



The King's Academy

the LION LEDGER

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The Beauty Behind the Show

By Kristen Franz and Logan Weisberg



Photo Credit - Logan Weisberg

Junior, Tanner Gorall, who played Belle's father, stood curiously before the intimidating, massive door while awaiting entry into the castle. Little did he know, he was in for a big surprise!

To set the stage for The King's Academy's newest building, the Performing Arts Center, *Beauty and the Beast* did nothing short of overwhelm the crowd. This tale as old as time has never failed to convey a special meaning to not only kids, but to every person seated in the crowd, and the students at King's displayed its beautiful message once again. Dedication, hard work, and countless hours were put into this production, and it is very clearly seen through the set, the orchestra, and the actors. Every student and teacher involved poured their heart, mind, and time into this musical and the result was astounding.

Starring Gracie O'Connor as Belle and Casey Gustafson as the Beast, these two actors embodied their roles to bring the show to a whole new level. Gracie shared, "It has always been a dream of mine to be a Disney princess,

and now I am able to live out my dream and inspire young children at the same time. It has been such a humbling experience, and I couldn't imagine it any better way!" Gracie's enthusiasm for theatre and love for her character undeniably shows throughout the entirety of the musical. Her acting abilities make the crowd truly believe that she has fallen in love with the Beast. In turn, Casey Gustafson's role as the Beast sells the underlying dilemma of the dying rose which signifies the end of the curse, where the Beast and all the house workers will become inanimate forever. Time is running out for the Beast to fall in love and Belle seems to be his last ditch effort. Little did he know how hard he would actually fall for her in the end.

Beyond the stars of the show, the castle servants and the townspeople, contribute just as much

to the musical production. Spotlight songs such as "Gaston" and "Be Our Guest" complete the show and with all the choreographing, dancing, and singing involved in these scenes, their skills were most definitely put to the test. Every note sang and every step danced shows the dedication of each and every actor on the stage. The iconic duo of Lumiere and Cogsworth give the audience much needed comic relief. Through Cogsworth's orderly and anxious personality to Lumiere's exuberant and outworldly manner, they work endlessly to bring Belle and the Beast closer together. Other characters such as Mrs. Potts and Madame de la Grande Bouche (the wardrobe) contribute a motherly aspect to Belle which gives the crowd a warm sense of family even though Belle cannot be with her father, Maurice.

The townspeople bring to

the stage a whole new mood. In a little village by the edge of the forest, these characters are nothing less than exuberant in their personalities. Sam Cornelius shows the crowd a Gaston for the ages! A crowd favorite, Sam receives some of the highest praise, as well as quite a few laughs. His performance is forced to be stronger than many others, because his simple costume, while fitting for the character, does not compare to his outstanding performance like other costumes might. Alongside Casey Butler, as LeFou, the two deliver a new take on timeless characters. LeFou brings a new form of comic relief to the show. Being Gaston's sidekick isn't an easy role to fill but LeFou is always next to him to input sarcastic commentary and even crack a joke of his own every once in awhile.

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the LION LEDGER

The King's Academy
"Where Christ is King"

2017-2018 Lion Ledger Staff

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Staff Verse

Philippians 4:6-7 (CEV)

"Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel."

~

This year, as a staff, we are extending an invitation to our student body. If you would like to be a contributor in any upcoming issue, please stop by room 108-22 and see how you can become a part of an amazing team. We would love to share with you how you can become a part of the Lion Ledger Staff!

Talking to God

By Sam Manoharan



Photo Credit -Kristen Franz

Senior Prefect, Sam Manoharan, leads his group of students, teachers, and parents at "See You at the Pole". Sam was moved at how "real" everyone was during their prayer time and how close they all felt to God during this early morning gathering.

See you at the Pole this year was different from any other See You at the Poles in which I've been in the last three years. I felt as if this year we were no longer putting on a show... We didn't plan excessively; we just let the spirit of the Lord lead us. As we broke up into groups, I got to lead a group with Taylor Korte. Everyone in our group held hands, and I felt as though our bodies weren't touching at all, but our spirits were touching as we talked to our Father. No one put on a show with their prayer, we just talked to Jesus. There was no doubt in my mind that Jesus was standing there with us as we started to talk to Him. The Spirit of the Lord dwells in The King's Academy, and He led His people that day, because I could truly feel the love, compassion, and authenticity in the prayers that were spoken. Christ is moving in great ways this year, and this is just the beginning of the fruits that will be seen through Him in the upcoming months.



Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

Senior Prefect, Alyssa Blakeney and Junior, Clay Hider, lead a heart-felt morning worship before and after prayer time as The King's Academy participants gathered together as a group to pray for our school, our friends and families, and our great nation.

Unique Irma Trip Magazine

By Ligxiao (Dio) Mou

A category five hurricane that just ruined the Caribbean has shifted and is now targeting Florida. Wait, what does that mean? As an international student who has stayed inland, surrounded by peaceful weather and a slothful river for almost nineteen years, who has no clue towards the power of the angered sea, I was filled with anxiety and I was flustered. All the international students had to evacuate from our great school and memorable community.

