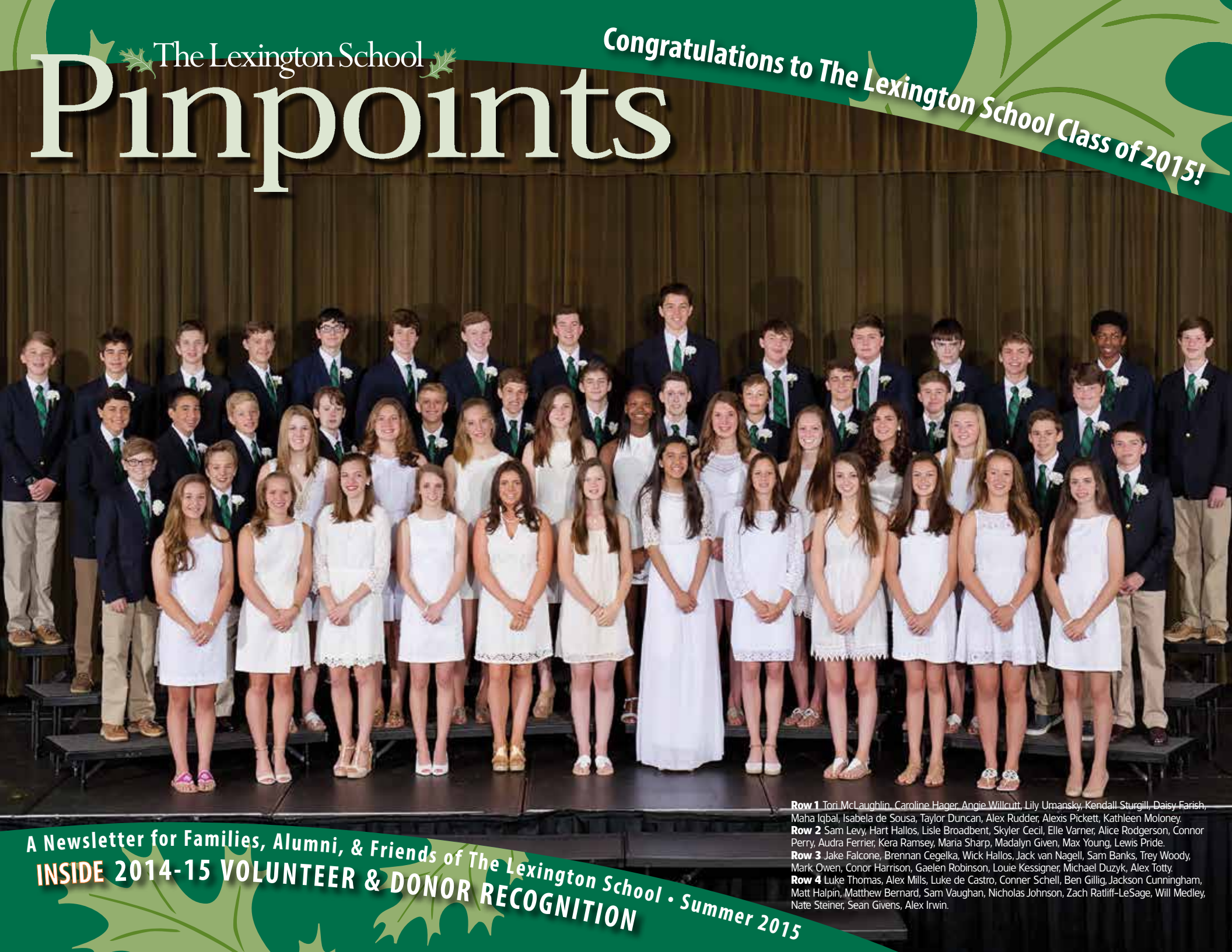
The Lexington School

Pinpoints

Congratulations to The Lexington School Class of 2015!



Row 1 Tori McLaughlin, Caroline Hager, Angie Willcutt, Lily Umansky, Kendall Sturgill, Daisy Farish, Maha Iqbal, Isabela de Sousa, Taylor Duncan, Alex Rudder, Alexis Pickett, Kathleen Moloney.
Row 2 Sam Levy, Hart Hallos, Lisle Broadbent, Skyler Cecil, Elle Varner, Alice Rodgerson, Connor Perry, Audra Ferrier, Kera Ramsey, Maria Sharp, Madalyn Given, Max Young, Lewis Pride.
Row 3 Jake Falcone, Brennan Cegelka, Wick Hallos, Jack van Nagell, Sam Banks, Trey Woody, Mark Owen, Conor Harrison, Gaelen Robinson, Louie Kessigner, Michael Duzyk, Alex Totty.
Row 4 Luke Thomas, Alex Mills, Luke de Castro, Conner Schell, Ben Gillig, Jackson Cunningham, Matt Halpin, Matthew Bernard, Sam Vaughan, Nicholas Johnson, Zach Ratliff-LeSage, Will Medley, Nate Steiner, Sean Givens, Alex Irwin.

A Newsletter for Families, Alumni, & Friends of The Lexington School • Summer 2015

INSIDE 2014-15 VOLUNTEER & DONOR RECOGNITION

"Welcome to the moment."



THE CLASS OF 2015 took Head of School Chuck Baldecchi's greeting to heart. At Scarlet Gate, the morning of May 29 was a collection, a culmination, and a celebration of many moments, and the 52 eighth graders clearly savored every detail. They had earned it and were proud, proud of themselves and proud of each other; rightly so. They relished in their shared accomplishments throughout the years, as each grade built upon the previous, as maturity developed and responsibility increased. Mr. Baldecchi spoke warmly of their "strong sense of community and friendship; their good spirit and perseverance." Ten of the group had begun that community over a decade ago, entering The Lexington School as three-year-olds. Six – Audra Ferrier, Hart Hallos, Wick Hallos, Zach Ratliff-LeSage, Jack van Nagell, and Elle Varner – have a parent who is a TLS alum, bringing the community into its second generation. Six – Skyler Cecil, Ben Gillig, Alex Irwin, Kathleen Moloney, Conner Schell, and Jack van Nagell – are Learning Center students, representing that solid community as well. Class agents Luke de Castro, Caroline Hager, Tori McLaughlin, Connor Perry, and Lewis Pride will help ensure the sense of community continues.

Margaret Graves '79, president of the Board of Trustees, reported the school's strong position: "The Lexington School is in the best shape ever. Our enrollment for next year will reach nearly 600 and our endowment is nearly $32-million." Composing her own version of Robert Fulghum's *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, she gave advice to the Class of 2015: "It starts in morning carline: When you begin your day, say 'Good Morning!' Shake hands, look people in the eye and smile! If you greet the world with a smile, more people will smile back." Tailoring her words to this past winter's severity, she drew knowing smiles with, "There aren't many snow days in life so when you get one, enjoy it!" And she closed with, "As you leave these Scarlet Gates and you go out into the wide world, watch out for trouble, hold hands with those you love, and stick together!"



Student Council representatives gave an overview of their TLS years, with Nate Steiner's explaining the bow and arrow as perfect metaphor for setting a goal and hitting the target. Luke de Castro described Preschool as the time, "We were building our arrows." Angie Willcutt spoke to the arrow's aim of the first, second, and third grades: "We met some of the best teachers we will ever meet, and we made some of the strongest friendships that would last forever." Jackson Cunningham noted, "Fourth and fifth grades were our first glimpse of freedom, being separate, independent from the bow." Sixth and seventh grades "were like arrows soaring through the air and nearing a target: eager and rowdy!", exclaimed Michael Duzyk, recalling memorable class trips to Green River and Barrier Island. Nate stepped to the podium once more to conclude, "Now here we all are at graduation, and we have hit our target. Bull's-eye."

Speaking again to the strong sense of community, Mr. Baldecchi recognized teachers who have completed milestone years of service to TLS – Tom Parlanti has served for 30 years as PE teacher and coach. Martha Anderson and **Margaret Cowling '64** have completed 40 years in the music and history departments, respectively.

Mr. Baldecchi thanked and bade farewell to teachers leaving our community. TLS will miss Clarissa Thomas and Andrea Thomas, Instructional Specialists at The Learning Center, next year.



OPPOSITE Angie Willcutt, Nate Steiner, Michael Duzyk & Jackson Cunningham. *ABOVE LEFT* Kathleen Moloney, Lily Umansky, Kendall Sturgill, Elle Varner, Lisle Broadbent, and Taylor Duncan. *ABOVE RIGHT* Sean Givens, Jake Falcone, Mr. Joe Conley, Sam Banks, and Wick Hallos.

After six years of teaching TLS middle school math and important lessons of the great outdoors through founding the Outdoor Adventure Club, Joe Griggs returns to his alma mater, The Webb School in Bell Buckle, TN, to teach math and assist in directing their outdoor program.

Greg Gunn, math teacher for 18 years, will be missed next year. Wearing numerous TLS hats throughout his service to the school, for 17 years he contributed his hallmark enthusiasm to middle school Green River Preserve trips in North Carolina. He also served as energetic hike leader and games facilitator for 15 years of fifth grade trips to Cumberland Falls and Carter Caves. He was the chess team's founding and longtime coach. A favorite among alumni, Mr. Gunn is fondly known for his contagious fascination with otters, gnomes, and Pi Day. Mr. Gunn and his Halloween alter ego Eugene Wanko look forward to TLS reunions.

Sharon Sadler retires after 27 years. Assistant to kindergarten teacher Margaret Barker at first, then moving into second grade, Mrs. Sadler quickly became known as the resident Iditarod authority with a special penchant for wolves.

Mark Scarr retires after 32 years of fourth grade social studies and language arts expertise. For 19 years, he and colleagues Ann Haynes, Leanne Zimmerman, and John Platt have comprised the Fantastic Four fourth grade team.

As you leave these Scarlet Gates and you go out into the wide world … hold hands with those you love, and stick together!

Margaret Graves '79





Mr. Baldecchi thanked TLS trustees retiring from active board membership, **Roger Bean '67**, **Brutus Clay IV '85**, **Marnie Clay Holoubek '82**, and **Tom Miller H'07**.

In the 18-year tradition of alumni Commencement speakers, **Will Lyons '00**, too, welcomed and celebrated the moment to honor the Class of 2015. Acclaimed outdoorsman, inveterate explorer, lover of the world, Will shared adventures and advice with his audience.

Running rapids at an early age, inspired and encouraged by Una MacCarthy, who lent her kayak, Will emphasized the importance of having self-confidence to partake fully in life. He was captivated by the whitewater for a decade, let it lead him "where it needed to." He embraced risks, moved far from his comfort zone, grabbed opportunities, and sometimes wondered what in the world he'd gotten himself into. He could have written, many times over, the TLS Philosophy Statement, "challenges lead to growth." While running the river, a friend offered part-time work in videography, something Will knew nothing about. That didn't matter. He was interested; he was confident; and he learned he had pretty good talent for filming. When *National Geographic* called and wanted him to come to California **the next day**, it never occurred to him to say anything but, "You bet." His world expanded exponentially, first to Alaska, then to Ethiopia, Cambodia, and Papua New Guinea, where he had a harrowing experience in a small plane, "zero viz," and a rock wall off the right wing tip. He kept his wits, as he and his team were the first white men ever to arrive in the village. They made a TV show and they made a community of friends.

Years of adventures in New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Mexico, England, and greater Europe – not to mention all across the U.S. – followed, with that hallmark confidence having been fostered at home and in the nurturing environment of The Lexington School. Ms. MacCarthy's kayak on Elkhorn Creek continues to hold a special place in Will's heart, as he now travels the world with Discovery Channel's *Deadliest Catch* and other fairly untamed opportunities.

> As you move forward, work hard, respect people and your surroundings, and soak it up like a sponge.
>
> *Will Lyons '00*





ABOVE Hart Hallos, Jake Falcone and Wick Hallos. *RIGHT* The de Castro family with Mr. Baldecchi: Dr. Fernando, Anne, **Leo '10**, **Max '23**, **Clara '12**, **Luke '15**, Mr. B, and **Noah '17**. *TOP* **Will Lyons '00**.

