

2025-2026 Friends Academy Calendar of Events



2025-2026 RESOURCES



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How do I obtain another student ID card?

Contact Island Photography at *joseph.k@islandphoto.com* or 516-767-1234. There may be a fee.

Stay up to date with the Friends Academy Parent/Caregiver Portal!

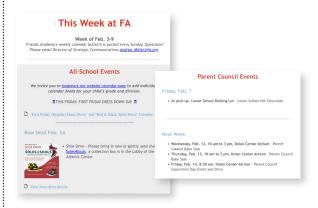


Welcome to the 2025-26 school year! Throughout the year, we invite you to join us for a myriad of events, from Back-to-School nights, community and service events, performances, athletic matches, and more. While our printed calendar reflects many of these events, families should always log on to visit the Parent/Caregiver Portal to view all Parent Council events, parent coffees, and other school-wide events that will be added and posted throughout the year.

Don't miss an event with our two weekly e-updates:

THIS WEEK AT FA

Emailed to all Friends Academy families and colleagues every Sunday at noon during the school year, this weekly bulletin contains all upcoming events for the week and a quick look ahead to the following week.



INSIDE FA

Emailed to all Friends Academy families and colleagues every Wednesday during the school year, families can read the latest headlines and view upcoming events for the month ahead.



Cover: Student Artwork. Clockwise, from top: Ava Gabriel '29, Athen Tsibiridis '28, Charli Zahtila '26, Amir Barrett '32, Andie Herman '26, Michael Sharifov '27

I need to reach the...

Main School

516-676-0393 516-393-4276 (fax)

Nurse

Daisy Baldwin, 516-393-4221 Suzan Canca, 516-629-4876

Head of School

Paul J. Stellato, 516-393-4217 Admin. Assistant, Lauren Shalit, 516-393-4218

Advancement Office

Director Laurie Hindley, 516-393-4269

Student Affairs Office

Camille S. Edwards, 516-393-4284 Danielle Langone, 516-393-4296

Athletics

Director Matthew Johnsen, 516-393-4259 Coordinator Cathy Philipakos, 516-393-4224

Upper School

Principal Mark Schoeffel, 516-393-4216 Emergency: 516-318-8137 Admin. Assistant, Katherine Cleary, 516-393-4215

Middle & Lower School

Principal Rik Dugan, 516-393-4229 Emergency: 973-449-9682 Admin. Assistant, Jess Robbins, 516-393-4230

Campus Store

Manager Danielle Joseph, 516-393-4202

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Last Day of Summer Programs	16
17	18 Upper School Football Begins	19	20	21 New Colleague Orientation Begins	22	23
24	25 All Colleagues Return US Fall Sports Begin	26	27 New Students & Families Welcome Celebration (All Divisions) – 5:30-7 pm	28 Grade 5 & 9 Student Orientations (all 5th and 9th graders), 9 am-12 pm (5th – Collab	All Offices Close at 12 pm	30
31	(Cheerleading, Crew, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Soccer, Tennis - Girls)		(The Quad/Kumar Wang Library)	Space; 9th – KW Library) US Committee Leader Training, 9 am-12pm (Commons)		

2025 Holidays & Faith Observances

SEPT

Labor Day: Sept. 1 School & Offices Closed NOV

Veterans Day: Nov. 11 School & Offices Closed

SEPT

Rosh Hashanah: Sept. 23-24 School & Offices Closed

The first of the Jewish High Holy Days; a two-day celebration of the Jewish New Year: commemorates the anniversary of the creation of Adam and Eve; traditions include attending synagogue, eating symbolic foods, and sounding the shofar (a ram's horn). Greeting: "Shanah Tovah" (Hebrew).

