

A photograph of three children playing in a field of fallen autumn leaves. The child on the left is a girl with brown hair, wearing a red shirt, a grey vest, and a grey skirt, with her arms raised. The child in the middle is a girl with blonde hair, wearing a red shirt and black pants, also with her arms raised. The child on the right is a boy with brown hair, wearing a red shirt and khaki pants, with his arms raised and a joyful expression. They are all surrounded by a thick layer of brown and orange leaves. In the background, there are trees with green and yellowing leaves, and a swing set is visible. The overall scene is bright and cheerful, capturing a moment of autumn fun.

# *the* talon

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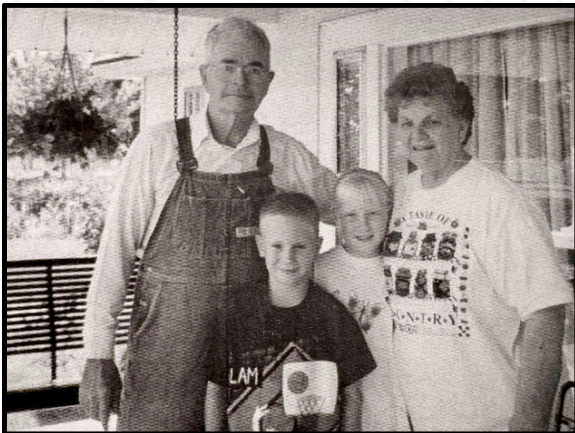
# from the Head

What started out as Armistice Day in 1919 under the Wilson administration to remember the brave soldiers during World War I, changed to Veterans Day in 1954. Veterans Day is a day to say “thank you” to and remember the many men and women who have served our nation.

While in middle school, I was tasked with writing a paper on a hero of mine. The suggestion was to focus on someone who had served in the military. As I browsed through my family’s mental rolodex, I came across uncles and cousins who had served our country. Eventually, I landed on my grandmother’s husband, Archie Cook.

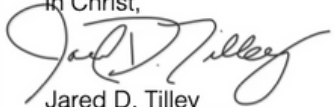
Archie lived a simple life as a farmer in the panhandle of Florida, growing pine trees. His farm was always a joy to visit, with acres of land and free reign on a golf cart. Archie was a quiet man who didn’t enjoy riding faster than 35 miles per hour or taking breaks from work except for meals, which my grandmother would make wonderfully. As for Archie’s early life, I only knew bits of one story, which I focused on for my middle school paper. Archie served in the United States Army during World War II. He participated in the Mediterranean invasion of Italy. Upon arriving in Italy, he was captured and held as a prisoner of war. He was released at the end of the war and returned to Florida to continue farming.

I have no idea how I turned that information into a paper, but that’s all I knew then and now. Every Veteran’s Day, I think about Archie and his service to our country. My mind fills in the gaps in the story, wondering what he thought as he approached Italy, what prayers he said



while a prisoner, and what his reaction was upon returning home. These are questions I wish I had asked him while he was still with us. While Archie stands out in my mind as a simple and determined farmer, he also has a remarkable story of serving in World War II. Through that story, he has become a hero in my mind, worthy of remembrance on Veteran’s Day.

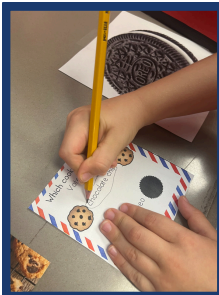
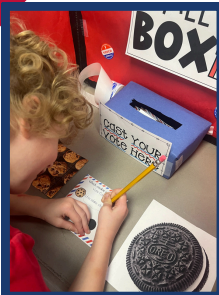
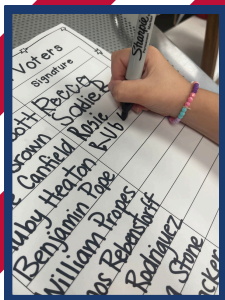
Thank you to all who served in our armed services dedicated to protecting the liberties we enjoy!

In Christ,  
  
Jared D. Tilley



# HAPPY *cookie* ELECTION DAY

5 NOVEMBER 2024



On election day, our kindergarten class held its own special very important vote to choose the ultimate cookie: Chips Ahoy or Oreo. With paper ballots and a mock polling station, students excitedly cast their votes, learning about the importance of decision-making and civic participation.

As the ballots were counted, anticipation filled the room. The results? Chips Ahoy won by a landslide! Cheers erupted as students enjoyed their victory snack, while Oreo supporters vowed to try again next time. The fun activity showed our students that voting is meaningful, whether for cookies or real-life decisions.



