

## A Word From the Parents' Auxiliary

The Parents' Auxiliary is the School's parents' association. All parents and guardians are automatically members and are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and get involved. Meetings are held the first Friday of every month.

## First Parents' Auxiliary Meeting

To adhere to health and safety guidelines, our first meeting will be held virtually on [Friday, Sept. 4 at 9 a.m.](#) We will evaluate the meeting format as the year progresses. We hope the later start time allows everyone to join us from work or home! [Use this link to join.](#)

Dr. David Perkinson, Head of School, will join us to speak about the health and safety on campus during the first few weeks. Interim Athletic Director Micah Marsh will speak about the athletic program under COVID-19 guidelines.

## Shop, Share and Save

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Box Tops for Education is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your

store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online. To download the app and learn more, [click here](#).

## Used Uniforms

Thank you to everyone who supported the Parents' Auxiliary through a purchase at our Used Uniform Sale. Used Uniforms will be for sale all year long. Donations are also accepted all year; please drop those off in the appropriate bin provided in each division. Even if your used uniforms have holes or stains, our Upcyclers can turn them into useful crafts, which keeps them out of landfills.

## Parenting Roundtables

Lower School sessions hosted by Lower School Counselor, Betsy Abbott, will be held on the first Tuesday of each month from 12-1 p.m. These meetings will be held virtually and if you would like to join please reach out to Betsy Abbott at [babbott@episcopalcollegiate.org](mailto:babbott@episcopalcollegiate.org).

Middle and Upper School sessions will be hosted by Anna TerAvest, middle and upper school counselor, on the first Thursday of each month from 12-1 p.m. If you would like to join this session, please reach out to Anna TerAvest at [ateravest@episcopalcollegiate.org](mailto:ateravest@episcopalcollegiate.org) to obtain the meet code. The first session for the Lower School will be Sept. 1, and the Middle and Upper School will be held on Sept. 3.

Be sure to check out the [Parents' Auxiliary](#) on the school website and look for updates in the Wildcat Weekly for helpful information. For any questions regarding Parents' Auxiliary please contact Neal Lea, Parents' Auxiliary President, at [neallyjackson@yahoo.com](mailto:neallyjackson@yahoo.com) or Hannah Bryan at [hbryan@episcopalcollegiate.org](mailto:hbryan@episcopalcollegiate.org).

## A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

What a joy it has been having our youngest Wildcats join us this week in PreK! As you know, the weather threw some kinks into the week, but we powered through and will continue to do so with each challenge that comes our way.

Carpool seems to be running more smoothly with each day that passes. We greatly appreciate you following the guidelines to ensure each child has his or her temperature checked and that we operate as efficiently as possible.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Catherine Schuhmacher  
Head of Lower School

## Carpool Updates/Clarifications

### Morning Carpool

- All temperature checks will begin at 7:30am in the carpool line and will continue throughout morning carpool at the south end of the football field for all students rather than at each individual entrance. Please make sure you stop at one of the three cones for your child's temperature check.
- There will be a temperature check at each door entrance for students who are walked to the entrance area by parents.
- Carpool unloading will move up 5 minutes to begin at 7:40am. Please note that this is still a shorter window compared to our previous drop-off time in the past of 7:30am. The reason for shortening this window is our inability to have a large group gathering of before school care. Please be patient as we strive to accomplish all safety protocols while also welcoming all Lower School students in a shorter window.
- If one sibling in the car has a fever of 100.0 F or above, no one from that car/family will be allowed to attend school that day. Please contact Nurse Hopkins in this case and follow protocol.
- Once PK, Kinder, and 1st grade students have gone through temperature checks, they are welcome to merge left and proceed to their drop-off location. **Please do not merge left before temperature checks are complete.**
- PreK parents - please remember to check your child in using the Brightwheel app.
- Please refer back to our [suggestions for carpool](#) list that was shared earlier this week to make this process more efficient.

