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LOWCOUNTRY
PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Middle School NEWSLETTER



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Elizabeth McCallister

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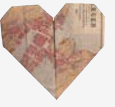


Mrs. McCallister grew up in Greenville, SC and graduated from USC with a BA in Journalism. She and her husband, Jeff, lived in Virginia Beach for about 15 years before moving to Pawleys Island about five years ago. She and Jeff have two grown sons who both got married in the last year! She is thrilled to welcome two wonderful girls into their family now.

Professionally, she has been in the classroom since the early 2000s and this is her second year at LPS. She "really enjoys the students and the learning environment here."

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

When asked what her favorite thing is about LPS, she explains, "getting to know all of my students and our small class sizes are such a treat and a real advantage for everyone. It's great sharing my love of learning languages and travel, as well as trying to instill an appreciation of writing and grammar."



Classroom at a Glance

7th Language: French
A study of French cuisine with samples of classic French food

6th Writing and Grammar: Functions of writing, punctuation, parts of speech and how to use them correctly in everyday life.



Outside of the classroom, Mrs. McCallister "enjoys spending time with family and friends whether it's going to the beach, dining out, or entertaining at home. Being near the water has always made me happy, especially reading a book at the beach or water aerobics in the summer. I have also been learning to play pickleball which is lots of fun!"

Did You Know?
Mrs. McCallister has visited over 17 countries!
She is approaching a 3.5 year Duolingo streak!





Ben Skvarka

6th Grade



Mrs. Blomdahl states that “Ben is known for his wittiness and humor and charms classmates with interesting stories and jokes. He is a diligent student who is an active participant in English. He makes good connections to the real world from the texts we discuss in class.”

Ms. Sandor notices that he “loves to learn... especially all about our world—all places on the map! I can only imagine how “far he will go!”

Mrs. McCallister says, “Ben is always polite and has a fun, unusual sense of humor that keeps me laughing a lot!”

Ben also excels outside of the classroom as a member of the cross country and middle school boys’ basketball team!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Londyn Roderick

7th Grade



Mrs. Blomdahl mentions that “Londyn is a sweet, well-rounded student who is known for always giving her best effort and producing stellar work in her classes. Londyn is a kind and generous friend who works well with everyone. Outside of school, she participates on the middle school girls’ basketball team where she exhibits great sportsmanship.”

Ms. Sandor recognizes “her kind, calm energy” and calls her “a light to others”

Mr. Smith simply states that she is “a real gem! A one-of-a-kind student and person!”

Mrs. McCallister comments that “Londyn is a delight to have in class. She is always quiet, attentive and happy to help with anything.”





Grant Putman

8th Grade

Grant is known for his quiet demeanor and calming spirit in the classroom. Grant loves to read and frequently updates Mrs. Blomdahl on his newest book (or several) that he balances at one time. Another fun fact about Grant is that he LOVES frogs! He has a clever way of incorporating frog references into his projects or assignments. He most recently represented LPS in the SCISA spelling bee!

Ms. Sandor says, "he's just the greatest student—loves to learn—is kind and so witty!"

Ms. Schroeder comments that "Grant is diligent, hardworking, and creative! I enjoy grading projects from him as they always seem to somehow involve his interest in frogs."

Mrs. Elliott states, "I can always depend on Grant to have the correct answer for any discussion in class. He always has a smile on his face and brings joy to my day with his silliness! ie - Sandia iphone!"

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

SCISA Art Show

6th-8th Grade

On January 31st, students traveled to the SCISA Art Show to display their pieces for judging in various categories such as: Mixed Media and 3D pottery.

We are so proud of all of our students who represented us.

A special congratulations goes to Daniel Lutz for winning 2nd place for his amazing log cabin model. Way to go!

Other participants include:

6th-Shannon Hungerford

Nathan Robinson

Stella Short

Bennett Boroughs

Sarah Livingston

7th-Miller Grace Hawley 8th-Audrey Ludyjan





The Odyssey Boat Building Project

Students recently worked on a cross-curricular project incorporating elements of their Physical Science, English I, and Ancient History classes. Students have been reading the Odyssey in English, and in Ancient History, they researched Ancient Greek boat features and boatbuilding techniques. In Physical Science, students have recently learned about buoyancy and machines.