TENNESSEE  
CHRISTIAN  
PREPARATORY  
SCHOOL

# FOOD DRIVE

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Working the 2024 Food Drive with our National Honor and Junior Honor Societies this past week has left me humbled and grateful. I feel as though I have seen the heart of our TCPS Family, and what a beautiful sight that is! The students worked hard making posters and announcements, writing Talon articles and emails, and organizing the work schedule themselves. They showed up early before school and stayed late after school, greeting families and collecting donations. Through your generous donations and the hard work of our students, we not only met our goal of filling 25 bags, we doubled it! When I pulled up to the donation site, the volunteers were amazed at what our little school was able to achieve, with more than one saying that we were able to bring in as much as, if not more than, many much larger organizations. Thank you all for your loving generosity. Because of you, many families in the Cleveland area will go to bed at night with full bellies and the full knowledge that they are loved and cared for!

Written by April Sopczak



# DEAR ALBERT EINSTEIN



This past week 10th-12th grade students were invited to see Lee University Theatre present *Dear Albert Einstein*, a heartwarming musical about a young girl trying to reinvent herself as she moves up to high school. She leaves behind her love for science and math to be one of the 'cool' girls. Unfortunately for her, an imaginary Albert Einstein keeps getting in the way.

Lee University once again put on a fantastic show full of laughter and unforgettable performances. After the show, our students enjoyed a spectacular lunch in the Lee University Dining Hall. We ended the day with a Q&A with the cast and crew, where our students learned what it takes to put on such an amazing performance. In addition, our students were able to preview the Blackbox Theatre where our Fall play, *Almost Maine* will be performed.

Written by Matthew Mullins



★★★★★  
**5 STAR RATING**



Last Friday, our 4th and 5th graders had the opportunity to visit a local movie theater to watch *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. This outing was not only an enjoyable experience, full of popcorn, but also a good practice for certain life skills. While at the theater, our students demonstrated excellent behavior, showcasing their respect, patience, and courtesy—qualities that are values we uphold at Tennessee Christian. The trip was also a platform for reinforcing good manners in public spaces, such as

listening, polite interactions, and responsibility for personal space. The movie, with its heartwarming story centered on the true meaning of Christmas and the profound message of Jesus' love for all, resonated with our students and brought a reminder of the reason for the upcoming Christmas season.