All the international students went on a new experience than what we were used to. We were crowded in a large school bus, holding back the urge to use the restroom. Over fifty students drove off towards the capital of Florida, Tallahassee, which is located eleven hours away from Palm Beach County. This long journey could easily be exhaustive and tedious, however,

throughout the whole trip, King's Academy students joked, laughed, and passed time with energy and optimism.

When people talk about Florida, tropical climates and beaches would be the first image to pop into their minds, but the capital city shows a different side of Florida. Once we were on the site of the Capital Complex, we saw four buildings, with varying architectural styles, which were the government buildings of Florida. The first few buildings we saw belonged to the latest addition of the capitol buildings. Built like a block, extruding three-hundred forty-five feet high, it represents an image of modernization and magnifies the dignity of Florida. The other structures were smaller, but spoke greatness into Florida's history, proudly portraying awe and solemnity. Thanks to all of the staff that came with us on **Continued on page 5**



Photo Credit - Ligxiao (Dio) Mou

On the first stop, our International students got to tour around the city of Tallahassee, Florida. While they were there, they visited a museum and learned about the history of our state.



Photo Credit - Ligxiao (Dio) Mou

The bus ride to escape Hurricane Irma was nothing short of glamorous. Our International students were divided into two groups, girls and guys, for two separate modes of transportation. The girls drove up in the vans and the guys had the privilege of riding in one of our King's Academy busses. Good times were shared by all!



Photo Credit - Ligxiao (Dio) Mou

After arriving in the destination state of Alabama, the entire group of International Students visited the Red Mountain Park. While there, they experienced the red clay dirt that is indigenous to that area. The students hiked the park and even encountered a couple of snakes while exploring. The views the students saw while hiking were absolutely breathtaking. It was an impactful experience to see God's creation in such a setting, that they may not have witnessed anywhere else.

Kyle's Korner - And a Little Bit of Football

By Kyle Martin

As of September 29, 2017, the King's Academy's varsity football team was officially 4-0. The team had a phenomenal game on Friday night. Junior quarterback, Justin Wake, threw for 149 yards in the worst of weather conditions, repeatedly hitting his targets: Ryan Kingman, Drew Monaco, and Mark Witzel. The lions rushed for 232 yards, led by junior, Dillon Larson. Larson was at the top of his game, following his offensive line's blocking, and he was able to turn small windows of opportunity into large gains.

On the defensive side of the game, Jeremiah Scroggins led the team in tackles followed close-

ly by Drew Luchey and Cory Croteau, who stopped Calvary Christian's wide receiver corps in their tracks. The fans were wowed by their unstoppable show of force. Many wonder why the team continues to win consistently and has a 21-0 win streak. The answer is simple, the coaching staff has created a culture of winning, sacrifice, toughness, and brotherly love.

The Lions trained over the summer, Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00-11:00 AM. Bright and early every morning, the athletes could be found in the weight room grinding day in and day out. The team found strength and

unity by enduring conditioning each and every morning together. Coach Allen and Coach Lee continually remind the athletes that complacency has no place on the football team. Coach Allen shared great pieces of literature such as *A Message to Garcia* and the poem, *Pretty Good* with the team which has stuck in the hearts and minds of the athletes and have turned into mantras that inspire greatness. In short, the team is a band of brothers who truly love each other as Christ loves us all. The Lions don't play for personal glory, they play for an Audience of One and for their fellow brothers.

Next time you find your-

self in Kahlert Stadium watching the Lions whip on opponents with sportsmanship, humility, and grace, remember this team is special. Next time Wakethrows a great pass, next time Kingman gets a snag, next time Prichard or Basile gets an incredible sack, next time Shepherd kicks a ball deep for a touchback, next time Larson squeezes through the backers for a goal-line TD, next time the Lions get the win just know that this team does it all to honor their fans, their families, their coaches, their teammates, their school, and their Savior, Jesus Christ.

TKA Spirit with Roars and Cheers



Photo Credit - Kiersten Plouffe

This large and enthusiastic crowd of young lady Lions learn and practice football cheers from our Varsity cheer squad. The cheers they rehearsed were performed at the elementary night, Varsity football game. These girls did an exceptional job, go Lions!



Photo Credit - Kiersten Plouffe

After spending the afternoon in training with our Varsity cheer squad, the elementary girls performed several cheer routines in front of the fans on the home side of the football field.



Photo Credit - Kiersten Plouffe

Julia Mancil, Bri Preschel, and Lydia Johnston spend time hanging out in the gym before going on to the field to perform for the crowd.



Photo Credit - Mrs. Lockmiller

Friends, Danielle Weathers and Luna Staszal hang out in the stands to watch the football game after their amazing performance. They are proudly sporting the 2018 Elementary cheer attire.

Mrs. Gatchell and Emily Fischer share a sweet moment as they wait for the big performance before the football game.



Photo Credit - Kiersten Plouffe

The Lego Ninjago Movie

By Logan Weisberg

Previously, there has been some speculation on whether the *Lego* Movie franchise could become the next Pixar. With the third installment in the cinematic *Lego* universe, the answer to the speculation seems to be a little clearer. As of right now, Pixar shouldn't be fearing competition anytime soon.

