

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

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**In This Issue:** Strategic Plan Input Sessions | 6/3 Blessing & Sending Ceremonies | 6/4 Last Day of School | GSMS Summer Read 2026 | Summer Camp at Prairie Winds | Guest Chef / Submit a Recipe | Summer Service Project for Parent or Family | Festival Thank You | Hot Lunch | In the Community



## Welcome to Tuesday Newsday!

Volume 39, 2025–2026 | Edition: May 26–June 1

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**6/3:** Blessing & Sending Ceremonies

**6/4:** Last Day of School – 11:30 Dismissal

**6/4:** Traditional Family Picnic on the Lawn

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# HAPPY Birthday

Tuesday, May 26 – Claire Kulwicki (River Birch)

Tuesday, May 26 – Anthony Walczewski (Cedar)

Wednesday, May 27 – Jackie Lopez (Elm)

Thursday, May 28 – Dabbie Adeyemi-Kayode (Redbud)

Friday, May 29 – Mr. Ruben Rodriguez

Saturday, May 30 – Blake Kitchen (Elm)

Saturday, May 30 – Joseph Warkentin (Cedar)

Sunday, May 31 – Ms. Sarah Dozier

Monday, June 1 – Ms. Celina Robles (Dogwood)

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## Help Shape the Next GSMS Strategic Plan

The GSMS Board of Directors is developing the school's next strategic plan and invites your input. This is an opportunity to **share your perspective** and **help shape priorities** for Good Shepherd's future.

Board President Amy Langenkamp and Heather Rakoczy Russell will host listening sessions open to current GSMS parents and caregivers, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders. Feedback gathered during these sessions will help inform the strategic plan to be published later this year.

Please sign up online to attend a listening session. You may register individually or as a couple.

For questions or concerns, please contact [boardpresident@gsms.org](mailto:boardpresident@gsms.org).

### Scheduled Listening Sessions

- Monday, June 1 – 3:30–5:30 p.m.

- Monday, June 1 – 6:00–8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 2 – 6:00–8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 3 – 8:30–10:30 a.m.

Thank you for your commitment to Good Shepherd!

Sign Up for a Session

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## 6/3 Blessing & Sending Ceremonies

On **Wednesday, June 3**, the GSMS community will celebrate our "Blessing and Sending" tradition in two phases:

### **Afternoon: Honoring K, 3rd-, and 6th-Years**

**1:30 p.m. | Sanctuary**

At the afternoon ceremony, we will acknowledge all of the students who will be transitioning to a new level next school year—our kindergarteners, 3rd-years, and 6th-years. There is **limited seating** for guests at this event; however, parents of children rising to new levels are welcome to attend if desired.

### **Evening: Honoring 8th-Years**

**7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary**

At the evening ceremony, we will recognize our graduating 8th-years. Everyone in the GSMS community is welcome and encouraged to join us for this event. Each student prepares a reflection about what GSMS has meant for them to share with those in attendance. It is always an inspiring evening and an opportunity for parents of younger GSMS students to gain insight into the extraordinary educational experience their children are receiving.

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## 6/4 Last Day of School

**Thursday, June 4**, is the last day of school. That morning, GSMS students will enjoy a **field day with outdoor games and activities** organized by our guides and assistants.

## 11:30 Dismissal 🕒

All students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. at their **usual pick-up spots**. All adults collecting children must make contact with each child's guide or assistant to confirm whom they are picking up.

