

December 20, 2019

All School News

## **Concession Stand Volunteers Needed!**

Please [use this link](#) to sign up for the the basketball games being played tonight, as well as the tournament that will be held on campus December 26-27. Go, Wildcats!

## **Upcoming PA Meeting**

The next Parents' Auxiliary Meeting will be held on Friday, January 10 in the US Library. We hope to see you there!

## **Last ECTV of the Decade!**

[Watch it here!](#)

## **Parents' Auxiliary Auction Raffle Tickets**

Still pondering the perfect holiday gift? Finish your holiday shopping with a \$100 raffle ticket for free Episcopal tuition! What gift could be better? Act now, tickets are limited and you do not want to miss out on this opportunity. Family and friends are invited to purchase tickets through class representatives or by reaching out to

## **Parents' Auxiliary Auction Circle of Excellence**

Become a member of the Circle of Excellence for the 2020 Parents' Auxiliary Stay Wild Auction. Make a \$1,000 donation and receive two patron tickets to the auction, invitation to the Patron Party in February, have your names listed in the Circle of Excellence in the auction program, annual report, and on event signage. To become a member or for additional information, [please contact Katie Huff](#) or [sign up here](#). Current Circle of Excellence Members are [listed here](#).

Lower School

## **A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher**

What an incredible week in the Lower School! We celebrated with our annual Christmas programs and Sing-Along, as well as our Holiday Book Fair and classroom Christmas parties. [Check out the photos here!](#) I cannot thank Karen Clark enough for the time and energy she put into creating and directing the most incredible Christmas programs for our kiddos. I also want to thank the many volunteers and teachers who worked together to create a magical program for us all.

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful holiday and well-deserved break. As always, I am grateful for your support and partnership and look forward to an exciting, productive and positive second semester. Christmas blessings to you all!

Catherine Schuhmacher  
Head of Lower School

## PreK Carpool Afternoon Pickup Starts Tuesday, January 7

Great news, PreK parents! We will begin offering afternoon PreK carpool on a trial basis when we return on Tuesday, January 7. **All PreK students will be checked in each morning and out each afternoon using Brightwheel**, which is the same student database system we use for Wildcat Club. PreK parents have received an email with specific details regarding afternoon pickup, but I would like to make sure all parents are aware of the changes.

The PreK student only carpool lane will be open from 2:45-3:00pm each afternoon at the north doors, which are the ones closest to the office and the current location for PreK drop off each morning. PreK students with a sibling will be supervised in the main carpool area and be escorted to their car by a PreK teacher. All PreK students must be buckled before leaving as stated in our DHS regulations. **In addition to their Brightwheel code, parents and guardians picking up students must have an official school carpool sign with all children listed.**

We anticipate there might be some delays in the first few weeks, as there is each year before we get into a routine with our main carpool. We appreciate your patience and flexibility during this time as we try to make this work best for all of our families.

Questions about carpool? Please contact [Catherine Schuhmacher](#). Questions about your Brightwheel code or log in? Please contact [Emma Daily](#).

## Report Cards and Narratives

All report cards and narratives will be available in Veracross on Wednesday, January 8.

## Varsity Cheer Clinic

The Varsity Cheer Squad will host a cheer clinic on January 12 for K-5 students. Your student will learn a dance and cheers that will be performed with the Varsity Cheerleaders on the sidelines and during half-time at the January 17 Varsity Basketball game. Participants will also perform during the all-school pep rally in February (date TBA) and will receive a cheer clinic t-shirt, a bow, and pom poms.

The clinic will be held on January 12, 2020 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the Championship Gym. Check in will begin at 12:30 p.m. (please note the Kindergarten cheerleader clinic time will be 1:00-3:00 p.m.)

Cost for the clinic is \$50, plus the Super Session processing fee. Participants **MUST** be signed up by noon on Monday, December 23, as this event is limited to 50 participants.

