

The
WES
Magazine
SUMMER 2023



The WES Magazine is published by:
Washington Episcopal School
PK3 - Grade 8
5600 Little Falls Parkway, Bethesda, MD 20816
301.652.7878 | www.w-e-s.org

Head of School
Danny Vogelman

Board of Trustees
Chairman Emeritus
Robert E. Freer, Jr.

Chair
Stacie C. DeRamus

Vice-Chair
Jeff Tignor

Secretary
Nicole Miller

Treasurer
Anastasia Gekis (Piris)

Mahmoud Bah
Theresa Carnegie
The Reverend Prince Decker, Bishop's Representative
Jason Gray
Shivani Gupta
Wes Hays
Nigel Howard
Jay Irwin
Jessica Mailloux (Kelly)
Mike Nelson
Jay Panchal
Cri-Cri Randolph '98
Kathryn Stewart
Liz Tyndall
Samira Woodings
Britt A. Snider '88, Trustee Emeritus

Will Layman, Director of Development

Kim Bair, Director of Admission and Financial Aid

Mary Lee Nickel, Early Childhood Director

Courtney Clark, Elementary Grades Director

Kristin Cuddihy, Middle School Director

The Reverend Kristen Tossel Pitts, Chaplain

Ali Bratun, Editor and Photography &
Assistant Director of Development

Rebecca Weigle Design, Publication Design

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Washington Episcopal School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, disability, or ethnic or national origin in the administration of its educational program, admissions policy, or other school administered programs.



Association of Independent
Maryland & DC Schools



head of school's message

In this edition of *The WES Magazine*, we reflect upon a year filled with remarkable events, heartwarming moments, and outstanding accomplishments that have shaped the journey of our students here at WES. This year marked the return of many long-loved student and community traditions as well as the debut of some new events.

Our students delighted, for example, in the revival of class plays that provide a platform for individual risk-taking and grade-level bonding. Among these was another spectacular Grade 6 musical production that entertained audiences and showcased the collaborative efforts of our talented students.



Strategic Planning Committee



Ethan Vogelman '19 and his family at his high school graduation

With the return to a regular schedule, WES organized enriching field and study trips, allowing our students to broaden their horizons through hands-on experiences. Our students also took the lead in a remarkable sustainability project, which will be explored further in the featured article on page 2, inspiring and educating the entire school community. We are also very proud of our athletic teams. Their dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship exemplify the values we strive to instill in our students.

On the community front, we witnessed the power of togetherness through a myriad of events. The Fall Service Festival demonstrated how we can make a tangible difference in the lives of others. The Global Fair showcased diverse cultures, fostering intercultural understanding and appreciation among students, families, and faculty. The Spring Arts Festival highlighted the immense talent within our school through awe-inspiring artwork and engaging performances. And events like our "Share the Love" campaign, Bingo Night, and Field Day brought us closer as a community, creating an atmosphere of warmth and belonging.

The year was also marked by our community's collaboration on WES's next strategic plan. The Strategic Plan Think Tank and Community Day events served as a platform for current and past parents, faculty, alumni, and other stakeholders to contribute their insights and aspirations for the future. We eagerly anticipate sharing the finalized plan to lay the foundation for further growth and innovation at WES.

Lastly, the graduation season filled our hearts with immense pride. Of course, we celebrated the accomplishments of our Grade 8 graduates through several long-standing traditions, culminating in commencement in The Deighton Alleyne Gymnasium. We were thrilled to bring together high school graduates from the WES Class of 2019 at a reunion in April. We also congratulate the college graduates from the WES Class of 2015! Moments like these remind us that an education at WES is an investment that reaches decades into the future, helping to mold the powerful ways that our graduates positively impact the community here at home and around the world.

Sincerely,

Danny Vogelman

table of contents



Kindergarten students collaborate as they learn about balancing and weighing in science class.



2

Feature:
Getting Greener

4

Class of 2023 Graduation

6

Around Campus

8

Divisions

14

Athletics

16

The Arts

18

Recognitions

20

Giving & Community

22

Board & Faculty News

Alumni

23

Class Notes

28

**Former Faculty News, Alumni
Events & College Choices**

33

Sixth-Grade Musical



**on the
cover:**

A fourth-grader examines the flowers
in the new Sustainability Gardens.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Washington Episcopal School inspires academic and personal excellence within a joyful learning environment to develop students who are kind, confident, and prepared.

All photographs, copy, and captions are copyright © 2023 Washington Episcopal School, all rights reserved.

Getting GREENER

Set in a lovely spot nestled between the Capital Crescent Trail and Little Falls Parkway, Washington Episcopal School has always been aware of the importance of the environment. Several recent and future initiatives are reducing WES's carbon footprint, trimming its energy consumption, and making WES a better steward of our planet. From transitioning to LED lights to adding solar panels to creating gardens, WES is making significant strides in the greening of our campus.

Sustainable Facilities Projects on Campus

Can you guess how many light fixtures were replaced during spring break in March? Our 983 fixtures are now outfitted with LED (light emitting diode) bulbs, which are 90% more efficient than incandescent light bulbs. This comprehensive project, managed by our facilities department, replaced most of the existing fixtures. "The economics of switching to LED is powerful," said Dave Schuessler, Facilities Manager. "As part of a Pepco [our electric company] rebate program, we were reimbursed approximately \$70,000 toward our \$101,000 overall project cost. Plus, our energy savings will pay for the remaining project expenditure within one year." The result is a brighter environment for the school—every classroom, common area, and even closets—saving money and putting WES closer to its goal of reducing electricity reliance and costs.

Plans are in place to install solar panel arrays on WES's roof early this fall. Solar panels create DC current which is transformed into AC current for consumption which will eventually cover or exceed WES's entire electrical usage. The timing is favorable, as new roofing was installed in the summer of 2022 and both roofs and solar panels have a lifespan of about 20 years.

The solar panels will earn WES renewable energy credits (RECs) awarded by Pepco based on how much electricity is created by an array and measured by a meter. The value of the credits fluctuates based on demand and on goals set for renewable energy conversion by localities.

Another way WES has made our facilities more energy efficient is by replacing original 1950s single-paned windows in Grades 1-5 classrooms last summer with double-paned coated windows, resulting in improved insulation and energy conservation.



Sustainability Gardens are Growing!

Wouldn't it be inspiring to support, observe, and interact with nature—butterflies, birds, pollinators, and native plants—right here on the WES campus? Our elementary students (Grades 2-5) thought so, leading them to develop curriculum-connected garden spaces in and around the Exploration Playground near the Turf Field. Under the guidance of STEM teacher Katherine Owens, the garden spaces include a bird sanctuary by Grade 2, a pollinator garden by Grade 3, a rain garden (a water retention area to prevent rain runoff) by Grade 4, and a native

plant garden by Grade 5. Students named the various garden spaces and created webpages (see next page) for each garden project to educate and inspire the WES community and beyond about sustainability.

"When envisioning the projects, we learned that water runoff from the roof of a nearby building was being diverted and picking up sediments and pollutants before ending up in storm drains that lead to the Chesapeake Bay," stated Owens. By channeling the water towards the proposed site of the gardens and creating a bowl-like design, WES could capture the water and support native plants, making the site perfect



for water conservation efforts. The students called this space “The Rain Retainer” because it captured/retained the rain runoff. We consulted with Montgomery County’s Rainscapes program for guidance and put in place these water retention and conservation measures.

The Sustainability Gardens are registered nationally as a “Monarch Waystation,” as part of the “Million Pollinator Garden Challenge” of the National Pollinator Garden Network, attracting butterflies and bees with colorful perennials, grasses, ferns, trees, and shrubs. Students observed that a birdhouse in The Bird Sanctuary had a nest after just a few days of being erected!

