



# ST. PATRICK'S PRESS

Fall 2014



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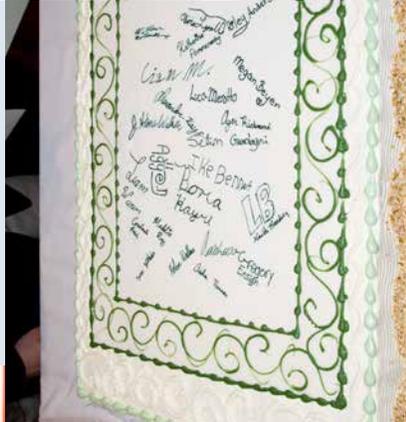
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*Photo above:* Students come eye-to-eye with the top of the Day School during a bungee-jumping activity at this year's Family Fun Day, held on Saturday, September 27. Proceeds from the Parents Association-sponsored event support gifts to the Day School and the Faculty and Staff Summer Travel and Study Grant Program. *On the cover:* Recent Grade 8 graduates Kristen B. and Bryce B.

# ST. PATRICK'S PRESS

## FALL 2014

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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL:  
RELISHING THE FULL VOICE,  
SHARED WITH OTHERS

*Peter A. Barrett*  
Head of School



**Photo opposite left, clockwise from top:** Grade 6 graduates Riley O., Ludovico F., William W., Phoebe W., Katherine P., Emma M., Olivia L. **Photo opposite, top right:** Conor S. (left) and Welles M. **Photo opposite, bottom right:** Graduates Ayer R. (left) and Jesse F.

*This article is adapted from remarks by Head of School Peter A. Barrett at the Grade 8 Graduation on June 6, 2014.*

The fall edition of the *St. Patrick's Press* traditionally spotlights the previous school year's graduating students, and this 2014 publication travels that same delightful path. Included here, along with the commencement addresses offered by invited speakers, are reflections, edited for length, by the members of the Grade 8 Class of 2014 on their time at St. Patrick's—their experiences along the way and some thoughts about how those experiences have changed them. Individual student remarks have long been a tradition at the Grade 8 Graduation Dinner. Up until the 2013 dinner, each student made remarks about one of his or her classmates. Beginning in 2013, in a nifty reversal of that tradition, each student spoke about himself or herself, an approach we have continued. We believe this Graduation tradition honors a passage in *Setting Compass*, the document in which we introduced the term "Exceptional Literacy":

*The spoken and written word enables human beings to interact with, understand, and influence the world around them, hence the primacy of an exceptional literacy for our students. The ability to comprehend and to organize the spoken and written word, and the struggle to accomplish that sometimes difficult task, prepare an individual to understand and communicate effectively with others, to seek new knowledge, and to fulfill a greater sense of personal responsibility. The inability to do so—at the intersection of what one educator calls "instances of wordlessness and experiences of powerlessness"—can result in alienation, thoughtlessness in the truest sense, and irresponsibility.*

What struck me at the Graduation Dinner for the Grade 8 Class of 2014 was that, even though we have moved toward having each graduate speak

about himself or herself, so often the students chose to talk about the other people with whom they have shared this space—classmates and faculty, in particular. The Then-and-Now nature of the activity invites the students to reflect on how they have changed during their time at St. Patrick's—there is plenty of that, and appropriately so, such that one observed, "In eighth grade, I had finally become who you see today." Indeed, all of our graduates do become the individuals you see today. And so many of them recognized, acknowledged, celebrated, and delighted in the reality that they had become those individuals *in the midst of, together with, and even because of* the others with whom they have shared this place we call St. Patrick's.

Those accounts are not merely about making friends here at St. Patrick's—in fact, one observed that he didn't have any friends at St. Patrick's . . . rather, he had only family here—although they provided powerful reminders of the importance of those friendships. Instead, they are about the connections that are fundamental to a happy, healthy, and productive life, a life in which there can be both Then's and Now's and not just Then's or not just Now's.

Fueling those connections are words—assigned and happenstance, rehearsal and performance, tentative and triumphant. We are a wordful lot here—perhaps a perilous observation for me, of all people, to make—and my affection for the Grade 8 Graduation Dinner tradition is that it *invites*, that it *provides*, that it *relishes* the full voice. And that is one thing that I hope all of you who have become part of this special community—as students, parents, faculty and staff, or friends—will always associate with St. Patrick's. Indeed, that is one thing that so many of the graduating students talked about at their Graduation Dinner: The voices that they have developed here, the opportunities that they have had to use those voices, and the way in which those voices have served to bind them, one to the other.

One graduate referred to what she called the soundtrack of our lives. While so many of her examples were actually songs—voices shared in a musical, a sung grace at lunch, the Kindergarten Circus (*immortal*, in her words)—she had much more in mind:

*These little moments, the moments of walking past someone in the hall, or having a cheerful conversation about how you have both forgotten the Spanish homework, again. Those unimportant moments that we are forgetting even now. Those moments are the lyrics in the soundtrack of middle school. The lyrics that we will gradually forget as high school, and college, and real life slowly replace these memories with newer ones. And when we are the parents listening to some supercilious youngsters babble about what they've learned [by the way, an interesting formulation of parenthood . . . and childhood, for that matter], we'll remember a few lyrics, a line or two, and the tune.*

*Setting Compass* frets about one's inability to comprehend and to organize the spoken and written word, an inability that results in what educational theorist Maxine Green has called instances of wordlessness and experiences of powerlessness, and the alienation, the thoughtlessness, and the irresponsibility that follow in turn.

In contrast, we delight in students like the Grade 8 Class of 2014—our twelfth class to receive Grade 8 diplomas and our largest class to date—who move on from this place we call St. Patrick's still at work on, but clearly well along in a worthy lifetime pursuit of, finding their own voices. Wordful and mindful, thoughtful and responsible, they are connected to one another in a manner that should serve as a model for how to engage the wider world into which they are moving. 🌱

## ST. PATRICK'S EARNS PRESTIGIOUS CAC SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

As further evidence of the burgeoning success of the St. Patrick's athletics program, the Day School was honored at the end of the 2013-2014 school year with the prestigious annual Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Sportsmanship Award. St. Patrick's was selected to receive the highest honor available to member-schools by athletic directors at those schools. The Day School received near-unanimous selection, earning eight out of nine votes cast.

We were especially honored by the selection in a year during which St. Patrick's achieved unparalleled success on the playing field, winning 11 CAC banners and demonstrating formidable strength on the lacrosse field (our only non-CAC sport)—showcasing our students' skill in winning and losing gracefully.

The Sportsmanship Award is given to the school that best fits the following criteria: The school's administration and athletic department establish an atmosphere of positive athletic competition that respects all athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators; the school's athletes demonstrate a respect for athletics and the rules and values of the game; the school's athletes play within the rules of the game and with respect toward all opponents and officials; the school's coaches are role models for their athletes; the coaches demonstrate a respect for the officials, opposing players, and their peers; the school's spectators appreciate the efforts of the visiting teams and promote a positive atmosphere for competition; and the school's players and coaches, at the end of each athletic competition, acknowledge the efforts of the officials, scorers, and opponents in a positive manner.

The CAC is a league made up of nine area schools of like size and configuration, including Congressional, Green Acres, Immanuel Christian, Langley, National Presbyterian, Norwood, Westminster, and Woods.



*Photo above, left to right: Elena Tompkins, Stuart Prince, Dave Cumberbatch, and Susan Kistorowski were among the 300 attendees at this year's second annual Green & White Night.*

## SECOND ANNUAL GREEN & WHITE NIGHT DRAWS HUGE CROWD

More than 300 current parents, alumni, parents of alumni, and faculty and staff turned out to celebrate the beginning of the new school year at the second annual Green & White Night on Saturday, September 20. Dressed in green and white to show their school spirit, attendees kicked off the new school year in style and heard remarks from Head of School Peter A. Barrett and Board of Trustees Chair Patrick Steel.

Among the many things worth celebrating this year, attendees met this year's Annual Fund Co-Chairs, David Johnston and Pamela Marple (Genevieve 6C and James 4B), and this year's Co-Chairs of the Auction to Benefit the Financial Aid Program, Judy Bishop (Emma 7B, Libby 6B, and Daisy 4A) and André Wells (Christopher 4A).

The event, inaugurated last year, replaced most of the grade-level potluck dinners that had been a part of the back-to-school routine for many years. Replacing multiple potlucks with one schoolwide event provides much-needed relief to busy back-to-school calendars and also provides

the Day School community a unique opportunity to gather together as a group. We look forward to seeing you next year!

## GRADES 5 AND 6 STUDENTS DAZZLE IN SPRING MUSICAL

Grades 5 and 6 students dazzled the citizens of St. Patrick's, "no matter how small," with their spell-binding production of *Seussical, Jr.* on May 8 and 9. Adventures abounded as we journeyed together into the world created by Dr. Seuss and brought to life by the students of Grades 5 and 6.

The citizens of Whoville were in dire peril, as their tiny world was threatened by disbelieving kangaroos, wicked monkeys, and a villainous vulture. Familiar characters such as Horton the elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, the Cat in the Hat, and Mayzie LaBird were joined by friends from the Jungle of Nool, McElligot's Pool, and the imagination of one small boy. It all culminated in a wacky trial presided over by Yertle the Turtle.

Sets designed and created by Grades 5 and 6 students in art class transported us to a world populated with Truffula trees and other fantastical Seussian

structures. This show delighted one and all and inspired the “thinker” in all of us as our wonder, curiosity, and imagination soared through the inspiration of familiar characters brought to life by a fantastic cast.

## PERFORMING AND STUDIO ARTS NIGHT A SMASHING SUCCESS

Each year during the Spring Trimester, Grade 8 students choose to focus on either studio art or musical theatre. They then showcase their skills at the annual Grades 7 and 8 Performing and Studio Arts Night. Last year’s seventh annual event was held on May 16. Under the guiding hand of art teacher Kyu-Jin Lee, 10 Grade 8 students hosted a special art exhibit entitled *hiSTORY and herSTORY: Past, Present, Future*. And under the expert direction of music teacher Anne Tyler, another group of Grade 8 students performed *The Pirates of Penzance*, a challenging opera that unfolds in two acts.

Studio art students enjoyed total autonomy to create their own visual narratives related to the *hiSTORY and herSTORY* theme. After formulating their concepts, students made important artistic decisions in selecting their art medium, subject matter, style, and dimension, and then carried out the creative tasks. Each student displayed his/her portfolio at the event and was on-hand to discuss the various pieces with family, friends, and faculty and staff who attended the exhibition. Examples of these students’ work appear in the opening pages of the St. Patrick’s Art Calendar published over the summer as well as in the exhibit in the School Office.

Later in the evening, the elective musical theatre group showcased their rendition of the Gilbert and Sullivan musical *The Pirates of Penzance*. Grades 7 and 8 students both participated in the musical, with students in Grade 8 tackling the lead roles of Frederic, Mabel, and Major-General Stanley. The cast



was supported by not just one fabulous and talented Tyler, but two. Director Anne Tyler’s husband John played a major role this year in set construction and overall support. The group also thanks choreographer Holli Matze, Extended Day and Summer Program Coordinator, and costumer Marcy Ference, physical education teacher.

Congratulations to all of the artists, actors, and the supporting crew for another fantastic evening!

**Top photo:** A group scene from the Seussical, Jr. performed by Grades 5 and 6 students in May. In the foreground, from left to right, are then-Grade 6 students Constantin P., Cian M., Liam W., Dylan T., AnnaLena H., and Riley O. In the back row, from left to right, are then-Grade 6 students Nina M., William W., Alexander K., Luca M., and Laila B.. **Bottom photo:** Grades 7 and 8 students performed the musical *Pirates of Penzance* at the Grades 7 and 8 Performing and Studio Arts Night. The then-Grade 8 students pictured here include, from left to right: Halsey M., Bryce G., Drew P., and Kate B.

## DAY SCHOOL PROJECT FEATURED ON GLSEN WEBSITE

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) featured St. Patrick's student work for No Name-Calling Week (NNCW) on its website in May, a nod to the unique interpretation of the nationally-recognized event by the Day School Student Leadership Council (SLC), composed of students in Grades 4 through 8.

The SLC honored NNCW by creating a series of activities around the theme "Celebrate Kindness: A New Perspective on Love." The timing of the activities planned by the SLC for all Day School students—around Valentine's Day—was part of an intentional effort to augment our traditional celebration of that holiday. The SLC's take on NNCW was reimagined for a modern audience—riffing on the techniques used on Twitter to inspire students at the Day School to examine their attitudes toward and treatment of others.

On the appointed day, members of the SLC delivered buckets to each homeroom filled with "tweets" about kindness written by students in Grades 1 through 8. Teachers posted the messages around the room and discussed them with their classes. Each child also received a wristband with the hashtag #celebratekindness on it early in the morning. (Hashtags are used on Twitter to denote comments related to a certain topic.) Books displayed in the library followed the theme, and both students and teachers enjoyed reading those selections throughout the day. At dismissal time, all students enjoyed a song about kindness called "Everyone" by Ingrid Michaelson, chosen by the elder SLC members and played over the intercom before carpool.

You can read more about the SLC's work celebrating kindness by checking out their PowerPoint presentation on the GLSEN website at [glsen.org/article/creative-expressions-2014](http://glsen.org/article/creative-expressions-2014). We extend special congratulations to all SLC students and to Grade 8 humanities teacher Ann Adams and



**Photo above:** The winners of the Recitation Contest are pictured with the judges. In the front row, from left to right, are then-Grade 7 student Brittany H., then-Grade 7 student Jack T., then-Grade 6 student Stone W., and then-Grade 6 student Laila B. The judges were parent Dudley Winthrop (left); St. Patrick's Rector, the Rev. Dr. Kurt Gerhard (middle); and former longtime librarian Betty Langhammer.

Assistant Head of Upper School/Director of Secondary School Placement Amy Yount for their hard work and vision in carrying out what could become an ongoing tradition at St. Patrick's.

## TWO STUDENTS EMERGE FROM STRONG FIELD AS RECITATION WINNERS

The 34th annual Michael C. Leuthe Recitation Contest was held last year on Wednesday, March 19, bumped from its traditional St. Patrick's Day perch by a snow day. One of St. Patrick's longest-running traditions—named in memory of former longtime Grade 5 teacher Michael Leuthe—the Recitation Contest is an annual showcase of our students' strength in literature, poetry, and performance.

Fifteen students in Grades 4 through 8 participated in the final round, selected after a rigorous audition process. The three students from each grade selected to participate in the schoolwide contest had already auditioned at least twice—once in their homerooms and again in grade-wide contests.

As in past years, the students' selections ranged from poetry to prose, from historical to fiction, and from silly to serious. The field was so strong this year that our judges chose to award two first-place prizes and two second-place prizes, leaving

the third-place prize unclaimed. The first-place winners were then-Grade 6 student Laila B. and then-Grade 7 student Brittany H. Laila recited "No One Is Free When Others Are Oppressed" by James Howe, and Brittany recited an excerpt from Robert F. Kennedy's speech about the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. The second-place awards went to then-Grade 7 student Jack T. and then-Grade 6 student Stone W. Jack recited "The Lanyard" by Billy Collins, while Stone gave an enthusiastic performance of "Casey at the Bat" by Ernest Lawrence Thayer.

This year's judges included the Rev. Dr. Kurt Gerhard, Rector; former longtime Day School librarian Betty Langhammer; and parent Dudley Winthrop. We thank them for tackling this difficult assignment and congratulate all 15 participants in this year's final round.