Register here: <https://campscai.active.com/orgs/EpiscopalCollegiate?orglink=camps-registration> (look for Varsity Cheer Camp)

For questions, please contact [Jamie Jones](#).

## Try Lacrosse Event - January 18

U.S. Lacrosse will be hosting a "try it" day on Saturday, January 18, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., for boys and girls interested in an introduction to the game. This is not for students who have played the sport. Dr. McCormick will be one of the coaches.

Registration - Cost is \$35, but for this players get a stick, ball, and U.S. Lacrosse membership to keep. The event will take place on the Catholic High Football Field.

Save the date and a link to register to sign up will be forthcoming in the next Wildcat Weekly.

## Chapel News

When we return from Christmas break, we will explore the story of the Wise Men who come bringing gifts for a newborn king. Their arrival is celebrated on Epiphany, January 6th. We will wonder about the mysterious strangers who come late to find baby Jesus and the meaning of their

gifts.

In our community chapel, we will have a presentation of the story of the Wise Men through the eyes of the camels. This skit will highlight the celebration of Epiphany which begins this season of light.

Chapel Readers (Jan. 8) - Emily Stacks, Emily Stone, and Will Schuhmacher

Cantors - Laney Hunter, Cruz McWherter and Addisyn McCuien

Blessings for Christmas and the New Year!  
Mother Curtis+

## Pride Patrol

Pride Patrol students assigned for Tuesday, January 7 - Friday, January 10 are:

**PreK Carpool:** Keeton Johnson, McCall Keyes, Thomas Koch, Ella Little, Ellis Tucker

**K-5 Carpool:** Sam Frampton, Quinn Gann, Everett Gill, Chloe Jackson, James Jennings

## Mark Your Calendar

Monday, January 6

- Faculty Work Day, No School

Tuesday, December 7 - 1st Day of 2nd Semester

Wednesday, January 8

- Tiny Dancers, PreK3-K, 3:30-4pm
- Cheer Time! Grades 1-5, 4-4:30pm
- Wee Little Arts, PreK3-4, 3:20-4pm
- Wee Little Arts, K-2, 4:10-4:50pm

Thursday, January 9

- Chess Club, 3:15-4:30pm
- Teeny Dancers, 3:30-4pm

- Tiny Tumblers, 4-4:30pm

Friday, January 10

**Find the [LS Calendar](#) here.**

Middle School

## **A Note from Dr. McCormick**

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Middle School Faculty and Staff, I would like to wish you and your families a happy and safe winter holiday break. I would like to share a quote with you from Southern Teachers' Agency, a teacher/administrator search firm, which I think reflects how those of us who work in independent schools feel about our relationships with our students and their families. It was originally printed on one of their Christmas cards around 1919!

*To our old friends, loyal and true; - to our valued new friends; and to those whose friendship we strive to deserve; we heartily wish unmeasured happiness and good fortune throughout the coming years.*

*With grateful appreciation for all the favors received by us from you, and for that priceless though intangible asset, your good-will, which we prize beyond measure, we seek to merit your continued confidence, and aim to serve you helpfully in the future.*

Merry Christmas!  
Chuck McCormick

## **Mrs. Lenfestey Recognized at the Capitol**

We are so proud that Episcopal's own Kara Lenfestey, iconic and beloved math teacher, was honored at the Capitol earlier this month as one of four Arkansas teachers who are state finalists for the Presidential Award for

Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Awesome stuff, Kara, and richly deserved!

The complete press release is here:

### **State Finalists for 2019 Presidential Awards for Excellence Announced**

**LITTLE ROCK** — Four Arkansas teachers were recently selected as 2019 state finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

The National Science Foundation, on behalf of The White House, oversees the program that recognizes outstanding teachers who have demonstrated a commitment to professional development, innovative teaching techniques, and technology use in their classrooms.

A total of 58 Arkansas teachers were nominated, with the following educators selected as finalists in either the math or science category. Arkansas' finalists are now eligible to be considered for recognition by the national committee.