Funding for the Sustainability project came from a Volvo Car USA grant to foster green initiatives and from a contribution from Montgomery County with WES covering the remaining costs as part of its dedication to sustainability. Working with our landscaper, the facilities department put the gardens in place in May to the excitement of the elementary STEM students and the entire WES community. The students are thrilled to support the environment and help develop, explore, and grow the space in the years to come.

“I’m so proud of our students, who so thoughtfully researched the designs of these spaces, created content for the webpages, and have been positive changemakers for sustainability in the WES community and beyond,” said Owens. “They made connections to the curriculum and have a great understanding of the critically important role we have in our ecosystem.”



For more information and inspiration on **SUSTAINABILITY**, please visit our webpage:

<https://sites.google.com/w-e-s.org/sustainabilitygardens/home>

Congratulations

to our
30 graduates of the **CLASS OF 2023!**

Thank you for the privilege of having you with us at WES. We wish you every success in the future—*please keep in touch!*



GRADUATES WILL ATTEND THESE 17 SCHOOLS IN THE FALL

(as of June 7, 2023)

Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School
British International School
Bullis School
Georgetown Preparatory School
Georgetown Day School
Landon
Maret
The Madeira School
Miss Porter's School (CT)
Our Lady of Good Counsel
Proctor Academy (NH)
St. Andrew's Episcopal School
St. John's College High School
St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School
Walt Whitman High School
Walter Johnson High School
Winston Churchill High School

GRADUATES WERE ALSO ACCEPTED TO THESE SCHOOLS:

Brewster Academy (NH)
Edmund Burke School
The Field School
Georgetown Visitation
Holton-Arms School
School Without Walls
Sidwell Friends School
Stone Ridge School
of the Sacred Heart
Washington International School



Ben Bauer



Thomas Sarmiento



Fanta Bah



Victor Opland



Daisy Wild



Sam Pentz



Amel Johns



Cole Nelson



Liam Parkinson



Charleigh Knott



Ethan Barr



Joey Udoff



Jack Carlson



Susie Hoopes



Oliver Tyndall



Nicholas DeRamus



Asha O'Neal



Elliott Owens

Graduates — of the — CLASS OF 2023



Ava Johnson



Ewan Davis



Sam Ziemba



Maria Najm



Theo Kvamme



Finn Zentay



Rex Kimpel



Ariel Williams



Ale Piris



Henry Schadler



Phoenix Sinclair

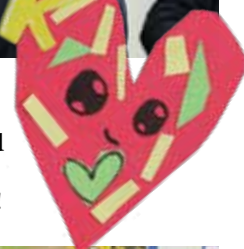


Flynn Fountain



Several community-building opportunities fostered joy and belonging this term.

Classes paired across grade levels to share **Valentine's cards** and **decorate cookies** in February. In April, they partnered again for students to **write kind notes**, **read stories** and **play together**. A well-planned **Field Day** in May highlighted the importance of physical activity as the entire school came together for some friendly competition, awash in blue and gold!





A Warm Send-Off for Early Childhood Director Mary Lee Nickel

When it came time to honor the career of Kentucky native and former Derby Princess Mary Lee Nickel, a Kentucky Derby-themed party was the obvious choice!

More than 100 current and past WES colleagues and family members attended a lively cocktail reception in The Stuart Work Library on June 8 to celebrate Mrs. Nickel's 22-year stint as WES's first official Early Childhood Director. Guests travelled from faraway destinations such as Missouri, Rhode Island, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania, and many donned festive hats to set the scene.

Former Directors and teachers spoke about the privilege of working with her, and Head of School Danny Vogelmann thanked her for her unbridled dedication in leading the

team that has educated more than 1,600 children during her tenure. Following a slide show and remarks, the Early Childhood team of teachers sang a rendition of "Let it Go" with special lyrics that clearly demonstrated how much she will be missed. "I was very touched by the lovely notes I've received and was surprised by how many people attended the party—many I haven't seen in years," said Nickel. "This was a lovely punctuation mark on my wonderful career at WES."



As Mary Lee gallops into retirement, she will fill her days with gardening, traveling, and spending time with her granddaughter, Sydney. Katie Rothwell, a PK3 teacher since 2016, has been named the new Early Childhood Director for the 2023-2024 school year.



Enjoy galloping into retirement, Mary Lee!



Early Childhood PK3 • PK4 • Kindergarten • Grade 1

Our Early Childhood students take on a wide variety of roles in classrooms that challenge their minds. They became readers, writers, scientists, musicians, artists, architects, explorers, and mathematicians. They enjoy solving problems, making predictions, and cooperating in team-building activities. Teachers are dedicated to laying important foundations in their math computations, reading, scientific thinking, and confident expression. These children are ready to meet next year's academic challenges with confidence and an appetite for adventure.

But learning in Early Childhood is always based in exploration beyond the classroom as well. **PK3** students celebrated Earth Day by finger-painting their own planet Earth and sharing their ideas on how to care for our world. While taking a nature walk around the school, they suggested that we plant more flowers, take care of worms, clean up the Earth, and feed it by composting; and don't forget it's always a good idea to sing the Earth a lullaby!

PK4 students stepped out to Brookside Gardens and the National Zoo after raising butterflies and completing an in-depth study of bees, which included capturing a bee in their classroom. They each created a papier-mâché rainforest animal that became the first display welcoming visitors to the Spring Arts Festival in April.

Dickey Farm was the destination for **Kindergarteners** for an all-day adventure catching crawdads, finding a turtle, and experiencing the delight of being covered in mud. Nature at its very best! Throughout the semester, visitors gave presentations about special topics and cultural holidays, and guest readers kept their rapt attention.

Students in **Grade 1** celebrated being part of a bigger community by traveling to the US Capitol. They got an inside look at the Crypt, the Rotunda, and National Statuary Hall and enjoyed eating lunch on the Mall. The culminating project of their study of community was the construction of their very own 3-D community, with buildings and

streets that would make life safe, convenient, and fun.

Early Childhood students are also blossoming artists, learning how to perform and create. Highlights of the second semester were the performances on stage. First up was First Grade's January performance of *Roxy the Last Unisaurus Rex*, an original adaptation of the book, which inspired its author to write the class a note of congratulations on their production. In February, Kindergarten presented *The Day the Crayons (Almost) Quit*, a colorful interpretation of one of their favorite books. For the traditional Spring Performance in May, PK3 students demonstrated how they learned to keep a steady beat as they opened the production, playing the *Jungle Beat* on the African drums.

In the light-filled art studio, students learned about masterful artists—Van Gogh, Matisse, O'Keeffe, and Kandinsky—which inspired them to create colorful paintings and artwork while learning and experimenting with new techniques.



On the previous page, top left to right:

- Grade 1 performs *Roxy the Last Unisaurus Rex*.
 - PK3 friends on the playground.
 - Searching for pond life at Dickey Farm
 - Kindergarteners are dressed as orange crayons for their play, *The Day the Crayons (Almost) Quit*.
1. PK4 teacher Ms. DeVries reviews a story written by a student.
 2. PK4 students sing "Mr. Sun" to entertain parents at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast in April.
 3. Learning about rhythm and beating a drum in a PK3 music class
 4. Working on writing letters of the alphabet in Kindergarten
 5. A first-grader showing the neighborhood the class created during a unit on communities.
 6. Kindergarteners celebrated Mardi Gras by making floats.
 7. First-graders making calculations as they enjoy their math Easter egg hunt on the playground.
 8. A papier-mâché bunny nibbling a carrot
 9. A PK4 student enjoying the hunt during the traditional Easter egg hunt following Chapel.
 10. A Kindergarten parent and her son share the culture and history of India with the class.





Elementary

Grade 2 • Grade 3 • Grade 4 • Grade 5

What a fun season of learning! Our Elementary Dragons engaged in a variety of opportunities to explore and grow as they navigated this semester. The students and teachers alike had fun while enjoying activities on and off campus. Most importantly, class plays made their long-awaited return!