Calling on lessons he'd learned at TLS and within the far reaches of the world, Will chose his words carefully for the graduates: "As you move forward, work hard, respect people and your surroundings, and soak it up like a sponge. Don't worry about being normal or following the normal path. If you follow the river that most interests you, you'll know more success in life than any amount of material wealth could ever bring you. And if and when that river reaches the ocean, don't be afraid to go find another one."

Particularly enjoying the moment as she sat proudly in the audience was Jawanna Herd, Will's former science teacher. He especially wanted Mrs. Herd to attend, since she was a strong inspiration for his interest, respect, and love of nature. Her classes, known for wild enactments of encyclopedic flora and fauna lore, fascinated Will and propelled him down the road it took courage to choose. As Mrs. Herd emphasized, it was meaningful for her that Commencement was held at Scarlet Gate, among the numerous trees, each of which she and her TLS students worked hard to identify and label.

The moment had finally arrived: the Class of 2015 was ready to receive the diplomas, culmination of the morning. As Ms. MacCarthy announced the names, each student came forward for the diploma and a congratulatory handshake from Mr. Baldecchi. Especially poignant was the diploma presentation for Hart and Wick Hallos. Mr. Baldecchi stepped aside for Margaret Graves, Hart and Wick's mom who remembers well her own 1979 TLS graduation, to walk across the stage and give their diplomas with the warmest of hugs.

The sense of TLS community and the welcomed moment came full circle.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT The Iqbal family -- Drs. Ibraiz and Shazia with **Ahmad '18**, **Maha '15**, **Hina '11**, and **Hamza '23**; Alex Rudder with her parents, David and Marie; Richard, Kendall, and Tracie Sturgill.

"They're Off to Great Places..."
HIGH SCHOOL MATRICULATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2015

Sam Banks	Lexington Catholic High School
Matthew Bernard	Sayre School
Lisle Broadbent	Sayre School
Skyler Cecil	Lexington Catholic High School
Brennan Cegelka	Henry Clay Academy
Jackson Cunningham	Henry Clay Academy
Luke de Castro	Henry Clay Academy
Isabela de Sousa	Sayre School
Taylor Duncan	Dunbar High School
Michael Duzyk	Lexington Catholic High School
Jake Falcone	Lexington Catholic High School
Daisy Farish	Sayre School
Audra Ferrier	Lexington Catholic High School
Ben Gillig	Air & Space Academy, NASEI, Frankfort High School
Madalyn Given	Lexington Catholic High School
Sean Givens	Sayre School
Caroline Hager	Sayre School
Hart Hallos	Lafayette/SCAPA and Pre-Engineering Program
Wick Hallos	Sayre School
Matt Halpin	Dunbar MSTC Program
Conor Harrison	Lexington Christian Academy
Maha Iqbal	Sayre School
Alex Irwin	Lexington Catholic High School
Nicholas Johnson	Lexington Catholic High School
Louie Kessinger	Henry Clay High School
Sam Levy	Sayre School
Tori McLaughlin	Lexington Catholic High School
Will Medley	Lexington Catholic Exemplar Scholars Program
Alex Mills	Sayre School
Kathleen Moloney	Lexington Catholic High School
Mark Owen	Lexington Catholic High School
Connor Perry	Lafayette/SCAPA and Pre-Engineering Program
Alexis Pickett	Lexington Catholic High School
Lewis Pride	Lexington Catholic High School
Kera Ramsey	Asheville School
Zach Ratliff-LeSage	Lexington Catholic High School
Gaelen Robinson	Lexington Catholic High School
Alice Rodgerson	Sayre School
Alex Rudder	Sayre School
Conner Schell	Sayre School
Maria Sharp	Lexington Catholic High School
Nate Steiner	Henry Clay Academy
Kendall Sturgill	Sayre School
Luke Thomas	Dunbar MSTC Program
Alex Totty	Lexington Catholic High School
Lily Umansky	Lexington Catholic High School
Jack van Nagell	Lexington Catholic High School
Elle Varner	Henry Clay Academy
Sam Vaughan	Lexington Catholic High School
Angie Willcutt	Lexington Catholic High School
Trey Woody	Lexington Catholic High School
Max Young	Henry Clay Academy

WHAT *IS IT* ABOUT TLS'S EIGHTH GRADE?

Why is it the talk of the town?

Why do alumni, a decade afterward, remember it in such rich and specific detail one might think they'd just sat in Dr. Bonzo's classroom yesterday?

Why do current parents pause, draw a breath, smile, and speak in deep gratitude of the teaching and learning and growth that takes place throughout the eighth grade year?

And why do the students themselves – finally eighth graders! – have a spring in their step, a focus to their plan, and the confidence to accept challenges and opportunities that lie ahead?

The answers, unsurprisingly, are as varied as the folks who give them. Some say the Capstones are transformative and the Environmental Debates compelling. Others know in their hearts it's the lifelong relationships – both peer-to-peer and intergenerational – that form in the science lab, on the stage, in the art room, on the lacrosse field. Still others point to the strong academics, preparatory to what TLS founder **Josephine Abercrombie (H'00)** believes when she exclaims, "They are ready to leave the nest on their own."

Indeed they are. But, indeed, they do return … and their teachers love them for that too.









CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Donuts with Dad; Carnival; Green-Gray Day; Ms. MacCarthy and the best advisors ever – Mr. Griggs, Mr. Hurst, Mrs. Staley, Dr. Bonzo-Sims, Mrs. Telech, and Ms. Merritt.

Eighth Grade *Memories*





LEFT Alumni Council Luncheon. *ABOVE* Green-Gray Day; and Etiquette Dinner.











CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Audra Ferrier, Ms. Lounsbury, Caroline Hager; Griffin Sims, Sam Banks; Mr. Hurst, Max Young; Maria Sharp, Madalyn Given, Skyler Cecil (Melanie Mauer Photography).

Marks of Distinction

Permanent Headmaster List

Matthew Bernard
Luke de Castro
Michael Duzyk
Jake Falcone
Audra Ferrier
Ben Gillig
Sean Givens
Caroline Hager
Hart Hallos
Wick Hallos
Matt Halpin
Conor Harrison
Alex Irwin
Sam Levy
Tori McLaughlin
Will Medley
Alex Mills
Lewis Pride
Maria Sharp
Nate Steiner
Luke Thomas
Lily Umansky
Max Young





TOP ROW (Left) Zach Ratliff-LeSage, Audra Ferrier, Caroline Hager, Alice Rodgerson; *(Right)* Louie Kessinger, Conor Harrison, Matthew Bernard.
MIDDLE ROW (Left) Wick Hallos, Sean Givens, Luke Thomas, Sam Levy, Alex Mills (Melanie Mauer Photography); *(Right)* Kera Ramsey, Matt Falcone, Sam Levy.
BOTTOM ROW (Top) Hart Hallos, Tori McLaughlin (Melanie Mauer Photography); *(Bottom)* Alex Rudder, Mr. B; (Center) Isabela de Sousa (Melanie Mauer Photography); (Right)Tori McLaughlin, Katelyn Police, Kate Golden.













Southwest Adventure



Head *Lines*

NOTES FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Graduation is a milestone in the lives of our students and a day of celebration. Our young graduates' souls and minds have been filled with the "whole child" experience that is The Lexington School. They are poised to take on the next phase and chapter in their lives.

As has been our tradition, our commencement speakers are alumni who have used the foundation they received at The Lexington School to do great and interesting things. **Will Lyons '00**, this year's speaker, did not disappoint. He told our graduates how a day kayaking with Ms. MacCarthy led him down a river that, metaphorically and literally, carried him to a vocation of filming for the Discovery Channel's show, *Deadliest Catch*. From the podium, Will advised, "All those years I spent gallivanting around the country and beyond I was soaking up my surroundings like a sponge. I was learning how to take a risk, how to trust myself, and, most importantly, how to relate to other people. I can't stress enough to you how important the last part of that is."

Lexington School friendships last forever, a truth evidenced in this issue of *Pinpoints*. In particular, you will read about the special familial and school bonds – the 11 sets of siblings – that tie together the TLS **Classes of 1987 and 1989**, bonds that we see often with TLS classes, ties that speak eloquently and vibrantly of the relationships born and nurtured "within these halls of learning."

I also think reading about new and old traditions happening within our classroom walls and outside them gives a wonderful flavor of what keeps TLS fresh while honoring the past. I am appreciative of how each graduation class adds its own chapter to the story that is The Lexington School.

With gratitude for a job I love,

Charles D. Baldecchi
Head of School



TOP Mr. Baldecchi applauds the **Class of 2015**. *ABOVE* At Scarlet Gate, **Will Lyons '00** is flanked by his mom, Susie Lyons, also mother of **Michael '04**, **Chris '04**, and **Sam '08**, and Mr. B. *RIGHT* Dr. Laura Bonzo-Sims celebrates Will and his classmates **Andrew Schwartz** and **Fielden Willmott**, her former students who now share wisdom with current TLSers from the podium and in the classroom. Andrew and Fielden teach math and English, respectively.

SHARON SADLER

THE WOLVES are at the door … but thanks to Sharon Sadler, we know how to handle them.

Alumni by the hundreds, colleagues by the crowds follow the Iditarod like it's the Kentucky Derby. Martin Buser, Susan Butcher, and Balto are household names because of Mrs. Sadler.

In retirement, Mrs. Sadler will continue her avid interest in wolves, sled dogs, and her strong Lexington School connections.



TLS teacher since 1988, she was Margaret Barker's Kindergarten assistant the first two years. From Washington State, Margaret remembers, "Sharon encourages each child to extend his/her ability to reason, think, and create. Not only do her students grow in their education, but also in their self-confidence."

Sharon graduated to second grade in 1990 and never looked back; she had found her calling. Decades before Mission Skills came to TLS, Sharon saw her students embrace those skills as they embraced her stories – and wrote their own – of sled dogs and wolves and the Alaskan wilderness. Every day, there are new adventures on and off the Iditarod trail that demonstrate resilience, creativity, time management, and, as Sharon observes, "The kids write their best stories of the year when they are wrapped up in the progression of the race. It is the first thing out of alums' mouths when they see me or write to me."



Vickie Russo, part of the second grade team, speaks to Sharon's out-of-the-box thinking: "This spring, immediately after our rain stick construction, she concocted the idea of having her students write about making the rain sticks *from the hammer's point of view*. Her children loved it!"

Rachel Medley, rounding out the trio of second grade teachers, uses an H. Jackson Brown Jr. quotation, "The happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more." She continues, "Thank you, Sharon, for all you've given us, your time, your talents, and your friendship."



Sharon Sadler was the mentor for Sharon Deller, first grade teacher who will move into second grade, specifically into Sharon Sadler's room, in the fall. Sharon Deller says, "Students tell me they love Mrs. Sadler's sense of humor … she is always smiling."

As it happened, in Sharon's inaugural second grade class was **Emily Scarr '98**, and fellow retiring teacher Mark Scarr notes, "A quarter-century ago you had my daughter Emily. This year you have my grandson Owen. They've both been lucky to have had you, and I've been lucky to work with you all these years."



And, Sharon, what's that about the howling wolf cookie jar??



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT Romulus and Remus had nothing on Sharon Sadler; signature wolf garb completes reading time; moving into TLS for keeps; Sadler and Russo take their show on the road; with Flat Stanley in St. Louis.

MARK SCARR

AFTER 32 YEARS, they can't say it enough. They love him. They respect him. They will miss him tremendously.

Mark Scarr's exceptionally close colleagues – the other three of the Fabulous Four Fourth Grade Team – each say it in a different way.

Ann Haynes: "Winston Churchill said, 'We make our living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.' Mark personifies that. He has given of himself, with his whole, stitched-together heart and soul, to ensure the best learning environment for TLS students. He has cared for each child, each family, and each colleague, and he has created enduring memories for us all. *Sunrise, sunset. Swiftly flew the years!*"

Leanne Zimmerman: "Mark has been our organizer extraordinaire, our meticulous record keeper, and our very dear, compassionate friend for many, many years. He's exemplified the role of the benevolent uncle on our team."

John Platt: "For 20 years Mark has been the pilot of our team, the man at the helm, thoughtfully, consistently steering us, and the fourth grade experience, in the right directions. He epitomizes the true meaning of the word gentle-man."









CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT TLS's own Superman; family portrait at Holiday Homecoming 2013; Fabulous Four of the fourth grade on Olde Kentucke Day; Spring 2008 *Pinpoints* cover; **Classes of '90** and **'91** championship team on March 12, 1987.

