

A group of children and an adult are gathered in a forest, looking at a plant on the ground. The children are wearing red shirts and blue jeans, while the adult is wearing a tan shirt and grey pants. The scene is outdoors with trees and foliage in the background.

# *the* talon

October 15, 2024

**TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN**  
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# from the Head

During Fall Break, my family visited Washington D.C.. As a history enthusiast, I made sure to take them to as many museums as we could fit into our schedule. One highlight was the Museum of the Bible, which we've visited several times and always enjoyed, especially the historical bibles and the Old Testament walkthrough. This time, I was thrilled to discover they had a new exhibit: The Megiddo Mosaic.

As soon as we entered the exhibit, my inner history nerdiness took charge. I learned that the Megiddo Mosaic dates back to the 3rd century AD, nearly a century before Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, which allowed Christianity to be practiced openly within the Roman Empire. Remarkably, this mosaic was part of a Christian place of worship during one of the most intense periods of persecution. Even more fascinating was the fact that it was funded by a Roman centurion, a military figure who risked his career and life for the faith. This all points to the mosaic being one of the earliest recorded Christian worship sites. The Megiddo discovery in 2024 and my viewing of this remarkable artifact allowed for me to reflect on the importance of history and Christianity.

The significance of history and its connection to Christianity is incredibly relevant to our modern world. Understanding the struggles and sacrifices of early Christians helps us appreciate the freedoms we enjoy today. It reminds us of the resilience of faith. We might never understand all about the people who stood on the Megiddo Mosaic and worshiped but we do understand their faith was directed to the Father and their prayers were heard as are ours.



In Christ,  
  
Jared D. Tilley





# HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

The week prior to Fall Break, September 30-October 4, will be remembered as a historic and triumphant one for TCPS Athletics.

The excitement kicked off with the **TCPS Middle School Girls Tennis** team capturing the ISC Small School Championship! The girls first secured an impressive victory over Grace Baptist Academy in the semifinals on the morning of September 30, then went on to defeat St. Jude in the afternoon Championship match. Congratulations to Coaches Roxie and Ben Sluder for leading the team to such a tremendous accomplishment! Special recognition goes out to the talented athletes who contributed to this win: Gracie Gilbert, Scarlett McPherson, Callie Jacobson, Josie Ford, Carolina Machacek, Lexie Gilbert, and Esther Van Dyke. Their hard work and dedication paid off in an unforgettable way.



The winning didn't stop there. Our **High School Boys and Girls Golf** teams both capped off their seasons with impressive victories over Berean Academy, each team finishing with a winning record. This is a major achievement for the program, and both teams deserve congratulations for their strong finishes!







# HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

The **High School Volleyball** team also added to the week's success with a conference victory over Fairview Christian Academy, winning 3 sets to 1. The team now shifts its focus to the upcoming SCAA Conference Tournament, which will be held at Bryan College on Saturday, October 19th. Best of luck to our Lady Hawks as they prepare to compete for the title!

In **Cross Country**, both our **Lower** and **Middle School** teams performed admirably at the ISC Conference Championship. Eli Ahlers took home 3rd place in the race and secured 1st place overall for the entire Cross Country season. Outstanding personal bests were also achieved by



Leona Fletcher, Malakai Ahlers, and Samuel Hudson. Both teams now have their sights set on the State Qualifier, also happening on Saturday, October 19th.

Although the **High School Soccer** team didn't have a match this week, they are gearing up for an exciting Alumni Game on Friday, October 18th, as part of a special evening of festivities for the entire TCPS community. The evening will include games, a movie night, and a recognition ceremony for our seniors during the Alumni Game. Be sure to stay tuned for more details!



Congratulations to all of our athletes and coaches for their incredible performances this week! We look forward to continuing the success as we complete the Fall season and set our sights on Winter sports!

Go Hawks!



# Red Clay State Historic Park



There is nothing quite like learning outside of the classroom! On Tuesday, October 1, Mrs. McKee's fourth grade enjoyed a gorgeous fall day traveling to Red Clay State Historic Park. An interesting film gave us information on the important people of that time, including President Andrew Jackson, John Ridge, and Chief John Ross. We learned how the Cherokees met at Red Clay for their council meetings before they were forced to walk westward to Oklahoma on the Trail of Tears. In the museum, students met Rebecca Ketcher, a young Cherokee girl who walked the Trail of Tears as a child. This was an interactive AI experience where our students got to "interview" Rebecca as a 9-year old! In the center of the park stands the Eternal Flame, a memorial to all those who lost their lives, which was about 4,000.

Our tour guide, Ranger Taylor, kept our students engaged from beginning to end, sharing interesting historical facts, as well as the biology of plants (lots of mushrooms), bug life, and why the "Blue Hole" is blue! The end of our tour included a weapons demonstration, which is always a highlight of the trip. Parents, as well as students, got a chance to practice their aim with a blow gun! We finished with a picnic lunch at the pavilion. Our students represented TCPS extremely well with their behavior and excellent questions.

Written by Donna McKee





# RUBY FALLS



On Tuesday, October 1, the fifth-grade students took their first field trip of the year to Ruby Falls. The trip began with an elevator ride down to the entrance of the cave. Following a tour guide, the fifth graders received both a history lesson and a science lesson! They learned about the history of the cave, how it was discovered and who discovered it, as well as how Ruby Falls got its name. Various rock formations, including stalactites and stalagmites, were pointed out along the way. Students were able to ask questions such as "Why is it wet inside a cave?" and "Where does the water come from?"

