

OUR SONG A timeless tradition, Evensong represents the spirituality of St. Mark's. Choristers, led by senior Conner Olson begin one of the evening services Feb. 8, while Cole Gerthoffer '14 speaks for the class of 2014 at the end of year Baccalaureate service in May 2014.

C A U T I O N !

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A rich tapestry of stories.

People just don't get it. And we can't explain it. It's who we are and who we will always be. A rich tapestry of stories connects to our past. Dressing up like Santa to collect gifts, discussing a Flannery O'Connor short story around a Harkness table, having alumni interrupt class to visit with a favorite teacher and picking right up where they left off. It's those little things that become the biggest of things – things we cherish and pass on to future generations. But tradition isn't built overnight. It's forged over time. A continuation of something old, something timeless.

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• middle school football | september 4, 2014

changing THE TEMPO

Starting the year with a 2-1 record, the seventh grade football team, led by head coach Tim Mank '87, implemented a new strategy.

Instead of traditional running based offense, the team shifted to a passing oriented playbook, mimicking that of the varsity team.

The eighth grade football team had a shaky start, losing both of their first two games: 8-29 against ESD and 6-21 against Fort Worth Country Day.



BOYS OF FALL Built on discipline and hustle, this year's eighth grade Lions have found success by wearing opponents out with their staunch, run-to-the-football defensive scheme and lighting the scoreboard up with a high-octane spread attack.

• pep rallies | september 5, 2014



NO FLY ZONE Superfan men Justin Jones and "Space Commander" Jack Fojtasek emphasize the importance of a loud crowd during a pep rally as they teach Upper School students chants to spur the Lions on to victory against this week's rival opponent, ESD.

DOING OUR HAPPY dance

Upperclassmen tell what pep rallies mean to them and how they help them get ready for the upcoming games.

Cameron Clark, junior

"My favorite part about pep rallies is being able to see the spirit levels of the student body raise while we get fired up for the game."

Boyd Howard, sophomore

"My favorite part about pep rallies is hyping up for the game later that night. They get everybody sikrd and it's great!"

Aditya Inaganti, senior

"I like the way all the students come together and show their school spirit and pride for St. Mark's."

Ellie Bush, junior cheerleader

"My favorite part about pep rallies is when we do class yells at the beginning of them because it adds a competitive and spirited aspect to the atmosphere of the morning, which is what pep rallies are all about."

Sam Daniels, senior football player

"Pep rallies are great because they're a great way to get the team pumped for the game and to make sure everyone knows to get there early and be loud."

LET IT GLOW

Senior cheerleaders (left) fire up the student body with their dance, synchronizing their moves for maximum reaction. Getting in the groove, seniors Anesu Nyatanga and Justin Jones (right) set the pep rally in motion.



PERFORMING one of their more popular cheers, Hockaday junior Christina Archer gets lifted to the top of the pyramid routine.

• football | september 12, 2014



SIDELINED Practice didn't make perfect for varsity quarterback Walter Johnson who tore his MCL during a routine practice session the week after the Lions' opening season win against Cistercian. The injury forced the signal-caller to sit out for most of his senior season.

OUTSIDE THE lines

An injury during practice cost senior QB Walter Johnson lots of playing time — but support for teammates never failed

After tearing his MCL, senior quarterback Walter Johnson had to change the way he led the football team. Instead of leading the team on the field, Johnson began mentoring younger team members on the sidelines and advising them on strategy. Leading with his fellow captains and upperclassmen, he coached sophomore Hyer Thomas, the new starting quarterback. Despite his injury, Johnson remained an active member of his team.

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• stem conference | october 10, 2014



STEM CONFERENCE Speaking at the panel, Klein explains how his research helps the military.



SPECIAL ASSEMBLY Staying alert and intrigued, members of the Junior Class learn from Klein.



