

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

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Welcome to Tuesday Newsday!

Volume 28, 2025–2026 | Edition: March 3–9



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

3/6: No School – GPS Conferences

3/14: DTSB St. Patrick's Day Parade 🍀

3/25: Silver Maple returns to Prairie Winds

3/26: Dogwood returns to Prairie Winds

4/3: No School – Good Friday

HAPPY Birthday

Tuesday, March 3 – Julien Dashley (Redbud)

Wednesday, March 4 – Gabo Pedraza-Stapleton (Blue Beech)

Wednesday, March 4 – Giulia Argueta (Silver Maple)

Wednesday, March 4 – Ben Saar (Silver Maple)

Thursday, March 5 – Marion Pierce (Dogwood)



Thursday, March 5 – Elias Juskus (Cedar)

Saturday, March 7 – Henry Matthys (Silver Maple)



11:30 Dismissal Thursday

Due to GPS conferences, **Thursday, March 5**, is a **half-day** with dismissal for all students at **11:30 a.m.**

There is **NO SCHOOL** on **Friday, March 6**.

We look forward to seeing you for GPS Conferences!  Please be sure to check out the **lost and found** that will be set up in the lobby while you're at school. 

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

Older students should bring a **book or a quiet (non-screen) activity** and wait outside the classrooms if their siblings have a conference.  

March in St. Patrick's Day Parade

☀️ Saturday, March 14 at 10:45 a.m. ☀️

The GSMS community is invited to walk in **Downtown South Bend's annual St. Patrick's Day parade!!** ([link](#) to DTSB webpage) This has been a **school tradition** for many years. Walkers wear green or festive St. Paddy's Day-inspired clothing and represent our school. Check out the GSMS students in DTSB's photo promoting this year's parade (spotted by Kendra Juskus).

We'll line up at our **designated spot off of Jefferson Blvd.** in the East Bank Village (to be confirmed by DTSB) at **10:45 a.m.** The parade starts at 11:00 a.m. The parade route and parking are shown on the **map** below (click the image for PDF from 2024—details are the same).

FPC Opportunity – Carry Banner

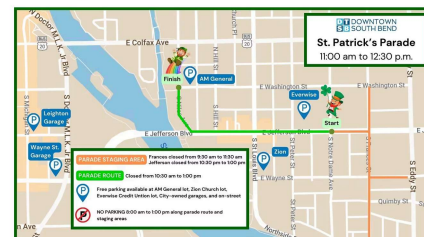
We are looking for a **parent volunteer or two** to help shepherd the **large green banner** from school to the parade route and back **on foot**. If you can help, please contact office@gsms.org.

Join the fun!! 🌈



☘️ 2026 Parade Info ☘️

Parking and Parade Route



Technology Resources from PEN

Last week's Parent Education Night was a wonderful time of learning and reflection. Faculty and staff compiled a list of **resources with links** on technology use and related topics that they have found useful. GSMS cannot vouch for all of these titles, but invites

you to explore what piques your interest. The resource PDF includes **action steps** you can take, such as creating a [family media plan](#).

- [Handout from PEN](#) [PDF]
- [Technology Resources](#) [PDF]

Last Chance: Contribute to Faculty & Staff Lunch

Help Needed for Thursday! 🙏

We've got some significant **holes** in our salad bar luncheon menu for faculty and staff on Thursday. We could use your help to pull off a healthy, hearty lunch for our hardworking faculty and staff.

Partial List of Things We Still Need:

- Crockpot of soup
- Romaine lettuce or other salad greens
- Chicken to top salad
- Bread and crackers
- Desserts
- And more...

Please note that items can be homemade or store-bought. **Food and drink donations should be dropped off by 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 5.** 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](#)

2026–2027 Important Dates

The calendar for **NEXT school year** is almost finalized. Below is a list of key dates you might want to put in your calendar ahead of time.

- **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

Additional details are available on this [Google Doc calendar](#), which will be updated as other events are scheduled.

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 24–May 22

Note: Dates were not correct in last week's Tuesday Newsday.

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 6–10 or on Good Friday, April 3.

Meet Schedule

- 3 to 4 meets will be scheduled on Wednesdays between April 22 and May 13.

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.

We actively consult with the school nurse on health and safety protocols to have in place.

Go Rams! 🐏

Coach Rick Johnson

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

Last Call: Girls on the Run for 3rd–5th

Last Call: Practices for Good Shepherd’s **Girls on the Run** team start **Tuesday, March 10!** Coach Brittany Nichols will lead a fabulous program for girls in grades 3–5 to gain confidence, strength, and kindness. Practices will be two days a week: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15–4:45 p.m. The program culminates with a 5K celebration. Sign up online or read more [here](#).



Farm Corner 🚗

If you are planning your garden, the Junior High is taking pre-orders for 50-count bulk flower flats as part of their microeconomy work.

This year, flats include:

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

Pre-Order Your Flower Flats

🌸 Get your orders in—**Pre-ordering ends Friday, March 20.**

🌻 Pickup will be on Friday, May 8, at Good Shepherd, just in time for Mother's Day.



Save the Date: May 20

The Junior High will present their permaculture projects on the morning of **Wednesday, May 20**. The whole GSMS community is invited to hear these talks, representing the culmination of all the students' farm work. They will also have a limited number of vegetable and flower seedlings for sale.

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 that 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 **this Friday, 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 3/9 – Pizza Pie
Tuesday 3/10 – Mu Shu Wraps
Wednesday 3/11 – Taco Belle Michele
Thursday 3/12 – Good Shepherd's Pi
Friday 3/13 – Falafel



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 sharon@sbfamilypsych.com 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 experts' latest advice about managing our screen-filled world. Learn how you can live healthier lives together by putting technology on your Family Meeting agenda.

Understanding Your Spirited Child and Their Invitations into Power Struggles

Some children do their learning by living large and pushing the boundaries. Bring your concerns about your spirited child and learn how to not fight, not give in, and prepare 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 284-4693. Share 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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