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News of the Nest

Men's Varsity Basketball

by Sawyer Yim



On Friday, January 30th, our Men's Varsity Basketball team delivered an impressive performance against Wilton-Lyndeborough, earning a 72-14 victory. From the start of the game, the team came out with high energy and intensity, quickly establishing control on both ends of the court. Strong defensive pressure disrupted Wilton-Lyndeborough's offense, forcing turnovers and limiting scoring opportunities. The team capitalized on these moments by pushing the pace in transition and executing well-structured offensive plays, leading to a steady stream of points throughout each quarter. Offensively, the team showcased excellent ball movement and teamwork, with players consistently finding open teammates and taking smart shots and huge rebounds. The scoring effort highlighted the depth of the roster, as multiple players contributed significantly throughout the game. Defensively, the team remained disciplined even though they were up most of the game. Staying focused, communicating well, and maintaining tight coverage helped hold Wilton-Lyndeborough to just 14 points. With this convincing win, the team improves their season record to 11-2, reflecting their hard work, dedication, and growth throughout the season. The players continue to build strong chemistry and confidence with each game, which has played a major role in their success. As the season progresses, the team looks to carry this momentum forward, continuing their performances and remaining competitive for upcoming matches and maybe even at a state championship game.



Women's Basketball

by Ava Airey

The gym was overflowing with energy and excitement on Friday, January 30th, as the PCA Eagles hosted Wilton-Lyndeborough in a home matchup that quickly turned into a victory. With a fully packed gym and constant enthusiasm from the stands, the team delivered one of its strongest performances so far, winning by a significant amount. Top scorer, Ava Buchanan, achieved an impressive 34 points with an excellent offensive display. Her confidence on the court set the tone early in the game and kept the opposing team on their feet throughout all four quarters. Her performance was an important factor in maintaining momentum and widening the scoring gap. Supporting her were Sophie Anderson and Zuri Petlick who both made important contributions. Sophie added 8 points, showing strong court awareness and smart shot selection. Shortly after was Zuri Petlick with 7 points, playing a crucial role in keeping the offense flowing. Together, these three helped control the pace of the game to ensure the team's dominance. Beyond the scoreboard, the atmosphere made the night unforgettable. The home crowd brought nonstop noise and excitement, creating an electric environment that fueled the team's performance from start to finish. The win not only showcased the team's talent but also highlighted the impact of strong school spirit and support.





Student Life

COLOR WARS

Lunch Games

by Anna Odom

This past week saw PCA's first ever Color Wars and introduced a week of exciting lunch competitions hosted by Unity Prefects, Ava Buchanan and Sophia Workman! Although Monday's highly anticipated snow day postponed the first day of festivities, Tuesday kicked off the lunch activities with the Limbo. It was a close call as the bar kept getting lower to the ground, leaving Alex Child and Jonny Larson the last two standing. After some back-bending strategies, Alex came out the champion, leading the junior class in the first win of the week. On Wednesday, Ava and Sophia led the grades in several minute-to-win-it games. The freshmen won the first challenge, M&M Straws, with Bowen Kessler leading the way. Anna Tolley emerged victorious in Cup Stacking, commenting, "everybody else tried a different method from mine, but I stuck with my method because I knew theirs would fall down."



The last game brought Mummy Wrapping and a win for the seniors with the best wrapped being Linnie N. On Thursday, the first ever Munchkin Games were held. The games started with an all-you-can-eat Munchkin contest, with Bowen Kessler coming in first scoring a win for the Freshman with Boden Dinges for the juniors close at hand. Next, the seniors dominated in the Munchkin Toss, with Christian Barnes and Jeremiah Conant pairing up to catch and eat the most Munchkins. Finally, the seniors built the tallest Munchkin tower in the last lunch battle, scoring more points for the seniors. Overall, it was a fantastic week of intense games and tons of laughter!





Pep Rally by Aubrey Gagne

Starting off the Pep Rally were the winter sports team highlights of the year so far, showing the strength of our teams. After the sports recognition came the games! Mattress Sliding, a PCA classic, came first. The competitors ran and slid like their lives depended on it, and the juniors came out on top. The seniors followed in second with the sophomores and freshmen coming in third and fourth respectively. A new activity was next: Wig Snatching. The audience was on the edge of their seats while they watched the classes and teachers battle each other, trying to steal one another's wigs. The last wig standing rested on Josiah Ludwig's head, securing a win for the seniors.



