Calendars

- 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, 11:45am Dismissal, No Wildcat Club

Helpful Links

Lower School Live Morning News **Wildcat Parent Hub**

A Note from Dr. McCormick

Dear Families,

This Wednesday I got to travel with eighth grade students and teachers on their annual trip to the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, coupled with lunch and time at the wonderful Memphis Zoo, some time at the iconic Bass Pro Shop pyramid and lunch at Rendezvous. We had a very enjoyable experience, our students were outstanding throughout, and Ms. Corker, the eighth grade history teacher, did a phenomenal job organizing the entire program!

MS Athletes of the Week:

This week's athletes of the week were four students from junior high track. From the girls' team, eighth grader Carter Chance and seventh grader Jersei Garrett were recognized, and seventh graders Grant Willis and Simon Mangum were the boys' team awardees.

Middle School Mayhem:

Middle School Mayhem (the initial announcement date was incorrect. The correct date is Thursday, April 30.) Time is 3:30-5:00, and all Middle School students are welcome to attend!

Semester Exam Schedule

Spring 2026 Semester Exams	
Thursday, May 14, 2026	
8:00 - 8:30	MS Advisory
8:30 – 10:30	History

10:30 - 11:30	US Advisory/MS Advisory for World Language Students Taking Afternoon Exams
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch for World Language Students Taking Afternoon Exams
12:30 - 2:30	World Languages
Monday, May 18	
8:00 - 8:30	MS Advisory
8:30 – 10:30	Math
TBD	Conflicts
Tuesday, May 19, 2026	
8:00 - 8:30	MS Advisory
8:30 - 10:30	English
TBD	Conflicts
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	
8:00 - 8:30	MS Advisory
8:30 – 10:30	Science
TBD	Conflicts

Girls of Promise

Girls of Promise is a statewide program that brings together 8th grade girls from across Arkansas to explore exciting opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Through hands-on activities and the opportunity to meet and learn from women working in a variety of career fields across the state, students gain confidence, build leadership skills, and discover future career pathways.

We are proud to share that the following students represented our school at the event on April 10th: Mabel Whitley, Anna Lammers, Evie Paul, Zoe Allen, and Delaney Weirich.

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.

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

One of this week's highlights came on Wednesday, when we hosted our annual College Admissions Case Studies Workshop with our 11th graders. Our students spent the day learning from Admissions Deans from Auburn, American, and Vanderbilt Universities. The deans gave our students unmatched insights to the college admissions process, including how applications get read and evaluated, how students can find their right-fit school, and more.

Yesterday's Cum Laude Society induction ceremony was another highlight. We welcomed our newest members into one of our country's oldest honor societies, and we are proud of them for their hard work.

Shoutout to our Percussion students for playing an amazing show Tuesday night on the Quad.

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

See you out there,
Kellen

Updates, Reminders, & Action Items

End-of-Semester Exam Support [Written by Paige London, Upper School Learning Specialist]

Final exams are quickly approaching! To give students a strong game plan, I have put together an **Exam Prep Timeline** filled with practical, research-based tips such as breaking material into manageable chunks and spreading out study sessions across several days instead of cramming. Upper School students will receive this timeline next week during Advisory, so they have a clear week-by-week breakdown tailored to the May exam schedule. Exam season is a great opportunity for students to flex those growing independence muscles and to attend extra help sessions. Thank you for partnering with us in your child's success.

AP Testing 2026:

AP Testing will begin on Monday, May 4th, and conclude on Thursday, May 14th. **(Testing Calendar).** AP teachers will communicate specific testing locations with students as we get closer to the testing date. Times and locations will also be posted outside of College Counseling. 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. 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 18th. Please bring a fully charged laptop for testing. If you use a personal chromebook or iPad, please let Ms. Byrd know.

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 the college they are planning on attending.

Thanksgiving Italy Trip [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.

A few spots are still available! Check out **our website** for full details and registration information.

