



OUR MISSION IN ACTION

THE JOURNAL OF CROSSINGS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

missio

2022-2023

OUR MISSION IN ACTION

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Knights Family,

It is my pleasure to share with you the latest edition of Crossings Christian School's journal, *Missio*'. Enclosed you will find highlights, statements, facts, and vision for the future of CCS. While many schools can fill pages with accomplishments and aspirations, what separates our school from many others is the mission which we are striving to deliver, "To partner with parents and church to develop students into Christ-centered servant leaders who are academically and spiritually prepared for college and life."

Our mission supports the biblical concept of parental discipleship outlined in Deut. 6:7 (ESV) and the goal of, not only academic preparation but also eternal preparation. Therefore, the delivery of our mission is based on a distinctly biblical educational philosophy termed "Kingdom Education: "A Life-long, Bible-based, Christ-centered process of leading a child to Christ, building them up in Christ, and equipping them to serve Christ" (Schultz, 1998). This approach to education is congruent with the statutes found in Psalm 78 and emphasizes most what other educational approaches fail to target – the spiritual formation of a student.

What you will find in the pages beyond include the accomplishments of extremely talented and dedicated students who are taught and led by the best educators in the state of Oklahoma. Also, the highlighted facilities in which our programs are showcased rarely have an equal. Likewise, the parental involvement of our families in the lives and education of their children is exemplary. However, all of these outstanding merits are for naught if we fail to "...tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and His might, and the wonders that He has done" (Psalm 78:4, ESV).

That's what I love about Crossings Christian School – our mission reflects a Kingdom mindset, which satisfies and supersedes earthly knowledge. My hope is that not only will this be evident in this issue of *Missio*', but more importantly, that it will be unmistakable in our daily approach to carrying out the mission of our school through Kingdom Education "so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7, ESV).

Generationally focused,



Dr. J



**“KINGDOM EDUCATION
IS THE FOCUS ON
KEEPING THE
KINGDOM OF GOD
AS THE LODESTAR OF
ALL THAT WE DO...”**

Kingdom Education may not sound like the latest pedagogical buzzword garnering praise as breakthrough research from the bastions of higher education. As Dr. Jason Nave, Head of School, explains it, “Kingdom Education is the focus on keeping the Kingdom of God as the lodestar of all that we do - even education. How can we exclude the eternal focus of God’s Kingdom and His commands and teach to the highest degree? Colossians 2:2-3 states that in Christ are hidden all the mysteries of wisdom and knowledge. Therefore, how can we impart knowledge and foster the gaining of wisdom without accounting for both the spiritual and temporal components of life? To tend to one without the other is to offer an incomplete education.”

Kingdom Education can be defined as “The life-long, Bible-based, Christ-centered process of leading a child to Christ, building them up in Christ, and equipping them to serve Christ” (Schultz, 1998). The basic premise of this philosophy is that parents are the primary faith trainers, and a Christian school is a partner in this endeavor. The philosophy of Kingdom Education is echoed in the mission of Crossings Christian School: to partner with parents and the church to develop Christ-centered servant leaders who are spiritually and academically prepared for college and for life.

In Dr. Glen Schultz’s book, “Kingdom Education, God’s Plan for Educating Future Generations,” he defines four principles, beginning with the understanding that educating our children is an intentional and multi-generational approach. The second principle explains it is a lifelong process that begins at birth and continues, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The understanding that discipleship begins at home and is reinforced through the partnership of a Christian education sums up principles three and four.

The philosophy, and its principles, are founded in Scripture. Deuteronomy 6:4-7, which calls us to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, soul, mind, and strength, is written to parents as it reminds us to impress these things on our children and “talk about them when [we] wake up, lie down, sit and walk by the way. Parents who have chosen to send their students to our school are, in turn, choosing CCS to be their “by the way partner” in this endeavor.

Luke 2:52 states that “Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.” As Christ followers, we are called to emulate Him and teach others to do the same. These traits parallel education through the vision of CCS, which calls us to equip our students to grow intellectually, physically, spiritually, and socially.

The fourth principle of Kingdom Education is evidenced in the partnership of discipleship as written in Luke 6:40, “The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.” Kingdom Education presents CCS teachers, coaches, and staff members with the opportunity to influence and disciple those in their care as like-minded, Christian mentors. Someone or something will disciple the next generation, and Kingdom Education focuses on the intentional discipleship process.

The ultimate goal of Kingdom Education is to develop and prepare our students to face and understand the world through a biblical lens referred to as, “worldview.” CCS Spiritual Formation Director, Jamie Wheat, strives to do this daily, stating “A biblical worldview must be the lens through which we see all of life,” and

once it is developed, “it will change how we view everything in our world.” This begins for even the youngest Knights as they memorize and understand Scripture through daily exercises with children and daily communication with their parents. It remains a constant within every classroom and activity across the CCS campus for students as young as three years old and until their high school graduation.

Dr. Nave recently met with new CCS families, describing the partnership between the school and parents as defined by Kingdom Education. Additionally, this last June, 26 faculty and staff members of CCS joined with other Christian educators and parents across the country, providing the opportunity to examine, explore, and discuss the vast impact that Kingdom Education affords our students and their developing personal relationships with Christ.

Among the group was Lower School Assistant Principal, Kim Bastin, who recognizes the potential impact and partnering role a Christian school plays in the lives of each and every student. She stated, “When God became man, He came not only to die for us to clean away the sins that cover us, but Christ came to provide an example for us, to show us how to love, how to teach, how to provide compassion, and how to prove that there is hope in a world filled with pain and anger. Ultimately, this should be the goal of a Christian school, to follow the example set by Christ. A Christian school promoting and promising Christ-based education and administration must remain diligent to keep that mission at the forefront of every lesson, activity, discipline, and reward.”





Academic Team

The Crossings Christian School Academic Team had a noteworthy year, showcasing their exceptional knowledge and competitive spirit. They dominated the area, regional, and district tournaments, securing first place in each of these competitions, and finishing as State Runner-Up in 2022. Two of the team's seniors, Lucas L. and Reagan T., were recognized as All-Staters, further highlighting their individual achievements within the team. Their accomplishments add to the impressive track record, which includes five state championships in 2013, 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2021.



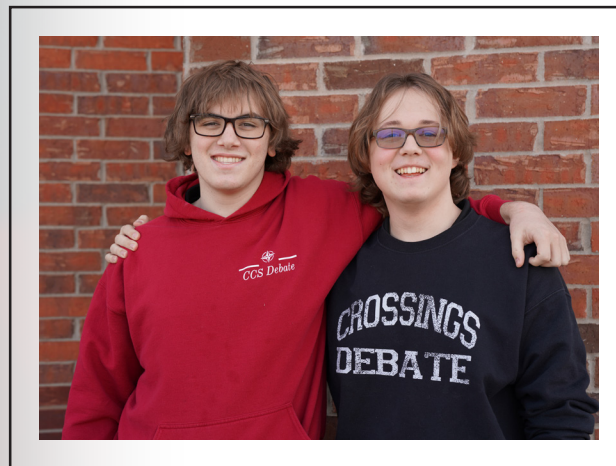
Band

The Crossings Band had an extraordinary year, including earning the title of Jazz Band OSSAA 3A State Champions, marking their fourth consecutive year of qualifying for the state competition. In addition to their exceptional musical achievements, they formed a special "Holy Spirit" band that graced numerous basketball games and State Send-offs for fellow Upper School groups heading to state competition. The band boasted an impressive lineup with five All-State Musicians - Reagan T. '23, Spencer B. '23, Brandon D. '24, Dennis D. '24, and Robel S. '24. Their bond extended beyond the stage, as they enjoyed various opportunities for camaraderie, including Friday night pre-game meals, a Christmas party, and a memorable Fine Arts trip to New York City. The band program was able to achieve and perform some incredible music while raising the standard for what CCS instrument groups can do.



