

This is our weekly newsletter for the 2025–2026 school year. Tune in each week for upcoming events or communications.

In This Issue: Tonight: Parent Education 6 PM | Important Dates 26–27 | Sign Up for Track | GPS Conferences | CASIE Parent Info Sheets | FPC Opportunities | GOTR Registration Open | Farm Corner | Jobs at GSMS | Hot Lunch | In the Community



Welcome to Tuesday Newsday!

Volume 27, 2025–2026 | Edition: February 24–March 2



2/24: Parent Education Night: Technology Use | 6 p.m.

3/5: 11:30 a.m. Dismissal for all students – GPS Conferences

3/6: No School – GPS Conferences

HAPPY Birthday

Tuesday, February 24 – Cesar Sosa Padilla (Blue Beech)

Tuesday, February 24 – Laurie Sisk (Cedar)

Friday, February 27 – Liam Tuttle (Elm)

Monday, March 2 – Ava Holcomb (Cedar)

Tonight: Parent Education at 6 PM

Tuesday, February 24

6:00–7:30 p.m.

Tonight is our rescheduled Parent Education Night on **Technology Use at School and Home**.

At least one parent from each GSMS family is expected to participate. Attending Parent Education Nights counts for **one hour** toward your family's FPC commitment. You can document your participation on [MobileServe](#).

We look forward to talking and learning with you!

Snack Signup Sheet

We need several more volunteers for snacks for the parents social time after tonight's program and for the children in childcare. If you can help, you may [sign up here](#) or just bring something with you this evening.

As always, contributions count toward FPC hours. Thank you very much!

2026–2027 Important Dates

- **Aug 24** – First Day Grades 2–8 & Returning P4 and P5 Students
- **Aug 26** – First Day for Grade 1 & New P4 and P5 Students
- **Aug 31** – First Day for P3 Students
- **Oct 8–9** – Fall Break
- **Oct 30** – No School | Faculty Work Day
- **Nov 12** – 11:30 Dismissal | GPS Conferences
- **Nov 13** – No School | GPS Conferences
- **Dec 18** – Last Day Before Christmas Break
- **Dec 21–Jan 1** – Christmas Break
- **Feb 12** – No School | Faculty Work Day
- **Mar 4** – 11:30 Dismissal | GPS Conferences
- **Mar 5** – No School | GPS Conferences
- **Mar 26** – No School | Good Friday
- **Mar 29** – No School | Easter Monday
- **Apr 5–9** – Spring Break
- **Jun 3** – Blessing & Sending / Last Day for 8th Graders
- **Jun 4** – 11:30 Dismissal | Last Day for All Students

Addition details are available on this [Google Doc calendar](#), which will be updated as

Sign Up for GSMS Track

Dear GSMS Track Runners and Parents,

It's that time of year again to get ready for GSMS Spring Track 2026—**Open to all Upper El and Junior High students!** It is time to register and, if needed, schedule physical appointments.

[Sign Up for Track](#)

Please register ASAP so we can get uniform counts for ordering purposes. Please submit your registration by **Tuesday, March 17**, and, if applicable*, your completed physical form by Tuesday, March 24.

**You only need an updated physical if:*

You do not have one on file for your child with GSMS. – Or – The last physical on file for your child was before May 15, 2025.

Track Schedule

Dates: March 25–May 23

Weekly Schedule: Practice 3 days/week

- Tuesday: 5:45–6:45 Holy Cross College Track (same as last year)
- Thursday: 5:45–6:45 at Holy Cross College Track
- Friday: Immediately after dismissal 3:10-4 at GSMS

*No practice during Spring Break, April 7–11 or on Good Friday, April 18.

Meet Schedule

- 3 to 4 meets will be scheduled on Wednesdays between April 23 and May 14.

Sport Fee

- A **\$65 sport fee** for **each child** will be added to the next invoice on your Blackbaud billing account. Please note this is an increase from last year's fee of \$50.
- We never want finances to get in the way of a child participating in an activity. Please contact Meredith at manatolios@gsms.org if financial assistance is needed.

Stay Tuned! The date for the track parent meeting date and meet schedule are coming soon.


Go Rams! 🐏

Coach Rick Johnson

“There is no failure in running or in life as long as you keep moving.” - Amby Burfoot

Sign Up for GPS Conferences

Guide-Parent-Student Conferences Thursday, March 5 – Friday, March 6

 It is time to sign up for Guide-Parent-Student (GPS) Conferences again! These 20-minute conferences will be held on Thursday, March 5, in the afternoon, and on Friday, March 6, throughout the day. Progress reports will be emailed to families on Wednesday, March 4.

Reminder: There is a half-day (11:30 dismissal) for all students on that Thursday, and no school on Friday.

LE/UE/JH Students

All Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary, and Junior High students attend conferences with their parents.

Primary = Parents Only

Conferences for Primary students (Blue Beech and Redbud) are for parents only. GSMS staff will be available to supervise Primary students in the lobby while their parents meet with guides.

Please note that this service is available only to Primary students. Older students should bring a book or a quiet (non-screen) activity and wait outside the classrooms if their siblings have a conference.

Sign Up Online

For best availability, please book your conference slot(s) soon.

Sign Up for GPS Conferences

If you have any questions, please contact the GSMS Administrative Team at office@gsms.org. Thank you!

Parent Info Sheets from CASIE

This week wraps up **body safety** presentations for Pre-K students from **The CASIE Center** ([program link](#)). Below are all of the parent resources available, including a

corrected link to the “Discussing Sensitive Topics” PDF.