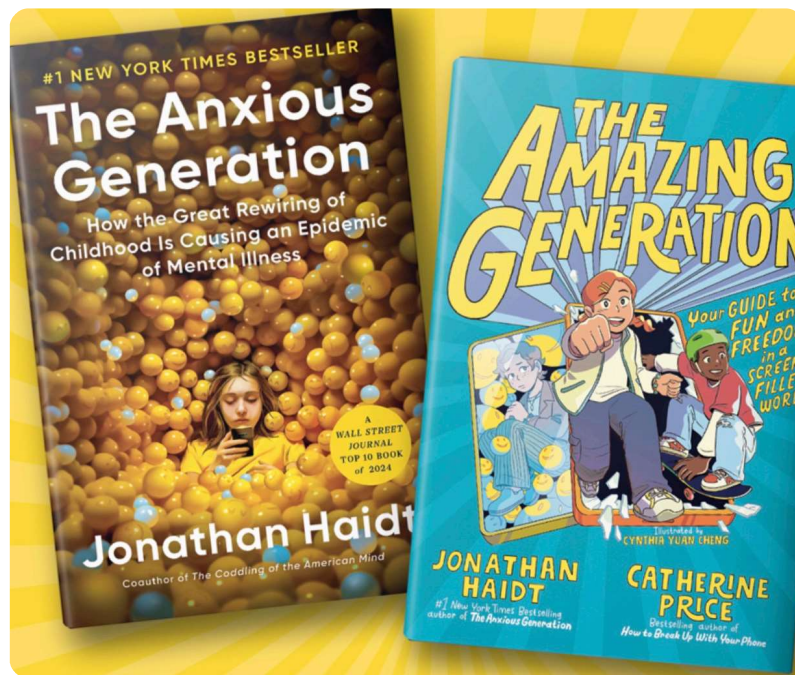
## Family Picnic on the Lawn 🧺

Over the years, GSMS families have developed the **tradition** of gathering for an informal picnic on the lawn after dismissal on the last day of school. All GSMS families are welcome to participate. NOTE: Parents are responsible for their own children during this event. GSMS staff will not be responsible for any children after 11:40 a.m.

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# GSMS Summer Read 2026

This summer, we invite parents and our UE and JH students to participate in the **GSMS Summer Read!** In February, we gathered for a Parent Education Night to discuss technology at home and at school. We look forward to continuing the conversation when we return in the fall with these books as a jumping off point. We encourage you to start discussing this topic with your children this summer if you plan on reading together!



## Parent Read

***The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness* by Jonathan Haidt**

Jonathan Haidt discusses what he calls the end of the play-based childhood and the beginning of the phone-based childhood, which began around 2010. He also highlights a new phenomenon: children tend to be overprotected in the real world and underprotected in the digital world.

Many of the difficulties with setting limits on technology are due to the ubiquitous nature of devices, social media use, and the reliance on these technologies for building relationships (especially for preteens and teens). There is great power in a collective group decision to put limits on these technologies. He proposes four simple norms to break collective action problems:



**Our Four Norms**  
To Roll Back the Phone-Based Childhood

- 1 No smartphones before high school
- 2 No social media before 16
- 3 Phone-free schools from bell to bell
- 4 More independence, free play, and responsibility in the real world

If you'd like to take a deep dive into the topics of the book, watch this video:  
<https://youtu.be/-L58niidJM0?feature=shared> (start at 3:45)