Debate

The Crossings Debate Team had one of its most outstanding years to date, achieving unprecedented success. Their accomplishments include winning the 6A OSSAA Championship, with senior Blaine Y. '23 earning his second consecutive championship title and junior Braeden A. making a remarkable debut. Both Blaine and Braeden were recognized as All-Staters, with Blaine achieving this honor for the second time. The team received a full invitation to the prestigious Tournament of Champions at the University of Kentucky, marking a significant milestone for Crossings Christian School. Furthermore, Blaine and Braeden made history for CCS by being ranked in the National Coaches Poll, placing 52nd among the best debate teams in the country. In an impressive display of skill, they defeated the 5th ranked team in the country, Shawnee Mission South, in the semifinals of the Colleyville Heritage tournament, securing their most significant victory to date. The Crossings Debate Team's achievements in the past year have solidified their position as a force to be reckoned with in the world of debate.





Orchestra

The Crossings Orchestra had an exemplary year, showcasing its exceptional talent and dedication. In November, they earned straight Superiors at Districts, highlighting their consistent excellence. At the State Symphonic Contest in February, they achieved an Excellent stage rating and a Superior rating in sight reading, further establishing their skills. The orchestra boasted outstanding performers and soloists, including Collin A. '25, who earned the prestigious All-State Violin title, and Tucker M. '23, a three-year All-State participant. The orchestra participated in a variety of performances and contests, such as *The Wizard of Oz* Pit, Friends and Family concerts, two school concerts, as well as the Regional and State Solo/Ensemble contest, where they garnered an impressive eight superior ratings.



Theatre

Crossings Theatre Arts had an eventful and successful year, marked by their implementation of a new flying system in the production of *Peter Pan and Wendy*. Furthermore, the team's hard work paid off as they secured a commendable 4th place at OSSAA One Act Regionals. Jaedyn F. '24 had a remarkable performance earning her the well-deserved recognition of All-Star Cast for Regionals. They offered a diverse repertoire of shows this year, including *The Wizard of Oz*, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, and *Dystopia: The Hungry Maze Game of Divergent Death*. Throughout the season, students consistently exceeded expectations, tackling every challenge with determination, adaptability, creativity, and a firm belief in the process and its outcomes.



Vocal Music

CCS Vocal Music had an exceptional year filled with notable achievements. At the OSSAA 3A Districts, they achieved an abundance of Superior and Excellent ratings, pushing them on to State. At the State level, their exceptional Stage Performance and Sight-Reading earned them a Superior rating, qualifying them for the Outstanding Achievement Award. Additionally, their Solo & Ensemble performances received all Superior ratings, with four solos and two ensembles impressing the judges. The Upper School Show Choir also made their mark at invitational contests, particularly excelling at Edmond Santa Fe, where they garnered straight Superior ratings and earned a prestigious Top Ten Award. Isabelle S. '23 shone brightly as an All-State Choir Member, and she was also honored with the Three-Year Medalist award, highlighting her exceptional talent. The progress of the program was also noteworthy as we celebrated the creation and debut performance of the new Middle School Show Choir. The future is bright for Crossings Vocal Music!



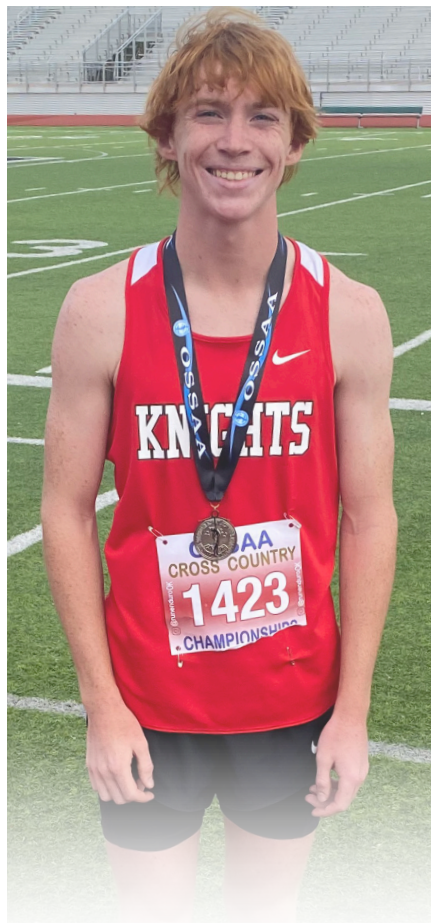
ATHLETICS | SEASON RECAPS





CHEER

Crossings Cheer had an outstanding 22-23 season. They secured two OSSAA State Championships and competed nationwide for the first time, finishing an impressive 9th place out of over 90 teams in the Small Varsity Division at UCA Cheer Nationals. The team also had six All-American Cheerleaders, and Bronwyn L. '23 earned the distinction of All-State Cheerleader, further highlighting the team's individual excellence. Living out their team motto to "be the difference," the Crossings Cheer Team exemplified Christ through more than just their performance on the mat.



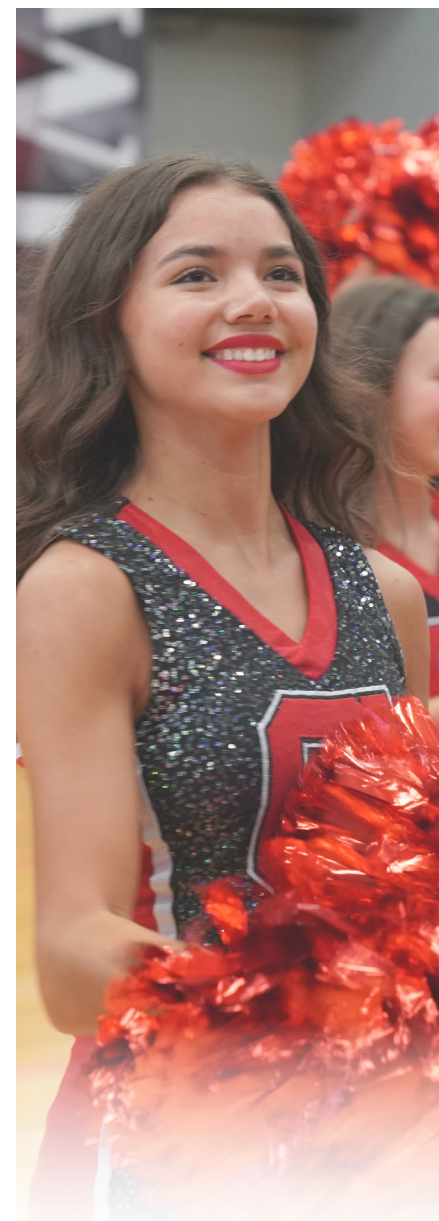
CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country ran an excellent season, with the Boys finishing 7th and the Girls 13th at the OSSAA 3A State Competition. Several runners, including Keira A. '24, Bronwyn L. '23, Megan B. '26, Molly F. '25, Ashleigh W. '24, and Rachel M. '23, achieved personal best times at the state meet, contributing to the team's success. Trey B. '25 led the boys' team with a remarkable performance, earning a medal and setting a new personal best and CCS record time. Nate B. '23, Harry S. '25, Zac R. '26, and Spencer B. '23 also achieved personal best times, highlighting their dedication and improvement throughout the season. Trey B. '25, finishing 7th in the top ten, was recognized as a 3A All-Star, an exceptional achievement. Additionally, Nathan B. '23 and Bronwyn L. '23 were named Senior All-Stars by the OCCTCA, reflecting their outstanding contributions to the team.



FOOTBALL

The CCS Football Team had an impressive season with a record of 8-3, finishing in a three-way tie for second place in their district and earning a spot in the playoffs. The team exemplified excellence on and off the field, earning the honor of 2A Academic State Champions. Two standout players, Preston M. '23 and Blake M. '23, were honored as 3A All-Stars, showcasing their exceptional skills and contributions to the team. However, the true highlight of the 2023 football season was the senior class, as they displayed remarkable leadership qualities, embodying the values and spirit of being a Knight football player. The team as a whole demonstrated resilience and unwavering determination throughout the season, paving the way for success in coming seasons.



POM

The Crossings Pom team had an outstanding 22-23 season, earning several impressive accolades. They were crowned OSDTDA 2A/3A/4A Game Day State Champions, showcasing their talent and precision in their routines. Additionally, they secured the title of OSDTDA 2A/3A/4A Mix State Champions, demonstrating their versatility across different styles of dance. Alongside their growth in dance, the team also nurtured their faith, exemplified by their team verse, Philippians 2:3, emphasizing humility, considering others as better than oneself.



