



**August 9, 2023**

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## **All-School News**

### **All-School Welcome Day and Back to School Webpage**

We are excitedly preparing for All-School Welcome Day on Tuesday, August 15. This day is for all students and parents and serves as both our “Meet the Teacher” and “Parent Orientation” events. Parents will check in at the front of the school at their assigned arrival time and will receive a packet of important information, including name tags, carpool numbers, and much more. Students will have the opportunity to visit their classroom and meet their teachers before engaging in fun and interactive centers led by EDS staff. Parents will have a group meeting with their child’s teacher and will get to visit our EDS Resource Fair in the newly reimagined Morris Library.

[Click here for the All-School Welcome Day schedule.](#)

For your convenience, we have published the [Back to School page](#) on our website, located in the top right corner (desktop) or in the menu (mobile). This helpful resource contains information pertaining to all things “back to school,” including summer reading, class supply lists, athletic forms, and much more! Please continue to check this resource page for updates.

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### **Fall Enrichments Are Open!**

We are excited to offer a variety of exciting enrichment opportunities for students in all grades this fall.

[Click here for more information and to register today as space is limited!](#)

For questions about Enrichments, please contact [Jocelyn Johnson](#).

Piano Club (Ages 5-8)  
Ukulittles (Ages 5-8)  
Guitar Club (Grades 4-8)  
Baking with Baby Cakes Bakery (Ages 7+)  
3's and Panther Clubs Martial Arts  
PK-8 Martial Arts  
Voice Lessons (Grade 3-8)

*Please register for the following enrichments using their assigned links.*

Chess: [Chess Lessons/Club Link](#)

Viola and Cello: [Viola and Cello Sign Up Link](#)  
Piano Lessons: [Piano Sign Up Link](#)

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### **Fall Athletics Interest and Zoom Meetings**

Middle School families, please refer to [this email](#) sent by EDS Athletic Director, Jaye Cohen, on August 1 concerning fall athletics. More information can be found in the Athletics section of Panther Post.

To help plan for the fall season, please complete this [interest form](#) as soon as possible.

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### **Earn Money for EDS by Grocery Shopping!**

Earn money for EDS simply by grocery shopping! Register an account online with [Publix](#) and/or [Kroger](#) (each link will direct you to a login page), select Episcopal Day School as your community partner, and at checkout, pay with either app or type in the phone number associated with the account. The EDS Association will receive a percentage of grocery store profits every quarter.

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## **In Case You Missed It (News From Past Issues)**

### **New Service Learning Program**

We engage in service learning as one way to live out EDS's mission "to guide children to discover their place in God's world for lives of wisdom, love, and service." We aim to follow a pattern/rhythm of awareness, education, action, and reflection for areas of need in our community and beyond.

All EDS students will take part in age-appropriate service learning opportunities throughout the year, interacting with community partners and serving needs identified to us by these partners. There will also be a school-wide service learning project for each of our three trimesters. These will be student generated and led by our middle school students. While there is no requirement for students to volunteer beyond our school-sponsored initiatives, we do require middle school students to contribute five (5) hours of service to EDS throughout the school year. Numerous opportunities will be available for our students to give back to our EDS community through helping at Fall Festival, sporting events, community events, tutoring others, and supporting our youngest Panthers.

EDS is an approved provider of the President's Volunteer Service Award. This program is for students beginning at age 5 and is led by Americorp and managed in partnership with Points of Light. Students may earn service hours through working unpaid volunteer hours that benefit others.

These hours may be earned through the EDS Service Learning program, as well as through volunteering for organizations outside of EDS (serving as a tutor, a coach for a sports team, working in a soup kitchen, helping out at a camp, etc). Service hours are earned on a 12-month basis starting March 16th and ending the following March 15th. Hours must be logged using the

EDS form by March 15 of the year to receive the PVSA in May of the same year. Award levels are as follows:

Age Group	Bronze	Silver	Gold
5 - 10 years old	26-49 hours	50-74 hours	75+ hours
11 - 15 years old	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ hours

Students self-report their hours through completing these forms:

[Inside EDS Hours](#)

[Beyond EDS Hours](#)

Questions regarding our Service Learning program should be directed to the [Rev. Sonia Sullivan Clifton](#) or [Ms. Alison Wright](#).

