

AUGUST 11, 2023 | ISSUE 73

IN THE LOOP

Mead Hall Episcopal School



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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



Opening of School - Changes in the Business Office - Boosterthon

We have had a wonderful opening of school this year, beginning with the welcome of our PS students in their classrooms on the opening day and our Opening Ceremonies for PK - 12 in St. Thaddeus Church. It is wonderful to hear the names of each of our students called forth in the church as they gather with their classes for God's blessing before they head out to their classrooms. It has been a long tradition at Mead Hall, as a Christian school, to open and close our year with prayer in the church. It reminds me that each of our students is called by name as a child of God, and that each is known and loved at Mead Hall.

Each year brings changes in our lives, and another is upon us as we say Godspeed to our dynamic and caring Director of Finance and Business Operations, Dianne Goodson. Mrs. Goodson has been offered a tremendous opportunity, so she will leave us at the end of the month with our gratitude and our blessings. We will miss her very much. Thankfully, we have an experienced director of finance in our midst, Mari MacMillan, who currently serves as our development assistant. Mrs. MacMillan, who served for many years as the Director of Finance at Trinity Parish Church in St. Augustine, will transition into the role of Director of Finance at Mead Hall.

The school is full of the excitement of Boosterthon this week. I am thankful for this PTO event that is building community and school spirit among our students, while fundraising for our dreams for Mead Hall that PTO hopes to fund this year. I hope that you will participate and that we can begin the year by making a difference together for our students and our school.

Blessings,
Frank Sawyer



Parent Community - Connect with each other through the Parent Directory in FACTS



NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

In addition to the faculty announced in the last In the Loop, we welcome two more new teachers to Mead Hall this year:

Chip Hashimi has joined us to teach Chemistry. Mr. Hashimi is an adjunct chemistry instructor at Aiken Tech and has worked as a chemist. He holds a Master of Science in Chemistry from East Carolina and a B.A. in Chemistry from The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. We are glad to have Mr. Hashimi with his deep knowledge and experience in the subject area of chemistry.

Ellery Spalding has joined us as our Lower School Sacred Studies Teacher. Ms. Ellery received a B.A. in Religious Studies from Charleston Southern University, with a focus on youth development, the religious education of children, and intercultural studies. She has also participated in foreign missions with outreach to children. Ms. Ellery is a mother of three who has a heart for bringing the scriptures to life for children.



The Mead Hall Fun Run and Color Run is NEXT WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16th.

Here are your reminders:

- Register your child(ren) today on www.mybooster.com and help them add email addresses of friends/family or share on social media to ask for donations!!!
- Attend the FUN RUN/COLOR RUN to cheer on our students! We will need parent volunteers to assist getting Lower School classes back to the St. Thaddeus Campus.
- THE LOWER SCHOOL FUN RUN WILL BE AT 8:30AM ON THE OUTDOOR FIELD AT AIKEN PREP CAMPUS ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16TH.
- THE MIDDLE SCHOOL COLOR RUN WILL BE AT 2:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16TH. WHITE T-SHIRTS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS THAT ARE PARTICIPATING.



Thank you for your support! Funds from this fundraiser will go towards facility upgrades on both campuses (including middle school recess equipment), a new short bus, field trips and teacher development. Together we can do this!

OUR NEW ST. THADDEUS CAMPUS LARGE PLAYGROUND



Our Lower School students are enjoying the new playground! We are thankful to our donors and we look forward to dedicating this playground and celebrating all who helped to make this dream a reality in October at our Fall Festival, after the playground is completely finished.



LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

The start of the 2023-24 school year is an exciting time! We have a beautiful new playground with soccer, basketball, foursquare, and a walking/trike track. Already, our students are busy making friends and learning new skills. And, our whole school community is having fun and growing closer through our school-wide Boosterthon event.

We appreciate the support of all of our families, and look forward to a wonderful school year!