PANEL DISCUSSION Responding to questions from students, Olins (left) and Kuchment (right) fascinate the audience

STEMMING interest

For the second year the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program challenges students to take a greater interest in one of its fields through a one-day conference. Three distinguished speakers took part in the panel discussion for Upper School: *Scientific American* contributing editor Anna Kuchment, chief technology officer of SCI Technology Max Klein '00 and Harvard doctoral candidate Heather Olins.

28 | 29 **YOUTHFUL DAYS** | stem conference, food drive, a visit with mrs. mcdermott, JV sports

• food drive | october 13, 2014

FEEDING THE hungry

Junior Mitchell So helps lead the annual food drive, collecting meals for the needy.

After leading the yearly clothing drive, junior Corbin Walp to head up the food drive which benefited the Carr P. Collins Social Service Center. The drive compiled food including beans, rice, cornmeal and candy and then ships a box of provisions from each advisory to the center. The food provides a whole nutritious meal for a family, something the family may not get too often. So shared his opinions on the drive.



Junior Mitchell So helped lead the annual food drive, which lasted two weeks and ended on Oct. 20

What's the best part of the food drive?

"I think the best part is definitely going to be having all the food together and seeing it all go. It goes to the Carr P. Collins Social Service Center, which provides food, shelter and assistance for veterans or victims of domestic violence."

How big of a difference do you think the food drive makes?

"I think this drive definitely makes a huge difference. Especially because of all the food we are giving. It's definitely going to be a great benefit for these people."

Do you have any goals for the drive this year?

"There's no set goal, but personally I would like to see each advisory fill up more than one box. We have plenty of boxes under the staircase. I would like to see maybe two boxes for each advisory, or at least one full box. I see some advisories miss items, but we ship it off anyways. I would like to see a more responsible group."

• a visit with mrs. mcdermott | october 16, 2014



GENERATION Eugene McDermott Headmaster David Dini talks with McDermott about the impact she and her husband had on St. Mark's



SHOW AND TELL Seniors Matthew Conley, Carrington Kyle, Elton McIntosh and Nathan Ondracek show McDermott around the refurbished headmaster's residence. The new headmaster moved in to the residence Nov. 15.



QUESTIONS McDermott questions the seniors on their courses of study, their college aspirations and what they hope to do with their lives. "I'm a journalist," ReMarker editor Matthew Conley (third from right) said, "and I felt like with all the questions she asked, she knew me as well as anyone."

AN UNEXPECTED interview

Both personally and through the Eugene McDermott Foundation, Margaret McDermott and her late husband have given millions to civic, cultural and educational endeavors at institutions including St. Mark's, MIT, the University of Texas at Dallas and the Dallas Museum of Art. The 102-year-old McDermott paid a visit to the redesigned headmaster's residence and regaled seniors with questions about their future plans.

• JV sports | october 21, 2014



ON THE RUN Chasing after the opposing quarterback, sophomore Elias Ware and freshman Daniel Garcia prepare to tackle their opponent.

PREPARING FOR THE BIG stage

JV players gain experience as they earn valuable playing time

JV PLAYERS have now had two to three years of experience in their respective sport, so now it is their time to become leaders so that they can help their team succeed:

Our warm up is to basically fence each teammates and we ask our more experienced teammates for insight."

1 Team chemistry progressing.
— Josh Daniels, football

"Our defense at the beginning of the season wasn't as good as it is now. Also, our offense wasn't clicking as well as it is now. Overall, the camaraderie between teammates has strengthened and as a quarterback, I have learned my receivers way of playing."

4 Pumping for a meet— Nolan Jenevein, cross country

"Usually, I'll just put on my headphones and chill and I'll try to visualize success on the course. I'll also try to relax, stay focused, and drink a lot of water. That way I won't be nervous before I perform."



Freshman Fausto Reyher Gets ready to run his route during an important game against ESD on Oct. 16.

