



**St JOHN'S**  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

**Alumni Feature**  
*February*



Name: Ryan Wilson

Class: 2013

Grades Attended: 10 (Pre-K through 8th grade)

High School: St. Margaret's

College: Harvard University

### **Education**

University/College: Harvard College

Major: Neuroscience (Cum Laude with High Honors), Global Health and Health Policy Minor

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Advanced Degree

University/College: University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine

Degree: Medical Doctorate (c/o 2027)

### **Please share any fond memories you have from your time at St. John's.**

Playing handball and kickball at recess in elementary school, library time with Mrs. Sjostedt, and history class with Coach Winn! I also loved the trip to Washington, DC, with my classmates in 8th grade.



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### **What are some life lessons you learned at St. John's?**

"Make it a great day or not, the choice is yours." Mrs. Campbell, our middle school principal, used to share this quote with us before class every day. As I've grown up, I've realized that the things that can happen to us are random and unpredictable, but we can choose how these events affect us. I try to remind myself of this quote as I navigate adulthood and the number of real-life challenges that adulthood presents me with: aging relatives, illnesses in the family, and personal hardships. While I can't control these things, I can control how I respond to them.

### **Did you have a favorite teacher? What made that teacher special to you?**

Mrs. Hardy! She was my math teacher in 8th grade. I will always remember her patience and her enthusiasm for teaching. Since the class was self-paced, she gauged our interest/curiosity and adjusted as needed. She was one of the first teachers to believe in me and push me beyond what I thought was possible for myself. She started the math team when I was in seventh grade, and her coaching led me to the mental math championship victory in eighth grade. Every time I came back to St. John's to visit, I would make sure to stop in and update her on my journey. She was one of the first I told about my college acceptance, and the first I reached out to when I was struggling with my college math courses. She was a gem to all students and families she encountered. I miss her dearly, and I hope to make just a fraction of the impact on others' lives as she made on mine.