Joanne Morton



AFTERSCHOOL CARLINE

Thank you for your patience as new families learn our carline procedures. Things are running smoothly and efficiently now and we are getting through morning and afternoon carlines within 15 minutes. Here are a few reminders:

- Have your student's number in clear view for our team to enter. If you don't know your number, call the school ahead of carline time.
- Park below carline and walk to the lower gate to for walk-ups
- If your child is slow to reach the carline, you will be asked to move above the carline to wait.
- Please review our [Carline Procedures](#) and [Carline Map](#) for details.



BOOSTERTHON FUN RUN

On the morning of August 16, students from the STC (PS - 4th grades) will be running for fun on the APC campus as we wrap up our Boosterthon PTO fundraiser. We will send out a detailed email to STC families on Monday with specifics about parking and drop off for this event.



EXTENDED CARE

Afternoon Extended care is offered by registration only. Contact the office if you need to register and have not already done so. Once registered, notify the main office by 1:30pm if your student will be dropping in or not attending.



OPEN HOUSE - SAVE THE DATE

What: STC Open House for STC parents

Date: Tuesday, August 29.

When: 6:00 - 6:25 and 6:30 - 7:00) for families with multiple children

Why: The purpose of Open House is for teachers to have a few minutes to meet with parents to discuss the procedures and communication plans for each grade.

Childcare: School-age children only from 5:45 - 7:15pm.

PS/PK/K fenced playground

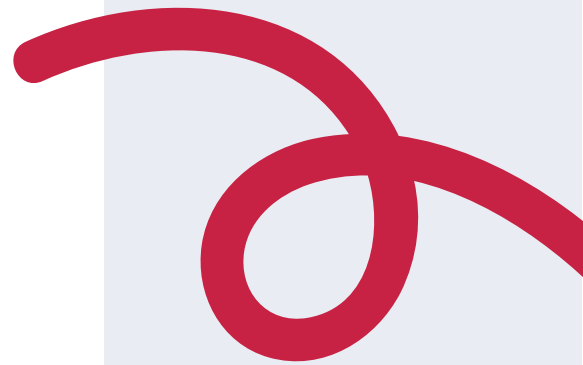
3rd/4th cafeteria

1st/2nd gym



LUNCH WITH STUDENTS

Lunch with students will begin after Labor Day. Check back next week for more information about scheduling a lunch date with your child.



LOWER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

AUGUST

- 16 BOOSTERTHON FUN RUN
- 29 OPEN HOUSE (6:00 AND 7:00)

SEPTEMBER

- 4 LABOR DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- 5 RESERVATIONS OPEN FOR LUNCH WITH STUDENTS
- 11-15 STANDARDIZED TESTING GRADES 3-4
- 18-22 MAKE-UP STANDARDIZED TESTING
- 19 STC STUDENT PICTURES
- 27 SEE YOU AT THE POLE/ PINWHEELS (PEONIES) FOR PEACE





MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL NEWS

AWESOME START TO THE NEW YEAR

**“HOW MUCH BETTER TO GET WISDOM THAN GOLD, TO GET INSIGHT RATHER THAN SILVER!”
PROVERBS 16:16**

We have truly had a wonderful start to the new year. Great things are possible when we all work together. At this time of year, I like to remind our students about three basic guidelines for success here and in the future. Good attendance is such a simple yet powerful way to be successful. Employers are almost universal in desiring employees who show up on time each day drug and alcohol free, dressed appropriately, on a consistent basis. To the kids I say, “come to school!” The second point of emphasis is simply doing their best, whatever that may be, at Mead Hall. All of our students possess great potential. Together, we can unlock all of that potential. I remind our students to “do their best!” The final guideline for our students is to “behave” while they are with us. At this point in their lives, our students know what good behavior looks like.

Parents, you play such a pivotal role in encouraging these simple yet profound concepts. Please stress good attendance for your children. Always encourage your children to do their best and positively acknowledge their efforts. Finally, support and expect good behavior at home and at school. Ecclesiastes 4:12, notes “A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.” I have often heard this verse at weddings regarding the relationships between couples and God. Imagine how strong we can be if the home, school, and students all work together to form our own “triple-braided cord!”

