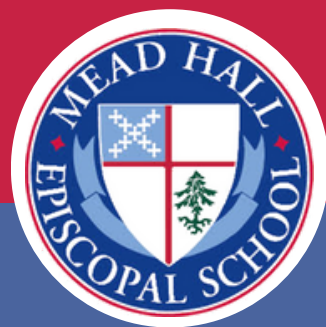


AUGUST 15, 2025

# IN THE LOOP

Mead Hall Episcopal School



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## FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dr. Frank Sawyer

It was a wonderful mark of our community life last Friday when so many new and returning school families, faculty, and trustees gathered for our inaugural Back-to-School Bash. When the rains descended upon us at 6:30 pm, our festivities were not dampened because everyone had enjoyed the cookout and their time together. A big thank you goes out to our food service team for grilling the hamburgers and hotdogs and to the PTO for providing Kona Ice. With the success of this school cookout, we look forward to making this an annual tradition so that we can begin each year by connecting with each other and building up our community life at Mead Hall.

A sense of community was also an important focus of our faculty in-service on the Monday before the beginning of the school year. The faculty and staff were inspired by the advice and encouragement of educator and writer Alex Katajani through a live video presentation. He also led a dynamic workshop for our math teachers. Mr. Katajani impressed on all of us that each classroom is a community of learners. This concept describes the life of our classrooms, where our teachers know each of our students as both learners and children of God, and we nurture our students' academic, moral, and spiritual growth. Inspired by Mr. Katajani's words, I highlighted that our students are a community of learners at our Opening Ceremonies and shared my hope that our students will shine forth the love of God and the love of one another this year.

Our Faculty In-Service, Opening Ceremonies, and Back-to-School Bash began this 2025-2026 school year with an emphasis on community - may we continue to build on our common life as Mead Hall throughout the rest of this year.

WISHING EVERYONE A WONDERFUL SCHOOL YEAR!

Frank Sawyer





# Back To School Bash



**Thank you to everyone  
who attended the  
Back To School Bash  
last Friday. And a  
special thanks to our  
diligent PTO who made  
it possible.  
What a wonderful start  
to the school year!**

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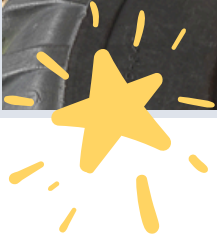
PARENT COMMUNITY  
– CONNECT WITH  
EACH OTHER  
THROUGH THE  
PARENT DIRECTORY  
IN FACTS



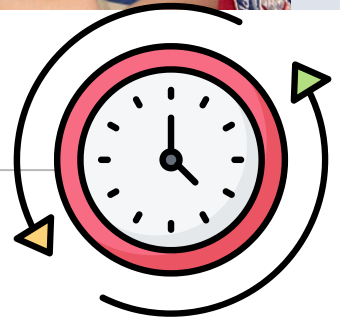








## LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

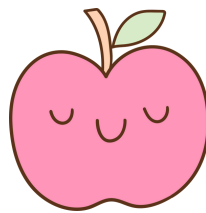


### Routines Rock!

Teachers at Mead Hall spend a significant amount of time during the first weeks of school establishing routines. An article from the Seattle Children's Hospital states that routines provide a sense of safety and predictability lowering anxiety and increase feelings of security. When children know what to expect, they can more easily focus on learning new things. When routines are in place, rates of student misbehavior are lowered as well. Implementing routines early in the year takes discipline and planning on the part of our Mead Hall faculty, but the time and effort spent in the early days will enhance learning and joy in the classroom for the entire year.

### See you at school!

*Joanne*







## OPEN HOUSE - NEXT WEEK

What: STC Open House for STC parents

Date: Tuesday, August 19

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

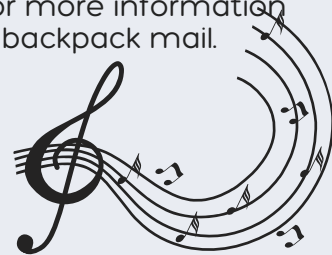
## Preschool Students learn about Emotions

Students in Mrs. Serago's preschool class are looking into mirrors to learn that they are special and that they have emotions.



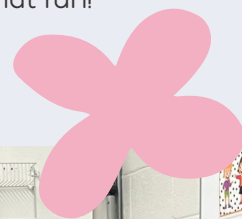
## Mead Hall Chorus

Don't forget that third and fourth grade students may sign up for Mead Hall chorus. Practices will be held in the morning before school, beginning on September 3. If you like to sing, this is your thing! Look for more information in backpack mail.



## HANDS ON

Each week our Preschool and Pre Kindergarten students are busy learning through creative hands-on activities. What fun!





# BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

BIRTHDAYS are special days @MHES! You can make your child's birthday even more special by honoring him/her in a unique way that will last for years. The MH Lower School Library offers a program called the Birthday Book Club. The Birthday Book Club is a book donation program in which parents, grandparents, relatives or friends may participate by donating \$20.00 to purchase new hardbound books to be placed in the library to honor a student's (or teacher's) birthday. They will choose a book from a selection of new books. A special bookplate with your child's name and birthdate will be placed in the book. Your child will be the first to check out this library book. When the book is returned, it will become a permanent part of our library collection for other students to check out and enjoy. To purchase a Birthday Book, look for a form in backpack mail and send it along with a check for \$20.00. Checks should be made payable to "Mead Hall Episcopal School." If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Blake [eblake@meadhallschool.org](mailto:eblake@meadhallschool.org).



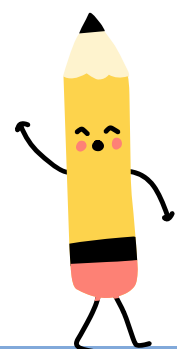
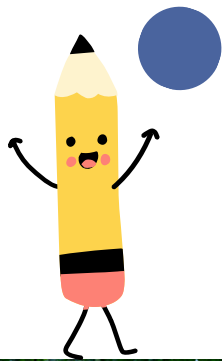
## LOWER SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

### August

- 19 STC Open House 6:00 - 7:00pm
- 18 Field Trip - 2nd Grade RPSEC
- 22 K - Pajama Day
- 27 Last day to order Chick-Fil-A
- 29 K - Teddy Bear Picnic

### September

- 1 Labor Day (No School)
- 5 Chick Fil-A Day
- 12 Field Trip PK to Trinity
- 8-12 Standardized Testing Grades 3-4
- 12 PS Grandparent snack and craft
- 16 Fall Pictures- STC





# Furry Friends Support Reading



Snowflake



Winston

Each year two specially trained dogs attend Mead Hall each week to listen to stories, and our developing readers in first and second grade love to practice their reading skills with their furry friends. Winston and Snowflake are supportive, non-judgemental listeners who help students build confidence when reading aloud. We are so grateful for the volunteers and their pets who provide this service to our students.



# PTO CORNER



## PTO FUNDRAISER SEPTEMBER 5TH

SANDWICH \$6    8 COUNT FRIED NUGGETS \$5    COOKIE \$2

\*\*NO SUBSTITUTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE MENU\*\*

### HOW TO ORDER

LOG INTO **FACTS FAMILY PORTAL**

CLICK **STUDENT** FROM LEFT MENU

CLICK **LUNCH** FROM DROP DOWN MENU

CLICK **+CREATE WEB ORDER** AT TOP OF SCREEN

CLICK YOUR CHILD'S **NAME**

CLICK **LUNCH ITEMS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH**

CHOOSE THE QUANTITY OF ITEMS FOR YOUR CHILD

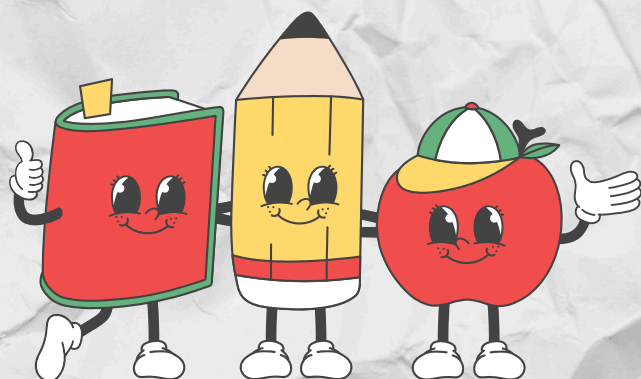
**REPEAT** FOR ADDITIONAL CHILDREN

**SUBMIT AND PAY** FOR ORDER

**ORDER BY  
AUGUST 27TH**

NO LATE ORDERS

**ONLINE  
ORDERS  
ONLY!**





# WHY SPONSOR THE PTO?

Your sponsorship isn't just a donation—it's a voice for every child! Together, we:

**Fund Critical Programs:** From Accelerated Reader to field trips, your support fuels classroom innovation.

**Host Unforgettable Events:** Fall Festival, Strawberry Festival, & small things in between, all building lifelong memories.

**Advocate for Our School:** Amplify parent voices in decisions that shape our students' futures.

## How it Works:

Each \$10 sponsorship earns a ticket into a raffle-pot! Your ticket will stay in all year, unless pulled!

Family Raffle tickets can be purchased for an additional \$5 for more chances to win!

**BONUS:** Teacher raffle tickets can be purchased for \$5 to enter your child's teacher into a special raffle of their own!

## How Your \$10 Sponsorship Makes a Difference

- Funds a student's field trip scholarship.
- Contributes to the myriad of PTO funded events.
- Allows PTO to support our teachers through various means.
- Every dollar stays right here at Mead Hall!

