

**PTO Family Fun Day
Saturday, September 21**

**School Photo Day
Tuesday, September 24
(Kindergarten-Grade 5 Dress Uniform)**

**Back to School Night
Thursday, September 26
6:00 pm-7:45pm
(Please Note: Childcare is full)**

GRYPHON NEWS

September 19, 2019



Kindergarten students painted concentric circles inspired by

UPCOMING DATES

Sept. 19: Home Soccer Game v Woods Academy, 3:30 pm

Sept. 21:

- SSAT Practice Test (Grade 5), 9:00 am
- PTO Family Fun Day, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Playground

Sept. 23:

- Girls on the Run Practice Starts, 3:15 - 4:30 pm
- ACE Classes Begin (Week of)
- Home Soccer Game v Milton Gottesman Jewish School, 4:00 pm

Sept. 24: School Photo Day

Sept. 25: PTO Pizza Order Final Deadline

Sept. 26: Back-to-School Night, 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm* (*Please Note: Time Change*)

Sept. 27: Uniform Free Day!

Sept. 30:

- Music Kids Starts
- Directory Addendum Deadline

Oct. 1:

- PTO Survey Deadline
- Variable Tuition Application Period for 2020-2021 Opens

Oct. 3: Home Soccer Game v British International School, 3:30 pm

Oct. 7-9: Echo Hill Outdoor Education (Grade 5)

Oct. 11: Parent Teacher Conferences, No School

Oct. 14: Columbus Day Holiday, No School

Oct. 17: Home Soccer Game v McLean School, 3:30 pm

Oct. 18: Pep Rally for Grace, 6:30 pm-9:00 pm

PTO Family Fun Day: This Saturday! 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Family Fun Day is finally here and the weather looks perfect! If you haven't already signed up to help out, please do so [here](#). There is so much fun planned – as you arrive, you will see a police car, a small piece of construction equipment and perhaps a firetruck and/or ambulance. These are available for children to explore, at no cost. All other activities will take place on the school playground. Admission is free; tickets are sold for activities and refreshments. This event is open to the public, so feel free to bring your friends and neighbors! For the day's calendar click [here](#).

Girls on the Run (GOTR): Registration Open

Girls on the Run registration is now open for the Fall season! Girls in Grades 3-5 may sign up. We meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from Sept. 23-Nov. 18, with our culminating 5K race at Westfield Montgomery Mall on Sunday, Nov. 24. Ms. Karen and Ms. Kelliher are our lead coaches. [Registration](#) is done through Girls on The Run of Montgomery County, and costs \$175 for the season (which includes all materials for the 5K). Financial assistance is available from GOTR -- please contact Ms. Karen for more information. We must have 7 students to field a team, so if your girl is interested, we encourage you to register soon. Questions? Contact head coach Karen O'Connor-Floman at karen@geds.org.

School Photo Day: Sept. 24

Individual, classroom, and school-wide photos will be taken. Please have your students arrive promptly as the school-wide picture will be taken at 9:00 am. **Students in Kindergarten - Grade 5 are expected to wear Dress uniform pieces:**

- White collared shirt (polo, peter pan, or oxford collar)
- Grace Logo-Embroidered: Navy sweater, V-neck cardigan, crew-neck pullover, or Lands' End fleece. (Grace sweatshirts are not considered part of the Dress uniform).

Order information will be available in the "proof" packets that come home by backpack on October 4. If you have any questions please contact Noelle McHugh, nmchugh@geds.org.

Back to School Night (BTSN): Sept. 26, 6:00-7:45 pm

more about our curriculum and goals. **Please Note: BTSN is an adult only event. Childcare is full and we are unable to accept drop-ins.**

6:00 pm-6:30 pm: Visit with Specialists to learn about their programs (MPR)

- Christine Comas: Director of Innovation, Science and Technology
- Emily Gould: Art
- Gavin Hymes: Spanish
- Melissa Lafionatis: Learning Specialist
- Matthew Phelan: PE, Health and Athletics
- Kristin Smith: Music
- Renee Stewart: School Counselor

6:30 pm-7:45 pm: Homeroom teacher presentations (classrooms)

Uniform Free Day: Sept. 27

Friday, September 27 will be the first Uniform Free Day of the year for students in Kindergarten through Grade 5! Please make sure that your children wear appropriate footwear.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) News