8th Grade- English I
Physical Science
Ancient History



Students were tasked with building a waterproof, sea-worthy boat that would not capsize in rough seas (we tested it in a big basin with lots of waves made by Harrison and Owen).

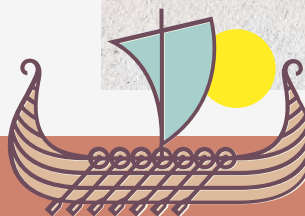


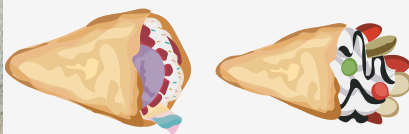
CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Their boat had to feature Ancient Greek boatbuilding techniques and contain at least 3 machines that would help Odysseus and his men with the problems they faced on their journey.

Two boats featured working engines (one made of legos, the other of rubber bands and popsicle sticks), one of the boats was made by using water to bend popsicle sticks into a curved frame (which Ms. Schroeder has never seen before in this project), and many of the boats featured weapons like catapults, ballistas and harpoons.

After project were presented and boats were testing individually, all the boats had a "fight" together in "rough seas" and while many boats took on a substantial amount of water during the chaos, they still all remained afloat (and most remained right-side up)!





La Chandeleur

8th Grade-French I



February 2 is La Chandeleur in France. It is also known as “Crêpe Day”. We learned a French song about La Chandeleur and talked about the origins of the holiday, the ingredients in crêpes, and how it relates to Groundhog Day here. Then, the best part! We made out our crêpe creations.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

National Crepe Day & Candlemas



7th Grade-Language Exploration

To enrich their French Unit, students got to bring a taste of France to the classroom! They'll be sampling pain au chocolat, which is a chocolate-filled croissant (made by Michael's mom), Buche de Noel, made by Keely's dad, some gougères, cheese puffs using gruyere cheese (made by Mrs. McCallister's husband), baked brie, and chocolate mousse made by Miller Grace's grandmother. We will also have some baquettes, French cheeses, chocolate crepes and some macarons from Eva's dad.

Thank you to all of our talented chefs for their yummy treats!



merci



The Hunley Experience

SC History

Mary Boyd thinks, "the Hunley sank because of oxygen loss. I get that they were all still in their places and that is kind of weird, but it is the only thing that makes sense to me. It could have happened quickly to where they knew that it was going to happen, so they just kept going."

Walker predicts, "I think that the bomb exploded the Housatonic and the Hunley. I think that the spar got stuck on the ship and the Hunley couldn't detach the spar and it exploded both of them. That is what I think happened to the Hunley. I think that the men got knocked out from the explosion and that is why they stayed at their stations."

6th Grade had an exceptional time traveling to Charleston to explore the Hunley exhibit, eat lunch picnic style at Riverfront Park, and trek through the Old Exchange Building and Provost Dungeon.

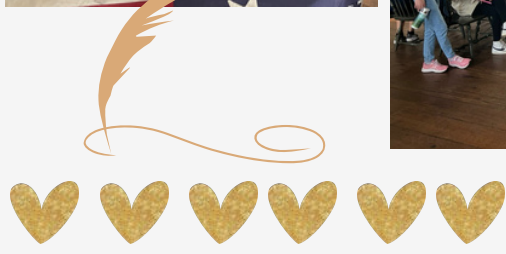
It is still unknown what exactly caused the Hunley to sink, but we asked our very own 6th grade for some of their theories! Here's what they predicted...



6TH CHARLESTON FIELD TRIP



Old Exchange Building & Provost Dungeon



What happened?

Mary Grace states, "I personally think that after the Hunley sunk the Housatonic, the Hunley was going back to the port, and it hit a tree that had fallen in the water. It scraped the Hunley and the water immediately rushed in."