Grade 2 students grew to be global citizens with a deeper understanding of people and places in the world around them. They experienced various cultures and were able to showcase that learning through their class play, *Journey Around the Continents*. This production reflected their creativity through an original song as well as their research about the continents they studied. Students learned about how they can make an impact in places as far away as Sierra Leone and right here in Bethesda. Grade 2 students also enjoyed their annual end-of-year celebration with friends and family at Breezy Point in Calvert County, MD. Spending time outside, searching for sharks' teeth, having a picnic, and playing in the water was a wonderful way to end the school year.

Throughout the second semester, **Grade 3** Dragons studied the meanings of identity, community, and diversity with a focus on how the experiences of different groups of people shape history. They learned that everyone has their own story, and those stories can be told through art, music, and storytelling. Students

demonstrated this learning in February's *A Melody of Peace, Unity, and Hope*, a stage performance. Students also explored the Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery later in the spring to see rich artifacts firsthand.

In May, **Grade 4** students performed a powerful musical showcasing their learning in social studies. Our students got into character as they spoke and sang about the *Road to the American Revolution*. They ended the year with a trip to Mount Vernon. This new adventure allowed the students to deepen their historical knowledge, explore the grounds and mansion of the George and Martha Washington estate, and enjoy a sightseeing cruise on the Potomac River.

Grade 5 Dragons eagerly welcomed back the overnight experience with an exciting new trip to Bretton Woods Adventure Camp. Setting up tents, exploring nature, starting campfires, and zip-lining are just a few of the activities that brought students together. Grade 5 also wrapped up our play season with *Get in the Game*, an experience that gave them a taste of what to expect in next spring's Sixth-Grade Musical.

This fun-filled semester leaves us excited for the year ahead. With more opportunities for trips and community events, we look forward to all that is to come.



11



On the previous page, top left to right:

- Grade 2 students singing an original song during their play, *Journey Around the Continents*.
 - A second-grader running along the Chesapeake Bay shoreline during their annual excursion to Breezy Point
 - Third-graders playing the ukulele and singing during their production of *A Melody of Peace, Unity, and Hope*
1. In a Grade 3 STEM class, students explore sublimation using dry ice and the excitement of expanding bubbles.
 2. Grade 4 uses their muscles in the rope pull contest at Field Day.
 3. Making papier-mâché masks in fourth-grade art is super fun!
 4. Grade 4 sings "Rise Up!" during their play.
 5. A colorful mask made by a fourth-grader
 6. Grade 5 students get a kick out of physical activity during their production of *Get in the Game* in May.
 7. Two fifth-graders present their invention in STEM class.
 8. A second-grader encourages sustainability stewardship during Chapel.
 9. Spanish teacher Señora O'Kon chats with fifth-graders about their Spanish assignment.
 10. Second-graders use their math skills to make change as they sell homemade goods in their "store."
 11. Grade 2 students learned more about the history of the once vibrant Black community in the River Road neighborhood when they met again with Rev. Adebayo at the 103-year-old Macedonia Baptist Church near WES this spring.



Elementary



Middle School Grade 6 • Grade 7 • Grade 8

Highlights of the spring semester in Middle School include some of our most storied traditions as well as popular events. The most memorable moments involve opportunities for students to demonstrate leadership—whether performing on stage, participating in a team sport, creating artwork or poetry, decorating the gym for an event, or hosting visiting students or speakers in the middle school commons.

This spring, [Grade 6](#) students gave a high-energy performance in *Camp Rock the Musical* and [Grade 8](#) students rose to the comic and dramatic challenges of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Students led on the fields in lacrosse and track and field, resulting in some personal and team bests for several WES athletes this season. A robust number of WES students showcased their talents in science, geography, and visual arts in the MAESA Scholars' Fair, winning first place in several categories. The Student Government Association organized and led several popular and successful events—including the glamorous “Blue Carpet Winter Wonderland” dance, the first-ever all-school Advisory Scavenger Hunt, and another delicious Middle School Bake-Off competition. Guest speakers included a middle school parent and a best-selling author, who received rave reviews from our students. Both speakers highlighted the WES virtues of kindness, confidence, and preparation as the keys to future success.

Four study trips in May offered our students the chance to practice independence, good citizenship, field study, and gratitude as they visited new places and tried many new things. We were even able to host visiting students from France for a bonfire and s'mores. Some of our Grade 8 students were able to visit with them in Paris a few weeks later.

As always, our year ended on a joyful note of gratitude with a festive Field Day, yearbook signings, and a fond farewell to the Class of 2023 on Graduation Day.





On previous page, left to right from top:

- Grade 8 geometry students learn about measuring angles with a clinometer with Mrs. Girgis.
 - Grade 7 students read their poem at the Grade 6/7 Poetry Slam in June.
 - Mr. Marshall assists Grade 6 students mummifying an orange as they explore the preservation techniques of ancient Egyptians.
 - An eighth-grader paints his creation in ceramics.
 - Grade 7 students explore a map of the city of Florence on the Italy study trip.
 - Sixth-graders get into their characters during a musical rehearsal.
1. Eighth-graders collect boxes of pasta to donate to Small Things Matter on Field Day.
 2. In Grade 7 Life Science, Mrs. Earle instructs students as they learn about organs while dissecting a sheep's heart.

3. Grade 8 students visit the ancient pilgrimage site of Mont St. Michel to better understand French medieval history.
4. Grade 8 students at Parque el Retiro in Madrid, Spain
5. Actors perform on stage during the Grade 8 production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in April.
6. A Grade 6 student presents her project at the Science Fair.
7. Led by a knowledgeable Navajo tour guide, Grade 6 students hiked within Antelope Canyon, exploring the captivating creation of slot canyons during their study trip to the desert southwest this spring.
8. An eighth-grader and a visiting student from France get acquainted on the Exploration Playground this spring.
9. Andrea Owen, a WES mom and ABC News Executive Producer, presents to middle schoolers.
10. Seventh-graders embrace the winter theme at February's Middle School Dance.

Middle School



The winter and spring sports season for the WES Dragons epitomized the school's athletic philosophy, emphasizing sportsmanship, respect, commitment, integrity, leadership, and team competition. Across all teams, these values were evident, creating a positive and supportive environment for athletes to thrive.

The boys **Grade 6 basketball team** truly shone, with an impressive 6-0 record. Their outstanding teamwork and unwavering tenacity allowed them to dominate their opponents with ease.

Similarly, the **girls middle school "A" basketball team** had a remarkable season, finishing with just one loss. Led by the talented eighth-graders Fanta Bah, Amel Johns, and Charleigh Knott, this team was a joy to watch. Their impressive fast breaks, fluid ball movement, and unwavering dedication to defense made them a formidable force on the court.

In addition to basketball, the **WES Dragons excelled in track and lacrosse** during this spring. The track team continued their strong showing in various meets, solidifying themselves as a program to be reckoned with. The athletes showcased their skills, speed, and endurance, consistently achieving commendable results. Meanwhile, the lacrosse program displayed promise with a strong foundation of dedicated fifth- and sixth-graders. These young players' commitment to learning and improving themselves bodes well for the future of the program, ensuring a strong and competitive presence in the coming years.

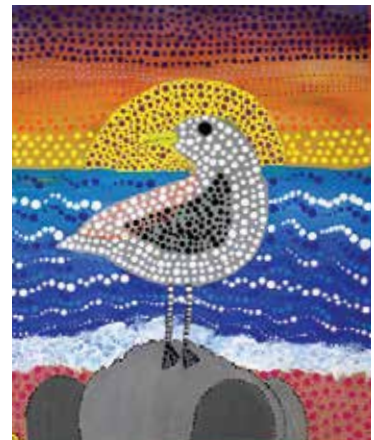
As a whole, the spring season was a reminder of why athletics are integral to a WES education. Success on the field reflected a growth in skills and competitive excellence but also values of good sportsmanship, teamwork, commitment, integrity, and physical fitness. We all look forward to seeing our student athletes playing again next year, learning and growing while having fun along the way.







