

November & December VILLAGER VIEW

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." - Proverbs 19:21

SISTERHOOD DAY

This year's Sisterhood Day was a blast! There was a coffee truck waiting as our students arrived. The line was very long and our students deemed it a big hit! After our morning prayers and announcements, our students got to work on their hallways. Each grade put a lot of hard work and determination into decorating. After only 45 minutes to fully decorate their hallways, each grade rallied towards the gym with their creative banners. The gym was full of school spirit as each grade entered, and there wasn't much silence anywhere throughout the day as our grades competed head to head in kickball, tug-of-war, jousting, Just Dance, and trivia. The day was full of school spirit and competitiveness as our students competed for gold! At our final assembly, each grade picked 12 of their best to compete in a final round of Just Dance. Our seniors won, but not without a fight from the other students. The final Just Dance winners were: Lily Ciavardone (Freshman), Riley Welker (Sophomore), Jenna Callan (Junior), and Summer Baylock (Senior). After much anticipation, Mr. Bergholtz finally announced our winners from the day. The winners of "Best Hallway" were the Freshmen with their wonderful Walking on Sunshine theme. The winners of "Best Banner" were the Juniors with their Minion theme. The winners of "Best School Spirit" were, to no surprise, the Sophomores, with their incredible soldier spirit. And finally, our winners of Sisterhood Day were our Seniors with over 70 total points. After prayers and announcements, our students were dismissed to start practicing for Powder Puff. Overall, Sisterhood Day was a huge success! A big thank you to our faculty who made Sisterhood Day happen!

Juliet Felicetti '28

Seniors running through their banner before their win



POWDER PUFF

After a few weeks of anticipation and practice, our OLMA Powder Puff Champions made themselves known. The day started with our exciting Sisterhood Day, which rallied spirit and good competition between the Villagers. After Sisterhood Day ended, the girls who chose to participate in Powder Puff went outside to practice their plays and plan for victory. While it may have been cold, sisterhood and unity kept our Villagers warm and content. As the games grew closer, we noticed a fierce motive for victory from the freshmen. Determined to embrace the title of underdogs, the freshmen practiced with hope and ambition radiating off of them. They learned positions, plays, and strategic tactics from their inspiring coaches, Tucker and Fries. In the first game of freshman against seniors, Coach Fries' daughter, Vienna, scored a swift touchdown while dodging the savage seniors reaching for her flags. Lucca Grungo and Chyna Fiddler also gave an exciting performance for the offense by running the ball across the field multiple times. However, the seniors' experience and determination led them to victory in the first round. In the second game, some would say the military-like training and drills the sophomores endured reflected their theme of soldiers. With that sense of discipline, leadership, and coaching from Mr. Coleman, they put up a good fight against the juniors. Despite the sophomore's effort, the juniors ended the game in triumph. They then gave the seniors a run for their money, with Savannah Fries and multiple other girls scoring touchdowns for the Minions. After seeing this, the seniors picked up their pace to secure one last victory. Seeing them get one last win and continuing their streak was exciting for many. We'll miss them, but we wonder who our new champions will be next year...

Theresa Thomas '28



Freshman Hallway Winners

VILLAGER VIEW

LEGALLY BLONDE

Legally Blonde is a musical about a fashion-savvy girl, Elle Woods, who is part of a sorority called Delta Nu, with her three close friends Serena, Margot, and Pilar. The story follows Elle as she enrolls in the Ivy League school, Harvard, to follow her ex-boyfriend, Warner. She is determined to win him back, as Warner recently broke up with Elle Woods after claiming she was not serious enough for him. The musical follows her transformation from the stereotypical, blonde girl to a serious lawyer. Throughout her transformation, she is guided by an Irish-loving hair stylist named Paulette, whom Elle teaches to bend and snap in order to win her dream man, Kyle. Elle experiences constant failure in Harvard and begins to regret her decision, when a fellow student, Emmet Forrest, steps in to help her achieve her goal of being more than just a pretty face. One day, Elle notices how she made it into Professor Callahan's prestigious internship, giving her a chance to prove herself in a high-profile murder trial where they defend convicted murderer Brooke Wyndham. Unknown to Elle, she has to work with Warner and his new girlfriend, Vivienne, adding an extra layer of conflict to Elle's plan. Elle's journey at Harvard is full of trial and error. Will her newfound confidence help her to reach what she wants, or will the challenges she has to face change her reasoning on why she came to Harvard in the first place?

