

Blood Drive | Thursday, October 17

Episcopal Collegiate will be hosting a blood drive on campus on Thursday, October 17 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. The blood drive will be held in the Auxiliary Gym and the goal is 25 successful donors!

To schedule an appointment, please click on the link below.

[**SIGN UP FOR BLOOD DRIVE**](#)

Thank You, Gate & Concession Volunteers!

Thank you to all of our fabulous volunteers that helped us out at the gate and concessions stand for the month of September! We are so grateful for your time and energy put into supporting our Athletics Program:

Amber & Alan Bagley, Jens Boyd, Alexis Freeman, Lyndsey Allen, Jyvaya Braden, Jylyyah Braden, Michal Hodson, Beatrice Maingi, Leslie Bright, Amber Read-Zamilpa, Stacey Sebree, Sherri Stacks, Gary Sullivan, Jessie McLarty, Liza Wright, Helen Brown, Tricia Morgan, Amy O'Connor, Susie & LC Marshall, Baxter Knowlton, Jerrilyn Jones, Kim Koch, Kristen Moyers, Heather Schmiegelow, Sandy Barakat, Lauren & Lee Strother, Leah Rolston, Tracy Harrelson, Mollie Campbell, Beth Jones, Jennifer Guimbellot, Anna Rojas, Brandi Collins, John Collins, Julia Crow, Kristen King, Elizabeth Daniel, Stefanie Leacock, Claire McGeorge, Grace McGeorge, Melissa Rutledge, Renee & Gavin McGraw, Lauren & Henry Ford, Laura Sanders, Amanda Daugherty, Tiffany Bright, Sarah Smart, Lindsay & Robert Coon, Charlotte Grumbles, Serena Green, Elizabeth Griffin, Nikki Parnell, Rachael Oberste, Emily Martin, Julia Crow, Stephani Brown, Lindsey & Carter Chance, Diane Hoelscher, Chase Crocker, Mary-Margaret Marks, Sydney Blackmon, Nicole Colclasure, Jenny & Evan Gregory, Georgia O'Connor, Eve Norman, Brian Young, Tracye Mosley, Ashley Gold, Sarah Smart, Jake Snowden, Mary Ritchey, Mary Catherine Allen, Emily Johnson, Beth Anne Reed, Erica & Rease Fields, and Zach Steadman

With much appreciation,

Laura Schnackenberg and Mary Margaret Wippo

A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

Howdy, Wildcats! We can't wait to see you this afternoon at Wildcat Roundup. The fun takes place from 4:30 - 6:00 pm on the football field. Wildcat Roundup cannot happen without our wonderful parent volunteers. Please sign up for at least one 30-minute parent volunteer shift. [Sign up here!](#) I want to say a huge thank you to Olivia Ramsey and Elizabeth Daniel for chairing Wildcat Roundup this year!

We will be out of school on Thursday and Friday due to Fall Break. We have another short week when we return on Monday due to parent/teacher conference day on Friday, October 18. I hope you all enjoy Fall Break with your family and friends!

Catherine Schuhmacher

Head of Lower School

Class Pictures & Individual Retakes | Wednesday, October 23

All students should wear their dress uniforms on Wednesday, October 23. Photo packets will be sent home with students next week.

Halloween in the Lower School

Students in all grades are invited to wear Halloween costumes on Thursday, October 31. Costumes should be safe and respectful to others. Please do not send students with swords, weapons, or scary masks. Also, please be mindful to send students in costumes that will not interfere with their daily school work, PE, or recess time. If costumes are distracting, students should bring a change of clothes. Class parties will take place at different times throughout the day based on grade level.

We will have our annual Halloween parade beginning at 8:15 am. Students in PreK through 1st will parade through the first floor hallways and end in the Erwin Hall Performance Center and Gymnasium. Kindergarten students will parade with their Senior Buddies. Students in 2nd through 5th grades will sit in the gym to watch the parade. Parents are welcome to watch from the Atrium, Simpson Commons, or the Erwin Hall Performance Center and Gymnasium. The parade should conclude by 8:30 am.

