

Day School News



Coming Up!

October 1

Chapel for 3s/4s, 9:10am

October 2

Soccer Shots

October 4

Blessing of the Animals/
Pet, 10:15am

October 6

Ramsey Farm Field Trip
for our 4s, 8:30am

October 7

Extended Care Closes at
5pm

October 8

Chapel for 3s/4s, 9:10am

October 9

Soccer Shots

October 15

Chapel for 3s/4s, 9:10am

October 16

Soccer Shots

October 17

Janet Leishman Party

October 22

Chapel for 3s/4s, 9:10am

October 23

Soccer Shots

October 25

Trunk N Treat, 4pm

October 28

Halloween Parade I

October 29

Halloween Parade II

The Gift of Childhood

And just like that, the fall season is upon us! We are settling into our school routines, and it is a joy to witness our students' laughter, discovery, and achievements throughout the day. Their joy makes all of the work behind the scenes worthwhile. Our dedicated teachers continue to create engaging lessons that make learning fun. Often, it is only the call of my own responsibilities that keeps me from joining in!

While meditating, I found myself thinking about the wonder of childhood and the extraordinary resilience and freedom that seem to govern their little lives.

Children have their challenges. They experience disappointment, frustration, conflict, and even the occasional broken heart. Yet, they possess a remarkable ability to recover, reset, and re-engage with life.

A disagreement with a friend? "I'm sorry. Do you want to play?" Problem solved.

A tower of blocks comes crashing down? "I'll build it again!"

A tumble on the playground brings a few tears, but after a hug and some encouragement, they're ready to get back up and try again.

And then there is their capacity for wonder. A puddle becomes an adventure, a cardboard box becomes a spaceship, and a handful of leaves becomes a

treasure. Children have a beautiful way of being fully present and embracing what is in front of them and then moving forward.

Children have a beautiful way of being fully present. They experience what is in front of them, embrace it, and then move forward.

Perhaps that is part of the gift of childhood.

Perhaps our children have more to teach us than we sometimes realize. They remind us that resilience does not mean we never fall; it means we get back up. Forgiveness can be simple. Joy can be found in ordinary things. There is always room to wonder, explore, imagine, and begin again.

As adults, life can become complicated. Responsibilities multiply, disappointments linger, and tomorrow can feel overwhelming. Yet our children remind us that we don't have to carry everything into the next moment.

The gift of childhood is not simply something we give our children; it is something they give us. May we protect their sense of wonder, nurture their resilience, celebrate their imagination, and allow them to lead us back to some of the beautiful things we may have forgotten.

Denise Gilliam, Interim Director

Staff Spotlight



Hi, my name is Wendi Mako. I have been part of the St. David's Day School family for 14 years, and for the past 11 years, I have had the pleasure of teaching Physical Education.

I truly enjoy being part of the St. David's community and watching our students grow, learn, and have fun

through physical activity.

Outside of school, I am a proud mom of two children and a very proud grandmother to one grandson. My family brings me so much joy, and I feel very blessed to have them in my life.

As the PE teacher, it is my honor to teach your children how to move their bodies safely and stay healthy through exercise. This month, we will focus on balance, throwing, and different ways to move our bodies, including crawling, rolling, tiptoeing, sidestepping, stomping, and marching. I will also teach the children how to use various pieces of gym equipment properly

and safely.

Throughout the year, we will ride bikes, practice yoga, work with partners during a variety of activities to build sportsmanship, and exercise to music by Danny Go!, Laurie Berkner, and DJ Ralphi, just to name a few of the activities we enjoy. As the months go on, we will continue working on a variety of skills. In May, I will host a Field Day where the children can put all the skills they have mastered together for one fun-filled day!

When you come into the gym, you will see a bulletin board featuring our local professional sports teams. When your children wear their fan gear, we will take their pictures and display them on the board. This is just one way to help every child feel special. They love finding their pictures and showing them to everyone!

I thoroughly enjoy playing with your children, and it is very rewarding to see them master skills they could not do at the beginning of the year. Watching their confidence grow as they learn, move, and have fun is one of the best parts of being their PE teacher.

Wendi Mako



Reminders:

- Get your tickets for **Funding Future Stars**, celebrating the ministry of Janet Leishman. Invites were sent on or about September 10th. [Click Here for Tickets or a Donation!](#)
- **Health Form Reminder**—Please send us a copy of your child's most recent health form, with a physical examination completed within the past year, current immunizations, and a lead screening.

