

### **Exciting News: New Website Launch | November 18**

We are thrilled to announce that we will be launching our new website on November 18! This update comes in response to the growing demand for improved functionality and a more user-friendly experience for our community.

As with any new website, there may be occasional glitches or down time as we transition to the updated platform. If you encounter any issues, we kindly ask that you report them to our Director of Marketing & Community Outreach, Lauren Curtis, at [lcurtis@episcopalcollegiate.org](mailto:lcurtis@episcopalcollegiate.org). Your feedback will be invaluable in helping us make the site as smooth and efficient as possible.

We encourage you to take the week of the 18th to familiarize yourself with the new layout.

### **Food Drive Starts on Monday!**

On Monday, November 11, all three divisions - Lower, Middle, and Upper School are excited to begin our Food Drive in conjunction with the Arkansas Food Bank. On this past Wednesday, November 6, Moriah Sitz, volunteer coordinator with the Food Bank, spoke in Lower School Chapel about the Food Bank's mission to combat hunger and food insecurity in Arkansas. In addition, Lucy Coon and Alice McCormick, members of the Upper School Kindness Club, spoke to students about the importance of participating in the Food Drive. As we work toward our collection goal of 2,024 items we encourage families to donate the following items:

-canned meat, canned fruit, canned vegetables, boxed breakfast items such as cereal and oatmeal, pasta meals, water, and juices. Collection bins and boxes are available near the Lower, Middle, and Upper School doorways. If we meet our goal of 2,024 items, students in all three divisions will earn a spirit day. To learn more about the Arkansas Foodbank, please use this [link](#).

### **Pumpkin Bread for Faculty and Staff**

November is here and what a great way to show your appreciation for our dedicated faculty and staff by contributing to purchase homemade pumpkin bread. This sweet treat will serve as a thoughtful gesture of thanks for all the hard work and commitment they put into creating a positive and enriching environment for our students each day. Any donation, big or small, will go directly toward spreading some fall cheer and brightening their day. Please click the button below to make your donation today.

### **[PUMPKIN BREAK DONATION](#)**

### **Parents' Auxiliary Meeting | Friday, November 15**

The next Parents' Auxiliary meeting will be held on Friday, November 15 at 8:00 am in US Room 215

### **Fall Athletic Banquet**

We invite you to mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 20, at 6:00 pm for the Middle and Upper School Fall Athletic Banquet in the Dining Hall. All Middle and Upper School athletes and their families are invited to attend. Athletes will enjoy a complimentary spaghetti bolognese, Caesar salad, roll, and dessert. Families of athletes may purchase a meal for \$12. Spaghetti marinara (veggie option) will be available as well. Dinner will begin serving at 5:30 pm. Please click the link below to reserve your banquet meals. **The deadline to reserve meals is Monday, November 18 at noon.**

### **[RESERVE A MEAL](#)**

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact [Brooke Hicks](#) or [Amanda Groce](#).

Go, Wildcats!

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

Our Robotics team did a great job at the Turkey Trot VEX IQ Robotics Competition at Henderson Middle School on Thursday. RoboCats Deux won the Teamwork Champion Award and an invitation to the state competition! RoboCats finished 3rd and showed remarkable talents. Please read below for more details about the tournament. Way to go, Coach Rogers and Robocats!

We have some exciting holiday-themed Super Session offerings in the coming weeks. For those of you interested in Mrs. Falcon and Mrs. Tursky's How to Catch a Turkey Camp, they have opened another session on Wednesday, November 20. [Click here to register](#).

Hope you have a restful weekend!

Catherine Schuhmacher

Head of Lower School

### **Congrats, Robotics Team!**

Please congratulate our RoboCats teams for their outstanding performances today at the VEX Robotics tournament! RoboCats Deux, (90125B), took home the Teamwork Champion Award – one of only four awards that earned them an invitation to the State Championship, competing against 28 other teams. We're incredibly proud of RoboCats Deux members Margaret Bronni, Max Gutierrez, Bonnie McCauley, Kennedy Smith, and Layla Turner for their dedication and teamwork! [View Photo Album](#).

Our other team, the RoboCats (90125A), showcased exceptional skill, finishing 3rd in the skills ranking and earning the highest driving score of the tournament with 42 points. Please congratulate RoboCats members Eli Gray, Jeremiah Goree, Tommy Hogate, Everett Weirich, Sam Williams, and Emma Young for their hard work and focus. [View Photo Album](#).

### **Kindergarten Girl Scout Troop**

Attention, Kindergarten Parents!