SOFTBALL

The Crossings Softball Team had an exceptional season, concluding with a record of 14-11, which marked the most wins ever achieved in a single season for the team. Elle R. '23 had an outstanding performance, earning her the prestigious All-State recognition, and she also set a new record at Crossings by hitting 10 home runs throughout her high school career. Addie M. '26 emerged as the pitcher with the most wins in a season, securing nine victories. Throughout the season, they exemplified their team verse, Proverbs 27:17, sharpening each other as iron sharpens iron.



VOLLEYBALL

The Crossings Volleyball Team had an impressive season, finishing with a commendable record of 21-14 and earning the prestigious #3 ranking in Class 3A. Their success continued in the playoffs, where they emerged as Regional Champions and advanced to the State Semifinals. The team's standout player, Gracie M. '23, received well-deserved recognition as she was named to the All-State team. With several key players returning, the team is brimming with excitement for the upcoming 23-24 school year, eager to build upon their fantastic season and continue their winning ways.



BASKETBALL

The Crossings Basketball program had an impressive 2022-23 season. The boys' team finished with a remarkable record of 23-3, becoming District, Regional, and Area Champions and competing in the State Semifinals. They secured their fourth consecutive 20-win season with a win percentage of 85.5%, the highest in school history. Cal F. '25 was named the Greater Metro Athletic Conference (GMAC) Offensive Player of the Year and earned a place in the Oklahoman State Tournament All-Tournament Team and the Tournament of Champions All-Tournament Team.

The girls' team also had an impressive season, showcasing their resilience and determination in the face of adversity. Allison H. '24 contributed to the team's success to "grit, teamwork, and relentless effort," despite battling various injuries throughout the season. With only one senior on the team, their performance this past year has not only prepared them well for the future, but has proven their ability to compete at a high level.



WRESTLING

The Wrestling Team had a season of growth, facing injuries and numerous challenges. However, what they may have lacked in terms of scores, they more than compensated for with their unwavering heart and determination. Despite the challenges, Coach Brown reminded them to keep their eyes on Christ and remember that "wrestling is just a building block for life." They truly demonstrated how to be Christ-centered servant leaders by partnering with the World Outreach Center to provide food for the homeless. The team also invested in young athletes, hosting a Little Knights Wrestling Camp.



BASEBALL

The Crossings Christian School Baseball Team has enjoyed ten successful Varsity seasons, with the 2022-23 season culminating in an impressive record of 19-11-1. The team's outstanding performance earned them a notable second-place finish in District 3A-1, showcasing their competitiveness and skill. Additionally, they secured the title of Bi-District Champions, further solidifying their accomplishments on the field.

The team's individual players also achieved remarkable milestones. Preston M. '23 left a lasting mark on the school's record books, setting new benchmarks with a batting average of 0.525, 55 RBIs, and 53 hits. Silas W. '23 established the school's lowest ERA record at an impressive 1.40. The team's journey exemplifies the spirit of perseverance under Christ's calling, echoing the sentiment expressed in Philippians 3:12-14.



GOLF

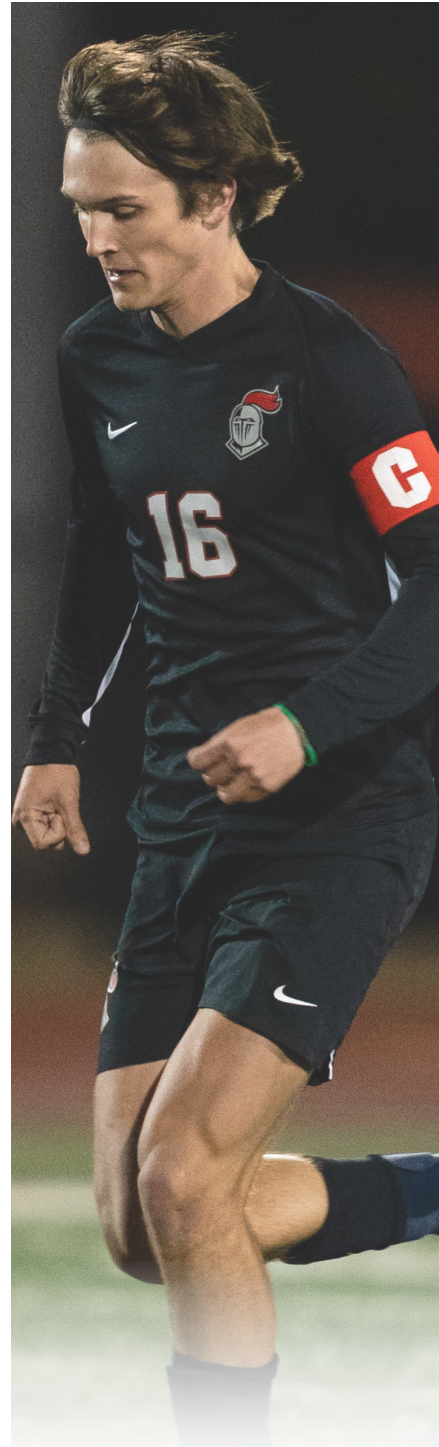
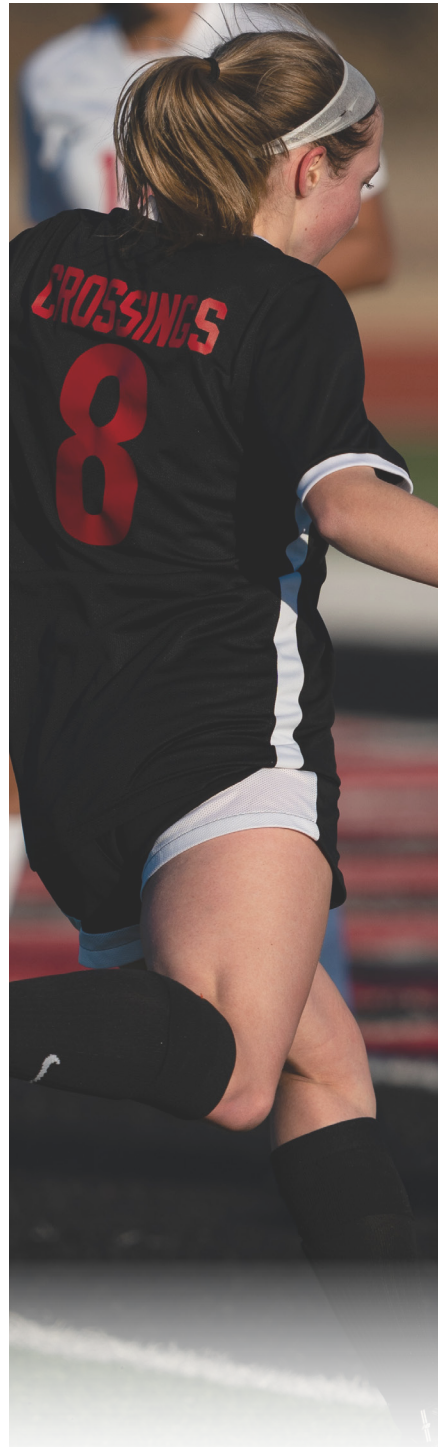
The CCS Boys Golf Team had a string of successes in the 22-23 season. Despite graduating three seniors, the boys' team took on the challenge of moving up to the 4A division, where they set a team record low score and qualified for their first-ever 4A State Championship Tournament. At State they achieved a commendable 6th-place finish, gaining invaluable experience that they can take into the 2024 season.

The girls' team accomplished a notable second-place finish at the Stroud Tournament Regional Qualifiers, where Eloise C. '26 and Madison H. '24 secured spots in the top ten. Coach Williams expressed satisfaction with the team's progress, stating, "We continued to get better and better each tournament," with both teams comprised of so many young players, we are excited to see what next year holds!