Dodgeball was the third game of the day. The first round was the sophomores against juniors. The juniors picked off the opposing team until just one stood against them. Unfortunately for the sophomores, it wasn't enough, and the juniors won. The second round had the freshmen pitted against the seniors. It came down to a three v. three, and surprising everyone in the stands, the freshmen came out on top. The two winners, the freshmen and the juniors, went against each other. Just like before, the juniors got all but one valiant player before their subsequent win.

Granny Pants finished off the pep rally games. One person was chosen from each class to wear a massive pair of pants, and their classmates would try to throw plastic balls into them. The juniors also ended up winning this game, going three for four, with two and a half baskets full of balls from their class's pants.

After the Pep Rally, the Class Cup standings had the juniors in first, seniors in second, freshmen in third, and sophomores in fourth.





Silver Bell

by Grace Wack



With its beautiful lights and winter decorations, and the attendance of more than half of the Upper School, the Silver Bell was a fabulous success. Many of the ladies arrived in show-stopping dresses. The dresses ranged from sparkly to velvet, short to long, and with far too many colors to count. The stunning heels worn sparkled in the lights. The gentlemen arrived in nicely-tailored suits or classic collared shirts, all matching the winter feel of the dance. By the end of the night, suit jackets were placed on the backs of chairs and heels were replaced with sneakers. The music filled the entirety of Troiano Hall, and it only grew louder with the voices of the partying students. At the end of the dance, smiles were wide and many were tired from dancing all night. With a great dance like that, the Silver Bell was a fantastic way to spend a Saturday night.



Teacher Feature

Mr. Foley By Alex Child

I had the joy of interviewing our very own Dean of Men, Mr. Foley. Firstly, when asked about his experience teaching this year, he explained how it has been a very good year. He noted the impressive growth in the freshmen class throughout the first semester. Additionally, he talked about his class with the juniors and how he looks forward to it every day. He said that the class is smart and does well in class discussions. Next, I asked him about his passions when it came to teaching. He responded that his passion was watching students “find their thing.” He gave one example of a senior doing a musical when in freshmen year they never would have considered it. He said that this is the reason he keeps coming back. Then, he talked about the habit he practices that helps him in sustaining a career. This habit was separating work from life. He said that in his early years of teaching he spent a lot of time at home lesson planning, but that in more recent years, he has been able to do most of his work at school. He noted that Covid brought back a few of these bad habits, like answering emails late at night, but he managed to overcome them. Lastly, he stated that the impact he wants to leave on his students is that they view him as a witness for Christ. He hopes that they see this through the way he interacts with people.



Miss Weisberg By Sarafina Anella

This week, I had the pleasure of interviewing Miss Weisberg. When asked what she was passionate about and why, Miss Weisberg answered with theatre because she loves the thought of working together for a common goal and really getting involved in the stories of the characters. Miss Weisberg also said that she has a passion for the government. She said she is fascinated by the legal system and the different interpretations of the Constitution. The next question I asked her was what habit she has set that is helpful in sustaining her career. Her response to this was spending time with God. She said that teaching and providing can take a lot out of her, but she knows that she can rest with God, and he will give her peace. On a similar note, when I asked her what impact she hopes to have on her students, Miss Weisberg said that she hopes her students know she loves Christ. The final question I asked her was how her experience teaching at the Upper School this year has been so far. Her joyful response was, “This year has been wonderful. I’ve enjoyed all my classes and the experience of the Fall Show.” She says her students have demonstrated joy for certain topics, and she wants it to stay that way. Overall, Miss Weisberg is a beloved teacher at our Upper School, and it was a joy to get to interview her.





Devotional

By Lily Druge and Linnie Ngamcharoenthana

What makes up a lifestyle? In short, habits make up a lifestyle. As a result, a healthy lifestyle is made up of healthy habits. When you think of healthy habits, you probably think of brushing your teeth or reading your Bible, and yes, those are good habits, but when we talk about healthy habits, you should think of them as the building blocks to who you are. In turn, collective habits are the building blocks of a community.

In the light of our focus this year on compassionate community, we should look around and think about what habits we're leaning into and if they help not just us but the people around us. As Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "*Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*" In this passage, the author commends the early church for their "*habit*" of meeting together and encourages them to reinforce that action with "*love and good deeds.*" From this, we can be reminded of the truth that habits of selflessness, thoughtfulness, kindness, and other "good deeds" are directly related to the health of a community.

What does this look like for us? Think of a few examples. Picking up trash (or choosing to leave it out) is a habit. Choosing to speak up (or choosing not to) in the face of wrongdoing is a habit. Self-reflection and observation are habits. Showing respect is a habit. Interrupting is a habit. We can either practice gossip or encouragement, complaining or celebrating. We all have a part to play in our community, and the habits we practice affect everyone who is part of that community.

