

February 7, 2025



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



### Tax Payment Reports

Please see the flyer in this newsletter regarding how to pull your payment reports for tax purposes.



### Opt-Out Deadline Extended

The deadline to opt-out of continuous enrollment for the 25/26 school year has been extended to March 15th.



2/11 - Carnation Gram Orders Due

2/14 - Carnation Grams Delivered

2/17 - President's Day -No School

2/18 - Kindergarten Chapel Presentation

2/19 - Parent Meeting 6:00 pm

2/28 - Parents Night Out

3/2-3/4 - FCIS Accreditation Visit

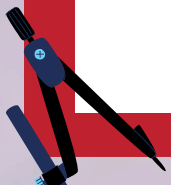
3/5 - Ash Wednesday

3/6 - Spring Photo Day

3/7 - Storybook Dress-up Day

3/13 - Science and Innovation Night

3/14 - Parent/Teacher Conference Day  
No School



February 4, 2025

Dear Parents, Teachers, Staff, School Board, and Vestry,

We want to bring you up to date on the events at the Academy. The School Board and the Vestry met with Canon Dan Smith (Assistant to the Bishop of Central Florida) and Father Josh Bales (Licensed Mental Health Counsellor) last night to review the charges brought against Justin Smith, former Head of School.

- During the meeting, we received word that a local paper was airing the story, and we will be working with the diocese to write a press release.
- The laptop Mr. Smith used was removed from the school and will undergo a forensic investigation.
- We will be engaging GRACE (Godly Response to Abuse in the Christian Environment) to conduct a thorough investigation.  
<https://www.netgrace.org/>
- We have scheduled a meeting with the parents on Wednesday, February 19 in Thursby Hall at 6:00 pm.
  - a. NOTE: This meeting is for adults only, and we will not be able to provide childcare.
  - b. Canon Smith and Father Bales will be with us at that meeting.

As always, the safety of your children is our primary concern, and we are dedicated to doing everything we can in order to provide a secure environment.

At this moment, we have limited accurate information but we will share what we have. In the meantime, we humbly request that you refrain from passing on rumors. If you want to share information or have questions, please direct them to either Fr. Steve Pessah (Acting Head of School) or Susan Blakeslee (School Board Chair).

We also ask that you remember the Academy in your prayers. We are a very unique center of learning and our resolve is to navigate through these times with grace and fortitude. Our conviction is that we will emerge a stronger and more united community than ever.

Father Steve Pessah  
Acting Head of School

Susan Blakeslee, LMHC  
School Board Chair



# Security fund

Please consider making a donation to keep our school and children safe and secure in our beautiful village.

All proceeds will go to implementing additional security measures at St. Mark's Episcopal Academy.

The graphic features a large, dark red heart outline in the center. Inside the heart, the text "Valentine's Day FlowerGram Fundraiser" is written in a dark red, serif font. Below the heart is a dark red ribbon graphic. The background is white with scattered red hearts of various sizes. The overall theme is Valentine's Day.

# Valentine's Day FlowerGram Fundraiser

**SEND YOUR SPECIAL PEOPLE A SPECIAL  
SURPRISE ON VALENTINE'S DAY!**

**Fill out as many flowergrams as you'd like  
for \$2 each and return them with payment  
to Mrs. Parsons by Monday, February 10th.**

**On Valentine's Day, the tags will be  
attached to a flower and delivered to their  
recipients!**

**Send the love to your friends, teachers, and  
staff!**

**Step 1:** Sign in at <https://online.factsmgt.com>

**Step 2:** Select **View Details**

Hello

**Payment Plan & Billing** View Details

John Doe #5001670933  
For Jane Doe

Current Balance  
**\$2,152.84**

**Make a Payment**

**Step 3:** Select **View Payment Summary**

[Back to Home](#)

**Activity Details**

John Doe  
Customer Number: 5001670933

Term:

**View Payment Summary** FACTS Payment Processing Policies

*\*\*Page will open in another window or tab.\*\**

**Step 4:** Select a year and click **Print**

Payment Summary Print

**i** The Payment Summary report is for informational purposes only. It includes payment activity applied to the balance owed to or services rendered by Sample School during the selected time frame.

Customer: John Doe  
123  
LINCOLN, NE 68522  
USA

Student: Jane Doe

Jane Doe - \$9,232.16

18-19 School year	Grade - 5th	\$6,375.00
ACCOUNT		TOTAL
Athletics		\$75.00
Registration		\$300.00
Tuition		\$6,000.00
2019-2020 School Year	Grade - 6th	\$2,857.16
ACCOUNT		TOTAL
Tuition		\$2,857.16

**Sample School**  
121 High School Road  
Lincoln  
Lincoln, NE 68522  
USA  
Federal Tax ID: [REDACTED]

School Information and Federal Tax ID

**NOTE:** This report will show the total paid for each of the accounts (i.e. Tuition, Extended Day Care, Technology, Book fees, etc.). The payer can select a year or a date range for this summary.

