

Exciting News: New Website Launch | November 18

As a friendly reminder, our new website will launch this coming Monday, November 18! We're excited about the enhanced functionality and user-friendly experience it will provide for our community.

Please keep in mind that, as with any new website, there may be glitches or down time during the transition. If you notice any issues, we kindly ask that you report them to our Director of Marketing & Community Outreach, Lauren Curtis, at lcurtis@episcopalcollegiate.org. Your input will be essential in helping us refine the site.

We encourage everyone to take the week of the 18th to explore the new layout and features. Additionally, you will find frequently used platforms conveniently located in the top right navigation labeled "Parents."

2024 Food Drive

Our all-school food driving benefitting the Arkansas Food Bank continues through Friday, November 22. Please continue to send in non-perishable items each day to help us reach our goal of 2024 food items. We appreciate your support!

Episcopal Basketball has Begun!

Our Upper School EpiscoPEP group has assigned themes for each of the varsity basketball games. Students are encouraged to come and support our varsity boys' and girls' teams and show their spirit! The most spirited student at each night's game will win a Sonic drink!

A Note from Mrs. Schuhmacher

Our food drive benefitting the Arkansas Food Bank continues through Friday, November 22. Please send in non-perishable items each day to help us reach our goal of 2024 food items. Thank you to our 5th grade students for leading this effort in the Lower School!

All parents should have received an email from Catherine Radtke reminding us of the 2nd offering in the ISACS Parent Webinar Series on Tuesday, November 19, at 6:30 pm. This offering is being led by Jennifer Wallace and is titled "Never Enough- When Achievement Pressure Becomes Toxic And What We Can Do About It." Each person who plans to attend the live webinars or watch the recordings MUST pre-register for each webinar on Zoom to receive their event ticket. You may pre-register at [this](#) link.

On Wednesday, we will celebrate Holy Eucharist in our 1st-5th grade community chapel at 2pm. We hope you will join us in this celebration of Thanksgiving before we depart for the break.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Catherine Schuhmacher

Head of Lower School

Spirit Days in December in the Lower School

All students are invited to wear either holiday-themed clothing or spirit wear as we normally do on each Friday in December. No pajamas, please. Students can also wear holiday-

themed clothing on Thursday, December 19 for our annual Sing Along and classroom parties.

Congrats, Chess Cats!

On Saturday, November 9, the Episcopal Collegiate ChessCats earned 2nd place at Central High school. Leading the team was Emma Young (3pts) and Hamilton Fitzgerald (3), followed by Lincoln Wirges (2), Willa Dalvi (2) and Frankie Patton (2). Adding to our team's success were Houghton Fitzgerald (1.5), and Clayton Lee (.5) Final team standings were 1st place CPR Chess (23.5), 2nd place Episcopal Collegiate (20.5), Lisa Academy (17.5) in 3rd, and Cabot North (16.5) in 4th. Please congratulate our ChessCats for their impressive performances and teamwork. Our "[Christmas Party Tournament](#)" (Register Here) takes place on December 7th at Mosaic Church and is open to any Episcopal Collegiate students who know how to play chess.

Episcopal Basketball has Begun!

Our Upper School EpiscoPEP group has assigned themes for each of the varsity basketball games. Students are encouraged to come and support our varsity boys' and girls' teams and show their spirit! The most spirited student at each night's game will win a Sonic drink!



ECS BASKETBALL HOME GAME THEMES

2024-2025

November 12 VS Bauxite -- Green Out

November 22 VS Heber Springs -- Camo

December 13 VS Riverview -- Christmas

January 7 VS Maumelle Charter -- Ski Night

January 9 VS Lisa North -- Minions

January 14 VS Pangburn -- Superheroes

January 28 VS Rose Bud -- Surfers & Bikers

February 4 VS Bald Knob -- Construction/Neon

February 11 VS Harding Academy (Senior Night) -- White Out

THE MOST SPIRITED FAN AT EACH GAME
WILL WIN A SONIC DRINK FROM
EPISCOPEP!

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.