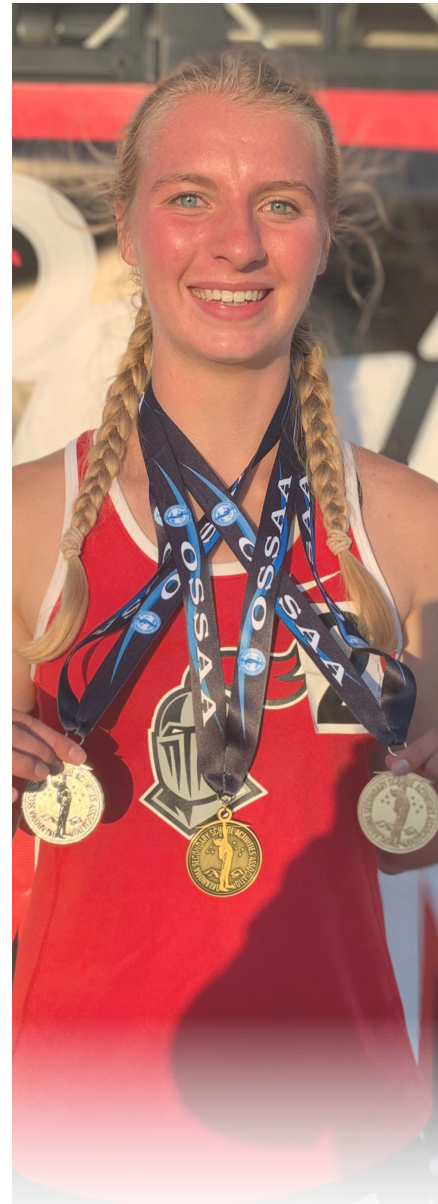
TENNIS

The Tennis program proved their incredible skills on the court by becoming OSSAA Class 4A Boys State Champions and Girls Class 4A Regional Champions. The Boys' team secured second-place finishes at State through Ben V. '25 (1S), John Paul D. '26 (2S), Greyson L. '26 and Sumner S. '26 (1D), and Jackson S. '24 and Jake W. '23 (2D). The Girls' team had a strong performance at State as well, Chloe M. '25 finishing 4th place in 2S, and Lauren H. '23 and Kate L. '26 securing 3rd place in 2D. Throughout the season, the team exhibited an exceptional focus on serving, personal growth, and unification, embodying the values of teamwork and individual development.



SOCCER

Crossings Soccer had a competitive season, the boys finishing with a record of 11-5 and the girls with a record of 6-6. The boys achieved a notable milestone by reaching the finals of the OCS Tournament for the first time, securing the runner-up position. Individual awards were extensive: two sophomores, Charlie C. and Kaden L., both set an outstanding record for the most goals in a season with 26 goals each. Dagim W., '23 was named to the 3A-West All-State team, and seniors Rachel M., Gracie M., and Mia R. were also selected as All-State Players, highlighting their exceptional contributions to the teams' successes. It was quite a successful season with talented players!



TRACK + FIELD

Track & Field ran an incredible season this year, the girls finishing 6th out of 64 teams at State, and boys finishing in 7th, both in OSSAA Class 3A. Savannah M. '24 became a three-time State Champion in the 100m Hurdles and six school records were broken—new standards set by Trey B. '25, Savanna M. '24, Clara B. '26, Amelia B. '23, Calynn C. '25, Allison H. '24, and Piper M. '25. The teams faced many challenges including unexpected changes and injuries, but it was “through those dips and turns in the season that they became stronger and better Christ-centered servant leaders,” said Savanna M. '24.



Preschoolers class had the opportunity to learn about God's provision through the life cycle of a butterfly. Students observe caterpillars and watch them grow, form into a chrysalis, and transform into beautiful butterflies. By watching this process, it is evident how God provides everything the tiny caterpillar needed to grow and change into a butterfly. From the plants to eat to a safe space while in their chrysalis, God's providence can be seen in all aspects of the butterfly's life cycle.

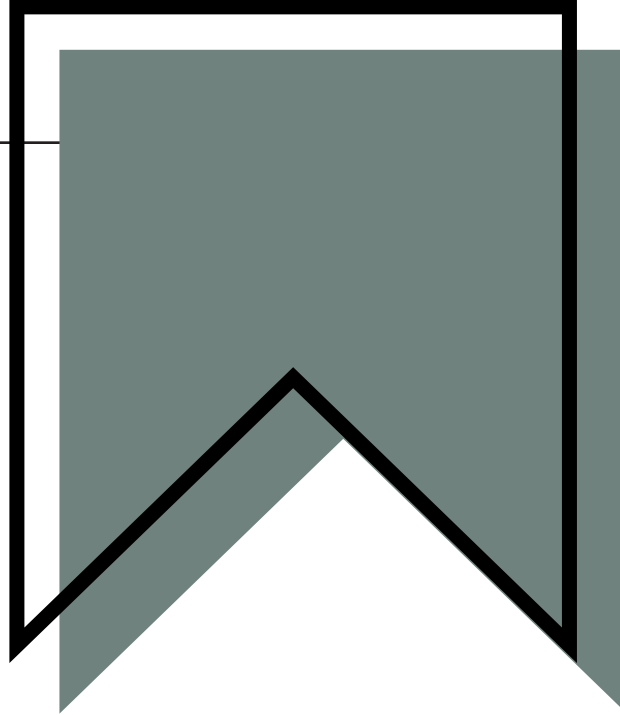


“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

Revelation 4:11



Book Buddies brings together different grade levels in a delightful learning experience. Fourth graders are paired with first graders, third graders with kindergartners, and second graders with preschoolers. Book buddies get to go beyond books and the classroom and enjoy some fun in the sun, even engaging in a scavenger hunt after reading about gardens, bugs, and God's creations!





Early Childhood and Lower School students practiced loving their neighbors by participating in several service projects for the community. Preschool classes joined together to make LOVE bags for the Homeless Alliance, comprised of Bible verses, socks, water, hand warmers, hygiene items, and granola bars for those in need. In chapel, students donated loose change or dollars, which was used to bless a baby and her family who had to undergo difficult surgery, two families who lost their homes in a tornado and fire, pivot homes for kids who have aged out of foster care, and more. Students also collected canned and boxed goods to distribute to Pine Pantry locations throughout the city, where those in need of food can shop at no cost. During the Christmas season, students collected items including toys, games, clothing, toothbrushes, and books to donate to Citizens Caring for Children and a coat drive was held for the City Center. No age is too young to put into practice John 13:34, to “love one another.”



Parades are a staple tradition for all grades in the Lower School! From Greece to Broadway, students have ample opportunity to put bring their lessons to life and get creative in the process! Each grade has an opportunity to parade the halls filled with an audience of family and students. Kindergarteners bring nursery rhymes off the page, dressing up as a rhyme of their choice before showing off their memorization skills. Kindergarten and first graders dress as if they are 100 years old and showcase hats made from 100 items in their famous 100-Day Parades. First grade takes us to New York City with Balloons Over Broadway, showcasing their carefully crafted parade balloons at Thanksgiving. Second grade celebrates the end of their Ancient Greece unit with a parade followed by a festival while third graders become historical figures in their Living Museum parade and “do as the Romans do” in the Roman parade and festival. Finally, fourth grade closes out the year, and their time in the Lower School, by parading the halls in which they have spent the last four years, being clapped out by each grade!



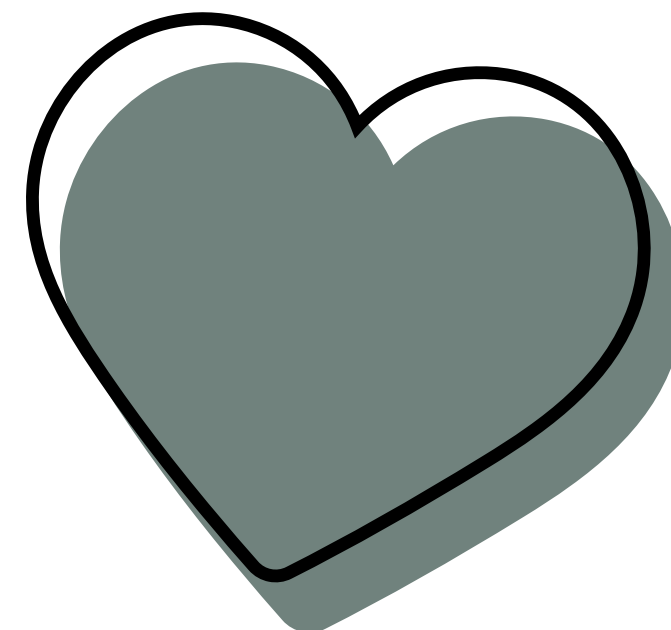
First graders became master builders while in the library this year, creating a miniature town, inspired by Mo Williams’ book, *Nanette Baguette*. Students put their imaginative skills to work, building everything from a pet shop to their very own version of CCS.