2 Gaining momentum
— Greyson Gallagher, volleyball

"It's been good ride so far, we are really good, but there is some room for growth. We have been doing well against most teams, and the teams we haven't beat yet, we will probably beat."

5 Skill improvement
— René Reeder, fencing

"The best way to improve my game, like any other sport, is through immense amounts of practice. Drills and bouts prepare me for tournaments where I fence the more experienced club fencers, which also gauges my skill."

3 Plan of attack
— Eddie Yang, fencing

"We drive to the tournament, after we get there, we analyze our opponents and find the best way to beat them."

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• Middle School science | January 27, 2015

TWO sciences, ONE CLASS

From running cars across a table for a physics lab to mixing chemicals in chemistry, the class covers a wide variety of topics, eighth graders like Joe Lofgren find that science offers creative learning

The small, blue car shot across the lab bench toward the end of the short track. The car almost fell off the table, but right before reached the edge, eighth grader Joe Lofgren put his hand in front of the car and stopped it.

His partner stopped the sensors on Logger Pro, the program the class used to record data, like the speed of the car over the duration of the run. Lofgren lifted the car up, put it at the start and ran the test again.

As eighth graders, Lofgren's class studies physics for the first half of

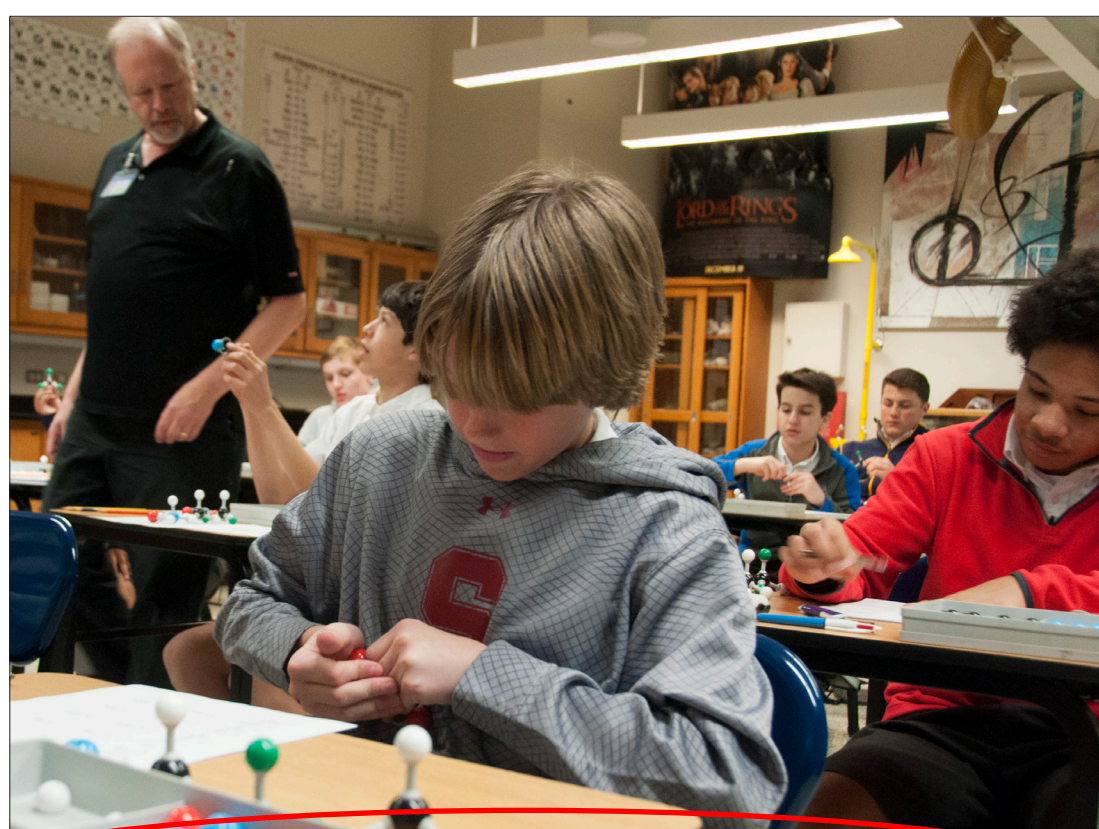
the year and then chemistry for the remainder of the year. Eighth grade science is the only science course in which two different sciences are covered.