Does your daughter enjoy:

- Camping?
- STEM experiments?
- Arts and crafts?
- Trying new things?
- Making new friends?
- Going on adventures?

You're invited to join a new Girl Scout troop just for kindergarten girls that attend Episcopal Collegiate! We are seeking excited adult volunteers to help lead this new troop, as well as kindergarten girls that are ready to start their Girl Scout journey. Membership dues are only \$25 for October 2024 to September 2025, so join now!

For more information or for questions, contact troop leader Margaret Woolley by text at 256-338-2133 or Farrah Beck by email at [fbeck@girlscoutsdiamonds.org](mailto:fbeck@girlscoutsdiamonds.org).



Your Year of

# Curiosity

Look forward to a year of curiosity and exploration that you'll remember long after the year is over.

## We are starting a new Girl Scout troop!

We are looking for excited adult volunteers and kindergarten girls to start a new troop at Episcopal Collegiate!

For more information or if you have questions, contact Margaret Woolley by text at 256-338-2133 or Farrah Beck by email at [fbeck@girlscoutsdiamonds.org](mailto:fbeck@girlscoutsdiamonds.org)

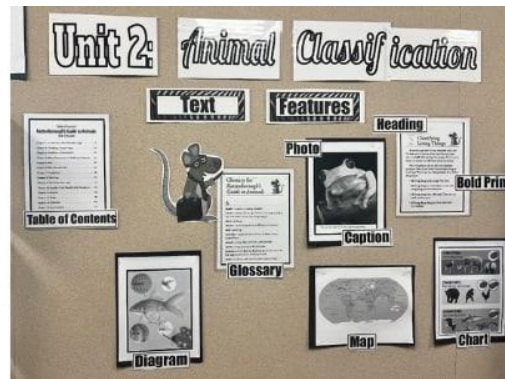
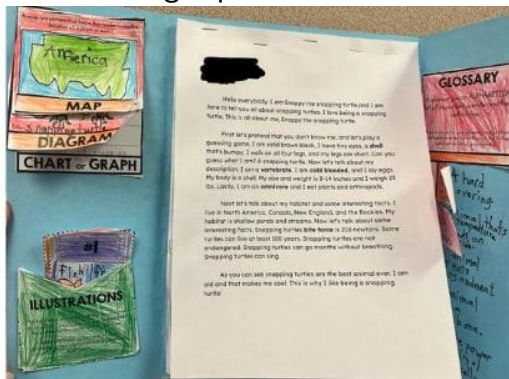
Be a Girl Scout

[www.GirlScoutsDiamonds.org](http://www.GirlScoutsDiamonds.org)

girl scouts   
diamonds of arkansas,  
oklahoma and texas

## Dr. House's Classroom Highlight

Text features might be a lesson many of us remember learning in elementary school. I remember my big, hard-back science textbook having a table of contents and an index (which I often got mixed up), and I remember my teacher telling me to always read the captions or look for words in bold to indicate important vocabulary. It was honestly quite dry to me as a student. These text features are still important for learners to know, as they can be incredibly useful when reading and researching. Our third-graders tackled the lesson on text features as a twist on their latest writing project. After reading The Wind in the Willows and researching animal adaptations, students included certain text features in their latest writing piece. By having to *create* a glossary, an index, photo captions, etc, the students were able to remember the purpose of each feature much faster than if they had just been reading them. Any time our students can have both a receptive (reading, receiving) AND expressive (writing, expressing) experience with a skill, they have a greater chance of retaining that information long-term. This combined approach is just one of the ways this project masterfully integrates a wide range of reading and writing skills into one enjoyable learning experience.



## Chapel News

This week we learned that nothing can separate us from God. In our PreK and Kindergarten chapels we read the book *Nothing Can Separate You from God's Love* by Natalee Creech. In Community Chapel we heard from Moriah Sitz, a representative from the Arkansas Food Bank about food insecurity in the state of Arkansas as we prepare for our annual food drive which begins on Monday, November 11.

Next week our PreK and Kindergarten chapels will read the book *God's Dream* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu & Douglas Carlton Abrams. In Community Chapel we'll hear from the 3rd grade class as they present about the character trait "Worth." Please join us for chapel anytime.

- 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 learned about the story of Jonah, the Backwards Prophet. In Godly Play next week we will work with all the stories that we've heard so far this semester - Circle of the Church Year, Creation, The Flood and the Ark, The Great Family, The Exodus, The Ten Best Ways, The Ark and the Tent, The Exile and the Return, The Prophets, and Jonah the Backwards Prophet.