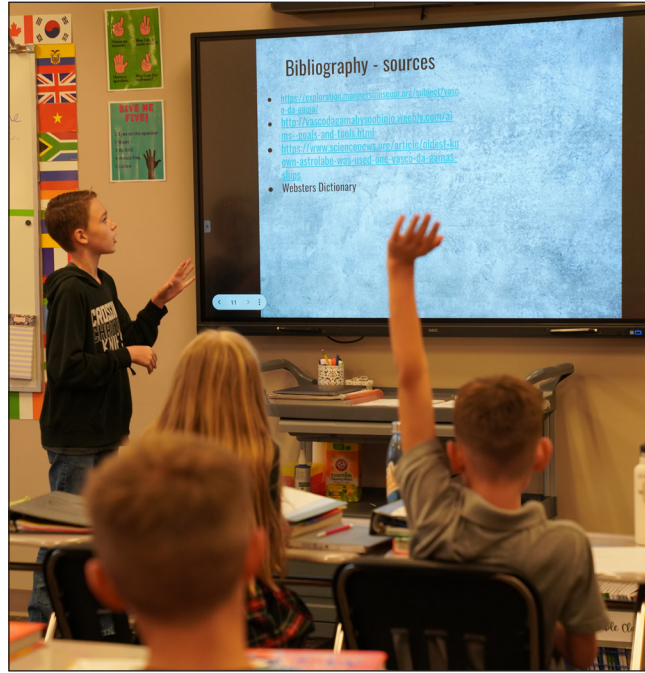


Our new Head of School, Dr. Nave, surprised first grade students as a mystery reader! Reading a book on forgiveness, he emphasized the significance of extending forgiveness to others as a demonstration of Christ’s love. Not only did students get to interact with Dr. Nave in a special way and hear some silly reading voices, but they also left with a lasting understanding of the importance of forgiveness in their own lives.



Fourth graders used their “mad scientist” skills to bring science to life! Throughout the year they learned about life science, physical science, the scientific process, and the creativity and intelligence of our Ultimate Designer. They used their newfound knowledge to show unique experiments to their classmates, from chemical reactions to testing the laws of physics.





In Middle School, CCS students learn about themselves, their community, their country, and their world from a Christian perspective in order to become the people God has called them be. In Mrs. Westburg's Social Studies class, students experience this firsthand through the eyes of history and explorers with a research project. From South America to India, students learned how explorers traveled, why they traveled, and their findings.



*"...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."
Matthew 20:28*



Acts 20:35 says "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Middle Schoolers are learning about the extension of God's grace by partnering with the local non-profit, Faithworks, throughout the year. Students gathered pumpkins, candy, and other goodies to support their annual fall festival and gathered hats, gloves, food, toilet paper, and blankets to help families in need at Christmas. What a blessing it truly is to see God's love and blessings extended to others.



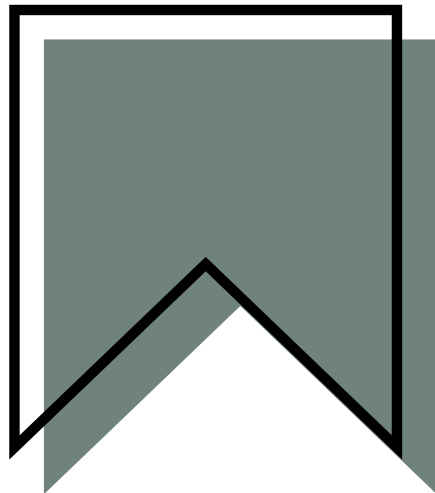
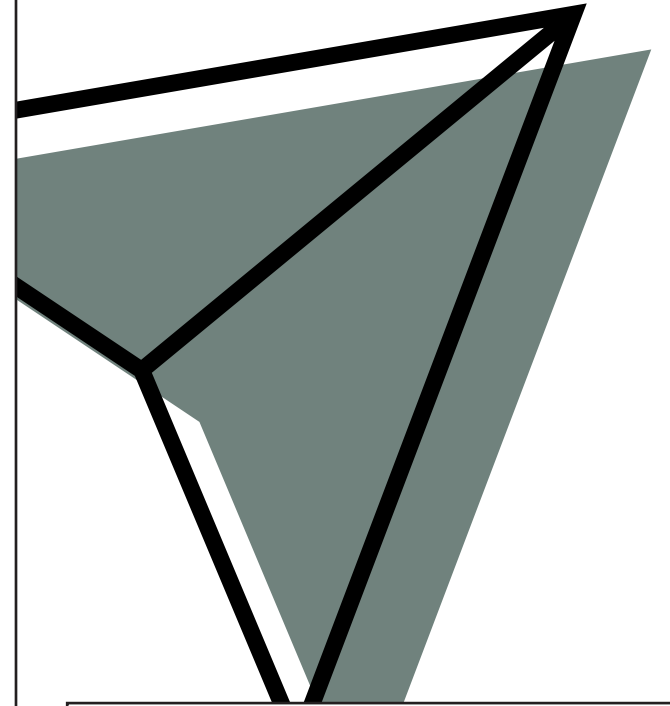
Middle Schoolers partnered with Ambassadors from the OU Engineering Experience to explore engineering first-hand! Students planned, designed, created, and tested their engineered roller coaster tracks including loops and varying heights getting to experience engineering in action!



Our sixth grade "Crossings Red" Academic Team soared to scholarly heights this year as they placed first in Area Competition. The team's thirst for knowledge and preparation throughout the year brought them to the top and we are excited to see what next year holds for the team!

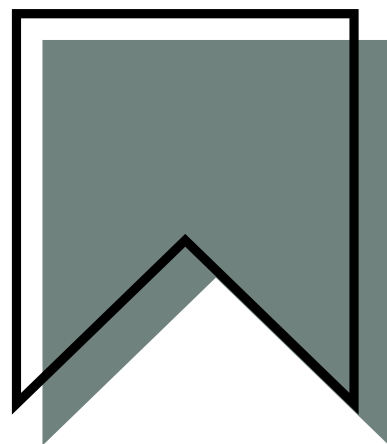


From incubating and hatching baby chicks to dissecting and studying invertebrates, Life Science classes study mitosis and cell copying for cell division and growth, learning about the wonder of God's creations! Students spent 21 days incubating chicks while learning about mitosis and genetics before meeting the newly hatched chicks! What a way to bring science to life!





Our English courses work to equip students with the tools of analytical thinking and university-level academic writing. Engagement with literary texts also prompts our students to begin transferring those tools to their lives outside of the classroom by engaging with technological, cultural, and social questions. In practice of this, students in a senior English class completed a poetry unit, dove into Shakespearean sonnets, and read and performed the Oscar Wilde play, *The Importance of Being Earnest*.



God worked through our US Knights in our Spiritual Emphasis Week and The Spirit of Service (KISS) Week. Students focused on how Jesus accepts everyone, reaches out to those who feel they don't belong, and welcomes the outcasts. They proceeded to put works to their faith, coming together to focus on others through various service opportunities. Over \$3,600 of gift cards were donated to children in the Angels Family Foster Network of OKC, students partnered with Wings to donate supplies for everyday needs, and peanut butter, books, gloves, scarves, and outerwear were also donated to Citizens Caring for Children and Fountain of Faith.