The first movie, *The Lego Movie*, was a surprise to many. People thought it would be some glorified product-placement ad, but it turned out to be very witty and satirical. It was a huge success. Next came *The Lego Batman Movie*. One could argue it wasn't as good as *The Lego Movie*, but it was definitely an above average kid's movie. Why wouldn't the *Lego Ninjago* Movie follow in suit? Well, for starters, *The Lego Batman* Movie had more with which to work. They had all the previous Batman mythology with which to play around. The *Ninjago* franchise is much smaller, only consisting of a TV series and the

Lego products based off of it. The TV series was a success, but it wasn't Batman. Nevertheless, *Lego* went ahead and made a movie out of it. Unfortunately, it didn't work.

What made the first two movies fun for all ages, is the satire mixed in with the mainstream kids' humor. The movies were very self-aware, and made fun of what they were. *The Lego Ninjago* Movie doesn't do that. It plays around with the father/son relationship, portraying it like Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader. Because of this, it might have been a smarter move to just make a *Lego Star Wars* Movie. They would have had more to work with, and would have attracted a larger audience. One of the major reasons they didn't do this is because *Star Wars* is an active franchise is the movie industry once again, now with an 8th movie and a Han Solo spin-off on the horizon. Still, the problem with *Ninjago* is how little people know about it. Those who came because they liked the previous

two movies will be severely disappointed. *The Lego Ninjago* Movie feels like a conventional kids' movie, and an average one at that. While the animation and *Lego* world-building is fun to see, the story and substance are weak. When it comes down to it, the story is where the movie falters. The voice actors put their best into their roles, but the only real standouts are David Franco as Lloyd, and Kumail Nanjiani as Jay.

Despite the movie's flaws, should you see it? If you have kids that just want to go to the movies,

eat candy, and be entertained 1 hour and 41 minutes, then sure—it'll be fun! On the other hand, if you're expecting something like the previous two movies, maybe you should skip this one. The *Lego* Movie franchise seems to be running out of steam after only three movies, and we have to be increasingly wary of the quality of these movies. Things seem to be going downhill. *The Lego Movie 2* comes out in 2019. Until then, all we can do is hope this will revive the franchise.



Photo Credit - Collider

The Secret Ninja Force: Lloyd, Nya, Zane, Jay, Cole, and Kai poised and ready for action.

(Cont. from page 3) the trip with our international program, we were able to go inside

the Old Capital building. Along the aisles of this historical site sat Florida's founding chairs, those of which belonged to the representatives who fought for statehood and a better life for the communities. The set-up was realistic enough that scenes of arguing between representatives several decades ago seemed to be brought back to life.

Our next stop was Alabama,

the Ridge-and-Valley region of the Appalachian Mountains, hidden far from city place, and Red Mountain park. This tourist attraction is home to former major ore mines from the Civil War and is among one of the most impressive places for adventure, camping, and hiking. As soon as we stepped into the green preserve, the loud, rough world slipped away and we were surrounded by the calmness of nature. Although the sun's rays beat down on us, we were immersed in this unique experience. We enjoyed the

intimacy of withered leaves and rugged stones by our shoes. Our teacher, Mr. Smith, called out to the group of students, "Look at what has happened to your shoes?" instinctively we all looked down, I locked my eyes on the bottom of my feet. Shocked, I said, "they're turning red!" Unlike ordinary clay soil that is dark brown, the dirt in this park was completely red. As a result, in just a few minutes, our shoes were decorated with specks of red dirt. While we were taking pictures there, it was difficult for us to imagine that,

what is now beautiful lush forests, were once substituted by large factories and roads.

On this trip, I went out of the state of Florida for the first time and throughout the experience I learned more about American history, built friendships with different people, and experienced God's creation. Because of this trip we gained a deeper understanding of the culture, beauty, and friendship, which will forever stay in our hearts.

Mystery Person

The eyes have it... but can you guess the identity of this mystery person by his/her eyes?

The first person to correctly guess the identity of this mystery person will be rewarded with a \$5 Chick-fil-A gift card.

Please stop by Room 108-22 to see if you have the correct answer.



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MARCH
9-10
15-17

GHOST

THE MUSICAL

April 19 - 21 & April 26 - 28

The Beauty Behind the Show cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Jessica Curley rocks the role of the opera singing “Madame de la Grande Bouche”, also known as the enchanted wardrobe. Jessica’s favorite thing about the character is how lively she is and as for the costume, it is quite a hassle. Jessica says it’s a “production to get into.” However, she loves her role in the play and doesn’t mind having to crawl through the bottom and be rolled around on wheels during each recital. Another noteworthy costume is Mrs. Potts, played by Kate Higgins. Having a spout for an arm is no easy job. Both of these actors complete their costumes with extraordinary voices and incredible acting abilities.

Beauty and the Beast was definitely not a simple production for The King’s Academy and none of it could have been possible without the help of many individuals. The actors played a large role in the play but with multiple scene changes and costume changes we cannot forget the crew behind the scenes. Many students and teachers poured hours into the play and although they are not seen in the spotlight, the show would be incomplete without them. The production behind the scenes is just as, if not bigger, than the red curtain musical seen by many. Their dedication to the play was seen in every detail from making sure each actor had the correct props to applying every last bit of makeup.