A riot of color, texture, and shape drives the original creations of WES Dragons as they explore technique and materials, and call upon their imagination. Artwork from each student was on display at the [Spring Arts Festival](#) on April 14. Students guided guests through exhibits and gave demonstrations. Poetry readings, musical performances, Irish step dance, and a fashion show made for a lively and entertaining return of this event—the first since 2019.



Applause, applause! Students honed their skills in music and the performing arts this term, deserving high praise for all they accomplished.

The season kicked off in March with the **Grade 6 Musical, *Camp Rock the Musical***, featuring superb acting, dancing, and singing aplenty (see inside back cover for more photos), followed by Spring band and choral concerts for Grades 4-5 and Middle School. Grade 8 students delivered an outstanding production of Shakespeare's ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** in April. Early Childhood students gave a wild performance of ***Jungle Beat*** for their Spring Performance, as they played instruments and sang wearing irresistible animal print costuming. Roar! Opportunities for public speaking and singing throughout the year—at Chapels, the Spring Arts Festival, class plays, the Poetry Slam, and Graduation—allowed our Dragons to shine!



WES STUDENTS AT THEIR BEST

We are pleased to recognize students' outstanding accomplishments this school year.
Congratulations to all!

Outstanding Performing Arts Award:

Grade 6: **Adonia Mackey, Deven Nath**
Grade 7: **Bertie Buckley, Cara McCarthy, Evelyn Skinner**
Grade 8: **Joey Udoff**

Outstanding Band Member Award:

Grade 6: **Liza Rosan & Marie Tevosyan**
Grade 7: **Katie Subritzky, Savio Rinaldi, Christopher Rehermann**
Grade 8: **Oliver Tyndall**

Good Sportsmanship Award:

Grade 6: **Henry Hasselwander**
Grade 7: **Sophia Orzechowski**
Grade 8: **Ben Bauer**

National Spanish Award:

Grade 7
Gold Medal: **Cara McCarthy**
Silver Medal: **Hank Kelly, Lily Lunsford, Christopher Rehermann, Savio Rinaldi**
Grade 8
Gold Medal: **Joey Udoff**
Silver Medal: **Phoenix Sinclair, Ale Piris**

National French Contest - Le Grand Concours Award:

Grade 6
Gold Medal: **Liza Rosan, Nefeli Steindal**
Silver Medal: **Meharriw Bekele, Charlotte Rothwell**
Bronze Medal: **Nora Davis, Alexandra Ehrenberg**

Grade 7

Gold Medal: **Mandakini Hasnain**
Bronze Medal: **Parker Carrier, Maria Olympia Georgiou, Aleksander Skerjve, Evelyn Skinner, Katie Subritzky**

Grade 8

Gold Medal: **Ben Bauer, Ewan Davis, Ava Johnson, Maria Najm**
Silver Medal: **Daisy Wild**

MathCounts:

Grade 6: **Evelyn Skinner, Kate Subritzky**
Grade 7: **Ewan Davis, Ava Johnson, Sam Pentz, Ale Piris, Joey Udoff**
Grade 8: **Isaac Horne, Finley Meyer, Arohi Narayan**



Geo Bee winners with Mrs. Durling
(Left) First Place: **Thatcher Tye** (Grade 7)
(Right) Second Place: **Ben Bauer** (Grade 8)



Spelling Bee Winners
(Left) First Place: **Joey Udoff** (Grade 8)
(Right) Second Place: **Cara McCarthy** (Grade 7)

WES STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT MAESA SCHOLARS' FAIR

WES gathered with other area Episcopal schools at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School for the **Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association Scholars' Fair** on April 28, 2023. This event provides an opportunity for students who have excelled in science, geography, spelling, art, or multimedia to compete, display, and present their projects and learn from their peers at other schools. The fair inspires, motivates, and celebrates student accomplishments.

Congratulations to the following students who received awards:

Science Fair, Grades 5-6:

First Place: **Evie Marvin** (Grade 6)
Third Place: **Owen Kearbey** (Grade 6)
Honorable Mention: **Everett Ong** (Grade 6)

Spelling Bee, Grades 7-8:

Third Place: **Joey Udoff** (Grade 8)

Geography Bee (Grades 7-8):

Second Place: **Thatcher Tye** (Grade 7)



MAESA Scholars' Fair participants in April

2-D Art, Grades 7-8:

First Place: **Kate Subritzky** (Grade 7)
Second Place: **Maria Olympia Georgiou** (Grade 7)
Third Place: **Ava Johnson** (Grade 8)

3-D Art, Grades 7-8:

Third Place: **Maria Najm** (Grade 8)

Collaborative Art (Grades 5-6):

First Place: **Jess Buckley, Sophia Howard, Mia Murillo, Vigo Plahin** (Grade 5)

Congratulations to all of our MAESA Scholars' Fair participants for their excellent representation of our school:

Grade 4:

Grace Zentay

Grade 5:

Jess Buckley, Sophia Howard, Ross Kimpel, Mia Murillo, Vigo Plahin

Grade 6:

Alexandra Ehrenberg, Owen Kearbey, Alec Goulet, Evie Marvin, Everett Ong, Charlotte Rothwell, Jane Rothwell, Ken Saito, Indi Sinclair, Bella Stroud, Jace Vogelmann, Trey Vogelmann, Eliot Witherspoon

Grade 7: Maria Olympia Georgiou,

Cara McCarthy, Kate Subritzky, Thatcher Tye

Grade 8: Ben Bauer, Jack Carlson, Ewan Davis, Ava Johnson, Rex Kimpel, Maria Najm, Cole Nelson, Ale Piris, Joey Udoff



GRADE 8 AWARD WINNERS

WES is proud to present the following Grade 8 Awards, recognizing outstanding performance and contributions from the members of the **Class of 2023**:



Spirit Award: **AVA JOHNSON**

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5, 22-23). This award is given in recognition of outstanding contributions exemplifying the philosophy of WES: demonstrating caring for others and respecting the integrity of the school, its people, and its traditions.



Mustard Seed Award: **OLIVER TYNDALL**

"Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it's the smallest of all the seeds on the earth; but when it's planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all vegetable plants. It produces such large branches that the birds in the sky are able to nest in its shade" (Mark 4:31-32). This award honors a student who started their WES journey as a small seed, but who thrived and grew to have a big impact in our community.



Dexter R. Davison Award (Music):
ASHA O'NEAL (Band)
ALE PIRIS (Chorus)



The Deighton Alleyne Coaches Award:
CHARLEIGH KNOTT and **REX KIMPEL**



Math & Science Award:
JOEY UDOFF (Math)
AVA JOHNSON (Science)



Drama Award:
SUSIE HOOPES and **HENRY SCHADLER**



Art Award:
MARIA NAJM



Humanities Award:
ELLIOTT OWENS



Nancy Wright Award for Academic Excellence:
JOEY UDOFF, ALE PIRIS, SUSIE HOOPES, PHOENIX SINCLAIR, AVA JOHNSON, CHARLEIGH KNOTT, ELLIOTT OWENS, with MR. VOGELMAN



WES Lifers:
Bottom Row: **OLIVER TYNDALL, FANTA BAH, ALE PIRIS, CHARLEIGH KNOTT, MARIA NAJM**
Top Row: **COLE NELSON, ELLIOTT OWENS, ASHA O'NEAL, AMEL JOHNS, NICHOLAS DERAMUS**



Foxcroft Challenge Grade 8 Participants
(l to r): **Susie Hoopes, Ava Johnson, Phoenix Sinclair, and Amel Johns** in Middleburg, VA

FOXCROFT SCHOOL'S STEM CHALLENGE

Congratulations to eighth-graders **Susie Hoopes, Amel Johns, Ava Johnson, and Phoenix Sinclair** for their outstanding results on Saturday, February 25, at the Foxcroft School's annual STEM Challenge in Middleburg, VA. This year's theme of "Be Green" focused on environmental issues including sustainability and renewable energy. The WES team placed **first in the biology event, second in the chemistry event, and third overall**. This challenging and engaging competition draws schools from the entire mid-Atlantic region and is organized by Middle School science teacher Caterina Earle.