Performances will take place on February 28, March 1, & March 2, presented by Our Lady of Mercy Academy & St. Augustine Prep at The Landis Theater in Vineland, New Jersey. Follow OLMA's theatre Instagram for updates and behind-the-scenes! Instagram @olmapreptheatre

Abigail Bryson '27 & Harriet Riley '27

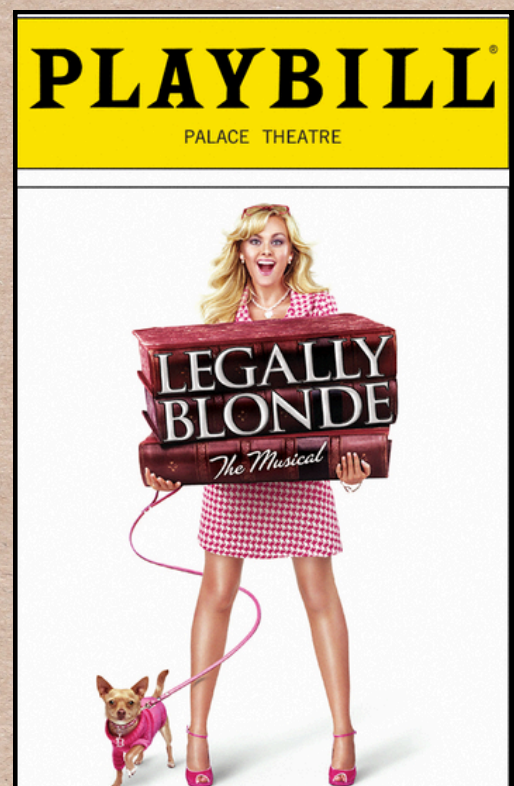
CAST LIST

Elle Woods.....	Adriana Verrico
Emmett Forrest.....	Michael Sherron
Warner Huntington III.....	Joseph Coco
Vivienne Kensington.....	Olivia Robinson
Professor Callahan.....	Francis Natale
Paulette Buonofounte.....	Meagan Howard
Brooke Wyndham.....	Christianna Figurelli
Kyle B. O'Boyle.....	William Dukich
Enid Hoops.....	Marissa Monzo
Serena.....	Kaitlynn Kirk
Margot.....	Mia Mauriello
Pilar.....	Abigail Bryson
Elle's dad/Winthrop.....	Puri Garzone
Elle's mom.....	Camila Andeliz-Bello
Store Manager.....	Syerra-Lynn Mills
Judge.....	Madison Bullock

SEMI FORMAL

The school was buzzing with anticipation before OLMA's beloved event, the semi-formal. The dance took place on November 26 from 7:00-10:00 pm at Adelphia Restaurant in Deptford. Students dressed in formal wear and had the choice of bringing a date. Dinner was served shortly upon arrival, and then students were able to make their way to the dance floor where the DJ played many great songs throughout the night. Semi is a wonderful night for all of OLMA and it provides a chance for students to bond outside of school. Overall, the dance had a fun turnout, and students were able to make memories that they will always cherish and remember.

Lily Cresci '27 and Natalie D'Ottavio '27



VILLAGER VIEW

SPORTS

After a successful fall season, our OLMA Villagers are gearing up for an exciting winter season. The OLMA basketball team is coming off an incredible year, winning the Cape-Atlantic League National Division and making it to the semi-finals of the NJSIAA tournament. Last season, the Villagers had two players reach 1,000+ career points. Savannah Prescott reached 1,064 points in her four years with the Villagers and is now preparing for her freshman season with the University of Bridgeport. The second player who had the honor to reach 1,000+ points was Madelynn Bernhardt, who broke the school record with 1,254 points. Madelynn is now playing for The College of New Jersey. Sophomore star Khalia Lewis has expressed her excitement about the season to start, entering her second season with some very impressive stats from her incredible rookie year. Lewis is a beast in the paint recording 472 rebounds as a freshman and sharpshooter, picking up 422 points in her rookie season. Even with the loss of their two star seniors, the team has incredible talent like Katlyn Coryell, Adriana Bristow, and Von'Asia Thompson, whom each recorded 50+ points in their first years as Villagers. Junior Gwen O'Hara will bring her energy to the court and freshmen Maryion (Muffin) Bethea, Alessia Lentini and Chynna Fiddler will become important assets to the team. The basketball team is excited to have the new winter cheer team on the sideline as well!