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### **EDS Classroom Volunteers**

At EDS, we greatly value the partnership between parents and the school community. Your involvement and support play a vital role in creating an enriched learning environment for our students. By becoming a trained volunteer, you can actively contribute to the success and growth of our school community.

This training allows you to gain valuable insights, knowledge, and skills to effectively engage with our students and staff. Whether you're a new or experienced volunteer, this program will help you enhance your abilities and provide a solid foundation for meaningful involvement.

**If you are interested in a role as a classroom volunteer, room parent, acolyte parent, or field trip chaperone, please [click here](#) for requirements and training.**

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### **Georgia GOAL 2024 Tax Credit Applications Now Available!**

Since it started in 1944, Episcopal Day School has been one of the most visible and impactful ministries of the Church of the Good Shepherd. The school has expanded its footprint into every corner of the CSRA and is committed to making an EDS education affordable. The Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program is a critical component of tuition assistance for qualified students who continue to enrich our student population. Please take a moment to see how you can participate!

The window is now open to [apply for your 2024 Georgia GOAL 2024 tax credit!](#)

**If you have already enrolled for your 2024 tax credit, thank you! If you have not, click [here](#) for simple, step-by-step instructions and additional tax credit information for individuals and businesses.**

Questions about the Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program?  
Please contact Ginger Chew at [gchew@edsaugusta.com](mailto:gchew@edsaugusta.com) or 706.733.1192

Thank you for all you do for EDS!

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### **Online School Store**

[Click this link](#) for our current school apparel and spiritwear offerings. Deliveries are made to the front office every other Wednesday. Parents will be notified of their delivery date via email.

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### **Rising Preschool**

[Click here](#) for a preschool division letter sent by Ms. Tomblinson on July 19.

### **Preschool Rest Time**

**Three Year Olds Extended Day** children will have a daily rest/nap time. Each child needs a fitted crib sheet, a small pillow, a washable pillowcase, and a lightweight blanket. All-in-one nap mats are also a good alternative. We will provide each family with a Pawl-approved tote bag to transport their gear home on Fridays to be washed and returned on Mondays.

**Walton Way PK** children will have a daily rest/nap time. Each family should provide a small pillow, lightweight blanket, or an all-in-one nap mat with an attached pillow for a cozier rest time. We will provide each family with a Pawl-approved tote bag to transport their gear home on Fridays to be washed and returned on Mondays.

**Nature PK** children will have a daily rest time on Tuesdays when they are on Walton Way all day. Each family should provide an all-in-one nap mat with an attached pillow for a cozier rest time. Episcopal Day School will provide each family with a Pawl-approved tote bag to transport their gear home on Fridays to be washed and returned on Mondays

***In all cases, please label everything with your child's first and last name.***

Please see the links below for examples of pillows, blankets, and nap mats.

[Small Pillow and Washable Pillowcase](#)

[Lightweight Cotton Blanket](#)

[All In One Nap Mat and Pillow](#)



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## **Rising Lower School**

[Click here](#) for a lower school division letter sent by Ms. Tomblinson on July 19.

### **Lower School Summer Reading & Math Assignments**

While we hope you are enjoying a summer filled with fun, family, friends, and activities, we want our students to stay connected to what they have learned this year to hit the ground running when school resumes in August. [Click here](#) for list of summer reading and math by rising grade level.

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## **Rising Middle School**

[Click here](#) for a middle school division letter sent by Dr. Andrews on July 19.

### **Middle School Summer Reading Assignments**

*Click on the links below to access summer reading for rising 5-8 grade.*

[2023 Fifth Grade Summer Reading](#)

[2023 Sixth Grade Summer Reading](#)

[2023 Seventh Grade Summer Reading](#)

[2023 Eighth Grade Summer Reading](#)

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## **Extended Day**

All parents who may be registering their child in Extended Day programming at any point in the year must register online in advance by completing this [form](#). For questions about Extended Day, please visit our Extended Day & Enrichment [webpage](#) or contact EDS Extended Day Director, Jocelyn Johnson.

[Click here](#) for a message from Jocelyn Johnson about our new Extended Day programs (sent July 20.)

