Panther Post

EDS News and Campus Life

January 9, 2023

All-School News

Spirit Night at Mellow Mushroom this Wednesday!

January 11 • 11:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

The EDS Parent Association invites you to Spirit Night at Mellow Mushroom (downtown location). Mention us at checkout or when picking up carryout orders for proceeds to benefit EDS!

Save the Date: State of the School Meetings

Please join us for one of the following dates in January to meet with Dr. Perkinson and hear highlights of this school year and our direction for the future.
All meetings will be held in the Good Shepherd Parish Hall.

Tuesday, January 17 • 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday, January 18 • 11:30 A.M.
Thursday, January 19 • 8:15 A.M.

Walkthrough Wednesday this Week
January 11, 2023

Please encourage a friend to attend Walkthrough Wednesday this week! Drop in between 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. and take a tour of our Walton Way campus. Ask questions, explore classrooms, and experience the energy of the school day at EDS. Visit the new Plan Your Visit page on our website to learn more!

Remember that for each new enrollment referral, current families receive $500 off of their tuition. Word of mouth is our most powerful marketing tool, and you are our best ambassadors! Thank you for sharing your EDS experience with the community.

2023-24 At-a-Glance Calendar

This calendar notes major events for the upcoming school year, including Back to School day, First Day of School, holidays, and more. This calendar can be found on our website on the Calendar page and the Parent Resources page.

View and print the calendar here.

Future Leaders Scholarship Program for Rising 6th Graders
Nominate a Student or Apply Today!

In November, we announced the renewal and expansion of the Future Leaders Scholarship Program to our EDS community. We are now accepting applications and nominations for rising 6th grade students who you think could excel in and benefit from this exciting opportunity. For more information on the timeline and application process, please visit our Future Leaders webpage.

Please contact Karen Lilly with any questions or nominations.

After School Spring Enrichments Now Open!

Register online and see more information through this link for the following offerings:

Preschool Martial Arts - Mondays

Preschool Soccer Shots - Tuesdays

Preschool Arts and Crafts - Wednesdays

K-8 Martial Arts - Mondays

K-2 Soccer Shots - Tuesdays

K-3 Arts and Crafts - Thursdays

Martial Arts with Sensei Broadwater III will be held on Monday afternoons. No previous experience is necessary! Students should wear clothing they can comfortably move around in, no skirts or dresses, please! Parents will be invited to the last class to watch a showcase of their student's new skills.

Soccer shots offers a developmentally appropriate curriculum emphasizing character development and soccer skills. The program teaches ball control, the use of both feet, starting and stopping, and changing directions.

There will be no enrichment classes on Tuesday, February 21

Spring Music Offerings

For more information or to register, please email Amy Kendrick.

Piano and violin lessons

NEW* Viola and Cello - weekly group lessons ($200/student for 12 lessons)

NEW* Weekly Group Ensemble - open to all students who play a string instrument

---

Christmas Events and Photos

We had such a great time celebrating Christmas with our EDS community! Here are some of our favorite photos from the week before Christmas break.

Threes and PK Nursery Rhyme Nativity Play Photos
PK Nativity Play Recording

Lessons and Carols Chapel Photos

Middle School Christmas Brunch Photos

Save the Date for the EDS Scholastic Book Fair

January 23-27

Keep an eye out for more information coming soon! Parents and friends may shop online and in person. Students will visit the Book Fair with their class on one day to make their wish list and then will have a second day to shop. The Book Fair will be open on the January 25 parent-teacher conference day to allow for an additional shopping opportunity. Thank you to the Parents Association for organizing this event!

Pawl the Panther Custom Lego Sets

Show your Panther pride with this fun creation made exclusively for EDS by father/son duo @autotelicstudio. Sets come with all pieces and instructions, ready to assemble. We have a completed Pawl set on display in the Front Office if you would like to stop by and see what it looks like in person.

Visit the link below to order. Sets may be ordered anytime, and will be delivered to EDS for pick up.

Click here to order.

Order EDS Apparel and Swag

Click this link for our current offerings and continue to check as we add new items in the future. Deliveries are made to the front office every other Wednesday. Parents will be notified of their delivery date via email.

Alumni News

Duncan Johnson '19 Signs to Play Football at Samford

Congratulations to Duncan Johnson '19, who recently signed to play football for Samford University next year. Aquinas High School's Coach Leonard says that Duncan is "tough and dedicated and a leader on and off the field, and that he is the perfect example of what he wants an Aquinas football player to be."

Preschool

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! We are excited to welcome all of our students back to campus today following the extended break and are looking forward to a wonderful second half of the school year. During our professional development days last week our faculty and staff participated in a variety of training sessions in order to better serve our students. In addition, our faculty and staff had extended time to collaborate with one another in preparation for the second semester. We are excited to have the children back on

campus and are eager to begin the second half of the academic year. I have highlighted a few ways we will continue to build upon the first semester in body, mind, and spirit.