The OLMA bowling team is gearing up to have a promising season as the team welcomed new bowlers Anna Eisele, Abigail Dawson, Veronica Dianno, and Erin Malxi. Kiley Boyle and Julianne Pabalinas are two returning bowlers who are looking forward to a successful and exciting season.

After an incredible 2022-2023 season, the OLMA swim team was expected to do just as well the following year, and they did not disappoint. In just his second year as head coach, Coach Stephen Tucker was able to win the Cape-Atlantic League American Division for the second year and make it to the NJSIAA final two years in a row. Despite the loss of star swimmer and Division 1 commit Isabela Valle, who has already started her collegiate career with the Rutgers University Scarlet Knights, the Villagers still have lots of talent returning to the pool such as Nora Sandy, Gianna Cook, and Scarlett McGlinchey (who is committed to Duke University). In addition to their returning swimmers, the team is introducing freshman Simone McGlinchey and Rhiannon Stanker, two very talented swimmers who will be valuable assets to the team during their 4-year careers. Good luck to all of our OLMA winter athletes!

Amelia Voronov '27



The 2023-24 Basketball team celebrates as Madelynn Bernhardt '24 scores her 1000th point

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

This December, our Student of the Month is dedicated to Scarlett McGlinchey. Scarlett has contributed many accomplishments and awards that are worth recognition. Whether she is in the pool making a stellar name for herself or if she's excelling in her academics, Scarlett is a great addition to the OLMA community. Balancing swim and school may be challenging, but Scarlett has done an excellent job managing both. In her junior year, she was elected to the National Honor Society.

Scarlett has been a scholastic All-American for two years in a row. To achieve this, swimmers must meet the time standard and finish within the Top 100 from swimmers in the entire country in their respective event. Scarlett's 100 Breaststroke was ranked as the 64th fastest time in the country. Last season, she achieved 3rd team all-state recognition while continuing her dominance as Girls Swimmer of the Year for the South Jersey Times (two years in a row!). On top of that, she also received Cape-Atlantic League 1st Team in the 100 breaststroke. Outside of high school swim, Scarlett has achieved many achievements on her club team, Jersey Wahoos. She has competed in many meets competing with the best of the best, such as NCSA Spring Championships, USA Swimming Futures, and Speedo Winter Junior Champs.

Last October, Scarlett announced that she was beyond excited to announce her verbal commitment to continue her athletic and academic career at Duke University. This fall, the OLMA community gathered to watch Scarlett's official signing. We are so proud of your accomplishments, Scarlett, and look forward to seeing you achieve many great things!

Gianna Cook '27 & Rhiannon Stanker '28



Scarlett McGlinchey '25 signing for Duke University

VILLAGER VIEW

MONTHLY SPECIALS

CHRISTMAS RECIPES

Take a look at some of the faculty's favorite holiday recipes and try some out this season!

Easy

45 minutes

Dessert

12 Servings

Mr. Bergholtz's Pizzelle Recipe

Traditional Christmas Dessert

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup butter melted and cooled
- 4 eggs
- 1 tablespoon anise or vanilla extract
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

Requires a pizzelle iron

COOKING STEPS

- 01 Preheat the pizzelle iron and lightly coat it with nonstick cooking spray.
- 02 In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, butter, eggs, anise or vanilla extract, and baking powder. Drop slightly rounded tablespoons of batter on to pizzelle iron and close.
- 03 Bake as directed by manufacturer or until golden brown, 30 seconds to 1 minute. Using a nonstick spatula, remove each pizzelle to a cooling rack; repeat with remaining batter.
- 04 Cool completely and dust with powdered sugar if desired.

