

IN THE LOOP

Mead Hall Episcopal School



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Together
we give.



2024-2025

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Next year's school calendar has been published and is available at this [link](#).



MEAD HALL SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND



Giving Tuesday has just passed, but our Annual Fund has just launched

Earlier in November, the SAIS Accreditation Team reported to us that they had not seen a school of our caliber with a tuition as low as we offer. It is vital to our mission to maintain a tuition that is affordable to our families so that students have the opportunity for a safe and supportive school of academic excellence, moral integrity, and spiritual formation. However, our low tuition **DOES NOT** cover the cost of educating our students with excellence, so we depend upon the generosity of our families and friends through the Mead Hall Annual Fund.

- We are aiming for 100% participation of our families
- Every donation of any amount helps Mead Hall
- For Academics, Campus Improvements, Community, and Student Experiences

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY
TO THE ANNUAL FUND!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR PHILLIP MINARD, SR.

Liz Minard invites you to a visitation to celebrate the life of her husband, Phillip Minard, Sr. The celebration of life will take place in the auditorium of Harrington Hall on the Aiken Prep Campus, on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2:00-4:00 pm. Please enter directly into the auditorium from the outside door to the right of the main door of the building. Mrs. Liz is very grateful for all of the love and support that she has received from the Mead Hall family.

NAVIGATING COLLEGE ADMISSIONS AT MEAD HALL

As we gear up for one of our most popular holiday celebrations and a much needed winter break, I am reminded of the work behind us and also the work ahead of us...all of us, especially the work required to prepare students for college and life beyond Mead Hall.

On Friday, December 1, 2023, our 8th grade students will get their first introduction to Mead Hall's college process. In a fun, informative and engaging way, students will learn what colleges look for, the myths associated with college admissions and things they can begin mastering to prepare themselves for college. Afterwards, students will be able to schedule an individualized college planning session and have access to the tools and resources pertaining to career and college exploration.

Freshmen and sophomores can at any time schedule an individualized college planning session. What they should be doing now though is visiting college campuses, doing well academically and participating in clubs, athletics and other extracurricular activities. Community service is also huge.

Let's first talk about college visits. Every year, during our annual Upper School Retreat, students are exposed to a real college visit with a tour and information session. This year, for example, we visited **Furman University**. Coupled with that is the opportunity to speak to college representatives who visit the school during the Fall months. Even if students are not interested in the schools visiting, I always encourage them to attend those informative meetings because it helps students think about what they desire in the college experience. Since school began in August, we have had college representatives visiting Mead Hall from **Wofford College, Davidson College, Lander University, Columbia International University, Bob Jones University, Francis Marion University, Anderson University and Columbia College**. Our final visit will be unique in that the visit will consist of 3 of our very own alumni sharing their story. Wyatt Dixon, Owen Velie and Ben Thomas Wiedenman, current students at **The Citadel**, will be on campus to speak to interested students during lunch on Thursday, December 14, 2023.

By now, Freshmen and Sophomores should have requested a copy of their transcript and a college meeting to discuss the importance of their GPA and course selection, what they are interested in and tools to help them with this. Their performance on the PSAT will also be a good indicator of their strengths and weaknesses so once they receive their scores, students will be able to focus on where they can improve.

Every single college representative or article pertaining to college admissions will emphasize the importance of the Junior year. It is feasibly the last full year of records that colleges will see, according to The College Board, "a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity." Mead Hall's Annual Junior Symposium, which is required for all Juniors, will take place on Thursday, February 1, 2024, beginning at 6:00 pm in the Aiken Prep Auditorium. Several college representatives will be on hand to answer questions about the college application process because the Class of 2025 will be able to apply to colleges next summer!

By now, (if you are still reading this) you have figured out that we have a system in place here at Mead Hall and if students take advantage of all that we offer, not only will the college application process be smooth, students will also reap the benefits of one or more college acceptances.

Case in point. Our current seniors have been accepted to the following colleges and there are more coming!

Auburn University	St. Andrews University
Beacon College	Samford University
Bluffton University	Savannah College of Art and Design
The Citadel	Seton Hall University
Converse University	Southern Wesleyan University
Gardner-Webb University	University College, Dublin, Ireland
Hendrix College	University of Alabama
Montana State University	University of North Georgia
Norwich University	University of South Carolina, Columbia
Presbyterian College	USC Aiken

For all of us, there's work ahead of us. Students have to put forth effort in all areas. If they can commit to doing well, the staff and faculty at Mead Hall will do the work required to help get them to the next level. If it means highlighting in red the mistakes on a test, speaking to students about appropriate conduct, encouraging them to try a new sport, supporting club participation, validating an unpopular opinion or simply lending an ear during a breakup, the staff and faculty at Mead Hall are committed to doing the work to help prepare our students for not only college, but for life beyond Mead Hall.