Michael Leuthe, in whose memory the Recitation Contest is named, was a Grade 5 teacher at St. Patrick's. Well-known for his classical approach to teaching—with a deep appreciation of poetry—every student under his tutelage was well-versed in grammar and history. Longtime teacher Anne Muir writes fondly of Michael, saying "He was very strict with his students and was known to have thrown a book at one or two of them. Needless to say, he did not have many behavioral problems in his class." We are proud to honor his memory in perpetuity with this wonderful annual display of literature and poetry.



**Photo left:** Grade 5 teacher and Hoops for Haiti referee Laura Philips lays out the rules for two competing teams of then-Grade 6 girls. **Photo right:** Faculty, staff, and alumni came out to support "School House Rocks!" in March. Pictured here from left to right are Grade 3 resource teacher and Equity Coordinator Erica Thompson, Director of Admission and Financial Aid Xiomara Hall, Neville Wilson '95, Grade 3 teacher Mary Beth James, and physical education teacher Marcy Ference.

## HOOPS FOR HAITI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT SCORES SUPPORT FOR ST. ETIENNE

The second annual Hoops for Haiti 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, held Friday, April 25, quadrupled its fundraising total from its inaugural year of 2013, raising nearly \$10,000 to benefit our Haitian partner school, St. Etienne. More than 170 students joined the fun as tournament players or as Superfans.

This year, for the first time, families of participants had the opportunity to make additional donations beyond the registration fee to the Haiti Partnership Program, a call to which the community responded with great enthusiasm. The incredible show of support for our partner of 35 years will allow us to continue supporting a number of initiatives, including an expansion of the school lunch program, improved teacher salaries, scholarships for students, and student uniforms.

Along with the proceeds from the annual appeal made through St. Patrick's Church, the long-running annual Haiti Art Show, and various student-run booths at Gifts for Good, the proceeds from Hoops for Haiti are quickly becoming a critical piece of the support that the St. Patrick's community provides to our friends at St. Etienne Church and School. This new revenue stream al-

lows members of the Haiti Partnership Program Committee to engage in even more strategic and long-range planning with members of the St. Etienne community.

For more information about the Haiti Partnership Program and how the relationship between St. Patrick's and St. Etienne benefits students in both places, please see the winter 2014 edition of the St. Patrick's Press, available online by visiting the St. Patrick's homepage, [www.stpatsdc.org](http://www.stpatsdc.org), then clicking "St. Patrick's Press" from the "Quick-links" menu at the top right corner of the page. To become involved with Hoops for Haiti, please contact Grade 4 teacher Ben Hoover at [hooverb@stpatsdc.org](mailto:hooverb@stpatsdc.org).

## "SCHOOL HOUSE ROCKS!" AUCTION SHATTERS RECORDS

In March, the St. Patrick's community gathered for an evening of rock-and-roll that raised a record sum for the Financial Aid Program. The theme of the evening—"Music inspires us, renews us, and brings us together"—was homage, in the words of Head of School Peter A. Barrett, to the vitality, creativity, dynamism, and community that animate the Day School.

The event was co-chaired by Jessica Boulanger, Kelly Lugar, and Carolyn Nordberg. The event was a great financial success, raising an esti-

mated \$642,000—more than \$225,000 above the budgeted goal. As a result, the Board of Trustees elected to designate a portion of the proceeds—\$193,324—to the Financial Aid Endowment. The Board-designated and permanently-restricted Financial Aid Endowments are now valued in excess of \$1.6 million. Those endowments are intended, as they grow, to ensure the vitality of the Financial Aid Program not just this year, but well into the future. The Auction proceeds represent more than one-fourth of the Day School's total annual financial aid budget.

Before enjoying the music of 80's cover band The Spazmatics at the Auction after-party, more than 350 attendees generously supported the Silent Auction, the Live Auction, and Fund-a-Scholar. The Fund-a-Scholar appeal, which provides an opportunity for community members to make a gift directly to the bottom line, broke another record, raising \$187,686 from 146 participating families. The number of generous donors, volunteers, and attendees made clear the St. Patrick's community's commitment to maintaining and enhancing socio-economic diversity at the Day School. This school year, nearly 1 in 5 students received a financial aid grant, but we believe that all our students benefit from a diverse student body.

We extend our deep gratitude to everyone who made this year's Auction a rockin' success! For more information about the St. Patrick's Auction to Benefit the Financial Aid Program, visit [www.stpatsdc.org](http://www.stpatsdc.org), click "Giving," "Ways to Give," then "Auction."



**Photo above:** Head Librarian ReAnna Laney, above with students, is one of ten Day School faculty and administrators who presented—or will present—at fall conferences. ReAnna led a session at the European Council of International Schools Triennial Librarians Conference in Brussels this September.

## TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT AT REGIONAL, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Eight Day School teachers and administrators are presenting at signature independent education conferences around the country this fall, and a ninth presented at an international librarians conference in Belgium. Their participation reflects the strong professional culture here at St. Patrick's and the leadership our faculty and staff offer in their respective fields.

Presenting from Brussels to Anaheim, with Baltimore and Bethesda in between, St. Patrick's educators have participated in conferences sponsored by the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES), the Association of Independent Maryland and D.C. Schools (AIMS), the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal School Association (MAESA), and the European Council of International Schools.

The conferences, presenters, and workshops are:

### **National Association of Episcopal Schools Biennial Conference, Anaheim, California, November 20-22**

*Judy Barr, school nurse and health educator:*

Making Health Education Relevant and Applicable to Teens in This Changing World

*Jennifer Danish, Assistant Head of School for Enrollment, Communication, and Marketing, and Chris O'Shea, Director of Communication:*

A "Calling" for Episcopal Schools: Welcoming and Affirming Same-Sex Couples

### **Mid-Atlantic Episcopal School Association Early Childhood Conference, Bethesda, November 7**

*Martha Estroff, early childhood science:*

If You Want to Teach a Lesson, Tell a Story (from the Talmud)

*Lisa Merotto, PK3:*

Documentation: "Shadows and Light," A Case Study for Making Thinking Visible

*Mendy Thaler, N2, and Shelly Basile, Upper School science:*

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in the Early Childhood Classroom

### **Association of Independent Maryland and D.C. Schools, Baltimore, October 20**

*Judy Barr, school nurse and health educator:*

Making Health Education Relevant and Applicable to Teens in This Changing World

*Laura Philips, Grade 5 social studies:*

Walking Out of Eden and into Classrooms: Bridging the Gap between Local Learning and Global Awareness through Nonfiction Storytelling, panelist with representatives of Harvard's Project Zero and Center for Geographical Analysis, the Pulitzer Center for Crisis Reporting, the National Geographic Society's Out of Eden Walk, and St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School to discuss educational applications of Pulitzer Prize-winning Paul Salopek's 21,000-mile journey to retrace the great migration routes of our human ancestors out of Africa to the tip of South America

*Ellen Cremer, the Director of Upper School Resource* who presented at last year's AIMS Conference, served on the 2014 Annual Conference Planning Committee.

### **European Council of International Schools Triennial Librarians Conference, Brussels, Belgium, September 23-28**

*ReAnna Laney, head librarian:*

Reading Diversely: Serving Our International and Multicultural Teens and Tweens

# WOLF HOUND WATCH

Included in this section are results from the spring 2014 lacrosse and track and field seasons and this fall's recently-concluded soccer and cross country seasons. Please note: Lacrosse is not a Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) sport, so no tournament results, conference-wide standings, or All-Star selections are listed here.

## Boys Varsity Lacrosse

*Coaches: Seamus Brophy, Ben Hoover, Mike Marshall*

**Regular-Season Record:** 6-1

**Offense MVPs:** Jack K., Guy K. **Defense MVPs:** Bryce B., John S.

**Coach's Award:** Bryce G.

**Season Highlight:**

Team finishes 6-1 in huge turnaround from the 2013 season, during which they finished 0-7

## Girls Varsity Lacrosse

*Coaches: Elizabeth Kennedy and Katharine Kennedy*

**Regular-Season Record:** 6-4

**Offense MVP:** Evie H. **Defense MVP:** Perrin B.

**Coach's Award:** Hopie C. **Most Improved:** Katherine S.

**Season Highlight:**

Team wins three of last four games to finish with a winning record

## Boys Junior Varsity Lacrosse

*Coaches: Seamus Brophy, Mike Marshall, Nick Barber*

**Regular-Season Record:** 6-1

**Offense MVPs:** Colin M., Liam W. **Defense MVP:** Christian H.

**Coach's Awards:** Dennis P., Welles M. **Most Improved:** George B.

**Season Highlight:**

Team spent most of the season undefeated before faltering in the last game

## Girls Junior Varsity Lacrosse

*Coaches: Carly Dumbauld, Leda Kennedy*

**Regular-Season Record:** 5-0

**Offense MVP:** Hannah W. **Defense MVP:** Riley O.

**Coach's Award:** Sara J. **Most Improved:** Emma M.

**Season Highlight:**

The first undefeated season for girls lacrosse in St. Patrick's history

## Track and Field

*Coaches: Brooks Swett, Rene Mercado*

**JV MVPs:** Nina M., Luca A.

**Varsity MVP:** Drew P.

**JV Coach's Award:** Jesse F., Laila B. **Varsity Coach's Award:** Roberta F.

**Season Highlight:**

Fourth-place overall team finish at the CAC track meet





**Photo page 9:** Then-Grade 8 student Sophie D. protects the goal during a lacrosse game against Langley last spring. **Photo above, left:** Grade 6 student Luca A. goes head-to-head with a player from Washington Waldorf school. **Photo above, right:** Grade 7 student Laila B. takes a shot on goal during a game hosted by Washington Episcopal.

### Boys Varsity Soccer

*Coach:* Jeremy Hewes

**Regular-Season Record:** 7-5, 4th place **CAC Tournament:** 2-1, 3rd place

**MVPs:** Jesse F., Jack K., Jacob M.

**Coach's Award:** Colin M. **Most Improved:** Keyon T.

**CAC All-Stars:** Jack K. and Jacob M.

**Season Highlight:** Defeating ICS 1-0 to capture 3rd-place tournament banner

### Girls Varsity Soccer

*Coach:* Figadelfo Mendieta-Jara

**Regular-Season Record:** 8-1, 2nd place **CAC Tournament:** 1-2, 4th place

**MVPs:** Chloe C. and Miranda H.

**Coach's Awards:** Emma M., Grace T. **Most Improved:** Eden J., Grace H.

**CAC All-Stars:** Chloe C., Miranda H., Emma M.

**Season Highlight:** Finishing regular season with 8-1 record

### Boys Junior Varsity "A" Soccer

*Coach:* Diego Federico

**Regular-Season Record:** 9-1-1, 2nd place **CAC Tournament:** 3-0, 1st place

**MVPs:** Cyrus G. and Michael S.

**Most Improved:** Christian H. and Charlie M.

**Coach's Awards:** Mac G. and Nathaniel Z.

**Season Highlight:** Defeating Langley 3-2 in shootout for conference championship

### Girls Junior Varsity "A" Soccer

*Coach:* Joffre Arce

**Regular-Season Record:** 8-0, 1st place **CAC Tournament:** 3-0, 1st place

**MVPs:** Halle J. and Sara J.

**Most Improved:** Madison M.

**Coach's Awards:** Ella B. and Dorothy C.

**Season Highlight:** Undefeated regular season and CAC champions

## Boys Junior Varsity "B" Soccer

*Coach: Ian Winstanley*

**Regular-Season Record:** 1-2-2

**MVP:** Nico K.

**Coach's Award:** Spencer H. **Most Improved:** Nicky G.

**Season Highlight:** 2-0 shutout win over Norwood



## Girls Junior Varsity "B" Soccer

*Coaches: Eva Deleon*

**Regular-Season Record:** 0-5

**MVP:** Adie S.

**Coach's Award:** Kylie T. **Most Improved:** Elise S.

**Season Highlight:**

Significant development of fundamental skills throughout the season



## Cross Country

*Coaches: Bobby Cardzo and Kim Bauer*

**MVPs:** Campbell M. and Jack T.

**Most Improved:** Christian D. and DC N.

**Coach's Awards:** Cal W. and Courtney Y.

**Season Highlight:** Jack Tongour finishes in first place and Campbell Musslewhite finishes second at the CAC championship meet



**Top photo:** Grade 7 student Conor S. cuts inside a defender during a game against Norwood in September. **Middle photo:** The boys JV "A" team captured the CAC conference championship title after finishing second during the regular season. **Bottom photo:** The girls JV "A" team captured first place in both the regular season and the CAC tournament.



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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES HONORS DEPARTING MEMBERS, WELCOMES NEW

Among the many volunteers who support the St. Patrick's community and make it so vibrant, we are especially grateful to those who serve on the Day School's governing body, the Board of Trustees. These dedicated individuals, whose important responsibilities include developing and guiding the school's strategic vision and acting as fiduciary stewards, serve three-year terms and work to protect the St. Patrick's legacy for current and future students.

Here, we thank six members of the Board, including Chair Dee Dee Myers, after the conclusion of their terms last school year, and we welcome seven new Trustees as they begin their service. Each of the departing Trustees was honored at the final Board meeting in May. Excerpts of remarks from that meeting are included here.

**Dee Dee Myers** served on the Board of Trustees for eight years and, most recently, as the Chair for one year. Head of School Peter A. Barrett said of her leadership:

"Dee Dee agreed to become Board Chair at an especially critical time, with the next step in the most important set of strategic decisions the Board has faced in years dominating its agenda. I can't think of anyone more capable than Dee Dee of assuming the Board leadership at that time. Steeped in institutional knowledge, committed to the ongoing health and well-being of the Day School, blessed with a remarkable balance between independent-mindedness and a collaborative spirit, and just plain determined to get things done—and done right—Dee Dee was clearly the right person to provide that

leadership. Obviously, she didn't disappoint—and she had the added gift of being able to identify or to call forth humor in the midst of the sometimes excruciatingly serious work that we do together. As St. Patrick's continues to move toward a relocated and expanded middle school on the Foxhall Campus and, farther down the line, toward a new high school, Dee Dee's pivotal leadership at this time will remain an essential part of the story."

**Photo opposite:** *The 2014–2015 Day School Board of Trustees.*

**Carla Durney** served on the Board of Trustees from 2006 to 2014. She was Co-Vice Chair of the Board from 2012 to 2014 and, during her tenure, served variously as Chair of the Committee on Trustees and Co-Chair of the Governance Committee and as a member of the Coordinating Committee. Her fellow Trustee Manar Morales said of her:

“One of the things I admire most about Carla is that she never forgets that it is indeed a privilege to serve on this Board and to serve the broader St. Pat’s community, no matter how much work there is to be done . . . Carla possesses a cheerful willingness to serve and always pushes us to do better and tackle the hard issues. She has certainly left us in a much better place than when she arrived. Indeed, it has been a privilege for all of us to have served alongside you!”

**Catherine Freedberg** served on the Board of Trustees for 11 years during non-consecutive terms, first in the 1990’s and again for the last five years. She has chaired the Education Committee and the Spiritual Life Committee and was a member of the Search Committee that brought current Head of School Peter A. Barrett to St. Patrick’s. He said of her:

“She loves St. Patrick’s . . . an institution whose promise she seems to understand better than anyone I know and whose striving to fulfill that promise she promotes at every opportunity. In

return, I hope that our love for Catherine is clear. [Both her terms on the Board came at] critical time[s] for this institution . . . one of transition and then of significant growth, and you can be sure that her gracious spirit, sparkling insight, and extraordinary generosity helped guide that transition and shape that significant growth.”