MRS. ROWAN'S DOUBLE CHOC PEPPERMINT COOKIES

INGREDIENTS

- 2 1/2 tbs sweet choc. chips
- 1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, room temp
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp instant espresso powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp peppermint extract
- 2 large eggs
- 4 crushed candy canes

DIRECTIONS

1. Add softened, unsalted butter, light brown sugar, and granulated sugar to a large bowl. Cream the butter and sugars with an electric mixer for two minutes or until light and fluffy.
2. Add in the egg yolks, peppermint extract, and vanilla and mix on medium speed for two minutes, or until the mixture is pale in color and fluffy.
3. Add in flour, cocoa powder, salt, baking powder, and baking soda. Mix until combined.
4. Add in the peppermint chips and chocolate chips and mix just until incorporated.
5. Scoop the dough into 18 balls, arrange them two inches apart on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet, and bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 mins.

MS. MORREL'S 7 LAYER COOKIE BARS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1 (14 oz.) can Eagle Brand® Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 1 cup (6 oz.) butterscotch-flavored chips
- 1 cup (6 oz. pkg.) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 1/3 cup flaked coconut
- 1 cup chopped nuts

DIRECTIONS

1. HEAT oven 350°F. Spray 13 x 9-inch baking pan with no-stick cooking spray.
2. COMBINE graham cracker crumbs and butter, mix well. Press crumbs mixture firmly into bottom of prepared pan. Pour sweetened condensed milk evenly over crumb mixture. Layer evenly with remaining ingredients; press down firmly with fork.
3. BAKE 25 to 30 minutes or until lightly browned. Loosen from sides of pan while still warm; cool on wire rack. Cut into bars or diamonds.
4. For perfectly cut cookie bars, line entire pan with foil, extending foil over edge of pan. Cool lightly with no-stick cooking spray. After bars have baked and cooled, lift up by edges of foil to remove from pan. Cut into individual bars.

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD - SPAIN

In Spain, Christmas is celebrated on two days, December 25 and January 5.

On the 25th, they celebrate the birth of Jesus, and children are usually given a small gift. On January 5th, they celebrate the arrival of the Three Wise Men, and that is when children receive many more gifts. On the night of January 5th, children leave water and food for the Three Kings and their camels. The traditional foods are the roscon de reyes, turrones, and mazapanes.

Between these two holidays is New Year's Eve, in which the Spanish celebrate by getting all their friends or family together in a house. New Year's Eve is called 'Nochevieja' or 'The Old Night' in Spain, and one special tradition is that you eat 12 grapes with the 12 strokes of the clock at midnight! Each grape represents a month of the coming year, so if you eat the twelve grapes, you are said to be lucky in the new year.

Ava-Jo Driscoll '27 & Adriana Gomez Pertierra '27

HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS

November is National Homelessness Awareness Month. Our attention is called to the struggles faced by individuals and families experiencing homelessness and food insecurity. During National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (November 15-22), we acknowledge the intense impact homelessness has on mental, physical, and emotional health. Youth without stable homes are especially affected. Education, well-being, and long-term stability can be detrimentally unstable for homeless youth. As a community, we must not stand around. We have a responsibility to care for the youth in our communities, many of whom are trapped in cycles of poverty, trafficking, or displacement. We reflect on the interconnected challenges of hunger and homelessness and take action to ensure a future where no child is left without a home or hope. As an OLMA community, we gave back to the St. Francis Food Pantry in Bridgeton by running a food drive from November 11 to November 18. Thank you to everyone who contributed to helping struggling families and individuals this holiday season.

Samantha Juarez '27 & Ella Cummins '27

Katie Capalbo '26

VILLAGER VIEW

ART THROUGH FILM: 10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU

The 1999 romantic comedy, 10 Things I Hate About You, offers a modern twist on the classic William Shakespeare play, Taming of the Shrew. 10 Things I Hate About You, directed by Gil Junger, is set in a high school where the characters explore their feelings with love, self-expression, and rebellion. The main character Kat Stratford, played by Julia Stiles, is a snappy character who doesn't feed into teenage peer pressure. Her eventual love interest Patrick Verona, played by Heath Ledger, is a somewhat outcast who faces daily misconceptions about his personality. This movie captures the struggles of being a teenager and the dynamics of relationships still prevalent 25 years later. Its blend of romance, humor, and drama makes it stand out among other teen movies.