All required documentation must be on file by October 15. After this date, students who do not have the required health forms on file will not be permitted to attend until the documentation is received.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. These requirements help ensure that we remain in compliance with Office of Child Care & Licensing regulations and, most importantly, help us maintain a safe and healthy environment for all of our students.

Calendar Changes:

- The Halloween Parade Dates have changed to **October 28th and 29th**. Program begins promptly at 9 AM. More information to come.
- School Pictures have changed to **November 4th and 5th**. More information to come.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMAL'S

The **Blessing of the Animals** is a beautiful Episcopal tradition,
for the **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**,
whose life reflected a deep love for all of God's creation.



Here are the two fun ways we celebrate.

THE FOOD DRIVE—September 21 through October 4

St. David's Church and Day School are sponsoring a pet food drive benefiting the pets of families and individuals in our community, as well as local animal shelters. See the bin outside the school office.

What to donate: Dry or wet dog food, dry or wet cat food, toys, treats, blankets, and towels

Starts: Sunday, September 20th

Ends: Sunday, October 4th, Blessing of the Animals service

\$ Donations: Monetary donations will also be accepted and encouraged!



THE SERVICE—Sunday, October 4th @ 10:15 AM

Join us as we gather to give thanks for the animals who bring companionship, comfort, joy, and unconditional love into our lives.

All are welcome to bring your pets (properly restrained) for a blessing during the service. You may also bring a picture of a pet no longer with you, and Father Michael will offer a prayer. Children are also invited to bring forward their favorite stuffed animal, which Father Michael will also gladly bless.



Dogs • Cats • Rabbits • Birds
All Creatures Great & Small



PTPA NEWS

PARENT TEACHER PARISH ASSOCIATION



OCTOBER

**TUES
OCT
6**

9 AM

Monthly PTPA Meeting

An in-person meeting with coffee & light refreshments to discuss our **Trunk or Treat** event; **in the Memorial Room**

**MON
OCT
19**

**8PM -
8:30PM**

ZOOM PTPA Meeting

Discuss the details of the upcoming Trunk or Treat

**SUN
OCT
25**

4 PM

Trunk Or Treat

An all school & community event! **Decorate your trunk** and share treats with our old & new friends; **bake for the Bake Sale!**

**WAYS TO GET
INVOLVED
THIS MONTH**

Volunteer for the Trunk Or Treat!

- **DECORATE YOUR TRUNK - CLICK HERE!**
- **BAKE FOR THE BAKE SALE - CLICK HERE!**
- help us set up or clean up (just 20 minutes of your time!)

Join our Mailing List & Register to Volunteer!



QUESTIONS? Contact us at
saintdavidsppta@gmail.com
or visit the PTPA Website





Friday, October 2

Wear it Pink Day & Lee National Denim Day

In honor of survivors, those still in the fight, and in memory of our beloved former teacher, Bev Igo, we are joining these two global campaigns to raise awareness and support breast cancer research.

Donations can be made in the collection box outside of the office. Our fundraising efforts will continue throughout the entire month of October.

Thank you for helping us make a difference in the fight against breast cancer.

October is Fire Prevention Month!



At St. David's Preschool, the safety and well-being of your children is always our number one priority. October is a wonderful time to remind our little ones about fire safety and to practice important safety habits together at home.

Fire safety conversations don't have to be scary. Simple, age-appropriate reminders and practice can help children feel confident about what to do in an emergency.

Fire Safety Tips to Practice at Home

Please take a few minutes this month to talk with your child about:

- **Stop, Drop & Roll:** Practice what to do if clothing ever catches fire.
- **Know the sound of a smoke alarm:** Let your child hear the alarm and explain that it is a safety sound.
- **Have an escape plan:** Talk about two ways to get out of each room, when possible.
- **Choose a meeting place:** Pick a safe spot outside your home where everyone will meet if you need to get out.
- **Never hide:** Remind children that if there is a fire, they should get outside and never hide under a bed or in a closet.
- **Stay low:** If there is smoke, practice getting down low and moving toward an exit.
- **Never go back inside:** Once you are safely outside, stay outside and let the firefighters handle the emergency.
- **Ask a grown-up for help:** Remind children that matches, lighters, candles, and other items that can start a fire are for adults only.

Most importantly, **practice your family's fire escape plan together.** Making the conversation and practice part of your family routine can help your child know what to do if an emergency ever occurs.

For additional fire-safety information and helpful resources, we encourage families to visit the City of [Wilmington Fire Marshal's Office — Fire Safety Tips](#)

Thank you for partnering with us to help keep our St. David's children safe—at school and at home!



