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## Welcome to Tuesday Newsday!

Volume 19, 2025–2026 | Edition: December 16–January 5

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**12/18:** Pajama & Ice Skating Day

**12/18:** Primary Only 11:30 Dismissal

**12/19–1/2/2026:** No School – Christmas Break

**1/5:** Classes Resume

**1/19:** No School – MLK Jr. Day

**1/24:** Parents Night Out – Bowling with the Board

**1/27:** Parent Education Night – Technology

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# HAPPY Birthday

Tuesday, December 16 — Ms. Leslie Robles (Dogwood)  
Saturday, December 20 — Pau Argueta (Redbud)  
Sunday, December 21 — Ade Cortez (Silver Maple)  
Monday, December 22 — Bridget Lindblom (Redbud)  
Monday, December 22 — Margaret Graff (Dogwood)  
Thursday, December 25 — Beau Thueme (River Birch)  
Thursday, December 25 — Lou Thueme (Cedar)  
Friday, December 26 — Tello McSweeney-Goransson (Silver Maple)  
Saturday, December 27 — Hank Becker (Dogwood)  
Saturday, December 27 — Ms. Claire Sandler (Silver Maple)  
Sunday, December 28 — Carson Veldman (Blue Beech)  
Wednesday, December 31 — Fiona Bremer (Silver Maple)  
Saturday, January 3 — Hannah Klee (Dogwood)

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## Reminders for the Week

### ✨ Thursday, December 18, is Pajama and Ice Skating Day! ✨

- Send your kids to school in their **jammies** this Thursday—yes, really!

### Primary Early Pickup

- All Primary students in Blue Beech and Redbud have early dismissal at **11:30 a.m.** on Thursday, December 18. **There is no Camp Fire.**

### No School Friday

- There is no school on Friday, December 19.

## **Ice Skating at Howard Park**

**Rain, Rain Go Away**—Rain is in the forecast, so it is possible that ice skating will be postponed until sometime in the new year. Thursday's schedule will remain the same even if we cannot skate. All Primary will be picked up at 11:30 a.m., and all other students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. as usual. There is **no Camp Fire** after school.

However, if the weather cooperates, please make note:

- **Helmets**—Lower Elementary students are **required** to wear helmets for skating. (Please send one to school—labeled!—if you haven't already.)
- **Socks**—We recommend skaters wear long, thick socks, which really make the skates much more comfortable.

## **Christmas Break**

- School will close after dismissal on Thursday, December 18, and reopen on Monday, January 5.

 We wish all of our students, families, faculty, staff, and friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 

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## **Ordering Open for Spring Hot Lunch**

The hot lunch menu for spring is now available! If your child is a “hot lunch regular,” please make sure to order lunches for at least the first week back to school in January. Act soon and save your future self the trouble! Thank you for your support of the hot lunch program!

[Order Hot Lunch for 2026](#)

## **Save the Date: Bowling with the Board**

 **Attention GSMS Parents:** You're invited to a special **parents-only night out** hosted by Douglas Matthys, member of the GSMS board (and parent to Jack in Cedar, Henry in Silver Maple, and Caroline in Redbud). It will be a great evening of fun and fellowship!

**What:** Bowling with the Board

**When:** Saturday January 24, 2026 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Where:** Bowlers Country Club, 55839 Pine Rd, South Bend, IN 46619

**Details:** Enjoy 3 games of bowling, a 9-Pin No-Tap style tournament. Sign up as a single player, double, or a team of 4.

**Cost:** \$20 for three games and shoes. Cash bar. Food/snacks are welcomed.

**Contact:** Douglas Matthys, 574-532-1005 or [dmattathys@hotmail.com](mailto:dmattathys@hotmail.com)

Mark your calendar and save the date for a night of fun with GSMS friends!

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## Girls on the Run Registration Open

Registration is open for Good Shepherd's Girls on the Run (GOTR) team! This program is open to girls in grades 3-5 and is designed to build confidence, courage, and more. Practices will be after school two days a week: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:45 p.m.

Registration is open now, and financial aid is available through Girls on the Run Michiana. [Read more on their website.](#)



Register for GOTR

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## Farm Camp at Good Shepherd

Even though there's snow on the ground, we're thinking about summer! This year, Farmer Theri and her crew will host **three sessions** of Farm Camp at GSMS for children ages 4 to 12.



For four days, campers will participate in farm chores, agriculture lessons, harvesting, cooking, or nature projects. Open to GSMS students and the wider community. **Registration will open in February.** Stay tuned for details.