One of the movie's most prominent highlights is how the characters develop throughout the film. Kat Stratford starts as hotheaded, independent, and unbothered by what people think of her. Through vulnerability and insecurity, she sheds away her once fiery personality. Patrick Verona tries to gain Kat's attention at the beginning of the film as part of a scheme that leads to the revelation of his sincerity as he falls for her. The chemistry between the characters evokes the undeniable authenticity of their relationship. Much like the play, the movie also provides a view into the tense relationship between Kat and her sister Bianca.

In this modern retelling of Shakespeare's comedy, the central themes remain the same. Like the original play, the film revolves around the relationship between Kat, the "shrew," and Patrick, also known as Petruchio in the play. The eventual change in Kat's personality, the "taming," shows how Patrick/Petruchio can break down Kat/Katherine. Although the film softens the rough edges of the play, specifically the gender roles and lack of feminism, the movie retains the emotional spirit and self-discovery between characters. The homage to Shakespeare's work allows younger audiences to see the play in an easier-to-digest way.

Ultimately, 10 Things I Hate About You is more than a teenage romantic comedy; it is about self-development and resilience. The cultural high points inspire discussions about gender roles, societal pressures, and the way love can transform a person. With its timeless effect on viewers and appeal to all audiences, it provides a mental getaway for an hour and a half.

Film I-Block's average rating for 10 Things I Hate About You: 10/10

Jenna Callan '26 & Lauren King '26



HOT TOPIC

This November there are multiple topics to talk about, yet a few stood out. These include the How to Train Your Dragon live-action movie, the new winter menus for Starbucks and Dunkin Donuts, Grammy nominations, and two very popular tours coming to an end: the Short n Sweet tour and The Eras Tour. These topics have shown to be extremely well-known and popular across social media, making many big conversation topics lately.

The How to Train Your Dragon live-action movie will be coming out this summer on June 13th, 2025. The movie stars include Mason Thames as Hiccup and Nico Parker as Astrid. The long awaited film has been generating excitement all over the internet as it's release approaches. The trailer has been a big hit and people are already beginning to love the movie!

After reading about everything going on at OLMA, you might want to check out the Winter menu for both Starbucks and Dunkin! A new addition that was released for Starbucks was the Dark Toffee Bundt Cake! Dunkin recently added the new hash brown brisket scramble, the almond croissant, and the cookie butter specialty donut. Speaking about the cookie butter from Dunkin, the Cookie Butter Signature Latte is a huge craze right now! It's overloaded with good reviews from many people on social media. Make sure you go check out Starbucks and Dunkin before their specialty holiday menus are gone!

Taylor Swift's Eras tour has officially ended on December 8th! The whole tour was packed with hit after hit from all of her albums, and you can't deny it was a huge deal. It felt like the tour was everywhere for months and flooding all over social media. Now that it's over, fans all around the world are already missing it. We don't know when she'll be back on tour, but we'll be waiting!

The 2024 Grammy nominations just dropped, and there are some amazing picks this year. Lots of big names are up for awards, but it's not all predictable- there are a few surprises in there too. It's always fun to see who gets nominated, but the real excitement comes when the winners are announced. Can't wait to see who wins the prizes this year!

Abigail Bryson '27 & Harriet Riley '27

VILLAGER VIEW

TEACHER FEATURE

Mrs. Steiger, a beloved member of our OLMA faculty, has been selected to be spotlighted in this month's teacher highlight. As a mother of two (also very loved in the OLMA community), a coach, and a teacher of three different subjects for three different grade levels, we have a lot to cover.

At OLMA, Mrs. Steiger teaches Biology, Forensic Science, and AP Environmental Science. The subjects and concepts Mrs. Steiger works every day to help us grasp hits close to home. In 2010, Mrs. Steiger graduated from Drew University with degrees in both Biology and Environmental Studies, and her knowledge and understanding of these subjects are unmatched. Mrs. Steiger has also led the softball team through several victories over the past six years, and last year she even coached beloved alumna, Emma Douglas, when she obtained over 800 strikeouts during her high school softball career.

