



The Quill

*"The beginning is
the most important
part of the work."
-Plato*

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BRYN MAWR, BEYOND: CONSTRUCTION ON CAMPUS

By: Ally M. '28

Last year, the Bryn Mawr community received the shocking news that there was going to be a brand new, 25 million dollar addition to campus. Since then, to make space for this renovation, the (somewhat) beloved Hardy building has been demolished and new classrooms/offices have been snuggled into Howell. Before launching into my interview about this project with Ms. Fetting, I want to give a quick shoutout to the operations team at Bryn Mawr. They have been working hard all summer in order to properly outfit the new spaces on campus for this upcoming year. The entire Bryn Mawr community thanks you all!

For Ms. Fetting, saying goodbye to Hardy wasn't exactly difficult. Yes, it has been a part of campus since 1968, but with age comes a need for a makeover, which was certainly the case for the math and science building. Out of everything quintessential about Hardy, including the lovely leaking bathrooms and messy basement storage, Ms. Fetting will miss Clare Hardy's recognition plaque most. Clare Hardy was a teacher at Bryn Mawr for over 40 years and the person for which the Hardy building was named. Ms. Fetting hopes to continue recognizing Clare Hardy's contributions to the school.

I think the changes the Upper school has faced are entirely unsurprising; an entire building was torn down! Besides the crazy jackhammering over

the summer, Ms. Fetting describes the wildest change to campus as the wall in commons blocking off Ms. Lahl, Ms. Timlin, and Ms. Evans' offices. Behind that new wall lie the contracting offices. Ms. Lahl's office has been moved to the College Counseling room, and Ms. Timlin and Ms. Evans' offices have both been moved to the library, taking over the study rooms. With the loss of those study rooms and one of the ones on the top floor of Howell, taken over by Dr. Lydia Li, our new director of Internships, Service, and Capstone Projects, there was a

ly welcomed. Ms. Fetting agrees: the dynamic between teachers has changed with everybody being more connected!

There are some really exciting features coming that Ms. Fetting wanted to highlight. With the new building comes a real, grand entrance to the upper school! Additionally, more seating is coming to the library quad. I know this will be well received on the days with good weather, as I hate fighting over those three picnic tables! On the actual building there will be a green roof and terrace. This will be a great

addition to the already numerous outdoor spaces at Bryn Mawr. Moreover, Bryn Mawr is planting only native flora and removing invasive species from the campus.

Now, I have heard rumblings from certain students (class of 2027) that they aren't the most happy about missing out on this exciting new addition and losing their senior room... Ms. Fetting

is completely aware of this, and hopes to make it up to them somehow. Currently, there is no specific plan for recognition of the senior class, but let it be known that this is fresh in her mind.

Most excitingly, we shan't be in this construction for much longer! There have been no major delays in construction and the new building is still expected to be done by next fall. There have been some huge changes to Bryn Mawr recently, and many still to come. I hope you all are as excited to see the *Bryn Mawr, Beyond* campaign come to life as I am.



Image courtesy of Dr. Yeager

new study room added next to the new language offices. This study room, however, is used less like a study room and more like an actual classroom: Ms. Bhalla and Ms. Hindes both teach classes in that small space, among others.

Ms. Fetting believes that the teachers most impacted have been the math and science departments. With the departure of Hardy, they have moved into new Howell offices. I, for one, prefer this space to the late Hardy offices. Having all my teachers in the same building during office hours and throughout the day is extreme-

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT: TWO CAMPUS HISTORIES AND LESSONS

By: Izzy G. '28

As we're back on campus for the new school year, it's obvious that a lot has changed since last spring. There are rocks and scrap metal where there was once a building, and classrooms are shuffled around while we're waiting for something better. With so much being different, it's easy to overlook two small fixtures of campus that have stayed the same for years. I decided to research these two pieces of art, and in doing so, I came across some lessons that I think are meaningful for the new school year.

"Silence"

In 2004, a new sculpture was donated to Bryn Mawr by a local artist named Brece Honeycutt: a set of seven steel and slate standing desks with copper pages on top. Each page is etched with Mary Elizabeth Garrett's writings – specifically, her personal correspondence, her will, and her financial accounting. In an interview with The Quill, Honeycutt said she chose to highlight Garrett's seemingly ordinary documents because they show how Garrett used

her voice to empower women. After donating some of her inheritance to help found Bryn Mawr, Garrett agreed to raise thousands of dollars to start Johns Hopkins

Medical School – but only on the condition that it must accept women on the same terms as men. This was pretty revolutionary at a time when women were generally prohibited from becoming doctors.