Stay safe, stay prepared, and remember: every family should have a fire escape plan!

Gina Zarrilli



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

FUNDING FUTURE STARS

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY
WITH JANET LEISHMAN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH 6-9 PM

THE GREAT HALL OF SAINT DAVID'S

2320 GRUBB ROAD, WILMINGTON, DE 19810

ATTIRE: COCKTAIL

HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES, WINE, BEER, SOFT DRINKS, AND OTHER
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE INCLUDED WITH TICKET

FEATURING THE DAVID SCHIFF JAZZ ENSEMBLE PLAYING HITS FROM
THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK

TICKETS: \$30 IN ADVANCE, \$35 AT THE DOOR

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE DAY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN JANET LEISHMAN'S HONOR.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR TO MAKE A DONATION, CLICK THE LINK FOUND IN THIS EMAIL.



ST. DAVID'S
ANNUAL

TRUNK OR TREAT



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
at 4 pm

We need volunteers!

Host a trunk or bake a sweet treat
for the bake sale fundraiser!

ST. DAVID'S
EPISCOPAL
DAY SCHOOL
ESTABLISHED 1955

PTPA 
PARENT TEACHER PARISH ASSOCIATION

TRUNK!



BAKE!



October 2026—AM Snack

Menu items are subject to change without notice based on product availability and operational needs.
All meals and snacks served are peanut and tree nut free. Children are served 1% milk and 100% fruit juice
as part of the meal program. Water is always available.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 Mini Muffins Fresh Fruit	2 Fresh Veggie Plate Ranch Crackers
5 Breakfast Bar Peaches	6 Toast Points w/ Jelly Apple Slices	7 Animal Crackers Orange Slices	8 Vanilla Yogurt Cups w/ Granola	9 Multi-Grain Cheerios Bananas Milk
12 Healthy Candy Corn Parfait	13 Fresh Veggies w/ Hummus and Pretzels	14 DIY Mandarin Orange "Pumpkins"	15 CHEF'S CHOICE	16 Cheese Cubes Pepperoni Crackers
19 Mini Pumpkin Patch Pizzas	20 Caramel Apple Slices w/ Toppings	21 Peel Your Own Banana Grahams	22 Cereal Bars Applesauce	23 Gluten Free Snack Craisins
26 FALL TREE Snack (Pretzels & Fruit Loops)	27 Giant Goldfish Grahams Vanilla Smoothie	28 Mummy Toast!	29 DIY SPIDER BAGELS	30 Halloween Parties Or CHEF'S CHOICE