Lower School Head Marijo Foster has her say too: "Mark and I have worked together for 32 years. Because of that, we know each other very well. At the risk of stepping on sweet Dorothy's toes, I have come to think of Mark as my 'work husband.' We finish each other's thoughts and often each other's sentences. He helps me remember things, and I help him. That's what 'work spouses' do for each other. And what he has done for his students over these many years has been the greatest gift of all. He has modeled kindness and empathy at every turn. He loves his students, and their parents love him for that. At the Candlelight Ceremony, Mark followed the fifth and eighth graders through the tunnel at the end. When I saw his smiling face coming down the line, I burst into tears and had to exit the gymnasium in a hurry. That pretty much sums up how I feel about Mark Scarr."

Loud and appreciative alumni voices thank him for his essential role in their TLS lives: fourth grade language arts and social studies, advisor, Settlers Day/Olde Kentucke Day/Kentucky Heritage Day, Downtown Walking Tour, Frankfort and Fort Boonesborough field trips, soccer and basketball coach, study clinic….

For his part, the adored Mark Scarr, proud father of **Eli '91**, **Abraham '95**, and **Emily '98**, says, "The Lexington School is such an important part of my life, and I treasure the friendships with faculty, students, and parents. I have loved watching our school and our programs improve steadily over time. I've seen my three children graduate and now my grandson is a student. There is a strong sense of continuity that is precious."



STRONG AS STEEL



THE SIMPSON FAMILY USES ART – AND MOLTEN IRON – TO FORGE STRONG BONDS AT TLS

IN THE MIDDLE OF REHEARSALS and performances of UK Opera Theatre's *It's a Grand Night for Singing!* at the Singletary Center for the Arts, **Alex Simpson '14** took a break to think back to her Lexington School years. She treasures the many facets of her TLS education, and holds especially dear her varied opportunities for exploration and growth in the arts. A strong proponent of the arts, Alex accentuated, "TLS students are not encouraged – but expected – to excel in all areas of discipline. As visual and performing arts become more important in today's society, we must equip students with the tools they need to express themselves, whether it be on paper or on stage."

In memory of her father, William J. Simpson, Alex and her mother, Melanie Glasscock Simpson, have created the Simpson Fine Arts Fund, widening artistic horizons for TLS students of all ages. Ms. Simpson followed Alex's TLS thoughts with those of her own: "We are thrilled the students at The Lexington School get to stimulate their imaginations through exposure to art. TLS is blessed to have amazing teachers in place to take the kids on journeys in drama, music, and art, and challenge them to see the world in new colors, textures, sounds, and settings." Speaking specifically of the Simpson Fine Arts Fund, Ms. Simpson relayed, "Alex and I are glad we can help provide that important adventure in learning and help the children embrace it and pass it on to future generations with this art fund as a gift in her father's memory. He would be pleased and so proud to see The Lexington School thriving as it is today."



The Simpson Family generosity enfolds TLS, both indoors and out.

In early springtime, third through fifth grade art teacher, Sarah Heller, and Sallye Staley, middle school art, joined forces, as they often do. Uniting fifth and eighth grades, the project this time created an 11-by-3-foot aluminum mural TLS can display forever. According to



Ms. Heller, "It is the ultimate exercise in teamwork and creativity from beginning to end." As part of the creative process, students see and understand design concepts; they brainstorm intricacies of the idea; and they draw the design individually and collaboratively. Both grades carved sand blocks – a memorable exercise in physical labor – for three class periods. As Ms. Heller noted, "Students showed great resilience in making and creating their designs and doing hard work."

From the ground up, fifth graders learned the definition of *charrette*, a coming together of many individuals to brainstorm ideas, usually in the arts. As a group, they decided to create a giant flower, and each student designed what the finished product would be. Early on, they learned about design constraints: one large flower would fill 12 tiles. Collective decision making resulted in selecting one detail the class liked from each person – the curlicue in the face of the flower, a ladybug here, a snail there, various leaf designs, the sun and its rays. Everyone's input combined to create the template for sand mold carving, the next step.

After the concentrated efforts of sand mold carving yielded rewarding success, excitement came to town in the form of a foundry. Through the vision of the Simpson Fine Arts Fund, the entire school had an exceptional opportunity to see metal casting artists pour 1,400-degree melted aluminum into the tile molds. In the cordoned-off area outside the Middle School, Gerard Masse of Traveling Foundry near Bloomington, Indiana, led the group of five professionals, attired in protective headgear with eye shields, heavy gloves, and boots; he explained and demonstrated the step-by-step pour process of each student's individual tile. The sand molds were arranged in long lines, ready to be covered with molten aluminum, which solidified after cooling. Mrs. Staley got in on the act and became a proficient pourer before the day was done.

From her classroom abuzz with artistic activity, Mrs. Staley gave a heartfelt overview to the Simpson Fund and the opportunities it allows TLS students, saying, "We are blessed to have the Fund to use for this project." She looked at her array of art students and said, "Through opportunities like this, students are inspired and see first-hand that a career in the arts is a viable path."

The crowd moved inside for the grand installation of the cast metal relief sculpture, which now hangs, appropriately, in the Arts Wing across from the Theater. As Mrs. Staley highlighted, "It was another culminating activity for eighth graders that they will cherish and take with them into the next chapter of their lives."



At the end of the day, Mr. Masse had high praise for TLS students, emphasizing, "It is one of the best designed pieces we've gotten to do. The way Ms. Heller and Mrs. Staley took on the project and introduced it to the students was excellent. Having students help with design was the key. TLS students had way more questions than any other school we have ever visited, and they were more interested and much more involved. Our crew also enjoyed the school's fine hospitality; we felt wonderfully welcomed to TLS."

Giving a bow to Alex Simpson's performance in *It's a Grand Night for Singing!*, for the TLS community, It's a Grand Day for Applauding the Simpson Fine Arts Fund.



Pin Prints



At midfield, in preparation for her attack on the goal, fifth grader Kate-Bradley Harris shields the ball from her St. Leo School opponent.



Continuing the 32-year tradition that began the first year Mark Scarr taught at TLS, fourth graders travel to Frankfort to tour Kentucky's Capitol. Lieutenant Governor Crit Luallen educates the class on the intricacies of state government.



During Green-Gray Day, hula hoops are back in style for seventh graders Quin Clay and John Paul Thomas.



As fourth graders Clay Monohan, Jake Nahra, and Hayden Adams celebrate Chinese New Year with Mrs. Niu, Jake and Hayden hold the character meaning luck. They purposefully hold it upside down to show luck is coming. In the background is a 1,300-year-old Chinese poem.



Donuts for Nicols, Donuts for Dads – is the highlight of the day for **B. Nicol '91** and his daughters, fifth grader Daphne, second grader Clara, and Lida, Pre-K.



At The Learning Center's third annual Invention Convention, fourth grader Evie Campbell and fifth grader Jacob Tarter present their concept to calm pets during thunderstorms: headphones block out thunder and other loud noises, while a funnel/microphone is attached so the owner can still talk to the dog.



Scarlett Ochs, Amelie Longbottom, Lida Nicol, and Stella Croce – with Kelly Mitchell, their prekindergarten teacher – prepare to do research for their water project.



Up and over: In the first year TLS has competed in the high jump, sixth grader Max Barnett takes things in solid stride at the West Jessamine track meet.



Third grader Isabel Police's smile reflects the feelings of those who attend Carnival, after Little Kentucky Derby.



Lifelong enthusiasm for learning is instilled at The Lexington School. Charlie Pulito, Acorns class, is entranced as he watches grass grow.



In Mrs. Johnson's English class, Nathalie de Sousa and Mathilde Longbottom focus as they prepare for their end-of-year cumulative exams – a rite of passage for sixth graders. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



Learning Center first grader Kingston Coats, second grader Aaron Ziegler, and first grader Beckham Milburn demonstrate that intramural cooking with Meredith Carrithers is definitely all it's cracked up to be.

Pin Prints



After studying the style of glass sculptor Dale Chihuly, Kindergartner Jade Baugh works on her masterpiece for the Preschool Art Show.



During March Madness, the Wildcats get strong support from sixth and seventh graders and their teachers. Front row: Sarah Belin, Monique Bacha, Ashley Westerfield, Kate Milward, Grace Umansky, Ella Young, Caitlin Hinds, and Nathalie de Sousa. Back row: Ms. Lounsbury, Mrs. Johnson, Olivia Greer, and Rayne Kazee.



Who says girls don't like worms? On the KinderKlasse playground, Brielle Shively is proud of her healthy find.



Putting heads together comes naturally for seventh graders Virginia Peppiatt, Allie Holoubek, Rayne Kazee, and Ann Kathryn Shashy.



Sixth grader Mathilde Longbottom gets into her zone for the 400 Meter.



In Mrs. Russo's second grade classroom, Eva Quinn polishes her calculator skills during the Everyday Math program. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



Friendship on the sliding board; what's better than that? First Row: Acorns Camille Clay, Maple Burnett Armstrong, Caroline Shattuck, Arthur Young, and Izzy Tovar. Second Row: Kindergartner Jud Masters and Brenley Clark, Acorns.



Mrs. Deller's first graders enjoy Dress as Your Favorite Book Character Day. Front Row: Aneesh Nair, Zachary Wieting, Anna Friesen, Peyton Beatty, and Eloise McCullough. Back Row: Isla Puckett, Mia Risco, Kennedy Harris, Eli Greer, Willow Carr, and Davis Ashmun.



In Mrs. Merideth's seventh grade World Studies class, Kali Thomas researchs the customs of her counterparts in the Middle East. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



The Fenwick brothers – first grader John Dixon and third grader James Owen – celebrate Red Nose Day to help TLS raise funds and awareness for global childhood poverty. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



During Writers Guild, first grader Mia Risco listens to stories told in Spanish by her mother, Rafaela Risco, center, and visiting author Carmen Agra Deedy, as both women recount vivid tales of Cuba, their shared native country.



Mr. Novitsky's fifth grade science students, Dant Bowling, Griffin Day, Parker Nurick, and Ryan Absher (behind Parker) prove Sir Isaac Newton really was a UK fan as his Laws of Motion always work in this classic whipped-cream "Pie in the Eye of Wisconsin" Rube Goldberg machine.

SIBLING STORIES

The Classes of 1987 and 1989 share 11 Sets of Siblings.
It's indisputable.
Folks know it deep in their hearts, deep in their souls.
Lexington School friendships are precious.
They last a lifetime … *many say, well beyond.*

Time and time and time again, former students – from years ago – say their best friends still are those they made in Kindergarten, on their fourth grade Fort Boonesborough field trip, on their sixth grade basketball team, next to their eighth grade locker.

It doesn't have anything to do with the strong academics TLS was founded upon in 1959; it doesn't have anything to do with the excellent school facility itself; or historic Scarlet Gate, just across the creek – but it has *everything in the world* to do with the TLS community, the people – the students, the faculty, staff, parents, grandparents, friends – the TLS family itself. It is precious; it is enduring.

In an especially robust show of familial strength, the **Classes of 1987** and **1989** boast *11 sets of siblings*. That's a lot of shared brothers and sisters and moms and dads – big brothers, little sisters, big sisters, little brothers – families knowing each other well, families looking out for each other. It's a lot of shared homework assignments and parent meetings, carpools and sleepovers, family vacations together, birthday parties, a lot of shared neighborhoods – a lot of shared love.

THE BARRS



Emily Barr Richards '87, now The Very Reverend Emily Richards, is a priest in the Episcopal Church, currently serving as Rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Glenside, PA, a Philadelphia suburb. She has been married to Daniel Richards, her Sewanee sweetheart, for 18 years, and they have an eight-year-old daughter, Maggie, whom they welcomed into their family seven years ago through adoption in China. Maggie attends Abington Friends School, one of the oldest private schools in the state and in the country. Seeing her daughter thrive in such a supportive and nurturing community reminds Emily of her own TLS experience.