Gracewear: Just in time for Photo Day! The PTO is having an "open closet" this Friday! If your Kindergarten-Grade 5 student is missing Dress Uniform pieces, come to the library immediately following this Friday's assembly to purchase dress uniform items required for photo day. GraceWear orders will be accepted throughout the year using our [new form](#). Payment can be made using Venmo, by check, or with cash. Many thanks to everyone who has donated gently used uniforms for resale through GraceWear! Please Note: *Due to the extent of our current inventory, we are only accepting official Lands End uniform pieces at this time.*

AmazonSmile: AmazonSmile is a way to earn funds for the charitable organization of your choice -- in this case, Grace Episcopal Day school! When purchasing through Amazon, please navigate to the AmazonSmile [link](#). Once there, search for and designate Grace Episcopal Day School (Kensington, MD-- there is more than one!) as the charity you would like to support. Amazon will donate a portion of their sales to our school. Such an easy way to make every penny count!

Grace Goodies: Show your appreciation to our faculty and staff by signing up for Grace Goodies! Provide treats to the faculty room on Wednesday mornings. Wednesdays don't work? Bring salad, veggies or fruit for teacher's

year for the entire Grace Family, but we need your help! Please take a few minutes to complete our anonymous [parent survey](#). We will leave the survey open and active through October 1.

PTO Family Hike: Saturday, October 26, 9:00 am. Gather together and enjoy the fall weather while hiking through Rock Creek Park (exact location TBD). If this is a hit with Grace Families, we will schedule a second hike in the spring!

Dance Night: Friday, November 15, 5:30 pm. Join us for Grace's first-ever Dance Night in the MPR. This high energy event will give families an opportunity to come to dance the evening away while listening to a DJ spin their favorite age-appropriate, cool songs. Food and beverages will be available for sale. Look for more details on this event in the upcoming weeks!

Stay Connected!

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

Questions: Contact Jenny O'Brien & Tara Meadows

PTO Co-Chairs at thegracepto@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE! 4th Annual Pep Rally for Grace: October 18, 6:30 pm–9:00 pm

The best party of the year is only one month away! Reconnect with old friends and make new ones at the 4th annual Pep Rally for Grace. This special event is open to every adult in the Grace community: parents, alumni (over 21), alumni parents, grandparents, and friends. Come one, come all, and be reminded what makes Grace so special...the people! Beer, wine, soft drinks, and s'mores are on the house. Surfside food truck available for purchasing all of your taco & guacamole needs. [RSVP today!](#)

Save-the-Date Postcards for Grandparent and Special Friends Day are on their way!

Save-the-Date postcards for Grandparents and Special Friends Day have been sent to any grandparent or special friend for whom we have an address. If you are a new family (or returning family concerned that we don't have current contact info for grandparents/special friends), please send their contact information to Becky Mulholland in the Advancement Office at bmulholland@geds.org.

Gryphon News Archive

Music Kids Returning to Grace

[Music Kids](#) is excited to bring their Suzuki-inspired teaching method to Grace again this year! They will be offering one small-group violin class for beginners in PK and K and one small-group class for returning violinists. Lessons will be before school, for 30 minutes once per week, on a day yet to be determined. The rental violin is included, along with regular email updates, and participation in the spring recital. Classes will begin the week of September 30. Music Kids will match any Variable Tuition percentages that families receive from Grace. Please email office@musickidsprogram.com to express interest and ask questions.

Makerspace Donations

Our Makerspace welcomes donations of:

- paper towel rolls
- toilet paper rolls
- berry containers

Due to space restrictions, NO other items are being accepted at this time. Please place donations in the bins outside the Makerspace. If you have any questions contact Christine Comas, ccomas@geds.org.

Handbook/Directory Addendum

A Directory Addendum will be published later in early October. Deadline for changes/corrections is September 30. Please email Noelle McHugh, nmchugh@geds.org.

Kensington Community News

New Outdoor Music & Event Venue at GIGS in Kensington!

[GIGS](#) is proud to announce the grand opening of the [Courtyard](#): a brand new outdoor music & events venue located right in the heart of old town Kensington, MD. Come out and celebrate the Courtyard's inaugural fall season with two exciting events: "[Rumble on the Row](#)" this Saturday, Sept. 21st, and the 5th Annual [Pumpkin Rock N' Roll](#) on Saturday, Oct. 26th! Rumble on the Row is a festival-style concert featuring 3+ hours of live music from Sean Gaiser and Andrew Deerin's bands. Tickets include unlimited beer & wine all night and are available for purchase [here](#)! The Pumpkin Rock N' Roll is a free family friendly Halloween event featuring live music, food vendors, a hay maze, pumpkin derby races, and plenty more activities for kids. Don't forget to come dressed in costume! More info [here](#).

Uniforms

Lunch Information & Sign Up



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