The idea that women had to have the same educational opportunities as men was the same mission that shaped our school. Honeycutt decided to commemorate Garrett through her sculpture, which she titled silence because of how women's education had been silenced throughout history. She

selected Bryn Mawr as the sculpture's permanent location, and silence came to campus in 2004. It now lives behind the Graduation Garden, on the path down to the Lower School.

Bryn Mawr Mosaic

In December 1972, the old Bryn Mawr

building on Cathedral Street had to be demolished and everything in the building removed, including the historic mosaic that had been at the entrance since 1890. A

month later, four alumnae (Mary Hardy, 1916, Clare Hardy, 1922, Dorothy Levering Packard, 1914, and Elizabeth Packard, 1925) had



Image courtesy of Izzy G. '28

the mosaic restored and brought to the Melrose campus so it wouldn't be lost forever. They cared about the mosaic because it was part of the original building where they were educated and had so many fond memories. In the process of moving the mosaic, it was broken into three large pieces; those cracks are still visible today.

Five Things I Learned:

1. Use Your Bold Voice for Good.

Mary Elizabeth Garrett's financial contributions to Hopkins and Bryn Mawr illustrate how we should use our voices as a tool for positive change in the world. While Garrett did have a lot of financial leverage, what really made an impact was how she used it. She could have kept her wealth to herself, but instead Garrett decided to broaden the scope of education for thousands of women and girls.

2. All Contributions Have an Impact.

Garrett kept a record of every single contributor to the Women's Medical School Fund, even if all they could offer was 25 cents (almost ten dollars today). She believed that any positive action – no



Image courtesy of Izzy G. '28

matter how small – was valuable. This idea is still true today.

3. There is Power in Numbers. Mary Elizabeth Garrett was not the only fundraiser for Hopkins Medical School, and she was not the only founder of Bryn Mawr: she banded together groups of like-minded friends who wanted to help achieve her goal. This shows us that we are stronger when we work together. For example, when starting a new club at school, it's easier, more fun and more

productive to invite others to help you lead it.

4. Imperfections are a Record of What Shaped You.

The mosaic may look a little disheveled, but those cracks point to its history and the alumnae who cared to salvage it. Bringing the mosaic to our campus was a labor of love, and even though it might not look perfect, the cracks are a reminder that we don't have to be perfect: our imperfections make us who we are.

5. Maintain Connections You Care About.

Even decades after graduating, the four alumnae who took action to save the mosaic kept in touch with one another and their school. Now, the internet allows us to be in contact with anyone, but the hard part is actually connecting. The story of the mosaic teaches us to find the people and places we care about, and stay dedicated to them.

NI-HEAR-A THROUGH THE GRAPE-VINE: THE UPDATED 10 THINGS TO KNOW

By: Nihara E. '27

By this point in the school year, we are all well aware of the famous "10 Things to Know" email sent out by our very own Dean of Students, Ms. Lahl. While we are only a few weeks into the school year, she already has more important updates to announce, which both her and *The Quill* staff agreed would be more effectively communicated through the school newspaper. With that in mind, Ms. Lahl has requested that the following information be distributed to all students and staff. Here is an updated list of *10 Things You Should Know*. **Please read carefully, as several of these policies will take effect immediately.**

Senior Parking: Due to limited parking availability following recent construction, senior parking spots will no longer be first come, first served. Beginning October 1st, to ensure every senior has an equal opportunity, all spots will be redistributed by lottery every Friday afternoon, with results announced by Ms. Taborda.

Brynmaurket Access: Effective immediately, the Brynmaurket will only sell snacks and drinks, with the exception of energy drinks, to students maintaining

a B+ or higher in all academic classes. Proof of grades must be shown at checkout. Students who do not currently meet this threshold are encouraged to work hard and stay motivated. When you get the chance, please thank your all-school SGA reps for advocating that clothes and supplies at the Brynmaurket remain available to everyone, regardless of grades.

Uniform Policy Update **IMPORTANT:** Socks are no longer permitted as part of the daily uniform and may only be worn during P.E. and athletic games. Students caught wearing socks outside of these designated times will receive detention. This policy is being introduced in partnership with the Environmental Coalition (ECO), whose research has concluded that sock-related laundry emissions are, per their words, "simply not where we want to be as a school."

Snow Days, Redefined: With the *Bryn Mawr, Beyond* campaign, our community has well exceeded the original \$25,000,000 budget. To make the most of our additional funds, Bryn Mawr will be investing in more transportation options. This will redefine snow days, allowing students to attend school even when parents cannot drive them. Please direct all your

questions to Coach Wolf. **Free Periods Update:** Beginning October 1st, free periods will include an optional opportunity to take a mini bus to a designated study location, one of which includes Starbucks. Please extend your thanks to Ms. Bielefeld, who has generously offered to operate the bus system. In order to use this privilege, students must sign up 24 hours in advance and submit a study plan for the 80-minute session.