Emily, TLS Commencement speaker in 2007, has so many wonderful memories of her school days that it's too hard to name just one. She remembers sitting on Mrs. Collier's rug during sharing time in Kindergarten, seeing what Paddington Bear was up to in Miss Bale's first grade class, performing science experiments in "B's" class, studying French from Madame Charron and history with Miss Cowling, learning to write stories from Mrs. Eames, and receiving much advice from her advisor, Mr. Brost. Emily remembers fondly her class trips to Pine Mountain and Washington, DC, and singing "Mr. Sandman" with four classmates in the ninth grade show. Those formative years at TLS shaped the woman Emily is today. In her vocation as a priest, she says, "I strive to create that same supportive community for the children and adults entrusted to my care so they can discover their own purpose in life."



From Margaret Cowling's descriptive lessons on Pericles and the Athenian democracy to the Congressional corridors of today, since graduating from TLS, **Andy Barr '89** has been quickly climbing the political ladder. Andy says it was Miss Cowling, his favorite TLS teacher, who inspired his interest in politics and American history. "She not only made history come alive, she taught me to love learning and even *how* to learn."

After working as a staffer on Capitol Hill, Andy returned to Lexington and graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Law. He worked for Governor Ernie Fletcher and, afterward, as an attorney in Lexington before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2012.

Andy and his wife, Carol, were married in 2008 and are the proud parents of Eleanor and Mary Clay.

THE CASSIDYS

Continuing family medical tradition, upon graduation, with Distinction, in May from UK's College of Medicine, **Dr. Maggie Cassidy '87** was "hooded" by her mother, Dr. Martha Greenwood, or Mrs. Cassidy, as many of Maggie's classmates know her. Because Dr. Greenwood is a Professor of Pediatric Medicine at UK, it was her honor to hood Maggie on stage during the ceremony.



Maggie's strong TLS foundation led to graduation, with Distinction, from St. Paul's School in NH. Four years later, upon completion of her undergraduate studies, majoring in molecular biology at the University of California at Berkeley, Maggie joined her sister, **Katie Cassidy '86**, in New York City. Over the next 15 years, Maggie worked at The Floating Hospital and then for the Center for Court Innovation. Her brother **Peter Cassidy '89** joined her in NYC for a while, and, making sure all Cassidy sibs were part of the Big Apple, her sister **Anne Cassidy '97** lived there too, for about six years.

Maggie has now moved to Shreveport, LA, to complete her residency in Internal Medicine at the LSU Health Science Center. Between moving boxes and stethoscopes, new neighbors and new patients, her day is brightened by thoughts of yesterday: "I have to say, it's really impossible to isolate one, two, or even ten favorite teachers. Everyone at TLS, from second through ninth grade, is a favorite, and thinking of them only makes me smile and appreciate the time I had with *all* of them. Nostalgia!"

Outside the classroom was basis for growth and fun as well, as Maggie describes, "I have to say the Pine Mountain trip was a favorite of mine. I think it rained the whole time and I recall we complained a lot, but I look back on it as a wonderful experience, with lots of humor and amazing exposure to Kentucky's landscape, history, and culture. I'd really like to go back one day!"



Peter Cassidy '89 stays in close touch with his array of TLS compadres. When it comes to his teachers, he can't possibly choose a favorite, because, as he says, "I loved, and still do, so many of them. The last time I visited TLS was for the 50th Anniversary photograph, and I was pleasantly surprised to see Don Noderer at that event. I hadn't seen him in quite a long time and gladly told him what an amazing teacher he had been. Although I don't actively play an instrument any longer, looking back, he and his wife put together a very special music program, especially for such young students. You don't realize how wonderful so many of your TLS teachers are until later, unfortunately, and you don't always have the opportunity to let them know how much they influenced, and continue to influence, your life."

Peter and wife **Laurel Johnston Cassidy '88** live in Lexington with nine-year-old Eva Pace; Emery, six; and Stokes, four. Peter earned his BA from Vanderbilt in 1996 and his JD from UK's College of Law in 2000. He worked three years in Frankfort for the KY General Assembly as a legislative analyst with the House, Senate, and Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary. In private practice since 2003, he is a partner with Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer. Peter focuses on medical malpractice, defense of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and hospitals. His practice also extends to real estate, land use and zoning, and commercial litigation.

let a thousand stars shine
celebration 2015

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Please see page 53 for a complete listing of our 2015 sponsors.

THE CHAMBERLINS

Back in the winter of 1981, Carol and Craig Chamberlin moved to town. They had relocated from Potomac, MD, and had heard, even there, the excellence that is The Lexington School. They brought along third grader **Scott '87**, first grader **Ashley '89**, and baby **Caitlin '94**; two out of three Chamberlins enrolled in February that year. It was a happy beginning of the decades-long Chamberlin-TLS combo.





As Ashley, now **Ashley Chamberlin Boron**, tells it, "Collectively, the Chamberlin family's greatest TLS memories involve the people – both the families attending TLS and the teachers. The families include so many of the '87/'89 combination; the Gees and the Eastlands, for instance, have been dear friends for over 30 years. The teachers were true professionals who gave us a gift of a lifetime with their love for teaching and their interest in our success. Scott and I both smile, thinking of teachers like Mrs. Meekins, Mr. Hardesty, Mr. Scarr, Mr. Brost, Mrs. Ireland, Mrs. Cox, Miss Cowling, Madame Charron, and Mrs. Eames."



It was a good move, back in '81.

In the family photos above are Caitlin and Ashley; Ashley and Kris with Jacob, Finley, and Owen at Keeneland; and Scott and Jennifer with Zackery and Jackson.

THE EASTLANDS

Spring 2015 *Pinpoints* readers remember the stylish wedding departure of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mattacola on Carl's high-powered Harley-Davidson. With Harley parked in the driveway, **Kathleen Eastland Mattacola '87** trades her motorcycle helmet for her TLS baseball cap to tell again the story of Madame Charron's sixth grade puppet show, vivid in the collective memory of a generation of French students.



Kathleen practically speaks with a French accent in recounting, "Our class performed *Peter and the Wolf (Pierre et le Loup)*. We created the puppets in Mrs. Apple's art class, and I still have the wolf I made, which was used in the various performances. I still remember some of the script – not so much for Peter, whom I portrayed – but for the bird, *L'oiseau*, played by **Branch Harper Feagans '87** as well as by **Bob Gee '87** –*'Cui, cui, cui! Cui, cui, cui! Bonjour, mes amis!'* and for the hunters – one of whom was portrayed by **Anne Jefferson Connell '87**, and it was a song. I can still remember the tune."

Some things never change. **Allison Eastland '89** and **Peter Cassidy '89** used to have their TLS desks near each other. Trading math and history books for legal briefs nowadays, in the Lexington office of Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, their desks are still close by.



Allison received her Bachelor of Arts from DePauw University in 1996 and, in 2002, her Juris Doctor from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago. For ten years, she was a felony prosecutor in both Chicago and Atlanta, leading more than 15 felony jury trials and hundreds of bench trials. Moving home to Lexington, she practiced as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney before joining QPWB, where she focuses on long-term care defense and general liability.

Not confining TLS connections only to the office, Allison stays in touch, too, with **Lucy Gee '89** and **Ashley Chamberlin Boron '89**, both of whom she saw during a recent visit back to Chicago. The three classmates were together, as well, at the wedding of **Caitlin Chamberlin Anderson '94** *(pictured on page 22 with Lucy Gee)*.

THE FOSTERS

Always in the company of nice fellows, **Meg Foster Sullivan '87** is still surrounded by fine men in her life. She and husband Dave are proud parents of Davey, 15; Charlie, 14; and Tommy, 11 – two high schoolers and one sixth grader. Meg stops in her tracks to marvel, "I don't know how I got to this point – I remember sixth grade vividly – how could I have my *own* sixth grader?"

Giving one standout TLS memory is difficult for Meg, 2003 TLS Commencement speaker, but she laughs out loud and says, "My all-time favorite memory is when Lanna Bell's Labrador retriever had puppies; we got one. Betty Cox's family did too! One day we brought our puppy labs into the math lab. It was magical. You see, we Fosters have a long history of sneaking dogs into TLS. But I guess that memory just shows how TLS truly is a part of my family."



Life is happily busy in the Sullivan household, a stone's throw from Chicago, and Meg is still a stay-at-home mom. She enjoys every minute of it *(especially at right, as she congratulates Charlie on his graduation).*

"TLS will ALWAYS hold a special place in our hearts, as Meg and I were part of the original TK (Teacher's Kid) Club, and we are proudly still card-carrying members."

Scott Foster '89 – you know which T he is the K of.

Scott and Courtney and their three children, Jack, 13; Van, 11; and Jane Scott, 7, live in Bucks County, PA, where Scott is a Pharmaceutical Marketing Director with Johnson & Johnson.

Scott has a wealth of recollections:

It's been a blessing to watch TLS grow over the years with conversations with my mom [Marijo Foster, Lower School Head] about the people and learning philosophies that keep my TLS spirit alive. Quite simply, my ongoing connection and love for TLS are because of my mom and her impact on my learning experience. Mom was my fifth grade math teacher and my Middle School Head (and, yes, I was sent to her office a couple of times). She always had a way (and still does) of delivering discipline fairly, but with a clear message and expectation – a skill I apply in my own parenting today. Meg and I are so incredibly proud of the longstanding impact Mom has had on so many others who have walked the TLS hallways. TLS will always be a part of the Foster family DNA, and I'm proud to say that my mom is a significant part of the TLS DNA as well.



There are SOOO many great memories from my TLS years, but all are rooted in the fact that the strongest friendships I've built in my lifetime were forged in the TLS classrooms – friendships that have stood the test of time and distance. I'm enormously proud of the life accomplishments of close friends from the Class of '89, both professionally in their selected careers and personally as loving mothers and fathers. At a recent TLS reunion weekend in Napa, CA, a few of us from the Class of '89 (Ingram, Barr, Gay, Foster, Cassidy) reflected on how important TLS was to our early development and how strong standards and healthy competition were established early and resulted in a tremendously strong foundation for high school, college, and in our careers.

Many positive memories I have of TLS were actually built in the summertime, years after I had graduated. For several summers while I was in college, I was able to work for TLS doing many maintenance and handyman jobs, like painting, cleaning, moving furniture, carpet cleaning, etc. In hindsight, it was a great way to learn more about the school I loved by ensuring it was spick-and-span and well maintained for the next generation of learners.

THE GEES

From his Texas state editor office at the *Austin American-Statesman*, **Bob Gee '87** says his TLS background has directed his career path. He has worked as a newspaper reporter and editor for two decades, studied Spanish and Arabic, worked and studied in nearly a dozen countries and territories. He is in charge of coverage of the state Capitol and state politics. This spring, the paper was named Texas Newspaper of the Year for the second consecutive year among the largest Texas papers, including the larger *Dallas Morning News* and *Houston Chronicle*.



Bob recounts, "Among my fondest TLS memories is discovering the art of observation and expression through creative writing in Mr. McCormack's English class in fifth and sixth grades. My first journal entries were a sentence long, but before long Mr. McCormack had coaxed out of me paragraphs and then short stories.

"I also have distinct memories of my role as *L'oiseau* in the *Pierre et le Loup* puppet show in Mme. Charron's sixth grade French class. We made our own puppets and performed the show for our classmates and parents. I still remember lines from that show. Those formative experiences – learning to write in my native tongue and speak a foreign language – I think had much to do with my career path."

In photo above, Bob is with sister Lucy at the wedding of **Brian Weinberg '87**, where he was co-best man along with Harold Weinberg, Brian's father.



In Chicago, **Lucy Gee '89** oversees the talent development of all U.S.-based Risk Solutions employees for Aon. From her Windy City office, she takes a moment to think back to her TLS days, pointing out, "TLS cultivated my interest in math and science; I was challenged to question and think critically about what I was learning."

She remembers, too, "Mrs. Ford's coming to biology class in character as famous past scientists to bring to life those people we studied in textbooks. I also discovered the world of mathematics in Upper School – my teachers encouraged me to approach problem solving in a new way. These experiences certainly influenced my decision to major in math in college. The foundation in critical thinking continued to build throughout my career and led me back to graduate school to complete a master's degree in learning and organizational change."

Lucy continues, "In addition to the great academic background at TLS, I also developed lifelong friendships. People I met in Kindergarten and first grade are still close friends today." The picture above shows **Allison Eastland '89**, **Ashley Chamberlin Boron '89**, and Lucy at the Lexington wedding of **Caitlin Chamberlin Anderson '94** last year. "Just this past spring, Allison visited Ashley and me in Chicago and we picked up like no time had passed. These friends have become family over the years."