"I really like the dual nature of the year because if you like chemistry over physics or vice versa, then you still have something about the year that interests you," Lofgren said. "I really liked this year more than others because I really like physics and I got to learn more about it."

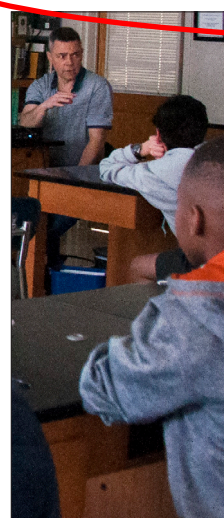
Another aspect of the year that stands out to the students is the way

the class is taught. Subjects are dissected and explored in great detail, even when a lot of material is presented. Additionally, the teachers find a way to make science interesting even for students who don't like science as much.

"I'm not a huge fan of science in the first place," Lofgren said. "But I really find it interesting how much information they give us and how we are able to digest it. I think the big difference is the teachers. Mr. Hoehn is an amazing teacher who makes science fun."



SNAPPING INTO PLACE Under the watchful eye of science instructor Paul Hoehn, eighth grader Austin Copley uses snap models to build molecules in physical science class. Hoehn's class started with a chemistry unit, then added studies of molecules atomic bonding patterns by building models of the molecules.



SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS Eighth graders Davis Malouf and Colin Neuhoff (above) compare molecules. Science instructor Daniel Northcut '81 (far left) uses a movie to teach his class. Seventh grade science instructor Lukas Rahlsom (left) demonstrates to his class different liquid densities.

What I find most interesting about this year is how much information they give us and how we are able to digest it. I think the big difference is the teachers. Mr. Hoehn and Mr. Rummel are amazing teachers who make science a lot of fun.

— Eighth grader Joe Lofgren

GREAT opportunities

Students talk about their experiences with the language lab and how it helped them improve their foreign language speaking skills

LANGUAGE LABS HAVE a number of distinctive features that make them the ideal item to turn the instruction time achieving high rates of participation and interaction. The school has a tool that facilitates communication, interactivity, and more in a classroom, using the computing resources of the center.

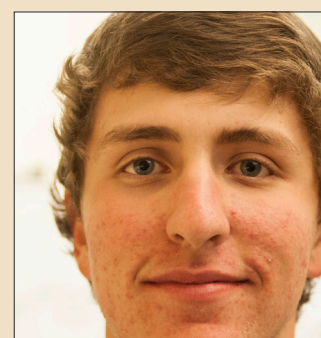
"The language lab is a great resource because it allows us to improve our listening and speaking skills, which is why all of us take languages in the first place. Learning in the classroom is a good start but the language lab lets us build off of that and gain experience that we can use in the real world" junior Abhi Thumalla said.

The teacher is not just a supervisor, but performs all the tasks of the teacher of languages, and his/her work is enhanced and facilitated by technology. Language labs foster the interactive communication in the classroom.

"It helps you sharpen your speaking skills, and through that, you learn circumlocution more easily than when in a regular classroom setting" junior Cameron Clark said.

• language lab | January 28, 2015

BILINGUAL Junior Cameron Clark utilizes the language lab to enhance his speaking skills in a different way.



• HP wrestling meet | January 30, 2015

preparing FOR VICTORY

Wrestlers travelled to Highland Park Jan. 30 for their last meet of the season. Although they all wanted to win the meet, they all had a more ambitious goal: to win a major tournament

On Jan. 30 and 31, members of the varsity wrestling team participated in their last meet of the regular season at Highland Park High School. The meet took place before the SPC championship, Prep State Tournament and National State Championship.