Little Rockers Kids Marathon Registration Now Open

The Little Rockers Kids Marathon Program will begin on Monday, November 11. This program will run from November 11 through the Final Mile on Saturday, March 1. This program is open to students in grades 2-5. Each student will set a goal to complete 25.1 miles prior to running the Final Mile. Participants will run/walk on Monday afternoons on the Smith Family Track from 3:30 to 4:15 pm. To sign up for the program, please use this [link](#). For more information about the program, please contact Mr. Alex Daniel at adaniel@episcopalcollegiate.org.

Dr. House's Classroom Highlight

After seeing “a day in the life” of Mrs. Kane last week, I thought it might be fun to walk through a day with each of our Reading and Math Specialists. This week, I’ll share with you what Mrs. Annabel Johnson does on an average day. Did you know that Mrs. Johnson is a certified speech-language pathologist? Although her priority at Episcopal is teaching early reading skills, her background in the pathology side of language development makes her uniquely qualified to serve our students’ individual needs. Mrs. Johnson starts her day with a handful of kindergarten students where she walks them through specific skills using engaging materials, books, and activities. The kids get so excited when they get to go with Mrs. Johnson for a bit! After a few kindergarten groups, she moves on to her first grade classes. In first grade she may work on sound or letter patterns, comprehension skills, or even oral reading fluency. She works closely with the teachers in first and second grades to make sure she knows exactly what each student needs to work on that day. After rotating through the 3 first grade classrooms for a few hours, Mrs. Johnson begins her afternoon back in kindergarten to meet with any students she was not able to see during her morning block.

In both grades, Mrs. Johnson groups her students, not based on reading level, but on specific skill needs. For example, we might have a very early reader who is just starting to read beyond basic repetitive text alongside another student who is already enjoying short chapter books. However, perhaps both of those students struggle to sound out words

when they see “th” at the end of a word. Those students would come together to work on that skill with Mrs. Johnson. Not only does this allow her to fill in very specific skill gaps, it also helps our students to understand that learning is not about “high” or “low” or “fast” or “slow”. It proves that no matter where you are on a particular spectrum, everyone has something to learn. That’s why it’s so important that our teachers and specialists know our students well.

After meeting with anywhere from 5-15 small groups, Mrs. Johnson finishes her day with any assessments that might be needed. She completes regular phonics and reading assessments with all of our students at different points throughout the year. In addition to those, she is often called upon to complete diagnostic screening assessments to better inform teachers and parents when a student seems to be struggling. These assessments include ample time spent with each student as well as time spent analyzing and summarizing her findings.

Whether you find her meeting with students, planning with teachers, or analyzing assessments, you can be sure that Mrs. Johnson’s day is jam-packed with whatever our students need from her!



Chapel News

This week, in preparation for fall break, our PreK and Kindergarten chapels focused on the importance of rest and why God wants us to rest. In 1st-5th grade community chapel we were joined by upper school choir students and Mr. Vano for a wonderful choral performance.

Next week our PreK and Kindergarten chapels will talk about Moses and the Ark and the Tent story. In Community Chapel our 1st-5th graders will enjoy a chapel talk from Mrs. Abbott. Please join us for chapel any time!

PreK 4: 8:20-8:40am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library

PreK 3: 8:50-9:10am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library

Kindergarten: 9:20-9:50am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library

1st-5th: 2:30-3:00pm, Erwin Performance Hall & Gymnasium

In Godly Play this week we worked with Psalm 46 which reminds us to “Be Still and Know that I am God.” We talked about different ways we rest and recharge - including meditation and play! Next week in Godly Play we’ll be back in the desert box with the story of The Ark and the Tent.

Grace & Peace,

Michelle Moore

Interim Lower School Chaplain

Pride Patrol | October 14-17

Pride Patrol is a leadership opportunity for our 4th and 5th grade students. These students should arrive by 7:30 am, help open car doors, welcome students, and walk our youngest Wildcats to their classrooms.