# *this weekend* **HOMECOMING HAPPENINGS**

**FRIDAY**

**15**

## **PEP RALLY**

2:00 PM, TCPS GYM

**15**

## **TAILGATE**

4:30-6:00 PM, TCPS PARKING LOT

**15**

## **BASKETBALL GAMES**

6:00 PM, GIRLS' GAME  
HOMECOMING COURT  
7:30 PM, BOYS' GAME

**SATURDAY**

**16**

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL MIXER MASQUERADE**

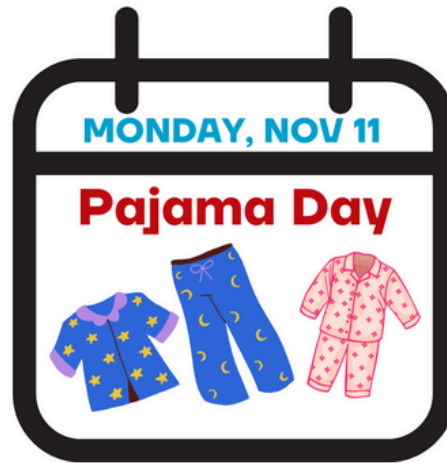
6:00-8:00 PM, TCPS GYM

**16**

## **AN EVENING UNDER THE STARS: UPPER SCHOOL DANCE**

6:30-8:30 PM, THE BARN AT HICKORY HILLS

# HOMECOMING WEEK DRESS UP DAYS



# HOMECOMING DAYS

## MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL

Monday

Pajama Day



Tuesday

Christmas Day



Wednesday

Color Battle

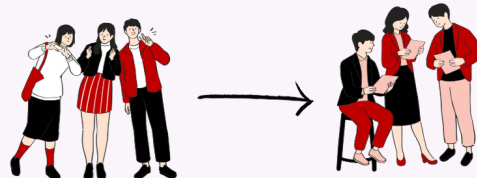


6th 7th 8th

9th 10th 11th 12th

Thursday

My Future Self

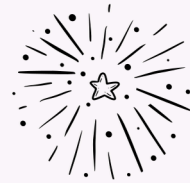


Friday

Spirit Day



*School Spirit*





FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

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# THANKSGIVING FEAST

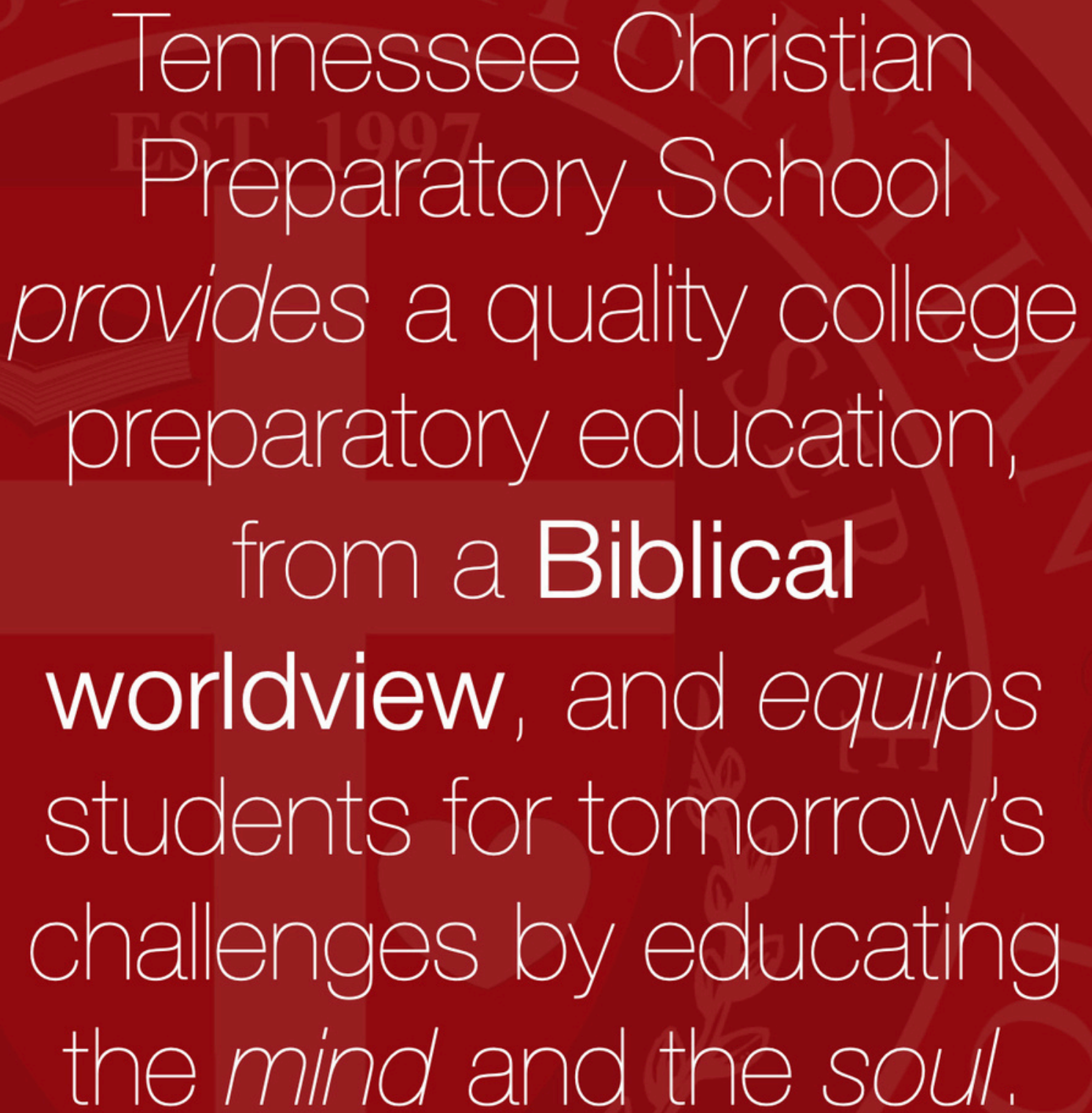
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11:00 - LOWER SCHOOL | 12:30 - MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL



LEE  
UNIVERSITY

# A TOP-TIER, CHRIST-CENTERED EXPERIENCE



Tennessee Christian  
Preparatory School  
*provides a quality college  
preparatory education,  
from a **Biblical  
worldview**, and equips  
students for tomorrow's  
challenges by educating  
the *mind* and the *soul*.*