

Day School News

Joy to the World!

***Another Busy Month!***

December is going to literally be over before we know it.

We are full of **JOY** during this season! There are lots of signs of the season here. You will see stockings hung by the chimney with care, Christmas trees, snowflakes, candy canes.

Some classes celebrate the December holidays that their classmates observe - like St. Lucia Day or Hanukkah, Los Posados, Boxing Day, or Kwanzaa.

The holidays also provide lots of learning opportunities, especially math skills—

- ♦ Measuring and counting when making those tasty cookies.
- ♦ Counting candles on an Advent Wreath or a Menorah or a Kinara.
- ♦ How many reindeer?
- ♦ Comparing sizes and shapes of boxes of presents.

On behalf of the staff, the Board of Directors, Fr. Michael, the Vestry and parish of St. David's Church, I wish you all a safe, joy-filled, and memorable (in a good way), month of December.

Merry Christmas!

Fondly,

Janet Leishman

***Advent Song & Chant***

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 30th, so in the chapels leading up to our Christmas Chapels, the Advent Wreath will be present in the nave.

I will teach the children in our All School Sing on December 1st this echo song and this chant. The children are also singing it at chapel. Ask your child about them.

Advent Echo Song

Alleluia - Alleluia!
Jesus will come - Jesus will come.
We will run to greet Him -
We will run to greet Him.
When He comes -
When He comes.

Advent is a Time to Wait
(chant)

Advent is a time to wait.
Not quite time to celebrate.
Count the candles 1 by 1.
Until Advent time is done.
Day by day we work and play.
To prepare for Christmas Day.

Blessings to All!

Sandy Pierce

Scholastic Book Fair

Dear Families,

Get ready—the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to St. David’s Episcopal Day School!

This is a great opportunity to connect with your child over the thrill of bringing home new books to dive into again and again.

Studies show that kids read more when they choose books for themselves. And fostering a love of independent reading leads to a wide variety of benefits—including academic success and improved mental health.

Here is everything you need to know about our Book Fair:

Dates: December 1st through 5th (7:30-9:00 am, 12-12:30 pm, 4:00-5:30 pm),

Friday, December 5th - special evening hours until 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 8th - 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Where: The Great Hall (aka the Gym)

For full details, visit our schools Book Fair homepage:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stdavidsepiscopaldayschl>

To Volunteer: <https://signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4FA9AA28A5FC61-60471868-book>

Many of us still remember the rush of finding the perfect book at a Scholastic Book Fair. I hope you will join your child at our school’s Book Fair and share a reading experience they will remember forever.

Happy Reading,

Janet Leishman

Director

Elaine Osman

Book Fair Coordinator

PS: Need another reason to visit the Book Fair - **EVERY** purchase at the Fair benefits our school!

Curriculum Coordinator's Column - Holiday Fun for Families

With the holiday hustle and bustle around the corner, don't forget family fun is what makes for the best memories. Lighting candles, tree and home decorating, visiting Santa, baking cookies, and winter outdoor activities are what remind us of the holiday joy. Traditions are what bring us all closer together.

Here are some more extraordinary ideas for family fun:

- * Reading holiday stories/classics like God Gave Us Christmas by Lisa Tawn Bergren
- * Winter Walks - Take a walk to enjoy the winter scenery or take a car ride to look at other families' Christmas lights and decorations.
- * Cooking Family Recipes - Together and discussing why the recipe is so special.
- * Crafting Ornaments - using salt dough, paper, or upcycling items to hang on the tree. There are so many great ideas online.
- * Creating New Traditions - Family game night or a family talent show of singing, dancing, or even telling jokes!
- * Fill a Gratitude Jar - Create a family gratitude jar where everyone can contribute notes about what they are thankful for throughout the season.

These activities will not only foster family bonding but also help instill a sense of joy and togetherness during the busy holiday season. This holiday season, let's cherish the time we spend with our loved ones and create beautiful memories together.

Wishing you all a wonderful December filled with love and laughter!

Gina Zarrilli

December Chapels

Wednesday, December 3
Thursday, December 11
Wednesday, December 17

Thursday, December 18

Friday, December 19

9:10 - The Story of St. Nicholas (3's & 4's)
9:10 - Mary and Elizabeth (3's & 4's)
9:15- The First Christmas & Songfest
(Rooms 4 and 6)
9:15 - The First Christmas & Songfest
(Rooms 3 & 5)
11:00 - Two's Songfest
(Rooms 1 & 2 in the Nave)



Saint David's Monthly PTPA Meeting

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
9am in the Memorial Room

Coffee &
Light Refreshments
Provided

Inclement Weather 2025 - 2026



St. David's Episcopal Day School follows the lead of the Brandywine School District on the **FIRST** day of a snow or other inclement weather event.