If you have any questions, please contact a FACTS Customer Care Representative at 866-441-4637.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL ACADEMY  
ANNUAL GALA



**SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025**

**6PM - 10PM**

**CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF BREVARD  
1100 ROCKLEDGE BLVD.  
ROCKLEDGE, FL 32955**

**VIP TICKET: \$150\***

*Includes VIP Happy Hour from 5pm-6pm with free drinks and hors d'oeuvres, as well as dinner and entertainment*

**GENERAL ADMISSION TICKET: \$100**

*Includes two drink tickets, dinner, and entertainment*

*\*St. Mark's Alumni will receive a VIP ticket for the price of General Admission*



# SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

## DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER: \$3,500

Company logo/Family name on all event promotional material and social media\* / Promotional display available for your company during the welcome / Company name announced during the event / Eight (8) VIP tickets to the event / Premium reserved table location with designated sign / Two (2) complimentary bottles of wine will await your guests

## GOLDENEYE: \$2,500

Company logo/Family name on all event promotional material and social media\* / Company name announced during the event / Six (6) VIP tickets to the event / Premium reserved table location with designated sign / One (1) complimentary bottle of wine will await your guests

## FROM RUSSIA

## WITH LOVE: \$1,000

Company logo/Family name on all event promotional material and social media\* / Four (4) VIP tickets to the event / Reserved place cards for your guests

## QUANTUM OF SOLACE: \$500

Company logo/Family name on all event promotional material and social media\* / Two (2) VIP tickets to the event / Reserved place cards for your guests



*\*To have your name and logo printed on event promotional material, your sponsorship check and company logo must be submitted to the SMEA office before the printing deadline.*

# An Opportunity for Girls in Grades 3 - 6



[Home Page](#) [About Us](#) [Awards Program](#) [Events](#) [STEM Outreach](#) [Get in Touch!](#)

## Girls in 3rd through 6th grades – be a part of Introducing Girls to Engineering Workshop!

- Experience the creativity and innovation of engineering and technology
- Meet female engineers and technologists, and hear first-hand about these exciting careers
- Participate in five hands-on projects

**Date:** March 8, 2025

**Time:** 9:00AM – 3:30PM

**Location:** Odyssey Charter School, 1755 Eldron Blvd, Palm Bay, FL

**Cost:** \$35 includes lunch, drinks, snack, shirt, and supplies

*Registration fee can be waived for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch or have an economic need. Apply here for the waiver before registering.*  
For students with fee [WAIVERS](#), enter your waiver number as a PROMOTIONAL CODE.

Registration deadline: February 16, 2025

### Volunteers

Engineers, Scientists, Chaperons, Teachers, Parents, SWE Members and Non Members, we can't do this with out your help. Join us as we inspire our youth with our passion for STEM. Click the link to register, [Volunteers](#).

SWE Required Training for Outreach Volunteers: <https://swe.org/youthprotection/>

Questions? Contact us at [igew@swespacecoast.org](mailto:igew@swespacecoast.org).

**[STUDENT REGISTRATION LINK](#)**



**[VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION LINK](#)**





Do you love St. Mark's Academy? If so, please share your love on one or all of the school review sites below.

Simply click on the logos. Thank you!



**St. Mark's**  
EPISCOPAL ACADEMY

TRADITION. INNOVATION. INSPIRATION.



**HELP GET THE WORD  
OUT!**

**CLICK ON ONE OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING  
WEBSITES TO LEAVE A REVIEW**



As St. Mark's continues to grow - we need your assistance to help reach new families. YOU can assist SMEA by engaging with our social media pages.

Please go on to the following page links to: follow, like, share and comment:

- **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/stmarksepiscopalacademy/>
- **Instagram** - <https://www.instagram.com/stmarksepiscopalacademy/>
- **Website** - <https://www.stmarksacademy.org/>
- **LinkedIn** - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/st-mark-s-episcopal-academy>