Michelle Moore

Interim Lower School Chaplain

### **Pride Patrol | November 11-15**

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:

- Henry Dake
- Willa Dalvi
- Ellie Daniel
- Rachel Davis
- Kayleigh Dillett
- Parker Easley
- Alexander Eubanks

### **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](#).

- **November 7-21 | Art Animal Tea Party! | Mrs. Saoud:** Create a colorful canvas painting of your favorite animal, craft a papier-mache tea cup, a puff-paint cupcake, and a crown with bling, perfect for the fanciest of tea parties!
- **November 20 | How to Catch A Turkey! | Mrs. Tursky and Mrs. Falcon:** A turkey is running loose in a school right before a Thanksgiving play. Can YOU help Mrs. Tursky and Mrs. Falcon catch it?
- **November 11 | Kindness Club | Mrs. Abbott:** Kindness Club will be a monthly super session filled with creative ways to show kindness in our Episcopal community and have lots of FUN along the way. You can expect your child to learn how a simple act of kindness can make a big impact in the world, and how it can help build confidence and pride in ourselves.

### **Mark Your Calendars**

November 20 | Lower School Eucharist, 2:00 pm

November 25-29 | Thanksgiving Break - No School

December 18 | Christmas Programs: PreK-1, 9am; Grades 2-5, 1:30 pm and 6:00 pm

December 19 | Christmas Sing-Along at 10:00 am, Classroom parties to follow, 12pm dismissal, No Wildcat Club offered that day

December 20-January 6 | Christmas Break - No School

## Quick Links

[Lower School Live News](#)

[Wildcat Community Page](#)

Find the [LS Calendar](#) here.

## A Note from Dr. McCormick

Dear Families,

This week, we marked a first in our middle school. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade video production class produced its first ECTV in the middle broadcast! I am linking it [here](#) for you to see. Congratulations to those students and their teachers, Mrs. Stoltz and Mrs. Robinson, on this wonderful accomplishment! During advisory time on Monday, all middle grades participated in a [Win at Social lesson](#). Thank you to Dean Fortner for this write up! Additionally, we will be holding our first ever middle school book fair next month. Please find out more about this below!

Have a good weekend!

Chuck McCormick

Head of Middle School

## Middle School Book Fair

### [MS Book Fair](#)

We are excited to announce our first **Middle School Book Fair** from **December 11 to 13!** The theme for this year is **Jólabókaflóð** (pronounced yo-la-bok-a-flot), an Icelandic tradition that translates to "Yule Book Flood."

Jólabókaflóð celebrates the giving and receiving of books during the Christmas season. It originated during World War II, when paper was one of Iceland's few resources, and has since become a beloved holiday tradition. We are thrilled to bring the spirit of Jólabókaflóð to our students, encouraging a love for reading and the joy of sharing books!

We are proud to partner with **Sammy's Bookshelf**, a new local independent bookstore, to bring an excellent selection of books to our school. We encourage everyone to join the holiday spirit by finding the perfect book to give or enjoy yourself. The book fair will be open daily to students and parents from **7:45 am to 4:00 pm**.

## Eighth Grade Over the Top Awards

At today's Morning Meeting, our eighth grade teachers recognized exemplary effort, improvement, focus, consistency, teamwork, and leadership in their classes for the month of October. Here are the names of those whom they recognized!

Math - Lucas Roe, Ena Borg

English - Cate Penick, Mary Erwin Bright

Latin - Isabella Hargrave, Nakiya Owens, Will Heard

Physical Science - Ben Grumbles, Louisa O'Connor

Spanish II - Tucker Grumbles

Social Studies - Evie Tuite, Amina Sallam

### **A Note from Dr. Graham**

Our kids are learning and growing in so many areas. Last weekend, our Speech and Debate team turned in a strong performance in their tournament at Central High. Yesterday, our Cross Country teams traveled to States in Hot Springs and our girls team won it's **4th consecutive state championship** (special shoutout to senior Ella Gary for finishing as the 1st place in 4A!). Tonight, our football team will cap off its season tonight at Yellville Summit. Earlier this week, with the help of parent volunteers from the Upcyclers, our seniors crafted "buddy blankets" to give to their kindergarten buddies for Christmas, and our juniors are doing CPR training yesterday and today.

