

8th Grade Shadow Day provides snapshot of upper school

How long does homework take, and how much is there?

What is fourth period? (Middle School doesn't have fourth period.)

Can we take more than one language, and do we have to take three years of a language? What trips can we take?

How many sports can we play?

8th grade students entering upper school have many questions. So do their parents. For the second year, a special "Shadow Day" is planned at Webb on Nov. 11 to give next year's ninth graders and their parents an introduction to life in upper school.

"We would like to provide an opportunity to our current eighth graders to spend part of a day shadowing an upper school student. The purpose of the shadow day is to give the eighth graders a glimpse into a typical day of the upper school students," said Dean of Academic Affairs Nicole Taucare. "In addition, we'd like to provide some information to students and parents regarding various aspects of the upper school. This day will also afford students and parents the opportunity to ask any questions that they may have. We look forward to this day," she added.

In addition to the eighth graders shadowing an upper school student in classes, there will be an explanation of chapel with an outline of expectations and also a selection of informational sessions about athletics/enrichment, residential life, curriculum, Study Center/Test Prep, travel opportunities, clubs and community service that both students and parents can attend.

Eighth graders and their shadow partners will participate in a donut scavenger hunt and will have lunch in the library. Parents are invited to join the students for lunch.

"My hope is that the eighth graders experience a calm and comfortable transition into upper school next year. If they become freshmen with confidence and a clear understanding of the expectation, I feel they will have the tools to be successful. Their experiences in middle school are the foundation on which they will build in upper school," said Middle School Head Tabetha Sullens, who along with Taucare and Director of College Counseling Chadd Bridwell planned the event.

Director of College Counseling Chadd Bridwell added, "College Counseling is excited to partner with middle school students and parents as we understand the questions they may have before starting upper school; what curriculum is best for me or my student, what classes should I take at Webb to better prepare me for my college career, what are some majors that may be best to explore in high school that will lead me on my life's calling, or what tests are required for college admission? Ms. Newberg and I look forward to working with 8th graders as they make this seamless move into upper school."

Capping the day, students will be asked to provide feedback about various aspects of the programming and will also be encouraged to submit questions or concerns.

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For more information, contact Middle School Head Tabetha Sullens, and [click here to register](#).