



JOY ABOUND!

The Campaign for Saint Anne's Day School



Dear friends,

When we think of a word that best captures the spirit of Saint Anne's, one comes to mind immediately—and unanimously:

JOY

Joy is at the heart of our mission, our purpose, and the daily life of every child at Saint Anne's Day School. And now, as we embark on our exciting project to reimagine our outdoor space, joy is once again at the center of our vision. This much-needed playground renovation will transform the everyday experience of our students, while also enriching the lives of our broader community, including after-school programs and our neighbors at the Terrace. Our goal is to begin the project in the second half of 2026, with a plan for rolling installation so that children can continue playing during construction. We believe our children deserve an outdoor space that is as magical, inspiring, and joy-filled as our classrooms, and as a community, we can create it.

We are thrilled to introduce Joy Abounds: The Campaign for Saint Anne's Day School. With a goal of raising \$800,000, this campaign will bring our vision of a vibrant new outdoor space to life while also establishing a strong endowment to ensure the Day School's long-term sustainability. Together, we can create an environment where joy truly abounds for generations of children and families.

We invite you to read on and discover the future of outdoor play at Saint Anne's—and how you can be part of bringing this joyful vision to life.

With gratitude,

David Bowlin, Weezie Finlay, and Leah Tennille
Campaign Co-Chairs



The Heart of Saint Anne's: Our Mission and Purpose

Since 1966, Saint Anne's Day School has committed to providing the highest standards of early childhood education in an atmosphere of joy, love, and respect. At Saint Anne's, children are encouraged to expand their understanding of the world while being embraced as their truest selves. Guided by the Reggio Emilia philosophy, our well-rounded program nurtures each child's emotional, cognitive, social, physical, and spiritual growth in developmentally appropriate ways.

A ministry of Saint Anne's Episcopal Church, the Day School strives to cultivate a joyful, enriching environment for children, families, and educators, promoting a collaborative learning community of creative inquiry and loving relationships. Each child is a unique gift from God, full of infinite potential and loved for who they are and who they will become.

Our educational practices are designed to spark curiosity and cultivate a love of learning while meeting essential developmental and academic standards.

Above all, we want every child to know they are worthy and deeply valued—just as God created them.

Curiosity, Imagination, and Exploration: A Growing Saint Anne's

Children are naturally curious, imaginative, and eager to explore. At Saint Anne's, we honor these qualities by providing children with the time and space to discover, create, and grow. A thoughtfully designed outdoor play area is more than just a playground. It is an extension of the classroom, and a place where inquiry, collaboration, and joyful learning come alive.

In the spirit of the Reggio Emilia tradition, we embrace the environment as a "third teacher," alongside educators and classmates, recognizing the vital role the outdoors plays in a child's development. Outdoor exploration is woven into the rhythm of each day at Saint Anne's, making our vision for two new play spaces an essential step in reimagining our campus. Our current outdoor space is limited and lacks the resources to fully engage and challenge our children.

The playground has been a part of the Saint Anne's campus for most of its existence, but with few upgrades over the years, recent repairs have been extraordinarily costly. While it was initially designed for small children to use at a part-time preschool, today, it is used by children ages 3-11 during the Day School's regular hours and into the early evening by our afterschool program. As Saint Anne's has grown, so has the need for our facilities to grow with us.



After careful consideration, we are thrilled about our plans for these critical improvements to Saint Anne's.

These new outdoor spaces will:



Nurture curiosity and independent thinking



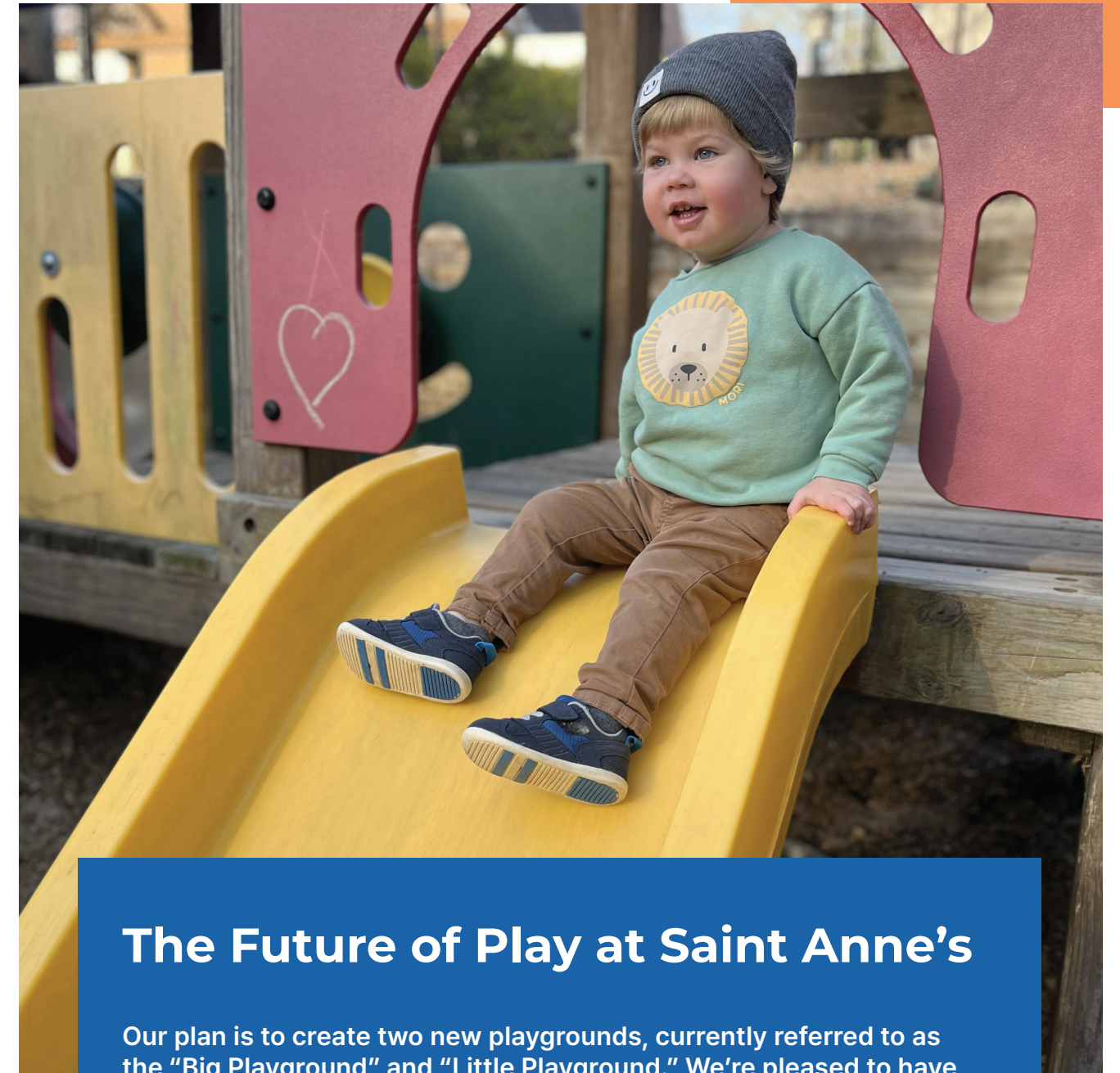
Inspire creativity through hands-on exploration of natural and open-ended materials



Support cognitive, social, and emotional development in meaningful ways



Strengthen Saint Anne's strong sense of community and connection



The Future of Play at Saint Anne's

Our plan is to create two new playgrounds, currently referred to as the "Big Playground" and "Little Playground." We're pleased to have engaged renowned nature playground builders, C.O.R.E. (Children Outdoors Ready to Explore) for this project. C.O.R.E is a group of highly skilled artisans specializing in designing and building playable landscapes to activate bodies, engage minds and bring nature to children.