**Burton Gray** served on the Board of Trustees from 2011 to 2014. During his tenure, he served as Co-Chair of the Advancement Committee and Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Strategic Plan. He was recognized by his fellow Trustee Judy Bishop:

“Burton and I have been friends for more than 20 years, and I have been honored to serve with him on the Board of Trustees and on the Advancement Committee. His thoughtful work in both of those contexts—with particular regard to expansion planning, planned giving, and schoolwide messaging around philanthropy—have been vital to the Day School’s success. I personally, and the Board as a whole, will miss Burton and remain ever-grateful for his ongoing support of St. Patrick’s.”

**Elizabeth Markowitz** served as the Lower School Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees for three years, providing a valuable link between the Board table and faculty members in Kindergarten to Grade 3. Her fellow Trustee Brooke Carnot said of her:

“One colleague noted [that] Elizabeth is diplomatic and wise in her conduct and delivery, asking probing but polite questions. Another fellow Board member said she always tries to nab the seat next to [her], a testament to [her] approachability and fun. Two different colleagues talked about . . . how much [she] truly care[s] about St. Patrick’s. I have had the pleasure of working with [her] in this context and concur with [her] colleagues and fellow Board members. [She has] been a valuable liaison to and from the faculty.”

**Ed Nordberg** served on the Board of Trustees from 2008 to 2014 and as Secretary from 2011 to 2014. He also served on the Finance Committee. He was a Co-Chair of Project Management Committee II, and is a current Co-Chair of Project Management Committee III. His fellow Trustee and current Board Chair Patrick Steel said of him:

“Ed was in many ways the consummate board member—dedicated to the St. Patrick’s community, knowledgeable on the issues, and skilled at navigating complicated topics. While we are fortunate to have his continued service on the Project Management Committee III, his leadership and friendship on the Board will be deeply missed.”



**PATRICK  
STEEL**

Succeeding Dee Dee in the role of Board Chair is **Patrick M. Steel**. Head of School Peter A. Barrett announced Patrick's appointment during the 2013-2014 school year's Closing Chapel in June, saying Patrick "brings extensive experience as a Trustee, a deep understanding of and commitment to this place we call St. Patrick's, and the determination to keep St. Patrick's strong—and to enable it to become even stronger with the support of the Board of Trustees and the broader community."

A Trustee at St. Patrick's since 2010, Patrick has served most recently as Co-Vice Chair and on various committees, including the Coordinating Committee (comprised of Church and Day School leaders), the Governance Committee, the Subcommittee on Trustees, the Finance Committee, and the Executive Committee. Patrick has also been the Day School representative to the Vestry. He is an active member of St. Patrick's Church and has served for years as an Annual Fund coordinator and caller. Patrick is senior managing director and co-head of FBR Capital Markets Financial Sponsors Group. From 2007 to 2008, Patrick served as group head of European investment banking at FBR International in London. Since joining the firm in 2001, he has managed capital markets and advisory transactions for a variety of companies in the real estate, insurance, financial services, and diversified industrials sectors. Prior to joining FBR, Patrick was



**SANDY  
CHAMBLEE-HEAD**

the associate administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the senior advisor for agriculture at the White House China Trade Relations Group. In the 1990's, he served in various positions in the Clinton administration. Patrick holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania, a master's degree in legal and political theory from University College London, and an M.B.A. from Georgetown.

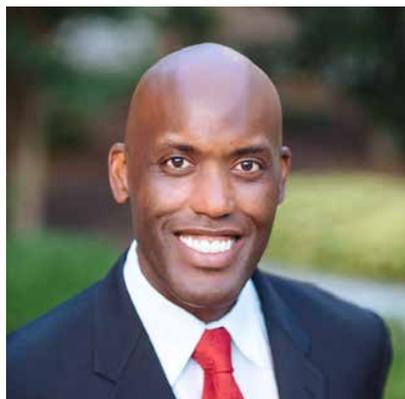
Rector's Appointee **Sandy Chamblee-Head** has been a member of the St. Patrick's community since 1997. She is an active member of the Parish, having served as a Vestry member, a member of two seminarian support committees, a member of the flower committee, an acolyte and server, a lay eucharistic minister, and a lay reader. She is a partner at the law firm Steptoe & Johnson, specializing in the areas of toxic torts and natural resources. She is a member of the firm's litigation department and serves as its chief diversity partner, responsible for the firm's initiatives to advance inclusion in its workplace and beyond. Sandy has also served in senior policy positions at the National Institutes of Health, including as the Deputy Director for Science Policy and Technology Transfer (acting). In addition, she has served as the chair of the Board of Directors of the Columbia Hospital for Women Foundation. Sandy is married to Alfred Head, a semi-retired



**SUZANNE  
CLARK-LEBEDEV**

foreign service officer, and has two children, Ryan Hackney W '99 and Karlyn Hackney.

**Suzanne Clark-Lebedev** joins the Board after service that has included being a member of the Head of School's Advisory Committee and the chair of corporate sponsorship efforts for the 2014 Auction to Benefit Financial Aid. She recently returned to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—where she served for nearly a decade between 1997 and 2007—as its executive vice president. Before her return to the Chamber, Suzanne was president and chief executive officer of Potomac Research Group (PRG), one of the leading research firms providing Washington policy and market analysis to institutional investors. Previously, Suzanne served as president of the National Journal Group (NJG), Washington's premier provider of information, news, and analysis for the political and policy communities, publishing *National Journal*, *Congress-Daily*, *The Hotline*, *Global Security Newswire*, and *The Almanac of American Politics*. Suzanne serves on the board of the International Women's Forum's D.C. chapter and the corporate advisory board of So Others Might Eat and is a member of the public relations and marketing committee of Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. She earned her bachelor's degree and her M.B.A. from Georgetown. Suzanne lives in Virginia with her husband, Greg Lebedev, and their daughter.



COREY DAVENPORT

Since joining the St. Patrick's community, **Corey Davenport** has become part of the expansion planning process as a member of Project Management Committee III. He is a principal at the private equity firm Georgetown Partners, where he has managed a variety of investments including IPO's, multi-billion dollar joint ventures, and early-stage venture capital projects. Previously, Corey held revenue-planning positions at ABC Television, IMAX Corp., and Envirotest Systems. A native Washingtonian, he attended independent schools in the D.C. area, graduating from Georgetown Preparatory. He earned his bachelor's degree at Tufts and his M.B.A. at the University of Michigan. Corey is a founding investor of the Gerald R. Gill Professorship at Tufts, an endowed fund that supports the recruitment of new faculty members and provides special recognition to current faculty members. Corey also served on the Buildings and Grounds Committee that successfully expanded St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac. He lives in Potomac with his wife Siobhan and their two children.



MAE  
HANEY GRENNAN

**Mae Haney Grennan** comes to the Board with a remarkable resumé of volunteer service. Most notably, Mae was a co-chair of A Broader Vision, the campaign that financed the construction of the initial phase of Foxhall Campus development. She has served as co-chair of the Advancement Committee and as a member of the Project Management Committee. Mae was an integral member of several Auction committees and has served as a Room Parent and event host. An attorney and chief counsel for the Franklin L. Haney Company (FLH), a family-owned and managed business with national investments in real estate and property development, Mae also serves as president of Premium Brands of NW Arkansas, a beer distributorship. Prior to joining FLH, Mae was a presidential appointment counsel in the Clinton administration. A philanthropic leader, Mae has worked with the D.C. Public Education Fund and Children's National Medical Center, where she has served as a trustee for five years. She is also on the Development Committee of the River School. She lives in Washington with her husband Ande and their five children.



RACHEL  
LEVIN

Grade 3 teacher **Rachel Levin** is in her fourth year as a teacher at St. Patrick's and her eleventh year in the classroom. Rachel has been an instrumental presence on the Faculty Equity Committee, the Head of School Advisory Committee, and the Admission Committee. Since her arrival, she has also worked with Horizons Greater Washington and has completed her second summer as the Site Director for St. Patrick's. Horizons Greater Washington is part of a national network of independent schools and other educational institutions working closely with nearby public schools that helps economically disadvantaged students continue learning over the summer, a time when they might otherwise experience a decline in their academic development. Prior to St. Patrick's, Rachel taught at Rodeph Sholom School and the Town School in New York City and at St. Stephen's School in Rome, Italy. She earned her bachelor's degree in art history, Italian studies, and museum studies from Connecticut College and her master's in museum education from Bank Street College. She lives in Washington with her husband Michael Buckler.



**GARRETT  
LOWE**

Longtime parishioner **Garrett Lowe** is the Junior Warden for the Day School and has been a member of St. Patrick's Church for a decade. In addition to his Vestry service, both he and his wife Stephanie are active in various Church outreach programs. Garrett began school at St. Patrick's and went on to St. Albans before graduating from St. Mark's School in Massachusetts. He earned a doctoral degree in biology from the University of Maryland and also holds a master's degree in medieval studies from the University of Toronto. As a product of Episcopal schools, Garrett considers the relationship between Church and Day School to be of paramount importance, each nourishing and challenging the other. Most recently, Garrett was a senior tutor at Prep-Matters and recently opened his own firm, Eagle Eye Tutoring. He also serves on the board of the nonprofit Spark the Wave. Garrett lives in Washington with his wife Stephanie and their two children.



**DAVID  
ROBERTS**

As a member of the Finance Committee since 2011, incoming Trustee **David H. Roberts** already has significant experience in St. Patrick's Board of Trustees-level activity. He is a managing director of Houlihan Lokey's Financial Sponsors Coverage Group, where his primary responsibilities include providing investment banking, valuation, and financial opinion services to private equity firms and professional investors in the mid-Atlantic region. He has more than a decade of experience in acquisitions, divestitures, corporate strategy, capital formation, and legislative and regulatory matters. Before joining Houlihan Lokey, Dave was a principal of the Hunter Group, a consulting firm specializing in outsourced corporate development. He has also served as the executive vice president of corporate development for Inforum Communications, a telecommunications holding company. Earlier in his career, he worked for the House Energy and Commerce Committee, advising senior staff and members of Congress on telecommunications issues. Dave is a graduate of Cornell University and the National Law Center at George Washington University. He lives in Washington with his wife Elizabeth and their three children.





*Photo above, front row, left to right: Leah Kaplan, Ashley Doriss. Middle row, left to right: Alyx Voytilla, Nadia Smith, Maegen Rose, Katie Solter. Back row, left to right: Tom Vorenberg, Kristen Wilkins, John Faig, Camila Dinges, Shyrone Palms.*

# A Warm Welcome to the Faculty & Staff Class of 2014

**Camila Dinges** is the newest member of the staff of the Infant-Toddler Center, which is the school-home of children of Day School faculty and staff up to three years old. A D.C. native, Camila is pursuing a degree in sociology from the University of Maryland College Park. While her most recent work has been in the food and beverage industry, she has extensive experience as a nanny, babysitter, and summer camp counselor. She lives in D.C. with her boyfriend and her dog, Nico.

**Ashley Doriss** joins St. Patrick's as the K3 co-teacher alongside Nadia Smith. Prior to joining our Kindergarten team, Ashley taught PK and Kindergarten at Springside Chestnut Hill Academy in Philadelphia for five years. Ashley holds a bachelor's degree in sports management from Drexel University and a master's degree in elementary education from the University of Pennsylvania. For the past three years, she has been an assistant director for a tennis camp held at Georgetown Visitation. She is excited to now be a year-round resident of D.C.

**John Faig** is St. Patrick's first Director of Information Technology. He comes to us most recently from the King Low Heywood School in Stamford, Connecticut, where he was the technology coordinator and computer teacher. He holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Northeastern and a master's in educational technology from Teachers College, Columbia University and is pursuing a master's in computer science from Johns Hopkins. He lives in Washington with his wife Kristin. They have two daughters, Jennifer (19) and Lindsey (21).



**Leah Kaplan** comes to St. Patrick's in her ninth year of teaching as one of three new members of the Upper School Resource team. Before coming to St. Patrick's, Leah was the Lower School language arts teacher at St. David's School in New York City. She holds a bachelor's degree from Amherst College in psychology and sociology, a master's degree from Mercy College in urban education, and a master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University in behavior studies with a concentration as a reading specialist. She lives in Washington and is engaged to be married in May.

**Shyrone Palms** was already a familiar face around St. Patrick's before taking on his new position as a full-time physical education teacher, as he spent the 2013-2014 school year as a long-term substitute for both then-physical education teacher Vicky Brunt and Director of Athletics Seamus Brophy. Shyrone holds a bachelor's degree in physical education from Virginia State University. He is the head coach of the under-12 division boys for Win Within Baseball, based here in Washington.

Librarian **Maegen Rose** recently moved to Washington from Chicago, where she was the senior project manager of the University of Chicago's Birth-to-College Collaborative, which works to close the achievement gap for underserved children in the city. Maegen holds a master's degree in library and information science from Dominican University, a master's degree in social service administration from the University of Chicago, and a bachelor's degree in gender and feminist studies and black studies from Pitzer College.

**Nadia Smith** returned to St. Patrick's this school year after a two-year hiatus during which she lived with her family in Lausanne, Switzerland. This is her tenth school year at St. Patrick's, where she is a co-head teacher in the K3 classroom. Previously, Nadia worked as a Grade 1 homeroom teacher and a resource teacher for Kindergarten and Grade 1. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and English literature from McGill University and her master's in education from George Washington University. She lives in Washington with her husband Brian and their daughter Charlotte, who is in PK at St. Patrick's.

The **Rev. Katie Solter**, Day School Chaplain, comes to St. Patrick's most recently from a year spent in Rennes, France, as a college counselor for the School Year Abroad program. Prior to that posting, Katie spent time as the Associate Rector at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Hopkinton, New Hampshire. Before earning her master's degree from Andover-Newton Theological School, Katie spent 10 years as a teacher, administrator, and coach at various independent schools in the Northeast. She earned her bachelor's degree from the College of Wooster. Katie and her husband Tom have three children, Riley (Grade 12), Theo 7A, and Dulaney 1B. They live in McLean.

Grade 7 humanities teacher **Tom Vorenberg** joins St. Patrick's from Belmont Day School in Massachusetts. During his long career, he has taught middle school humanities, history, geography, and English at Germantown Friends in Philadelphia; Shady Hill in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Fessenden in Newton, Massachu-

setts. He has also been a coach, an advisor and, for 13 years at Shady Hill, a directing teacher in their Teacher Training Course. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont and a master's degree in teaching from Tufts. His wife Amy is the Head of School at Beauvoir, and their daughter Ella is a recent graduate of Colorado College.

Another fantastic new member of our Upper School Resource program is teacher **Alyx Voytilla**, who comes to St. Patrick's via our next-door neighbor, the Lab School. Alyx spent seven years as a speech pathologist there, after earning her bachelor's and master's degrees in speech and language pathology from the George Washington University. She lives in Virginia with her husband Gregory and two-year-old daughter, Seraphina.

Rounding out the membership of the Upper School Resource team is **Kristen Wilkins**. Most recently the director of The Learning Center at the Kiski School, an all-boys boarding school in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania, Kristen is a graduate of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia where she earned a bachelor's degree and her teaching certification. Her husband Tyler is the Assistant Head of Upper School at the McLean School in Potomac. Their daughter Molly turned one in September and is in the Infant-Toddler Center at St. Patrick's.