AUCTION



"Will you go to Prom with me?" This year's Prom Night Auction theme proved to be more fun than anyone imagined, thanks to Auction Co-Chairs Anna and Greg Pugh (pictured below) and a spirited Prom Committee.



"We think the reason everyone embraced the theme was that you could have a re-do of your Prom, you could actually attend prom with your spouse or partner, or, if you didn't grow up in the US, you had a chance to attend prom and have that experience," stated Greg. More than 300 partygoers were greeted outside with oversized blue and gold WES PROM letters, and the school lobby was decorated with balloon arches; a display of actual prom photos of parents, faculty, and staff (a few prom dates are now married!); a million fairy lights; a punch table; and a prom photo opportunity. Guests browsed the attractive silent auction displays, while enjoying cocktails, nibbling hors d'oeuvres, and bidding on items using an app. While the band played, people entered the gym (it was a prom, after all), to enjoy a seated dinner with wine, catered by Ridgewells. After a quick game of Heads or Tails, the real entertainment began, as the auctioneer, assisted by emcee Bill Isola, rallied the group as they bid on Live items, setting a record high for the coveted Lock-In—thanks to Grade 6 for winning, and to the faculty chaperones for hosting the event in April. "The Breakaways" didn't disappoint, hitting all the right notes as the dance floor instantly filled up. "I'll never forget," said Anna Pugh, "when Grade 4 teacher Jess Nelson took the microphone and sang with the band for the encore! She was really awesome!" A photobooth with props was the finishing touch to a remarkable evening.

Auction season kicked off in a familiar way with an amazing Wine Party at the home of Samira Woodings. This year's party was sponsored by Tyler Jeffrey of Washington Fine Properties—the first year we engaged a sponsor to underwrite delicious Mediterranean food, wine, and beverages. Warm weather allowed guests to enjoy the patio for a picture-perfect event. Donations from attendees funded wine and spirit baskets on Auction night—always a popular category. Behind the scenes, the Prom Committee held monthly planning meetings and secured donations, sponsorships, and ads. A decoration scheme was put into place, and volunteers inflated no fewer than 5,000 gold, blue, and white balloons which were shaped into arches, stars, and chandeliers. It became a normal occurrence to see a long balloon formation snaking through the hallways with only the feet of a few volunteers visible under the buoyant balloons. The Fathers Club came out in full force to set up Thursday evening before the event. By Friday, every space was turned into a prom night dream.



The success of this year's Auction relied on the vision, planning, and execution of the Co-Chairs, the Auction Prom Committee, and the generosity of all donors, sponsors, advertisers, Patrons, attendees and community and faculty ticket fund donors. As a result, \$200,000 was raised for the school – we are so very grateful.

It was truly a **Prom Night** to remember—but we never did find out who spiked the punch.



Our community came together as volunteers planned, promoted, and set up for the event so we all could enjoy a spectacular *Prom Night* like no other!





1. Annual Fund Co-Chairs Vicki and Jay Panchal 2. PA leadership: Martha Orzechowski, Katie Fioravanti, Gustav Hofverberg, Shivani Gupta 3. Serving food at the Founders Day picnic in June 4. Making a splash in the dunk tank at Founders Day 5. Book Fair Co-Chairs Brandon Rosatti, Melissa Tye, Greg Pugh 6. Families and faculty representing Chile at the Global Fair in May 7. WES moms wear beautiful dresses from Nigeria and Sierra Leone during the fashion show at the Global Fair 8. Traditional Norwegian food and was in ample supply at the Global Fair 9. A Bingo Night winner! 10. The PA providing faculty with a bountiful breakfast 11. Working the phones at November's Annual Fund phonathon 12. Ambassadors at the December Open House 13. Used Uniform volunteers organizing clothing 14. Enjoying the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast in April
Bottom: A spirited Clap In on June 5

ANNUAL FUND

This year's **Annual Fund Campaign**, "Beyond," allowed generous donors to contribute about \$400,000, our goal. Enthusiastically led by parents Vicki and Jay Panchal, 12 Annual Fund reps had a successful phonathon in November, calling and texting fellow parents and guardians to participate in the school's most important fundraising effort that provides 5% of the operating budget for the current school year. Overall parent participation was at more than 80%, with the larger community of grandparents, past parents and faculty and staff, alumni, and friends adding to the net total. We are grateful to everyone who worked hard to achieve our goal and to more than 400 donors who gave generously in support of the school, its mission, and our 325 Dragons.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION & COMMUNITY

The goals of the **WES Parents Association (PA)** are to engage the community in events, to bring educational opportunities to families, and to show appreciation for our faculty and staff. This year, the PA was helmed by a new president (Shivani Gupta), vice president (Martha Orzechowski), and secretary (Katie Fioravanti), with Gustav Hofverberg continuing as treasurer.

Community events were spearheaded by Laura Xanders, with a highlight being an all-school **Bingo Night** in February, where teachers and Mr. Vogelmann called the games. Prizes for winners, pizza, and fun abounded! Individual grades were active this year, as a team of **superb grade representatives** organized potluck dinners, "s'more" parties around the new firepit in the Exploration Playground, Christmas cookie

exchanges, and community service efforts. The year closed with our annual **Founders Day Picnic**, with the biggest inflatable obstacle course we have ever seen, not to mention a rockin' DJ, photo booth, and a dunk tank into which teachers and staff disappeared happily during the 95-degree heat.

Director of Parent Education Sarah Demarest made sure that the **PA was part of the learning** this year. Parents heard speakers address issues from dealing with tragedy (Melissa Sellevaag from The Wendt Center) to executive function in learning (Dr. Katia Fredriksen, neuropsychologist with the Stixrud Group) and from social anxiety to civics and identity. It was particularly great to have WES middle school students join the last conversation with author and teacher Karalee Wong Nakatsuka.

WES parents kept the **Used Uniform Shop** neat and tidy (Mary Carpenter, Akiko Lattin, Marte Opland, and Amy Samman) so that shoppers could find items easily.

Director of Faculty/Staff Appreciation, Sylvia Prior, and many other PA volunteers made sure that the people who care so much for our Dragons were fed, applauded, and celebrated. A delicious breakfast in autumn was followed by two days of lunch during **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week** (a Cinco de Mayo Mexican feast and so much delicious Chinese food), as well as the traditional "**Clap In**" on the last week of school. It was a fitting and active end to a year in which the Parents Association was engaged in so many parts of WES life.

Admission Ambassadors

Admission Ambassadors helped promote the

WES experience to prospective families at Open Houses and other events and gatherings all year.

Book Fair

December's Book Fair, under the leadership of Greg Pugh, Brandon Rosati, and Melissa Tye, raised funds for new titles in the library, and a visit from Santa during the Admissions Open House put everyone in the holiday spirit.

Global Fair

One of the most exciting and treasured attributes about WES is its diverse community. On May 5 we celebrated our cultural diversity at the Global Fair, which featured 34 family-hosted booths offering delicious regional foods, art, and videos. Parents and students wore traditional attire as they paraded across the stage in a fashion show, and a performance by the Kalanidhi Dance School showcased the beauty and strength of Kuchipudi dance, a traditional dance from India.

THANK YOU!

We are grateful for the many ways that the WES community comes together to support our school and enhance the experience for us all.



ANNOUNCING NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce these new Board of Trustees appointments:

The Reverend Patty Alexander



The Reverend. Patricia (Patty) Alexander is the Rector of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Bethesda, MD. Patty is thrilled to join the WES Board, as she has a longstanding commitment to- and love for- Episcopal schools. Ordained in 2001, Patty most recently served as Head Chaplain at St. Andrew's Episcopal School

in Potomac before coming to St. Dunstan's in 2019. While at St. Andrew's she was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association (MAESA), serving alongside WES Head of School Danny Vogelmann. Patty holds a BA from Yale University, an MA from Middlebury College, and an MDiv from the Virginia Theological Seminary. She is married to the Rev. Randy Alexander, and together they are the proud parents of three sons: college students William and Peter) and Andrew, who will be a high school senior in the fall.