Pride Patrol student leaders next week include:

- Elizabeth Kilgroe
- Payton Robinson
- Landon Rodgers
- Jane Rojas
- Collins Shively
- Elliot Smith
- Vivian Smith

Fall Super Session Registration is Open!

Join us for all sorts of fun this fall! There is something for everyone!

You can register now for [Fall 2024 Super Sessions](#).

October Clubs

[Science Club](#) - 3rd-5th grade - Mrs. Keck knows how to make science fun.. and sometimes messy!

[Adventurer's Guild](#) - 5th-8th grade - Join Mr. Carter in a role-playing adventure!

[Soccer Shots](#) - PK-1st grade - Soccer skills and fun with friends!

[Kindness Club](#) - 2nd-5th grade - Random Acts of Kindness can make a difference for you and those around you. Join Mrs. Abbott to learn more!

[Super Hero Training](#) - 3rd-5th grade - Work on your SpiderMan skills and "spidey-senses" with Ms. Strong!

[Ninja Training](#) - K-2nd grade - Join Diana Strong for a fun adventure in fitness and personal safety.

You can sign up for Soccer Shots [here](#).

Mark Your Calendars

October 10-11 | Fall Break

October 18 | Family/Teacher Conference, No School
October 23 | Class Pictures/Individual Make-Up Picture Day
October 31 | Halloween parade (PK-1) and Parties

Quick Links

[Lower School Live News](#)

[Wildcat Community Page](#)

Find the [LS Calendar](#) here.

A Note from Dr. McCormick

Dear Families,

Though this was a short week, we gathered as a middle school on Monday morning, and the eighth grade teaching team recognized excellent attitude, self-advocacy, scholarly curiosity, and going above and beyond assignment parameters for the month of September. Here are those they recognized!

Latin - Charlotte Warren, Abby Haselow

History - SK Willis, Thomas McRae

Physical Science - Ella McCallister, Griffin Blackmon

Exploratory Design - Soren Kirkhuff, Henry Fontes

English - Layla Dement, Max McGeorge

Algebra - Olivia Glover, Abby Grace Robinson

Spanish II - Keers McMillian

On behalf of the middle school faculty, thank you for partnering with us in your child's growth and development in the middle grades. We wish you a pleasant and safe fall break!

Have a pleasant weekend,

Chuck McCormick

Head of Middle School

Student-Advisor-Family Conferences | Friday, October 18

Student-advisor-family conferences are on October 18. These conferences are mandatory, so if you haven't already, please schedule a meeting with your child's advisor asap. [Here](#) is the original communication about this day.

Planned Absence Procedure

If your child needs to miss a day or more of school for a planned absence, parents/guardians need to send Dr. McCormick an email (ideally one week prior to the absence) explaining the reason for the absence and requesting that the absence be excused. Then, the student should get a Planned Absence form from Mrs. Britt in the middle school office and take it around to have their teachers complete their parts. The student, then, will return the form to Mrs. Britt for Dr. McCormick's signature and to receive a copy of their form. Students who will only be absent for part of a day need not follow

these procedures. They simply need to have their parent/guardian contact Mrs. Britt in the office when they are in front of the middle school doors and ready to sign their child out.

Reminder: Absences and after school activities

If a student misses a half-day of school or more for illness or other reasons, they may not participate in any after school practices, games, activities, rehearsals, or school-sponsored social events, e.g., Middle School Social.

Middle School Book Talk

The second discussion for this year's book, *How to Raise an Adult* by Julie Lythcott-Haims, will be on Wednesday, October 9, and the final conversation will take place on Wednesday, October 23. All parents are welcome to tune in, especially those who have not read the book! All of these sessions will occur from 8:15-9:00 am

- Google Meet link: meet.google.com/cfy-rkqf-dxo
- Dial in: (US)+1 252-665-6568 PIN: 738 192 219#

Community Service in Middle School

As a reminder, all middle school students are required to complete five hours of community service per year. Mr. Binder, Upper School Dean of Students, regularly shares a form containing service opportunities for middle and high school students. Please find the updated version at [this link](#).

