

NOVEMBER 10, 2023 | ISSUE 85

IN THE LOOP

Mead Hall Episcopal School



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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



SAIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

Our accreditation visit concluded yesterday with some wonderful words of encouragement from the accreditation team. I am grateful for the time that these peer administrators from five SAIS schools gave to us in visiting and reviewing Mead Hall. I am also thankful to all those in our school community who gave their time and effort to make this visit.

In their oral report to the trustees and administration yesterday, the team highlighted that we live our identity as an Episcopal school stronger than the team chair had ever seen by welcoming all of the students and families and ensuring that they feel at home. In fact, "home" and "family" were words used by all the stakeholders with which the team spoke - students, parents, administration, faculty, trustees, and alumni. I am grateful that members of our school community feel that we live the Christian virtue of hospitality and seek to ensure that everyone feels a sense of belonging.

The team also noted that the various constituency groups speak with one voice about the mission and identity of Mead Hall as well as hopes for the school's future. The chair noted that we have been through a lot of change and challenges in recent years, with the merger 11 years ago, a new head of school 4 years ago, a new rector who has just begun his ministry, Covid, and several administrative and faculty changes. However, having managed this change so well, the chair noted that we are "batting 1000" and ready to look forward to an exciting future because we have "all the pieces in place to move forward." The team saw that with a facilities plan and financial support, the campuses can be improved dramatically. The team appreciated both the history on our walls and the hopes for our future.

The business manager that was on the team noted that we are offering an amazing education for less "than any other school with a similar caliber." It is wonderful to hear that we offer so much as a school with a tuition that is much lower than other independent schools, and I know that it takes a great deal of work from our teachers, staff, and administration to make this possible. The team noted that our faculty salaries are lower than those in the public schools and are glad that we have included the raising of compensation in our strategic plan. They said that "love goes a long way", as they concluded that this is how we make all this happen. I appreciate their words. The oral report concluded with glowing comments to our teachers about their teaching and their vital role in the lives of their students.

We will receive a full report from the team in a few weeks that will help give us direction as we move forward into our next five years.

Blessings,
Frank Sawyer



LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

Lockdown Drill

On Thursday of last week, students participated in a lockdown drill as a regular part of our annual safety drills. Students and faculty did a fantastic job executing their roles and responsibilities during the drill. Other drills we complete throughout the year include fire and tornado drills. While disruptive to the rhythm of daily life at school, practice saves lives and is an important part of keeping children safe at school.

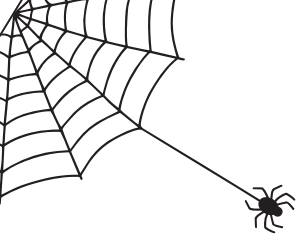
See you at school!

Joanne

Children's Author Visit

Last week, students on the STC enjoyed a visit from children's author, Jonathan Miller. Mr. Miller creates collage images to illustrate his series of books which feature Sammy the wonder dog, a dachshund from Charleston who goes on adventures. Students enjoyed learning about the art and book making process.





Spooky Stories with 3rd Grade

As part of a creative writing project, students in third grade wrote spooky stories which they read to younger students. In addition to a fun activity, cross-grade experiences are an important part of the learning process at Mead Hall.



4TH GRADE SCIENCE

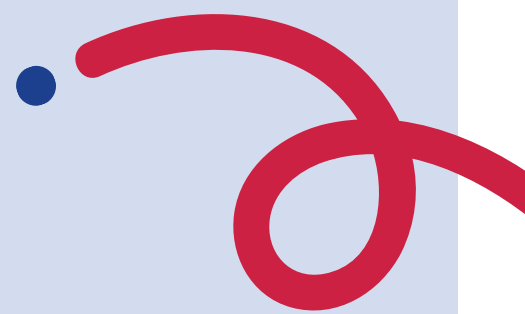


Students in 4th grade tested different materials for conductivity and built series and parallel circuits. With that knowledge, they solved a real world engineering question - "Which type of circuit works best when a bulb burns out on a string of Christmas lights?"



New Awnings

Families will stay a bit dryer and our campus will look so much nicer thanks to new awnings around the ST campus. We want to offer a special thank you to the parishioners of St. Thaddeus church for providing the new awning over the main office entrance!





DOWN ON THE FARM

Students in kindergarten spent the day at Steeds Dairy Farm learning about milk production and also having some fun on the farm!

HITCHCOCK WOODS FIELD TRIP



Students in PK enjoyed a field trip to Hitchcock Woods to learn about trees.



All Hallows Eve



On All Hallows Eve, Mrs. Water's second grade students participated in a Mexican tradition of creating art with flower petals on the graves of loved ones.