**June 15–18**  
**June 22–26**  
**June 29–July 2**

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## Swipe—No PIN—to ELEVATE GSMS

If you have a Notre Dame Federal Credit Union **ELEVATE card** or are expecting yours in the mail, don't forget to **swipe once by December 31st!** For every 10 people who use their ELEVATE cards once before the end of the month, Good Shepherd earns a \$2.5K bonus! To qualify, you must swipe your debit card like a credit card—without the PIN—or make an online purchase!

### Get an ELEVATE Card in 10 to 14 Days

If you already use Notre Dame Federal Credit Union, it is pretty simple to **convert your debit card to an ELEVATE card.**

1. Call the downtown branch at 574-400-4820. Ask for Hannah Ellito or Jasmin Coria. One of them will be happy to assist you.
2. Call the Shamrock Call Center: 800-522-6611
3. Visit any branch to request an ELEVATE card in person.
4. You can apply for a card online, but if you already have an NDFCU debit card, it's **best** to call or visit a branch to make sure everything is handled correctly.

It can take 10 to 14 days for you to receive your new ELEVATE card in the mail, so act quickly if you want to help GSMS earn the December bonus. If you aren't currently a member at NDFCU, that's OK. There will be other opportunities to fundraise for GSMS. If you'd like to learn more about ELEVATE, visit [this webpage](#). Thank you for your support!

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## Visit GSMS Holiday Tree Near Howard Park

If you find yourself playing, skating, walking, eating, or shopping in the East Bank Village near Howard Park, look for the **Good Shepherd holiday tree!** It's located at the

northeast corner of Jefferson and St. Louis near Barnaby's Pizza. And watch [Downtown South Bend's Facebook page](#) for a post with instructions to vote on your favorite tree! ([DTSB](#) is a nonprofit organization promoting visiting, living, working, shopping, and experiencing the heart of South Bend.)  If you snap a pic of your GSMS student with the tree, send it to [tuesdaynewsday@gSMS.org](mailto:tuesdaynewsday@gSMS.org) so we can share it in the next edition.



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## Save the Date: GSMS Trivia Night

Save the date for Good Shepherd's Trivia Night on **Friday, February 6, 2026** (21+ event)! Single tickets or tables of eight will go on sale after Christmas break. So, mark your calendars and book a sitter for a fun-filled evening you won't want to miss!



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## Unique FPC Opportunity with Children

Dear Parents,

Are you interested in guiding children in a **real-life practice** that encourages them to become **better stewards** of the Earth and its resources?

Michele Woody is seeking a **lead parent** to take on the role of guiding students through cap sorting and cleaning to participate in the "Green Tree Plastics - ABC Partnership." GSMS already has several bags of caps collected—Just sorting, cleaning, and weighing need to be completed.

In 2022, GSMS students collected and sorted enough caps to change into a beautiful new outdoor bench for the recess area (see Facebook post image below). **What item could we receive for the GSMS community this school year?**

You can read about the program and specific guidelines here on the website:

<https://www.greentreoplastics.com/abc-program/>

Please email Sarah Kulwicki at [skulwicki@gsms.org](mailto:skulwicki@gsms.org) if you are interested in taking on this project.



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After 2 years of LE collecting and sorting caps, our bench is now gracing our recess area! More than 250lbs of plastic caps are out of the landfill and are now a beautiful, restful spot for our community!  
[Green Tree Plastics- ABC Partnership](#)

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## From the Farm

A big **THANK YOU** goes out to our GSMS community for your thoughtful support of the Junior High Holiday Sale. It was a great success, and we are thankful to learn about farming, production, and business in such a real way.

Happy Holidays!



Theri Niemier, [tniemer@gsms.org](mailto:tniemer@gsms.org)  
Farm Manager & Regenerative Agriculture  
Education Specialist

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## Hot Lunch

# January Menu

Monday 1/5 – Pizza Pie  
Tuesday 1/6 – Hoppin' John  
Wednesday 1/7 – Spaghetti Tacos  
Thursday 1/8 – Sloppy Joes  
Friday 1/9 – Baked Oatmeal, Berries & Bananas



Order Today!

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Missed an issue? Visit the [Tuesday Newsday Archive](#).

To submit an item for this e-newsletter, email [tuesdaynewsday@gsms.org](mailto:tuesdaynewsday@gsms.org) by Monday mornings at 8:00 a.m.

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[Tuesday Newsday Archive](#)



**Good Shepherd**  
MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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