This play was one for the books and every person that worked endlessly on the production can see their hard work pay off as the crowd buzzes at the end of each play. The King’s Academy would like to thank each and every student, teacher, musician, and technician that made the show as successful as it was. The theatre department is thrilled to see what else the new performing arts centre has in store and cannot wait for the other shows scheduled for later on in the year. Every person that witnessed this magnificent play saw something truly special and heart rendering and King’s Academy is excited to put on many more equally exquisite musicals down the road.

“It has always been a dream of mine to be a Disney princess, and now I am able to live out my dream and inspire young children at the same time. It has been such a humbling experience, and I couldn’t imagine it any better way!”

Gracie O’Connor



Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

1.



Photo Credit - Logan Weisberg

2.

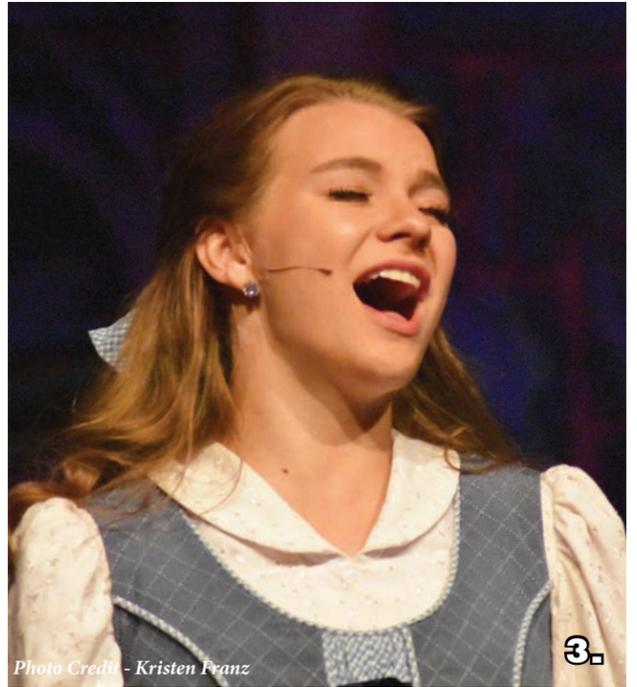


Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

3.

1) Sam Cornelius (senior), who plays Gaston, exuberantly lets the townspeople and LeFou, played by Freshman, Casey Butler, know how he plans to make Belle his wife.

2) The townspeople, now an organized mob, thanks to Gaston, prepare to kill the Beast.

3) Gracie O’Connor (senior), as Belle, pours emotion into every note she sings in the production.

4) Lumiere, played by Christopher Pappas (junior), dances with his love interest, Babette, played by Kenna Wilson (sophomore), in the song, “Be Our Guest.”

5) Lumiere welcomes Belle to the castle for her first dinner through a song sung by the whole ensemble of enchanted objects.

6) Belle and her father, Maurice, played by Tanner Gorall (junior), inspect the invention for the convention, while discussing Belle’s reputation in the town.

7) Kate Higgins (senior), as Mrs. Potts, and Abbi Scalici (sophomore), as Chip, quietly observes the Beast’s conversation with Belle.

8) The villagers sing about how odd Belle is, because she chooses books over Gaston.

9) The ensemble of enchanted objects dance and sing to “Be Our Guest”, welcoming Belle to the castle.

10) The Beast, played by Casey Gustafson (senior), storms through his castle, filled with rage after Belle refuses to eat with him.

11) Graham Popadic (senior), reacts dramatically to Belle’s presence in the castle.