## How to Sponsor:

1. Scan the QR Code to sign up online.
2. Submit sponsorship payment via the PTO Lockbox located in both campus offices.



### Raffle prizes include:

- A Back to School Swag Bag
- Priority seating for Christmas events
- Headmaster for a Day
- Homework Passes

**No Time to Volunteer? No Problem!**

**Sponsorship=/mandatory volunteering. Your support alone strengthens our impact!**



# Middle & Upper School News



## 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

*Submitted by Mike Buck*

Wow, our first annual Back to School Bash was a huge success! As I walked around the campus Friday evening, I could not help but notice the myriad adults and students who participated and contributed to a wonderful event. Our cafeteria folks did an amazing job with the food. The PTO members help orchestrate so many of the details. Teachers and administrators alike were present en masse. The laughter of students from pre-k to high school seniors filled the air. Our Maintenance and Custodial teams did much of the set up work for the festivities. Our wonderful Board Members were present showing their support of this joint activity. We all have different roles to fill, but we are all part of the Mead Hall family. If the old proverb about it taking an entire village to raise a child is accurate, the Panther Village showed up and showed out Friday evening! It is such a blessing to work with such an incredible team.

Go Panthers!

Mike

**There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.**







## August

20-22 Mountain Madness at Blue Ridge Assembly (NC)

## September

1 Labor Day (No School)

5 Chick Fil-A Day

11 College Night, 5:00 - 8:00 pm @ Augusta Convention Center

8-12 Standardized Testing Grades 3-4

Standardized Testing Grades 5-8

15 Senior Pictures - Wilson Studio (in Auditorium)

17 Fall Pictures - APC in Auditorium

15-20 Make-up Standardized Testing

23 Fall Makeup Pictures

24 Combined Chapel & Kindergarten Chapel for Bishop Richards







# MEAD HALL PANTHERS

## IMPORTANT

All students participating in Sports at Mead Hall will need to turn in all of the Athletic Paperwork to include Updated Physician Physical. Please turn in the paperwork to the main office or you can email it to Coach Hawthorne at [dhawthorne@meadhallschool.org](mailto:dhawthorne@meadhallschool.org).

***Students will not be allowed to participate in any sports activities until all paperwork is turned in.***

## COACHES NEEDED



For our Winter Sports we still need the following:

Middle School/Varsity Bowling

Pom Squad

For our Spring Sports we still need the following:

Middle School Soccer

POSSIBLY Middle School/JV Baseball

***\*\*If we are unable to fill these positions the sport may not be available for that season***

Interested? contact Daryl Hawthorne  
[DHawthorne@meadhallschool.org](mailto:DHawthorne@meadhallschool.org)



[click to download](#)

**Stay Connected -  
Download the SportsYou App today!**

For all of the Athletic Team information please download the SportsYou App and add the team that the student is participating in. Please see the codes below for the different sports.

### ***SportsYou Codes for Fall Sports***

MS/Varsity Swimming Code- FTQ6-UQE3

MS/Varsity Cross Country Code- 3JF9-FCLD

MS Volleyball Code- CSX2-RWRH

Varsity Volleyball Code- DJP6-MYS8

MS Golf Code- D2BV-YQYM

MS Tennis Code- Q4QV-3AL9

MS Flag Football Code- LRB9-EU7S

## Take Note

Schedules for the upcoming Fall Athletic Season are now posted on the FACTS Calendar and in the team's SportsYou page.

*Click Here*

## Join the Spirit Team!!

Show your PantherPrideatgames  
and get the crowds cheering

***Open to all high school students***

Interested? contact Daryl Hawthorne  
[DHawthorne@meadhallschool.org](mailto:DHawthorne@meadhallschool.org)





# SCHOOL STORE

*School Spirit*

## NEW Spirit T-Shirt

ORDER NOW



Pre-order today for only \$28 each

Available in your choice of WHITE, BLUE OR PINK

Youth Medium - Adult 2XL

\* pink is only available in adult sizes

*Don't Miss Out*

Deadline to pre-order is  
Friday, August 15th!!

delivery estimated early September

LAST CHANCE

## SCHOOL STORE HOURS AUGUST 18-22

Email [MHStore@meadhallschool.org](mailto:MHStore@meadhallschool.org) for appointment requests



M

CLOSED

T

Open 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

W

AFTERNOON HOURS

Open 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

T

Open 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

F

Open 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

[CLICK HERE  
TO ORDER](#)





## laundry love.

As we prepare to start our Laundry Love outreach, we will have another meeting for those interested in learning more about the program and/or volunteering. The meeting will be held in the large parlor today, **Sunday, August 17 after the 10:00 service.** Come learn about this wonderful way to help those less fortunate than us. For more information contact Marianne Swearingen at [soupkitchen@stthaddeus.org](mailto:soupkitchen@stthaddeus.org) Hope to see you on August 17!

### Service Schedule



#### Sunday

7:45 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Music

#### Monday

5:30 pm – Evening Prayer (Chapel of the Holy Apostles)

#### Wednesday

11:30 am – Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing (Chapel of the Holy Apostles)

### **The ACTS item for August is canned meat (chicken or tuna).**

Donations can be dropped by the office during office hours (preferred) or placed in the red wagon in the church entryway.