- Carrie Beach, Washington Junior High School, Springdale School District, Science Finalist
- Mary Hatch, Harrison Middle School, Bentonville School District, Science Finalist
- Kara Lenfestey, Episcopal Collegiate School, Math Finalist
- Melodie Murray, Pocahontas High School, Pocahontas School District, Math Finalist

“It is a true honor to be considered for this prestigious, national award,” Arkansas Department of Education Secretary Johnny Key said. “The jobs of our future are heavily grounded in mathematics and the sciences, making exceptional math and science teachers essential to student success in today’s job market. Each of these four educators serves as a role model of excellence for their students and for our state. Congratulations to each for being named a state finalist for 2019.”

Each year a national committee comprised of scientists, mathematicians, and educators recommends up to 108 teachers to receive PAEMST awards in mathematics, science, and computer science. Winners are chosen from each

state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. territories, and schools operated in the United States and overseas by the Department of Defense Education Activity. Teachers who are selected as national PAEMST awardees each receive a \$10,000 award, a presidential citation, and a trip to Washington, DC, for a series of recognition events, professional development activities, and an awards ceremony.

## Heart of the Wildcat Award Winners

These students and faculty were recognized by fellow students and faculty for doing a random act of kindness in recent weeks!

## November Seeking the Summit Awards - 7th Grade

*Some of the superlatives used by core teachers about these students include: hard-working, focused, **always** works well with others, so much effort in group work, comes to class prepared, exudes positivity, contributes both to group and whole-class talks*

**Math** - Mrs. Lenfestey - **Morgan Davis**

**English** - Mrs. Lewis - **Mia Colclasure**

**Science** - Ms. Owen - **Jane Goodman**

**Social Studies** - Mrs. Jones - **Ellie Hunter**

## Upcoming Author Visit

Author Nathan Hale will visit Middle School students on Friday, January 24. His most popular books are the graphic novel series, Hazardous Tales, which explains the “gruesome stories from American history, in Graphic novel form.” During his visit, Mr. Hale will conduct writing workshops that include writing skills and drawing. Wordsworth Books is offering our students a 20% discount from the retail price. You can place your order by filling out [this form](#), and your FACTS account will be charged once the books arrive. Nathan Hale will sign

your copy during his visit. Prices reflect the discount and tax. All orders are due by Monday, January 13.

[Order Form](#)

## **First Semester Fitnessgram Winners**

This year PE teachers Duncan and Friedel kept stats on how students performed on various measures of physical fitness and awarded FitnessGrams for first semester efforts in PE to the top, grade-level finisher on each test. Students also earned points, a la the olympic decathlon towards an overall score. Under each of the below categories, the first person recognized is the sixth grade top finisher, the second is the seventh, and the third is our eighth grade student. If your child had PE this past semester, they can explain each test! Great job, All!

### **Pacer:**

Will Jones  
James Mitchell  
Jakeb Tritt

### **Flexed Arm Hang:**

Will Jones  
Sarah Wallace Moore  
Luke Smith

### **Push Up:**

Turner Harbour  
Stella Cochran  
Avery Turner and Jakeb Tritt

### **Sit Up:**

Turner Harbour  
Stella Cochran  
Jacob Burkhalter



**Sit Reach:**

Alex Sebree  
Morgan Davis  
Claire Wallace

**Overall Gram Champion:**

Turner Harbour  
Stella Cochran  
Jakeb Tritt

## **Volunteer Opportunity!**

A number of our students earned community service hours working at Grinchfest the past couple of years and had fun doing it! While we shared this with our students, I am also passing it along to you as a great opportunity for your child to take care of their community service requirement during winter break. Students should contact Ms. Rettina Hill (contact info. below) to sign up.

