

TUESDAY TALON




MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

When I was young, my family took a trip to Washington, D.C. I remember only a few aspects of our vacation. I recall the cold wind waiting to ascend the Washington Monument, touring Ford's Theater and seeing the exact spot where Lincoln was shot, and a family photo outside of the Smithsonian Zoo. The trip was as transformative as it could be for a boy not much older than seven. I purchased two souvenirs from my trip, my first history book, *The Day Lincoln Was Shot*, and a pack of cards with information for every president. On the way home, my father would quiz me on the presidents.

This past week, Victoria and I took our three kids to Washington, D.C. I have been to our nation's capital numerous times, but it was the first time I was able to experience the city through the eyes of someone the age of my first visit. Iris, Martin, and Elliott enjoyed the city and seemed to be impressed with the monuments, museums, and the sheer magnitude of the buildings. Though tired, they walked about seven to ten miles a day and saw all the sights of the impressive city. We even recreated my childhood photo at the Smithsonian Zoo.



Throughout the trip, Martin was anxious to spend his gift money on everything he saw. When entering the gift shop, he would grab each item within arm's length wanting to take it home. It was not until he went through the Fine Art Museum and the Hirshhorn that it clicked for him. He wanted a sketch pad and notebook. Martin loves drawing, and it took seeing other artwork to find what he wanted to remember from Washington, D.C. For me, as a young boy, it was a history book. For Martin, his memories will be drawn into his sketchbook and I hope the trip to D.C. will be as impactful for him as it was for me.

In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley





Ethan Salley, 1st Grade: Ethan is the perfect example of joy. He is one of the most joyous students I've ever encountered. The smile on his face, the tone in his voice, and his loving actions are proof of the joy in his heart. He brightens my day instantly the moment he steps on campus each morning. -Mrs. Sluder



Elliott Tilley, 4th Grade: Elliott exhibits the trait of joy as he delights in helping others. He is the first to ask if there is anything he can do to help. Elliott models each day how we can find joy by doing for others. -Mrs. McKee

Graham Sluder, 7th Grade: Graham is the kind of person that walks into a room and lights it up. His smile, his joyful demeanor, and collection of gadgets brighten up every place he goes (and his one-liners and facial expressions can't be beat).



Kayla Ahlers, 9th Grade: As a new student this year, Kaylie immediately joined our community and brought joy. From the classroom to the cross country field, she is always smiling and positive and encourages her peers to be the same. Our campus is brighter and better with her here.

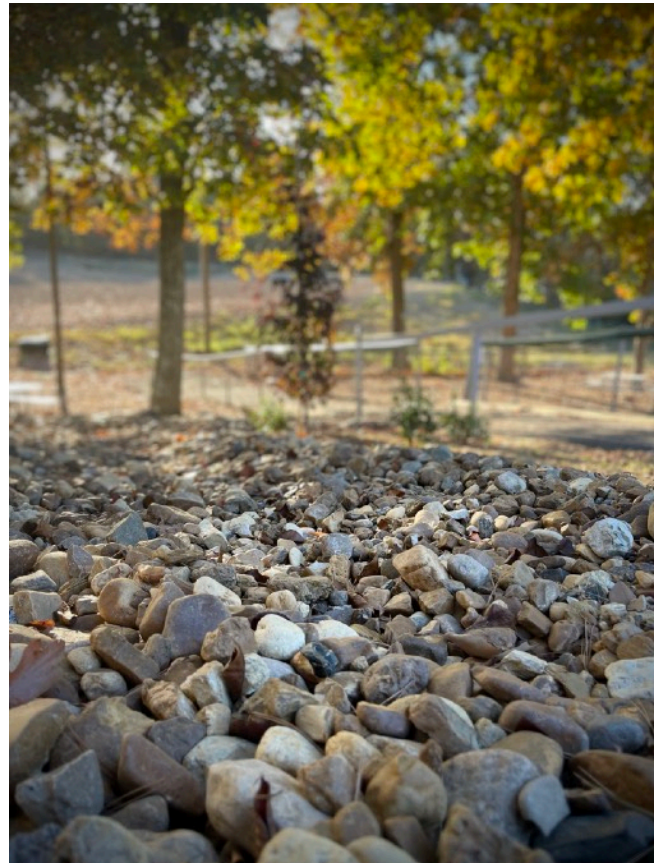


OUR GREAT OUTDOORS

“We do not see nature with our eyes, but with our understandings and our hearts.” William Hazlitt

It has been rewarding to watch our outdoor areas take shape thanks to the No Show Gala and the gifts of our generous community. One of the many things we love about our campus is the opportunity to enjoy fresh air on a daily basis and the generosity of donations has enhanced this all the more.