Orton-Gillingham Training
Last Thursday our Pk-4th grade teachers and assistants participated in the initial stages of Orton-Gillingham Training as we work towards all of our faculty becoming certified at the Classroom Educator level. Very few schools can boast of this level of training across their entire PK-4 faculty. This training includes building knowledge about reading acquisition in all learners, brain research in relation to reading, and the ability to develop and use OG lesson plans in their classrooms. This training will continue into 2023-2024 and we are excited about our increased skill sets to meet the needs of all learners who may be similar but not exactly alike.

Language Arts
In September we began using a new tool for assessing our developing readers in K-4, The HMH Reading Inventory. The second round of assessments will be administered prior to the January conferences so that you have an opportunity to discuss your child's reading progress and gain an understanding of their reading development at the midpoint of the school year.

Math
Singapore Math instruction is rolling along as we enter the second semester of the school year. Typically, it takes two to three years after implementation to begin to see the full effects of the program as teachers and students become more familiar with the approaches and more comfortable with the mathematical thinking required. Nevertheless, our students continue to demonstrate progress and our faculty continue to work together to provide an optimal learning experience for all students. Dr. Perkinson has begun conducting weekly observations of math teachers to support and monitor our progress. In addition, we have plans for additional training and support for faculty for next year.

Healthy Minds
Strong counseling programs in independent schools always involve both proactive and reactive engagement with students, parents, and teachers. Our counselor, Alyssa Johnson, continues to be a tremendous asset to our community. Beginning this semester she will be visiting classrooms teaching lessons to support healthy behaviors and mindsets for our children. Among some of the topics she will cover are recognizing basic emotions and feelings, understanding and communicating boundaries, differentiating between positive and negative ways of dealing with stress, and recognizing and understanding safe touch and unsafe touch. For kindergarten and first grade she will use the books *Your Body Belongs to You* by Cornelia Maude Spelman and *Body Safety for Kids* by Adrian Laurent. During or after these lessons would be an excellent time to discuss some of these topics in greater depth with your child. We appreciate that you may have questions about some of these topics and welcome the opportunity to engage in discussion. If you have any questions, please contact Alyssa Johnson, at 706-733-1192 or through email ajohnson@edsaugusta.com and she will be happy to provide you with any additional information that you may need.

Nurturing the mind, body, and spirit and each child remains our priority and these specific efforts demonstrate that commitment. Your partnership in that effort is greatly appreciated.Thank you for all that you continue to do in support of your children and our faculty members each day. We are excited about the promise of a new year and will continue to do our utmost so that each member of our community is well-served. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. It is always my pleasure to engage with families in order to strengthen our connection with each other and within our community.

In partnership,
Amy

Kindergarten Information Session
Tuesday, January 24
Walton Way Campus • 9:00-10:00 A.M. (following chapel)

Have you started thinking about the 2023-2024 school year? Is your child currently enrolled in one of our preschool classes? Do you have questions about our Kindergarten and Nature Kindergarten classes? Would you like an opportunity to meet our three kindergarten teachers for the 2023-2024 school year? If you said yes to any of these questions you will want to mark your calendar to attend the Kindergarten Information Session in January.

Current EDS preschool parents are invited to attend chapel at 8:30 and then join the kindergarten teachers in the library at 9:00 to learn about our programs and ask any questions you may have about our philosophy, the daily routine, and whether or not your child may be a better fit for Nature Kindergarten or Walton Way Kindergarten.

We hope you will attend and look forward to our conversations. If you are unable to attend, please contact Karen Lilly, Director of Admissions. Karen will be glad to answer your questions.

Do you know any non-EDS families who may be interested in Nature School next year? If so, please connect them with Karen Lilly to reserve a spot for the Nature School Open House on Friday, January 27. This Open House is available for non-EDS families and space is limited.

Lower School

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! We are excited to welcome all of our students back to campus today following the extended break and are looking forward to a wonderful second half of the school year. During our professional development days last week our faculty and staff participated in a variety of training sessions in order to better serve our students. In addition, our faculty and staff had extended time to collaborate with one another in preparation for the second semester. We are excited to have the children back on campus and are eager to begin the second half of the academic year. I have highlighted a few ways we will continue to build upon the first semester in body, mind, and spirit.

Orton-Gillingham Training
Last Thursday our Pk-4th grade teachers and assistants participated in the initial stages of Orton-Gillingham Training as we work towards all of our faculty becoming certified at the Classroom Educator level. Very few schools can boast of this level of training across their entire PK-4 faculty. This training includes building knowledge about reading acquisition in all learners, brain research in relation to reading, and the ability to develop and use OG lesson plans in their classrooms. This training will continue

into 2023-2024 and we are excited about our increased skill sets to meet the needs of all learners who may be similar but not exactly alike.