To fund this exciting and critical project, we are embarking on a meaningful fundraising campaign to raise \$800,000 to bring this reimagined play space to life. We invite you to read further and learn more about the details that will make this plan a reality.



Big Playground

The “Big Playground” encompasses two different areas and geological types inspiring its design.

Little Playground

Designed for our youngest explorers, the infant/toddler playground is nestled into a shady nook of the school’s landscape.

The Delta

This area will welcome children with a sunlit grassy field, perfect for games and gatherings, encircled by a winding tricycle path where little riders can pedal to their hearts’ content. Handy storage and racks keep trikes ready for adventure, while nearby seating offers a place for rest, conversation, and community. In addition to the Day School students, this area of the playground will be enjoyed by afterschool students and viewable by residents of Saint Anne’s Terrace, fostering stronger connections amongst the generations, bringing joy to them all.

Shady Meadows

Tucked along the wooded edge of campus, Shady Meadows will be a haven of discovery and imagination. Here, children can step into the Fallen Forest, where a magnificent carved stone “tree” invites safe climbing adventures, and sculpted woodland elements create an enchanted landscape for make-believe journeys. With dappled sunlight filtering through the trees, Shady Meadows will become a natural retreat where curiosity takes root and play knows no bounds.

Estimated Total
\$700,000

Infant & Toddler Playscape

The location’s low and shaded terrain, geological cross sections of the area and local rock formations were used as inspiration for the playscape’s overall design concept. A sensory-rich cave will offer a safe, cozy retreat where infants and toddlers can explore textures, sounds, and light—all in a secure space that nurtures wonder and early learning.

Every corner of these new spaces has been designed with purpose — to give children the gift of wonder, discovery, and joy.

Estimated Total
\$100,000

SEE THE VISION

Big Playground

St. Anne's playscape was introduced to C.O.R.E. as the "Big Playground". Due to its overall size and variety of terrains within the outdoor area, changing geological terrains quickly became the overall design inspiration.

The plan is broken down into three geological terrains. The upper observation area will be called "Bird's Eye Peak". This area will be home to the entryway, a fossil dig, loose parts play, atelier, mud area, a stone fort, Slide Hill, The Lookout, S.T.E.A.M. stations, a discovery trail, a water feature, and Anne's Treehouse.