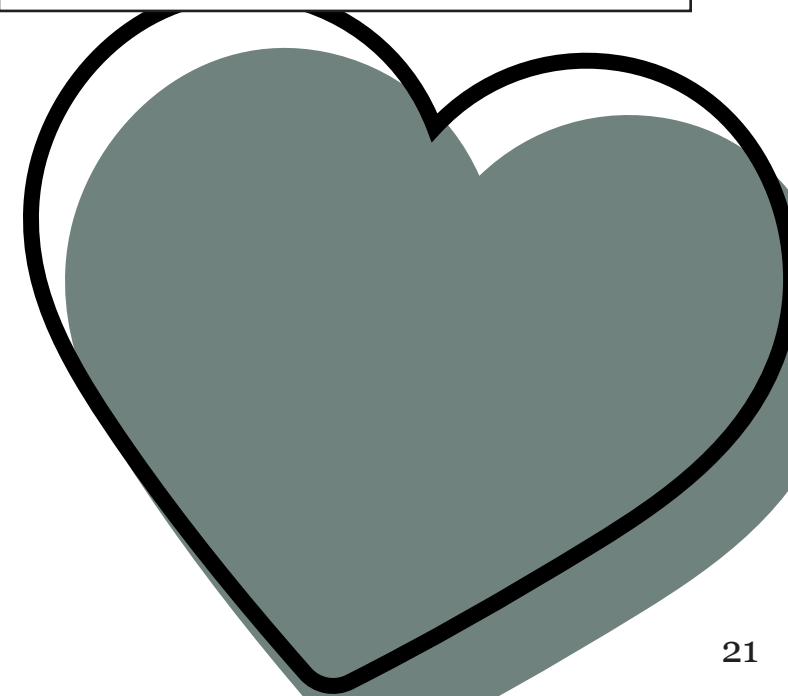
While 10th -12th graders were busy taking the ACT, 9th graders immersed themselves in practical, real-world learning as they acquired essential life skills. From cooking and sewing to safety, car maintenance, and self-care, students rotated through classes, gaining valuable knowledge for their future. The day concluded on a spirited note as they united to learn and proudly sing their school fight song.

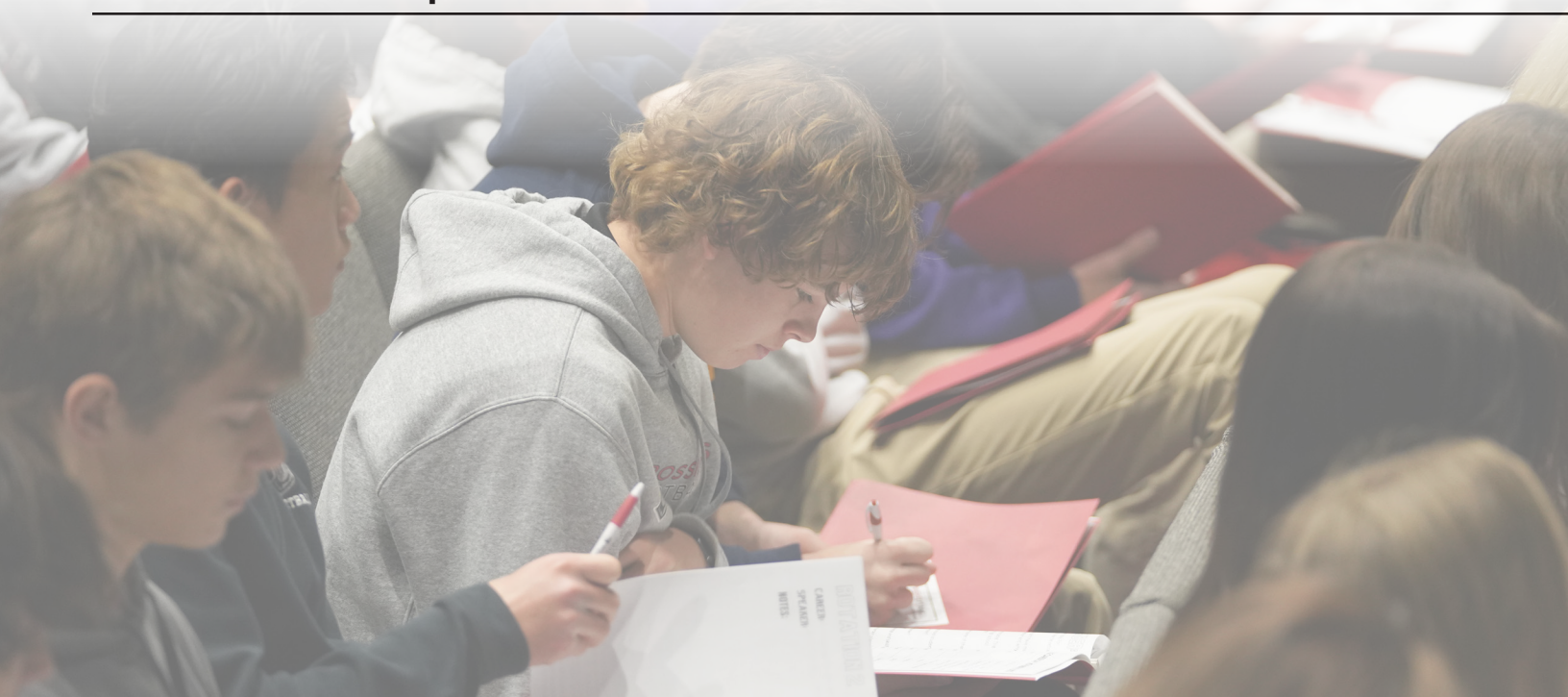


PJs and Pancakes is a cherished tradition at Crossings Upper School, where administrators spread holiday cheer by flipping pancakes and serving them with a smile. Students enjoyed a relaxed morning, accompanied by live Christmas music, as they prepared for the upcoming semester tests. This festive event provided a warm and comforting atmosphere, offering a brief respite before the academic challenges that lay ahead.



Upper School small groups provide students with a valuable support system as they navigate their academic and spiritual journeys. Led by dedicated faculty mentors, these small groups not only foster a sense of camaraderie but also nurture the soul. From attending chapel together and growing in their faith to enjoying festive activities like roasting s'mores, bobbing for apples, playing tug-of-war, and sack racing during the Fall Fun Day, students forge lasting connections within their small groups.





EXPANDING HORIZONS WITH

CAREER DAY

“Career Day can be likened to the Super Bowl, the Oscars, or the annual Met Gala for academic counselors- It’s a great day!” said Upper School Academic Counselor, Mrs. Shields. The goal of this bi-annual event, is to provide Upper School students the opportunity to hear firsthand accounts from Christ-centered professionals and gain valuable insight into various career paths.

Students had the opportunity to listen to speaker Aaron Weast, owner of the Chick-fil-A on I-40 & MacArthur and recent CCS school board member, who delivered a keynote speech titled “What Am I Going To Do With My Life?” Weast emphasized the importance of recognizing God’s plan for each individual, urging students to follow where God leads. He highlighted that God’s definition of success differs from the worlds, and emphasized the significance of caring for others in any endeavor.

The day began with students selecting their preferred sessions, and schedules were tailored to accommodate their choices. Following an inspiring keynote presentation, students had the chance to rotate through eight different careers, allowing them to gather a buffet of career information.

Career Day aligns seamlessly with Crossings Christian School’s mission of Christian education and its commitment to partnering with parents, with 95% of presenters being CCS parents. Looking ahead, the school envisions involving CCS alumni as presenters, further strengthening the connection between faith, education, and career choices.

From Chalkboard to Cello: HOW THE TEACHER BECAME THE STUDENT



During the COVID-19 pandemic, US English teacher, Ms. Jonte found herself growing restless and spending a significant amount of time listening to the famous French-American cellist, Yo-Yo Ma. The cello had piqued Jonte’s interest as a child, but her family had already invested in a piano and lessons. Nevertheless, driven by her newfound curiosity, Ms. Jonte, the teacher, swiftly transitioned into a student of the cello, taught by Tucker McSpadden, a then-sophomore at CCS. The two wasted no time starting their musical journey together. Over the course of more than two years, Tucker has assumed the role of her cello instructor, while Jonte, in turn, has been his AP Seminar and AP Language teacher.

Initially, the most challenging thing for Ms. Jonte was adapting to cello finger placement, given her years of practice and muscle memory on the piano. However, the most rewarding aspect of her journey came when she had the opportunity to play alongside other musicians. She started a symphonic orchestra and had the privilege of performing with students for the annual CCS Christmas Chapel.

Jonte fully embraces the opportunity to learn something new and enjoys the challenge. Tucker, her dedicated teacher, has been a source of growth and joy for her. He has proven to be a wonderful teacher who exhibits kindness and patience while also pushing her toward improvement. “The dynamic between the student teaching the teacher was interesting at first, but has evolved into a unique friendship that will last a lifetime,” said Jonte.