Mrs. Steiger has been a member of the OLMA community since before any of our current students arrived, meaning she has a lot of experience when it comes to celebrations at OLMA. This being said, her favorite event that OLMA holds every year and one that we recently celebrated was our Christmas celebration, where Mrs. Steiger saw her dance iBlock perform. After being a member of the OLMA community for quite some time, Mrs. Steiger recalls when she first joined the Villager Family, originally because she enjoyed teaching at a Catholic high school before OLMA, but soon after because she grew to love the close-knit community that OLMA shared.

This June, Mrs. Steiger will lead a group of students to the Galapagos Islands where they will experience once-in-a-lifetime opportunities on the island and spend time with one another taking in the beauty of the environment and biology all around them. Personally, after being a part of all three classes Mrs. Steiger teaches, and having her as a coach as well, I can say Mrs. Steiger is a genuinely kind and compassionate person, a teacher who truly cares about her students' successes, and has a passion for what she teaches. She will always listen to any problem you have and will always be willing to laugh with you. That being said, Mrs. Steiger is the first person I would choose to travel 2,985 miles (I fact-checked that) across the world to the Galapagos Islands.



Mrs. Steiger celebrating Emma Douglas's ('24) 100th hit with her 2024 softball team

Grace Walls '26

THANKSGIVING FOOD POLL

Thanks to the help of Mrs. Coyle for sending out the Thanksgiving Food Poll, we got to see what everyone's favorite or least favorite Thanksgiving dishes are! The results as the most liked dish were by far... rolls and butter, with 92.7% of responders saying yes! 70.5% of people out of 139 voted that turkey was their favorite main course and 68.3% of responders said YES to gravy too! Casseroles were a big no with 56.8% of people saying they preferred no casseroles. The most favored dessert was... pumpkin pie with 58.3% of responders voting for it!

Audrey Loughlin '26

WHAT IS OLMA JOURNALISM GRATEFUL FOR?

10 am on a Saturday - crunchy green grapes - Texas Roadhouse rolls - Chili's lava cake - day 4 study halls - apple juice - cold foam - Summer Fridays lipgloss - the smell of Lowe's - whiteboards and juicy expo markers - waking up before an alarm and going back to sleep - Sharpie smell - Tru Fru chocolate covered strawberries - windows down car rides - jelly cats - getting ready for dinner after a long beach day - snow days - discovering new favorite songs - OLMA - bake sales - cold pillows - Sundays with no homework - TikTok edits - submitting an essay - Just Dance - a perfectly toasted bagel - finishing a good book - Dr. Pepper - hot chocolate - concerts

VILLAGER VIEW

ADVENT ANGELS

'Tis the season, which means Advent Angels were a big hit at OLMA once again! The excitement was absolutely palpable and everyone did very well during this beloved holiday tradition. The anticipation of what surprises lay ahead filled the air, and we all saw the incredible, creative ideas each student came up with. Students' imagination ran wild, decorating lockers in festive splendor, gifting presents, and having fun with it! There was truly no limit to the holiday cheer we spread this year.

For those of you who might not be familiar with Advent Angels, it's a tradition unlike any other. Each student is randomly assigned to secretly decorate another student's locker, leaving thoughtful notes, little surprises, and, of course, the highlight, a gift exchange! But here's the fun twist: someone else is doing the same for your locker, and the identity of the mysterious "angel" behind the decorations is kept completely under wraps! The beauty of it all is the element of surprise that makes the whole experience so thrilling.

What makes this tradition truly special is how seriously people take it. It's not just about tossing a few decorations on the locker and calling it a day. No, students go all out, decorating with care, leaving creative and heartfelt notes, and surprising their Advent Friend with little gifts throughout the Christmas season. The halls quickly transform into a winter wonderland, filled with bright lights, sparkling decorations, and an undeniable sense of holiday magic. The excitement is contagious, and the entire school starts to feel more festive, bringing a much-needed break from our usual routine and filling the school with joy and warmth.

Advent Angels is much more than just a fun holiday activity; it's a powerful reminder to appreciate the little things in life, like thoughtful gestures, kindness, and the joy of giving. It teaches us that even small surprises can have a huge impact on someone's day, and it gives us all something to look forward to every day of the season. Whether it's the thrill of finding a new note, the excitement of giving someone a carefully chosen gift, or just the joy of knowing someone's thinking of you, Advent Angels reminds us that the holiday season is about more than just the big celebrations, it's about making those small moments meaningful.