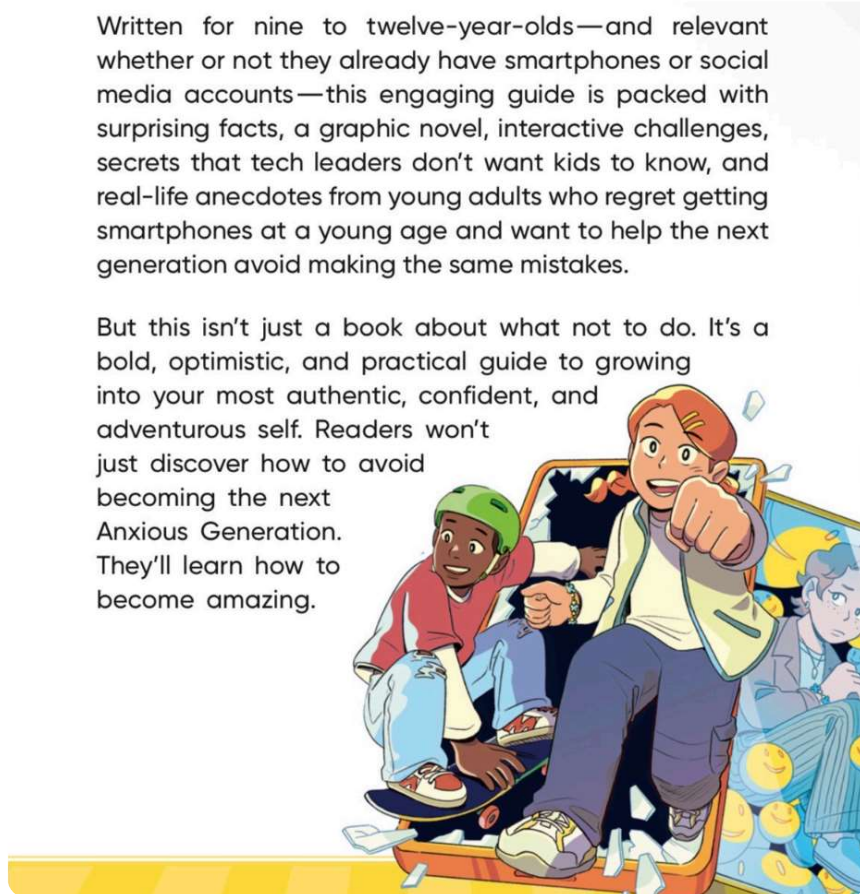
**UE and JH Read**

***The Amazing Generation: Your Guide to Fun and Freedom in a Screen-Filled World* by Jonathan Haidt and Catherine Price**

While targeting the upper elementary age, this graphic novel is a good introduction read for JH students who may be exploring this topic for the first time.

Written for nine to twelve-year-olds—and relevant whether or not they already have smartphones or social media accounts—this engaging guide is packed with surprising facts, a graphic novel, interactive challenges, secrets that tech leaders don't want kids to know, and real-life anecdotes from young adults who regret getting smartphones at a young age and want to help the next generation avoid making the same mistakes.

But this isn't just a book about what not to do. It's a bold, optimistic, and practical guide to growing into your most authentic, confident, and adventurous self. Readers won't just discover how to avoid becoming the next Anxious Generation. They'll learn how to become amazing.



Happy Reading!

Sarah Kulwicki, GSMS Montessori Consultant

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## **Summer Camp at Prairie Winds Nature Farm**

Your child can join **Farmer Charlotte** and her team at [Prairie Winds Nature Farm](#) for summer fun unplugged!

Prairie Winds offers a fantastic day camp! Your camper can run around in the woods, ride a pony, take prairie hikes, lie on their back and watch the clouds, and just be a kid!



## Summer Camp Sessions

- June 8–11 (+12)
- June 15–18 (+19)
- June 22–25 (+26)
- July 13–16 (+17)
- July 20–23 (+24)
- July 27–30 (+31)
- August 3–6 (+7)

## Hours

- 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. for **Ages 4–7**
- 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. for **Ages 8+**
- Add-On Horseback Riding: Fridays, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Before and/or aftercare are available (\$5/hour).


Scholarships are available. See the [website](#) for more details and to register your child. Contact Farmer Charlotte Wolfe with any questions: [pwindsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:pwindsfarm@gmail.com)

# Guest Chef or Submit a Recipe for 26–27

*From Ms. Michele Woody*

🍎 Another school year is coming to a close, and as I begin to look towards the autumnal (I just love that word) menu, I invite you to become a part of the hot lunch program by "**guest cheffing**," or if that seems too daunting, you may simply **submit a favorite recipe** for consideration.

🌍 2026–2027 finds us in **Europe and Africa**. So if you happen to have a delish dish (or idea for one) that could scale up well to feed a crowd, please do not hesitate to reach out. Of course, your menu idea does not need to fall within those particular geographic boundaries.

 I aim to have the menu posted by mid-July, so please contact me with your ideas by **June 30th**. Thank you!

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If you can help, **please contact Michele directly** about your interest: Text 574-341-1126 or email [mwoody@gsms.org](mailto:mwoody@gsms.org).

Thank you for considering this unique way to share your cooking skills and family traditions with the Good Shepherd community!

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## Summer Service Project

**Help earn picnic tables for the Primary outdoor environment from Green Tree Plastics - ABC Partnerships!**

 Are you interested in guiding children in a real-life practice that can encourage them to become better stewards of the Earth and its resources? **We are seeking a lead parent to take on the role of guiding a group of students or their own children in this project to sort, clean, and weigh caps.** Michele Woody and Farmer Charlotte have already collected multiple bags of caps! Once the caps are sorted, cleaned, and weighed, they can be traded to receive small picnic tables for the Primary outdoor environment at a reduced price, using all recycled materials. 

In 2022, GSMS students collected and sorted enough caps for a beautiful new outdoor bench for the Lower Elementary recess area.