Spring 2026 AP Exam Schedule

Monday, May 4
- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - Biology & Latin
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - European History

Tuesday, May 5
- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - Chemistry
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - US Government

Wednesday, May 6
- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - English Literature

Thursday, May 7
- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - Modern World History
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Statistics

Friday, May 8

- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - United States History
- *Digital Portfolios are due for AP Art & Design

Monday, May 11

- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - Calculus AB & BC
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Seminar & AP Music Theory

Tuesday, May 12

- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - French
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Psychology

Wednesday, May 13

- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - English Language
- 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Physics C: Mechanics

Thursday, May 14

- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - Spanish Language

Spring 2026 Semester Exam Schedule

Thursday, May 14

- 8:30-10:30 am - History Exams
- 11:30 am-12:30 pm - Lunch (for students taking an afternoon World Language Exam)
- 12:30-2:30 pm - World Language Exams

Friday, May 15

- *No Exams - Middle School/Upper School Class Day

Monday, May 18

- 8:30-10:30 am - Math Exams

Tuesday, May 19

- 8:30-10:30 am - English Exams

Wednesday, May 20

- 8:30-10:30 am - Science Exams

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 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.

The Upper School Concert Choir wins the Sweepstakes award at the State Choral Festival!

The Episcopal Collegiate Concert Choir participated in the Regional Choral Performance Assessments in March. This event requires our students to prepare music for a concert performance for three judges followed by a music sight-reading demonstration for a single judge. The Concert Choir earned "Superior" (90 and above) ratings from all three concert judges and a "Superior" rating from their sight-reading judge. These combined scores qualified them for the State Choral Festival in April where they would prepare another concert performance for three judges from out-of-state. On April 13th, the Concert Choir was awarded "Superior" ratings from all three judges at the state contest. The combined

scores from the Regional and State performances earned the Concert Choir a Sweepstakes Award from the Arkansas Choral Director's Association, who sponsored the two events. In addition, the Concert Choir won runner-up (2nd place) in their division (3A - Large Ensemble). Congratulations to these dedicated and talented students on their artistry and hard work!

Coming Up Next Week...

Spring Choir/Orchestra Concert - Monday, April 27

Join us at 7:00 pm on Monday, April 27 in the US/MS Dining Hall for our annual Spring Choir/Orchestra Concert.

The Choirs and Orchestra of Episcopal Collegiate would like to invite our Episcopal community to the Annual Spring Concert on Monday, April 27th at 7:00pm in the Episcopal Collegiate Dining Hall. The Spring Concert will feature music performed by the Wildcat Chorale, Episcopal Chorus (Middle School Choir), the Concert Choir (Upper School Choir) the Episcopal Collegiate Orchestra and a special appearance by the Episcopal Faculty Choir! Selections include music from the musicals "Matilda" and "Hamilton" as well as artists James Taylor, Shakira, Laufay, Adele, and so much more. Come be a part of this special night of music and show your support for the Fine Arts at Episcopal Collegiate!

World Language Honor Societies Induction Ceremony - Tuesday, April 28

The newest members of French, Spanish, and Latin honor societies will be inducted during a special ceremony during Chapel on Tuesday, April 28.

Fine Arts Awards & Performances - Wednesday, April 29

The Fine Arts Department of Episcopal Collegiate would like to cordially invite you to an evening celebrating excellence, creativity and artistic achievement. Join us as we honor students who consistently exceed the norm in the arts, demonstrating exceptional talent, dedication and vision across a variety of disciplines. The event will take place in the Middle and Upper School Dining Hall at 7:00pm on Wednesday, April 29th. A reception will take place following the ceremony where you can speak with the honorees and artists and view their art work on display. We look forward to sharing this memorable evening with you.

Spring Athletics Assembly - Wednesday, April 29

Join us at 2:25 pm in the Championship Gym for our Spring Athletics Assembly, at which our spring student-athletes and teams will be recognized for their hard work and achievements.

National Forensic League Induction Ceremony - Thursday, April 30

The newest members of our Speech and Debate honor society will be inducted during a special ceremony during Chapel on Thursday, April 30.

College T-Shirt Day & Senior Picnic - Friday, May 1

Seniors are invited to wear their college t-shirts on Friday, May 1, and senior families are invited to join us for our annual Senior Famil Picnic on the Quad from 12:15 to 1:25 pm. More details coming soon from Ms. Morgan and Ms. Byrd.

Chapel Schedule

- Monday, 4/27 - Wildcat Chorale Performance
- Tuesday, 4/28 - World Language Honor Societies Induction Ceremony
- Wednesday, 4/29 - Spring Athletics Assembly (2:30 pm - Championship Gym)
- Thursday, 4/30 - National Forensic League Induction Ceremony
- Friday, 5/1 - Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration

Athletics Schedule

Rowing Summer Camp!



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.



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.

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.

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.