This tradition also fosters a strong sense of community. It brings together students from all of OLMA, encouraging creativity, gratitude, and a deep sense of togetherness. There's a shared joy in seeing the hallways come to life, in exchanging thoughtful gifts, and in knowing that you're a part of something bigger than yourself. These little acts of kindness make the holiday season so much more memorable. We hope next year's holiday season will be one to remember, just like this one was!

Sophia Corridori '28 & Francesca LaGuarina '28

GOSSIP GIRL

1. This teacher's mom would always give her and her siblings an ornament that matched their personal year, and every Christmas Eve they would put the ornaments on their tree. Now, she has carried that tradition on with her kids!
2. This teacher's favorite holiday tradition is to drive around South Jersey with her family and seeing the beautiful Christmas lights all around. They get hot cocoa and have a lovely time.
3. This teacher's favorite holiday tradition is Parrandas, Spanish Christmas Caroling.
4. This teacher's favorite holiday tradition is on Christmas Eve. She and her family go to mass, and after they get Chinese food and have a family game night!

1- Ms. McKenna
2- Mrs. Stelger
3- Senorita Claudio
4- Ms. McKenna

Sophia Corridori '28 & Francesca LaGuarina '28



Students opening Advent Angel gifts on December 19, 2024

VILLAGER VIEW

ADVICE

- Don't overanalyze; all emotions are beautiful! EVERYTHING is part of the journey! Whether you are sad, mad, or glad, at least you get to feel!
- The outcome is more important than your ego. Your actions should reflect your goals, not your pride. Do it for yourself, not for praise or attention.
- Be curious, not judgmental. Look at life with interest, not hate. (credits to Ted Lasso)
- Be a goldfish. Let go of your mistakes, they are in the past. Focus on the present and the future. (credits also to Ted Lasso- goldfish have 10-second memories)
- Kindness goes a long way; never underestimate the power of a kind word or deed.
- If they can do it, so can you! Don't doubt yourself, confidence makes a big difference.

Here are some quotes to remember:

- "Where there is no struggle, there is no strength." -Oprah Winfrey
- "Give the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you." -Madeline Bridges
- "With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts." -Eleanor Roosevelt
- "Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible.'" -Audrey Hepburn

Evangeline Catanese '26 & Ava Monzo '28



Loading toys into the van with Father Michael for the Campus Ministry Toy Drive for Sacred Heart Church in Camden, NJ

REMINDERS

UPCOMING DATES / EVENTS

- December 20th - January 5th - Christmas Break!
- January 6th - Classes resume
- January 17th - 12:15 pm dismissal
- January 20th - MLK Day - No School
- February 10th - No School Faculty PD 9am
- February 14-17th - No School - Presidents' Day
- February 22nd - Soiree & Super 50/50 Drawing