THE JACKSONS

From California, **Phelps Jackson '87** *(pictured with **Greg White** '87 at the wedding of **Brian Weinberg** '87)* speaks eloquently to the goodness of Lexington School friendship: "My favorite Lexington School memory was getting a ride to morning basketball practice from Coach [Jerry] Truitt in fifth grade. We both lived out in the country, so he would come pick me up before dawn and drive me to school in the cold and fog. Sometimes we would make a short stop – a donut and orange juice for me and a coffee for him. Those were special moments that only he and I shared.

"When I was about the same age, I remember thinking about how one day all of my friends would grow up and have their own lives. It seems obvious now, but it was a moment of revelation for an 11-year-old. Even though I knew that everything would change, I could not see how those boys would cease to be my friends one day. I was both right and wrong. In the past thirty years, they have married, had children, and lost parents and siblings. But they are still my dearest friends."

Pinpoints honors the precious memory of **Katie Jackson Morrison '89** and her children, Wyatt and Hannah. Some of her classmates share thoughts to celebrate Katie.

ALLISON EASTLAND *Katie and Caroline Powell and Tessa Burrus and I were great friends in Middle School and spent a lot of time out at the farm where the Jacksons lived at the time. We all played soccer together, from about age eight until, I think, sixth grade or so, and Lucy Gee's and Ashley Chamberlin's dads were our coaches. I was very lucky to stay close with Katie while she was at Taft and I was at Hotchkiss, to live with her for a summer during college, and to maintain that friendship as I stood up in her wedding. She was certainly a special person.*



HEADLEY BUTLER *It's so hard to capture Katie in a few words. Some of my fondest memories at TLS and beyond involve her. She was an amazing combination of beautiful, mischievous, daring, determined, funny, independent, and loyal – she kept you on your toes, for sure. I've never met anyone quite like her, and she is dearly missed by me and so many others who were lucky to have known her.*

LUCY GEE & ASHLEY CHAMBERLIN BORON *Our friendships at TLS went outside the walls of the school. Many members of the Class of '89 were on the Badgers, a soccer team originally coached by our dads, Bill Gee and Craig Chamberlin. At one point Katie, Allison Eastland, Caroline Powell, Amanda Freeman, and we were all on the team. We all loved playing together for the friendship and competition. Katie always brought her energy and enthusiasm to the field. That, with her sense of adventure, extended beyond the soccer field to anything she did.*

CHRIS JOHNSON *My favorite memory of Katie is from fifth grade. We were "going together," which is what we all called dating at that time (if that's even possible in fifth grade). One day, she heard that "I Just Called to Say I Love You" song playing on the radio and she immediately called my house. When my mom answered, Katie asked to speak to me; when I walked over to the old rotary phone in the kitchen and held the receiver to my ear, she said, "Hey, it's me," and then all I could hear was Stevie Wonder's ballad blasting out of the phone, serenading me. I was grinning from ear to ear. . . . It still makes me smile every time I think of that phone call.*

THE JOHNSONS

John Johnson '87 keeps close TLS ties: working in the business world with **Griggs Powell '87** through Madd Merch and Team One Promotions, the two lower school pals continue to be best friends today. As well, John has crystal clear memories of years of PE afternoons with Mrs. Owen, countless team practices, and fight-to-the-finish games in the gym and on the playing field.

John and his wife, Stephanie, have twin sons, Grady and Graham, rising fifth graders, who enjoy baseball, basketball, and – remaining strong to the Johnson family heritage – hunting.



Shown at right, the Johnson brothers – **Patrick '91**, **Chris '89**, and John – serendipitously happened to be in Vegas at the same time for different reasons. Chris was there a day early tending to Southwest Trip details; John was there with Madd Merch for a Festival; and Patrick was at a law firm retreat in St. George, UT. Since Patrick was so close, he came to help Chris get TLS trip groceries and to see his brothers.

Anybody who knows anything about TLS these days knows **Chris Johnson '89** plays an almost larger-than-life role at his alma mater; Middle School Science Teacher and Dean of Students only *begin* to tell the tale. Chris is current leader of the famed eighth grade Southwest Trips and head honcho with wife Becky, herself Middle School English Teacher, of various filled-in-an-instant alumni trips.



Chris and Becky's kids, **Maren '18** and **Wade '21**, *(left, in Costa Rica)* who sometimes travel with the TLS groups, are beneficiaries of TLS trips from a generation ago. Chris speaks to the unforgettable importance of those trips when he was a student: "It was always great to have all of us brothers (Chris, **John '87**, and **Patrick '91**) together on the ski trips. There weren't many occasions to travel with our TLS classmates *and* our brothers, but the ski trip was one of them. Class trips are always super fun, but the multi-class trips enabled us to make friends in other classes and with older/younger TLSers. That's one of the dynamics I enjoy about the current TLS Voyages trips that Becky and I take to Utah and Costa Rica."

THE MARCIANIS

Kara Marciani '87 is a forensic psychologist in Ohio, and Jeff, her husband of 14 years, is an attorney. They maintain homes in Franklin, OH, and Columbus, OH, where they each have private practices.

From Nashville, where she lives with her three-year-old twins, Charlie and Eloise, **Cristina Marciani '89** reports she is Director of Sales and Marketing for a company that invests in or owns outpatient imaging centers across the U.S.

Cristina says she and Kara both agree that, "TLS helped cultivate traits that neither of us realized we had in us. Upon graduation, Kara was honored with the Headmaster's Award, while I was presented the Leadership Award. Neither of us had recognized these strengths that TLS saw in us, and it certainly helped shape us as people."



Pictured are Cristina's children, Charlie and Eloise Marciani, with their first cousins, Hagan and Brady Morgan, sons of Kara and Cristina's sister, **Marisa Marciani Morgan '85**, who lives in Nashville as well, not far from Cristina. After over two decades as an executive in healthcare, Marisa recently made the big move to work for herself in real estate.

THE POWELLS

In Lexington, **Griggs Powell '87**, has been married for 17 years to Molly and they have three children, Maddie, ten; Eli, seven; and Gus, ten months. Griggs stays busy at work with his ad specialty company, Promotional Products Plus, and the merchandise vending company, Madd Merch, where one of his business partners is **John Johnson '87** *(pictured with Griggs, left)*.



Emphasizing that TLS connections run deep – whether in or out of the office, in or out of the Bluegrass – Griggs notes that his brother, **Huston Powell '83**, a music promoter in Austin, TX, frequently sees **David Parrish '88** and **Howard Carey '83**, both living in Austin as well. Griggs is also quick to point out that he loved being in Miss Bale's first grade: "She may have been my favorite teacher in my entire academic career. I fondly recall her Paddington Bear and all of his accessories, as well as her very warm and kind self, who always made me feel special."

After working for 12 years in New York City, **Caroline Powell '89** has moved back to Lexington. She was the corporate paralegal at Time Inc. and was fortunate to work with all the Southern Progress (*Southern Living, Coastal Living, Cooking Light*, etc.), Time4 Media Inc., Time Inc., and Time-Life publications. Way too busy to pick up a magazine herself, she dealt with licensing agreements and contracts; talent contracts; state, federal, and international corporate filings; acquisition agreements; talent/photographer contracts; and other corporate record maintenance and filing matters. Corporate and contractual agreements and filings were her bailiwick.

Agreeing with brother **Griggs '87**, Caroline affirms that, "Miss Bale, Program Readers, and Paddington definitely left a huge imprint on me, too." Reviewing her post-first grade years, Caroline continues, "The friendships I developed at TLS are ones that have stood the tests of time and distance. I am constantly reminded that these relationships are ones which remain reliable and true, despite the many changes throughout our lives."



THE WHITES

Greg White '87 has lived in Austin since moving in 1999 for graduate school at the University of Texas McCombs School of Business. He and wife Jenny have eight-year-old twins, Harper and Lucy, who love KY basketball, gymnastics, and country ham on beaten biscuits. Professionally, TLS set Greg up to be able to recognize, and then make the most of, opportunities as they present themselves. After working at Dell in various marketing roles for over nine years, he left four years ago to work at Commvault, a software company headquartered in New Jersey that focuses on data management and protection, and he is now their Director of Product Marketing.

From Deep in the Heart of Texas, Greg acknowledges, "Now that Harper and Lucy are approaching summer camp and middle school age – still a little ways off, thankfully – I have been thinking about the amazing experiences I had at Pine Mountain with teachers and friends. The value of the opportunity to be in the mountains, learning with friends and great teachers, in a safe and supportive environment can't be calculated and is a set of the core memories from my time at TLS that I will always treasure."



Fishermen throughout South Carolina enjoy fly tying classes taught by **Mark White '89** in Greenville, where he lives with wife Katherine and sons Henry, ten, and Lucas, eight.

As the fishing manager at Orvis, Mark has a job many TLSers would hanker to have, and he comes by it naturally. An Eagle Scout, like his brother **Greg '87**, and a professional geologist, Mark took up fly fishing in Southwest Montana while completing his geology degree at Sewanee. (Figure that one out!) He then began a career in environmental consulting that allowed him to fish throughout the United States while on environmental cleanup projects. Mark's main interest focuses on trout in smaller creeks and streams remotely located along the spine of the Appalachian Mountains of the Carolinas. Influenced, still, from his TLS science classes, Mark now shares with Henry and Lucas lessons not just in fishing but in wild flower identification, ornithology, entomology, and dendrology, as well as upland and wetland bird hunting.



***Pinpoints** thanks Brenda White, mother of Greg and Mark, for the idea to feature the 11 sets of siblings in the **Classes of 1987** and **1989**.*

Three Weddings and a . . .

TRIPLE CROWN WINNER!

Tom VanMeter had a scheduling problem. *A longtime horseman, Tom is owner of Lexington's Stock Place Farm, foaling site of Triple Crown winner American Pharoah. Tom was understandably proud in the Derby Winners' Circle, and excited for the next two legs of the Triple Crown. But Tom — dutiful uncle that he is — did not travel to Baltimore for the Preakness or to New York for the Belmont. That's because his niece got married on Preakness Day, and his nephew's wedding was on Belmont Day. The first Triple Crown winner in 37 years was trumped by TLS VanMeter family weddings.* Uncle Tom sure knows how to ***pick 'em.***



On May 16, 2015, **Anne VanMeter '03** and Rudy Leake of Richmond, KY, were married at the Church of the Good Shepherd, with Anne's brothers **George '97** and **Rick '00** as ushers. Afterward, the group gathered for a luncheon reception at Idle Hour Country Club with family and close friends. Anne is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and is in her final year of earning a second degree, in interior design, at UK. Anne and Rudy live in Lexington.

Rick VanMeter '00 and Whitney Headlee, of Louisville, were married on June 6, 2015. The ceremony and reception, with extended family and friends, were held at Whitney's family farm in Simpsonville, KY. **George VanMeter '97** served his brother as best man. VanMeter cousins (and Tom's sons) **Field '94**, **Griff '96**, and **Will-B '99**, and TLS pals **Stuart Hartley '00** and **McKay Moore '00** gave good TLS representation.

A graduate of Vanderbilt University, Rick keeps his TLS connections strong as Director of Communications for Congressman **Andy Barr '89** in Washington, DC, where Whitney and Rick live.





The wedding of Lee Ann and **Brian Weinberg '87** last September was reunion time for some of the **Class of '87** who have all attended or been part of each other's weddings. As they each have said, they share a most special friendship, rooted at TLS, that will last forever – an extra gift, along with the very best education available.

RIGHT Eric Ellingsen, Richard Peden, officiant; Brian Weinberg; Bob Gee, groomsman; Greg White, groomsman; and Joe Aldy, usher.

BELOW Richard and Denise Peden, Bob and Carolyn Gee, Greg White, Brian and Lee Ann Weinberg, Phelps Jackson, and Joe and Sarah Aldy. Also in attendance was Scott Chamberlin, at the Old Seelbach Bar.