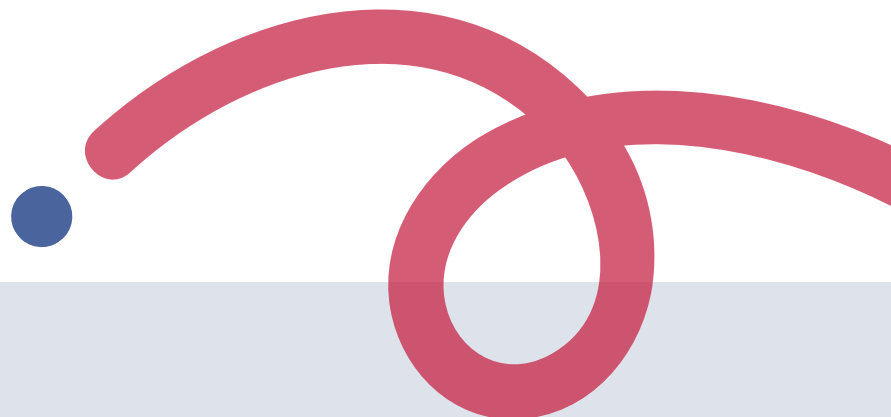
LOWER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

NOVEMBER

- 13** Field Trip 3rd Grade to RPSEC
- 17** STC Science Day
- 17** Field Trip 4th grade to Hopeland Gardens
- 17** PTO Chick-Fil-A at STC and APC
- 20-24** Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)
- 28** Field Trip K to Tom Sawyer Christmas Tree Farm

DECEMBER

- 3** Aiken Christmas Parade (Mead Hall Float)
- 5** Field Trip STC Chorus to Episcopal Women's Luncheon - Reserve Club
- 12** STC Christmas Programs (K 5:30pm / LS 6:30pm)
- 13** Field Trip STC Chorus sings for Pine Needle Garden Club
- 14** Field Trip STC Chorus to sing at Park Ave Coffee Shop
- 15** Field Trip 3rd Grade to Morris Museum
- 15** Field Trip 4th Grade to SRS Museum
- 18** Field Trip - Kindergarten to Aiken Train Depot
- 18** Field Trip - PK to Aiken Train Depot
- 19** Field Trip - 4th Grade to Morris Museum
- 19** STC Dress Down/STC Christmas Parties
- 19** End of Quarter 2/Last Day of Class (Half-Day)
- 10-J3** Christmas Break





MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL NEWS

MEAD HALL'S REPORT CARD

I have always maintained that how our students perform after they leave us is perhaps the best way to measure our effectiveness as a school. Yes, we have had one hundred percent of our recent graduating classes get accepted to colleges and universities, but our students have also excelled while attending those colleges and universities!

I have had the opportunity recently to gather testimonials from former and current students. Time after time, these young people credit Mead Hall for preparing them for school and life beyond high school. One of our graduates is actually teaching at Mead Hall this year while he prepares for the MCAT.

I recently asked a group of current students to share the one word that they believed best described Mead Hall. All of the responses were really good, but I did have a couple of favorites that spoke to my heart. One student shared the word **home**. Mead Hall felt like **home** to him! A second student said **family**! What an endorsement! These students have had years of experience walking our halls, attending our classes, and participating in extracurricular activities and athletics. You really can't fake out these high school students! Parents, thank you for sharing your children with us at Mead Hall where it feels like **home** and **family** to our students!

~Mike Buck
Head of Middle & Upper School



MEAD HALL STUDENT RECOGNIZED

Selected by the faculty and administration of Mead Hall, Anne Fenton Massie, one of our current seniors, is Mead Hall's 2023 representative for the Henry Middleton Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Anne Fenton wrote an essay and answered several questions regarding her current and future course of study, activities and goals after graduation. Pictured with Anne Fenton is Ms. Priscilla Hammett, the representative for Henry Middleton NSDAR. Anne Fenton will be recognized on December 13, 2023 at 10:00 am at St. John's United Methodist Church in Ward Hall.



PASSAGES

Please remember Liz Minard and her family in your prayers. Her husband, Phillip Minard, passed away yesterday. Let us commend him to God's eternal care.

BETA CLUB SUPPORTS THE ST. THADDEUS SOUP KITCHEN

As a student-centered organization, National Beta Club seeks ways to develop students by providing opportunities and experiences that demonstrate the ideals of achievement, character, leadership, and service.