Late Work Policy: The English Department has revised its late work policy. Students may now request an extension by submitting a 500-word essay explaining why the original essay could not be completed on time. Further details will be provided by Ms. Summers via email.

Cafeteria Update: Due to a supply chain issue, the salad bar will be temporarily replaced with a rotating selection of foods chosen by student and staff vote. Votes will take place at the end of every month. We appreciate your flexibility during this time.

Student Workload Initiative: To promote work-life balance, students may now designate one assignment per semester as 'emotionally incomplete.' All Bryn

Mawr teachers must accept the designation without questions and excuse the assignment entirely. Students are encouraged to use this privilege responsibly and only if necessary.

Technology Policy: To align with our current phone policy and further promote student engagement, computers will now be prohibited in all classrooms. Beginning immediately, all assignments, tests, and class materials will be distributed exclusively on FSC-Certified paper. Canvas will be replaced with pre-prepared academic agenda books, which will contain all announcements, deadlines, and course materials for the year. Please reach out to Ms. Fetting with any questions or concerns.

Attendance Policy: Starting Oc-

tober 1st, students will no longer be marked absent for missing class. Instead, teachers will record whether a student was ‘academically present,’ a designation determined by submission of homework, class participation, or, in ambiguous cases, “general vibes.” We appreciate Ms. Evans, Director of Student Support Services, for bringing this idea forward.

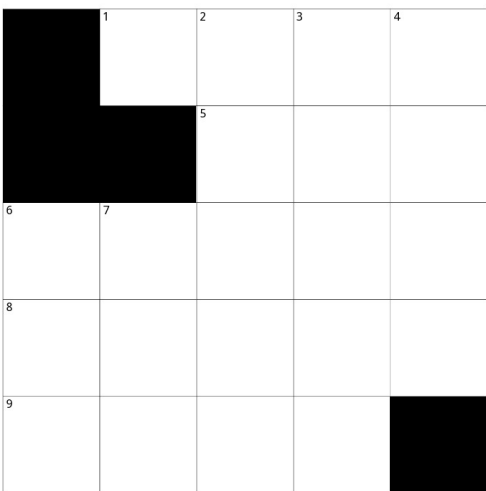
We encourage all students and faculty to carefully review these policies, adjust accordingly, and direct any questions to the appropriate member of the administration. As always, *The Quill* staff is committed to keeping our

community informed, even when the information becomes increasingly difficult to believe.

The Mawrtian’s Index Inspired by New York Mag
By Maddie N ’28

The Mawrtian's Index is a 4x4 grid of 16 small images and text snippets. The grid is categorized by four quadrants: High-Brow (top-right), Questionable (top-left), Low-Brow (bottom-left), and Brilliant (bottom-right). Each quadrant contains four items, each with a small image and a short text snippet. The items are arranged in a grid that is 4 rows by 4 columns. The categories are: High-Brow (top-right), Questionable (top-left), Low-Brow (bottom-left), and Brilliant (bottom-right). Each quadrant contains four items, each with a small image and a short text snippet. The items are arranged in a grid that is 4 rows by 4 columns.

Welcome Back!



- ACROSS**

 - 1 Someone who often says "Hey friends!"
 - 5 Chinese philosophy covered in 9th Grade history
 - 6 Can't make or take these between 8:00-3:30
 - 8 State of milk after Lower School's breakfast
 - 9 Scientific procedures that will be difficult without the learning cottages
- DOWN**

 - 2 What you might do in theater class
 - 3 Where you might see a friend
 - 4 What many new students are
 - 6 SWO hosting an event on the 19th (sign up!)
 - 7 Alumni and Parents Association

A NOTE FROM OUR EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Dear Bryn Mawr students, faculty, and families,

We are so excited to bring you this mini back-to-school issue of *The Quill*. We hope these pages give you a little taste of what we do and, most importantly, inspire you to join us. Whether you love writing, photography, design,

interviewing, or just have a story to tell, there's a place for you on *The Quill*. Our newspaper captures our school as it is in the moment: what we're talking about, what we're curious about, the people who shape our community, and all the little moments that make Bryn Mawr feel like home. We hope you find something here that

makes you think, laugh, question, or maybe even see our school a little differently.

Until next issue,

Nihara E. '27, Paige C. '27, & Ally M. '28
Editors-in-Chief