Elizabeth Carey Nahra '86

"Those of us who were fortunate enough to go to The Lexington School with **Elizabeth Carey Nahra '86** remember and miss our beautiful, smart, strong, funny, and kind spark of a friend. She was a star athlete, inclusive and supportive classmate, a person with unshakable values, and a source of unforgettable fun and laughter. She will always be celebrated in the hearts of her many friends and admirers for the superlative girl she was, and honored as the woman, wife and mother she grew up to be. It is so fitting that she circled back to TLS as an involved and committed parent, and our love and prayers go out to Elizabeth's husband, Tyler, and their three wonderful, wonderful boys, Jake, Nick, and Woods. Thank you, Elizabeth, for being, simply, the best." — Members of the Class of 1986



Erik Patchell '04

Pinpoints offers deep sympathy to the family of **Erik Patchell '04**, who died on April 29, 2015, in McLean, VA. He was a star student on the TLS Chess Team, coached by Greg Gunn, who says, "Erik was a real anchor of our team, who could always be counted on to be in the top one or two competitors of his age range. Erik was a natural and went on to achieve grand master status."



At Tates Creek High School, Erik was a National Merit Finalist and state chess champion. He graduated *magna cum laude* from The Ohio State University. A CPA, Erik was senior financial analyst at Capital One Bank.

Vickie Russo, his second grade teacher, recalls, "He was such a bright young man. Erik was one of those children who was always hungry for knowledge. He loved learning new things and thoroughly enjoyed more challenging work in addition to his required class work."

Erik is survived by his parents, Molly Patchell and Dr. Roy Patchell, and his brother **Andrew Patchell '04**.

Marie Culpert



The Lexington School community mourns the death of Marie Culpert, TLS's first KinderKlasse teacher. Marie lost her inspirational battle against cancer on May 28, the eve of TLS graduation, especially poignant to her friends here. She lived in Rochester, MI, with husband Doug Gould and daughters Maggie and Lulu.

Dominique Metze, who co-taught that first KinderKlasse, speaks to the many who treasured Marie's humor, compassion, and friendship: "We connected from the moment we met; we genuinely enjoyed each other's company. She was a confident, developmental, and loving teacher. I admired her strong work ethic and her ability to relate to young children and their families with ease. Parents and children adored Marie."

Beth Phillips, mother of **Bo '10**, **Jack '12** *(shown with Ms. Culpert on his first day of school)*, and **Ellie '14**, who each benefitted from the exceptional Culpert/Metze teaching team, remembers Marie's hearty laugh and beaming smile: "She was a nurturing presence in the classroom, fresh and enthusiastic each year. It was clear that Marie genuinely enjoyed the children and thus her job. I remember a lot of laughs with her throughout those years."

Lesa Taylor

Pinpoints celebrates the vibrant and unforgettable life of Lesa Taylor, wife of Jamie, and mother of Jimmy, **Colby '17**, and **Will '20**. Lesa died on November 4, 2014, after a valiant, inspirational, two-year fight against breast cancer. Throughout The Lexington School's hallways she was known as an enthusiastic, hard-working volunteer and a solid and trusted friend who was always at the forefront of any responsibility she accepted or any fun she conjured. She especially enjoyed her work with the Annual Fund, because she knew her efforts gave back to the school she loved passionately. Lisa Gumm-Gray, Will's first grade teacher, spoke to Lesa's and her family's deep appreciation of the strength given by The Lexington School when she said, "They were overwhelmed by the tremendous outpouring of love and support shown by our TLS community."



STEPPING INTO THE FUTURE: IT'S NOT YOUR MOTHER'S SCHOOLHOUSE ANYMORE

His audience was entertained, inspired, and challenged by his thoughts, as he had created interest beforehand through his topic, "Design the Revolution: Preparing Students for This Century." Dr. John E. Chubb, president of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) spoke to a full house of Lexington School parents, faculty, staff, and friends, eager to learn from the noted, decades-long leader and policymaker in education.

Certainly in his element when discussing disparate methods of education, Dr. Chubb questioned and confronted the status quo, those who believe acceptance into the "right" college is the be-all and end-all. Looking at it from a different perspective, in animated fashion he regaled with intriguing and touching stories including Clayton Christensen's "Disrupting Class: How Disruptive Innovation Will Change the Way the World Learns" and Kevin Carey's "The End of College: Creating the Future of Learning and the University of Everywhere." He also drew upon Sir Ken Robinson's TED Talk, "How Schools Kill Creativity;" Frank Bruni's "Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be: An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania;" and Walter Isaacson's "The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses, and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution." Dr. Chubb's presentation was akin to a walk through the education section of the library.



As his listeners were taken with his wide-ranging interest and mastery of knowledge in the education field, he, too, was impressed with the creativity, teamwork, and curiosity he had observed earlier in the day during classroom visits. The innate enthusiasm shown for learning and for teaching compelled him to exclaim in a folksy, relaxed way, "Well, shut the front door twice!" The NAIS president clearly felt at home among his TLS friends.

While focused sharply toward the coming years and decades, Dr. Chubb also made it clear that much of the future of independent schools rests in its honored past. He said what The Lexington School has known since the dream of **Josephine Abercrombie (H'00)** came true in 1959 and what Mr. Baldecchi sees every day at 1050 Lane Allen Road, "The school community helps shape hearts and souls and the character of our kids. The greatest thing about independent schools is community."

THE LEXINGTON SCHOOL is a caring and nurturing environment where students can learn, take risks, and grow through classes and activities that inspire confidence, compassion, and courage. Our students leave The Lexington School comfortable in the world and ready for any challenge. Is it any wonder our students *Totally Love School?* Please consider giving because you Totally Love *this* School.

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Pin *Notes*

CLASS OF 1987



Watch out when **Taylor Davenport '87** comes to town. Some people equate Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach, NC, with an easy chair and a good, summer read. Not our man, Taylor. He's pictured here, finishing the Beach2Battleship Half Iron last October. His sister, **Kate Davenport Wisz '84**, gets in on the act too, as they log many a mile together for "fun" and for competition. It was probably all those laps he ran during PE at TLS that got Taylor where he is today.

Taylor works as an attorney and lives in Raleigh, not far from Kate, her husband David, and their 15-year-old triplets Emmy, Jimmy, and Woody. His crew includes two dogs, Knuckles Davenport and Pepper Karem, who's named for **Fred Karem '87**, with whom Taylor confesses he still plays D&D.

Congratulations to **Branch Harper Feagans '87** for completing her Master's in Reading Education this past May at the University of Virginia *(pictured with husband Robby and daughter Molly)*. Living in Richmond, Branch knows the city well, as she went to St. Catherine's there – where she just celebrated her 25th reunion – after TLS. She taught ESL in the Richmond City Public Schools until Molly was born on March 20, 2014. In a few years, she plans to return to teaching as a reading specialist.



On a recent visit back home, while Branch was taking a walk on Fincastle Road, she enjoyed running into Margaret Cowling and brushing up on some ancient history. As she says with an enthusiastic smile, "Miss Cowling made the subject of history come alive for all of us. She was a very influential teacher, and one of my favorites. I loved Jack Brost, too."

From Chapel Hill, NC, **Fred Karem '87** confesses, "It's hard to choose from so many years of good memories of classmates, teachers, and administrators, ranging from Mr. Pritchett's lifting us Lower Schoolers, one at a time, to retrieve candy from the Christmas wreath to our ninth grade class show."

He says, "One memory that helps encapsulate the TLS faculty's approach to teaching involves the 'Nature Preserve.' When the school expanded, around our fourth grade year, construction led to the creation of what, frankly, was a big pile of dirt. However, I believe that science teacher Tom Brown had the dirt preserved rather than relocated, and involved our class (and many others) in tracing its development as plants, insects, and animals slowly came to grow on and inhabit it. It was a terrific and engaging use of our immediate environment to instruct us, and I never again look at a big pile of dirt the same way!"

In Atlanta, **Jeanne Baker McDaniel '87** and husband Glenn stay happily busy with Baker, ten years old; Peter, eight; and Ella, six. Jeanne has been a nutritionist for almost 20 years, working in a variety of areas, but specializing in pediatrics and, more recently, in corporate wellness. She had an interesting opportunity recently to work with *The Doctors* TV show for their health intervention with Honey Boo Boo.



TLS families and fellow alumni familiar with the Atlanta dining scene recognize Glenn as the owner of two locations of the popular restaurant Slopes BBQ, known for Georgia-style southern BBQ.

Jeanne has told her kiddos stories of TLS days, emphasizing, at Christmastime, her "earliest memories of when Mr. Pritchett would carefully hold me up to get a piece of candy from the holiday wreath." She recalls, too, the Pine Mountain trips, "full of lots of fun memories as well!"

Splitting her time between Nashville and Montecito/Santa Barbara, CA, **Michelle Lambert Spiva '87** would love to reconnect with fellow TLSers in either locale.

She attended Vanderbilt for both undergraduate work and law school. After practicing law for about 15 years, she decided, instead, to focus on commercial real estate projects she and husband Nick have. It has been good timing and good fun, as the Spivas are enjoying Nashville's grand transformation these days.

Michelle has three fine stepsons – Nicky, 26; Will, 25; and Jack, 20 – but she and Nick are practically empty nesters, with Jack a junior at Tufts in Boston now. Nicky was home recently for a wedding, bringing five friends too, so the nest doesn't remain empty for long.

Thinking back to her school days, Michelle notes, "TLS will always hold a special place in my heart. Aside from the phenomenal education I received there, the faculty members were extremely loving and supportive during a time when I had a lot going on in my life. I love the school my children attended in Nashville, but I honestly don't think *any* school can measure up to TLS. It is truly an amazing place."

From CO, **Sheridan Issel Whipple '87** reports she and Rick, who works in the financial industry, have celebrated their 17th anniversary. They and 12-year-old Ben and daughter Addison, 10, *(pictured at baseball spring training in Arizona)* were in Lexington in February to take her 80-year-old grandpa to a UK basketball game (an Issel family tradition).



A TLS highlight of the trip back home, Sheridan exclaims, was that, "We had the awesome experience of visiting one of my favorite TLS teachers, Betty Cox. I talk about her all the time to my kids and how she was the one who made me love math. She was a great teacher and I'm blessed to be in touch with her still. She even told me to email her any difficult math issues Ben and Addison might have! TLS students, teachers, and administration will always hold a dear spot in my heart."



Representing the Bluegrass in the Boston area since 2002, **Alex Wolsk '87**, his wife, Nancy, and their two dogs live in Wakefield, MA. He works at Epsilon, an all-encompassing global marketing company, as a Lead Business Systems Analyst, currently focused on Kellogg's Family Rewards website. Nancy owns and runs a rapidly growing and successful dog walking/pet sitting business, Bow WOW Dog Walks. Alex and Nancy make it a tradition to get back to Lexington at least annually to catch up with family and friends *(and hit Keeneland in dapper fashion, if the timing's right, as in the photo above)*.

Alex remarks, "'Twice a year, we attend events with the Kentuckians of Boston, a wonderful group that celebrates all that is Kentucky for us 'displaced Kentuckians.'" The Wolsks welcome any TLS folks who might be in the Boston area, either as residents or tourists.

Echoing what others have related, Alex emphasizes, "My favorite memories of TLS were outside the school walls. Pine Mountain gave us a great opportunity to see a part of Kentucky most of us never would have known otherwise. It also allowed a bunch of young kids who wore khakis and collared shirts just about every day to get really muddy. The DC trip was simply a great time with my classmates. TLS put together a perfect tour of the city and surrounding area. I still feel sorry for the chaperones who had to watch over 'easily distracted' kids like me."

Pin *Notes*

CLASS OF 1989



Self-proclaimed Yo-Yo Ma wanna-be? Everybody knows in an instant: **Alex Bingcang '89**.

It also won't surprise folks to learn Alex's wife, Sarah, is a violinist and that he still plays the cello as avocation. In fact, he entertained recently at Paris's Bour-Bon Restaurant, run by **Joseph Clay '80**, brother of Alex's classmate and dear friend, **Chris Clay '89**.

Chris – Father Chris Clay – assisted in Alex and Sarah's wedding in 2004, with brothers **Oliver '88** as best man and **Christopher '90**, groomsman (along with **Regan McGee '89**). The Bingcang Family Quintet includes James, nine; Cate, seven; and two-year-old Lily.

Back in '96, Alex finished his Bachelor of Music in Cello Performance Degree from Vanderbilt. From 2007 to 2011, he served in the United States Air Force as staff physician at Wright-Patterson AFB. He is now a board-certified family physician in Cincinnati. "We are happy in Cincinnati and enjoy Skyline chili, and our favorite Graeter's ice cream flavor is black raspberry chocolate chip."