A big thank you to middle school and upper school students for bringing peanut butter and jelly for Beta Club! The WINNER of the competition to bring in the most jars is our MIDDLE SCHOOL who brought in 61 jars of jelly! They will receive a free dress down day on Friday, November 10th. The peanut butter and jelly will benefit the St. Thaddeus Soup Kitchen. The Soup Kitchen serves a meal to those in need every Saturday in the Large Parlor (STC Cafeteria). Thank you again to everyone for your generosity!



-Ms. Rogan, Beta Club Sponsor

MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

NOVEMBER

- 15 APC One Table Thanksgiving Lunch - chapel included
- 17 PTO Chick-Fil-A
- 20-24 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)

DECEMBER

- 3 Aiken Jaycees' Christmas Parade (Mead Hall Float)
- 6 VirtualSC Exams (8:30 AM in conference room)
- 6 Christmas Band Concert, 6pm
- 6 Christmas Craft Party, 7pm, in APC Dining Room (Yearbook Fundraiser)
- 13 Lessons & Carols Chapel K/LS & MS/US
- 15 Midterm Exams
- 18-19 Midterm Exams
- 19 End of Quarter 2/Last Day of Class (Half-Day)
- 19 Drama Christmas Performance 6:30 pm at Aiken Community Theater
- 20-J3 Christmas Break

ANNUAL FUND LEADERSHIP CIRCLE RECEPTION

We thanked our Annual Fund Leadership Circle donors at a reception last week at the home of Tom and Leslie Wyatt. Special thanks go to the co-chairs of the Annual Fund, Meg Massie, and Leslie Wyatt, as well as the Wyatts for opening their home for this event, which was enjoyed by all.



Dear Mead Hall families,

We have launched our annual yearbook fundraiser. The yearbook costs \$39 per student and we supply it free for every student. This fundraiser helps us with paying for this fabulous memory.

To make it more fun, we have set up a challenge. The grade that sells the most Scout bags on the lower campus will receive an ice cream social. The grade that sells the most bags on the upper and middle campus will receive a dress down day.

This is a very quick fundraiser. It ends on Tuesday, November 14. The bags will be delivered just after Thanksgiving to your students. Thank you!

DON'T MISS OUT!



YEARBOOK FUNDRAISER 2023-24!

ORIGINAL DEANO TOTE BAG	BAGETTE MARKET TOTE	PLEASURE CHEST SOFT COOLER	PACKIN' HEAT MAKEUP BAG
 <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">\$54</p>	 <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">\$36</p>	 <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">\$40</p>	 <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">\$28</p>
<p>19"W x 15"H x 10"D Burst proof bottom Holds up to 75 lbs Heavy duty handles Interior zip pocket Folds flat</p>	<p>12.5"W x 14.5"H x 12"D Reinforced bottom Holds up to 75 lbs Two strap lengths Heavy duty handles Folds flat</p>	<p>9"W x 12.5"H x 9"D Holds up to 30 lbs Foam insulated Fits- 12oz cans: 15 - wine bottles: 4-5 Zips closed</p>	<p>9.75"W x 7"H x 3.75"D Holds up to 15 lbs Fits full sized bottles or hairbrushes Slim profile Interior slip pocket</p>

Mead Hall is partnering with Scout to offer these 4 great bags in a special South Carolina print to help fund the purchase of a yearbook for all of our students.

STC CLASS WITH THE MOST SALES WINS

ICE CREAM PARTY

APC GRADE WITH THE MOST SALES WINS

★ DRESS DOWN DAY ★

Student's Name and Homeroom _____

	PRICE	QTY	SUBTOTAL
Original Deano Tote	\$54		
Bagette Market Tote	\$36		
Pleasure Chest Soft Cooler	\$40		
Packin' Heat Makeup Bag	\$28		
TOTAL AMT ENCLOSED		\$	

40% OF YOUR PURCHASE PRICE WILL GO DIRECTLY TO FUND THIS YEAR'S YEARBOOK!

THESE MAKE GREAT GIFTS!



SCOUT.

Please Make Checks Payable To: **MEADHALL YEARBOOK**
ORDERS WILL BE READY AFTER THANKSGIVING!
SALE ENDS NOV. 14TH



The ADDA Christmas Parade is Sunday, December 3rd from 2-3pm.

Mead Hall PTO will build, decorate, and have a float in the parade (led by the talented Diana LaLuz). Students and parents are welcome to ride but there will be limited space! Look out for a **sign up genius coming soon!**



"Follow our Facebook Page" for future PTO updates that will cover it.