### Afternoon Carpool

- Carpool dismissal for PreK is from 2:30-3pm. We need all PreK students picked up by that time so our next carpool does not back up. Please remember to check your child out using the Brightwheel app.
- Kinder through 5th grade carpool dismissal will begin at 3:15pm. ALL students must be picked up by 3:45pm. There is NO daily drop in for Wildcat Club.
- All Kinder and 1st grade parents should stay in the main carpool line until the teacher with the walkie talkie has called your child's name. You will know because the teacher will be right near your car looking at your carpool sign. Once name has been called, you may merge into the left lane and proceed to the Kinder/1st pick-up area. This will assure that your child will be outside and ready to go.

#### Wildcat Club

- Please call 501-804-6649 when you arrive to pick up your child from Wildcat Club.

## SAGE Lunch Options

Given our current meal options, there is no daily opt-in for SAGE lunch. If your child would like to try our lunch program, we recommend you register for the month and opt out at the end of the month if not satisfied. Please keep in mind that there are different menu options each day so it might be challenging to determine based on just a day or two. To opt in or out of the lunch program, please contact the [Business Office](#).

## Counseling News from Mrs. Abbott

Our first **PARENT ROUNDTABLE** of the year is this Tuesday, September 1 at 12:00. Please email me ([babbott@episcopalcollegiate.org](mailto:babbott@episcopalcollegiate.org)) to RSVP and receive the login information for the virtual meeting. I am looking forward to checking in with you all to see how everyone is doing with the start of the new year. There is not a specific topic for this roundtable, but I'm hoping to address thoughts and feelings about the year so far, address any concerns, and share strategies that have been helpful with coping with these unusual times.

The character trait for September is **HOPE**. This was not a random selection, but chosen very purposefully to help us frame our thinking for the year. Hopefulness is one of the most important traits we can practice daily, especially during uncertain times such as these. We will focus on the power of hope and how we can use it to inspire us and help us on the hardest days. I would love for you to find opportunities at home to discuss moments of hope, or how you have used hope to help or inspire you!

## Chapel News from Mother Curtis

Blessings on a new school year! What a joy to see students on campus again!

In our upcoming Community Chapel, for the 1st through 5th grade, our Lower School Counselor, Betsy Abbot, will be presenting on the role of a counselor at our school. She will also be talking about some of the ways we can work through our big feelings and manage stress.

In Godly Play, we will be exploring the metaphor of light as a way to talk about God's presence and love. A candle will be lit for each child as a symbol of how their lives can be a light for others as they share all the good gifts God has given them.

Grace & Peace,  
Mother Curtis+  
Lower School Chaplain

Find the [LS Calendar](#) here.

## A Note from Dr. McCormick

Dear Parents,

As I write this, I see cars lining up in the middle school carpool at 11:57am on Thursday! I hope that this break in the action due to weather will be short-lived and that we can resume our teaching and learning tomorrow! We had a very efficient picture day for our in-person learners yesterday, and our students, as they typically are, were very cooperative and flexible in making this happen. E-learners will have the opportunity to schedule appointments on our "make-up picture day," and we will inform you of the appropriate time to do this. Advisory groups in all grades have been working on greeting one another on those mornings when we meet. Ensuring that everyone gets greeted each day by at least one other person is foundational to fostering a supportive, inclusive, and respectful community, where students feel comfortable expressing themselves and taking positive risks.

Chuck McCormick  
Head of Middle School

## Using Haiku Tutorial

While a number of parents attended one of Mrs. Katie Robinson's earlier Haiku tutorial sessions, we wanted to provide you with a video that you can refer to from time to time. The link to that tutorial is [here](#).

## Virtual Book Talks

Dr. McCormick will again be leading a book study this semester, and this semester's book is entitled *Generation Z Unfiltered* by Tim Elmore and Andrew McPeak. Our first conversation will take place on Tuesday, September 15. The second discussion will be on Tuesday, October 6, and the final conversation will occur on Wednesday, October 21. All of these sessions will occur at the following Google Meet link: [meet.google.com/cfy-rkqf-dxo](https://meet.google.com/cfy-rkqf-dxo)

Dial in: (US)+1 252-665-6568 PIN: 738 192 219#, and they will take place from 8:15-9:00am.