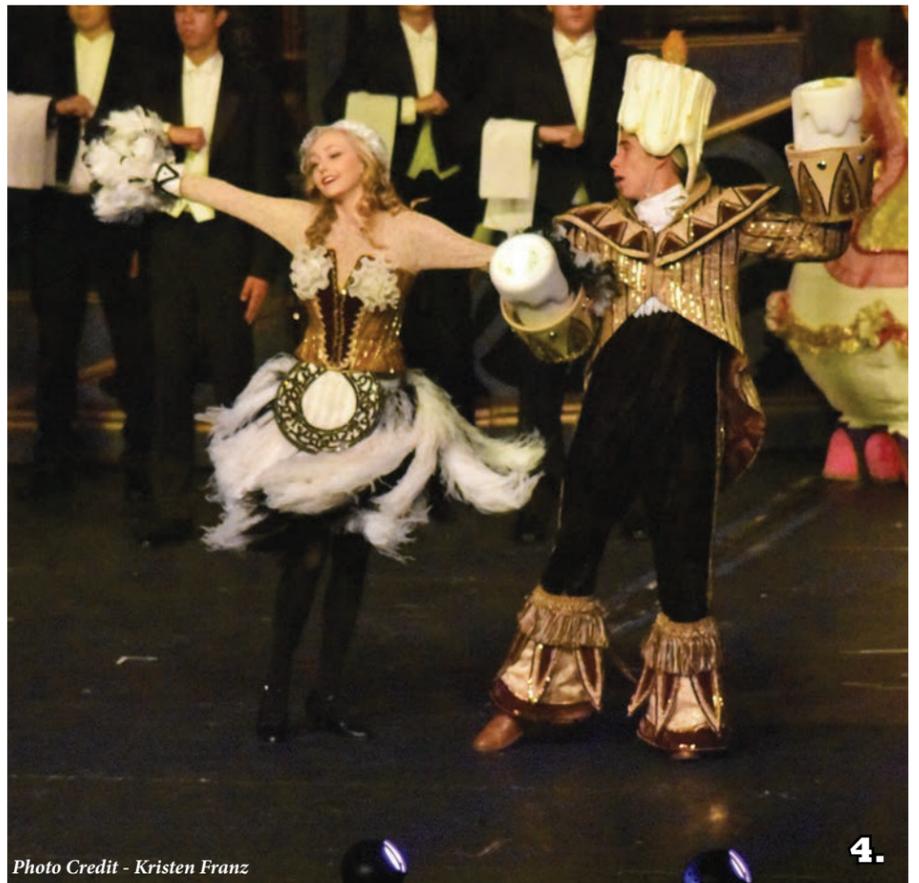


Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

4.



Photo Credit - Logan Weisberg

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Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

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Photo Credit - Logan Weisberg

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Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

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Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

9.



Photo Credit - Logan Weisberg

10.



Photo Credit - Kristen Franz

11.

A Perspective from the Middle

By Logan Weisberg



Photo Credit - Savannah Krell

Pastor Robert Madu made his second appearance as a “RUSH” speaker at The King’s Academy. He was met by an excited and welcoming high school student body as he brought a reviving message from God’s word. This was a great beginning to the 2017-18 school year.

Which preacher is part African, part American, and is not Preacher Lawson? If you guessed Robert Madu, you’re right (but let’s be real, it was an easy question)! 2017 Fall RUSH Chapel has come and gone—and it was nothing short of amazing. Robert Madu, a chapel favorite from last year, returns with an all new message, and his signature style of telling it. Like he says, “I don’t do drugs. I do Scripture.” Wanting to be a preacher since he was young, this man preached to his stuffed animals until they were saved! This article goes over his two outstanding messages in Fall RUSH 2017—but beware, you have been warned, his word is much more spiritually empowering than it is conventional.

The chapel service opened with the worship singing uplifting songs, such as “Falling into You”, and “Love Won’t Let Me Down”, both by Hillsong Young and Free. The mood continued as Pastor Madu stood up to speak. Within the first couple minutes, he had the crowd roaring with, and he quotes, “as the craziest radical ridiculous expresso shout”, which, if put on social media, could only be described as #RIPHeadphones. With the same intensity the service started. flowed Pastor Madu’s first message, entitled “The Thirst is Real”. Journeying to John 4:4-14, Madu read the story of Jesus at the well. Verse 6 tells us Jesus was tired, and Madu takes this time to remark on that. “Our God isn’t just a good man—he’s a God man, and he knows what we’ve gone through.” The lady

at the well, though, was seeing things in a different light. Madu tells us that her perspective was polluted by past experiences. She had five husbands, and was in a relationship with a sixth man. All of them wanted to deplete her, not complete her. Madu continues saying, in the womans eyes, Christ was just another man eager to make a move on her. Then Jesus asks for a drink. At this point, the lady is probably starting to get a bit passive aggressive, but the situation was not what it seemed on the surface. Jesus didn’t need water (he could’ve summoned some bottles of Fiji out of the ground); God asks questions to show you what you need to see. Water was a metaphor for how dry the lady’s spirit was. Jesus did not come to deplete her—He came to complete her! She had gone through five husbands, a sixth man, and Jesus was the seventh. Seven is the number of completion! Now Madu draws the story to our situation. We need to acknowledge God’s presence. Most of us were raised in the church (we probably had communion for breakfast), but we tend to react to God with complacency. But we “cannot receive what we cannot perceive.” Pastor Madu climbs the bleachers to demonstrate his point. He makes a bored, dismissive pssh sound, and then turns it into a beatboxing orchestra of similar sounds. If we expect simply a boring pssh from chapel, that’s all we’re going to get. Luckily, Madu gave us a whole lot more than that. The question is not “are you thirsty” (we are all thirsty), but rather

“how are you going to quench your thirst?” If we want the water of life, we have to get in the splash zone. We have to put ourselves in situations and places where we can grow spiritually, and not stop growing when we leave and the water dries. We need to come to God ourselves, and not just bathe in the water of life—but drink it!