NOV

Thanksgiving: Nov. 27 School & Offices Closed Nov. 26-Dec 1

OCT

Yom Kippur: Oct. 2

School & Offices Closed

The Day of Atonement, which focuses on repentance; the holiest day in Judaism marked by a 25-hour period of fasting and intensive prayer, with most of the day often spent in synagogue prayer services. *Greeting:* "Good Yuntif" (Yiddish) or "Yom Tov" (Hebrew).

DEC

Hanukkah: Dec. 14-22 School Closed Dec. 22-Jan. 2

Jewish festival of lights; commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem during the Maccabean Revolt; celebrants light a menorah and exchange gifts. Greeting: "Happy Hanukkah!" or "Hanukkah Sameach!" (Hebrew).

OCT

Indigenous Peoples Day & Columbus Day: Oct. 13 School & Offices Closed

DEC

Christmas: Dec. 25 Offices Closed Dec. 24-25

Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus in the town of Bethlehem; celebrants attend religious services, exchange gifts, and enjoy family feasts. Greeting: "Merry Christmas!"

Diwali: Oct. 21

School & Offices Closed

OCT

The festival of lights, celebrated by Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs, symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness; celebrants light diyas (oil lamps); Hindus worship goddess of prosperty Lakshmi; Sikhs read from their holy scripture Guru Granth Sahib; and Jains recite prayers to honor the liberation of the soul of Lord Mahavir. Greeting: "Happy Diwali!" or "Shubh Diwali" (Hindi).

DEC

Kwanzaa: Dec. 26-Jan. 1 Offices Closed Dec. 26

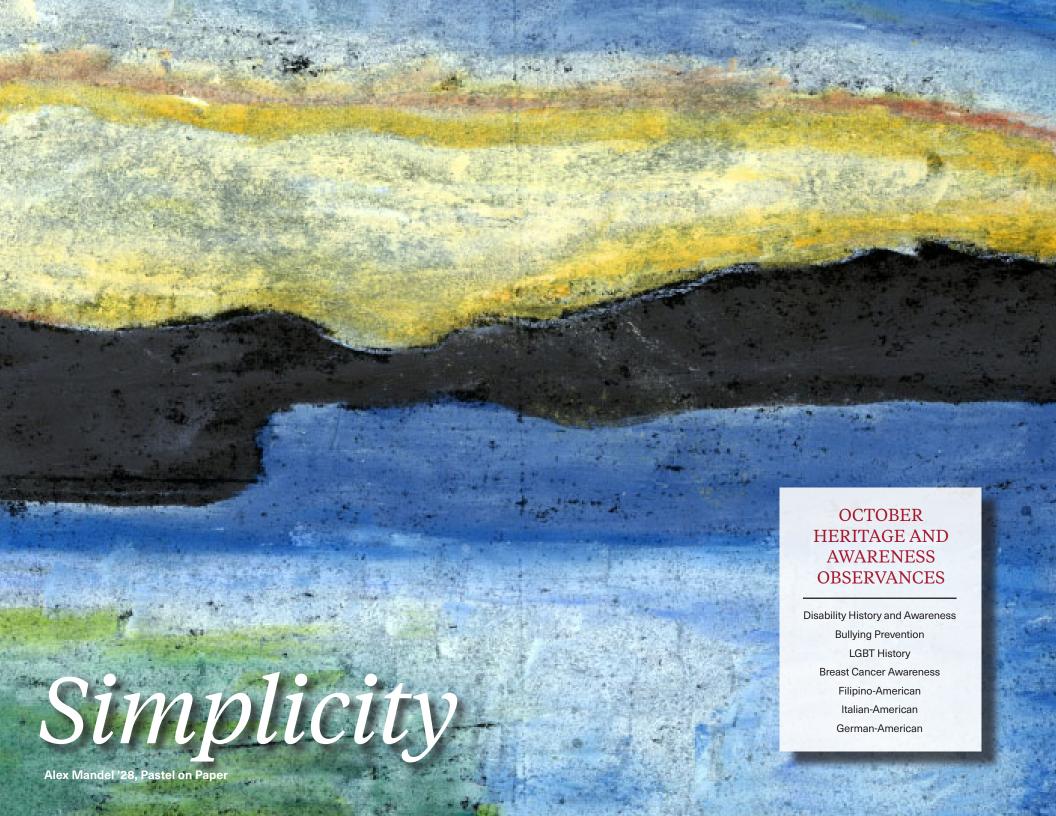
Celebration of Black culture; created by Black Power figure Maulana Karenga in 1966; celebrants exchange gifts, decorate their houses with art and kente cloth, and enjoy performances and libations. Greeting: "Joyous Kwanzaa!"