Find the [MS Calendar](#) [here](#).

## A Note from Mr. Urquhart

Dear Upper School Families,

We've had a great first (nearly) full week of school! This week, we heard from our Honor Council during Chapel on Wednesday, and on Thursday, we held the annual signing of the Honor Pledge. Things looked a little different, of course, with students signing the pledge in individual classrooms, but we were glad to take time this week to reaffirm our commitment to the principles that keep the relationships in our school community strong. We also celebrated the opening of our fall athletic season, with our varsity volleyball team facing--and defeating--Fountain Lake, the team they defeated in the 3A state finals last year. And the student fellows who are working in our Writing Center spent

today preparing for the year ahead, and they're ready to support students with one-on-one virtual appointments.

One thing that we've noted during the first week and half of school is that it might be helpful for students to have earbuds. As we look for ways for students to engage virtually in class meetings, clubs, and other activities, having a set of earbuds handy might help to make some of those things possible.

School photos were taken earlier this week on Wednesday, August 26. Any students who were absent from school on Wednesday morning should be on the lookout for information about makeup photos, which we'll announce soon. For our students who are working remotely, we'll offer appointments for school photos on the day we have makeup photos.

Thanks so much to all of the parents who joined us for our virtual Back to School Night for the Upper School on Thursday evening. I hope that you enjoyed hearing a little bit about your child's classes this year. If you weren't able to join us and would still like to tune in, please let me know, and I'll be glad to share those details with you.

Troy Urquhart  
Head of Upper School

## **Additional Help for Students**

If students find that they need additional support with any of their courses, teachers are happy to meet with them outside of class time. Additionally, our Math Lab is open before and after school, and our Writing Center is available for virtual appointments with students.

## **Contacting Teachers**

When contacting teachers in the Upper School, it's often most convenient to reach out to them via email, since they aren't able to answer a phone call while they're teaching but can give you a call when they aren't with a class. Students can also reach their teachers using their school account through

Google Chat. I know that in a small community like ours, sometimes families may have a teacher's cell phone or home phone number--if that's the case, please don't use a teacher's personal phone number for questions about classes or schoolwork.

**Find the [US Calendar](#) here.**

## **Upcoming Games**

Saturday, August 29

- Girls JV Volleyball Spikefest
- Girls Varsity Volleyball Spikefest

Monday, August 31

- Girls 7th Grade Volleyball vs. Harding Academy, AWAY
- Girls 9th Grade Volleyball vs. Harding Academy, AWAY
- Girls JV Volleyball vs. Harding Academy, AWAY
- Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Harding Academy, AWAY
- Boys and Girls Varsity Golf vs. Lisa Academy, AWAY @3:00pm
- Boys and Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Atkins, AWAY @4:00pm

Tuesday, September 1

- Girls 8th Grade Volleyball vs. Bauxite, AWAY
- Girls 9th Grade Volleyball vs. Bauxite, AWAY
- Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Bauxite, AWAY
- Boys and Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Fountain Lake

Wednesday, September 2

- Boys and Girls Middle School Tennis vs. Pulaski Academy, AWAY

Thursday, September 3

- Boys and Girls Varsity Golf vs. Abundant Life
- Girls 9th Grade Volleyball vs. Jessieville, HOME
- Girls 7th Grade Volleyball vs. Jessieville, HOME



- Girls 8th Grade Volleyball vs. Jessieville, HOME
- Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball vs. Jessieville, HOME
- Girls Varsity Volleyball vs. Jessieville, HOME

Friday, September 4

- Junior High Football vs. Midland, AWAY
- Varsity Football vs. Midland, AWAY

Find the [Wildcat Athletic Calendar](#) here.