In case of a closing, I will send out an email blast to the email(s) currently on file. The homepage of our website will have information, the school's Facebook page will be updated. You can also tune in to local media – Channel 6abc, Channel 10nbc, and Fox 29; and radio stations Eagle 97.7, Cool 101.3, 1150 WDEL, WSTW 93.7 and 1450 WILM. There will also be a Procure message. I know that the teachers will also communicate information via the class Facebook page or Class Dojo page and through group emails.

If the school district decides to remain closed for a second consecutive day, I will make the decision to open or remain closed. That decision will be based on the condition of the roads and the parking lot, the availability of staff that can safely get here, and the condition of the building (heat, for example).

Very rarely is the decision made to close early. If that happens, an email blast will be sent out, as well as a Procure message. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast and plan your commute accordingly. Your safety and that of the children and our staff is our first priority!





SAINT DAVID'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We are excited to tell the story of the birth of Jesus at the Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve 5:00 pm service! We need actors age 3+ through teens (plus teen and adult wranglers).

The first rehearsal is on Sunday, November 30th at 12 noon. Stop in the Great Hall and get a snack from tables in the Great Hall (Hospitality Hour) and then come to the Nave. We will figure out who wants to be an angel or a stable animal, a shepherd or a wise person. And who wants to say a line! Yes, November 30th is still Thanksgiving weekend. No worries if you are still celebrating with family and friends that day. We will still have a role for you at the next rehearsal!

Rehearsals in the nave are:

Sunday, November 30th at 11:45 am

Sunday, December 7th at 11:45 am

Sunday, December 14th at 11:45 am

Sunday, December 21st at 11:45 am

Wednesday, December 24th, dress rehearsal, at 3:00 pm (Pizza Provided)

Tuesday, December 24th, pageant, at 5:00 pm

Anyone interested in participating should contact Janet Leishman at stdavidskidsde@outlook.com or Carol Van Zoeren, a member of St. David's Parish at cmvz1@comcast.net.

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Advent I	1 SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR—GREAT HALL	2	3 Chapel, 9:10 St. Nicholas	4 Sing, 9:10	5 Christmas Party 5-7pm	6 St. Nicholas Day
7 BOOK FAIR Advent II	8	9	10 Sing, 9:10 EC Close 5pm Staff Mtg 6pm	11 Chapel, 9:10 Mary & Elizabeth	12 Poinsettia Day	13 Wreaths Across America
14 Advent III Hanukkah Begins at Sunset	15 Sing 1 9:10 Nave	16 Sing II 9:10 Nave	17 Christmas Chapel 1 9:15 Rooms 4 & 6	18 Christmas Chapel II 9:15 Rooms 3 & 5	19 Rooms 1 & 2 Christmas Song Fest 11:00 Nave	20
21 Advent IV Winter Begins	22 SCHOOL CLOSED Hanukkah Ends	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27 Fruitcake Day
28 Chocolate Candy Day	29 SCHOOL CLOSED	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3

December 2025-Morning Snack

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Food served is Peanut and Tree Nut Free Menu Subject to Change	1 Fresh Red Apples Caramel Dip	2 Kris Kringle Cucumbers Ranch Dip Crackers	3 Giant Goldfish Applesauce	4 Homemade Cookies & Chocolate Milk NATIONAL COOKIE DAY	5 DIY Penguins	6 Water is Always Available 1% Milk Served
7	8 Frosty Yogurt Cups With Granola, Craisins	9 Holiday Hummus Veggies Naan Bread	10 DIY Apple "Christmas Tree" Sun Butter	11 Chex Snowy Day Snack Hot Chocolate	12 Animal Crackers Oranges	13 100% Fruit Juice Used
14 Hanukkah Begins	15 Ornament Pizzas	16 DIY Banana Snowmen	17 Class Parties or Chef's Choice	18 Class Parties Or Chef's Choice	19 Class Parties Or Chef's Choice	20
21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
		CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY BREAK				
28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3
		CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY BREAK				

