

A black and white photograph of graduates in academic regalia hugging in front of a large pipe organ. The graduates are seen from behind, wearing dark gowns and mortarboard caps. They are embracing each other in a celebratory manner. In the background, a large, ornate pipe organ with many tall, thin pipes is visible, set within a wooden frame. The organ has a decorative crest at the top center. The overall scene is one of joy and accomplishment.

the talon

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from the Head

I recently read a poem by a Georgia writer and poet, A. Shea Writer.


A mother's heart
is never her own.
Bits of it are sown
into the souls
of her daughters
and her sons

The poem beautifully illuminates the profound love of mothers, drawing parallels to the sacrificial love exemplified by Christ. As we celebrated Mother's Day this past Sunday, I found myself contemplating the boundless depth of a mother's affection, which transcends personal desires to form a sacred connection between parent and child. In the remarkable mothers in my life—my mother, Angie; my mother-in-law, Rhonda; and my wife Victoria, the mother of our three children—I witness this selfless spirit firsthand. They devote themselves wholeheartedly to loving their children, developing

compassionate hearts, and nurturing faith through their embodiment of Christ's love.

My family and I are so thankful for the thoughts and prayers that our community has offered for my mother since her stroke in January. Being able to worship in church with her this Mother's Day was a gift. We are thankful for God's continued healing hand on her!



In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley

Senior COMMISSIONING AND COMMENCEMENT



If you are losing hope in the upcoming generation of world leaders, look no further than these eight graduates and your perspective will surely change. Each one is individually strong in his/her own way and has left an indelible mark on our Tennessee Christian campus. During Commissioning on Friday, we



honored their academic accomplishments, but also their individual strengths. There were tears and chuckles as teachers stood at the podium and honored each student individually and publicly. This is what makes Tennessee Christian different - the personal relationship we get to develop with each student and their families. We know them. We can read their faces when they walk through our classroom doors. We carry them in our hearts and prayers.



Commencement on Saturday was the perfect culmination of thirteen years of hard work by these students. We began the day in a “Hawk huddle” of prayer before entering the ceremony and ended by sending them out with individual prayers and blessings. The ceremony itself was truly a celebratory event with an inspiring exhortation by Dr. Gary Riggins to stay connected to God and to those



around you as Jesus teaches in Matthew 22. “Loving God and others is what life is truly all about,” said Riggins. “I have discovered that love, the binding agent in these two relationships, is the source of everything you need to be successful, happy, and healthy.” If we can send these students into the world with this truth - that accolades and awards are not determining factors of real success, but love that is a fruit of the Spirit inside them - there is absolutely hope for the future.



St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital

Finding cures. Saving children.

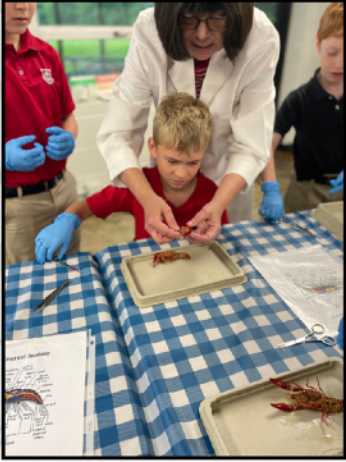


After several weeks of planning and getting permission, four second-grade Tennessee Christian students took on a sweet mission to support the research at St. Jude. With aprons, determination, and a little parental help, they baked dozens of delicious cookies, each batch full of love and hope. Emilia Rodriguez, Iris Tilley, Madeleine Naquin, and Everly Workman worked diligently at recess and lunch to organize the details of their big cookie plan. They decided who the bakers would be, who would make the signs, who would package cookies, who would collect money and they had a contingency plan if they didn't sell out the first day.

On the big day, they worked their cookie booth during lunch and got to experience a "working lunch break." It was a joyful experience to watch them pour their hearts into such a wonderful cause. Their big hearts were the best tool they had to provide a lovely donation to St. Jude Children's Research! Way to go, ladies! And thank you, TCPS, for your support!



LOWER SCHOOL DISSECTION DAY



"Science is disgusting but fun!" This statement was made by our second grade class as they dissected starfish last Friday. Every year our lower school students are invited to the middle school science class to take part in a dissection. Each year students dissect something more advanced than the year before. This is a great learning experience for the enjoyment of each student as well as a tool of preparation for middle and upper school. At first, some students were hesitant but as their curiosity grew, they wanted to know what was inside their specimen. By the end of the session, all of the students were busy dissecting. Students were excited to look at samples under the microscope. Judging from the excitement level, expressions on faces, and the fact that no one threw up, we count this as a very successful day!

FAMILY FUN DAY



As we near the end of our fantastic school year, I could not think of a better way to celebrate all of our students hard work and dedication than with loads of fun! While families gathered to cheer on their kids and many delighted themselves in water balloon shenanigans, there was nothing short of joy shown on every face. From obstacle courses to balancing water cups on heads, we were so happy to be a part of a full day of healthy competition, loads of bonding, and refreshing ice pops to cool us down.

We want to give a huge thank you to Joanna Butler for organizing the event, our FTO, and all the parents volunteering as game leaders for making Family Fun Day so enjoyable.

UPPER
SCHOOL'S

Day with Dolly



A watercolor illustration of Alice in Wonderland, featuring a girl with blonde hair in pigtails, wearing a blue dress with a white collar and a blue bow. She is holding a small white object. The background is white with blue and yellow watercolor splatters.

**Tennessee Christian
Fine Arts Department**

presents

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

**May 18th
at 6:00pm
Lee University
Dixon Center**

**To purchase tickets:
423.567.8277
jblaylock@tcpsk12.org**

**VIP Tickets: \$25
General Admission: \$15
TCPS Student: \$5**

LOWER SCHOOL
PARENTS: YOU'RE
INVITED!

LOWER SCHOOL
TALENT
SHOW

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024
STARTS AT 12:30 PM

SAVE *money time stress* NOW

Do your school supply shopping in less time than it takes to get the kids in the car! School Supplies in a Kit—Now that's Smart! > edukitinc.com

EduKit **ORDER NOW**

Go to www.edukitinc.com to order your School Supply Kit before the end of this school year.



Tennessee Christian Preparatory School offers the EduKit program as a convenient option for busy families to order school supplies for the 2024/2025 year. EduKits include the supplies approved by our school.

Your student's order will be available for pickup at the Back to School Bash.

Questions? Please contact Sarah Ford at FTO@tcpsk12.org



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