Remembering school, Alex says, "Fond memories of my TLS days were classes with Senora Kasperbauer. My friends and I sometimes got under her skin, but I truly enjoyed art and Spanish. I also recall the Arts Festivals in which the Noderers were instrumental. TLS provided a 'stage' to allow me to share my music, both classically and in rock music (Guns n' Roses)."



When they visit Lexington from the Baltimore, MD, area where they live, Jennifer and **Hal Black '89** and their children, Trey, Hadley, and Brigston, look forward to reconnecting with **Chris Johnson '89** and, perhaps, sitting in on one of his science classes.

They shared this photo of Trey, Brigston, and Hadley at Catoctin Mountain Park's Hog Rock in western Maryland, where the Blacks hiked to Cunningham Falls on Memorial Day.



Headley Butler '89 treasures his cadre of close TLS friends *(seen below supporting UK in TLS '89 style, with Hanly Ingram, Peter Cassidy, Scott Foster, Andy Barr)*, with whom he keeps in good contact still. Longtime resident of Washington, DC, he and wife Noa, on December 16, 2013, welcomed son Aleko Emilio Price Butler into the family.



When he's not busy trying to keep up with Aleko, Headley works for a sustainable real estate investment fund with his sister, Sarah Butler Stettinius, and gets to hang out with his other siblings, **Jamie Butler '93** and **Marcy Butler Compton '93**, frequently. He is also proud to report that, after intense therapy and hours of meditation, he has finally been able to put the last five minutes of the Kentucky/Wisconsin game behind him and is now ready for next season.

The car going from Three Chimneys to TLS has definitely been a case of déjà vu for **Case Clay '89**. He – now the driver instead of the passenger, of course – and Lorin have been regulars in carline for a number of years, with Anna in fifth grade; James in second; and Eleanor, Pre-K.



Looking back to *his* years in TLS classrooms, Case states emphatically, "From age five all the way through ninth grade at TLS, I feel like we never had a bad teacher. In fact, in all my years through school, including high school and college, the teachers who personally influenced me the most were the teachers at TLS, without any doubt."

When **Dr. Amanda Freeman '89** can't sleep at night, she's usually at the lab, studying how the brain regulates sleep.

By day, she is now a faculty member at Atlanta's Emory University, where she earned her PhD in neuroscience. As a lecturer in the Department of Neurology and Director of Undergraduate Studies and lecturer in the Center for the Study of Human Health, Amanda teaches classrooms filled with undergraduates, graduate students, and medical residents. As she observes, "Inspired by the wonderful teachers at TLS, I chose a career in teaching, albeit at the college level."

Amanda and husband, Scott Easley, and their "spoiled rotten" greyhound get together often with her parents, Connie and Warren Freeman, who moved to Atlanta a few years ago. A generation of TLSers knows Connie as the woman who wore more TLS hats than seemed possible – Middle School Head; Director of Admission; newsletter editor; teacher of fourth grade, social studies, history, and math.

Peter Gandolfo '89 says his job is grounded in solid principles of management guru Peter Drucker, "the man who invented management." With Drucker's Un/Workshop consulting service, Peter works with leaders from eBay, Bloomingdale's, Coca-Cola, and JCPenney.

Before Drucker, Peter was with Mattel's marketing team for five years, promoting the Barbie brand, developing and marketing fashion dolls and accessories for girls around the world. He traveled to 17 countries, launching toys, movies, and consumer products.



Peter says, "I've been with my now-husband Andrew Paskoff for five years. Andrew works in reality television production. We married on the Highline in New York City on September 1, 2012. A little over a year later, we welcomed our son Matthew into our family through adoption. *(Pictured at Oregon's Multnomah Falls in May)*

Peter stays in touch with TLS: on a recent trip back home from Los Angeles, he and Matthew had a good visit with Mrs. Kasperbauer. As Peter says, "It was a real treat to reconnect after 26 years." He also remembers, "my first grade teacher, Mrs. Meekins, who read to our class after lunch, complete with unique voices for every character; musical productions spearheaded by Mr. and Mrs. Noderer; an outdoor adventure to Colorado with Mr. Hardesty; and my first trip out of the country, thanks to Madame Charron and Madame Mills."

Jimmy Houston '89 speaks eloquently of his TLS experience: "It would be an understatement to say The Lexington School had a significant and positive impact on my education and growth as a leader. TLS builds Renaissance boys and girls who grow into dynamic leaders that have solid footholds of knowledge in multiple disciplines. Even though I left midway through seventh grade, TLS gave me the trajectory and zeal to embrace learning as a powerful tool. The confidence gained and pride endued for having matriculated with such an amazing and diverse group of students remain with me today."



Since leaving TLS, Jimmy completed high school at St. John Lutheran in Ocala, FL, and earned his BS in Biology/Animal Sciences from Auburn. He embarked on a career in pharmaceutical sales with Merck and GlaxoSmithKline, and is currently Senior Director of Clinical Sales and Training for Stereotaxis, a medical device company specializing in robotic heart procedures.

Though Jimmy hadn't been in touch with TLS since 1987, his recollections are vivid: *Slumber parties out at the farm with all the guys; the houseboat at Herrington Lake and riding three-wheelers on the farm with Chris Johnson; carpools and next-door-neighbors with Clay Neuman, making snow cream, riding go-carts; dropping helicopter seeds from the roof at Peter Cassidy's house; Katie Jackson's kindness and competitiveness; trading Scratch n Sniff stickers in third grade with Caroline Powell; how much all the guys idolized Griggs Powell, Josh Hopkins, and John Johnson's athleticism; Teddy Gay's amazing back yard and wonderful family; those cans of Brunswick stew were delicious!*

Kathleen Eastland gave me the biggest hug on my last day there, telling me I'd be missed. I was too teared-up to thank her, but it meant the world to me. For a long time after I left TLS, it was a challenge to find one *fellow student who was as impressive and commanding/worthy of respect as* any one *of my TLS classmates.*

Miss Cowling, B, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. K., and Madame Charron took such an individualized interest in my success. I still remember one-on-one conversations that outlined a plan for my growth, and the subsequent shared joy when I completed a project/scored well on a test. I have revisited their belief in me many times throughout my life.

Thank you, TLS; you've been a missed, old friend!

Jimmy lives in Decatur, GA, with his wife, Allison, and their two daughters, seven-year-old Genevieve and Tipton, five.

Hanly Ingram '89 lives in Lexington with his wife, Heather, and their two young sons, and serves as U.S. Magistrate Judge in London, KY. Hanly's closest friends remain those he made at TLS, particularly classmates **Andy Barr**, **Peter Cassidy**, **Scott Foster**, and **Teddy Gay**. *(Peter actually introduced Hanly to Heather at a party at Andy's house)*. Hanly remembers Miss Cowling's enthusiasm in history class as his earliest inspirational moment at TLS.



The group vacationed together in California, and the photo above shows the gathering Scott Foster describes on page 21. Around the grand table are Teddy Gay, Courtney Foster, Scott Foster, Hanly Ingram, Heather Ingram, Andy Barr, Carol Barr, Peter Cassidy, **Laurel Johnston Cassidy '88**, Jennifer Reynolds, and Evan Reynolds. (Jennifer and Evan feel they are TLSers via osmosis.)



Thinking of Miss Cowling as he sports his Kentucky shirt at the Parthenon, **Chad Massie '89** knows he's always close to his alma mater. Still living in DC – for 15 years now – Chad, TLS Commencement speaker in 1998, is in his 16th year of working in educational technology. He admits he reflects "often, these days, upon all the wonderful performance opportunities we had as students; musicals, festivals of the arts, speech classes, playing on various athletic teams. In my roles leading teams and building organizational culture, the diversity and consistency of those experiences have proven invaluable to me in my professional life."

"The Force Will Be With You, Always!" That phrase still makes numerous alumni and teachers think instantly of **Regan McGee '89**.

It was Regan's good fortune to walk into Barbara Bale's first grade class, beginning years of warm camaraderie. He recounts, "She remains one of the most influential teachers in my life. Her simple creativity in engaging a six-year-old's brain was astonishing. Who doesn't remember Paddington Bear? I begged to get to school early in those days, just to be the first to see if Paddington had moved or had acquired new furniture. Miss Bale inspired the love of learning in me through this very simple, yet effective, technique."



After Vanderbilt, with **Peter Cassidy '89** and **Alex Bingcang '89** on his freshman dorm hall, Regan *(pictured with daughter Kyra)* headed to Los Angeles, where he landed his dream job. Coming to a TLS magazine near you: the story of how Regan went to work for Industrial Light and Magic!



"Who would know we could have predicted everyone's future by the third grade at TLS?"

Even back then, **Clay Neuman '89** says, it was recognizable. Vividly, he remembers "sharing the stage with classmates **Andy Barr**, **Regan McGee**, and **Alex Bingcang** in our power group, The Strangers. We sold 'tens' of individually recorded cassettes for *Live at Barr's*. Andy's ability to deliver a message continues as Congressman for Central Kentucky. Regan went to work for Industrial Light and Magic, and, at one point, Alex was first or second chair cello for the Page and Plant tour."

And throughout his run at TLS, Clay and **Chris Johnson '89**, "made huge efforts to be trendsetters at TLS in the mid-'80s: Lower School (the reintroduction of the yo-yo); Middle School (lacrosse); and Upper School (skate boarding, Chuck Taylor All-Stars). Powell-Peralta had nothing on us."

From his office at Vision Entertainment, the music services company he founded which focuses on artist development, Clay says, "I am blessed to live in Nashville with my beautiful wife, Liza, and our precious girls, Mabry, nine, and Sara Frances, seven."

Inspired early on by Don Noderer, TLS music maestro, **Stan Rosenbaum '89** says "Nodie," as Stan affectionately refers to his former teacher, encouraged him to delve into music composition. Look where that led. A 2000 graduate of Boston's Berklee College of Music with a double major in Film Scoring and Music Synthesis, he worked for WUKY/NPR, producing WUKY Live, Volume I CD. Then a 2007 graduate of Carnegie Mellon with a Master of Entertainment Technology Degree, Stan also created audio for the computer-animated short film *Don't Feed the Birds*.

As Stan currently pursues a Master's in computer science at UK, focusing on user interface and accessibility issues, he thanks Ann Eames and Jennifer Stith, "for helping to improve my English skills (even if it drove me crazy at the time). When I am doing 'serious' writing, the results have always been several degrees higher than my peers."



Dave(y) Santen '89 knows TLS pals stick together: "I'm reminded of TLS every morning as I enjoy coffee out of my TLS **Class of 1989** stoneware mug. When one of my kids knocked it off the counter a few months ago, I posted a picture of the shattered relic online. A few weeks later, a mysterious package appeared: a mint-condition Class of '89 replacement mug, courtesy of classmate **Hal Black**."

Dave lives in Portland, OR, with wife Michaela, ten-year-old daughter Scout, and sons Dashiell, eight, and Harper, five *(pictured with Dad)*. His eldest son, Manfred, 19, also lives in Portland.

Dave works as a writer, and recently joined the corporate communications team at the gas utility NW Natural, where he writes speeches and covers environmental issues. He is also co-authoring a book on "green infrastructure" approaches to stormwater management.

Dave recently caught up with **Prentiss Douglass '89** on his quick visit to Portland, exchanging TLS news, and, from time to time, Dave bumps into his former upper school English teacher, Ann Eames, who lives nearby, and who played an important role in his development as a writer.

Over that cup of coffee in the "new" old mug, Dave affirms, "I had so many great teachers over the years at TLS, and so many great friends."



With three-quarters of his family at TLS every day, **Tommy Slabaugh '89** feels as though he's never really left. His wife, Shelley, first grade teacher, and their sons, **Sammy '18** and **Charlie '20**, keep Tommy current with today's TLS, and, for the second generation, school traditions are still prominent within the Slabaugh home.

A Lexington urologist, Tommy follows in family footsteps there as well. He is quick to give credit to Margaret Cowling, who had the greatest impact on his continued education. From her history class, he gained his solid foundation, built on exceptional note taking and study skills. Those traits served him well at Dartmouth and at the UK College of Medicine. He is forever grateful to her.