December 2025-Lunch

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Food served is Peanut and Tree Nut Free Menu Subject to Change	1 DIY Uncrustables Sun Butter Grape Jelly Fresh Veggies Bananas Pudding	2 Chicken Noodle Soup Peas Crackers Fresh Oranges Mini Cupcakes	3 Scrambled Eggs, Cheese Turkey Sausage Hash Browns OJ Peaches	4 Mini Bagels Cream Cheese Deli Meat Fresh Veggies Apples Cookies	5 Fast Food Friday! Smashburger Roll, Cheese Smiley Fries Side Salad Pineapples Frozen Treat	6 Water is Always Available 1% Milk Served
7	8 Pasta Marinara Green Beans Pears Parm. Cheese Cosmic Brownies	9 Taco Salad Beef, Cheese Tortilla Chips Salsa Lettuce Peaches	10 Chicken & Rice Broccoli Roll Pineapples Jello	11 French Toast Stix, Syrup Bacon Apple Juice Oranges Yogurt Cups	12 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Side Salad Ranch Apples Cookies	13 100% Fruit Juice Used
14 Hanukkah Begins	15 North Pole Picnic Deli Meat, Cheese Veggies/Dip Chips Oranges Cupcakes	16 Quesadillas Rice, Salsa Sour Cream Corn Peaches	17 Mini Pancakes Syrup Turkey Sausage OJ Bananas	18 Cheese Tortellini Marinara Parm Cheese Broccoli Garlic Toast Pears, Cookies	19 GRINCH LUNCH!!	20
21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
		CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY BREAK				
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December 2025-Afternoon Snack

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Food served is Peanut and Tree Nut Free Menu Subject to Change	1 Gluten Free Snack	2 Tortilla Chips And Santa's Salsa	3 Seasonal Fruit Snack	4 Healthy Holiday Snack	5 Jingle Bell Jello Cups	6 Water is Always Available 1% Milk Served
7	8 Rainbow Goldfish Juice	9 Sun Chips Juice	10 Cheese & Crackers	11 Reindeer Rice Krispie Treats Milk	12 Chef's Choice	13 100% Fruit Juice Used
14 Hanukkah Begins	15 GRINCH Milk Shakes Vanilla Wafers	16 Holiday Chocolate Covered Pretzel Rods Milk	17 Santa's Snack Mix Milk	18 Cheez its Juice	19 Frosty's Frozen Treat	20
21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
		CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY BREAK				
28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3
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Day School Sunday

Sunday, January 11, 2026

10:15 am

Everyone is invited to join in a celebration of our Day School on Sunday, January 11, 2026 at the 10:15 am service of Holy Eucharist. There will be young and old representatives (alumni, staff, Board members, parents, and grandparents maybe) who will read the lessons, prayers, and assist in liturgical roles.

There will be baptisms of current (and, we hope, future!), Day School children. A special Hospitality Hour, hosted by our Day School will follow, to help celebrate the parish's special relationship with Day School families and to welcome the newly baptized.

If you are interested in baptism, please let Father Michael know. Email him at michael.kurth@stdavidsde.church



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St. David's Episcopal Day School

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Website:
www.stdavidsdayschoolde.org

We Are On The Web!

www.stdavidsdayschoolde.org

Start Here, Go Anywhere!

St. David's Episcopal Day School exists to provide a nurturing, Christian community where children can learn and grow. We do this through:

LLeading each child into caring relationships with peers and adults;

Offering each child a stimulating learning experience;

Valuing each child's unique growth; and,

Encouraging each child's awareness of God in the world.

Ours is a safe environment where children ages two through five are encouraged to grow spiritually, emotionally, cognitively, socially, and physically so their greatest potential may be realized.

On the website, you will find calendars, snack, and lunch menus. There are articles by Bev Igo, former Curriculum Coordinator, about a variety of child development topics (early writing, why play with blocks, math activities, so on). The 2023-2024 Family Handbook is posted there, as are the Financial Policy and the 2023-2024 Health Appraisal.

On the January 2026 Calendar . . .



Thursday, January 1	School Closed-Happy New Year
2	School Closed
Monday 5	School Reopens, Regular Hours
	PTPA Meeting, 9:00
8	Chapel, 9:10
Sunday 11	Day School Sunday!
12	Registration Begins, 2026-27
14	Chapel, 9:10
14	Extended Care Closes, 5pm
	Staff Meeting
19	School Closed, MLK, Jr. Day
	Board of Directors Meeting
22	Chapel, 9:10
25	Chili Cook-off/Football Watch
27,30	Music School of Delaware Visits
28	Chapel, 9:10