SCHOOL STORE

OPEN

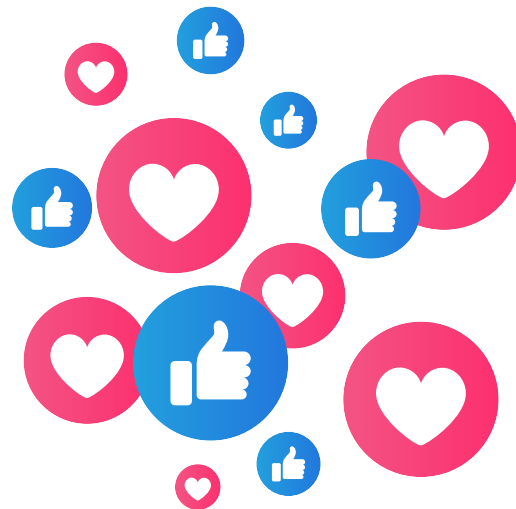
School Store Hours:

School Store Hours for the week of 11/13 - 11/17
Open: Monday - Friday at 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Afternoons available by appointment -
MHStore@meadhallschool.org

Featured Item:

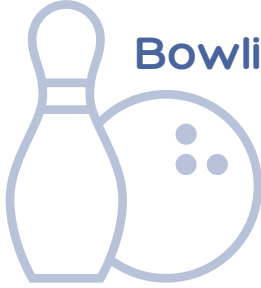
Chilly weather has arrived. Be prepared for those cool mornings with outerwear from the School Store. Hoodies, Beanies and Fleece Jackets have been restocked in youth and adult sizes!





**MEAD HALL
PANTHERS**

ATHLETICS



Bowling

Practices are only on Wednesdays. We will occasionally have Monday practices for extra work but those are optional and not required. ALL practices take place at Northside Lanes (175 Georgia Ave, North Augusta, SC). Practices run from 4 pm to 5 pm.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Becky Marks at aikenbrass@aol.com for more info.

Basketball



The Middle School boys team kick off their season on Friday November 17 at Northside Christian Academy at 5:30pm.

Varsity Boys have a Scrimmage/Practice on Friday November 10th at 5:00pm at Briarwood Academy.

Next week they have a game on Thursday November 16 at Augusta Christian at 7:30pm and on Friday November 17 at Northside Christian Academy at 6:30pm

Varsity Girls have their first game of the season on Tuesday, November 14th at 7:00pm at Briarwood Academy. They also play on Thursday November 16 at Augusta Christian at 6:00pm.

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to Congratulate the following student-athletes for making the **AAMSL ALL-LEAGUE TEAM**:

Clara Timmons- Volleyball

Graham Wilson- Golf

Everett Stanley- Golf

Jackson Roberts- Cross Country

Evelyn Greer- Cross Country

Archery

Practices are Monday through Thursday. Practices end between 4:45 and 5:00.

Practice schedules

4th Grade-Mondays

5th and 6th Grades-Tuesdays

7th and 8th Grades- Wednesdays

High School- Thursdays

5th through 12th grades can also practice on any other days except for Mondays.

For more information and questions contact Coach Pizio 803-270-2254 or Coach Nichols 803-215-4255.



THANK YOU

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EUCCHARIST SERVICES

Rite I Eucharist no music 7:45 AM
Rite II Eucharist with Contemporary Music 9:00 AM
Rite II Eucharist with Traditional Music 11:15 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 by clicking here [SERVICE BULLETIN](#).

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

Catechesis of the Good Shephard has resumed and starts at 10:00am
Upstairs in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg.

Drop In Class starts at 10:15am - 11am and meets in the Small parlor
in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg. We are currently reading
"The Echo Within: Finding Your True Calling." by Robert Benson
Led by Kathie Fowler

Adult Sunday School Class starts at 10:15am - 11am and meets in the Large parlor
(cafeteria) in the Stevenson-McClelland Bldg.
Led by Gibert Kennedy

The Wednesday Bible Study Group meets from 9:30 am - 10:50 am
in the sitting room of the Cornish Bldg.
Led by Burt Tiffany

WEDNESDAY DINNER AND BOOK

Please join us on Wednesday, November 15th, for an evening of fellowship and food
as we study chapter 2 of Being Christian by Rowan Williams. Our meal will be a
pasta bar with dessert, and tea and lemonade. Suggested cost \$10 per person or \$25
for family. Dinner will begin at 5:45 and followed by the book study ending at 7 pm.

Please RSVP by Monday, November 13th.

Date: 11/15/2023 (Wed.)

Time: 5:45pm - 7:00pm EST

Location: St. Thaddeus Large Parlor

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up.

ST. THADDEUS CAMPUS 803.644.1122

AIKEN PREP CAMPUS 803.648.3223