Mark Your Calendars

October 10-11 | Fall Break

October 18 | Family/Teacher Conference, No School

A Note from Dr. Graham

As we head into a much-deserved Fall Break, my teammates and I wish you and your family a wonderful long weekend. When we return next week, first quarter grades will be available for you to view on Veracross on Wednesday, and one more reminder that Fall Conference Day is on Friday.

Speaking of Fall Conferences, our students and their faculty advisors are working hard to prepare for next Friday. In Advisory sessions this week and next, our students are reflecting on their areas of strength and growth from the first quarter, and they are taking inventory of their school workload, extracurricular activities, personal development, and more. My colleagues and I consider Conference Day a vital school-family touchpoint, and we look forward to seeing you here next Friday for your child's conference. Not signed up yet? See below for signup instructions.

Shoutout to those students and faculty members on the College Trip in Northern California, and congratulations to our tennis and golf teams for competing in conference and state play. Go Wildcats!

See you soon,

Kellen Graham

Head of Upper School

Updates, Reminders, & Action Items

Signup for your Child's Fall Conference | Friday, October 18

Please don't forget to sign up for your child's Fall Conference. Fall Conference Day is Friday, October 18th. Directions for signing up for your conference are [here](#), and you can learn more about conferences [here](#).

Contact Us if Your Child is Absent, Late, or Checking Out

Parents, if your child is absent from or will arrive late to school for any reason, or if they need to check out during the school day, it is imperative that you contact the School and let us know. If your child is absent, please either call us in the Main Office at **501-372-1194 ext. 3** and leave us a detailed message or email Selby Boyd at sboyd@episcopalcollegiate.org. Upper School students are expected to communicate any known absences with their teachers, coaches, and advisor in advance. Parents, we also expect to hear directly from you any time your child is absent.

Coming Up Next Week...

Blood Drive | Thursday, October 17

The Upper School Student Council is hosting a Blood Drive in the back gym on Thursday, October 17. Students who are 16+ are encouraged to consider [scheduling a donation](#). All eligible students who attempt to donate earn one hour of service credit, and *any* student who successfully refers an eligible family member or friend to schedule an appointment will receive 1/2 hour of service per referral (with appropriate documentation). Contact [Mr. Binder](#) with questions.

Parent-Student-Advisor Conference Day | Friday, October 18

All Upper (& Middle) School students are expected to participate in a 30-minute conference, along with their Advisor and at least one parent or guardian. Conferences are a holistic checkpoint for students, families, and advisors. In addition to discussing your child's academic standing, you will have the opportunity to discuss (and to hear your child talk about) their social and extracurricular lives, successes, and growth areas. Directions for signing up for your conference are [here](#), and you can learn more about conferences [here](#).

Chapel Schedule

Monday, October 14 - Father Rob

Tuesday, October 15 - Sarah Wallace Moore '25

Wednesday, October 16 - Chapel Guild Commissioning

Thursday, October 17 - Lucie Hughes '20

Friday, October 18 - Conference Day - No Chapel

[Athletics Schedule](#)

Let's go, Wildcats!

[Service Opportunities](#)

We will share new service opportunities for our students as they come to us.

Beyond Next Week...

School Picture Retake Day & Class Photos | Wednesday, October 23

If your child needs to retake their school picture, they will have the chance on Wednesday, October 23. Please contact Julie Fitz for more information.

PSAT Day (for 11th Graders) | Thursday, October 24

Our 11th graders will take the PSAT on the morning of Thursday, October 24. They will register for the exam in school.

College Workday for Seniors (No Classes for Seniors) | Thursday, October 24

With college application deadlines on the horizon, our seniors will have a college workday on Thursday, October 24. Seniors will not have class that day; instead, they will spend their time either meeting 1:1 with their college counselor, working on application essays, perhaps touring local colleges, or applying for scholarships. Ms. Morgan and Ms. Byrd will help each senior develop a plan for the day.

Halloween | Thursday, October 31

Upper School students are invited and encouraged to dress up for Halloween. Closer to the date, we will share costume guidelines with our kids.

Find the [US Calendar](#) here.