Tony D'Emidio



Tony and his wife Sharon have been active members of the WES community for five years as proud parents of Abby (rising seventh-grader) and Cassie (rising fifth-grader). Tony has co-led the WES Fathers Club for four years, and recently served on the WES Strategic Planning

Team. Tony is Partner and President of McKinsey & Company, Inc. Washington, DC, overseeing McKinsey's work with the US Government. Tony holds an MS in Systems Engineering and a BS in Civil Engineering/Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. He also earned an MBA with distinction from Harvard Business School.

Amy Kearbey



Amy Kearbey is a regulatory attorney who specializes in healthcare fraud and abuse compliance and investigations. She has worked in both private practice and for the US government and is currently a partner at Winston & Strawn LLP. She has also been active in the WES community, most recently serving on the WES

Strategic Planning Committee and previously as a class representative to the Parents Association. Amy received her A.B. from Dartmouth College and her JD from Duke University School of Law. She and her husband Rob are the proud parents of three Dragons: Owen (rising seventh-grader), Graham (rising fifth-grader), and Russell (rising first-grader).

We are grateful to our outgoing Trustees, who served us so well for many years:

Mahmoud Bah 2017-2023 • The Reverend Prince Decker 2011-2023

Stacie DeRamus 2015-2023 • Anastasia Gekis (Piris) 2017-2023



FACULTY NEWS & MILESTONES

NICKEL AND HASSANZADEH TO RETIRE

Two fixtures of the WES faculty—Early Childhood Director **Mary Lee Nickel** and Early Childhood and Elementary French teacher **Jacqueline Hassanzadeh**—are retiring after 22 and 20 years respectively.



best educational foundation possible. (See page 7 for more about Mary Lee's retirement sendoff.)



Mrs. Nickel will be long-remembered for her mentorship of her EC staff. She was relied upon for her extensive experience and wisdom to solve problems. A passionate educator since 1976, she was driven by the needs of each and every unique student with a goal of fostering a love of learning in our youngest students and ensuring that they received the

Jacqueline, affectionately known as "Madame," created a classroom environment that enveloped her students in her native French culture. She taught songs and had students sample French foods while making the French language come alive. Her annual Tour de France event and Mardi Gras parties were legendary, as was the genuine love she had for her students.

We wish these two incredible educators a happy, relaxing, and well-deserved retirement. We are immensely grateful for their myriad contributions to our community of learners.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY INDUCTS TWO MEMBERS ON APRIL 28

Physical Education teacher and coach **Caitlin Lennon** and Director of Performing Arts and Music teacher **Ron Valenzia** were inducted into the St. George's Society at a special Chapel on April 28, 2023. George's Society members—current and past faculty and staff—gathered at this annual chapel and had lunch together following the service, a WES tradition since 2010. The Society honors current, past, and founding faculty of Washington Episcopal School for their remarkable dedication and commitment in taking the School from a dream to a thriving institution. We are grateful for their exemplary service to our school.



20 YEARS
Jacqueline Hassanzadeh
Early Childhood and
Elementary French
Teacher

15 YEARS
Caitlin Lennon
PE Teacher and Coach

Ron Valenzia
Performing Arts
Director

10 YEARS
Katya Elkassem
PK3 Teacher

Jon Marshall
Grade 6 Teacher

Katherine Owens
STEM Teacher

5 YEARS
Barbara Burkhardt
Grade 6 Teacher

Courtney Clark
Elementary Division
Director

Kristin Cuddihy
Middle School
Director

Alexis Doyle
Grade 1 Associate
Teacher

Moiria O'Kon
Early Childhood and
Elementary Spanish
Teacher

Catherine Voelpel
PE Teacher and Coach

Forrest Wright
Kindergarten Teacher

WASHINGTON EPISCOPAL SCHOOL Alumni CLASS NOTES



Emory University graduate Lawrence Redmond '14 (BS biology) with his parents Elizabeth and Larry

'20 Lucy Carnegie and Emanuelle Hair, volunteers with The Janie Foundation, worked with the WES Kaleidoscope Club to assemble FemPoser packs to distribute to women's homeless shelters in May. Emanuelle is taking a service trip to Chicago with Stone Ridge this summer. Aidan Linkins was named varsity basketball MVP at St. Anselm's. Grace Pressley took first place in the Discus Throw for Academy of the Holy Cross at the WCAC Track and Field Championship on May 19.

'19 Aidan Armagh won an Academic Distinction award (top 10% of his class) at his graduation at The Field School. He will attend Columbia University in the fall. Gigi Beeson won the "Generosity of Heart" award for her work to make The Field School more environmentally friendly and working for a better community. Gigi heads off to St. Andrew's University in Scotland this fall. Ethan Vogelmann was captain of the varsity basketball team at St. Albans and received the Best Teammate Award (awarded by the team) two years in a row. He is headed to Penn State in the fall. Chelsea Ward graduated from Mercersburg Academy and will attend the Fashion Institute of New York (fashion design and illustration). Lucy Weems will attend the Naval Academy. A Holton-Arms graduate and National Merit Commended Student, she was a multi-year captain of the cross country, track, and indoor track teams; was a 12-season athlete and president of Holton Athletics Association; held leadership roles in student government for three years; served as President of Young Democrats club; and was on Model UN. See page 32 for more class of 2019 college choices.



Sarah Dickey '11 and husband Russel Voudrie on their wedding day in May

'18 Caroline Dickey had a great freshman year at UNC-Chapel Hill and has an internship this summer with Children's Hospital in neurology. Isaiah Horne made the Honors List and was on the track team at Allegany College. Clara Knott was the choreographer for this year's Grade 6 Musical. Colin Redmond will attend SMU this fall.

'17 Business major Karim Elkassem received the Academic Excellence Award from the Office of Multi-ethnic Student Education (OMSE) at University of Maryland in May. This summer he will join EverGlade Consulting as a finance intern.

'16 Maddie Blonder studied abroad in Spain for the spring semester with Penn State. See page 25 for a uniquely WES story! Kim Ross, a rising senior at Duke University, is studying for the MCAT.

'15 **Darren Balian** graduated from Columbia University. **Alexander Dematatis** graduated from Miami of Ohio University. **Piers Greenan** graduated from the University of Miami (degree in Business Administration Entrepreneurship (with honors)). **Ryan Kyle** graduated from Amherst College in May and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to teach English in Uruguay next year (departing March 2024). She will travel in Europe this summer. Ryan met up with **Trish Massaro** and **Morinsola Tinubu** for lunch this winter at Williams College. **Georgia McCally** graduated from Auburn University with a degree in aeronautical engineering. **Juliette Farris** received her nursing degree from University of Michigan. **Trish Massaro** graduated from Williams College in May with a degree in psychology and English. **Hadley Nolan** graduated from Bates College. **Morinsola Tinubu** graduated from Williams College. **Josie Trujillo-Lederer** graduated from Marist University. She and **Ryan Kyle** keep in touch.

'14 **Tayyaba Tareq** received her nursing degree from the University of Maryland in May.

'13 **Josh Dickey** has a marketing internship this summer with Dominoes Team Washington.

'12 **Laura Abbott** is a development analyst with Bozzuto and is leading a large mixed-use development, Atwell on Spring, in Silver Spring, MD. She lives in DC.