Because of this, the meet at Highland Park was a way for the wrestlers to get more experience before these major tournaments.

Senior captain Justin Jones explains how the meet at Highland Park helped him and his teammates in his preparation for the upcoming championship matches.

"Right now as a team, we are focusing on the major tournaments," Jones said. "We basically used this meet to get guys to wrestle and obtain more experience. In the SPC championship, we are going to go up against schools are tougher, so we used this Highland Park meet to find our strengths and weaknesses and practice our new moves. Like always, practice makes perfect."

Sophomore Adam Subel said the meet helped some of the younger members of the gain experience for the SPC championship.

But focusing on the SPC tourna-

ment did not change their mentality for this meet, as they defeated three of the five teams.

"We went there and we wanted to win," Subel said. "But we also wanted to use this for practice for SPC next week, we had the expectation to beat three of the five teams, which we did. But for the most part, we wanted to treat the Highland Park meet as a practice run for SPC and state especially for the young because its their first time wrestling at the varsity level."

Varsity wrestling head coach Justin Turner believes his team did very well during the meet because of how greatly the wrestlers have improved throughout the season. Due to this improvement, he is confident that the team will do well in the upcoming tournaments.

"A lot of the wrestlers have improved greatly at Highland Park, which was why we did so well," Turner said. "This is the longest I've ever gone in a competitive cycle, we've wrestled the past five weekends in a row. I think the team, especially the younger guys, have made extreme improvements over that period of time, and I'm sure we'll do well at SPC and state."

With the SPC championship and Prep State Tournament coming up, this Highland Park meet helped me to make a few final improvements and adjustments on my moves. I am also under a bit of pressure considering the fact that this will be my first time participating at a major tournament.

— sophomore Rob Crow



• Middle School wrestling state championships | January 31, 2015



CALM BEFORE THE STORM Eyeing his opponent, eighth grader Collin Neuhoff thinks of possible tactics to win the match.

TWO-POINT takedown

Seventh and eighth graders wrestle against all middle schools in the state in search of glory on the mat

PREPARING FOR a competition is always a challenge. But preparing for a championship requires much more determination and practice. This is how middle school wrestlers received fourth place at their most important meet of the year:

1 From the very start

At the beginning of the winter sports season, the middle schoolers know the state championships is the place to prove themselves as prime candidates for the varsity wrestling team. They strive all season to acquire skills and refine techniques, making them better athletes in the process.

2 Practice, practice, practice

Several weeks before the championships, the wrestlers train differently than the rest of the year. Seventh grader Andres Arroyo explained how they prepare for this meet.

"Instead of focusing on one skill," Arroyo said. "We practiced all of our techniques throughout the weeks."

3 Do not give in

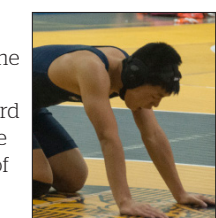
During the meet, the athletes must stay concentrated on their matches to have a chance of coming out on top. If they let their minds wander for even a moment, they risk giving up

the match and a potential gold medal. His focus help Arroyo get fourth place in his event.

4 Get up and keep moving

Even though the middle schoolers did not achieve first place at the championships, they did not let the defeat discourage them from the sport or continuing to compete. The team also looks forward to the future and many of the players see themselves as potential varsity athletes, leading their team to victory. Like many other athletes, Arroyo used this experience to learn about what it means to take part in a team.

"This really prepared me for other meets and other sports," Arroyo said. "I realized that there will be a lot more competition than I thought. But I will definitely continue wrestling in high school."



UNTIL THE END

Taking a short breath before the next round, Chad Kim, prepares to use the last of his strength

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'Don't drop him.'