Dr. Felicia Ponto
Director of Admissions and College Guidance





LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

Science Day

We have a lot of special days on the STC each year, but one of my favorite days is Science Day. Not only does the day provide students with exposure to different fields within science such as chemistry, physics, biology and Earth science, but it also gives students hands-on experiences with exciting discoveries about the world around them. Science day offers students the chance to visit other classrooms, work with new teachers, and sometimes includes guest speakers and field trips. It is so important to expose students to the wonders of the natural and physical world at an early age and to foster curiosity and exploration as well. I am grateful for our wonderful STC faculty who plan and execute science day each year!

See you at School!
Joanne Morton



AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Our preschool hall is bursting with autumn activities and artwork!



BLESSING BOX

Kindergarten students share with others by stocking the blessing box.



KINDERGARTEN VISITS TOM SAWYER CHRISTMAS TREE

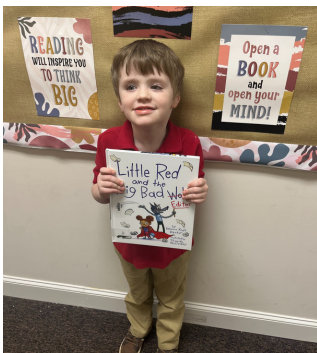
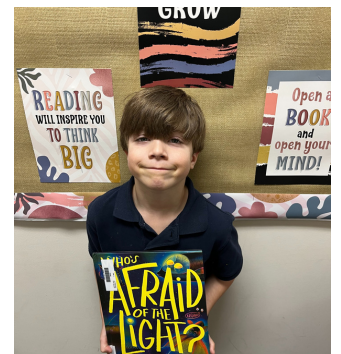
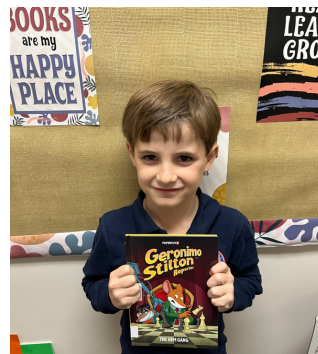


November Birthday Book Pictures



Our November Birthday Book Club includes Elodie Thibault, Skylar Siegfried, Anders Thomas, Tucker Miles, Xander Menson, Henry Meyer, and Miles Hearne.

These students enjoyed picking out a title from our new book selection in the library. After reading the book they donated the book to our library for other students to enjoy! We are thankful to these students.



More Science Day Fun



SCIENCE DAY GALLERY & STC FALL PARTY SMUGMUG

FOLLOW THE LINKS BELOW TO SEE THE SCIENCE DAY & STC FALL PARTY SMUGMUG GALLERY. THANK YOU LARRY JOHNSON FOR THE WONDERFUL PICTURES CAPTURING THESE ACTIVITIES. PASSWORD: MEAD HALL

[SCIENCE DAY SMUGMUG GALLERY](#)

[STC FALL PARTY SMUGMUG GALLERY](#)



LOWER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

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

LEADERSHIP TRAINING 101

As part of our ongoing effort to maximize the potential of all our students, we have recently established a middle school Student Council. Under the direction of Ms. Brandi Thomas, this group is gaining “real world” experiences in leadership. Approximately 30 students are serving in an advisory capacity to provide insight into how we can better serve our middle school students. Most recently, this group reviewed several options for new playground equipment funded by our wonderful PTO. In doing so, members had to reach consensus and operate from a tentative budget. They had to consider safety and eventual placement of the equipment. Imagine the value of learning how to do these things as middle school students!

In addition to the efforts of Ms. Thomas, Father Joseph and our high school Student Council members have assisted in providing leadership to our new group. I am so very proud of these young people and the adults who are working with them. Our middle school Student Council recently held elections for the executive board positions. Please join me in congratulating the students who will be serving on our new Middle School Student Council Executive Board.



- Ella Statkus, President
- Taylor McEntarffer, Vice President
- Meredith Langford, Secretary
- Elly Brown, Treasurer
- Clark Connor, 7th Grade Representative
- Everlyn Greer, 6th Grade Representative
- Ivy Parrot, 5th Grade Representative

Go Panthers!