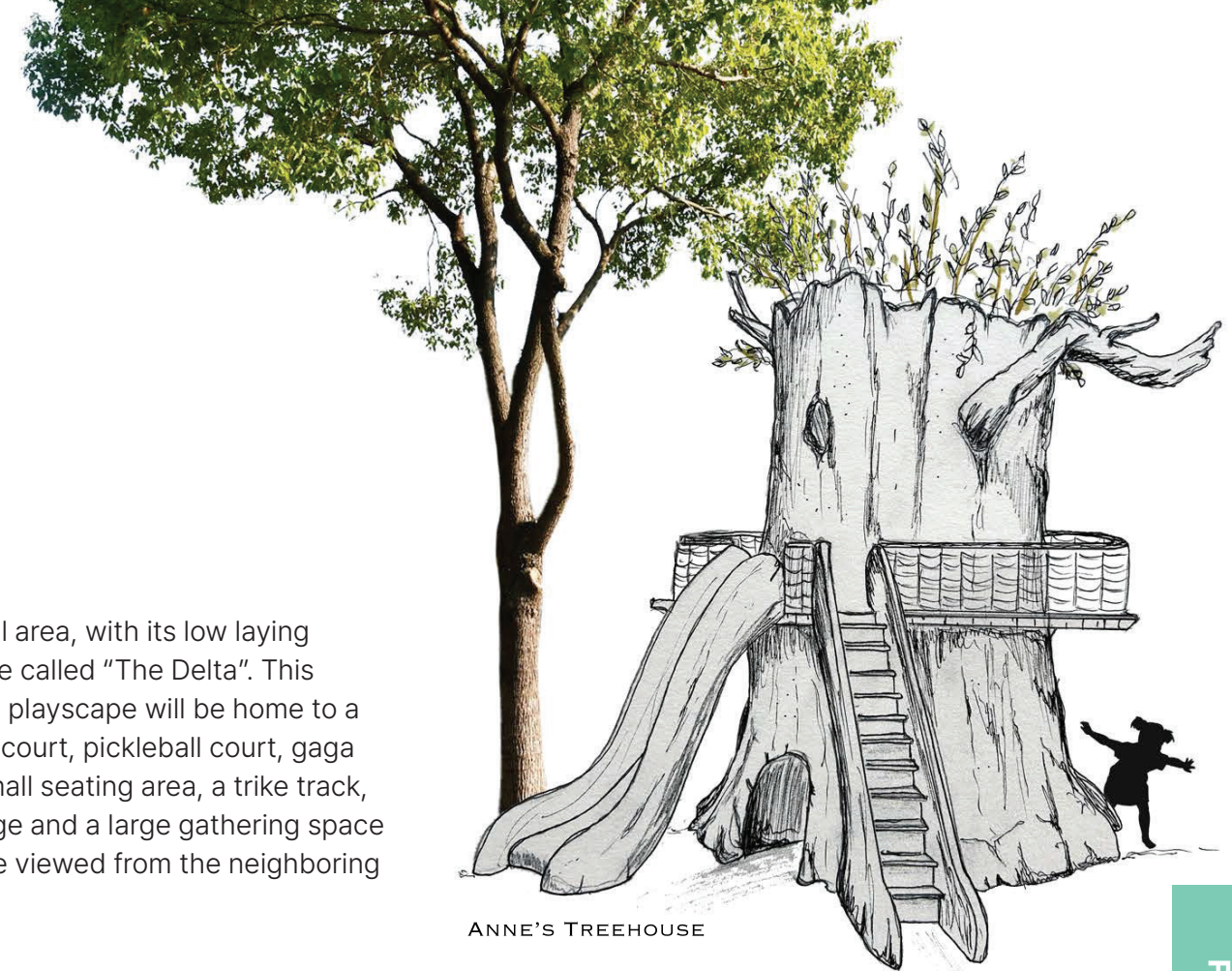


PLAYSCAPE PLAN

The central area, with its low laying land, will be called "The Delta". This area of the playscape will be home to a basketball court, pickleball court, gaga court, a small seating area, a trike track, trike storage and a large gathering space that can be viewed from the neighboring terrace.

Finally, the wooded area that runs along the base of the playground will be called "Shady Meadows". This terrain will include the Tree Swings, sensory play stations, a large boulder climb and the Fallen Forest. This life-sized carved concrete tree will create a climbing element with several sections of the tree laying throughout the meadow.

Each terrain is intentionally designed for its locational needs. Shade, natural debris, existing elements, drainage, plantings, and function were all considered when determining which terrain each element would be located. St. Anne's "Big Playscape" will be a nature-inspired wonderland filled with interactive play elements that will inspire creativity, collaboration and exploration!



ANNE'S TREEHOUSE



FOSSIL



LOOSE PARTS



CREEK



S.T.E.A.M.