*In each edition of the Press, we bring you sketches of current Day School faculty and staff. In this issue, we bring you excerpts of the remarks made honoring several faculty and staff at the Chapel Honoring Faculty and Staff on May 16.*



**Photo:** Grade 1 teacher Elizabeth Allen, pictured here in the captain's chair that will sit in her classroom for the 2014-2015 school year.

## Love of Teaching Award: Elizabeth Allen

### Grade 1 Teacher

Six years ago, a group of parents initiated a conversation with us about ways to honor then-Grade 3 teacher Mark Humphreys' contributions to St. Patrick's. The outcome was that a named fund was created to recognize Mark and thank him for his service to the Day School. This fund, the Love of Teaching Award in Honor of Mark Humphreys, provides a new recipient each year with a stipend to augment his/her individual class's instructional program or personal professional development opportunities during that year.

Each year, we invite nominations of potential honorees for the Love of Teaching Award from members of the faculty and staff for consideration by the Division Heads, who in turn make a recommendation to the Head of School. To recognize the recipient further, an anonymous donor purchased and donated to the Day School a wooden captain's chair with the St. Patrick's logo. The chair is given to the honored educator for the year for use in her/his classroom or office.

Here are the qualities we set forth for nominees for the Love of Teaching Award: A dedication and determination to help each child develop to his/her fullest potential; a clear sense of teaching as a craft at which the nominee always strives to get better; a determination and willingness to find what works for each student; an understanding of the importance of collaboration with colleagues; and, the conviction that the best students s/he has ever taught are those who are currently in his/her class.

We ask faculty and staff who are nominating someone for the Love of Teaching Award to write a brief statement as to how that particular individual displays those qualities. One colleague noted that this year's recipient "is a devoted teacher who is fervently committed to meeting the needs of each student. She is warm and kind to students and colleagues, always speaking positively of both. Through her continual attention to her students' needs, she proves on a daily basis that she truly believes each child can be successful and that it is her responsibility to make them see it, feel it, and believe it themselves."

Another colleague wrote, "Everyone knows [she] is a gardener. Walk into the oasis she calls her 'backyard' and you'll instantly know what a wonder she is with all things green. She knows the name of every flower and can quickly restore life to the most sorry-looking plant. [She] is not only a cultivator of plants; she is a gardener of young lives. Every year she is given a new class—a veritable packet of seeds, all different, unlabeled and green. Each year, she tends her crop with just the right amount of nutrients and with a firm but tender hand. Even the shy ones unfurl. And blossom."

I am honored to present the Love of Teaching Award for the 2014-2015 school year to that gardener of young lives, 1C teacher Elizabeth Allen. 🌱

*These remarks were delivered by Head of School Peter A. Barrett at the Chapel Honoring Faculty and Staff on May 17.*



**Photo:** School Nurse and MacArthur Campus Office Manager Judy Barr, affectionately known as “Ma Barr,” is the most recent recipient of the Jeff Keffer Service Award.

## Jeff Keffer Service Award: Judy Barr

### School Nurse, MacArthur Campus Office Manager

There are many factors that make schools—especially great schools like St. Patrick’s—seem like complex organizations and, in many ways, they are. But they are also rather simple organizations, thriving on face-to-face interaction and shoulder-to-shoulder collaboration, with the efforts of individuals—students, faculty and staff, parents—directly influencing the health and vitality of the whole.

Today, we remember—and honor—a man who appreciated those many complexities at the same time that he recognized and acted upon the otherwise simple understandings that shape this place. Jeff Keffer was an individual who clearly understood that each of us must work to make human institutions . . . relationships . . . situations . . . better than they were when we arrived. He had a keen sense of the roles each one of us can, and should, play in this effort—faculty and staff, students, and parents. Rather than expecting those roles to constrain us, though, Jeff seemed to think that a clear, textured understanding of our various roles actually frees us to be our best selves. How fortunate we were to have Jeff Keffer be a parent here, an individual for whom service to the ever-widening communities of which he was a part—and to this St. Patrick’s community that he loved so much—was essential. Service is an expression of gratitude, optimism, devotion, and determination. It is a way of life.

We endeavor to remember here, and honor here, a man, a father, a husband, a volunteer, and a friend who revealed his sense of St. Patrick’s through a depth of involvement, commitment, energy, and achievement—a life of service to this institution—that will be difficult to equal. We honor, in his name, a member of the faculty and staff who has demonstrated that understanding of and commitment to this place, that dedica-

tion to the quality of the experience of the young people who animate this place, and that yearning for excellence that shaped Jeff’s life in service to St. Patrick’s.

Today, we announce the third recipient of the Jeff Keffer Service Award. While the word service is the award’s middle name, there is another word that doesn’t appear in its name but is nonetheless nestled close to its heart. That word is *community*. As Jeff’s life of service made clear, each of us individually, along with those around us, is enriched by having a textured understanding of the communities of which we are a part . . . and by recognizing that, rather than being members of a single community, we are really members of multiple communities. Judy Barr—MacArthur Campus office manager, school nurse, and health educator—is the kind of individual who brings that very understanding of community to all that she does.

Judy joined St. Patrick’s in 1997 although, as a parent, she was already part of this place. When the MacArthur Campus opened, Mrs. Barr made that new program work. She still makes it work . . . for everyone. Dan Spector, Amy Yount, Tim Coleman, and Ann Adams have all played leadership roles there. All along the way, it has been abundantly clear to them that Judy’s insight, understanding, energy, skill, and determination has shaped that program and the lives of those young people and adults fortunate enough to be part of it. I will lean heavily on their words here.

“I’ve always thought of Judy Barr when I’ve thought of the Jeff Keffer Award,” said one. “Her dedication to St. Patrick’s—a dedication given with nearly the entirety of

**(continued on page 44)**

*In each edition of the Press, we bring you sketches of current Day School faculty and staff. We are proud to share the stories of the many accomplished people who make St. Patrick's the outstanding institution it is.*



## Hank Lanphier

Grade 6 Teacher

Though relatively new to the field of teaching, having just begun his third year at St. Patrick's, Grade 6 teacher Hank Lanphier is a longtime student of his passion, classical history. Outside of teaching, Hank burnishes his historical *bona fides* at every opportunity—even reconstructing ancient artifacts like Roman armor and catapults, work that has enthralled his students.

“My grandfather used to take me on trips when I was little,” Hank writes, “called learning experiences. Together we would spend a week trying to answer a question like *What caused World War II?* or *Are coral plants or animals?* . . . I really enjoyed the opportunity to learn together with him, and maybe in some way I’ve externalized the process to keep a great thing going.” Hank brings a similar enthusiasm to his classroom, kindling students’ passion for knowledge through experiential and hands-on learning. For example, a unique lesson he developed that used the computer program Minecraft to engage students in a collaborative digital effort to build an ancient Roman village was featured in the KidsPost section of the *Washington Post* in 2013.

Hank’s teaching philosophy centers around helping students find the lens through which to look at history that will engage each one in new and exciting ways. “History holds the most epic stories of human experience,” says Hank. “Heroes and villains, sweeping triumphs and stunning defeats—history holds the most riveting stories regardless of your particular field of interests . . . Whether you love politics, dance, economics, science, or philosophy, all of the best stories for each are contained within the tomes of history.”

To bring additional texture to his work in the classroom, Hank traveled to Italy, Greece, and Turkey this summer to study and learn and has spent considerable time this year furthering his understanding of antiquity through books, lectures, podcasts, and documentaries. In his free time, Hank enjoys blacksmithing, leatherworking, historical martial arts, computer games, board games, card games, and hiking. He lives in Washington, D.C.



## Akane Shirata

### PK Teacher

PK2 head teacher Akane Shirata has always wanted to work with children but, in college, was considering a career in child welfare services until she had a chance to work at the daycare center on campus at Catholic University. “That experience,” she says, “made me realize my passion and love for supporting young children’s social and emotional development.” Now in her 17th year as a head teacher, and her 16th at the four-year-old level, Akane has honed her chosen craft, providing a varied learning environment in which children can explore and discover on their own while developing friendships, a sense of ownership over their school life, and a strong sense of community.

She works to impart a love of learning in children—Akane considers herself a life-long learner—and her teaching philosophy embodies a deep respect for students as individuals with different backgrounds, different learning styles, different interests, different needs, and different values. By providing a variety of opportunities for each student to succeed, her flexible teaching style honors the individuality of the members of her classroom community.

Akane is also a leader in the local Japanese-American community. She is the curriculum coordinator at the Washington Japanese Heritage Center, a program that helps children born in the United States of Japanese parents to learn their parents’ language and culture. Additionally, she is the founder of a nonprofit organization in Virginia that runs Japanese immersion summer camps and cultural events for children in the Washington, D.C. area.

This fall, Akane began a Ph.D. program in multilingual and multicultural education at George Mason University, having earned her bachelor’s in early childhood education from the Catholic University of America—she came to Washington to study from her native Japan—and her master’s in early childhood special education, also from George Mason. She is particularly interested in continuing to study curriculum development, language development, and heritage and bilingual education—skills she will certainly apply to her work at St. Patrick’s.



*Photo: The Myers-Purdum family is pictured here after the Grade 8 Class of 2014 Graduation Ceremony at which Dee Dee, center, was the speaker. Appearing clockwise from left are her husband Todd Purdum, her daughter, Dee Dee's parents Judy and Steve Myers, and her son.*

## GRADE 8 GRADUATION: LESSONS FROM HARRY POTTER

Dee Dee Myers, Board of Trustees Chair and parent of two St. Patrick's students, delivered remarks at this year's Grade 8 Graduation. Dee Dee is a former White House Press Secretary, political analyst and commentator, and the recently-appointed Executive Vice President, Worldwide Corporate Communications and Public Affairs, for Warner Bros.



**Photo above, left to right:** Soon-to-be graduates Allie A., Kristen B., Kate P., Charlotte W., Evie H., and Francesca O. with Head of School Peter A. Barrett at the Grade 8 Graduation Dinner.

It is a privilege to be here this evening, as you magnificent young people—I am pretty sure we can no longer call you “children”—prepare to leave St. Patrick’s and begin the next great adventure of your academic, spiritual, and very social lives.

As a Trustee, I have been to numerous Grade 8 graduations, and I have always known that my daughter, Kate, would one day be standing on this stage . . . I just did not know it would come so quickly when I dropped her off for her first day of Nursery School.

And yet, 3,000-some-odd carpool lines later, here we are.

Tonight is especially bittersweet for me and my family, because not only is Kate graduating and leaving St. Patrick’s, but we are moving to Los Angeles. And as we go, we are painfully aware of what we are leaving behind: The community that has been the sun around which our lives have revolved for more than a decade.

It is hard to put into words what this place has meant to us. And it is impossible to match the honesty and eloquence with which all 36 of you described what St. Patrick’s has meant to you at the Graduation Dinner on Wednesday night. Your performances were simply extraordinary, and I am not sure what I can add to what you have already said. But I will try. And here is what I want to talk about: *Harry Potter*.

I love *Harry Potter*. And I love the story’s inimitable creator, J.K. Rowling. In fact, she’s become something of a hero to me. She is of course a great writer, and I am in awe of her audacious creativity. But I am also in awe of her resilience. I am sure many of you know her story. All she ever wanted to be was a novelist. But at one point, early in her career, she found herself out of work, flat broke, and divorced with a young child to support—in her view, a total failure. But as she once said:

*I was set free, because my greatest fear had been realised, and I was still alive, and I still had a daughter whom I adored, and I had an old typewriter and a big idea. And so rock bottom became the solid foundation on which I rebuilt my life.*

Those qualities—the willingness to hold fast to dreams, to take risks, and to turn rock bottom into the foundation of a better future—totally inspire me. They are my idea of heroic. As you go forward in your lives, I hope

you, too, will have heroes. They won’t be perfect; no one is. But they will make great companions on your life’s journey, and you will be grateful as they challenge and inspire and encourage you along the way. Even at my advanced age, I’m grateful for J.K. Rowling. And I’m grateful beyond words for the gift of *Harry Potter*.

[My husband] Todd and I read all seven books to each of our children, and Kate has since reread all of them herself many times. And as my children will attest—with a head shake and an eye roll—I teared up more times than they care to recall, at sad moments, happy moments, triumphant moments, and silly moments.

But the books have been so much more than just a good yarn. They have been the source of some of our greatest joys as a family, as together we read each book, waited anxiously for the next, hashed over the complex plot lines, watched the Warner Bros. movies, debated their deeper meanings—and, of course, picked our favorite characters—for Kate, Hermione; for me, Neville Longbottom and Molly Weasley . . . more on that later. Along with St. Patrick’s, they helped nurture in our children Exceptional Literacy and a love of reading that will last a lifetime. They even inspired the name of our beloved pup, Albus Dumbledore.

So, yes, when I remember the St. Patrick’s years, they will be inexorably bound up with *Harry Potter*. I know many of you have also read, and I hope loved, the books. And as you graduate tonight, I want to assure you that everything you need to know as you start high school can be found in its pages.

To begin with, true friends are the greatest gift. They will cheer for you in times of triumph, sustain you in times of sorrow, and stand by you in times of challenge. On Wednesday, almost all of you talked movingly about the friends you have made at St. Patrick’s and what they have meant to you. It was a powerful theme. It is a powerful theme throughout *Harry Potter*’s story, too.

From the moment Harry and Ron meet, they become fast friends. But Hermione? Not so much. For the first few weeks, they find her insufferable. But when Harry and Ron battle a mountain troll to protect Hermione—and she lies about the incident to protect them—they are forever bound together, as they navigate challenging courses, put up with demanding teachers, fall in love for the first time—and, oh yeah, try to stop



**Photo top left:** Lauren B. (left) and Mary Rose Y. wait for the Graduation Ceremony to begin. **Photo top middle:** Rachel D. (left), Jack R. (center), and John Paul R. before the Graduation Ceremony. **Photo top right:** Roberta F. (left), Will C. (center), and Katie W. hang out in the Church Library before the Graduation Ceremony. **Photo bottom left:** Harry R. (foreground) takes a “selfie” of the Class of 2014 at the Grade 8 Graduation Dinner. **Photo bottom right:** Andrew F. (left) and Bryce G. process out of the Nave after the Graduation Ceremony.

the forces of Evil from taking over the world.

Of course, their friendship is tested many times, most memorably in the *Deathly Hallows* when Ron misunderstands Harry and Hermione’s relationship—and abandons them on their grim quest to find the horcruxes. But just as surely as Ron finds his way back, using the gift that Dumbledore left him in his will, Harry forgives him. As Ron explains:

*“[Dumbledore] knew what he was doing when he gave me the Deluminator, didn’t he? He— well,” Ron’s ears turned bright red and he became engrossed in a tuft of grass at his feet, which he prodded with his toe, “he must’ve known I’d run out on you.” “No,” Harry corrected him. “He must’ve known you’d always want to come back.”*

So growing up means understanding that friendship requires patience and forgiveness. It also means that good and evil are not always black and white.

I mean, sometimes they are. The Order of the Phoenix vs. the Death Eaters? That’s a no-brainer. And as Rowling herself explained, “The *Potter* books

in general are a prolonged argument for tolerance, a prolonged plea for an end to bigotry.” But getting there is another story. The world is complicated. And we all experience the conflict between good and evil, right and wrong, all the time.

For Harry, that conflict confronts him on his first night at Hogwarts, when he puts on the Sorting Hat. As the hat debates whether Harry belongs in Gryffindor or Slytherin, Harry is appalled by the idea that some dark force might reside within him. (Little does he know.) But he basically wills himself into Gryffindor and sets his course to fight for the good guys.