DEC

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day: Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 School & Offices Closed

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A WEEK SEPTEMBER HERITAGE & AWARENESS OBSERVANCES Hispanic Heritage (Sept. 15)	1 Labor Day School & Offices Closed	2 School & Offices Closed	3 School Begins - All Grades EC/Kindergarten Dismissal - 11 am; followed by "Popsicles with EC/K" (Classroom) Middle School Fall Sports Begin	4 EC Dismissal – 11 am Kindergarten Begins Full Day Classes – Dismissal 3:10 pm Families of Color Welcome Reception – 5:30-6:30 pm (Atrium) Parent Council General Meeting & Fall Fair Kickoff – 6:45 pm (Kumar Wang Library)	5 Convocation – 8:30 am (Main Gym – Regular Dress Code) EC Dismissal – 11 am; followed by EC Open Classroom (Classrooms)	6
7 B WEEK	8 Upper School Photo Day Play Group Dismissal – 11 am Pre-K Begins Full Day of Classes Dismissal – 2:45 pm	9 Play Group Begins Full Day of Classes Dismissal – 2:45 pm Middle School Photo Day	10 Lower School Photo Day	Lower School Back-to-School Night - 6:30 pm (KW Library/Classrooms)	12	13
14 A WEEK	15	16	17	Middle School Back-to-School Night - 6:30 pm (Classrooms)	19	20
21 B WEEK International Day of Peace	22 Little Friends Photo Day Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown	Rosh Hashanah School & Offices Closed	24 Rosh Hashanah School & Offices Closed	25 Early Childhood Photo Day Upper School Back-to-School Night - 6:45-9 pm (Classrooms)	26 Full Dress Down Friday	27
28 A WEEK	29	FA Spirit Dress Down Tri-M Induction Ceremony – 7 pm (Matinecock Meeting House)				



OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A WEE			1 Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	Yom Kippur School & Offices Closed World Quaker Day	3	4
5 B WEE	6	7 Lower School Admissions Open House – 9:30 am (RSVP)	8 Middle School Admissions Open House – 9:30 am (RSVP) Grades 10 & 11 PSATs	9 Upper School Admissions Open House – 9:30 am (RSVP) New Parent Reception – 7 pm (Jackson House)	10 Full Dress Down Friday	11
12 A WEE	Indigenous Peoples Day & Columbus Day School and Offices Closed	14 SPIRIT WEEK BEGINS!	15 FA Spirit Dress Down	16	FA Spirit Dress Down FAMILY NIGHT! Family Night Rides, BBQ, and Bonfire - 5:30-7:30 pm	18 60th Fall Fair & Homecoming – 11 am-5 pm
19 B WEE	20	Diwali School & Offices Closed	All-School Retake Photo Day	23 MS Student-Led Conferences 8 am-3 pm and 4-7 pm (No MS Classes) EC & LS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences - 4-8 pm	24 EC & LS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences - 8 am to 3:45 pm No EC/Lower School Classes MS Student-Led Conferences 8 am-3 pm (No MS Classes)	25
26 AWEE	27	28	29	30	Lower School Halloween Parade - 8:30 am (Quad) MS Quarter 1 Ends US Mid-Semester 1 Ends	



NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			POP CONTROL OF THE POP CONTROL O			1
2 B WEEK	3	4	5	6	7	8
Daylight Saving Time Ends – 2 am	MS 2nd Quarter Begins	Election Day		US Fall Production - 7 pm (Theater)	US Fall Production – 7 pm (Theater)	US Fall Production – 6 pm (Theater)
	MS Winter I Sports Begin					
9 A WEEK	10	11 Veterans Day School & Offices Closed	12	College Night for Grade 11 Parents/Caregivers – 7 pm (Theater)	14 Full Dress Down Friday	15
16 BWEEK	17 Upper School Winter Sports Begin (Basketball, Dance, Ice Hockey, Squash, Winter Track)	18	19 FA Spirit Dress Down	Upper School Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences - 4-8 pm	Upper School Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences - 8 am-4 pm No US Classes	22
23 A WEEK	24	EC Community Meal – 12 pm	26 School & Offices Closed	27 Thanksgiving Day School & Offices Closed	28 School & Offices Closed	29
30		EC Dismissal – 1 pm				

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
B WEEK	1 School & Offices Closed	Classes Resume Giving Tuesday	3	4	PoCIS NY Conference (People of Color in Independent Schools NY) - 9 am-4 pm (Riverside Church, NYC) Parent Council "Festive with Friends" Lunch & Shopping - 12-3 pm (Mill River Country Club)	
7 A WEEK	8	9	FA Spirit Dress Down All-School Holidays with Friends: A Faith Exchange Art Show – 6:00 pm; Program – 6:30 pm (Dolan Center & Theater)	11	12	13
14 Hanukkah Begins at Sundown	15 Financial Aid Application Deadline for Current and New Families	16	17	18	19 Full Dress Down Day (US only) All-School Art Exhibition - 9:30 am (Dolan Center) EC & LS Winter Concert - 10 am (Theater) MS Winter Concert - 1:30 pm (Theater) LS Dismissal - 12 pm; MS/US Full Day	20
21	22 Holiday Break Begins	23	24 Christmas Eve Offices Closed	25 Christmas Day Offices Closed	26 Kwanzaa Begins Offices Closed	27
	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Offices Closed			

2026 Holidays & Faith Observances

J A N

Three Kings Day/El Día de los Reves: Jan. 6

The Christian feast of the Epiphany; celebration of the Magi bringing gifts to Christ; commonly celebrated in Hispanic and Latin-American cultures; traditions include Rosca de Reyes (Kings' Bread), parades, and feasts. Greeting: "Feliz día de Reyes" (Spanish) or "Happy Three Kings Day."

J A N

Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday: Jan. 19 School & Offices Closed

FEB

Lunar New Year: Begins Feb. 17

School & Offices Closed

Celebrates the first new moon of the lunar calendar: commonly celebrated in China and other Asian countries; traditions include religious ceremonies, exchanging red envelopes, dances, fireworks, and a Lantern Festival. Greeting: "Gong hei fat choy" (Cantonese) or "Gong xi fa cai" (Mandarin).

Ramadan: Begins Feb. 17

The ninth month of the Islamic calendar commemorating Muhammad's first revelation; begins during a crescent moon; traditions include fasting each day from sunrise to sunset, acts of charity, prayer, and reflection. Greeting: "Happy Ramadan" or "Ramadan Mubarak" (Arabic).

Presidents Day: Feb. 17

School Closed Feb. 17-24; Offices Closed Feb. 17

MAR

Naw Ruz/Nowruz: Mar. 21

The Iranian or Persian New Year; celebrates the vernal equinox; traditions include purchasing new clothes and flowers, visting family and friends, and celebrating the equinox at the Haft-sin table. *Greeting:* "Happy Naw Ruz/ Nowruz" or "Naw Ruz/Nowruz Mobarak" (Persian)

MAR

MAR

Palm Sunday: Mar. 29

School & Offices Closed Mar. 20

Christian feast commemorating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem a week before his resurrection; first day of Holy Week, the final week of Lent; traditions include the blessing and distribution of palm branches. Greeting: "Happy Palm Sunday!"