BOAT



TREE CLIMB



WATER PLAY



ATELIER



TRIKE TUNNEL

SEE THE VISION

Little Playground

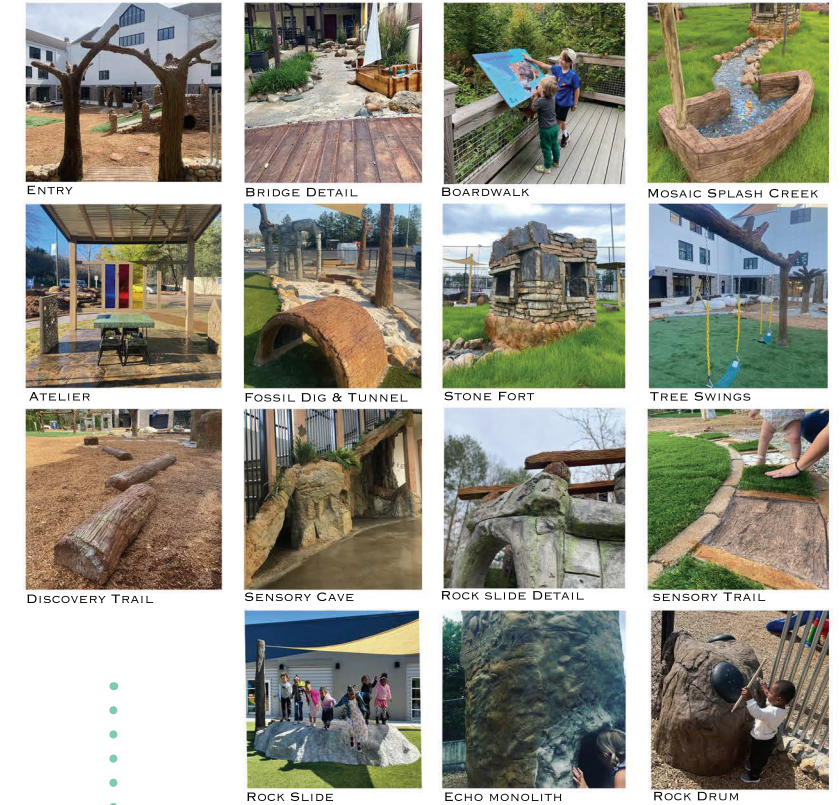


The infant/toddler playground, at St. Anne's Dayschool, is nestled into a shady nook of the school's landscape. Its low and shaded terrain, geological cross sections of the area and local rock formations were used as inspiration for the playscape's overall design concept. C.O.R.E. has designed an overall playscape plan as well as some updates and additions to the gardens that surround the playground area.

The new playscapes, as well as the updated surrounding gardens, will bring a cohesive design to all of St. Anne's outdoor spaces. The care and attention that has been given to the interior of the school will now be reflected in the outdoor spaces as well.

Element List:

1. Entry & Storage
2. Splash Creek & Bridge
3. Boardwalk
4. Atelier
5. Rock Drum
6. Echo Monolith
7. Fossil Dig & Tunnel Entry
8. Stone Fort
9. Tree Swings
10. Discovery Trail
11. Rock Slide
12. Pull-Up Stumps
13. Geological Texture Wall
14. Sensory Cave
15. Artificial Turf
16. Mulch



Geological Wall & Sensory Cave

The sunken terrain of the current playground was used as design inspiration for a large portion of the new Infant/Toddler Playscape. More specifically, a geological crosscut and rock formations. We will use hand carved concrete, custom molded fossils and stone mosaics to create an updated retaining wall surround and a sensory cave feature. These elements will not only be a tactile experience, but also quiet spaces to relax.



The Endowment for Saint Anne's

In addition to raising funds for new outdoor learning spaces, we are also looking ahead to support the future of Saint Anne's by raising funds for a new endowment.

Through its derivative income, the endowment will ensure long-term financial stability for faculty and staff professional development, school programs, facilities maintenance, and campus beautification. Endowments are often built through legacy gifts, including bequests and life insurance payouts.

A school representative will be happy to talk with you about adding the school as a beneficiary in your will, or discussing the various planned giving vehicles available for your consideration.



Joy Abounds: Your Support for The Campaign for Saint Anne's Day School

At Saint Anne's, joy abounds—children brim with wonder and energy; our educators and staff provide nurturing guidance and seasoned wisdom; and our clergy cultivate a faith-filled atmosphere for spiritual growth. Our close-knit community of families is a treasured gift to the school, and we invite you to share those gifts to support Saint Anne's continued growth.

Your generous contribution will directly fund the construction, landscaping, and equipment for both playgrounds. Naming opportunities and donor recognition are available to celebrate your commitment to this special community. Please take the time to deeply consider your Saint Anne's experience as you determine your philanthropic commitment to this transformational project.

We look forward to being in touch with you! Questions? Please contact our campaign chairs at advancement@saintannesdayschool.com.



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