'11 **Claire Collins'** Women's 4 boat took home a gold medal at the World Rowing Cup 2 in Varese, Italy in June, breaking a Cup 2 record. She has her sights on the Summer Olympics, and left Europe soon after the race to resume training. **Sarah Dickey** and Russel Voudrie were married at her family farm in Woodbine, MD, on May 27. Her siblings—**Josh '13**, **Caroline '18**, and **Lauren '22**—were in the wedding party. Sarah is a lawyer with Madison County's State's Attorney's Office in Edwardsville, IL. **Lauren Freeny** is in her final year as a Doctor of Audiology student and will return to the east coast to complete her fourth-year clinical externship with the Pediatric Audiology Department at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

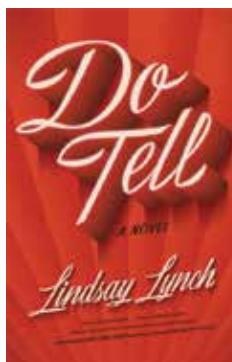
'10 Software engineer **Jonathan Butturini** was a judge at the Grade 6 Science Fair in April. He also attended the Strategic Planning session in January. **Lindsay Bratun** joined a running club and ran the Brooklyn Half Marathon in May as well as a 5K and 10K more recently. She now works for Digitas North America in New York.

'09 **Lars Sorenson** and Sophie Kennedy were married in Layfor Cay, Bahamas, on June 17, 2023. They met in New York, where they reside.

'08 **Tommy Finton** is finishing up his MBA at University of Chicago while working for the Boston Consulting Group. He loves living in the Windy City.

'05 Congratulations to **Lindsay Lynch** on the July 11 release of her debut novel, *Do Tell* by Doubleday Books. Set in 1940s Hollywood, it has been described as, "A scintillating, page-turning novel: 'There is little more alluring than the promise of secrets, and *Do Tell* is full of them—glamorous, tawdry, and human. A rich portrait of the lives of early Hollywood's beautiful puppets and those holding their strings." according to author Emma Straub in the *New York Times*.

'02 **Chris Finton** is engaged to marry his long-time girlfriend, Peyton Nichols. The couple met in college and reside in Richmond, VA. A fall 2024 wedding in Richmond is planned. **Carolina Richards** and her husband have relocated to Charleston, SC.

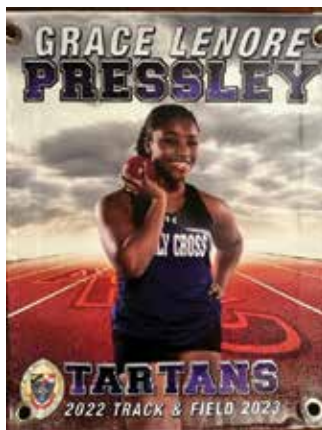


Top to bottom, L-R: Jonathan Butturini '10, a judge at the Grade 6 Science Fair • Georgia McCally '15 and parents Ande and Tom at her Auburn University graduation • Tommy Finton '02 and fiancée Peyton Nichols • Lily Moore '19 at her Stone Ridge graduation with Head of School and Board Chair • Former *Frozen Jr.* cast members attended this year's musical (l to r): Gloria Burkhardt, Finley Meyer, Abby Chen, Katie O'Connor, and Arohi Narayan, all class of 2022 • Eliza Horne '19 at the Spring Arts Festival with LaKisha Yirenyki • Book cover of author Lindsay Lynch's '05 debut novel

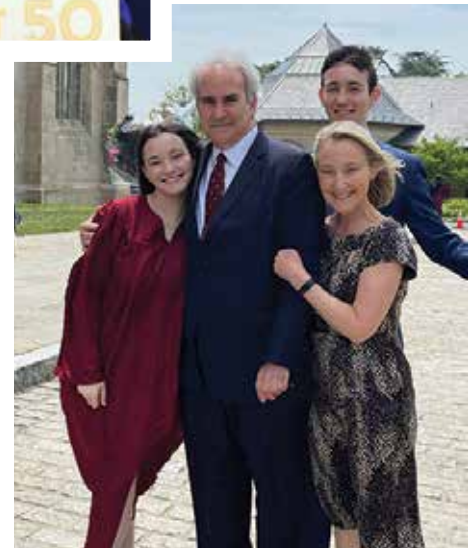


Maddie Blonder '16 on the Madrid metro with Grade 8 Spanish students in May

Maddie Blonder '16 studied abroad in Madrid for her spring semester with Penn State. **In the biggest coincidence, she was on the same metro car in Madrid as the WES Spanish contingency on May 11.** She commented, "It was so great to see everyone on the metro in Madrid! It was such luck. The WES Spain trip was definitely the reason I chose to continue my Spanish and also study abroad in Madrid. So exciting to see all of the kids having a great time in Spain. Such a memorable moment for them!"



Top to bottom, L-R: Trish Massaro '15 at her Williams College graduation • Ethan Vogelmann '19 at St. Albans graduation • Grace Pressley '20 WCAC Discus Champion • Spencer Heflin '05 received his Doctorate of Physical Therapy; shown with parents Julie and Willie • Arohi Narayan '22 and Meg Lattin '22 at the WES Global Fair



Top to bottom, L-R: Ryan Kyle '15 at her graduation from Amherst College • Aidan Armagh '19 speaks at his graduation from The Field School • Morinsola Tinubu '15 at her graduation from Williams College • Pyrcce Bevan '10 at WES with Jessamine Griewahn-Okita and Joyce O'Donnell in April • Caitlin Lennon, Courtney Bratun '09, Lindsay Bratun '10, and LaKisha Yirenkyi at WES in March • Iris Zola '19 at her graduation from St. Andrew's with parents Michael Zola, Marti Thomas, and brother Nate '17 • Lucas Zandamela '21, Isaiah Yirenkyi '21 and Micha Yirenkyi '27 at the musical • Karim Elkassem '17 skiing in Vail, CO, in January • Charlie Sagely '19 and Ishaan O'Neal '19 at their graduation from Gonzaga • Clara Knott '18 choreographed this year's musical; with Ron Valenzia after the performance • Emily Nelson '18 and Caroline King '18 with Katya Elkassem at WES



Top to bottom, L-R: Hadley Nolan '15 at her graduation from Bates College • Tayyaba Tareq '14 with sisters Maimuna '12 and Sayema '08 with Mehdi Elkassem • Piers Greenan '15 at his University of Miami graduation with parents Tim and Jocelyn • Christine Miller '04 and fiancé this spring • Emerson Jordan '21 with Barbara Burkhardt at the musical • Alex Berko '21 with his artwork on display at Reagan National Airport • Gigi Beeson '19 speaking at The Field School's graduation ceremony. • Class of 2015 classmates Morinsola Tinubu, Ryan Kyle, and Trish Massaro • Class of 2019 friends Ishaan O'Neal, Ethan Vogelmann, and Nate Bazemore had lunch with Mehdi Elkassem in March • Marco Burrows '20 and Danny Vogelmann at WES in January • Lauren Dickey '22 helps out with the Kindergarten field trip to the farm • Alexandra Bond '22 and Bill Isola at her sister's basketball game • Lucy Carnegie '20 and Emanuelle Hair '20 led the Kaleidoscope Club at WES in May.



 @alumniwes on Instagram

Former Faculty News

It's always a treat to connect with our former faculty, either in person or when we hear from them!
Here's the latest:

Kathy Bradley has been spending most of the year in Fripps Island, SC, after significant water damage at her WV home.

Former WES music teacher **Kate Todd** has a two-year old daughter, Alexandra Elizabeth. They live in PA. She attended the celebration for Mary Lee Nickel in June.

Many former faculty attended the retirement celebration for Mary Lee Nickel in June:

Sung Balcom, Amy Barnes, Ellen Bien, Gina Brent, Wendy Connolly, Trina Curtis-Belotte, Anna (Giovanneti) Duhaime, Julianne Haggerty, Claire Henderson, Ali Lackey, Annette Poston, Petie Schuessler, Susan Stern, Kate Todd, and Nancy Wright

We were so happy to see the following St. George's Society members at our St. George's Chapel in April:

Betty Anthony, Kris Butler, Fran Caterini, Jan Davison, Maryalys Hopkins, Annette Poston, Isabelle Schuessler, Petie Schuessler, and Nancy Wright.