Tommy keeps in close touch with "the usual suspects" among his fellow classmates, who still laugh about the good times when they were at TLS, "just a few years ago."



Lisa Smith '89 studied art history as an undergrad at Miami University and as a graduate student both at The Ohio State University and The Graduate Center, CUNY, with hopes of teaching on the collegiate level. She progressed halfway through her PhD, and plans took a different turn. She is at the college level now, though in another area, and not teaching; she is a fundraiser for the College of Engineering at Oklahoma State University.

She still feels the influence of TLS, saying, "I am grateful to Mrs. Ireland for nurturing my love of reading, and to Miss Cowling for encouraging me to learn more about the world." An enthusiastic traveler who warmly remembers the ninth grade trip each time she visits Washington, DC, she also adds, "I am always grateful to Madame Charron whenever I find myself in a French-speaking country." Most importantly, she declares, "To this day, my best friends are those I made at TLS."

3 CHEERS
FOR ANNA MERRITT

Anna Merritt cheers for The Lexington School as much as her cheerleaders do. For Ms. Merritt – mother of **Cleve '14** and **Savannah '18**, TLS physical education and health teacher, cheerleading and tennis coach – cheering comes naturally. In 1998, Ms. Merritt began coaching TLS cheerleaders. Emphasizing inclusiveness and noncompetitiveness from third grade through eighth, she notes, "No one is cut; the program is open to all."

Showing much enthusiasm, 50 to 60% of younger girls eagerly wear TLS's green-and-white cheerleading uniform and share gym floor time with Oakley, the Colts' mascot. Ms. Merritt encourages everyone to cheer, since cheerleaders heighten school spirit and camaraderie. When students decide to take their cheers to a higher level, she ensures they receive necessary outside instruction to develop all-star cheerleader experience. A decade before Mission Skills Assessment, Ms. Merritt accentuated teamsmanship, underscoring, "The TLS Cheer Squad is a team where all kids are welcome and work together to achieve shared goals. In cheerleading, that goal is to be the best you can be by working closely with friends to develop a support system that encourages others to perform to their maximum potential. All our teams benefit by being cheered by TLS Cheer Squads!"

Ms. Merritt has led cheers and cheerleaders since she was not much older than her current students. Beginning at 15, a high school junior, she coached a recreation team. By 18, she had founded the Bluegrass Tiger Cheerleading Squad, operating through Bluegrass Gymnastics. With early age focus and determination, Ms. Merritt dedicated weekends and holidays to her cheer squads. She developed Kentucky's inaugural all-star program, competing in the first national all-star competition held in the United States.

An internationally known and respected all-star coach, Ms. Merritt has seen her cheer squads win 13 National Championships, and she has traveled the world with her cheer Tigers. Each team was chosen in the spring, always with waitlists. She coached two all-star teams – youth and high school – concurrently, while choreographing for local and state high schools. She has participated in every national competition and has won every title.

Ms. Merritt has coached cheerleaders as young as five years old, many of whom continued to cheer for her through high school. She emphasizes, "I always encourage them to cheer for their schools as well as for our program, because that is where they gain tools that make them true cheerleaders. Competition is important and rewarding, but life skills are developed and maintained through ups and downs and created with school friends and support of the school's administration and mission."

Varsity Cheerleading Association is America's cheer capital, an umbrella for many companies. In addition to TLS responsibilities, Ms. Merritt is a Varsity head judge, traveling numerous weekends annually to judge the best of the best throughout the country. She has attended eight Thanksgiving Day Parades, including Macy's and Foley's in Houston, where she had a select number of





CLOCKWISE FROM THE RIGHT
Ellie Webb '14, left, and her squad mates listen to Coach Merritt's pointers; **Audrey Akers '04**, second from right, brings enthusiasm to the TLS gym; **Mia Moross '02** and Coach Merritt work on the proper stretch.



ABOVE Proficient cheerleaders win the trophy in 2003. *BELOW* Coach Merritt's cheerleaders take their talent to impressive heights; **Mary Van Meter '04** embodies TLS cheer enthusiasm.

girls chosen each year to perform. Her Tiger cheerleaders remain a tight-knit group, having experienced life's joys and heartaches together through adolescence, marriage, births, and deaths. Ms. Merritt now judges children of her former students, as the second generation travels through the cheer circuit.

Audrey Akers '04 was a member of Ms. Merritt's first TLS cheer squad. Now at her Dallas office as personal aide to Mrs. Laura Bush, Audrey recalls her TLS cheering days warmly and vividly: *I remember when Ms. Merritt first agreed to spearhead TLS's cheerleading program. The school hadn't offered cheerleading for quite a while, and the only gym time available was 6:45 AM. Most students and parents seemed shocked at the idea of morning sports practice, but early hours didn't faze Ms. Merritt. Her no-nonsense attitude was obvious from the start — and essential when dealing with middle school girls. She hit the ground running, ordering practice mats, choreographing routines from scratch, bringing in a tumbling coach, and pulling music from her all-star contacts. It was clear if Ms. Merritt was going to coach a team, she was going to do it right.*

I have fond memories of those countless pre-dawn hours with Ms. Merritt, a smile on her face and a bran muffin in hand (before organic food was a trend). Her coaching style taught more than cheerful chants and cartwheels; she taught discipline, drive, and persistence. She was thrilled when you threw that first, terrifying back-handspring (that she knew for weeks you could do by yourself). But she was also the first to follow with feedback on how to improve. If you were going to do a high-V, arms were to be straight. If you were going to do a toe-touch, toes were to be pointed. Ms. Merritt is a perfectionist, and taught us to embrace feedback, the quickest, most efficient way to improve. I am grateful to have had Ms. Merritt as a coach, and even more grateful to have her as a mentor and friend.

From last year's squad, **Ellie Webb '14** speaks to intergenerational closeness that forms through cheerleading: *Being at TLS since KinderKlasse, I have always had Ms. Merritt as part of my life — as cheer coach, advisor, teacher, and, most importantly, friend. She always pushed our team to be our best, whether that meant bringing in someone from UK to help us learn new tricks or repeating a cheer over and over until the motions were nearly perfect, instilling a strong work ethic in us all. She was even willing to come to school an hour early with bran muffins to coach us, a sacrifice she was happy to make. As an advisor, she offered sage advice on academics or our social lives; she was ready to lend an ear whenever we needed. On the Southwest Trip, she encouraged us to try new things and push our boundaries, and explained that coming out of our comfort zone is a good thing, making the trip even more fun. Still, after I have gone on to high school, Ms. Merritt is someone I can talk to about anything. I am so happy I had her as a teacher and have her as a friend.*





Pausing on the gym floor to recall years of coaching both her TLS and Tiger cheerleaders, Ms. Merritt shares thoughts of the inestimable rewards of lifetime friends and the deep knowledge that she has made an unforgettable difference in the lives of her girls. She says with heartfelt emotion, "I have received more than I have given to cheerleading."

As some have described Anna Merritt: *No Fear, All Cheer.*





CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE Chairs Woodford and Kelli Webb; Michelle Harrison, Dominique Metze, Jaci Sloan, Tracy Hetman; **Josephine Abercrombie (H'00)**, Jim Harper.



let a thousand stars shine

celebration 2015







LEFT, CLOCKWISE Amanda Hale, Quisha Ray; Britteni Clay, Heather Broadbent, Kelli Webb; Meredith Clark, Britteni Clay, **Isabel deCamargo Ladd '00**, Julia Armstrong.

RIGHT, CLOCKWISE Alison Bailey, Susan Monohan, Kristin Sajadi, Jory Karthikeyan; **Barbara Cohen Rubin '89**, Tomi Anne Pulliam; Una MacCarthy, Beth Pride; Joy Robyn Fenwick, Kelli Webb.

The stars aligned at CELEBRATION 2015 for Chairs Kelli and Woodford Webb, parents of **Ford '17** and **Greer '20**. The Webb family felt the theme, Let a Thousand Stars Shine, was an apt "metaphor for The Lexington School community and its collective awesomeness of many individual, brightly shining stars – students, parents, faculty, administrators, board members, and friends of TLS."

Not content to squeeze all of CELEBRATION fun into just one evening, the Webbs began celebrating a week early. Silent Auction opened in the Little Gym on Little Kentucky Derby Day, complete with a Chef Ryan-special "Derby" breakfast in the Arts Wing. Spirited shopping via text, a CELEBRATION tradition now, kept cell lines buzzing from that morning until CELEBRATION night, the following Friday.

Erin and Chuck Baldecchi, **Josephine Abercrombie (H'00)**, and the Webbs greeted the 500+ guests, who immediately were drawn into the excitement of supporting The Lexington School. Buffet lines moved briskly for the delectable Apiary dinner by Cooper Vaughan, who returned with particular menu requests from last year, including the especially popular oatmeal sandwich cookies. For the second time and inside a bigger tent than ever, Field Ladd starred as auctioneer. Each Live Auction item close was punctuated with a bottle of Graham Beck Champagne, which had "shooting stars" from a sparkler in the top of the bottle, delivered to the table of the winning bidder. The Webbs and their enthusiastic committee had reached for – and captured – the stars for Live Auction items, and the totals went way over the top. After the last bid was made, the nationally known Spazmatics cranked it up and got everybody onto the dance floor.

When the final tally was figured, to starstruck response, Kelli and Woodford were proud to announce that The Lexington School students were fortunate beneficiaries of a record shattering $372,000!



FROM MONTESSORI TO BOARDING SCHOOL, TLS STUDENTS ARE NURTURED ALL ALONG

The Lexington School provides a nurturing environment that allows children to feel confident. This is not only stated in the first line of the Philosophy Statement, but rings true throughout the entire TLS Experience.

TLS's explicitly planned Montessori program allows students to take advantage of all aspects and benefits Montessori has to offer. The Daily 5 component EEKK (elbow-to-elbow and knee-to-knee partner reading) is an important element of the traditional curriculum Montessori III students enjoy in the afternoons at TLS. Donna Hutton, Director of Preschool, explains that adding the traditional curriculum to the Montessori day exposes students to the same curriculum they will experience in first grade, emphasizing, "It provides a solid leg up for the smooth transition into Lower School; it has made a huge difference in the transition into first grade. Today, it is second nature to both students and teachers to weave these programs together, and it makes TLS's Montessori program unique."



Montessori II students Rhys Fraser and John Camden Clay *(pictured)* demonstrate Maria Montessori's teaching at its best. Rhys asks to start his number roll after watching Montessori III boys. John Camden observes Rhys in action, then asks if *he* can begin one. Rhys, who hopes to get to 1,000 by summer's end while working at home, says he will teach John Camden how to do it for the first time. Peer teaching and mentoring are cornerstones of the Montessori method, and both children benefit when this occurs. Friendships, such as this between Rhys and John Camden and between Poppy and Tori, are often formed through shared interests.



Poppy Karthikeyan and Tori Tovar, Montessori III, are experts at EEKK.

At the other end of the TLS adventure, alumni are vigorous and vocal advocates of the solid friendships that began in their classrooms and hallways. Students form lasting bonds not just with each other, but, importantly too, with their teachers. For those students away at boarding school, the alumni office continues the popular tradition of sending surprise care packages.



Jack Cline '14, freshman at Blue Ridge School in the foothills of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, finds home is closer than he thinks, as he receives his TLS box *(pictured)*, filled with a wide variety of treats. Tucked carefully among the Girl Scout cookies, Ale-8-Ones, popcorn, and the new addition this year of Kentucky Derby glasses, is the most special gift of all: a bundle of letters, notes, and cards, handwritten with love, from faculty and staff of The Lexington School.

From Montessori to high school and beyond, TLSers find themselves still practically *elbow-to-elbow* and *knee-to-knee*.

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The Lexington School admits students of any race, religion, color, sex, national, or ethnic origin.

From *The Archives*



On The Lexington School's inaugural fourth grade trip to Frankfort in February 1984, the **Class of 1989** posed in the rotunda of the Kentucky State Capitol. Teachers Tom Brown and Mark Scarr *(both, back center)* led the class, along with a good number of mothers. Lieutenant Governor Steve Beshear *(left)* greeted the group for Governor Martha Layne Collins. "I remember the day well," reflected Mr. Brown recently. "The students were so excited. It was a great group of children." For a photograph of the 32nd annual Frankfort trip, turn to page 14. For a recap on the Class of 1989, see page 30.