Ben claims, "I think there was a leak in the ship causing it to sink and the crew not realizing it until it was too late."

Stella's opinion is, "that the men were becoming unconscious when they attacked the Housatonic, but when the Housatonic actually blew up, it hit them so hard that it knocked them unconscious and they eventually died in place...."

Brenna came up with a funny explanation that she summarized as "a Craken very, very gently wrapped itself around the Hunley so that's why there was no damage and dragged it under. The Craken pulled it so far down that the air pressure made them pass out before they could do anything. After the Craken got tired of being there it let go and caused the side hole on the Hunley."



The Hunley Experience Student Reflections

When asked to reflect on their field trip experience and tell what they enjoyed, students responded enthusiastically.

Shannon Hungerford: I learned a lot i did not know before about the Provost Dungeon. I pictured cells, stone, and unhappy people, but i was very surprised at the way the dungeon worked. There were no cells (open ground) and few shackles. Many different people were kept here. There were women, men, assumed spies, actual spies, political leaders, and INSUBORDINATE British soldiers. The dungeon was stone, with straw on the floor. The straw caused bugs, rats, and diseases to appear. The provost was a GRUESOME yet interesting experience .

Henry Strong: I liked learning about the provost at the tour. I thought it was cool. I also learned that they kept 7 tons of gunpowder behind a fake wall that fooled the British. So, a bomb sat in a prison army fortress for many years.

SCISA Literary Meet Friday, March 1st

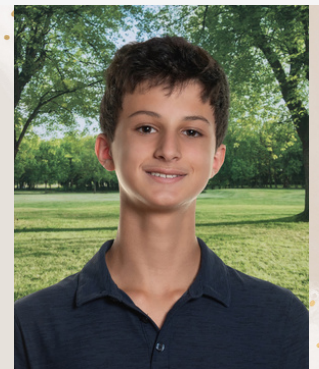
We will be sending these students to represent Lowcountry Prep in the SCISA Literary Meet on Friday, March 1st.

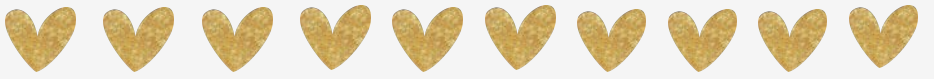
Essay Writing: Ada O'Halloran (8th)
Michael Simmons (7th)

Oral Interpretation: Evelyn Lewis (7th)

Extemporaneous Speaking: Keely Green (7th)

Good Luck





St. Christopher Camp & Education Center

Johns Island, SC - February 5-7

"Barrier Island Environmental Education Program is a marine science field trip offered by St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on Seabrook Island, South Carolina. We are located just 30 minutes south of Charleston, on pristine barrier island property with a mile of beach front, and more than 200 acres of undeveloped maritime forest and salt marsh. Dolphins, migrating birds, sea turtles, crabs, shrimp, raccoons, and alligators are just a few of the creatures found here. It is the perfect place for learning about nature, playing in mud, and learning social skills with classmates."



5TH-6TH BARRIER ISLAND FIELD TRIP

"The emphasis of the program is on education, not recreation, although we strongly believe in making learning fun. For example, "Let's Sea" is our two-hour discovery walk on the beach studying barrier island formation, sand dune ecology, seashell identification, and salt marsh life (where students get in the mud). Another favorite is "Need A Friend," a two-hour class focusing on communication and teamwork (even with people you don't like!). The kids really get into "Pondering Life", the one-hour class where students learn about freshwater ecology, insect metamorphosis, tadpoles, and the nutrient rich detritus that enriches our sandy soil."