## Good Shepherd Montessori School Parent Group

Claire Sandler · Sep 2, 2022 · 🧑🏻



**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](#)**

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

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

Please email Sarah Kulwicki if you are interested in taking on this project. Thank you!

[skulwicki@gsms.org](mailto:skulwicki@gsms.org)

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## Festival of the Arts Thank You 🎭👤

A huge **THANK YOU** to all of our performers and artists, teachers and parents, volunteers and sponsors, makers and staff for making our inaugural Festival of the Arts

such a joyful and memorable celebration. We are deeply grateful for your support, creativity, and generosity! Let's do it again next May!?! 🎵 🎨 🍌

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## Hot Lunch

### Last Week of School Menu

Monday 6/1 – Pizza  
Tuesday 6/2 – Walking Taco  
Wednesday 6/3 – 8th Years Last Ever  
Thursday 6/4 – 11:30 Dismissal



Order Today!

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## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Dance Camp with Bonnie & Friends

The **Children's Dance Workshop** is offering three sessions of its **creative arts summer camp** for children **ages 3 through 11**. Led by Bonnie Boilini Baxter – past recipient of Good Shepherd's Chiaravalle Award – the Children's Dance Workshop invites dancers to discover the joy and freedom of movement!

Dancers will love the thoughtfully planned activities at Potawatomi Park in the Wilson Pavilion. Your child will move, groove, and experience the joy of rhythmic expression! Click the [flyer image](#) below to access a PDF copy of the registration form.


### Summer Dance Camp Sessions

3s, 4s, and 5s

- June 15–18, 9:00–11:00 a.m.

## 5–11 years

- June 15–19, 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- July 27–31, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



**Dancer Summer Excitement**  
 Eunice Bellini Ratter, Director  
 427 N. Hickory Rd., South Bend, IN 46615  
 www.childrensdanceworkshop.org  
 574.850.0042

**Summer Dance Camps In Potawatomi Park**

**3, 4 and 5 years old**  
**Dance and Art Workshop**  
*Dancers explore dance, visual arts and crafts. The schedule includes two Movement/Dance classes and two Art/Craft projects. Snacks are included. The classes are filled with energy, creativity and excitement!*  
 Fee: \$150 for the four day workshop  
 June 15 to 18, 9:00 to 11:15

**5 to 11 years old**  
**Dance and More**  
*The camp will include Modern Dance, Ballet/Character, Technique/Composition, Improvisation and Seminars on Costuming. Set construction and Make-up. Camp presentation on the last day.*  
 Fee: \$225 for the one week camp  
 June 15 to 19, 11:30 to 3:30 —  
 July 27 to July 31, 9:30 to 1:30

**CLASSES IN THE STUDIO** Fee \$130  
 Dance and Art for 3-5.5 years old  
 Wednesdays, 5:00  
 June 24, July 1, 8, 15

**REGISTRATION DANCER SUMMER 2024**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp(s): Camp \_\_\_\_\_ Dance and Art \_\_\_\_\_ Dance and More \_\_\_\_\_ Session: June 16, July 28  
 Telephone/cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Venmo payment @dwbosnie  
 Or mail this form and check to Dancer, 427 N. Hickory Rd., South Bend, IN 46615

Visit our website for classes for older students  
 and a full class and schedule  
 www.childrensdanceworkshop.org  
 Call 574.850.0042 for more information

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# South Bend Code School – AI & Tech Camp

This June, [South Bend Code School](#) will host an [AI & Tech Summer Camp](#) for students in grades 2–8. The program is designed for students who are curious about technology and ready to explore how tools such as coding and artificial intelligence are shaping the future.

Rather than a typical tech camp, the experience is designed to allow students to experiment, collaborate, and build real projects while learning the principles of responsible AI use and digital leadership.

During the week, students will:

- Explore AI safety and responsible technology use
- Build foundational coding and AI skills
- Design and create their own games and tech projects
- Work through collaborative design challenges
- Receive small-group mentorship and individualized guidance

Enrollment is intentionally limited to keep groups small and interactive.

## Camp Details

- Grades: 2–8 (students grouped by grade level)
- Dates: June 15–18, 2024

- Time: Monday–Thursday | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Location: South Bend Tech Resource Center: 1165 Franklin St., Suite 100 South Bend, IN 46601



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.



[Tuesday Newsday Archive](#)



**Good Shepherd**  
MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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