But throughout the saga, Harry wrestles with the notion that the good guys are not all good, and the bad guys may not be all bad. How can Dumbledore possibly trust Severus Snape, the sneering professor of potions who hates Harry as much as he hated Harry’s father?

After Dumbledore is killed—by Snape no less!—Harry learns from a sensational biography that Dumbledore had a complicated, even compromised, past, and Harry struggles to reconcile this information with his idea of the wise old wizard as a hero.



**Photo above:** Grade 8 boys spend their last minutes as students at St. Patrick's. Pictured from left to right are John S., Ben D., William K., Drew P., and Halsey M.

And so it can be in life.

But it is also true that we have the power to choose—and our choices not only shape our lives, but define who we are. The choices may be difficult, and the options limited. But by owning them, and accepting both the power and the responsibility that that implies, we shape our own destinies.

We see this in the different ways that Harry and Voldemort respond to the prophecy. As you know, the prophecy in question, written before Harry was born, alleges that Voldemort has a rival—and that “neither can live while the other survives.” Voldemort accepts the prophecy as his fate and sets events irreversibly in motion when he identifies Harry as that rival and tries to kill him.

But Harry comes to understand that not all prophecies are fulfilled and that he can turn his back on its predictions. So, yes, he will face Voldemort. But not because the prophecy requires it, but because he chooses to.

And why does he choose to? For love, of course. To save the people he cares most about, indeed the whole world, just as his mother sacrificed herself for him. And it was the loving, and the choosing, that made all the difference.

Hopefully, none of you will be burdened with saving the world. But you will face difficult choices. When you do, I know that your time at St. Patrick's— whether 11 years, or just one—will help you make good choices. The values that are the foundation of this community will serve you well at every stage of your life. Never forget that we are all created in God's image and are children of God. And let *Honesty, Responsibility, Kindness, and Respect* be the fixed stars by which you navigate; they will always get you where you need to go.

One last point—and I think this may fall under the category of maternal privilege. The story of *Harry Potter* is built on the bedrock of a mother's love. The first chapter of the first book is called “The Boy Who Lived.” And you all know why Harry lived, right? Because when Voldemort came to

kill him when he was only one year old, his mother gave her own life trying to protect him. As Dumbledore explains:

*Your mother died to save you. If there is one thing Voldemort cannot understand, it is love. He didn't realise that love as powerful as your mother's for you leaves its own mark. Not a scar, no visible sign . . . to have been loved so deeply, even though the person who loved us is gone, will give us some protection forever.*

The story also ends with a powerful example of a mother's love, when Molly Weasley catches Voldemort's most loyal lieutenant, Bellatrix Lestrange, firing a deadly curse at her youngest child, Ginny. “Not my daughter, you . . .” and she then uses the only swear word in the series' entire 4,091 pages before killing Bellatrix.

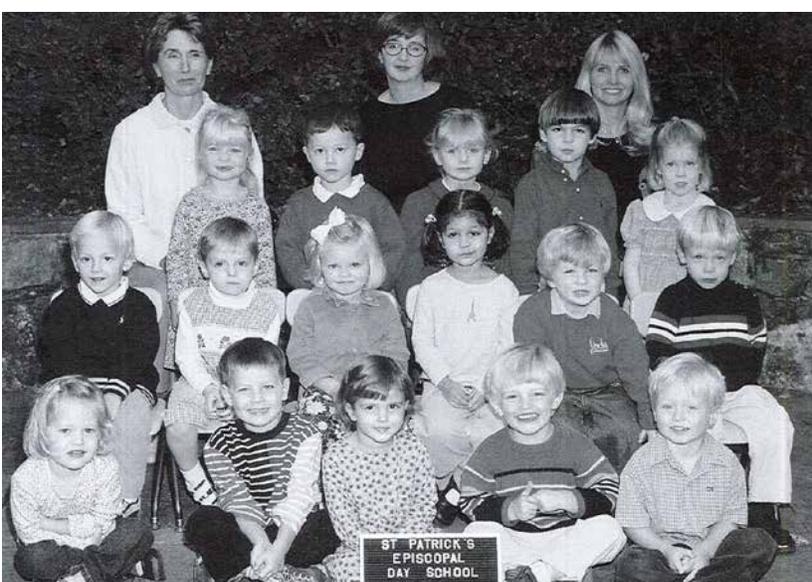
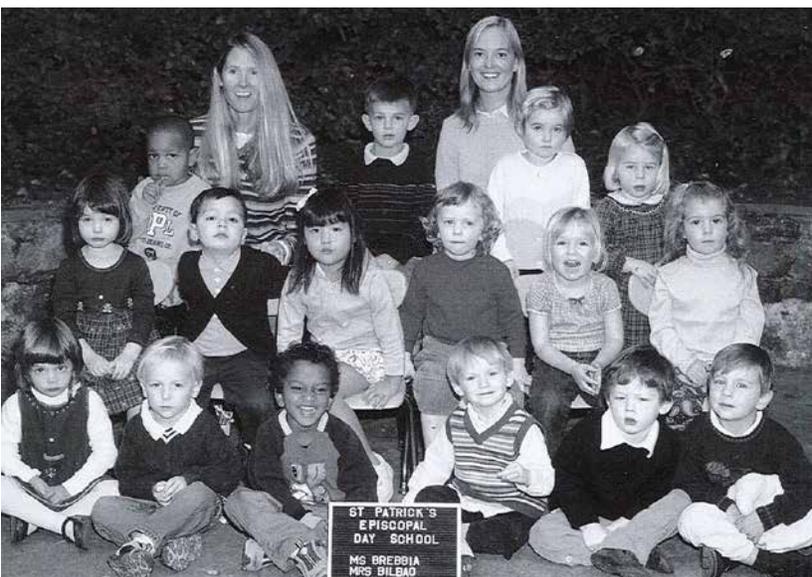
Now, hopefully, none of us moms will have to die for you or kill for you. But we would. Your dads, too. But much more than that, we're so grateful to *live* with you. It has been a gift for us to watch you grow and change so much over the past 14 or so years—to make the journey from toddlers to teens, with your own ideas and opinions and passions.

And it has been a gift to take the journey in the “glowing warmth” of St. Patrick's, which has given you not only the tools to succeed, but the courage to try, and sometimes fail, and try again.

So as you get ready to leave this place, remember to have heroes; they'll help you become the person you want to be. Keep your friends close. And love them enough to forgive them. Know that as you get older, the world gets more complicated and separating right from wrong is not always easy. But never forget that you get to choose.

So chose love, and know that it will make all the difference.

Finally, *never, ever* forget how much your mama loves you. Like St. Patrick's, that love has left a mark on you. No scar, no visible sign. But it will stay with you forever. 🍀



# Goodbye for Now: Tributes to Grade 8 Students

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In a Grade 8 Graduation Dinner tradition, each graduate is honored with a tribute to his/her “infinite value,” as we say in our Mission Statement. This year, graduating Grade 8 students reflected upon their time at St. Patrick’s—and specifically how each had changed here—and wrote their own tributes. They composed in a variety of genres, including poems, descriptive essays, and interviews. What follows are edited versions of those reflections, our effort to share with you the esteem in which we hold each member of this special class and each student’s immeasurable value to the St. Patrick’s community.

**Merle T.** is not that little boy that walked shyly into 4B. He has changed, become more confident. In Grade 4, projects like the imaginary packing list for traveling West were creative and exciting. In Grade 5, he enjoyed learning from Mrs. Mackie who taught him math; he still remembers that division test on which he scored a perfect “A.” In Grade 6 with Ms. Smith, he and his classmates taught each other about the birds they had chosen to research. After Grade 6, he started thinking *What will the MacArthur Campus be like?* Now, if you ask him, he will tell you: The teachers and students at the MacArthur Campus are amazing. One thing he always liked at St. Patrick’s is the School Creed. He will try to bring the same morals to his new school and share the light that was ignited in him by the wonderful teachers at St. Patrick’s.

**Nora K.** My time at St. Patrick’s was like a roller-coaster ride—it had its ups and downs, but in the end, you always want to do it again. St. Patrick’s is a great place to start to discover who you are and want to be. The morals established by St. Patrick’s at a young age will continue to play a part in my life. Every so often, it was nerve-wracking, and at times it seemed almost scary, but from reading full novels to completing weeks of exams, St. Patrick’s had me hooked from the start. St. Patrick’s is a second home, literally, while other schools I have visited this year felt big and intimidating. The sense of companionship will be unforgettable. Even coming to St. Patrick’s years after everyone else, I was able to form solid friendships in just days. I’ve definitely grown to love roller coasters.

Over his four years at St. Patrick’s, 14-year-old **Drew P.** still retains a certain similarity to his 10-year-old self. When he arrived in Grade 5, he was a shy kid and a fast runner who had a passion for soccer. Now he is still known for being athletic but also described as being vivacious, outgoing, and lively. He was terrified of Ms. Mackie’s Grade 5 math class but despite the fear, she proved to be

one of his best teachers and she helped ease him into St. Patrick’s. At his previous school, he learned to speak French fluently, so being asked to pick up Spanish, taught in a completely different way, was a challenge. Now that he has completed Grade 8 and St. Patrick’s has readied him for high school, he appreciates all the effort and work by his teachers, allowing him to grow into the boy he is now.

**Parker B.** *How have you changed since you came here in Grade 4?* I have become a lot more comfortable with the people around me, made a lot of new friends, and started to talk a lot more after the first year I came to this school. *What was your experience at St. Patrick’s?* I had a very enjoyable five years at St. Patrick’s. I think that this school has taken me in the right direction in life. I feel like I will be able to go to my new school and be prepared for anything. I have just loved the way that St. Patrick’s always cares about what is best for each individual and how it has such a close community, especially on the MacArthur Campus where you know everyone very well. I will never forget my experience at St. Patrick’s and will always look back at it positively.

**Allie A.** arrived at St. Patrick’s in Grade 6, shy and not very open. She walked in and felt alone, not knowing what to do. Finally the silence was broken by a teacher welcoming everybody back. Her name was Ms. Smith, her homeroom teacher, her mentor. Today, she walked into class, head held high; there was not an inkling of doubt or shyness in her. The teacher started class, one whom she also considers a mentor. Allie is now more open and comfortable with herself than she has ever been before. St. Patrick’s also brought her friendships, ones that will last forever. Now that her time is done here at St. Patrick’s, she would like to say “thank you, thank you for the friendships, the laughs, the ups, the downs, thank you for making me a better person, thank you for making me, me.”

**Kate B.**

From when we all thought school was fun,  
to when we knew that we were done,  
all at St. Pat’s

From swinging on the yellow monkey bars,  
to learning how to play guitars,  
all at St. Pat’s

The shy yet crazy girl,  
turned into the athletic but lazy girl,  
all at St. Pat’s

From playing dolls non-stop,  
to playing soccer until you drop,  
all at St. Pat’s

From learning to write the letter Y on a chalkboard,  
to looking at a zebrafish spinal cord,  
all at St. Pat’s

From saying “hi” and becoming an instant friend,  
to some things being a pain in the rear end,  
all at St. Pat’s

From seeing E.T. and being scared,  
to being terrified of numbers that are squared,  
all at St. Pat’s

From walks in the wetlands looking for cattails,  
to following in famous people’s trails,  
all at St. Pat’s

From finding buried treasure in the sandbox,  
to singing A Paradox,  
all at St. Pat’s

From moving on from grade to grade  
and thinking of all the friendships we have made,  
all at St. Pat’s,

From knowing that goodbye meant another year,  
to knowing now the end is here,  
all at St. Pat’s

**Kristen B.** When I was in Nursery and Kindergarten, eighth-graders were big scary kids. In first grade through fourth grade, I wanted to *be* one. In fifth grade and sixth grade, I did not really care



**Photo left:** New graduates William K. and Nora K. enjoy the reception after the Graduation Ceremony. **Photo right:** New graduates Izzy V. and Bryce B. proudly clutch their new Grade 8 diplomas.

about them. In seventh grade, I basically *was* one because seventh- and eighth-graders do everything together. Now that I am one, I feel like eighth-graders are supposed to be bigger and funnier, but I might not realize how big and funny we are. From pink dresses to neon pants, from being shy to being loud, from playing with stuffed animals to playing sports, St. Patrick's helped me to become who I am now and who I will be when I grow up. St. Patrick's has provided a space where I feel safe and can be myself. I have matured and learned to respect my friends and teachers because of St. Patrick's.

**Andrew F.** When I came to St. Patrick's, I was nervous because I did not know anyone and wondered how I would get to know people. Then, the entire grade came up to me and welcomed me to the school, which is when I knew that St. Patrick's was the perfect place for me. I started to gain more friends as the year went along but I was also very quiet. At one point I knew that I was welcomed because everyone acted like they had known me for a long time. One of the coaches, Mr. Williams, really helped me through the year. He talked to me about sports and gave me advice about how to get to school on time and what sports would be like in high school. St. Patrick's has helped me not to be afraid of new things because it made being in a new community a great experience.

**Harry R.**

The first day of Kindergarten  
Being carried in on my father's shoulders as I cried  
To hugging my mom trying to hide

The 100th day of school flew by  
As we continued to search for Huggles,  
the big purple monster,

To at the end of the day when we all ran home to  
our comforting mothers

The Indiana Jones phase we all went through  
And the whip and the hat we all quickly outgrew

We started to grow older and older and the memo-  
ries of Kindergarten  
became shorter and shorter

Fifth grade flew by as we drew the gallon guy  
But I still have trouble with liters, quarts, and pints

Seventh grade we were introduced to the new campus  
and learned all about the brain and the hippocampus

Eighth grade was our last year here  
And the bonds we created between us will never  
disappear

The hockey games we play at recess  
St. Patrick's has prepared us well for success

I'm looking at you, Mom. Please don't cry, but I just  
have to read this one last line:

Though we may not be hiding behind our mothers,  
We all remember who the best is  
when it comes to cuddles.

**Will C.** As a preschooler, I was shy and quiet with a few close friends. In Kindergarten, I became a little stubborn. In first grade, I watched *Finding Nemo*, and for two months I refused to use the toilet because the fish in the movie had been flushed down it. In second grade, I discovered storytelling. I fractured my foot while running around the Indoor Playroom. When Monday came, I told the other kids I had done a wicked backflip and landed badly. In Kindergarten, my parents got divorced. I wasn't aware how it affected me, but by fourth grade the full reality hit me and I was distraught. I got through it with the help of school, my family, and friends. St. Patrick's taught me a very important value from this experience, compassion. I have valued every minute I have ever had at St. Patrick's. It has been my home since the age of three.

**Izzy V.** I haven't lived long—about 14 years, a month, and a week—but these three years I have had at this school have been the best years of my life. When the bus stopped outside of the MacArthur Campus, I fell in love. Sixth grade was over, and it was time to finally enter middle school. The breaking windows, the dollhouse-like classrooms, the laptop carts, the overworked heater, the cracked sidewalks, the little library, the eggplants growing in the mulch—I loved it all. St. Patrick's has changed me—for the better, of course. I have met amazing, wonderful people who have influenced me and the choices I make. I have discovered myself in this school. Once, a teacher told me, "Never

let your schooling get in the way of your education.” I didn’t know at the time, but St. Patrick’s has given me both a schooling and an education.