CROSSINGS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating the Class of 2023

3 NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS | 25 OKLAHOMA ACADEMIC SCHOLARS | 26 AVERAGE ACT
3.96 AVERAGE GPA | 83% EARNED DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT DIPLOMA | 32 LIFERS



JULIA GARRISON
Oklahoma State University



RILEY GARRISON
Oklahoma State University



MADISON GOTTSCHALK
Oklahoma State University



ELLISON HANNA
University of Utah



LAUREN HART
University of Oklahoma



LAUREN ASBURY
University of Oklahoma



SPENCER BARNHILL
Oklahoma Baptist University



AMELIA BEATY
Rose State College



NATHAN BOND
Oklahoma State University



JOSHUA BOWDEN
Oklahoma State University



ETHAN HILL
Oklahoma Christian University



MATTHEW HOOPER
Baylor University



IAN HORTON
Southern Nazarene University



HUNTER HOWERTON
Oklahoma State University



MARY BELLE HUFF
Hawai'i Pacific University



PAYTON BRADY
Baylor University



GRACE BRUMMETT
Gap Year



ELLASON BUCHANAN
University of Oklahoma



SOPHIA BUCHANAN
University of Oklahoma



BRYCE BUTLER
University of Colorado
at Colorado Springs



BLAKE JACKSON
University of Central Oklahoma



OLIVIA KING
University of Arkansas



CAROLINE KREGER
Oklahoma State University



MADISON LIEBL
University of Central Oklahoma



LUCAS LINDSEY
University of Oklahoma



**ELIZABETH
CASTANEDA**
Baylor University



**ABIGAIL
CLINKENBEARD**
Baylor University



EVAN COX
University of Oklahoma



COLE CRAWFORD
University of Oklahoma



THOMAS CRUZAN
Southern Nazarene University



BRONWYN LINK
Texas Christian University



PRESTON MAHEN
Oklahoma Baptist University



ROBERT MANCHESTER
University of Arkansas



GRACE MASCHMEIER
Oklahoma State University



CLAIRE MCALLISTER
University of Oklahoma



WYATT CURRY
Oklahoma State University



**ANDREA
DE LEON-BARRIOS**
Baylor University



LAUREN DELESTER
Oklahoma Baptist University



NAANA DWUMA
University of Oklahoma



CADE FINCHER
Oklahoma City Community College



KATHERINE MCKEOWN
University of Oklahoma



**JOSEPH TUCKER
MCSPADDEN**
Dartmouth College



BLAKE MEEK
Oklahoma Baptist University



LILY MOORE
Oklahoma State University



GEARY MULANAX
University of Oklahoma



RACHEL MULDER
Oklahoma Christian University



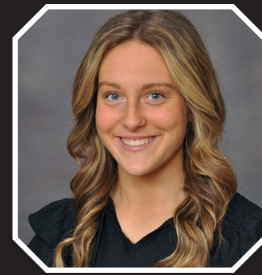
KNOX NAVE
Liberty University



ADDYSON PERRY
*Link Year /
Oklahoma Christian University*



MARIAH PHILLIPS
Drake University



KATE PIRNAT
University of Alabama



KATHRYN PRATER
University of Central Oklahoma



ARMEN PROPES
Oklahoma State University



AVA RICHISON
Hawai'i Pacific University



AVERY RISNER
Samford University



MIA RISNER
University of Arkansas



ELLE ROUSE
University of Tulsa



RUTHIE RYAN
University of Oklahoma



MATTHEW SANBORN
Taylor University



COOPER SHAPARD
Southern Methodist University



ISABELLE SMITH
Southern Nazarene University



OLIVIA SNELL
Purdue University



GRACE STARKE
University of Oklahoma



ANTHONY TAYLOR
Oklahoma State University



REAGAN TOLLEFSON
Oklahoma State University



JAKEB WAGGONER
Oklahoma City University



JULIA WALL
University of Oklahoma



JUSTIN WALRAVEN
Oklahoma Christian University



SILAS WARD
University of Oklahoma



DAGIM WORKU
University of Oklahoma



BLAINE YARBOROUGH
University of Oklahoma

LEAVING A LEGACY | CELEBRATING THE MACS



CELEBRATING

The MacDonalds

THE first time Mr. Paul S. MacDonald stepped on the campus of Crossings Christian School, it was to chair our accreditation team in 2006. At that time, CCS had an enrollment of less than 200 students and classrooms were in the basement of the former Crossings Community Church building in Belle Isle. As the chairman of the ACSI Executive Board, Capital Corporation, and Accreditation Committee as well as the Head of School at Emmanuel Christian, Mr. MacDonald was well-equipped to assist CCS in preparing and attaining our accreditation status over the next several months. Of course, this was just the beginning of his legacy and leadership at CCS.

Mr. MacDonald was once again invited to visit Crossings Christian School in 2011, but this time to serve as the Head of School. After a long and prosperous tenure at Emmanuel School and Oklahoma Bible Academy, both CCS and Mr. MacDonald felt the Lord's calling for him and Franci to join the CCS Family in the fall of 2012.

He spent his first summer on campus praying over classrooms, pouring over the curriculum, and memorizing every student and staff member using the most recent yearbook. It is easy to see why he was quickly and affectionately labeled Mr. Mac. Within his first few years, Mr. Mac not only served as the Head of School, but also as the Upper School Principal, during which time he added AP courses and additional teachers, laying the foundation for today's rigorous academic standards. He also recognized the value of a strong Fine Arts department and championed the growth of the strong Fine Arts department and championed the growth of the performing and visual arts across campus. Mr. Mac also understood the need to develop the campus and instituted a multi-year plan that included the addition of football, soccer, baseball, and softball complexes, a middle school building, a Performing Arts Center, a competition gymnasium, and other state-of-the-art facilities.

LEAVING A LEGACY | CELEBRATING THE MACS

As a graduate of a Christian high school and university, coupled with over three decades of service in Christian Education, it was clear that Mr. Mac had the knowledge and skills necessary to continue CCS' growth, which is realized today. This, of course, includes the 1200+ students currently enrolled at CCS, making it the largest preschool-twelfth grade private school in the state of Oklahoma. Mr. Mac's guidance was also integral in the growth of the CCS campus, which added over 250,000 square feet of academic space and a 13-acre athletic complex during his tenure. His attention to academic rigor is evidenced through CCS' 19 AP courses, dual credit courses, and the consistent above-average ACT scores from our graduating classes, confirmed again by the Class of 2023's 26.5 average. While campus and academic growth are valuable, the most important component is the spiritual impact experienced by our students, staff, and families throughout Mr. Mac's time as Head of School.

At almost every event or meeting, Mr. Mac's heart could be heard, saying "It matters where our students are 10 years from now, but it matters more where they are 1,000 years from now." Spiritual formation was paramount for both Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald.



Franci served faithfully as a coach, mentor, and the school's first Spiritual Formation Director for Girls throughout her tenure at CCS. By organizing elements including Spiritual Formation week, weekly Bible studies, the introduction of small groups, service projects, and relevant and intentional topics and speakers in chapel, both Mr. and Mrs. Mac knew, prioritized, and exemplified a Christian foundation for our students. They consistently prioritized the spiritual growth of CCS students, regardless of the day, time, or demands of the week, often meeting with students in the evenings to offer prayer and support.

Paul and Franci were staples at every school event. They attended each and every chapel, play, musical, performance, and sporting event, both home and away. Often, they could be seen in the front row, following the lines and singing along. At athletic events, however, Mr. Mac often chose to sit mid-level in the stands in order to see the game in its entirety and to ensure his grumbling about the referees couldn't be heard on the field. He was, and remains, a passionate supporter of our student-athletes.

After serving 44 years in Christian education, 11 of which included his time as the Head of Crossings Christian School, we wish Paul and Franci a blessed and restful retirement. We thank them for their faithful service and demonstration of Colossians 3:23 through each day at CCS, answering the call that

"WHATEVER YOU DO, WORK AT IT WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AS WORKING FOR THE LORD..."