A special thank you to the Lackey Family for their furthered contribution in making a beautiful space on the path to our future athletic fields. We are thankful and excited to watch this grow!



Thanks to the Laug and McElwain Family for their continued gift of time and resources in making our playground an inviting and safe space for our Lower School students.

Day 1 in Barcelona:

The rains fall on the plains in Spain...that's how it goes right? We certainly didn't expect to start our adventure with record amounts of rain, but we soon developed the mantra, "But we are drenched with rain...IN BARCELONA!" Our sunny dispositions allowed for spectacular discoveries as we walked the streets of Barcelona, taking in the sights of the beautiful architecture that is in every building and the sounds of rain splattering and mopeds whizzing by...not to mention the savory aromas wafting out of the open market on La Rambla. After walking 8 miles our first day, we were thoroughly exhausted and ready for a good night's sleep. Buenos noches, Barcelona!



Day 2 in Barcelona:

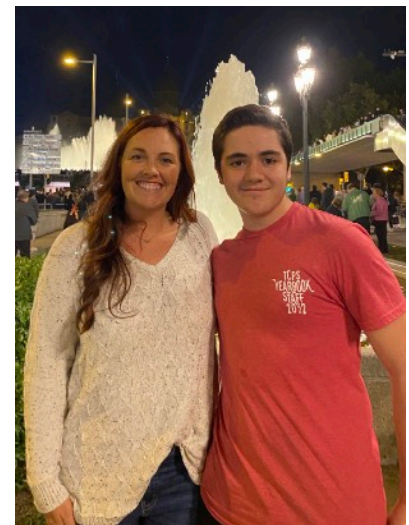
Remember those sunny dispositions we possessed on the rainiest day all year in Barcelona? We literally brought the sun



out to play on day 2 and just in time as we visited the Mediterranean Sea and feasted upon authentic Paella, decorated with the freshest sea creatures as if they crawled right out of the Mediterranean and straight onto my plate! The



clouds parted and made for a gorgeous day of sightseeing. We visited Park Guell and learned about the famous Catalan architect, Gaudi, known for his modernism and love of repurposing old dishes into mosaic art. There are no words that are sufficient enough to describe Sagrada Familia, the largest unfinished Catholic church in the world. Scenes of the Nativity and Jesus's death were built into architecture of the church, sharing the Gospel with all passersby. In the midst of all the happenings, I was able to catch up with Adria Puig, our former foreign exchange student from Spain. His family treated me to Tapas at a local restaurant where I tried octopus for the first time! It was a truly special moment to share with Adria and his family and to learn more about his culture. We finished off the night with the spectacular light show at the famous Magic Fountain at Montjuic!





Day 3 in Barcelona:

Bon Dia! We began the day in the Gothic Quarter of Barcelona learning about the oldest parts of the city including the remains of the city's Roman wall and the Barcelona Cathedral, which went through a major restoration project beginning in the early 1920s adding neo-Gothic additions to its facade. History came alive as we stood at the base of the last remaining columns of the 4th century Temple of Augustus. It was surreal being surrounded by ancient history and stepping foot in the same place where the Romans once walked. We stopped into a local restaurant to enjoy another round of Tapas (I think they really like Tapas here!) before heading off on our bike tour of Barcelona. The weather was perfect and the sights were divine, with the wind in my hair and my cares cast into the Mediterranean Sea! As the day came to a close and the inevitability of preparing for home was nigh, we couldn't possibly leave Barcelona without going to the Flamenco Show, a dance performance with singing, clapping, snapping, and of course tapping. And with that, it was time to turn off the lights in Barcelona and bid farewell to an amazing city with rich history, familial traditions, and fantastic food. Barcelona, you will be forever in my heart and I will be forever standing in the sands of Barceloneta Beach...until next time! Hasta luego, Barcelona!



Sincerely,

A Very Grateful Middle School English Teacher

Written by: Tawnie Locklear





ANNUAL FUND

GIVE LOVE ALWAYS



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*.