**Katie W.** I was three years old and going to my first day of school. I did not really know what to expect, and why was my mom hugging me so much? In PK, dates that ended with a zero were my favorite, because that meant that Zero the Hero—who looked a lot like Mrs. Kline—was coming to my classroom. In second grade, we were the biggest kids on the floor and sat in the back of the cafeteria. In fourth grade, we got to switch classes for math and had a dress code. (It wasn’t until seventh grade that my mom found out she had been putting me in the boys’ dress code.) In seventh grade we had new teachers and more responsibility. This year we completed the age ladder at St. Patrick’s and are the oldest students. Am I really leaving my second home?

**Ben D.** I remember the scent of gingerbread men in Nursery, chapels with my grandpa, and the big spider in the PK room. I remember Lunch Bunch, the green glow of my watch, playing Gobots on the playground with friends, and running through the tall pines on the Nursery playground. I remember the Lego trailer in second grade, Oregon Trail in fourth, and Mrs. Mackie’s math class. I remember the Dig, creating a civilization, creating a language, and burying it. I remember the Greeks in sixth grade and the Revolutionaries in seventh. I remember Mount Olympus painted on the wall

and word definitions in the hall. I remember sitting outside at lunch and losing far too many balls into the street. If I had more time, I would tell you about the friendships I have formed, the teachers I will dearly miss, and all the places around St. Patrick’s that hold value to me.

**Frannie N.** St. Patrick’s has been my home for the past six years and, within these walls, I have shared so many memories with my classmates, my peers, my friends, and my family. We have had some pretty enjoyable times together, and there are many more to come—we still all live in the same area after all, and those boarding schools better watch out because some visitors are coming. Ms. Adams suggested that I include some examples of my time here, but the problem is there are so many I can barely remember them all. They have all formed into this giant blob of happy in my head, and to take apart that blob would take all day. I will always remember this school and these people who I have grown to love so dearly.

**Francesca O.** *The greatest gift of life is friendship, and I have received it.* Coincidentally, this quote is by a man named Hubert Humphrey, which was the name of our manatee from seventh grade. I have made friendships here that I don’t think I will make other places. They always say that the friends you make in high school are the friends you keep forever. I think they’re wrong. How can I begin to express my gratitude towards the school, the teachers, and the friends I have made? *Ohana means family, and*

*family means no one gets left behind.* So I will not leave St. Patrick’s behind, but I will hold on to the memories that I have made. A wise man named John Green once said, *You can love someone so much . . . But you can never love people as much as you can miss them.*

**Charlotte W.** Looking back at my time at St. Patrick’s, I can only say that it has influenced me in the most positive way possible. I entered St. Patrick’s as a little girl who was scared to talk in class and too shy to state her opinion, but I am leaving as a young lady who is still quite small height-wise but is able to express her opinion and participate in class. St. Patrick’s has provided me with amazing teachers, opportunities, classes, and friends, and I will be forever grateful. Although we, as a class, are graduating and moving on to different schools—nearby, boarding schools, and as far as 3,000 miles away—I know that St. Patrick’s will be something that holds all 36 of us together forever. It is our glue, it is our cement, and its bond cannot be broken.

**Ryan T.** St. Patrick’s has given me knowledge. It has taught me how to work and play. It has given me happiness. It has given me so many opportunities. It has given me friendship. It has taught me how to do math. It has taught me how to read and write. It has been a great experience. I have learned so many things. It has set me on the course for the rest of my life. I have had so much fun. I have been here most of my life. I’ve known all my classmates for nine years. It has made me the person I am. As



**Photo opposite left:** Old friends—from left to right, Hopie C., Mary Rose Y., Perrin B., Nora K., Sophie D., and Clare W.—before the Grade 8 Graduation Dinner. **Photo opposite right:** Students—from left to right, Parker B., Merle T., Will C., and Jonathan R.—await the beginning of the Graduation Ceremony.

I move on from St. Patrick's, my legacy will always reflect the loving and caring environment in which I was raised. I will always remember how it all started for me. And I will always be grateful to St. Patrick's. I hope you will do the same.

**Roberta F.** To describe my St. Patrick's career, I turn to a metaphor that captures the smiles and the tears, the good and the bad, and the precious memories. Consider a pomegranate. Think of the thick, impenetrable shell, the spongy, messy inside and, finally, the delicious seeds. If suddenly the delicate fruit slips from your careless grasp and falls to the ground, it will splatter everywhere. Now, imagine your career, your aspirations, and your dreams. They are the seeds inside the pomegranate—plentiful, but hard to reach. In order to reach the seeds, you must first conquer your shell. When I arrived at St. Patrick's, the outer shell of my fruit seemed impervious; I could never reach the seeds. But as the years went by, my shell slowly dissipated, allowing me to reach my seeds, and fill them with memories. I will never forget the countless memories I have made here.

**Halsey M.** When I was young, I was adventurous and brave. In fourth grade, I began to develop a great love of school, especially math. I started to have dreams of the future and ideas of what I would like to become. In fifth grade, my habits started to develop, habits that I would need for the rest of my life. Our grade became better citizens, learning about how to have a positive impact on the world. In sixth grade, I was developing my study skills. I found myself even more interested in math and science. Seventh grade was when I really began to change—life was not just about having fun anymore. By eighth grade, I had finally become who you see today: Clever, kind, bright, curious, respectful . . . and modest. I now have finally become myself, but I still have a long way to go.

**Hopie C.** stands silent, staring at the hundreds of pictures she had ordered for her dorm room. Her eyes wander slowly over each picture, reliving every memory. Her eyes stop on a picture of a small

girl around six or seven. The girl was actually about to go to her first day of school at a new place called St. Patrick's. Memories of that first day of school came back to her—meeting new people, making friends, and getting to use her favorite line, "My name is Hopie, and I like ham." It was the only word that she could think of that started with an "h," so she used it so much that almost everyone knew she liked ham. A lot of things had changed since then to make her into the person she is today, but the same little girl's bright personality still shines through.

**Jack R.** St. Patrick's has always been a very nurturing school, and that can sometimes come off to eighth-graders as a flaw. In my seventh- and eighth-grade years, I have gotten myself into some trouble, and the majority of it I thought wasn't a big deal. I always told myself, "In high school I wouldn't have gotten in trouble for this." While it bothered me then, I now see it was definitely the right thing to do. If I was dropped in high school when I thought I was ready, I would have been eaten alive. St. Patrick's made sure that I was actually ready and knew exactly what they were doing. I know St. Patrick's must have done something right, because I can say with absolute certainty that St. Patrick's will send off their graduates prepared for high school.

**John S.** St. Patrick's has taught us to bring out the best traits in one another, like kindness, respect, and to work hard at what you love, whether it is a sport or a class. St. Patrick's made each and every one of us grow up together. But as we've grown, we all have never really changed. We may look different, but we have been the same since day one. The memory that will stay with me is the one that happens every year. It is the three words that a teacher always says to me: *JOHN, BE QUIET.* For some reason, I can't escape those three words. I will be quiet for the first time ever, but first I will thank all my friends and teachers throughout the years at St. Patrick's for making me who I am today.

**Lauren B.** was nervous on her first day of fifth grade at her new school in Washington, D.C. What

if she didn't fit in? What if she would be all alone? She was shy and quiet. Fitting in was hard, and she never felt like she was doing it right. She had such a bright and colorful personality, but she didn't know how to express it. Time flew from fifth grade all the way to eighth grade. Her classmates helped her to be comfortable embracing her happy, colorful, crazy personality and become more confident. Without that, she wouldn't be singing on stage or in the stairwell with her musically gifted group of friends. If it had not been for the crazy Class of 2014, this girl would not be standing here and saying these two special words: Thank you. Thank you for an unforgettable four years. It went too fast.

#### **Perrin B.**

The room was big, the feeling was new  
It felt like a dream coming out of the blue  
There were kids all around, scattered across the hall  
In the mumble and jumble, I felt very small

Leaving my old friends, not sure I'd make new  
Little did I know, that statement was far from true  
The next year I returned, one girl gave me fright  
She leaped out and scared me,  
but we soon became tight

New friends came in sixth grade,  
yet still a blur of a year  
But we were all getting closer, to one big fat fear  
(high school)

The new building was fun, the teachers were cool  
It was hard to believe we were still in school

8th Grade year started, I felt very at home  
Surrounded by friends, almost never alone

Brushes and guitars split us right before spring  
Our trip to Atlanta, trying our wings  
Sports are all over,  
we were more successful in some  
Arts night was great, and the musical was fun

When we applied out, that's when reality struck  
But we all got into high school  
with a bit of good luck  
Going our separate ways makes me feel  
a little somber  
But I would never trade these years in,



**Photo left:** Each year, Grade 8 students travel south to study the Civil Rights Movement and to mark their final days as St. Patrick's students. Pictured here are, from left to right, Francesca O., Kate B., Frances N., Evie H., Kate P., and Charlotte W. holding their friend Colin R.

I wish I could stay a little longer

Now, after all that,

St. Patrick's has taught me many things:

Be who you are, say what you choose

Have fun every day, because you can never undo

Stay loyal to your friends and to yourself stay true

Remember there is no one you-er than you.

Now after today, new friends we will meet

To everyone I hope this goodbye is bittersweet.

**John Paul R.** is a famous multibillionaire businessman as well as a record-breaking professional skier with 14 gold medals and counting. I learned that there was a reunion at JP's school, so I decided to go and interview him. *How would you summarize St. Patrick's in a sentence?* It was an amazing community with great people and rigorous academics. *How was your relationship with the teachers?* Although I sometimes disrupted class because of my talkative nature, I think they thought I was a bright student, and they seemed happy with my involvement in the classroom. *Were you a good academic student?* I worked very hard to achieve good grades, and I put a lot of pressure on myself to do well. *How did St. Patrick's prepare you for the future?* It made me more determined to reach my full potential through the amazing community of friends and teachers.

**Bryce G.** Looking back at my time at St. Patrick's, I have realized that the person I was when I got here in 2004 is the same person I am 10 years later. However, I have learned when I can joke around and when I should be serious. From the very beginning, I was the person to make people laugh, but my humor has gotten me in trouble more than once—and I have spent my fair share of time in Mr. Coleman's office. Being in Mr. Coleman's office has changed me. Even though we do not agree

on everything, he has told me a few things that I will take with me about behavior in class, behavior around classmates, and what is or is not appropriate. St. Patrick's has taught me all of these things and more, and I will use this for the rest of my life and carry this down the road.

**Kate P.** September 2003: A shy girl in wispy pig-tails walks into the classroom, a stuffed pig named Pancake tucked under her arm. September 2013: A less-shy girl with straight blonde hair boards the yellow school bus with a heavy heart, knowing that this is the beginning of the end, the first day of her last year at her school of 11 years. I have grown so much, learned so much, and poured all of my love and work into this place that I am overjoyed to call home. When I first arrived at St. Patrick's more than ten years ago, I had one sibling. Now, as I prepare to go out into the world, I know that I have 36 siblings. They represent all the good in the world, and in this place. So here, at the very end of everything, I have two words for you, for all of you: Thank you.

**Sophie D.**

In Nursery at age three  
I spent time in the art room and making play dough  
I enjoyed spending time  
with kids like Bryce and Kate P.  
From here my time at St. Patrick's would grow

In PK1 was with some of my fave teachers  
When we painted I drew some trees  
In Extended Day hanging with big kids  
on the bleachers  
Making a person out of wooden pieces,  
many people I did please

In first grade I felt more academically challenged  
My friends and I were trouble makers  
on the playground  
Reading Moomintroll with Ms. Allen

Ashli and Alex were the new friends I found

In second grade I had a blast with Kate  
Though in my report card I was called "bossy"  
I played magic with my other mates  
Rebellious Roberta and knowledgeable Kate P.

In fourth grade I was with Ms. Brown  
I might have had to write in the oops binder  
In book beat we made ourselves look like a clown  
Katie was my little rant buddy,  
it wasn't hard to find her

Sixth grade I was separated from my buds  
But believe me, I hear about 6A to this day  
Saying goodbye to our friends involved many hugs  
Rachel, Julius, and I stuck our legs  
out the stair railings  
and we talked and ate goldfish as they swayed

I truly bonded with new friends in seventh grade  
I got to know some Mac Campus teachers well  
With the amount of work I did it Ms. Swett's class,  
all the information stayed  
The saddest moment was parting  
with the Class of '17 who were swell

Here I am in eighth grade  
Some sentimental moments have been shared  
Doing the musical and learning  
to write a five-paragraph essay  
And "I'm Jennifer" with Hopie, Nora, and Clare

**Bryce B.** In the fall of 2003, a butterfly arrived at carpool. He was more like a caterpillar with no wings. He had nothing on his mind except to learn how to fly. He was a very happy caterpillar. He loved making new caterpillar friends. He started to form a cocoon and was quiet for a few years. Not many friends, and he did not particularly want any, either. Grade 5 was when he really started to come out of his cocoon, and for the first time he wanted friends. Grade 6 was when he sprouted wings. He

was brimming with optimism about everything. Still could not fly . . . but he had wings. In seventh grade, he could finally fly, and he loved everyone, knew everyone, and life was very social for him. In eighth grade, he realized he always had people supporting him. Even in his final year he does not have any friends at St. Patrick's—he never did. You guys are family.

**Evie H.** When I leave St. Patrick's, the most memorable gifts I will have received are the friendships I acquired along the way. Watching my friends grow from shy, hesitant children into beautiful and confident young adults has been the most amazing journey. It was not until last night when it really hit me; the year is over, and we are all taking our separate routes into the next phase of our lives. I have been in denial about leaving this whole year, but I cannot ignore it anymore. Part of me is sad, but another part is content knowing that St. Patrick's has been, and always will be, our home. I am confident strutting forward into the next few years of my life. I hope you know how much you mean to me, as I will never forget any of you and the impact you have made on my life.

**Colin R.** There were 10 other kids in my Algebra 1 math class. Bryce, my best friend, with fuzzy black hair, is the funniest guy in the grade, and Jonathan, a math and piano wiz. Drew is an amazing soccer player who was in the Olympic development program at 14. Will, the cat lover. Kate loves Broadway. She was friends with Charlotte, another great soccer player, so nice, and Francesca, tall—she would never hurt a fly. There's Lauren, with her love for Bruno Mars and purple. Katie loves to cook and is very artistic. Roberta loves theatre and is a great performer. They were never seen without each other. Every moment of my nine-year experience at St. Patrick's has been filled with laughter. Between Dungeons and Trolls, walking the runway and Colin Ball, and extralmonds, we have had lots of fun not only in 8-2 but at St. Patrick's as a whole.

**Jonathan R.** My earliest memory is walking past a table in my house, hearing the tap of my father's pen on a notebook, and feeling a desire to learn how to write. Years pass. Second grade—I open the door to my new school. There I find many wel-

coming faces. This school is to become my second home for seven more years—ending with this moment with worthwhile challenges along the way. The daily rhythms—walking to and from campuses via MacArthur Boulevard, carpool with Mr. Barrett directing traffic, sports practices on the field, waking early for Chamber Singers practice, seeing Ms. Barr every morning sitting at the MacArthur Campus front desk, and weekly Wednesday chapels. From the shy young child who jumped at the drop of a pin, I have become a capable young adult ready to tackle future challenges. Yes, I just called myself a capable young adult. I'll admit that's pushing it, but let's call it self-confidence.