On this note, Madu ends his first lesson, and the school can’t wait for his second. He opens up his next lesson by drawing to mind Numbers 11:3-6. He calls the lesson “Faith in the Middle”, and begins talking about airplanes. Traveling around the world to preach, Madu has been on a lot of airplanes. He says “the airport is designed to make you lose your Christianity. The lost baggage desk is a test to see if you use language you shouldn’t. Don’t they know you paid for your baggage to get lost?!” He tells us his plane peeves, including late people, the seat having to be in the upright position for takeoff and landing, and crying babies. He recalls when he sat next to a lady with a crying baby on an airplane, and so he was allowed to

switch seats. After the flight, the lady got mad at him for switching seats. His own wife, Taylor, got mad at him for switching seats! Then he tells us about what he hates the most: the middle seat. As uncomfortable as it is, that is where Christians sit sometimes. Like the Israelites in Numbers 3:3-6, we are not where we used to be, and we are not where we need to be. We’re in the middle. We need faith in the middle, like Moses, who couldn’t fit in with the Israelites or the Egyptians, because he was a little bit of both. God, sometimes doesn’t mean for us to fit in, so we can fit in with Him. We need to have faith in God throughout our struggles. Madu compares this to hot-pockets (we’ve all had ‘em); you pop them in the microwave for 2 minutes and 21 seconds—and you’ve got yourself an amazing [lava hot] meal. God is more oven than microwave; He takes time, but he gets the best results. He won’t change you instantly; you have to work at it. When Madu’s father, Robert Madu senior, moved to American, he didn’t act like an American overnight.



Photo Credit - Mrs. Lockmiller

Robert Madu led a packed gym in prayer at the conclusion of his message and called for the audience to put their trust in Jesus Christ. All of the students could feel the Holy Spirit throughout the gym bleachers and were effected by Madu’s impactful sermon.

Something to Smile About

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Fall Retreat 6th Grade Style

By Logan Weisberg and Lexi McPartland

During the beginning of the first quarter of the school year, the sixth-grade class went on their retreat. During the two-day retreat at the Life for Youth Ranch in Vero Beach, the students participated in a number of activities, including sand volleyball, go carting, swimming in the lake, paddle boating, kayaking, and rock wall climbing. The main theme of the retreat was “choices”, and the purpose of the retreat was for students to interact outside of the classroom, and hopefully gravitate closer to God and

one another. The students experienced a unique opportunity to bond socially and spiritually, while enjoying outdoor activities and small group discussions. The chaperones commented that one of the aspects that stood out was the students’ encouragement in teamwork and bonding that took place with their peers. The students truly got to learn that fun and God can go hand-in-hand.

Another impactful part of the trip was the strong spiritual atmosphere during worship time. The kids broke up into two groups: girls and boys. Mr.

Miller, the elementary principal, took the boys, and Mrs. DeProspero, the elementary stem teacher took the girls. Mrs. DeProspero brought science into the conversation, and she began her group by discussing how small earth is within an infinite space, yet God still loves us. How big and awesome must God be to love something so small? Mrs. DeProspero emphasized how special the girls are that God would love them like he does. Then the conversation drifted into choices—particularly the ones we make now. Those are the ones

that affect our future. As the students are getting ready to graduate from Elementary and go to the 7th grade, the choices they make now will prepare them for what they will face ahead. We must trust God to help us make the right choices. We must choose to trust!

After all the fun and learning the 6th grade class had during the retreat, they should be prepared and eagerly awaiting the next grade, while the 5th graders can’t wait for the retreat. It was a blast, and definitely something students will always remember.



The 6th grade boys gravitated to the game room during free time for a competitive game of billiards. It looks like they had some strategic shots!



Mrs. Prieto hangs out with a group of girls outside the snack shack.



Lola Riley rows her way around the lake as she canoes during her free time.



Many students chose to spend their free time on the lake enjoying the canoes and the paddle boats.



The 6th Grade Class Retreat | TKA Class of 2024.



Senen Torres and Eric Feldman enter a challenging game of air-hockey. It was sure a match for the ages.



Mrs. DeProspero and her cabin girls bonding during the retreat. The girls really enjoyed Mrs. DeProspero sharing her testimony. (Girls pictured: Bethany Smith, Petra Sweiss, Logan Zielinski, Helena Hoet, Calla Giallombardo, Macy Croteau, Josephine Lerer and Ava Weisz.)



The 6th grade class had fun with a memorable game of chicken!

Thank you to Mr. McDonald for being our Lion Ledger photographer for the retreat and capturing these photos.

Whiter Beaches, Brighter Futures

By Kristen Franz

Human waste has always been inevitable. There will always be plastic bottles lining the freeway and landfills overflowing with garbage, but of all the places for trash to be, the beach is not one of them. When picturing the beach, you would imagine the whitest of sands, the constant rhythm of the crashing waves, and the intense rays of light beaming down on the shoreline. What isn't commonly thought of in your imagination is the endless trail of trash that extends from the tip of the coastline in Maine, to the bottom of the beaches in the Keys.

People came and went all day at Boynton Beach, but

the enthusiasm to pick up even the tiniest pieces of plastic never ceased. Through cramping hands and sweating faces, strangers came together to help in the effort to keep Florida's beaches clean. The community that was developed through this small service project was inspiring and allowed the best in everyone to come out. Cleaning up our shorelines is far more important than people may realize. As trash enters the ocean, marine creatures mistake plastic as food and fish get tangled in floating debris. Although disposing of all garbage on the beach seems inevitable, picking up even one piece of garbage may save



Photo Credit: Kristen Franz

Senior, Kristen Franz and Junior, Lexi McPartland joined the selfless efforts of this group in Boynton Beach as they took on the task of cleaning up the beach. Although it was a long morning, both TKA students left with a sense of accomplishment and were glad that they had found a way to contribute to their community.

entire generations of marine life. This beach cleanup not only gave people a sense of community, but it also moved the world one step closer to safer beaches and oceans.