Looking ahead to next week, everyone at school is thrilled for this year's musical, *Bright Star*, to launch! Opening Night is Thursday, November 14th at 7:00 pm. The show also runs on Friday, November 15th and Saturday, November 16th at 7:00 pm. The music and the songs and the performances from our student actors are all fantastic. Don't miss out! Hope to see many of you there.

Please keep reading to learn more about what's happening in Upper School.

See you soon,

Kellen Graham

Head of Upper School

### **Episcopal Seniors Make the Central Arkansas Senior High All-Region Choirs**

Students from the Episcopal Collegiate Concert Choir travelled to Parkview Arts and Science Magnet School to compete for a spot in the Central Arkansas All-Region Choir. Three students were selected to the All-Region Choirs. Mary Katherine Griffin (12<sup>th</sup>) made the Senior High All-Region Women's Choir. This is Mary Katherine's 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row to make the All-Region Women's Choir. Walker Ritchey (12<sup>th</sup>) and Jackson Rowell (12<sup>th</sup>) earned the 12<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> chairs respectively in the Bass 1 section, giving them spots in the All-Region Mixed Choir. In addition to these honors, Walker and Jackson scored high enough to qualify for the All-State Choir auditions in early February. These students will perform in their respective All-Region Choir Concerts on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at the Maumelle Performing Arts Center. Congratulations to these talented and hard-working Episcopal Collegiate students."

### **Updates, Reminders, & Action Items**

#### **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](mailto: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.

#### **Juniors Required CPR Training**

On Thursday, November 7th, and Friday, November 8th, Juniors will participate in required CPR training during their study hall periods. The State of Arkansas requires that all high



school students complete hands-on CPR training before graduation. Students already CPR certified may bring the proof of certification on the training day to show Nurse Hopkins.

### **College Counseling Meeting for 11th-Grade Parents**

All junior parents are invited to meet with our college counselors on Monday, November 11 at 5:30 pm in Upper School 215 to learn more about Junior College Counseling Class, Princeton Review SAT test preparation, the Case Studies Workshop, and how best to help their junior prepare for college applications.

### **Fall Semester Exam Schedule**

Click the link above to see our Fall exam schedule, and please reach out to your child's Advisor or to me with questions or concerns.

### **Coming Up Next Week...**

#### **College Counseling Meeting (For 11th Grade Parents)**

All junior parents are invited to meet with our college counselors on Monday, November 11 at 5:30 pm in Upper School 215 to learn more about Junior College Counseling Class, Princeton Review SAT test preparation, the Case Studies Workshop, and how best to help their junior prepare for college applications.

#### **Family Night | Wednesday, November 13**

Wednesday night is Family Night, which means that students are not assigned homework or assessments due on Thursday. Most on-campus activities after school will end by 5:00 pm. We encourage your student (and you!) to relax on Wednesday evening.

#### ***Bright Star* (The Musical)**

The curtain opens at 7:00 pm on Thursday night, and the show also starts at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday night. See you at the show!

#### **Chapel Schedule**

Monday, November 11 - Father Rob

Tuesday, November 12 - Mary Katherine Griffin '25

Wednesday, November 13 - 3rd-Grade Character Virtue

Thursday, November 14 - *Bright Star* Preview

Friday, November 15 - Morgan Davis '25

#### **Athletics Schedule**

Let's go, Wildcats!

#### **Service Opportunities**

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

### **College Counseling**

#### **Seniors & Parents Financial Aid Zoom Webinar**

Join us for a virtual Financial Aid night on Monday, November 18 at 6:00 pm to learn more about the Financial Aid Process. We will have several guest speakers including: Shelby Maguire, Director of Financial Aid at Lafayette College, and Heather Taylor, Director of Student Aid at Arkansas Tech University. Please register using the link below and you'll receive more information about joining the

webinar: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_I2EhqrzyQyqGVBL02cZikw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I2EhqrzyQyqGVBL02cZikw)

**Beyond Next Week...**

**Fall Musical (Bright Star) - Thursday, November 14 - Saturday, November 16**

**Fall Athletics Banquet - Wednesday, November 20**

**Thanksgiving Break - Saturday, November 23 - Sunday, December 1**

**Choir/Orchestra Christmas Concert - Monday, December 9**

**End of 2nd Quarter - Thursday, December 12**

**Reading Day (School attendance is optional for students) - Friday, December 13**

**Fall Semester Exams - Monday, December 16 - Thursday, December 19**

**Christmas Break - Friday, December 20 - Monday, January 6**

**Second Semester Begins - Tuesday, January 7**

Find the [US Calendar](#) here.