Parent Information Sheets

- [Pre-K Parent Information Sheet](#) (PDF)
- [K–3rd Parent Information Sheet](#) (PDF)
- [4th–6th Parent Information Sheet](#) (PDF)
- [7th–12th Parent Information Sheet](#) (PDF)

Parent Resources

- [The Five Safety Rules](#) (PDF) – Children learn age-appropriate versions of these rules that can be reinforced at home
- [Safe Adults](#) (PDF) – Children learn about the role of “Safe Adults” and are encouraged to identify people who can help
- [Identifying and Reporting Abuse](#) (PDF) – All adults are mandatory reporters in the state of Indiana
- [Discussing Sensitive Topics](#) (PDF) – Stats about abuse and tips for talking with your child

[Schedule](#) (Google Doc) – See when your child received their presentation

FPC Opportunities

Help Provide Lunch for Faculty & Staff

We are still recruiting help for our longstanding tradition of feeding faculty and staff during GPS Conferences. We plan to offer a salad bar with soup and sides. Lots of options to contribute to the lunch. Food and drink donations should be dropped off by **11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 5**, for lunch.

All contributions count toward FPC hours. Thank you for your generosity and for showing support for our faculty and staff!

[Sign Up to Contribute to Lunch](#)

Set Up/Clean Up Help on 3/5

We could use **one more** parent volunteer to help set up food at 11:00 a.m. and **two** to help pack up food and clean up around 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 5. The shifts would be approximately 30 minutes. You can volunteer via [SignUpGenius](#) or email office@gsms.org.

Girls on the Run for 3rd–5th

Signups are still open for Good Shepherd's Girls on the Run team with Coach Brittany Nichols! Open to girls in grades 3–5, practices will be two days a week: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15–4:45 p.m. **Practice starts March 10, so don't wait!** Sign up online or read more [here](#).

Farm Corner

Spring

There is so much good, healthy work to do on the farm.

Seeds have been ordered, and the work of seed starting begins.



If you are planning your garden, we will have 50 count bulk flower flats for pre-order soon.

This year, flats will include:

- Giant Zinnia (mixed colors)
- Bi-color marigolds Tall (18 -24")
- Bi-color Marigolds Dwarf (10")
- Dahlias (mixed colors)
- Snapdragons (mixed colors)



Help Wanted

Spring cleaning and repairs include mending fences and building rabbit and chicken hutches. If anyone would like to share their talents with our Junior High in this important and practical work, know we welcome and appreciate your help. Touch base with me at taniemier@gsms.org.

Community Support Agriculture (CSA)

Our community garden program registration is open (CSA). We will have limited memberships that include lots of fresh, nutritious produce for your family. Check it out: <https://www.gsms.org/farming-the-city/>.

Consider growing with us in 2026.

Theri Niemier, taniemier@gsms.org

Farm Manager & Regenerative Agriculture Education Specialist

Jobs at GSMS

We're hiring! Good Shepherd Montessori School has two full-time facilities positions open, with applications accepted through March 6. If you are interested, we welcome you to apply. You can also help us by spreading the word to anyone in your network. Good Shepherd has a supportive community and is a great place to work!

- [Facilities Manager](#)
- [Farm & Facilities Assistant](#)

Hot Lunch

Next Week's Menu

Monday 3/2 — Pizza Pie
Tuesday 3/3 — Chicken & Biscuits
Wednesday 3/4 — Ooddles of Noodles
Thursday 3/5 — No Lunch, 11:30
Dismissal
Friday 3/6 — No School, GPS Conferences



Order Today!

IN THE COMMUNITY

Conversations about Everyday Life with Children

Free Lunchtime Live Webinar with Sharon Bain, LCSW
Thursday, March 5

Join Sharon Bain, LCSW of Family Psychology of South Bend for “**Conversations about Everyday Life with Children.**” The annual series through ECDC focuses on parenting **children ages 2–12** and addresses child guidance and child development, presenting information and resources within the context of a positive discipline philosophy. Additional details can be found in the flyer linked below



Parents are invited to join ECDC in...
**Conversations about
Everyday Life with Children**

Join us on Google Meet for conversations about parenting ages 2-12 facilitated by Sharon Bain, LCSW. Our annual series addresses topics related to child guidance and child development, presenting information and resources within the context of a positive discipline philosophy.

There is no fee to register. Please RSVP to ebetson@saintmarys.edu in the ECDC office.

Winning Your Child's Cooperation with Screen Time Limits
Wednesday, February 4, 2020 at noon on Google Meet

Are you wondering how to preserve a play-based childhood for your child while also allowing them opportunities to practice making healthy screen time choices? Join us in discussing child development expert's latest advice about navigating our screen-filled world. Learn how you can find healthier ways to get together by getting technology on your Family Meeting agenda.

Understanding Your Spirited Child and Their Invitations into Power Struggles
Thursday, March 5, 2020 at noon on Google Meet

Some children do their learning by being legs and pushing the boundaries. Bring your concerns about your spirited child and learn how to not fight, not give in, and discover coping strategies for your child's next intensely emotional moment. Hear examples of how a child's intense emotional outburst can be turned into a valuable opportunity to practice autonomy and mastery. Begin your practice of using Encouragement as a child guidance tool for stepping out of Power Struggles. Learn how to trust that your child's emotion can be a creative force for positive connection with you and others.

Please RSVP to Liz Betson at ebetson@saintmarys.edu.
If you have questions, you may call the ECDC office at 254-4623.
More family enrichment resources at familypsychology.com

There is no fee to register. Sessions through Google Meet. Please RSVP to ebetson@saintmarys.edu in the ECDC office.

3/5/26 | Noon — Understanding Your Spirited Child and Their Invitations into Power Struggles

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

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



[Tuesday Newsday Archive](#)



Good Shepherd
MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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