Teachers of Excellence

By Kristen Franz

ELEMENTARY

Miss Stephenie Revell Music Teacher

Miss Revell, new to The King's Academy this year, has proven nothing short of exceptional as the elementary music teacher. She claims that King's Academy "is a dream school for any teacher to be at." Growing up, her dad was the music pastor at her church and because of that, she fell in love with music herself. Growing up in the mountains of Colorado, she says that her favorite childhood memory is riding horses after school with her friends along the river and through the fields at the base of the mountains. On her days off she enjoys going to the beach, exploring different coffee shops and reading. Some of her favorite authors include C.S Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien, and one of her favorite books



is *Pride and Prejudice*. Miss Revell puts trust in her students abilities and believes that, if her classes had to be led by the students for a day, they would be able to use what she has already taught them to push the rest of the class through a lesson or two. Miss Revell loves her students and loves The King's Academy. She is thrilled that God has led her to this school and is excited to see what He is planning with her journey as the elementary music teacher.

Mrs. Sylvia Scarolla Spanish Teacher

Mrs. Scarolla was nominated teacher of the month in the elementary division for the hard work, time, and dedication she puts into her students. As a young girl Mrs. Scarolla came to the United States with her family of nine brothers and six sisters from Puerto Rico. She said, "I came to the United States when I was eleven and learning English was very hard for me because I was very timid." Coming from a background where learning a second language was a necessity, Mrs Scarolla knows how her students feel when faced with this challenging task. She explained that every child has been blessed with different gifts from God so she tries to use as many medias as possible. From



watching TV to drawing and coloring, the students are exposed to the Spanish language and culture from all different angles. Along with her excellent teaching abilities, Mrs. Scarolla, being a lover of art, is the artist of many of the murals seen on the walls within the elementary hallway's. She said, "Art has always been a passion of mine and God has given me this gift to help me teach children Spanish" Mrs. Scarolla loves her job at The King's Academy and strives to serve the Lord through each and every action. As a new teacher, although not a new face, Mrs. Scarolla is looking forward to watching her students grow and is excited to help them discover their passions and talents.

SECONDARY

Mrs. Mary Virkler Science Teacher

Mrs. Virkler was selected once again to the Teachers of Excellence due to her amazing ability to teach students well as well as having a passion for the complexity of her subjects she teaches. She puts in countless hours tutoring her students to ensure they experience success. Mary is a wonderful colleague and seeks ways to assist those in her department. Mrs. Virkler prepares multiple preps and challenges her students to grapple with complex material. She is always willing to drop what she is doing to help anyone in need. Some fun facts about Mrs. Virkler are: she would have loved to have met the historical figure, Madame Curie, her favorite food is chocolate, if she were given \$1,000 she would spend it on books, if she could be a sub in any class she would love for it to be math, if she could pick two students to teach her class for a couple of days it would be Lauren Arrington and Hunter Mailman, if she could play a sport professionally it would be soccer, if she were to dye her hair it would be blond and her least favorite color is gray. Mrs. Virkler loves The King's Academy and we love her and so thankful she is one of our teachers.



Mr. John Raines U.S. History Teacher

Mr. Raines was selected as one of King's Academy's teacher of the month because of his lively personality, ability to inspire students, and the dedication he has to his job. Mr. Raines has been teaching at the King's Academy for five years, however, has taught the subject of history for thirteen years at other schools in the area. He has always been fascinated by the subject of history and recalls one of his favorite childhood memories involving his schoolwork. He said, "I would always save worksheets from my classes and then over the summer I would pretend to teach my friends." History has been a lifelong passion of Mr. Raines and he feels blessed that God has put him where he is right now. He was born and raised in the Palm Beach area and loves southern Florida. Mr. Raines has three young children, the oldest is nine and the youngest is six months with whom he enjoys playing with and being around on his days off. He loves taking trips with them to Disney or the beach or doing anything that is fun for the family. Mr. Raines is looking forward to many more years of teaching at the King's Academy and feels very honored to be named teacher of the month.



A Scientific Breakthrough

By Headmaster, Doug Raines



Photo Credit-Mrs. Lockmiller

The King's Academy Headmaster, Mr. Doug Raines, delivered a very meaningful speech at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Boswell Science & Technology Center.

The Boswell Center is scheduled to be open for the 2018-2019 school year and Hedrick Brother Construction is determined to make it happen. Read the incredible and encouraging charge Mr. Raines gives us about from where we have come, what God had done for us, and our responsibility and commitment

in our community to uphold God's design in the area of the sciences.

"Good Morning Everyone. As an academic and life-long learner, I am overjoyed by this wonderful occasion. We have hoped and prayed that God would provide such an incredible facility to continue to build on the many wonderful programs we have here at The King's Academy. TKA is a special place, called for a unique purpose, to accomplish great things. We often discuss King's commitment to the most important textbook we have for education, God's Word, and how it serves as a foundation for all we do here. We also believe the second most important textbook is God's creation. Romans 1:20 "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and divine attributes; so that they are without excuse."