Language Arts
In September we began using a new tool for assessing our developing readers in K-4, The HMH Reading Inventory. The second round of assessments will be administered prior to the January conferences so that you have an opportunity to discuss your child's reading progress and gain an understanding of their reading development at the midpoint of the school year.

Math
Singapore Math instruction is rolling along as we enter the second semester of the school year. Typically, it takes two to three years after implementation to begin to see the full effects of the program as teachers and students become more familiar with the approaches and more comfortable with the mathematical thinking required. Nevertheless, our students continue to demonstrate progress and our faculty continue to work together to provide an optimal learning experience for all students. Dr. Perkinson has begun conducting weekly observations of math teachers to support and monitor our progress. In addition, we have plans for additional training and support for faculty for next year.

Healthy Minds
Strong counseling programs in independent schools always involve both proactive and reactive engagement with students, parents, and teachers. Our counselor, Alyssa Johnson, continues to be a tremendous asset to our community. Beginning this semester she will be visiting classrooms teaching lessons to support healthy behaviors and mindsets for our children. Among some of the topics she will cover are recognizing basic emotions and feelings, understanding and communicating boundaries, differentiating between positive and negative ways of dealing with stress, and recognizing and understanding safe touch and unsafe touch. For kindergarten and first grade she will use the books *Your Body Belongs to You* by Cornelia Maude Spelman and *Body Safety for Kids* by Adrian Laurent. During or after these lessons would be an excellent time to discuss some of these topics in greater depth with your child. We appreciate that you may have questions about some of these topics and welcome the opportunity to engage in discussion. If you have any questions, please contact Alyssa Johnson, at 706-733-1192 or through email ajohnson@edsaugusta.com and she will be happy to provide you with any additional information that you may need.

Nurturing the mind, body, and spirit and each child remains our priority and these specific efforts demonstrate that commitment. Your partnership in that effort is greatly appreciated.Thank you for all that you continue to do in support of your children and our faculty members each day. We are excited about the promise of a new year and will continue to do our utmost so that each member of our community is well-served. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. It is always my pleasure to engage with families in order to strengthen our connection with each other and within our community.

In partnership,
Amy

Calendar Changes for Lower School

Please note a few changes in our current calendar, including a Lower School conference day on **Thursday, May 4** (no school for LS students). **Olympic Day** will be on **May 5** at Flowing Wells Campus. It will be an early dismissal day for Lower School (8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.) Parents will drop off and pick up at FWC. We will make bus arrangements for aftercare students and provide the normal aftercare services.

Click here for the revised 2022-2023 At-a-Glance Calendar.

Click here for our online calendar.

Middle School

2nd Quarter Honor Roll Announced

Click here to view the honor roll list. Congratulations to these students!

Middle School Minders • 1.9.23

This Week 1/9
Morning Carpool Duty: McKibben Advisory
Morning Prayers and Chapel: Marlin Advisory
Chapel Acolytes: Ellie, Justin, Dani, Lee, Raymond, Lily Beth
Wednesday, 1/11: Spirit Night at Mellow Mushroom (downtown)
Thursday: MLK chapel
Friday: All-School Spelling Bee in the gym at 8:30 A.M.

Next Week 1/16
No classes Monday, January 16 - MLK holiday
Morning Carpool Duty: Marlin Advisory
Morning Prayers: McKibben Advisory
Chapel Acolytes: 2nd–4th Graders
Readers: One student from each grade, K-8
FWC: 7th grade 1/18: 12:00-2:30 P.M.
Friday, 1/20 All School Chapel at Reid at 8:30 A.M.--Episcopal Schools Week

On the Horizon
1/23–1/27 Book Fair
Wednesday, 1/25 Parent/Advisor Conferences: 7th & 8th graders lead conferences
1/30 - 2/3 - Winter Championship Week for all teams
1/30 - 2/3 - Winter Spirit Week - details soon
1/30 - 8th Grade Winter Athlete Recognition

Chapel

No Tuesday Chapel this week.

On Wednesday and Thursday: Holy Communion Chapels celebrating the life, ministry, and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. with guest Homilist The Very Rev'd Billy Alford

Wednesday, 1.11.23 • 2nd - 4th Grade
Acolytes: Avery H., Dylan H., Bobby B., Ramsey B., Kenava C., Hardy D.
Readers: William D., Bates F.
Chapel Choir: Dylan, Lucy, Riley Kate, Kate, Ava, Harrison
Chapel Birthdays: None

Thursday, 1.12.23 • 5th - 8th Grade
Acolytes: Ellie M., Justin O., Dani S., Lee A., Raymond B., Lily Beth H.
Chapel Birthdays: Hastings B.

Parents and special guests are always invited to attend chapel.
If attending, please sit in the reserved pews to the side of the altar.

Athletics

Please go to edspanthers.com for this week's athletic schedule.

Click here for important information about winter athletics.

Go Panthers!