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## **EDS Association**

### **Join Us for Our First Meeting of the Year!**

All parents are invited to attend the first EDS Association meeting of the year on **Friday, September 1** at 8:15 A.M. in the Parish Hall of the Church of the Good Shepherd. We look forward to seeing you there!

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## **Athletics**

### **2023-24 Booster Club Kick-Off Cookout!**

Parents of current students are invited to join us at the ***EDS Booster Club Kick-Off Cookout on Sunday, August 20th from 4 - 6 P.M. in the EDS lunchroom and patio.*** Athletic Director Jaye Cohen will speak about the enhanced 2023-34 Booster Club membership/sponsorship opportunities and how they will support and enhance our students' athletic and PE experiences at EDS. The future of EDS athletics has never been brighter - and we need your support!

[Click here to learn more about the 2023-24 Booster Club.](#)

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## **Fall Athletics Information**

Dear Middle School Families,

The EDS Athletic Department is gearing up for the 2023 – 2024 school year and getting our cubs in a row before we unleash the Panthers in the AAMSL jungle. This letter is jam-packed with essential updates and reminders, so please take a moment to continue reading and be sure to click on the link below for [more details on each sport](#).

EDS is part of the Augusta-Aiken Middle School League. You can learn about our program and the league at [www.edspanthers.com](http://www.edspanthers.com) and [www.augustaikenleague.com](http://www.augustaikenleague.com). Please sign up for email and/or text alerts and bookmark the [www.edspanthers.com](http://www.edspanthers.com) website.

### **1) Athletic Department Preseason Parent - Coach - Players Meetings:**

The EDS Athletic Department hosts team meetings at the start of each season. The fall season Zoom meetings will be no longer than 30 minutes each, allowing families and players to attend more than one team meeting.

The schedule for Zoom meetings can be found below.

#### **Monday, August 14:**

- **5:00 P.M. - New to Middle School Athletics Zoom Meeting**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89467860187>
- **6:00 P.M. - Football**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82718854952>
- **6:30 P.M. - Tennis**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83708607634>
- **7:00 P.M. - Volleyball**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86515047719>

#### **Tuesday, August 15:**

- **5:30 P.M. - Golf**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85162072626>
- **6:00 P.M. - Fall Cheerleading**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82268617352>
- **6:30 P.M. - Cross Country**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82156016913>
- **7:00 P.M. - Clay Target Shooting Team**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85367723832>

#### **New to EDS Middle School - Athletic Orientation Zoom Meeting**

This Zoom meeting is for all fifth-grade families and those new to middle school that would like to know the ins and outs of the EDS Athletic Department. This Zoom meeting is at 5:00 P.M. on Monday, August 14. Please see above for the Zoom link.

**2) Health Forms:** All athletes must have all health forms completed and turned in to the nurse or athletic office by the end of the first week of school. The required forms can be accessed on BigSIS, and on [edspanthers.com](http://edspanthers.com).

- 5th-8th Athletic Physical Form
- 5th-8th Parent Concussion Acknowledgement Form

**3) Game Schedules:** The game schedules and driving directions to away games can be found on the athletics website at [www.edspanthers.com](http://www.edspanthers.com).

**4) Contact Information:** If you need to reach me, please email me at [jcohen@edsaugusta.com](mailto:jcohen@edsaugusta.com) or call my direct line at 706-261-0111. As always, my door is open to all visitors. If you want to discuss any ideas about the athletic program, please contact me to schedule a meeting.

**5) Athletic Team Interest Form**

Please help us prepare for the upcoming season by completing the [interest form](#) for the fall sport(s) they would like to try out for **by Thursday, August 10**. This is not a commitment sign-up, just an interest form to ensure we are appropriately prepared for the fall season.

**6) Coaching Positions**

We are still seeking a few coaches for the 23-24 school year. If you know of someone or you are interested in coaching, please contact me as soon as you can. We are looking for archery, pickleball, cross country, volleyball, and track coaches.

Thank you all for your continued support of the EDS athletic program. We are excited to get back to school and start a great season! Go Panthers!

Sincerely,

Jaye Cohen, CAA

[Click here for more details about each fall sport.](#)