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

Be a Girl Scout

www.GirlScoutsDiamonds.org

girl scouts 
diamonds of arkansas,
oklahoma and texas

Dr. House's Classroom Highlight

Classroom Highlights from Dr. House

Did you know that Arkansas ranks 2nd in the nation for food insecurity, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)? To help address this critical issue, our school is partnering with the Arkansas Foodbank over the next two weeks to collect nonperishable food items. Your generosity will go directly to supporting the more than 280,000 Arkansans facing hunger, including children and families in our own community. As part of this initiative, our fifth-grade students took part in a powerful “hunger simulation” based on the Arkansas Foodbank’s resources. Through this interactive experience, they walked in the shoes of people facing food insecurity, making tough choices about balancing basic needs like food, housing, and utilities. The exercise allowed them to see firsthand the difficult decisions many families face and recognize that hunger doesn’t define a person’s entire life—it’s a struggle that anyone can experience at different times, and could happen to anyone.

After completing the simulation, our fifth graders were challenged with two meaningful goals:

1. Find ways to continue supporting children facing food insecurity in Arkansas beyond this food drive.
2. Look for safe, impactful ways to connect with the people they’re helping, building relationships that can foster understanding and empathy.

If your child or your family would like to join us in this mission, please reach out to me at khouse@episcopalcollegiate.org. I’d be happy to share opportunities with local organizations in Little Rock where families can volunteer together and build connections with the people benefiting from these donations.



\$ 206

Every decision has pros and cons. Which would you choose?

Your two year old has not been feeling well and you are getting concerned. You and your spouse decided to rush him to the ER. The doctor has decided he is going to admit him for a couple of days to run tests. Unfortunately, you are on the schedule to work for the next three days. What do you do?

Miss work to stay with child in the hospital while spouse is home with other children.

Go to work and have the doctor call you with updates.

Have spouse stay at the hospital and pay for a babysitter for other children.

Chapel News

In our PreK and Kindergarten chapels we read the book *God's Dream* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu & Douglas Carlton Abrams. In Community Chapel we heard from the 3rd grade class as they presented about the character trait "Worth."

Next week our PreK and Kindergarten chapels will read the book *Gathered at the Table: Celebrating Communion* by Glenys Nellist. In Community Chapel we'll celebrate Holy Eucharist with Father Rob Leacock. Please join us for chapel anytime.

PreK 4: 8:20-8:40 am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library
PreK 3: 8:50-9:10 am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library
Kindergarten: 9:20-9:50 am, Braunfisch-Stella Boyle Smith Library
1st-5th: 2:30-3:00 pm, Erwin Performance Hall & Gymnasium*

*November 20 will begin at 2:00 pm.

In Godly Play this week we worked 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. Next week in Godly Play our story will be the Circle of the Holy Eucharist.

Michelle Moore
Interim Lower School Chaplain

Pride Patrol | November 18-22

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:

- Ford Fontes
- Holden Gaines
- Max Gutierrez
- Annalise Hargrave
- Harper Hickmon
- Wyatt Hilbun
- Vivian Kalkbrenner

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](#).

Mark Your Calendars

November 20 | Lower School Eucharist, 2:00 pm

November 25-29 | Thanksgiving Break - No School

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

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

December 20-January 6 | Christmas Break - No School

Quick Links

[Lower School Live News](#)

[Wildcat Community Page](#)

Find the [LS Calendar](#) here.



2024-2025

November 12 VS Bauxite -- Green Out

November 22 VS Heber Springs -- Camo

December 13 VS Riverview -- Christmas

January 7 VS Maumelle Charter -- Ski Night

January 9 VS Lisa North -- Minions

January 14 VS Pangburn -- Superheroes

January 28 VS Rose Bud -- Surfers & Bikers

February 4 VS Bald Knob -- Construction/Neon

February 11 VS Harding Academy (Senior Night) -- White Out

**THE MOST SPIRITED FAN AT EACH GAME
WILL WIN A SONIC DRINK FROM
EPISCOPEP!**

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](#)

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 Dr. McCormick

Dear MS Families,

With winter sports getting underway this week, we thought it would be a good idea to hold a middle school-specific pep rally this past Monday. It was fantastic! Kudos to Ms. Melissa (student council sponsor) and students Quinn Tucker, Ava Madison Rodgers, Hadley Black, Mary Mac Smart, and Henry Kalkbrenner for organizing the student-faculty knockout competition. Our middle school cheerleaders did a tremendous job cheering and performing a routine, and Coach Friedel capped off the event with a motivational speech leading into the entire school "Swag Surfin" and then singing the Alma Mater. This was the most exciting and fun middle school pep rally I have ever attended and I hope that we do another this spring!