Eid al-Fitr: Sundown of Mar. 19, ending Mar. 20

and festive meals. Greeting: "Eid Mubarak" (Arabic).

Muslim "Festival of Breaking the Fast" that marks the end of

Ramadan; marked by the sight of a crescent moon; traditions

include the Eid prayer, acts of charity, gift-giving, gatherings,

APR

Passover: April 1-9

School Closed for Spring Break April 2-12

Offices Closed April 2-3

Jewish holiday that marks the Exodus of the Children of Israel from Egyptian slavery; celebrated with a seder, which combines religious rituals, food, song, and storytelling. Greeting: "Happy Passover" or "Chaq Pesach Sameach" (Hebrew).

APR

Easter: Apr. 5

School & Offices Closed April 6 Christian holiday commemorating Jesus' resurrection from the dead and the end of Lent; traditions include religious services, decorating Easter eggs, and feasts with family. Greeting: "Happy Easter!"

APR

Greek Orthodox Easter: Apr. 12

The Greek Orthodox celebration of the resurrection of Jesus based on the Julian calendar; traditions include religious services, breaking fast, dying eggs red, and eating tsoureki (traditional sweet bread.) Greeting: "Christos Anesti" (Greek).

MAY

Memorial Day: May 25

School & Offices Closed

Juneteenth: Jun. 19 J U N

Camp & Offices Closed

The celebration of the emancipation of the last remaining group of those enslaved in the United States; celebrations include picnics, street fairs, cookouts, singing, dancing, and celebrating Black culture. Greeting: "Happy Juneteenth!"

JANUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY HERITAGE AND AWARENESS OBSERVANCES Poverty Awareness				1 New Year's Day Offices Closed	2	3
4 A WEEK	5 Classes Resume	6 El Día de los Reyes (Three Kings Day)	7	8	9	10
11 B WEEK	12	13	14	15	US Semester 1 Ends; MS 2nd Quarter/1st Semester Ends	17
18 A WEEK	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday School & Offices Closed	Peace Week Begins: Community Candlelit Quaker Meeting – 6:30 pm (Matinecock Meeting House) MS Winter II Sports Begin MS 3rd Quarter/ 2nd Semester Begins	21 FA Spirit Dress Down	All-School FAmily Diversity Night: A Cultural Exchange – 6-8:30 pm (Dolan Center)	23 Full Dress Down Friday	24
25 B WEEK	26	27	28	29		



FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 A WEEK	2	3	4	Grades 7-8 Academic Discussion w/ Upper School Math Pathways – 8:15 am (Jackson House) Upper School Winter Production – 7 pm (Theater)	6 Upper School Winter Production – 7 pm (Theater)	7 Upper School Winter Production – 6 pm (Theater)
8 B WEEK	9	10	11	12	13 Full Dress Down Friday	14
15	16 February Break Begins Presidents Day Offices Closed	17 Lunar New Year and Chinese New Year (Year of the Horse) Ramadan Begins at Sundown Offices Closed	18	19	20	21
22 A WEEK	All Colleagues In-Service Day School Closed	24 Classes Resume	25	26 FA Spirit Dress Down College Office Program for Juniors & Parents/Caregivers - 7:00 pm (Kumar Wang Library)	27	28
					OMMENTAL OMM	



MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 B WEEK	2	3	4	5 EC & LS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conference Evening – 4 to 8 pm	6 EC & LS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conference Day - 8 am - 3:45 pm (No LS classes)	7 Southern NYS VEX IQ State Championships: Elementary & Middle School (Field House)
8 A WEEK	9 Upper School Spring Sports Begin (Baseball, Crew, Lacrosse, Softball, Track & Field)	10	11	12	AP Art Exhibition - 6:30 pm (Dolan Center Art Gallery) The Diversity Grant Fund Dinner - 6:30 pm & OriginallWorks - 7 pm (Atrium/Theater) US Mid-Semester 2 Ends	14
15 B WEEK	16 Upper School Spring Sports Begin (Boys Tennis, Golf)	17	18 Ramadan Ends at Sundown	19 Eid al-Fitr and Naw Ruz/ Nowruz (Persian New Year) Begins at Sundown MS Quarter 3 Ends	Eid al-Fitr School & Offices Closed	21
22 A WEEK	23 MS Spring Sports Begin MS 4th Quarter Begins	24	25 FA Spirit Dress Down	26	27 Full Dress Down Friday	28
29 B WEEK Palm Sunday	30	31				



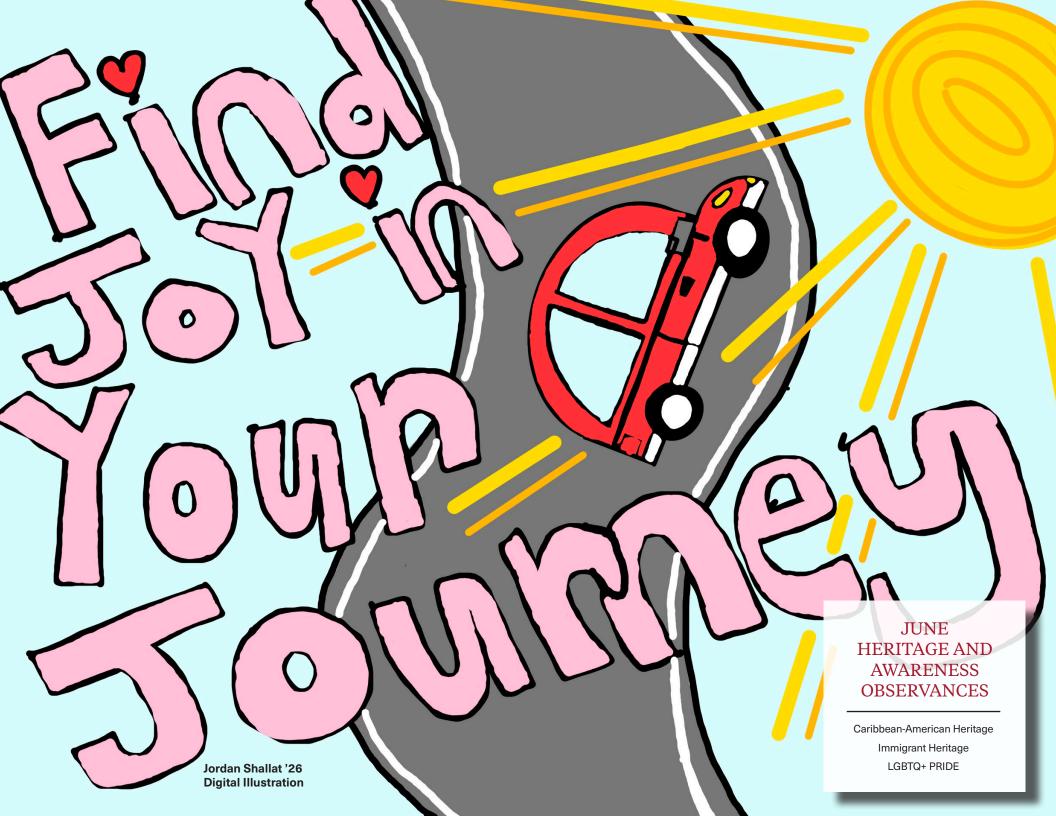
APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
B WEEK			1 Passover Begins at Sundown	2 Spring Break Begins Passover School & Offices Closed	Good Friday School & Offices Closed	
5 Easter Sunday	6 Easter Monday School & Offices Closed	7	8	9	10	
12 A WEEK Greek Orthodox Easter Sunday	13 Classes Resume	14 Middle School Arts Celebration MS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences (During the school day)	Middle School Arts Celebration MS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences (During the school day) Spring Varsity Sports Day & BBQ – 4:30 pm	16 Middle School Arts Celebration MS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences (During the school day) Middle School Production – 7 pm (Theater)	17 Full Dress Down Friday Middle School Arts Celebration MS Parent/Caregiver & Teacher Conferences (During the school day) MS Art Exhibition Opening - 6:30 pm (Art Gallery) & MS Production - 7:00 pm (Theater)	18
19 B WEEK	20	21	Inside College Admissions – Juniors & Parents: 9-11:30 am (Theater and Kumar Wang Library) Earth Day	23	FA Spirit Dress Down Founder's Day/Community Groups Friends Academy Dinner & Auction – 6:30 pm (Pine Hollow Club)	25
26 A WEEK	27	Parent Council EC/LS/MS Book Fair Kickoff Party – 3:15-4:30pm (LS Library)	29 Parent Council EC/LS/MS Book Fair (LS Library) US Art Exhibition Opening - 6:30 pm (Art Gallery) & Upper School Concert - 7:00 pm (Theater)	30 FA Spirit Dress Down Parent Council EC/LS/MS Book Fair (LS Library) Belonging Day – (Community Time Block, 9:20-10:30 am)		



MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 LAST DAY OF CLASSES FOR SENIORS	2
3 В WEEK	4 AP Exam Week I Faculty Appreciation Week! (May 4-8)	5	6	7	8 Full Dress Down Friday	00
10 A WEEK Mother's Day	11 AP Exam Week II	Parent Council General Meeting – 8:15 am (Jackson House)	Lower School Grandparents & Special Friends Day - 8:30-10:30 am (Theater and Classrooms)	14	EC Welcome Breakfast for Current and New families - 8:15 am (Classrooms) LS Celebration of Art and Music Art Exhibition & Student-Led tours - 1:00 pm (Art Gallery); K-4 Concert - 1:30 pm (Theater) MS Walk-a-thon Grade 8 Spring Dance - 7:00-8:30 pm (Commons)	16
17 B WEEK	18 Senior ISPs begin	19 FA Spirit Dress Down	20	21	22	23
24 A WEEK	25 Memorial Day School & Offices Closed	26	27	MS Celebration of Art and Music Art Exhibition – 12:30 pm	29 Early Childhood Picnic, Musical Program, and Moving Up Ceremony	30
31				(Dolan Center Art Gallery) Concert – 1 pm (Theater)	- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm (Football Field) EC Dismissal - 1:00 pm	



JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
B WEEK	1	2	Grades 2-4 Field Day	4 Early Childhood, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 Field Day	5 Full Dress Down Friday	6
Baccalaureate Meeting for Worship - 10 am (Matinecock Meeting House) Senior Brunch - 11 am (Commons)	8 FA Spirit Dress Down Convocation Last Day EC & LS Full Day of Classes	9 Grade 4 Moving Up Ceremony – 10:30 am (Matinecock Meeting House) Final MS MFW w/ Grade 8 Parents & Caregivers 1:00-2:15 pm (Matinecock Meeting House)	Fourth Day Honors - 8:15 am (Theater) MS Field Day Last Day MS/US Classes Dismissal - 12 pm Pre-Prom - 6:30 pm (Under the Tent); Prom - 7:30 pm (Crescent Beach Club)	11 Grade 8 Moving Up Ceremony/Reception – 10:30 am (Theater)	12	Commencement - 10 am (Under the Tent)
14 Father's Day	15 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	16 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	17 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	18 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	Juneteenth Offices & Programs Closed	20
21	Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	23 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	24 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	25 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	26 Friends Academy Pre-Summer Programs (EC-Grade 8)	27
28	29 FA Summer Programs Begin	30				



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