We are all called by names. If I were to write **Mary Rose Y.** there, now what would you see? Could you see in the tall, angular "M" the jagged tops of a girl's nails? Would you be able to tell that she feasts upon them when she gets nervous, and that she can pretty much worry about anything? Could you see in the curve of the tiny, round "A" a girl who never sits regularly in a chair, but rather curls up into a ball and gets bruises along her shins for it? Look at the dip of the "R," squashed and stretched between more memorable letters. Is the reflection of a quiet girl apparent through it? How about a well-behaved one, or a respectful one? "Y," the last letter of the word, and the letter that always has the girl positioned last. Can words depict friendships that have lasted for decades? Classmates who are more like siblings than anything else? A 13-year home? Would you know how it feels to sit in a chapel, filled with people who care about each other, overflowing the pews, to hear them sing, to watch the candles flicker and the light stream through the windows and see your family, if she wrote to you about it?

**William K.** In preschool at St. Patrick's, one of my fondest memories is of the baby ducklings. I still remember the warm, yellow light that radiated from the incubator as the eggs sat sleeping. The eggs were delicate; they would need so much more care to bring them to their full potential. I, too, spent my first day of school weak and nervous. The year ended and I was off to Kindergarten, and then to first grade. I learned to be more adventurous and made new friends. I kept making my way towards

that warm light. Now it is time to leave the incubator. For 10 years, St. Patrick's has been the light which I have bathed in. Like the ducks, I have lived in the incubator for long enough, and it is time for us to transition into a new stage in our lives. The light of St. Patrick's will always be in my mind as the force that has given me the strength to someday take flight.

**Rachel D.** My life is a movie. So is yours. However, most people can't hear the soundtrack, which is kind of the best part of the movie. From Kindergarten, the immortal words: "The circus, the circus, we're going to the circus." From Lower School, I hear Johnny Appleseed's grace. One day, a couple of weeks ago, Mary Rose and I were reminiscing and singing songs from *The Empress's New Clothes*. These moments are the lyrics in the soundtrack of middle school. The movie will continue, and it will take us with it; we will make new memories, accompanied by new songs. But we will always have the tune of middle school, the tune of St. Patrick's, the tune of us. I may not get to keep every memory, but I know that, at the end of the movie, during the credits, this will be the song that's playing.

St. Patrick's has not only changed who **Clare W.** is, but who she wants to be. By her eighth-grade year, her dreams changed again. The words that had forever been on the walls as the Creed were now gathering meaning. Those words meant a future. Her dreams were now to live a life that makes an impact on this big world. She hoped to live a life founded on kindness, respect, honesty, and responsibility, one that served others and made the world a better place. As Albert Einstein said, *Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.* And now, standing here, about to walk out these doors for good, I see how far I have come. So much of who I am is because of what I have experienced and learned here and, for that, I am forever grateful. So thank you for giving me a new dream and a new future.

# CONGRATULATIONS, GRADE 8 CLASS OF 2014



**Photo above:** The Grade 8 Class of 2014. **Listing below:** Each school listed below represents the next-step school for one of this year's Grade 8 graduates.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <i>St. John's College High School</i>       | <i>Landon School</i>                            | <i>Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School</i> |
| <i>Edmund Burke School</i>                  | <i>Potomac School</i>                           | <i>St. Albans School</i>                |
| <i>Landon School</i>                        | <i>Georgetown Visitation</i>                    | <i>St. Albans School</i>                |
| <i>Madeira School</i>                       | <i>Preparatory School</i>                       | <i>Maret School</i>                     |
| <i>Bullis School</i>                        | <i>Sidwell Friends School</i>                   | <i>Bullis School</i>                    |
| <i>Holton-Arms School</i>                   | <i>West Potomac High School</i>                 | <i>Mercersburg Academy (Pa.)</i>        |
| <i>Bullis School</i>                        | <i>Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School</i> | <i>National Cathedral School</i>        |
| <i>St. Andrews Episcopal School</i>         | <i>St. George's School (R.I.)</i>               | <i>Georgetown Day School</i>            |
| <i>St. George's School (R.I.)</i>           | <i>Landon School</i>                            | <i>Sidwell Friends School</i>           |
| <i>Walt Whitman High School</i>             | <i>Marlborough School (Calif.)</i>              | <i>Maret School</i>                     |
| <i>St. Albans School</i>                    | <i>St. Anselm's Abbey School</i>                | <i>Potomac School</i>                   |
| <i>Indian Mountain School (Conn.)</i>       | <i>Maret School</i>                             | <i>Walter Johnson High School</i>       |
| <i>St. Thomas' Episcopal School (Texas)</i> |   |   |



**Photo:** Sally McCarthy, second from right, delivered this year's Grade 6 Graduation speech. She is pictured here with her husband Matthew Walker and her daughters.

## GRADE 6 GRADUATION: ST. PATRICK'S LIVES UBUNTU

Parent Sally McCarthy, delivered remarks at this year's Grade 6 Graduation. Sally manages the J.D. Academic Services Office at Georgetown Law, responsible for planning and implementing the largest curriculum of any law school in the United States. Before moving to Georgetown, she was a lawyer at the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty (NLCHP) in Washington where she ran the Homeless Children's Advocacy Project, which focused on ensuring access for homeless children to their school of origin. Prior to her work in Washington, Sally was a staff attorney with MFY Legal Services in Manhattan where she worked to ensure housing stability and access to health care for mentally ill adults in all five boroughs of New York City.



**Photo:** Soon-to-be Grade 6 graduates, from left to right: Maddie R., Emma M., and Olivia L.

Class of 2014, I am delighted to be here tonight to share in your Grade 6 graduation. Members of the Board, Mr. Barrett, faculty and staff, thank you for the honor.

Graduates, I know that you do not want “words of wisdom” from an adult—you want your diploma and want to get to the dance! But Mr. Barrett did ask me to speak to you and I, like you, do what Mr. Barrett tells me to do.

Don’t worry—I am going to be brief and make three related points of reflection, including one nugget of advice. All these reflections center on what St. Patrick’s has taught you about community, about connections between people. The first is about connection to your family both at home and here at St. Patrick’s with your teachers and staff. The second is about your connections through friendships at school. The third is about your future connections to communities beyond St. Patrick’s.

From where I stand, looking out at this loving crowd, it is clear that no one does anything alone. Family is a huge help. Graduates, I know that you appreciate the support of your parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, and other relatives who helped you, advised you and, sometimes, pushed you so you could get through all of the hard work that got you to this day.

But when we dropped you off in the carpool line each morning, we knew that you were going from one home to another, a place that was filled with adults who cared about you as we, your parents and relatives, do. Tonight, I would like to start by acknowledging the huge role that the faculty and staff of this wonderful school have played in helping you to grow and change into

the students and the people that you are today. It is in large measure because of them that St. Patrick’s is so special. It is their passion and their patience, their energy, and their sense of humor that have inspired you both to learn as a student and to grow as a person. So, tonight, while we celebrate you, we also thank your teachers and the staff of this wonderful school community. Which brings me to my second point: How you have learned (over nine years in some cases!) what it means to be part of a community and to be a friend. As the School Creed says, “Honesty, Responsibility, Kindness, and Respect are essential to caring for ourselves, other people, and the world around us.” As one of Helen’s friends said to me, “At St. Patrick’s, it’s cool to be nice.”

Your school teaches and models kindness and respect. Conflicts even at the earliest grades are expected to be resolved through listening and understanding. I was astonished when Helen, as a first grader, explained the rules of the Peace Path to me. The path depends on the same sophisticated principles of conflict resolution that we teach law students in an upper-level course on negotiations!

So, in this time of graduation and separation, I would like to focus on what it means to stay connected to your friends—and I do not mean by texting or Instagram or Snapchat. I mean being concerned about someone else in the deepest way, caring about their happiness and well-being. Your friendships are what will tie you to St. Patrick’s and support you when you move beyond the school. As hard as it can be for parents to accept, we know that as you get older, your friends become your main source of advice and support. And that is how it should be.



**Photo left:** Olivia L. delivers a portion of the annual poem “We Are From” at the Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony. **Photo top right, from left to right:** Nina G., Laila B., Sonia H., and AnnaLena H. enjoy a moment together before the Graduation Ceremony. **Photo bottom right, from left to right:** Jesse F., Selim G., Ike B., Liam W., Gregory E., Ayer R., and Alexander K. prepare to process into the Nave.

But, to my third point, your circles of connection to others will expand over time. You will become part of a more complex world filled with people from many different cultures with equally rich, meaningful communities. What you have learned at St. Patrick’s about being a friend to others will be the foundation by which you will make new friends who will enrich your life. That notion of caring for and connecting to others will also allow you to be a force for good in the world.

I would like to share with you an idea that I first heard in a talk by a famous South African judge. Justice Moseneke explained the philosophy behind South Africa’s remarkable constitution. It is a philosophy about humanity towards others. *Ubuntu* is a South African idea that literally means “human-ness.” The idea is that *my* well-being depends on *your* well-being. As the South African Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu said, “I am human because I *belong*, because I *participate*, because I *share*. In essence, I am because *you* are.”

President Obama talked about this idea in his remarks at Nelson Mandela’s memorial service. He said: “*Ubuntu* is a word that captures Mandela’s greatest gift: His recognition that we are all bound together in ways that are invisible to the eye; that there is a oneness to humanity; that we achieve ourselves by *sharing* ourselves with others, and *caring* for those around us.”

I like the use of this word *achieve* in that quote because in our society, and too often in our schools, we focus on individual achievement. But how much more meaningful it is when your efforts are to help and to connect with someone else or to help a cause that is bigger than yourself—like those related to education or housing or the environment!

You have grown up in a school community that *lives by Ubuntu*—that cares deeply about both your intellectual and your social growth. Serious thinking is important, but so is a commitment to connect to others both locally and globally. Think about making sandwiches for the Grate Patrol, raising funds for global and local organizations through the Gifts for Good fair, and ensuring that the children at St. Etienne will have uniforms and school lunches through Hoops for Haiti.

Collectively, you have been an important piece of the larger school community that shows a strong empathy for other children and other schools that do not enjoy the incredible resources that we are so lucky to have here. This is a form of *Ubuntu*.

This *Ubuntu* started with how your family and your teachers connected to you and supported you. Then, you extended it by being a friend to others at school. Ultimately, it goes beyond St. Patrick’s to your connections with people and challenges elsewhere.

Just look at how much you have done already to connect to others and you are just finishing sixth grade! Just think about how much more you will do in the years to come!

I wish you all good things in your school life ahead, and much happiness and joy in life generally. Have a wonderful summer. You deserve it! Thank you and congratulations! 🍀

# CONGRATULATIONS, GRADE 6 CLASS OF 2014

<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Westland Middle School</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>
<i>St. Albans School</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>
<i>International School of Stuttgart (Germany)</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Landon School</i>	<i>Alice Deal Middle School</i>
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Albans School</i>	<i>Ghana International School (Ghana)</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Holton-Arms School</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>
<i>National Cathedral School</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Campbell Hall Episcopal School (California)</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Journeys School (Wyoming)</i>	<i>St. Albans School</i>
<i>Georgetown Day School</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>National Cathedral School</i>
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Potomac School</i>	
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>St. Albans School</i>	
	<i>St. Patrick's</i>		

***Each school listed above represents the next-step school for one of this year's Grade 8 graduates.***

# Alumni Class Notes

## 1995

**Molly Palmer** is currently a producer for the *Today Show* in Los Angeles and is married to Lee Cowan, a correspondent for *CBS Sunday Morning*.

## 1996

**Jonathan Nobil** recently resigned from his position at an insurance-focused mergers and acquisitions firm in New York to move back to Washington, D.C. and start a local insurance group. He is excited to be back in the area, appreciates the abundance of trees and clean sidewalks, and looks forward to the rewarding efforts of building a business.

## 1997

**Carter Palmer** is a casting associate for shows including *America's Got Talent* and NBC's *Biggest Loser*.

## 1999

In 2011, **Nick Phelps** founded From the Farmer ([www.fromthefarmerdc.com](http://www.fromthefarmerdc.com)), a produce delivery service that connects local farmers with busy local-foodies across the region. At its simplest, From the Farmer brings the farmers market right to your front door. Phelps has made it easy by creating an online management system where customers manage their farmbox subscription with the click of a button. In addition, with customizable orders, no membership charges, and a delivery schedule that's entirely your own, it's no wonder From the Farmer is growing rapidly. It's the easiest way to eat seasonal, super-fresh, local produce, without giving up total control of your refrigerator! Supporting farmers across the mid-Atlantic isn't too bad, either! Two other members of the class, **Read Wall** and **Michael Haft**, are also successful entrepreneurs. Read designs men's clothing and now has showrooms in Washington, D.C. and New York City. Michael just opened Compass Coffee

in downtown Washington, D.C. and was recently featured in the *Washington Post*. All three—Nick, Read, and Michael—have remained friends and are terribly proud of each other.

## 2000

After St. Patrick's, **Rishi Sood** went to St. Anselm's Abbey School and then to George Washington University, where he double-majored in religion and biology. He recently graduated from George Washington University's School of Medicine and started his five-year residency training in radiology at George Washington University Hospital. This will be followed by a fellowship in interventional radiology.

## 2001

**Kate Fletcher W '01** moved to New York City in May and took the New York Bar Exam in July. She started work at Skadden Arps in September and is engaged to marry Nick Morgan in 2015. **Hope Palmer W '01** is currently a researcher for NBC's *Today Show* bureau in Washington, along with fellow St. Patrick's alumna **Laura Wilson W '01**, who is a desk assistant there.

## 2002

**Lacey Gutierrez W '02** is in her second year of law school at Vanderbilt University. She spent the summer studying international law in Venice, Italy, and working for a law firm in New York City. **Lindsay Brewster W '02** graduated from Miami University in 2012 with a degree in history. She has spent the last two years teaching pre-Kinder-garten students in Chicago with Teach for America and relocated back to D.C. in August. **Heather Leigh Gustafson ex. W '02** is an on-air reporter for WVNS in Lewisburg, West Virginia. She signs on as "Heather Leigh" because "Gustafson" is "too much of a mouth full for the locals."



*Top photo: Recent Tufts graduate Sarah Solomon W '03 with her mother, Nursery Associate Amy Solomon. Bottom photo: Julia Train W '03 (left) and Martha Macon Smith W '03 during their travels this summer.*

## 2003

**Elizabeth Sidamon-Eristoff W '03** graduated from Colgate University last spring and is currently living in Washington, D.C. This summer, she interned with an organization called Women's Microfinance Initiative in Kenya. **Daniel Halle W '03, M '05** graduated in May from the University of Miami with a bachelor's degree in sports management and a minor in sports medicine. **Sarah Louisa Solomon W '03** graduated from Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, in May with a bachelor's degree in geology. She is living at home in D.C. while she looks for a job and an apartment. **Peter Burnes W '03, M '05** has been working with Operation Vets Haven, a D.C.-area nonprofit that provides counseling services to returning veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. He recently helped organize a highly-successful fundraising car show event hosted at the headquarters of VW Audi in Chantilly, Virginia. **Martha Macon Smith W '03** traveled with **Julia Train W '03** in Vietnam this

spring. They also spent 10 days in Thailand, where Julia has been working for months.

## 2004

**Brooke Kettler W '04** graduated with honors from Washington University in St. Louis with a degree in political science and psychology. She interned as a clerk with federal judge Nancy Firestone during the summer and entered Georgetown University School of Law in September. **Evan Burnes W '04, M '06** graduated this spring from Boston College with a degree in communications. He is working for Oracle, based in Boston.