Seniors nervous about dropping little buddies as they take that long walk towards the tree.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 54
Here's what a few seniors and lower schoolers remembered about the day:

What did it sound like when you were carried through the door?

First grader Cooper Guiler It sounded super noisy!

Senior Jack Gordon It sounded like a really festive concert.

First grader William Taylor So loud my ears were going to burst into flames!

Senior Nathan Ondracek Honestly, it sounded like a huge mash of joyous noise as the music played and people cheered. The loudest noise of all, though, was my heart beating really hard.

First grader Rohan Kakkar Like a volcano!

First grader Ronen Verma It sounded like... yeah, a volcano!

Senior Momin Siddiqui The last thing I remembered hearing before walking through the door was, "Momin! Where's your lab report?" So I took a deep breath and walked as fast as I could into the Great Hall, doing my best to pretend to ignore [physics instructor] Dr. [Stephen] Balog's words.

What were you most scared about?

Cooper Guiler Nothing. Well, he's so tall, I was really high up.

Jack Gordon: Tripping and dropping Cooper.

William Taylor I was scared because I kept slipping down.

Nathan Ondracek Dropping my buddy or tripping. Somehow, when everybody is watching, simple actions like walking become a lot harder.

Ronen Verma Nothing.

First grader Rohan Kakkar I was afraid I was going to fall off!

Momin Siddiqui: Tripping and falling in front of the entire school. Not the way I want the St. Mark's community to

remember me after I graduate.

What were you most excited about?

William Taylor Seeing my senior buddy, all of my friends and getting snacks.

Cooper Guiler Me too, Me too, Me too.

Jack Gordon I enjoyed the anticipation of walking down the Great Hall once through the door.

Nathan Ondracek Not only walking in, but watching all my classmates, some with whom I've gone to school with for 12 years, walk with their buddies and a smiles on their faces. It was hard for me to believe that we were finally seniors walking down the aisle.

Ronen Verma Everything!

Rohan Kakkar Everything!

Momin Siddiqui Listening to the 800 or so Marksmen, anxious to start their break, half-heartedly singing Christmas carols.

As a senior how did it feel to finally be a part of the age-old tradition of the senior party?

Nathan Ondracek It was surreal because, coming in first grade, I've been carried in by my buddies and watched year after year as past seniors carried their buddies. The tradition makes you feel like you are linked with everyone who's come before you; it is definitely a moment and feeling that I will never forget.

Jack Gordon The senior party is always an unbelievable and unique St. Mark's experience; walking down to the Christmas tree is really gratifying but also saddening because I know that my time at St. Mark's is almost up.

Momin Siddiqui It felt like a blur. One moment we were taking pictures in the chapel and the next I had a first grader holding on to my hair for dear life. Overall it was a surreal experience and I was truly proud to be a Marksmen.



THE LEADERS As Senior Class president, Nathan Ondracek, along with his buddy, first grader William Taylor, had the honor of leading the procession of seniors and buddies in to the ceremony. Each little buddy carried a handmade ornament to place on the school's Christmas tree.

I was a little nervous because I didn't want my buddy to hit his head on the door, but the experience of having everyone watch and clap was extremely exciting. After all, the Christmas Party represents one of those senior moments that is incredibly special. — senior Luke Hudspeth with little buddy, second grader Jack Tholking

The tradition makes you feel like you are linked with everyone who's come before you; it is definitely a moment and feeling that I will never forget.

— Senior Class President
Nathan Ondracek

CAREFUL! The highlight of the annual Christmas Party is watching little buddies — carried precariously down the aisle by their senior buddies — placing handmade ornaments on the school's Christmas tree. Doing their job are first grader Reagen Graeme and his buddy Mason Smith (far left) and senior Rishi Kshatriya and his second grade buddy Charly Gordy (left). Senior George Lin (in Santa cap) listens to Student Council President Carrington Kyle (below) as he speaks before the presentation of gifts to the local Salvation Army group.

