

FRIENDS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

July 2026

Dear Elementary Families,

What an exciting time to be part of Friends Christian School! We see God's hand in all that is happening on our campus as we move forward with our building project. Building projects mean construction and dust and change as we make room for ministry to flourish. Please take note of some of those changes that will impact you:

- Some of our classrooms have moved!
- Drop-off and pick-up spots have **CHANGED!!** Details will be available at Meet Your Teacher.
- We will **ALL** be together for chapel every week in the Worship Center at 9:00 AM.

Our theme this year is **GRATITUDE**. When I look around and see God's faithfulness and goodness, I cannot help but feel overwhelmed with GRATITUDE. *"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."*

And as much as I love summertime, in just a few weeks when it's time to head back to school, I will once again be filled with a heart of GRATITUDE for each student and staff member that is part of our FCS family.

See you soon!

Becki Crandall
Elementary Principal, Grades K-4

Be In The Know...

Office & Finance - The school office is open Monday through Friday during the summer months from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. Regular office hours of 8:00AM – 4:00PM will resume on Monday, August 10th. The office will be closed on Friday, September 4th and Monday, September 7th for the Labor Day holiday. School will begin on Monday, August 24th at 8:45AM. Drop-off begins at 8:15A.

FCS payment system is provided by FACTS Management Company. All payments for the 2025-2026 school year will be managed through the FACTS online system. Please direct any questions about our financial policies and billing to the Finance Office at 714.886.6174. The Finance Office (building 3) is open during the summer from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Monday through Friday.

Finance would like to close out lunch accounts from last school year – *Please pay off your account TODAY!!*

Tuesday Dismissal at 1:50 PM - As part of our commitment to continue to become better, each Tuesday the elementary campus will dismiss at 1:50PM so teachers can participate in professional development. Students may be picked up at that time following the daily pick-up routine or be signed into extended care. Students staying in extended care must be picked up from the MPR.

1st Grade Students ONLY - First graders are required to have had a physical within eighteen months of beginning first grade (not earlier than April 1, 2025). A state form must be filled out and signed by a doctor and returned to the school office. (see attached *Physicians Report of Health*)

Supplies - The school provides general student supplies. Parents will need to provide a backpack or book bag for their student(s). Book bags with rollers are allowed as long as they are **not** rolled on the stairs. All backpacks and book bags must be able to fit inside a student cubby (9½" x 12"). First graders and new students will receive an NIV Bible from their teacher, which is to be left at school for use in the classroom. *Returning students – Bibles were sent home over summer and are to be brought back on first day of class.*

Uniforms - Uniforms may be purchased through Lands' End. Acceptable uniforms are those purchased through Lands' End or from our previous vendors (Dennis, Globalschoolwear (Tommy Hilfiger), True Grits, and/or Parker). Uniform clothing items – including Spirit Wear items may not be altered or modified in any way. (see *Dress and Grooming Code attached*). FFF Used uniform sale on Friday, August 21st, 7:30 AM -10:00 AM.

Class Lists - So much care and prayer go into the creation of each class list with consideration given to individual student academic and social needs. Our family handbook gives clear instructions regarding requests for class placement (p. 11). Class placement is final and will be available via RenWeb on the evening of Thursday, August 20th, and on windows of Room B3 before Meet Your Teacher on Friday, August 21st. While it may be tempting to intervene, we ask you to trust this process and God's plan for your student to have a wonderful year learning, making new friends, and growing in their relationship with Jesus.

If your plans for enrollment have changed and your child will not be returning to FCS, please call the school office immediately at 714.777.3009 and then send a written note or email to confirm the change. We are unable to fill vacancies without written notification from those who are dropping.

Schedule Highlights

August 21st – Meet Your Teacher Day

- Meet your teacher this year will be on Friday, August 21st from 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM.
- Class placement will be available on Thursday, August 20th via RenWeb/App, and posted on Friday, August 21st on the downstairs classroom windows of Room B3.
- The cost per lunch will be \$6.50. A 5—day ticket will cost \$32.50 and a 10—day ticket will cost \$65.00. Lunches may be purchased through the FCS App or online through FACTS. A lunch menu for August is attached and will be posted in in the FCS App (*lunch rate is subject to change as market dictates*)
- **USED UNIFORM SALE** – Need a uniform piece or two? Stop by the sale on the elementary campus in the MPR. Sale hours 7:30 AM – 10:00 AM
- The school office will close at 12:00PM on this day.

August 24th – First Day of School

- The first day of school is Monday, August 24th. School begins at 8:45 AM.
- Extended Care will open at 7:00 AM. ALL Students arriving before 8:15 AM must be walked to the Multi-Purpose Room and signed in by an adult.
- Kindergartners will be dropped off by their parents at 8:30 AM in their classroom. See flyer for additional information on *Kisses & Kleenex* event for Kindergarten Parents. 1st – 4th graders will line up on the playground when the whistle is blown at 8:45 AM.
- Hot Lunch will be available on the first day of school. (*Entrée – Chicken Strips from Kentucky Fried Chicken*)
- The first day of school is a **full day** (kindergartners enrolled in the half day program will be dismissed at 12:45PM; students in grades 1-4 and kindergartners enrolled in the full day program will be dismissed at 3:00PM). Student drop-off and pick-up information will be provided at **“Meet Your Teacher”** morning. If you arrive on campus before classes are dismissed, you **MUST** park in a marked parking space in one of the parking lots. ***Please DO NOT line up early in the driveway or on Lakeview Avenue.***
- Extended Care will be available until 6:00 PM. **ALL** Students must be signed out of extended care by an adult.

September 1st – Back to School Night – Parent Only Evening

- Back-to-School Night will be held on Tuesday, September 1st. Information coming soon.

September 11th – Spirit Wear Fridays Begin

- Students may choose to wear spirit wear shirts with jean pants, jean shorts (must follow length guidelines), or uniform bottoms each Friday beginning Friday, September 11th.

September 9th – Picture Day

- Wednesday, September 9th is school picture day. Pictures with Class Photography will be taking individual student pictures. Students are to wear their school uniforms. Information will be sent home after school begins.

August 28th – Principal's BBQ

- First Principal's BBQ of the school year. CALLING ALL GRILLMASTERS! Looking for a few dads, grandpas, or uncles to assist Mrs. Crandall cooking and serving hot dogs to students during lunch from 11:00AM – 1:00PM. Please email dani@friendschristian.org or call the school office to volunteer.

BACK TO SCHOOL

It all starts here...

Monday, August 24th