

Tonight!
Back To School Night
6:00 pm-7:45 pm

September 27: Uniform Free Day

GRYPHON NEWS

September 26, 2019



UPCOMING DATES

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

Sept. 27: Uniform Free Day!

Sept. 30:

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. 4: Student Council Assembly, 9:00 am, MPR

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

Oct. 10: PTO Meeting, 8:45 am, Library

Oct. 11:

- Parent Teacher Conferences, No School
- PTO Book Sale: The Story House Book Trolley

Oct. 14: Columbus Day Holiday, No School

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

Back to School Night (BTSN): Tonight! 6:00-7:45 pm

Please Note: Childcare is full and we are unable to accept drop-ins.

Visit with Specialists 6:00 pm-6:30 pm:

- 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

Homeroom teacher presentations 6:30 pm-7:45 pm.

New Gryphon Car Magnets

Make sure to check your BTSN folder for the new Grace Gryphon car magnet! Want more? They are available for purchase (\$3) in the Main Office starting

Uniform Free Day: Tomorrow, Sept. 27

The first uniform free day of the year is tomorrow! As always, children must wear appropriate footwear for outdoor play.

Music Kids Starts Next Week

[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. The rental violin is included, along with regular email updates, and participation in the spring recital. **Classes will begin the week of September 30 so register soon!** Music Kids will match any Variable Tuition percentages that families receive from Grace. Please email office@musickidsprogram.com to express interest and ask questions.

Last Chance: Directory Addendum Deadline Sept. 30

A Directory Addendum will be published in early October. Please send any changes/corrections to Noelle McHugh, nmchugh@geds.org by September 30.

Student Council Assembly: Oct. 4, 9:00 am, MPR

Each year, Grade 4 and Grade 5 students are invited to run for a Student Council Office: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Student Council officers listen to and address their schoolmates' concerns. They also lead Grace's service projects. Two faculty members, Melissa Lafionatis and Rose Morrison, serve as Student Council Advisors. Campaign speeches will be delivered during Assembly on Friday, October 4. Voting will take place later that morning in Grades 2-5. Results will be announced at the end of the day.

Chapel Prayer Schedule Trimester 1

- October 2: Grade 4
- October 9: Grade 3
- October 23: Grade 2
- October 30: Grade 1
- November 13: Kindergarten

PTO Meeting: Oct. 10, 8:45 am-9:45 am, Library

Please join us to discuss survey results as well as upcoming events and ways you can participate. Need to call in? Conference # 319-527-2728. Participant Code:

Parent Teacher Conference Day/No School For Students: Oct. 11

Grace will be closed for students on Friday, October 11 for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Teachers will provide electronic sign-ups by email or at Back to School Night. Complimentary childcare (8:00 am - 4:00 pm) is provided only during the time of your conference. Aftercare is not available on days that school is closed.

The Story House: Oct. 11, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

The PTO has arranged for [The Story House](#), an adorable bookstore on wheels, to be at Grace from 9:00 am-3:00 pm during parent teacher conferences. Teachers have provided "wish lists" of books to be purchased and donated to their classrooms. Each donated book will have a special bookplate inscribed with the donor's name as a thank you. Grace receives a percentage of the sales, so it's an ideal time to purchase gifts and and stock up on books for bedtime reading. Inventory includes board books, picture books, and chapter books - something for everyone.

To sweeten the event, hot chocolate and treats will be available. The PTO has even enlisted a few grandparents to read for storytime. Last but not least, the PTO will be taking orders for our new Spirit Wear item: knee socks with images of Gray the Gryphon! Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to support your teacher and school!

Questions: contact Jenny or Tara, thegracepto@gmail.com.

4th Annual Pep Rally for Grace: Oct. 18, 6:30 pm–9:00 pm

The best party of the year is three weeks 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 Grandparents and Special Friends Day have been sent!

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.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) News

CertifiKID: Have Fun, Do Good

Recognized as one of the best deal websites for parents, [CertifiKID](#) helps parents on a budget provide incredible experiences for their kids. And now, we're participating in their fundraising program! From farms, festivals, holiday events, activities, classes, entertainment, unique gifts, restaurants and more, you'll find amazing kids' activities and family-friendly fun at prices that won't break the bank. For every purchase you make over \$20.00, Grace will receive a \$5.00 donation. What better way to have fun and do good? Be sure to use our promo code **GRACE** when you checkout.

AmazonSmile: When purchasing through Amazon, navigate to the AmazonSmile [link](#). Search for/designate Grace Episcopal Day School (Kensington, MD) as your charity. Amazon will donate a portion of their sales to our school.

Parent Survey: Deadline is Oct. 1. Please take a few minutes to complete this important (anonymous) [parent survey](#).

Grace Goodies: Show your appreciation to our faculty and staff by [signing up](#) for Grace Goodies!

PTO Family Hike in Rock Creek Park: Saturday, October 26, 9:00 am. Details to follow.

Dance Night: Friday, November 15, 5:30 pm. 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

Gryphon News Archive

Missed last week's Gryphon News? No problem! Read archived editions online [here](#). In case you are prompted, password is Gryphon1920.

Makerspace Donations

Our Makerspace welcomes donations of:

- paper towel rolls

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.

Grace Church: Free Early Childhood Music Classes

There are a few spots left in our Cherubs and Chimers classes! This unique curriculum, for 2-3 year olds, emphasizes rhythmic pulse, pitch, and ensemble awareness in a fun, fast-moving group atmosphere.

- Wednesday: 4:30-5:15pm
- Thursday: 5:30-6:15pm
- Saturday: 9:00-9:45am

For more information or to register for these free classes, contact Heather Adelsberger, Director of Music Ministries:
hadelsberger@graceepiscopalchurch.org

Kensington Community News

5th Annual [Pumpkin Rock N' Roll](#) on Saturday, Oct. 26th! This 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](#).

Required Forms

[Uniforms](#)

[Lunch Information & Sign Up](#)



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