Have a good weekend!

Chuck McCormick

Head of Middle School

Middle School Awards

During Thursday's Morning Meeting, our sixth and seventh grade teams recognized students for outstanding effort, teamwork, perseverance, kindness, and leadership in the various classes during the month of October. Below please find the names of our recipients, and huge congratulations to all!

6th Grade Top Cats

English - Marcy Agee, Beckett Beene
Social Studies - Katherine Brantley, Wright Ritchey
Science - Carla Biris, Alan Tran
Mathematics - Charlie Oberste, Mary Miller Fontes
Writing - Grant Willis, Presley Peacock
Introduction to Romance Languages - Matthew Shelby

7th Grade Seeking the Summit awards

English - Laura Catherine Marshall, Andrew Saoud
Social Studies - Lucca Sassoon, Mary Catherine Allen
Science - Evie Paul, Buck Bright
Mathematics - Carter Chance, Lane Wells
French I - Julia Khasawneh
Spanish I - Anderson King

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.**

A Note from Dr. Graham

Congratulations to the cast and crew of Bright Star, this year's musical, which features Upper and Middle School students. The show opened last night—and it was fantastic! If you missed it, you can see it tonight or tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. in the dining hall.

And congrats to our basketball and cheer teams for starting their regular seasons this week. Check out our winter athletics schedule (linked below) and make it a point to come and cheer on your Wildcats.

As we approach Thanksgiving Break, our teachers and students are trying to make the most of every day and every opportunity to learn and grow.

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

See you soon,

Kellen Graham

Head of Upper School

Seniors Lucy Ayers, Stella Cochran, John Jennings, and Todd McCormick Awarded the Arkansas Seal of Biliteracy

The prestigious Arkansas Seal of Biliteracy, which is sponsored by the Arkansas Department of Education, the Arkansas Foreign Language Teachers Association, and Arkansas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, recognizes a select group of high school students who have attained distinguished achievement and proficiency in two or more languages, including making high scores on both their AP French or Spanish and AP English exams. It is a certification that honors exemplary students who have pursued biliteracy and recognizes the advanced skills they have acquired. Lucy Ayers and Stella Cochran have been awarded the Seal of Biliteracy for French and English; John Jennings and Todd McCormick have been awarded the Seal of Biliteracy for Spanish and English.

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. 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.

College Financial Aid Night (Virtual Event)

The virtual Financial Aid Night is Monday, November 18 at 6:00 pm. Shelby Maguire, Director of Financial Aid at Lafayette College, and Heather Taylor, Director of Student Aid at Arkansas Tech University, will provide information on all aspects of financial aid, including the FAFSA, CSS Profile, grants, loans, work study, and the state-funded lottery scholarships. We strongly encourage anyone applying for financial aid for the first time or anyone who has not completed the FAFSA in the last year to attend.

Please register beforehand to receive the joining code: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I2EhqrzyQyqGVBL02cZikw.

Parent Webinar Series

We are excited that the 2nd offering of the ISACS Parent Webinar Series will occur on Tuesday, November 19th, at 6:30 PM with Jennifer Wallace: *Never Enough- When Achievement Pressure Becomes Toxic And What We Can Do About It*. Each person who plans to attend the live webinars or watch the recordings MUST pre-register for each webinar on Zoom to receive their event ticket.

You may pre-register at [this](#) link. You will have the option to register for all of the webinars in the series and for them to be added to your calendar for easy access to the Zoom meetings.

We are excited to be able to participate in this virtual program for independent school parents and caregivers. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

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...

Fall Sports Banquet

Our Fall Sports Banquet, at which we will celebrate the good work and many achievements of our fall sports teams and athletes, will be held on Wednesday, November 20th at 5:30 p.m. in the dining hall. All fall student athletes and families are invited to attend.

Chapel Schedule

Monday, November 18 - Caroline Davis '25

Tuesday, November 19 - Honor Council

Wednesday, November 20 - Maggie Ransdell '25

Thursday, November 21 - College Trip in Review

Friday, November 22 - Ava Sharp '25

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...

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.