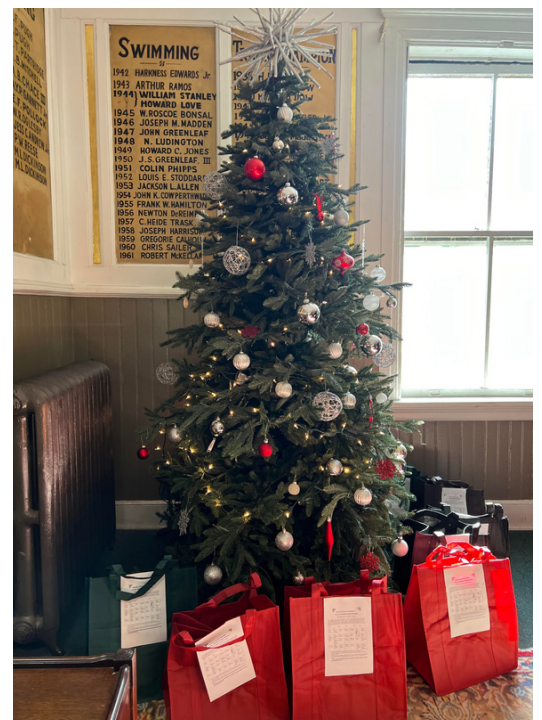
Mike Buck
Head of Middle & Upper School

MEAD HALL BETA CLUB

Mead Hall Beta Club is supporting the St. Thaddeus Soup Kitchen Reverse Advent Calendar Bags for the holidays! Each bag will contain the items listed (in the [link](#)) and will be distributed at the December St. Thaddeus Soup Kitchen holiday meal. Please consider sponsoring a bag available under the Mead Hall APC Christmas tree in the parlor area.

Deadline for receiving completed bags to Mead Hall APC is Monday, December 18th. Beta Club will transport the bags to St. Thaddeus, or you may also take them to St. Thaddeus directly through December 22nd.

Thank you in advance for your support!



[CLICK HERE FOR THE BETA CLUB REVERSE CALENDAR](#)



ALL LEAGUE CERTIFICATES

In Fall Sports the AAMSL League recognized 5 Mead Hall Student Athletes to receive ALL LEAGUE CERTIFICATES

Everett Stanley-Golf, Graham Wilson-Golf, Jackson Roberts- Cross Country, Evelyn Greer- Cross Country, and Clara Timmons-Volleyball

MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

DECEMBER

- 1 Sadie Hawkins 8pm-11pm, STC large parlor/cafeteria
- 3 Aiken Jaycees' Christmas Parade (Mead Hall Float)
- 6 Virtual SC Exams (8:30 AM in conference room)
- 6 Christmas Band Concert, 6pm
- 6 Christmas Craft Party, 7pm, in APC Dining Room (Yearbook Fundraiser)
- 6 Class Pictures for Yearbook - after Chapel on steps of church
- 11-15 MS Student Council DAWGS Fundraiser
- 13 Lessons & Carols Chapel K/LS & MS/US
- 15 APC Dress Down Day - Christmas Colors (for participants in DAWGS fundraiser)
- 15 Midterm Exams (8th-12th grade)
- 18-19 Midterm Exams (8th-12th grade)
- 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





**STAY TUNED FOR DATE CHANGES
DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER!**

Join us this Sunday on the Mead Hall Float in the Aiken Christmas Parade!

All updated event details (including float number and meeting spot) will be posted as we know them on the **sign up genius**.

SCHOOL STORE

School Store Hours for the week of
December 4th - 8th
Open Monday - Friday at 8:00 a.m.
Afternoons by appointments:
MHStore@meadhallschool.org



Featured Item - Deck the Halls with Panther Pride! Christmas Ornaments are the perfect addition to your tree and make great gifts. Just \$20 each includes gift box!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Christmas Craft Night

Wednesday | 12 • 06 • 2023 | 7-9 Pm

We will walk you step by step to create these beautiful Nutcracker themed ornaments using South Carolina sourced oyster shells.

✦ No experience necessary. ✦

You can sign up for this event by following the link on our facebook page, or using the link in this week's In the Loop.
Please RSVP by December 1st.