Once deep inside the cave, the students were excited to see the waterfall! They learned that Ruby Falls is the largest interior waterfall in the United States.

The next day the students enjoyed reflecting on the field trip. Not only did they have a valuable educational experience, but they also have a shared memory as a fifth-grade class that they won't soon forget.

Written by Sarah Van Dyke



TCPS KINDERGARTEN CLASS PRESENTS

# BAKE SALE

THURSDAY, OCT 17

AND

FRIDAY, OCT 18

We will have a variety of treats.

All treats will be \$1.00.

Proceeds will go to the Kindergarten  
class to help fund classroom supplies  
and events!



TCPS FTO PRESENTS  
OUR  
4TH ANNUAL

# Family Movie Night

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024

6:00PM

TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN  
FRONT YARD

FEATURING  
INSIDE OUT 2

FOOD TRUCK ~ POPCORN ~ CANDY

\*\*\*Bring camping chairs and blankets for comfortable viewing\*\*\*





TENNESSEE  
CHRISTIAN  
PREPARATORY  
SCHOOL

# LEARNING COTTAGE AND LOWER SCHOOL

October 31, 2024

# BOOK CHARACTER DRESS UP DAY





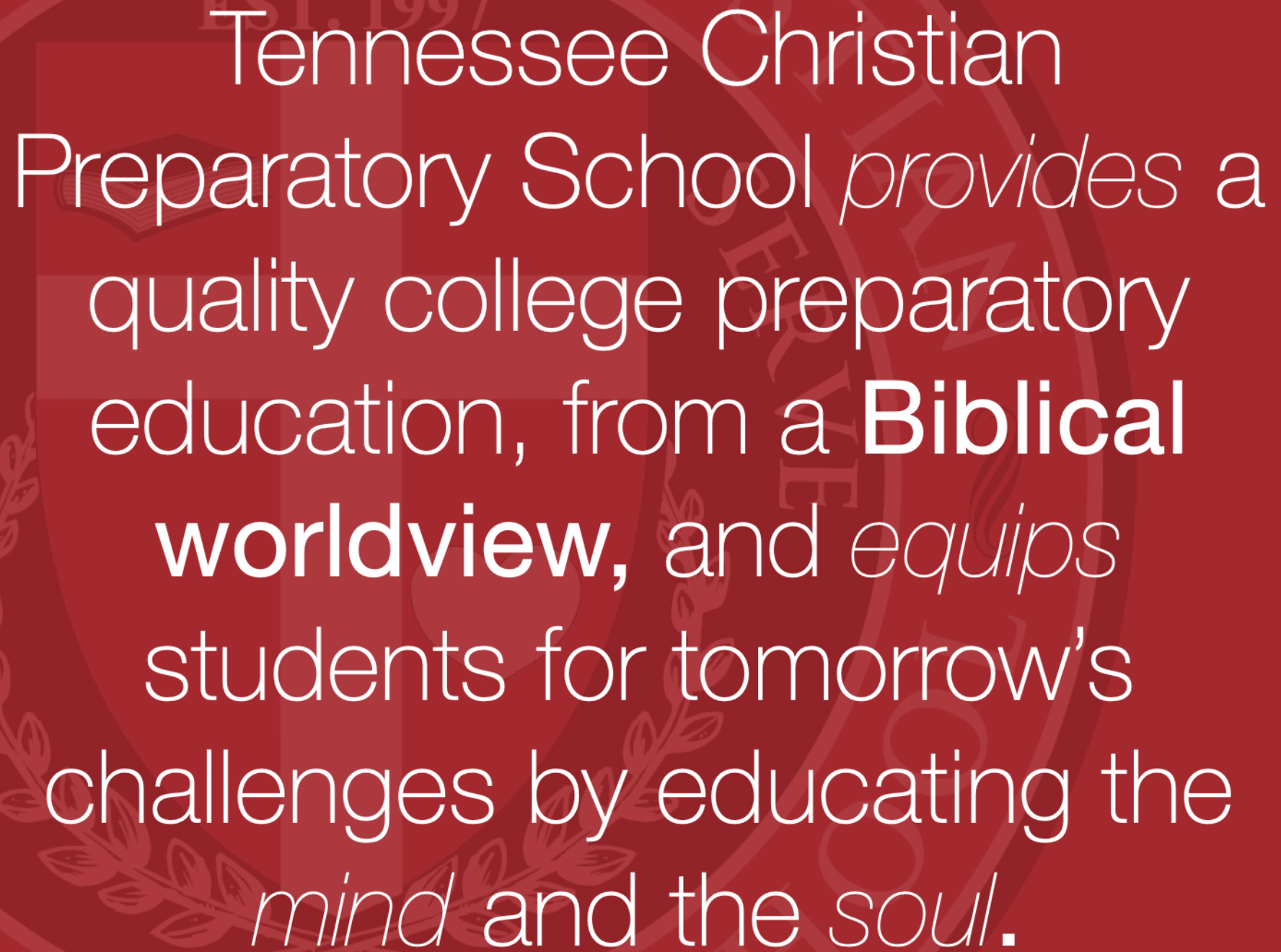
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