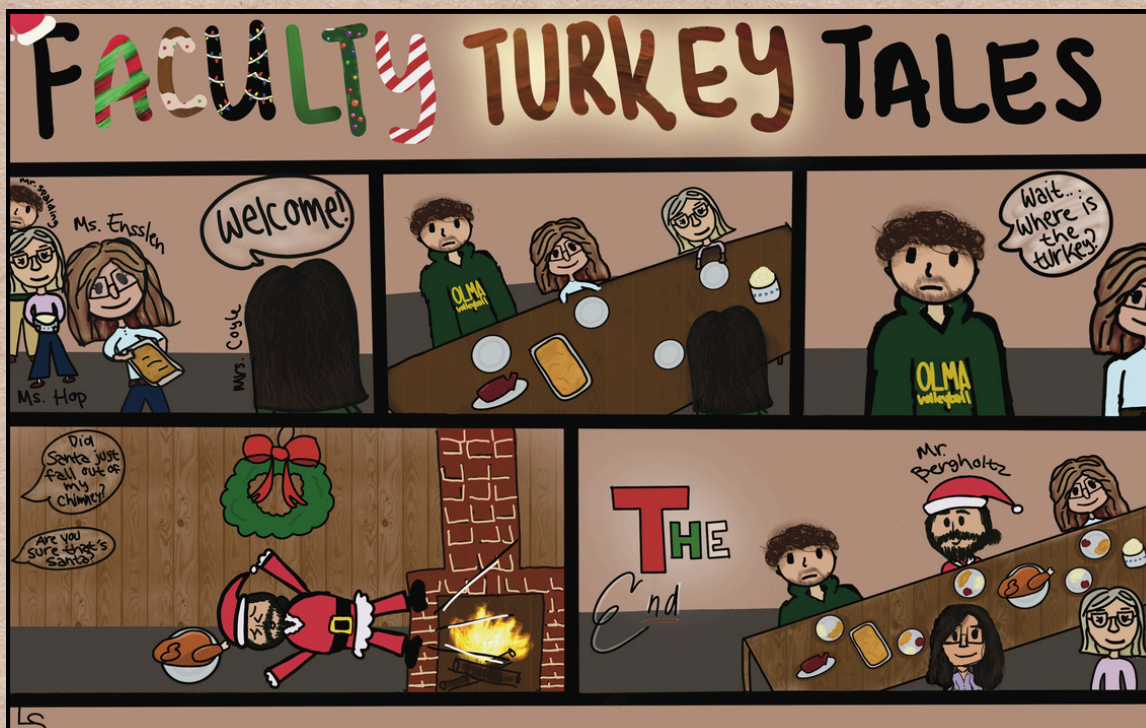
CAMPUS MINISTRY

Recently, Campus Ministry held a very successful non-perishable food drive! Led by junior Katie Ricchiuti to find a food pantry in need, she landed on the St. Francis Food Pantry in Bridgeton. On Thursday, November 21, 2024, OLMA helped Katie donate bags upon bags of non-perishables to the pantry. As a school, everyone came together and brought in heaps of food! The cute turkey boxes seen throughout the hallways to collect donations were thoughtfully decorated by the Hands to Work iBlock. When drives like this come along, it is important to remember how big of an impact even the small things make on those receiving the goods.

Audrey Loughlin '26

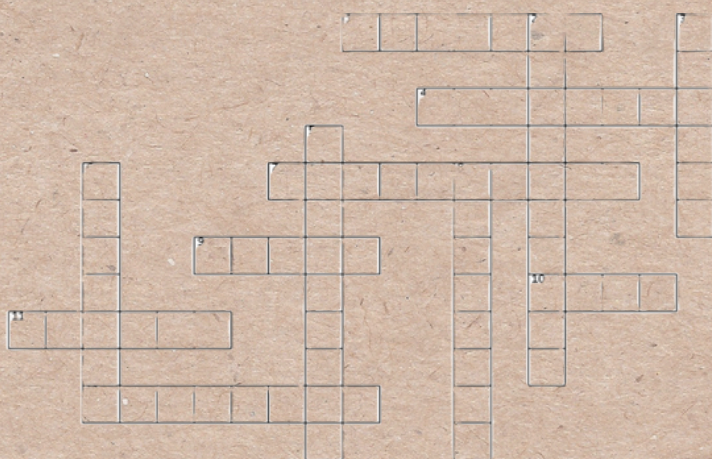
VILLAGER VIEW

FACULTY FAIRYTALES



Sadie Seabrook '27, Laney Yates '27, & Isabel Quinlan '27

CROSSWORD



1. Rudolph 2. Pentatonix 3. Hermy 4. Reindeer 5. CandyCane 6. Cookie 7. Santa Claus 8. Clarence 9. Buddy 10. Nine 11. Grinch 12. Swimming

ACROSS

- Whose nose is red and bright?
- What did Grandma get run over by?
- Who brings presents to little girls and boys on December 25?
- What is the name of the elf who travels to New York City to meet his dad?
- How many reindeer fly Santa's sleigh?
- Whose heart is three times too small?
- Seven swans a.....?

DOWN

- What is the name of the acapella group that sings Christmas songs?
- What is the name of the elf in the movie Rudolph?
- What popular candy represents a shepherd's staff?
- What do families leave out for Santa on Christmas Eve?
- Who is the angel in the movie It's a Wonderful Life?

Edited By: Evangeline Catanese '26 & Erin McGonigle '26