<b>Fall Semester</b>	
Monday, August 5	Used Uniform Sale – 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Thursby Hall
Wednesday, August 7	Teachers Return
Monday, August 12	Parent Orientation – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, August 13	Meet & Greet 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday, August 13	Used Uniform Sale Thursby Hall – 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday, August 14	Students Return - 1st Day of School
Wednesday, August 21	New Parent Coffee - 8:30 AM – Thursby Hall
Wednesday, August 28	Yearbook Picture Day
Thursday, August 29	Parents Back-to-School Night – 5:15 PM – 7:30 PM
Monday, September 2	Labor Day - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Tuesday, September 10	Family Bingo Night 5:45 PM
Monday, September 16	Qtr 1 Interim Progress Reports
Friday, October 4	Blessing of the Animals – 12:35 PM
Monday, October 14	Columbus Day - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Friday, October 18	End of Q1/ Fall Festival
Thursday, October 24	Qtr 1 Report Cards
Friday, October 25	Parent/Teacher Conferences <b>(No School for Students)</b>
Friday, November 1	All Saints' Day Chapel
Friday, November 8	Professional Development Day <b>(No School for Students)</b>
Monday, November 11	Qtr 2 Interim Progress Reports
Monday, November 11	Veterans Day Chapel
Monday – Wednesday, November 11-13	Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday, November 12	Books and Bingo 5:45-7:45
Friday, November 15	Fall into Science Day/Cookies in the Park Afterschool
Wednesday, November 20	All School Photo @ 8:40 AM
Friday, November 22	Grandparent's Day - <b>(12 PM Dismissal)</b> No Aftercare
Monday – Friday, November 25-29	Thanksgiving Week - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Wednesday – Friday, December 11-13	Holiday Shop
Friday, December 20	Advent in Song <b>(12 PM Dismissal)</b> No Aftercare
Monday, December 23 – Monday, January 6	Christmas Break
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
Monday, January 6	Students Return - <b>Hurricane Makeup Day</b>
Friday, January 10	End of Qtr2
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King Day - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Tuesday, January 21	Qtr 2 Report Cards
Thursday, January 23	Prospective Family Event
Tuesday, February 4	Family Bingo Night 5:45 PM
Thursday, February 6	Yearbook Photo Retake Day
Monday, February 10	Qtr 3 Interim Progress Reports
Friday, February 14	6th Grade Valentine's Day Celebration/ <b>1 PM Dismissal</b> – No Aftercare
Monday, February 17	Presidents' Day - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Tuesday, February 18	<b>Hurricane Makeup Day</b>
Friday, February 28	Parents Night Out 5:30 - 8:30
Wednesday, March 5	Ash Wednesday
Thursday, March 6	Spring Photo Day
Friday, March 7	Storybook Dress-Up Day/End of Qtr 3
Thursday, March 13	Science & Innovation Night
Thursday, March 13	Qtr 3 Report Cards Issued
Friday, March 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences - <b>(No School for Students)</b>
Monday- Friday, March 17-21	<b>Spring Break</b>
Friday, March 28	Field Day – Noon Dismissal -No Aftercare
Saturday, April 12	Gala Night
Thursday, April 17	Qtr 4 Interim Progress Reports
Friday, April 18	Good Friday - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Monday, April 21	Easter Monday - <b>(Holiday for All - NO SCHOOL)</b>
Friday, May 2	May Day - 11 AM Civic Center
Monday-Thursday, May 5-8	BOGO Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday, May 6	Books and Bingo Night 6 pm-8 pm
Wednesday, May 21	<b>Morning Awards Chapel</b>
Friday, May 23	Final Chapel/Crossover/Graduation/Last Day of School (12:00 Dismissal)/Hurricane Makeup
Tuesday, May 27 and Wednesday, May 28	Post-planning for Faculty
Tuesday, June 3	Qtr 4 Report Cards and Summer Packets Emailed

# Parents & Friends Events

## 2024-2025



### AUGUST

12TH - PARENT ORIENTATION  
13TH - USED UNIFORM SALE  
20th - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am- Library,  
29TH - BACK TO SCHOOL  
NIGHT

### SEPTEMBER

6TH - COOKIES IN THE PARK  
10TH - BINGO NIGHT  
18TH- PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am- Thursby

### OCTOBER

16TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Thursby  
18TH - FALL FESTIVAL

### NOVEMBER

11TH-15TH - BOOK FAIR  
12TH - BOOKS & BINGO  
15TH - COOKIES IN THE PARK  
20TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Thursby  
22ND - GRANDPARENTS DAY

### DECEMBER

6 TH - PARENTS NIGHT OUT  
11-13TH - HOLIDAY SHOP  
18TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Library  
20TH - ADVENT & SONG

### JANUARY

15TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Thursby

### FEBRUARY

7TH - COOKIES IN THE PARK  
14TH - VALENTINES DANCE  
19TH- PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Thursby  
25TH - BINGO NIGHT

### MARCH

19TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Thursby

### APRIL

12TH - CASINO NIGHT GALA  
16TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Library

### MAY

6TH - BOOKS & BINGO  
5TH - 8TH - BOOK FAIR  
9TH - COOKIES IN THE PARK  
15TH - PARENTS & FRIENDS  
MEETING 8am - Thursby

### JUNE

**\*\*\*ALL DATES & EVENTS  
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\***  
FURTHER INFO WILL BE  
FORTHCOMING AS EVENTS  
COME CLOSER

### JULY

*Summer*  