**Volunteers Needed for Grinchfest!**

We are looking for volunteers to assist with Grinchfest at the Hillary Rodham Clinton Children's Library and Learning Center. This year's Grinchfest will be held on Monday, December 23. Volunteers must be able to work from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., and will assist with craft projects, passing out treats, taking tickets, assisting in the photo area, as well as set-up and clean-up. This would be wonderful and fun volunteer experience for students who need to complete community service hours.

Date: Monday, December 23

Time: Shows at 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Description of event: Come enjoy a special reading of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas, read by Craig O'Neill! Costumes are encouraged, and all ages welcome. Crafts and treats provided. Please register online to receive a free ticket for the event; tickets will be taken at the door.

**Questions?** - RETTINA OLIVE HILL, Branch Manager  
Hillary Rodham Clinton Children's Library and Learning Center  
4800 W. 10th Street, Little Rock, AR 72204  
(e) [rhill@cals.org](mailto:rhill@cals.org) | (p) 501.978.3886

## **First Semester Grade Information**

These, including semester exam grades where applicable, will be posted sometime on Wednesday, January 8. Should you have a question about a particular grade, please reach out to that teacher directly.

## **Summer Trip to Yosemite Park June 2020 with Mrs. Parker!**

Summer Trip to Yosemite National Park June 2020 with Mrs. Parker!  
Please [read this trip form](#) regarding this upcoming June's Middle School adventure. Trip is open to rising seventh and eighth graders (current sixth and seventh grade students). Questions? Please contact [Mrs. Parker](#).

## **Try Lacrosse Event - January 18**

U.S. Lacrosse will be hosting a "try it" day on Saturday, January 18, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., for boys and girls interested in an introduction to the game. This is not for students who have played the sport. Dr. McCormick will be one of the coaches.

Registration - Cost is \$35, but for this players get a stick, ball, and U.S. Lacrosse membership to keep. The event will take place on the Catholic High Football Field.

Save the date and a link to register to sign up will be forthcoming in the next Wildcat Weekly.

**Find the [MS Calendar](#) here.**

Upper School

## **A Note from Mr. Urquhart**

I hope that the Christmas holidays offer each of you a chance to rest and to enjoy time with friends and family. As our semester exams came to an end this week, I was of course reminded of the high level of commitment our students have to their academic work, but I also enjoyed seeing our students deeply engaged in their work in the arts, athletics, and service. Students from our fine arts program performed at St. Margaret's, the Capitol, and the Robinson Center; our basketball teams have had a full and successful season so far; and our students held a food drive to help other students in our community during the holiday season. I hope that you have the merriest of holidays, and I look forward to seeing you back on campus on January 7.

Troy Urquhart  
Head of Upper School

## **2020 Washington D.C. Trip**

Join us for a trip to Washington, D.C. to explore historic sites and the workings of the federal government. Highlights include the National Mall, Arlington National Cemetery, the White House, the Capitol Building, the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, Mt. Vernon, and several museums--Holocaust Memorial Museum, International Spy Museum, Smithsonian Museum of American History, and the National Museum of African American History. The trip is all inclusive except daily lunches and personal souvenirs.

Dates: June 22-27, 2020

Leaders: Martene Campbell and Richie Marsh

Cost: \$1,945 (15+ participants), \$2,045 (10 participants)

Website: <https://tinyurl.com/episcopaldctrip>

Eligible to travel: Rising 9th- graduated Seniors

For more information, please contact [Martene Campbell](#)

**Find the [US Calendar](#) here.**

Athletics

## **Upcoming Games**

Friday, December 20

- Boys Junior High Basketball vs. Baptist Prep, 5:00 p.m. - HOME
- Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Baptist Prep, 6:00 p.m. - HOME
- Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Baptist Prep, 7:15 p.m. - HOME

Thursday, December 26

- Girls Varsity Basketball - Wildcat Classic Christmas Tourney - HOME
- Boys Varsity Basketball - Wildcat Classic Christmas Tourney - HOME

**Find the [Wildcat Athletic Calendar](#) here.**