Healthy habits aren't easy to build; we all struggle to be kind, respectful and diligent sometimes. But that's okay. What's important to be mindful of is how we act. Do you have good habits at PCA? We should hold ourselves and each other accountable.



Fine Arts

Interview with Miss Weisberg

By Chloe Tan

One of the biggest highlights of the school year is upon us – PCA’s annual spring musical! This year, the PCA Players will be putting on *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and the process started this past week with auditions! I had the privilege of speaking to the director, Miss Weisberg, to ask her a few questions. Her first experience with the musical was when she was sixteen. She went to see the show begrudgingly, thinking it’d be boring and then ended up loving it since. I asked her why she picked this show, and she told me that she “wanted to tell the story with these students,” also hoping to pick something very different from recent shows PCA has done. She is the most excited to see the song “Go Go Go Joseph” come to life, calling it a “full cast color extravaganza.” Regarding the audition process, I was thrilled to hear that the Theatre Department saw more people signing up for auditions than ever before! In an audition, Miss Weisberg said that she and the casting panel are looking for “how well a student fits the character and what they can bring to the character.” At the time of writing this article, the casting directors are headed into an unprecedented second week of auditions. Miss Weisberg’s encouragement to any remaining auditionees is this: “I’m so proud of each and every one of them and their courage and enthusiasm. I respect their willingness to put themselves out there, and I’m so excited to work with them!” To the PCA Community, Miss. Weisberg says, “Buckle up. It’s going to be a fun retelling of one of the most powerful stories in Scripture!”



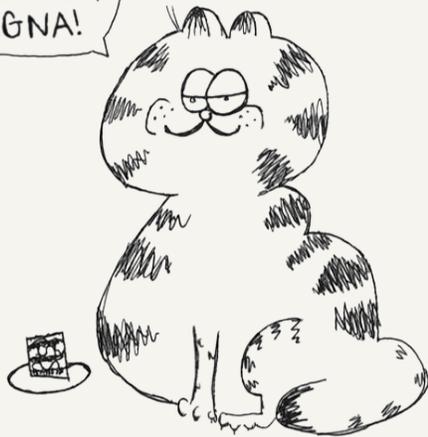
The pit orchestra began its first rehearsal for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, bringing the musical season all the closer.



Garfield

By Tilly Arico

NOTHING
LIKE LEFTOVER
LASAGNA!



I HATE MONDAYS
THE MICROWAVE
LINE!





Eagle Eyes

Mia Airey by Linnie Ngamcharoenthana

As we fully step into the second semester, I got the chance to talk with Mia Airey, a senior, about her year as well as her future plans. Her favorite memory from the school year so far was Homecoming week in the fall. She loves the freedom that comes with dress-up days and is grateful for the way the students all rallied together around activities and sports events during that week. On a similar strain, I asked her how she felt Color Wars had impacted the community, and she said she felt strengthened bonds growing within the different classes, adding that it gave the community something to look forward to in the “otherwise bleak winter months.” Then, I asked her what habit she was hoping start in the second semester, and she said that she was hoping to use her senior privileges more and go off campus with friends. Lately, she has found herself very busy with academic work and other responsibilities, so she wants to prioritize time for rest and enjoyment as well. To close, I asked her what her future plans are after graduation. She told me she hopes to become a dental hygienist and work in pediatrics, along with a dream of traveling to Europe at some point in time. Though she does not know where she exactly she wants to go to college, she hopes to find herself somewhere down south. Without a doubt, Mia is going to do great things wherever she goes!

Fletcher Bowden by Maeve Bowden

This week, I got the chance to interview my brother, Fletcher Bowden! He is a sophomore, and this is his fifth year coming to PCA. The first question I asked him was what his favorite part of his sophomore year was so far. He told me that he has enjoyed Missions Club this year, as it has given him the opportunity to expand socially while growing closer to people who have similar interests. Next, I asked if there was any particular habit he would like to start for the rest of this semester, and he said that he wants to be more intentional about reading his Bible every day and looking to the Word when he needs wisdom and guidance. I also asked what he finds different between the communities of the Lower School and Upper School, especially this year. He told me, “I think that it feels a lot more welcoming, and I enjoy that the activities are less forced. Since in high school the activities are student-led instead of being run by teachers, it's been more enjoyable for me since students know what students like.” He also said that he has seen himself and others far more excited and willing to participate in the student-life activities this year, which is a very motivating thing to hear. Lastly, I asked him what he would want to do if he could have any job in the world, and he told me he would love to be a pilot.

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