Job 12:7-10, "But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

The King's Academy is

filled with amazing stories of God's faithfulness. We often share as a school community the miracles we have witnessed the Lord do in our midst. Albert Einstein said, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as if nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is a miracle." This morning I want to encourage you to keep your eyes, heart, and mind open to witness God's miraculous handiwork.

As Christians, we look above us and we see the splendors of the heavens. This year many of our students in their science classes experienced the solar eclipse. It is amazing to think that the sun is just one of billions of stars. If we could board a spaceship and travel 186,000 m/s, it would take 100,000 years for us to get from one side of the Milky Way to the other.

Steve Whitaker, Head of School at The First Academy, wrote, "To look above at the wonders of the night sky is indescribable. To look around you and examine the delicacy of a rose or the majesty of a crashing wave is spectacular." We can enjoy the beauties of all God's work by using a most remarkable creation, the human eye." In the *Origin of Species*, Charles Darwin confessed his consternation when he wrote, "to suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances

for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest sense." It seems absurd because it is. We know the great Creator.

God has also placed a miracle inside of us. Proverbs 4:23 says, "Keep vigilant watch over your heart: that's where life starts." Solomon is talking about the human soul. It's what distinguishes humans from the rest of creation. We have been created with the miraculous capacity for a relationship with the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Author and pastor, Mark Batterson stated, "you aren't just surrounded by miracles. You are one." I am so thankful for each of you and the part you play in making TKA a miraculous school. It is a great pleasure to work alongside committed and talented faculty. They have a passion for their subjects but have a greater commitment to their students.

Providing state of the art facilities will cultivate fresh passion for the sciences and technology and will provide King's students with greater opportunities to impact their world in miraculous ways."

The Addiction to Dishonesty

By Logan Wiesberg

Have you ever found yourself tempted to cheat? While temptation isn't a sin, many of us have gone beyond that, and found ourselves hiding answers under our watches, in our pens, on our palms, and anywhere else we have the audacity to put them. Cheating, though, goes far beyond getting a good grade, and the repercussions go far beyond merely getting caught. No matter how good you are at cheating, there is one consequence even the sneakiest of us can never escape. Cheating hurts your brain.

It comes with many risks, but the effect it has isn't one of them. It is not a risk; it is a wage. The damage cheating does to your brain is something you earn. Cheating can be compared to a drug, but it can also be compared to something a little more of us are familiar with: love. Cheating-infidelity.com draws out the similarity between these two concepts, one which is frowned upon, the other glorified. At first, love makes us feel ecstatic. Soon, though, we begin to get used to it, and we won't be able to function normally without it. We begin to feel normal and nonchalant with our loved one. Like this, we begin to feel fine with cheating. It kills our conscience! But when cheating is removed—when we finally decide to stop—it is painful. Like losing a loved one, our brain reacts. We are no longer with our loved one—we have

stopped receiving the drug to which we are addicted—and moving on is not easy.

The recovery is not pleasant. Our neuronal networks in our brain have already been altered, and reshaping them is painful. Unfortunately, the pain continues until we have reshaped them. Worse yet, this won't happen overnight. Throughout the period of recovery, we will experience increased levels of stress and depression. Trying to fight these emotions only aggravates them, and increases the intensity. During the process of recovery, and during any other stage of dishonesty, further lying not only adds on more stress, but it is also mentally exhausting. Research gathered by Deceptology.com proves that lying is stressful and exhausting because it isn't about trying to suppress the truth, but trying to keep other people's mental states in mind. The complicated process of dishonesty, and the unavoidable side-effects, make one wonder if it is all worth it—and ten out of ten times, it isn't.

Classroom.synonym.com's article, "How Cheating in School Affect the Rest of Your Life", teaches us about the long-term effects of cheating. For starters, we won't have access to the knowledge we never learned in the first place. You cheat to get good grades, and you get good grades to get into a good college, and maybe you get into

a good college to get a good job—but then what? How can you succeed in college when you cheated through high-school? How can you do well in a job you cheated your way into? You just don't know the necessary information, because you've never bothered to learn it. A life of cheating and lying will corrupt your morals, disable your ability to advance academically, and destroy the personal trust you receive from your friends and family.

Your dishonesty isn't only your problem. According to Jeff Jackson at Duquesne University, "people who constantly witness people getting away with academic dishonesty will be disheartened and spiteful of others" (Christopher Cascio, "How Will Cheating in School Affect the Rest of Your Life?" Synonym). They will wonder why they put forth the effort to achieve the same grades as those who don't, and will wind up becoming cynical of honesty itself. Eventually, these people will be brought into cheating, and will inherit everything that comes with it. So cheating is not self-contained, and not only is it dishonest; cheating is selfish, and hurtful to others.

The most important thing to know is that cheating hurts your brain, and it hurts those around you as well. Unfortunately, the temptation will never stop. We will always be tempted to cheat—on our spouse, in our job, on

our work—but we have the power to say no. We have always had the power to say no—to drugs, to cheating, to sin. Sometimes all we need in order to resist is a little bit of positive encouragement.



Photo Credit-Adobe Stock Photo

One of the many ways students can choose to try and get away with cheating.

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