Dr. Mike Buck



MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

AUGUST

- 16 Boosterthon Color Run @ 2:30 pm
- 17 US class representative elections
- 18 US Cookout
- 23-25 Mountain Madness at YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly (Black Mountain, NC)

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Labor Day (No School)
- 6 Combined Chapel with Lower School @ 1:00 pm
- 11-15 Standardized Testing Grades 5-8
- 14 College Night, 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm @ James Brown Arena
- 18-22 Make-up Standardized Testing
- 20 Upper School Pictures - Wilson Studio (in Auditorium)
- 21 Senior Pictures - Wilson Studio (in Auditorium)



Opening Day Gallery

SMUGMUG LINKS



Thank you Larry Johnson for the wonderful Smugmug Opening Day gallery. Click the link below the password is Mead Hall

[Mead Hall Opening Day Gallery](#)

SCHOOL STORE

School Store Hours for 8/14 - 8/18
OPEN Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Afternoons by Appointment - MHStore@meadhallschool.org



PTO FALL 2023 EVENT CALENDAR

August 8th -16 th - FUN RUN
September- (Date tbd) BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY
September 25 - October 1 - Book Fair
October 1st - Mead Hall Sunday/ Pancake Breakfast
October th - Chick Fila Day
October 27th Great Pumpkin Wall STC
October 28th - Fall Festival/ MH Band Bake Sale
November 17th - Chick Fila Day
December 10th - Aiken Christmas Parade



ATHLETICS 2023-2024

We are excited about our Athletic Program this year. Please read the details of our fall season below and the requirements for athletes. Today we welcomed our new Director of Athletics, Coach Daryl Hawthorne. Please see the introduction to Coach Hawthorne in the last In the Loop.

Physicals and health forms are required before the of beginning the season. Required athletic forms can be found on the school [website](#)



FALL ATHLETICS

Middle and Varsity Cross Country

Begins on Tuesday, August 8

Practices are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Students meet Coach Jennifer Munson on the small field behind the school.

Students, to join the cross country team, please complete this Google Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfap5-QyuEMqpvGiG1cPp1tlkrY-w-LaVS4UK_9a1PTwOedvg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

Middle School Golf

Practice begins on Tuesday, August 15

Tuesday and Thursday at Aiken Golf Club, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday at Cedar Creek (Driving Range only)

Please see the email sent on Wednesday for details

Coaches Chad and Kadi Meldrum

Swimming for Middle and Upper School

Begins on Monday, August 7

Monday - Friday, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. (@ Aiken YMCA)

Students may meet Coach White in the parlor and be transported by bus and then picked up by parents after practice.

Coach Russ Merritt

See detailed information in the separate Swim Team email.

Middle School Tennis

Practice begins on Monday, August 14

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Some experience required

Coach Rakesh Jasani

Middle and Varsity Volleyball

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Middle School 3:45-4:45 (middle school students will be walked over to the St. Thaddeus Gym)

Varsity 5:00-6:30

Middle School and Varsity Coach Tierra Smith (Coach Tee)

First Match is August 15 - Middle and Varsity - Away - Vs. Augusta Eagles



EUCHARIST SERVICES
SUNDAY, AUGUST 6th, 2023

10:00AM VIMEO
7:45AM SERVICE BULLETIN
10:00AM SERVICE BULLETIN

Rite I Eucharist no music 7:45 AM
Rite II Eucharist with Music 10:00 AM

Please join us for Sunday services. You may also attend virtually at the VIMEO link above. For those watching at home, the bulletin can be found at the SERVICE BULLETIN link above.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

Children - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will resume in the fall, upstairs in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg

Led by Anna Akins

Drop In Class - On break over the summer. Small Parlor in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg

Led by Kathie Fowler

Adult Sunday School Class 9:00am-9:45am - This class will not meet in July. The group will reconvene in August. Large Parlor (cafeteria) in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg

Led by Gibert Kennedy

The Wednesday Bible Study Group will be in summer recess the rest of June, July, and August. Will resume meeting in early September.

ST. THADDEUS CAMPUS 803.644.1122

AIKEN PREP CAMPUS 803.648.3223