These former and retired faculty members attended the "Lifer Lunch" with our eighth-grade "lifers" in May: **Betty Anthony, Kris Butler, Fran Caterini, Sally Koenig, Pat (Herzog) Poffel, Annette Poston, Isabelle Schuessler, and Susan Stern.**



Top-bottom, L-R: Maria Najm '23, Nicholas DeRamus '23, Elliott Owens '23, and Sally Koenig at the "Lifer Lunch" • Anna (Giovanneti) Duhaime and son at Mary Lee Nickel's celebration • Ron Valenzia with Fran and Dino Caterini at the St. George's Chapel • Kim Bair and Jan Davison at the St. George's Chapel • Charleigh Knott '23 and Annette Poston at the "Lifer Lunch" • Isabelle Schuessler at the St. George's Chapel • Marguerite Miller and Janice Davis at the Spring Arts Festival • Kate Todd and daughter at Mary Lee Nickel's celebration

JOIN US!

Friday, Sept. 8 • 5:30-7:30 pm

Back to School Picnic & Alumni Reunion

Food & Fun for the whole family!

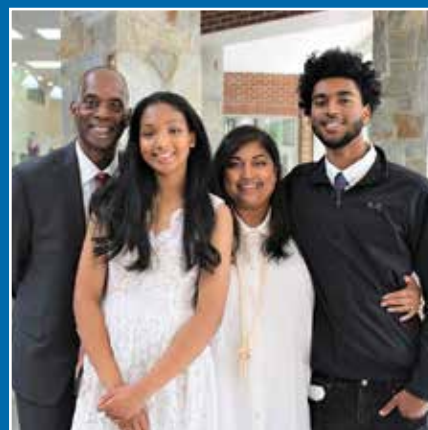


Alumni at GRADUATION

June 6, 2023

TOP-BOTTOM, L-R:

- Clara Knott '18, Charleigh Knott '23, Trey Knott '20, Kelly Knott
- Liam Parkinson '23, Glenn Parkinson, Anna Maher '21
- Mamadou Bah '27, Natalya Bah, Fanta Bah '23, Natalya Bah '22, Mahmoud Bah
- Britt Snider '88, Oliver Tyndall '23, Keeley Snider
- Tiny Nelson '21, Emily Nelson '18, Kelly Nelson, Cole Nelson '23, Mike Nelson
- Brian O'Neal, Asha O'Neal '23, Ivonne Chand, Ishaan O'Neal '19



CALLING ALL WES Alumni & Parents of Alumni:

Please email or call us with photos & any news you wish to share - *thank you so much!*

WAYS to CONTACT

- Class Correspondent
- alumni@w-e-s.org

- Development Office
301-652-7878
ext. 212, 214, or 215



L-R: Class of 2022: Meg Lattin, Finley Meyer, Arohi Narayan • Class of 2020: Aden Linkins, Jackson Evans, Grace Pressley, Rasmus Byskov, and Gabe Piris
Ethan Vogelmann '19 and Isaiah Yirenkyi '21



L-R: Joseph Minichello '21, Will Ehrenberg '21, and Aidan Deshpande '21 • Maddie Blonder '16 and Kim Ross '16 • Zach Alexander '17, Christian Berko '17, Kim Bair, Miles Woodings '17, Holden Woodings '17

More than **40 alumni** came out to the annual Founders Day Picnic and Alumni Reunion on June 2, 2023.

We always love seeing you!

Alumni at FOUNDERS DAY June 2, 2023



Class of 2021, L-R, Front Row: Jack Lasner, Anna Maher, Wesley Cooper, Najee Ankoma-Sey, Daniel Pressley, Olivia Girson, Alex Berko, Ani Grigorian, Zoe Linkins
Back Row: James Bailey, Sawyer Makl, Tobi Ogundimu, Ethan Oeltmann, Rhian Williams, Zach Mahan, Tomi Ogundimu



L-R: Thatcher Stewart '22 and Hank Kelly '24 • Class of 2017: Karim Elkassem, Christian Berko, Lisa Byskov, and Tatiana Johnson • Danny Vogelmann and Peter Seelman '19 • Rhian Williams '21 and Emily Nelson '18



Ishaan O'Neal and Charlie Sagely • Gigi Beeson, Iris Zola, Lily Moore, and Eliza Horne • Ishaan O'Neal, Susan Girgis, Charlie Sagely, Danny Vogelmann, Ben Meyer, Aidan Armagh, Patrick Pané



Nate Bazemore, Caterina Earle, Dylan Bradford • Mariam Grigorian, Gabi Love, Naomi Horne • Lucy Weems, Xander Ehrhardt, Gigi Beeson, Ben Meyer • Mareina Mitchell, Ishaan O'Neal, Gabi Love

Class of 2019 REUNION

April 30, 2023

We had a great turnout of alumni, their parents, and faculty at the April 30 reunion. Thank you to our hosts, **Anna** and **Brian Griffin**, and **Charlie Sagely**. We wish the members of the class of 2019 all the best in their future endeavors!

Please keep in touch.



FRONT ROW: Charlie Sagely, Ishaan O'Neal

MIDDLE ROW: Gigi Beeson, Peter Seelman, Patrick Pané, Ethan Vogelmann, Ilsa Larson, Iris Zola, Mareina Mitchell, Eliza Horne, Lily Moore,

BACK ROW: Aidan Armagh, Nate Bazemore, Dylan Bradford, Xander Erhardt, Ben Meyer, Naomi Horne. Lucy Weems, Gabi Love, Mariam Grigorian

COLLEGE CHOICES

CLASS OF 2019

Congratulations!

Ore Adedeji*

Boston College

Aidan Armagh*

Columbia University

Nathaniel Bazemore*

Northeastern University

Gigi Beeson*

St. Andrew's University, Scotland

Dylan Bradford*

UVA

John Carney*

St. Louis University

Xander Ehrhardt

Royal Navy

Elim Ephrame*

High Point University

Mariam Grigorian*

UVA

Eliza Horne*

Bucknell University

Naomi Horne*

Carleton College

Ilsa Larson*

University of Delaware

Nicholas Lebron

Tulane University

Gabi Love*

Temple University

Ben Meyer*

Colgate University

Mareina Mitchell*

Drexel University

Lily Moore*

Villanova University

Ishaan O'Neal*

St. Joseph's University

Patrick Pané

William & Mary

Charlie Sagely*

University of Georgia

Peter Seelman*

Johns Hopkins University

Chloe Talieh*

Denison University

Ethan Vogelmann*

Penn State

Chelsea Ward*

Fashion Institute of Technology

Lucy Weems*

U.S. Naval Academy

Iris Zola*

William & Mary

* WES Graduate

Calendar

2023 - 2024



SAVE THESE DATES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023:

Back to School Picnic
& Alumni Reunion
5:30-7:30 p.m. on the Turf Field

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024:

Alumni Reunion Basketball Game
& Pizza Party
5:30-8:00 p.m.
The Deighton Alleyne Gymnasium

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024:

Auction Gala at WES



Lucy Weems '19 at her Holton-Arms graduation with Head of School and a representative from the Naval Academy • Ben Meyer '19 at his graduation from Georgetown Day School • Chelsea Ward '19 at her graduation from Mercersburg Academy



Disney CAMP ROCK THE MUSICAL

Months of preparation and rehearsals under the direction of Ron Valenzia paid off as Grade 6 students rocked audiences in two performances of “**Camp Rock the Musical**” on March 17 and 18.





WASHINGTON
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

PK3 - Grade 8

5600 Little Falls Parkway
Bethesda, MD 20816

www.w-e-s.org

Address Service Requested

Alumni p. 23



Division Updates p. 8-13



IT'S *Graduation*
SEASON!

Graduation p. 4



Wrapping up a wonderful year!