\$45
for 4 ornaments

additional ornaments can be purchased at event

Hosted by Ginnelle Elliott-Sawyer and Diana LaLuz





Archery

Starting Monday, December 4th this will be the new practice schedul

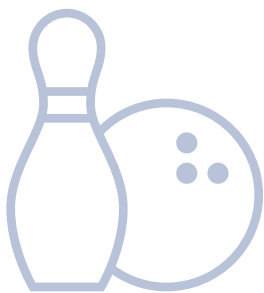
Mondays - 4th and 5th grades will practice together as our elementary team. Bus transportation will continue for our 4th grade archers.

Tuesdays - 6th, 7th, and 8th grades will practice together as our middle school team.

Wednesdays - 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades will practice as our high school team.

If you are unable to practice on your assigned day or if you would like to practice on additional days including Mondays we will try to accommodate you if space is available.

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



Bowling

Mead Hall bowling team defeated Cambridge Academy 356-351 in an exciting match decided in the final frame.. Michael Dean Bryce led the Panthers with six strikes. Other bowlers scoring strikes were Robin Merritt, Caleb Warner, and Zachary Pashow.

Upcoming games are on Wednesday November 29th at 4pm against Cambridge Academy and CNHS in North Augusta at Northside Lanes (175 Georgia Ave, North Augusta, SC).

Basketball

The Middle School boys team kicked off their season versus Northside Christian Academy and Ragin Prep Academy but unfortunately we didn't pick up the win. Tamieus Davenport and Everett Stanley has started out the season strong, being aggressive on both ends of the court.

Upcoming games are Thursday November 30 at Curtis Baptist at 5:00pm, Monday December 4 at Augusta Prep at 5:00pm, Tuesday December 5 at home versus OLP at 5:00pm, and Thursday December 7 at home versus SMAK at 5:00pm.

Varsity Boys fell short in their games against Augusta Christian, Northside Christian Academy, and Ragin Prep Academy. Mahkel Bush and Walker Wiedenman has been playing very consistently and competitively to start the season. They have upcoming games on Thursday November 30 at Curtis Baptist at 7:30pm, Tuesday December 5 at home versus the Augusta Eagles at 6:00pm, and Thursday December 7 at home versus North Augusta High School at 7:30.

The Middle School Girls team started their season against Northside Christian Academy. Unfortunately they didn't pick up the win but it was a great game. Kai Huskey had a good game gathering a lot of rebounds and being dominant on defense. Zoey Meldrum made back to back shots in the game to keep it close. Ryals Connor made numerous steals and fastbreak points to help her team.

Upcoming games are Thursday November 30 at Curtis Baptist at 4:00pm, Monday December 4 at Augusta Prep at 4:00pm, and Thursday December 7 at home versus SMAK at 4:00pm and at 6:00pm

Varsity Girls had their first games of the season against Briarwood Academy, Augusta Christian, and Northside Christian Academy. Unfortunately they didn't pick up a win but we can see the improvement early on in the season. They have an upcoming game on Thursday November 16 at Augusta Christian at 6:00pm. Piper Barth has been playing very hard to start the season off.



OUR POM SQUAD AND CHEERLEADERS DID AN AWESOME JOB AT OUR FIRST HOME GAME!!!!!!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Mead Hall Basketball Fans!

Mead Hall has 4 basketball teams this year and we need your help!

Please sign up to volunteer to collect admission to one of our 7 home games this season.

[Click Here to Sign Up](#)

THANK YOU

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Go Panthers!




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EUCHARIST SERVICES

Rite II Eucharist with Traditional & Contemporary 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 by clicking here [SERVICE BULLETIN](#).

ST. THADDEUS CHURCH LA POSADA

La Posada is an old Mexican tradition involving young people dressed as Mary and Joseph who travel from house to house on Christmas Eve asking for a room for the night. Modern Posada utilizes nativity figures of Mary and Joseph who travel from place to place. To participate, sign up via the link for a night that best suits your family and friends. Another person from the parish/school will make arrangements to bring the figures to your home at a time that best suits both of your schedules.

Dropping off and picking up at the Church office is also an option. Each family creates their own celebration of making room for Jesus in their lives. For instance, you may decide to invite family and friends over to sing carols and to talk about the meaning of Christmas or take the basket to visit grandparents. All materials needed are included in the basket. Be sure to add a drawing, poem, or photo to the album.

The following day you will contact the next family on the list and deliver Mary and Joseph at a mutually convenient time. It's as easy as that!

Will you welcome Mary and Joseph for a night this this Advent?

Click the link below to get your name on the list to host Mary & Joseph.

[LINK](#)

ST. THADDEUS CAMPUS 803.644.1122

AIKEN PREP CAMPUS 803.648.3223