## 2006

**Marissa Baly W '06** is a junior at Pepperdine University in Malibu, California. After returning from a semester studying in Heidelberg, Germany, Marissa interned this summer at the American Enterprise Institute. This school year, Marissa is excited and honored to work for her university's International Programs Office and to serve on the Pepperdine Ambassadors Council. She is even more excited that her brother, **Jared Baly W '08 M '10**, joined her at Pepperdine this fall. **Heather Brewster W '06** completed her sophomore year at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, studying biology and environmental science. She spent the spring semester studying at Miami's Dolibois European Center in Luxembourg, during which time she visited 14 different countries.

## 2007

**Kendall Close W '07** loves Sarah Lawrence College and worked at the D.C. Office of Motion Picture and TV Development this summer. **Hollis McLoughlin W '07, M '09** spent his last three years of high school at the Pomfret School, a boarding school in northeast Connecticut, from which he graduated in May. He played three years of varsity tennis and three years of squash, finishing as captain of the varsity squash team. He now

attends Trinity College in Hartford, after working over the summer as an assistant tennis coach at the Wianno Club on Cape Cod.

## 2008

**Sarah Horan W '08 M '10** worked again with Horizons Greater Washington at St. Patrick's this summer. She is now attending the College of William & Mary and is exceedingly excited about this next stage of her education and grateful that it all started in the Nursery School on Whitehaven Parkway so many years ago. **Madison White W '08, M '10** graduated from Madeira and is now attending Brown University. During Madeira's final convocation, Madison was awarded the Kitty Stearns Buckman '44 trophy, presented annually to the student who has made an outstanding contribution to Madeira's varsity athletic program. Coach Katie Lamade, Head of the Athletic Department at Madeira, wrote that "the recipient possesses superb athletic skills, exemplary leadership qualities, [and] a strong school spirit, and places great value on the sportsmanship aspect of the game." Madison served as co-captain of the Madeira varsity soccer and lacrosse teams and as manager of the varsity swim team. Madison is also the recipient of the 2014 Jewel Scholarship awarded by the Zeta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. **Kaleb Stewart W '08, M '10**



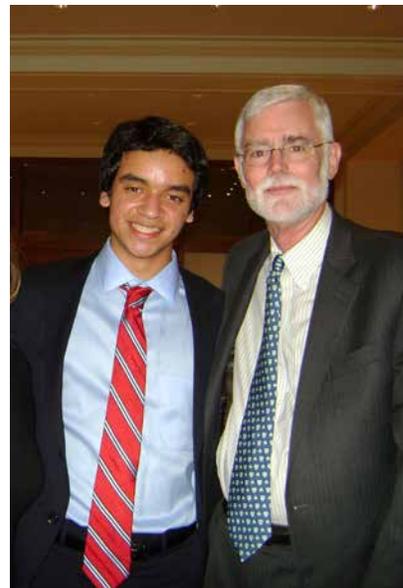
(pictured left) graduated from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, where he was a member of the varsity basketball team and various poetry and writing

clubs. He now attends Drexel University's Westphal College of Media Arts and Design where is majoring in the school's distinctive screenwriting and playwriting program. **Jessica Hart W '08** is attending the College of William & Mary. This summer, she worked in the press office of Sena-

tor Saxby Chambliss of Georgia. **Nora O'Neill W '08, M '10** graduated from Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School, where she participated in theatrical productions all four years and was a member of Madrigals. She is now attending Harvard University. **Jared Baly W '08, M '10** had a wonderful senior year. He graduated from Maret and is attending his dream college, Pepperdine University in Malibu, California. This spring, he played Benny in his school's production of *Guys and Dolls*, and he ran in both the 110-meter and 300-meter hurdle events in track, helping his team place second at the MAC Championships. This summer, he volunteered at the Quicken Loans National PGA tournament at Congressional, where he was a standard bearer, and went on a mission trip with his youth group to Logan, West Virginia, where he repaired homes for elderly and unemployed families while strengthening his faith and bonding with his youth group. **Matthew Clare W '08** is attending the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business. Matthew was a captain of the varsity swim team at St. Albans, where he anchored the 200-yard freestyle relay that broke the St. Albans school record held since 2005. Matthew was also named most valuable player of the varsity swim team. In May, Matthew was inducted into St. Albans Cum Laude Society. **A. Kai Johnston W '08, M '10** has accepted a President's Scholarship to the Honors Program at the University of Maryland, where is studying engineering. **Taylor Graves W '08, M '10** graduated from St. Andrew's (Delaware) with honors and was accepted early decision to Trinity College. Taylor spent her summer as a volunteer at an all-girls middle school in South Africa. **Spencer Pisinski W '08, M '10** graduated from Darrow School in New Lebanon, New York and is taking a gap year to travel and contribute to the betterment of humankind. **Andrew Teplitz W '08, M '10** has been accepted into the School of Dramatic Arts at the University of Southern California where he is pursuing a bachelor of fine arts in acting. **Tate Sweeney ex. W '08** is attending Oberlin College.

## 2009

**Ray C. ex. W '09** is considering sports business programs for college. He is happy to be **Parker S.'s W '09, M '11** classmate at Landon. **Olivia K. W '09, M '11** has committed to become a member of Northwestern University's Class of 2019 and will be playing Big 10 women's soccer for the Wildcats.



## 2010

**Courtney C. W '10** is spending the fall at the Island School in the Bahamas studying marine biology. She enjoys going to Potomac with **Isabel F. W '10, M '12, Miriam D. ex. W '10,** and **Eliza Q. W '10. Will C. W '10** went to Rabat, Morocco, on a State Department scholarship to study Arabic this summer and is spending his junior year at the King's Academy in Jordan.



## 2011

**William C. W '11** will be attending Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut, this fall.

## 2013

**Hattie R. ex. W '13** just finished her first year at Marlborough School in Los Angeles. She is excited to be able to see her god-sister, **Kate P. W '12, M '14,** every day at school this year.

## 2014

**Eva R. ex. W '14** is in Grade 6 and enjoyed the spring and summer weather in Los Angeles because she has taken up running recently.

*Photo top left: Lee D. W '09, Olivia K. W '09, M '11, and Buckley C. W '09, M '11 were together in Florida this summer.*

*Photo top right: Sergio Pineda W '05 is pictured with Head of School Peter A. Barrett at the most recent Latino Student Fund Gala. Photo bottom: A group of St. Patrick's graduates recently graduated from St. Albans. Pictured from left to right are Matthew Clare W '08, Andrew Teplitz W '08, Sam Danello W '08, Adam Bradley W '08, M '10, Tristan Blarel W '07, and Nathan Denby W '08, M '10.*

## IN MEMORIAM

The Palmer family (**Molly '95, Carter '97, Hope W '01,** and Nancy) would like to thank Head of School Peter A. Barrett and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and Day School for helping us celebrate the life of John Palmer at his August 10, 2013, memorial service at St. Patrick's. Being back in the sanctuary made all of us feel safe and loved—it was home.

# COLLEGE-BOUND GRADUATES

WE CONGRATULATE OUR GRADE 6 CLASS OF 2008  
AND GRADE 8 CLASS OF 2010

**Nicole R. Allicock**  
*Columbia University*

**Catherine Finnegan**  
*University of Southern California*

**John Pera**  
*Denison University*

**Tori Anderson**  
*Northeastern University*

**Luke Friedman**  
*Washington University*

**Spencer Pisinski**  
*Gap Year*

**Jared Baly**  
*Pepperdine University*

**Taylor Graves**  
*Trinity College*

**Alexander Reinke**  
*Southern Methodist University*

**Nora Becker**  
*Cornell University*

**Jessica S. Hart**  
*William & Mary*

**Alexandra Rogers**  
*Southern Methodist University*

**Stefan Bindley-Taylor**  
*Pitzer College*

**Sarah Horan**  
*William & Mary*

**Benjamin Sarraille**  
*Wesleyan University*

**Adam Bradley**  
*Princeton University*

**Charlotte Jeppsen**  
*Princeton University*

**Susan Sidamon-Eristoff**  
*Dartmouth College*

**Kendall Buck**  
*University of Maryland*

**Alexander Kai Johnston**  
*University of Maryland*

**William Snape**  
*Trinity College*

**Anna Cadwell**  
*Franklin & Marshall University*

**Abby Keffer**  
*University of Virginia*

**Kaleb Stewart**  
*Drexel University*

**Matthew Clare**  
*University of Pennsylvania*

**Elizabeth Long**  
*University of California Santa Barbara*

**Andrew J. Teplitz**  
*University of Southern California*

**Adam Corwin**  
*Lehigh University*

**Elizabeth Macrides**  
*Gap Year*

**Emma C. Thompson**  
*Washington University*

**Olivia Cusick**  
*University of Alabama*

**Lucia McArdle**  
*Tufts University*

**Marco Tornillo**  
*Pepperdine University*

**Samuel Danello**  
*Harvard University*

**Andrew C.C. McInturff**  
*High Point University*

**Grant Valentine**  
*University of Texas*

**Brooke M. Delaney**  
*Northwestern University*

**Hollis McLoughlin**  
*Trinity College*

**Culver Van Vleck**  
*Tulane University*

**Nathaniel Denby**  
*University of St. Andrews (Scotland)*

**Michael McShane**  
*Guilford College*

**Madison White**  
*Brown University*

**Katherine L. Dudzinsky**  
*University of Miami*

**Nora O'Neill**  
*Harvard University*

## Alumni Devote Summer to Horizons Program



Since 2009, St. Patrick's has hosted Horizons students from Bancroft Elementary in Mt. Pleasant—approximately 90 in Grades 1 through 6 this past summer—over six intensive weeks during the summer and six Saturdays during the school year. Horizons Greater Washington is a summer-based public-private partnership designed to help low-income students continue learning at a time when they might otherwise experience a decline in their academic development. Each summer, a number of alumni serve as Horizons Assistant Teachers (HATs) or volunteers. We thank them for their hard work and dedication to this worthy program!

**Front row, left to right:** Aidan K. W '10, M '12, Catherine P. W '11, M '13, Madison White W '08, M '10, Shannon M. W '09, M '11, Elizabeth Y. ex. W '09, Peyton S. W '09, M '11, Natalie U. W '11, M '13; **Middle row, left to right:** Simone U. W '09, M '11, Morgan T. ex. W '07, Sarah H. W '08, M '10, Sarah P. W '09, M '11; **Back row, left to right:** Isabelle J. W '09, M '11, Simone U. W '09, M '11, James M. W '09, Wesley P. W '10, M '12; *Not pictured: Matthew Clare W '08.*

## 2013 Summer at St. Patrick's Alumni Staff



Every summer, a variety of alumni return to serve as counselors during the eight-week Summer at St. Patrick's program, which serves students from Nursery through Grade 8. Some of those alumni are pictured above.

*Left to right: William L. W '10, M '12, Bria Baylor W '06, M '08, Aissa Claveria ex. W '07, Shelby Alston W '04, M '06; Not pictured: Will B. W '10, Sam D. W '10, M '12, Henry D. W '09, M '11, Camilla D. ex. W '10, Xavier F. W '11, M '13, Eboni F. W '11, M '13, Ariana R. W '11, M '13, Auguste W. W '11, M '13.*

*(continued from page 20)*

her being—is second to none. She would do anything at the drop of a hat for the young people with whom she works. If the MacArthur Campus is the surrogate home for the students in our Grades 7 and 8 program, Judy is undoubtedly its mother. Judy is at school before anyone and is one of the last to leave. Still, she strives to give more, to find other ways to provide service to the school and develop meaningful experiences for her students. She's a bit like Radar from M\*A\*S\*H, ready with a file or schedule before you even realize you need it. She knows who didn't have breakfast and has a bowl of cereal waiting. She knows who had a bad night last night and makes sure to provide an extra check-in mid-morning. She knows which parents won't turn in their forms on time and has a reminder email at the ready. She knows."

"There is no one more dedicated to St. Patrick's, its students, faculty, staff, and parents than Judy Barr," said another. "Known as Ma Barr by her Grades 7 and 8 students, a name that only begins to reflect the love they have for her, Judy is known for her devotion to her students and the wider St. Patrick's community. . . . Her commitment to issues of social justice infuses her teaching and reflects her deep belief in the dignity of every human being."

With all of the gifts that Judy bestows on us as a community, and all of the activities in which she plays such an important role—her school nursing duties, Family Fun Day, Extended Day, the Community Service Club, Gifts for Good, the Haiti Partnership Program—we sometimes miss that reality . . . that Judy Barr is, fundamentally, a teacher. And I will forever believe there is no role more important—in any community—than that of teacher. Her colleagues describe a gifted teacher who knits together and provides the connective tissue for us as a community. In honoring Jeff Keffer this morning, a man who provided just that sort of connective tissue for so many of us, we also honor an individual who does precisely that same work, in her refreshingly *Ma Barr* sort of way . . . by presenting the Jeff Keffer Service Award for 2014 to Judy Barr.

*These remarks were delivered by Head of School Peter A. Barrett at the Chapel Honoring Faculty and Staff on May 16.* 🍀

## Welcome to the St. Patrick's Family!



**Cora Rose Covington Dickson**  
Associate Director of Admission and  
Financial Aid **Sara Dickson**, husband  
Michael, and big sister, welcomed Cora Rose  
Covington Dickson on April 30.



**Bowen Luc Hamilton Jean**  
Director of Auxiliary Programs **Rhia  
Hamilton** and husband Alain welcomed  
their first child on June 10.



**Ashley Mae Young**  
Parents **Kimberly and Candler Young**  
and siblings welcomed Ashley Mae  
on May 22.

**Caroline Anne Lott**  
**Justin Lott '94** and wife Elizabeth  
welcomed their first child on August 16.

**Ashmi Ilena Trivedi**  
Parents **Surekha and Manan Trivedi** and  
big sister welcomed Ashmi Ilena Trivedi on  
March 10.

# Your Legacy Gift Helps Them Achieve Their Dreams



Leave a legacy ...  
Join the **Moore Society** today.

The Moore Society is the Day School's legacy giving society, recognizing those individuals who have provided for St. Patrick's in their estate plans.

**To learn more about how you can include St. Patrick's in your estate planning, please visit our website at [www.stpatsdc.org/plannedgiving](http://www.stpatsdc.org/plannedgiving) or contact Elizabeth Owens, Director of Development, at 202.342.7007 or [OwensE@stpatsdc.org](mailto:OwensE@stpatsdc.org).**

Planned gifts—including Bequests, Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Lead Trusts or Charitable Remainder Trusts, Life Insurance, and Donor-Advised Funds—all ensure your legacy in perpetuity and can be made with ease.



4700 Whitehaven Parkway, NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
[www.stpatsdc.org](http://www.stpatsdc.org)

*Our Mission*

*St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School strives to create a diverse learning community of students, teachers, and parents who recognize the infinite value of every participant as a child of God. We are committed to developing character, advancing human understanding, and promoting academic excellence in our students in order to prepare them to live with integrity, compassion, and purpose.*

# SAVE THE DATE

## **Fall Book Fair**

Sunday, November 16 – Wednesday, November 19

## **Thanksgiving Holiday - No School**

November 26, 27, 28

## **Grade 3 United States Travel Fair**

Thursday, November 20, 8:30 am

## **Holiday Online Auction to Benefit Financial Aid**

Sunday, November 30 – Thursday, December 4

## **Grandparents and Special Friends Visiting Day**

Tuesday, November 25

## **Christmas Pageants**

Friday, December 19

Nursery, PK, Kindergarten, Grade 8 – 8:30 am

Grades 1-7 – 11:00 am



St. Patrick's is on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/StPatsDC](http://www.facebook.com/StPatsDC)