KNIGHTS NOW | ALUMNI NEWS

2014



Cameron Shivers O'Neill is living in Gig Harbor, WA, and will graduate with her Master's in Clinical Mental Health and Counseling from Liberty University in the summer of '23. Upon graduation, Cameron will continue her education by pursuing her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology that fall.



Alexandria Fredrickson Smith began law school at the University of Oklahoma in May of 2018. In her first year, she won the 1L Moot Court Competition and in 2021 won a Best Brief Award. Alexandria recently passed the Oklahoma Bar Exam and is now the Assistant District Attorney for Oklahoma County.



Bradley Weast earned both her Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Services and her Masters of Education in Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership. Bradley is currently the female Associate Director of Residence Life at Liberty University, where she is charged with helping students understand and create healthy communities and friendships.

2015



Livi Friend Elliott and husband, Brady, welcomed their daughter, Rainey, in July 2022. The family will soon move to San Antonio, TX where Brady will be stationed as a Captain in the US Army and Livi will be a stay-at-home mom.

Caleb Philliber graduated with his bachelor's degree in Cybersecurity from Southern Nazarene University in May of 2023. He has grown alongside Crossings, serving full-time as the Information Technology Specialist since 2018.

2016



Logan Rhinehart is currently working in Denver as a commercial real estate appraiser and anticipates obtaining his full license in September. This summer, Logan has also had the exciting opportunity to work for an adventure travel company, leading high school students through Tanzanian villages while engaging with the community and hiking to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro.



Mason Hooper married Kylie Gariss on June 3rd, 2023 in Lampe, MO. Mason graduated with his undergraduate degree at Oklahoma State University and is in his final year of pharmacy school at the University of Oklahoma.



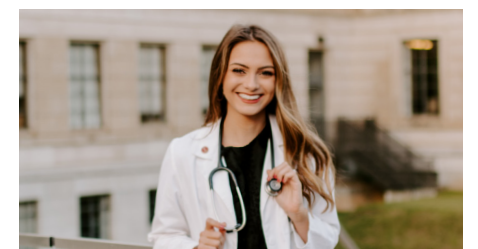
Julia Sauer Johnson recently married Chase Johnson, Class of 2018, in Estes Park, CO. She graduated from Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine and works as a veterinarian at Britton Road Veterinary Clinic.



Brooke Allen graduated from Oklahoma State University in 2020 with an Associates in General Business, Bachelors in Business Administration, and a Minor in Management. Upon graduating college, she accepted a position with an electrical wholesale distributor as the Director of Financial Operations and purchased her first home.



Shannon Ashworth graduated from Southern Nazarene University in May 2020 and received her EMT certification from OSU-OKC that July. She went on to work as a clinical research coordinator and was accepted to medical school in 2021 at the University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine. Shannon looks forward to increasing access to health care for the underserved in her local and global communities.



Jordan McKee Toups graduated from the University of Arkansas in December of 2020 with high distinction. She received her Bachelors of Science in Nursing and now works as a RN-BSN Nursery/NICU nurse at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, where she advocates for newborns at delivery. Jordan and her husband, Austin Toups, were married in June 2021.



Collin Reid graduated in May 2021 from OU with a Bachelor of Arts specializing in Communication and plans to work in sales for a construction company. He continues to raise his 4-year-old dog Bentley, a mini Aussie, and loves to spend time outdoors, camping, fishing, and hiking.

2017



Layne Taylor recently completed her undergraduate degree at The University of Nevada, Reno, and is now embarking on an exciting academic journey to pursue a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Nutrition. Layne aspires to be a personal chef, deriving inspiration from different cultures as she travels the world including Thailand, Portugal, and Italy.



Ashley Davison graduated in May 2021 from the University of Central Oklahoma with a Bachelors of Business Administration. She is currently working at Crossings Community Church. In her free time, she disciples four sweet girls and leads a small group of young adult women.

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Madeline Koonce graduated from The University of Arkansas in May 2021 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a Marketing major and Business Analytics minor. After graduation, Madeline moved to Austin, TX and works for Paycom in sales.

2018



Alex Danner graduated from University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science in May of 2022. Alex is pursuing advanced studies and is in his second year of dental school at the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry.



Luke Santos graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Oklahoma in 2022, where he also served as the President of Alpha Tau Omega, the largest fraternity on campus at that time. He currently attends OU Medical School and works as a Teaching Assistant in Anatomy and conducts research of muscle wasting in late stage cancer patients.



Allison Crampton Johnson married her husband, Kobe, in June of 2023 and moved to Jonesboro, Arkansas to begin Seminary at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. While working toward an MTS with an emphasis in Biblical Counseling, she plans to work part-time at her church in the Young Adults ministry and continue freelance media work.

Alexis Redwine graduated from Southern Nazarene University in May of 2023 with a degree in Chemistry with a minor in Biology and Physics. She will continue her journey of education by pursuing a Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Kansas in the Fall of 2023.



Tyler Jackson finished his undergraduate degree in 2021 and moved to Overland Park, KS to further his education at Cleveland University- Kansas City to pursue his Doctor of Chiropractic.

2019



Megan Hooper graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from Abilene Christian University in December of 2022. Having completed her undergraduate studies, Megan has made the decision to remain in Abilene to pursue her passion for healthcare and further her education. In the upcoming fall semester she will begin her journey at Hardin Simmons University, where she will be enrolled in physical therapy school.



Megan Szymanski is graduating Summa Cum Laude from The University of Oklahoma with dual degrees - a Bachelor of Science in Planned Program and a Bachelor of Arts in Letters - and a Business minor. She will attend The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in the fall. During her senior year, Megan served in several leadership roles and was recognized for her leadership and service to the University as a member of the Homecoming Court and was named the Outstanding Senior in the College of Arts and Sciences.



Grace Fairlie graduated with Honors from Oklahoma Baptist University in May 2023 with a Bachelor of Arts in Family Science degree. After four edifying years at OBU she now aims to begin as a caseworker for kids within the nonprofit sector in the fall of 2023.



Chloe Tucker graduated with Honors from the University of Oklahoma as a part of the Class of 2023 with a degree in Visual Communications and minors in Enterprise Studies and Arts Management & Entrepreneurship. After completing an internship for the Bizzell Memorial Library, Chloe plans to backpack across Europe before diving into her professional endeavors.



Joshua Row graduated from the University of Northwestern- St. Paul with a degree in Theatre. He will begin an exciting journey into professional theatre this summer as he begins working at the Guthrie Theatre in Minnesota, one of 79 theatres across 30 states as a part of the League of Resident Theatres.



Ross Lovelace graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in public relations and communications. He currently works as a reporter for "All Sooners" and "Inside the Thunder" and anticipates taking on a new role soon. Ross is engaged and will marry his fiancée, Addison, this August. The two will reside in New Orleans.



Ryan McKee graduated from the University of Arkansas in December of 2022 and is now a child life specialist at Oklahoma Children's OU Health. Ryan dreamed of working in this field since her junior year of high school and feels blessed to serve many families during challenging times.



Waverly Wang graduated from Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, CA, where she double majored in Computer Science and Media Studies. She is now taking steps toward her dream career in animation by continuing her education at UCLA.

2020



Boone Howeth is a traveling freelance videographer and photographer. This summer Boone will travel to 8 states, as well as Canada and the Bahamas, to create content and freelance work. He will graduate from Oklahoma State University next year with a degree in entrepreneurship and marketing.

Alumni, do you have news to share?

EMAIL UPDATES TO
ALUMNI@CROSSINGSSCHOOL.ORG

2021



Lilly Farrell has embarked on the exciting journey of motherhood to her son, Barrett. Following her passion for helping others, Lily is currently studying at Washburn University with the aim of obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Human and Family Services. After completion, she plans to attend Law School to study Criminal Law.

Gabe Hunter is a junior at the University of Oklahoma and member of the Christian Fraternity, BYX. Gabe was recently recruited to spread school spirit and join the OU Cheer Squad for both home and away events.

2022



Reid Lovelace recently joined The University of Oklahoma Basketball Team as a walk-on point guard. From attending OU basketball camps to being point guard at CCS, Lovelace has always dreamed of being a part of the team. As a Sooner, his job is to run the scout team and bring a positive impact both on and off the court while playing alongside and traveling with the team.



CROSSINGS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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