October 2026—Lunch

Menu items are subject to change without notice based on product availability and operational needs.
All meals and snacks served are peanut and tree nut free. Children are served 1% milk and 100% fruit juice
as part of the meal program. Water is always available.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 <i>DIY Sandwiches</i> <i>Deli Meat, Cheese</i> <i>Fresh Veggies w/</i> <i>Ranch Dip</i> <i>Potato Chips</i> <i>Bananas & Cookies</i>	2 <i>French Toast Sticks</i> <i>Bacon, Syrup</i> <i>Orange Juice</i> <i>Apple Sauce</i> <i>Go Gurts</i>
5 <i>Chicken Nuggets</i> <i>Smiley Fries</i> <i>Corn</i> <i>Apples</i> <i>Cookies</i>	6 <i>Cheese Quesadillas</i> <i>Yellow Rice</i> <i>Salsa, Sour Cream</i> <i>Corn</i> <i>Pears</i> <i>Frozen Treat</i>	7 <i>Waffles w/ Syrup</i> <i>Turkey Sausage</i> <i>Fruit Salad</i> <i>Orange Juice</i> <i>Go Gurts</i>	8 <i>Pasta</i> <i>Marinara Sauce</i> <i>Parmesan</i> <i>Broccoli</i> <i>Peaches</i> <i>Brownies</i>	9 <i>PIZZA</i> <i>Pepperoni</i> <i>Fresh Veggies</i> <i>Pineapple</i> <i>Mini Cupcakes</i>
12 <i>Grilled Ham &</i> <i>Cheese Sandwich</i> <i>Fresh Veggies w/</i> <i>Ranch Dip</i> <i>Chips, Banana</i> <i>Pudding Cups</i>	13 <i>Mini Pancakes w/</i> <i>Syrup</i> <i>Bacon</i> <i>Applesauce</i> <i>Orange Juice</i> <i>Smoothies</i>	14 <i>Sliced Hot Dogs</i> <i>Peas and Carrots</i> <i>Tatar Tots</i> <i>Apples</i> <i>Cookies</i>	15 <i>Rainbow Veggie Stir</i> <i>Fry</i> <i>Grilled Chicken</i> <i>Yellow Rice</i> <i>Oranges</i> <i>Jello</i>	16 <i>Cheese Tortellini</i> <i>Marinara</i> <i>Parmesan</i> <i>Salad w/ Ranch</i> <i>Hawaiian Rolls</i> <i>Pear</i>
19 <i>Mac & Cheese</i> <i>Monday</i> <i>Plain Pasta, Bacon</i> <i>Green Beans</i> <i>Mandarin Oranges</i> <i>Cookies</i>	20 <i>Homemade</i> <i>Chicken Noodle</i> <i>Soup</i> <i>Plain Pasta, Peas</i> <i>Crackers</i> <i>Apples, Jello</i>	21 St. David's <i>Lunchables, Deli</i> <i>Meat, Cheese</i> <i>Crackers, Fresh</i> <i>Veggies w/ Ranch</i> <i>Dip, Pineapple,</i> <i>Mini Cupcakes</i>	22 <i>Scrambled Eggs,</i> <i>Cheese, Turkey</i> <i>Sausage, Toast w/</i> <i>Jelly</i> <i>Bananas</i> <i>Go Gurts</i>	23 <i>Chicken Tenders</i> <i>Smiley Fries</i> <i>Broccoli</i> <i>Peaches</i> <i>Blondies</i>
26 <i>French Toast Sticks</i> <i>w/ Syrup, Bacon</i> <i>Orange Juice</i> <i>Applesauce</i> <i>Smoothies</i>	27 <i>Taco Tuesday</i> <i>Beef, Cheese, Salsa</i> <i>Yellow Rice</i> <i>Corn</i> <i>Frozen Treat</i>	28 <i>Pasta w/ Alfredo</i> <i>Sauce, Parmesan,</i> <i>Broccoli, Hawaiian</i> <i>Rolls</i> <i>Peaches, Chocolate</i> <i>Cup Cakes</i>	29 <i>Grilled Cheese</i> <i>Sandwiches</i> <i>Homemade Tomato</i> <i>Soup</i> <i>Goldfish</i> <i>Bananas, Cookies</i>	30 <i>PIZZA</i> <i>Pepperoni</i> <i>Fresh Veggies</i> <i>Ranch Dip</i> <i>Mandarin Oranges</i>

October 2026—PM Snack

Menu items are subject to change without notice based on product availability and operational needs. All meals and snacks served are peanut and tree nut free. Children are served 1% milk and 100% fruit juice as part of the meal program. Water is always available.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 Scarecrow Crunch Snack Mix	2 Goldfish
5 Deli Rolls, Cheese Whole Wheat Bread Slice	6 Chewy Pumpkin Oatmeal Cookies Milk	7 Witches Broom Snack (Pretzel Rods)	8 Fruit Snacks Grahams	9 Spooky Brownie Bites Milk
12 Pumpkin Dip w/ Pretzel Sticks	13 Taco Tuesday Snack	14 Mini Spider Donuts (Chocolate Donuts w/ Pretzels)	15 String Cheese Craisins Crackers	16 Jello Cups w/ Fruit
19 Mini Muffins Fresh Fruit	20 Goldfish	21 Fritos	22 Pumpkin Patch Dirt Cups	23 Fresh Veggies w/ Ranch Dip Crackers
26 Cheez Its Pepperoni Slices	27 Cookies and Milk	28 Multi-Grain Cereal Orange Slices	29 Fruit and Cheese Snack Plate	30 Frozen Halloween Treat

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Sloane L—10/6	Laney Z—10/25
Nolan B—10/11	Milo F—10/25
Olive D—10/12	Hadley G—10/27
Amelia L—10/20	Jackson T—10/28
Scarlett B—10/20	Rhys D—10/28



Where Everyone is Welcome!

Worship is central to our life together.

Through worship, we:

- Open ourselves to the sacred mystery that is God
- Join with love and purpose to those around us
- Receive strength hope for our daily life

Our hope is that the experience in worship increases our awareness of God's abiding presence in our daily life through:

- Scripture readings
- Prayer
- Meditation
- Music
- Holy Communion
- Relationship



Worship With Us

10:15am—Holy Eucharist with music.

Nursery and Childcare are available from 10 to 11:30am

St. David's Episcopal Day School