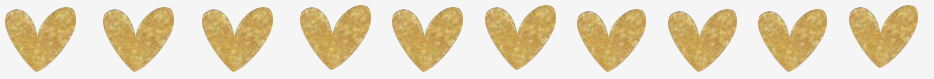


St. Christopher Camp & Education Center Johns Island, SC - February 5-7

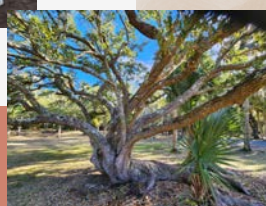
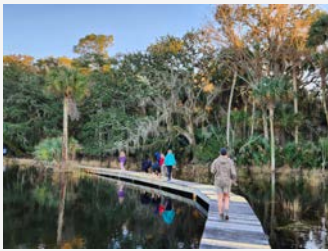


5TH-6TH BARRIER ISLAND FIELD TRIP





5TH-6TH BARRIER ISLAND FIELD TRIP



MS Science Fair

When: Thursday, February 29th
Where: LPS Gymnasium

As in years past, we will be relying on members of our Marlin family and the wider community to act as judges.

Please reach out to cjolly@lowcountryprep.org if you are interested in volunteering to judge this year.

Open House February 27th at 9:00am

As a current Marlin family, your encouragement is the most influential marketing voice. If you have a friend or neighbor that might be interested in this informational session, encourage them attend and direct them to [our school website](#) where they can access the [Open House link](#) and register.

Announcements

UPCOMING EVENTS

Planning Ahead:

MS Science Fair-Feb. 29
Literary Meet-March 1
MS Dance (Neon Glow)-
March 1st
MS Spring Testing-March
25-28

BASH 2024

1920'S GREAT GATSBY

SAVE THE DATE FOR A FUN NIGHT OF FOOD, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP
AT THE 2024 LOWCOUNTRY BASH!

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH, 6-10PM • LITCHFIELD COUNTRY CLUB

BASH stands for Building a Scholastic Heritage and proceeds help fund the gap between school tuition and the actual costs of educating our children.

How You can Help Make this Event a Smashing Success:

1. Get Involved... help the PTO with planning, collecting or donating auction items, set up and clean up.
2. Donate... we are looking for unique items, services and experiences to auction off.
3. Sponsors... Highlight your business and benefit LPS too! Sponsorships get you reserved seating, recognition at BASH and on social media.
4. Join us... Attend the event to support our school! Parents, grandparents, alumni, staff and friends are all welcome.

For questions, donations or volunteering please contact Robin Johnson at robinjohnson713@icloud.com. Cheers!

YOU ARE INVITED TO
JOIN US FOR

Woof you be Mine
Valentine's Day
Raffle

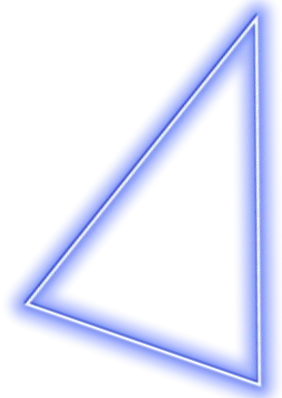
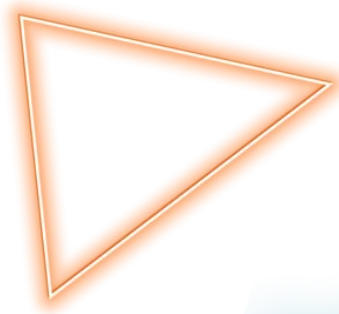
DRAWING
14th Feb 2024

TICKETS:
\$5.00 EACH OR
5 FOR \$20.00



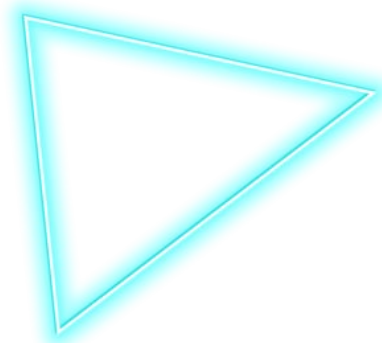
Rent the Rock
Click the [SignUp Genius link](#)
below to secure your dates!
[Click Here](#)





LET'S GLOW CRAZY!

For Grades 6th, 7th, and 8th
March 1st
7:00-9:00 pm



DON'T
MISS IT