



MILLWOOD SCHOOL



July 2020

Headlines

Drive-Up Graduation 2020

An Unprecedented Challenge Met by Millwood School

Dear Millwood School Community,

The final months of this school year have been the most challenging of our generation. I want to thank all of you for your support and cooperation during this time. As Benjamin Disraeli once said, "There is no education like adversity." I genuinely believe that our faculty, students, and community have learned many lessons since March 13 and have emerged more resilient as a consequence. The words 'lockdown' and 'social distancing' are now commonplace in our vocabulary, and we have had to find new ways to educate and celebrate. We said goodbye to our largest graduating class with a drive-up graduation and wished them well on their journey as Millwood Alums.



Mr. Ryan, Head of School

Our Annual Gala moved online, and we raised over \$60,000 with generous support from our community. Our adaption to online learning at Millwood has been the envy of our community, and Millwood School's reputation has soared. Our children will now be better prepared than their peers to continue their education in September.

Up until now, Millwood has legally been required to adhere to the directions of our Governor, whose COVID-19 regulations have applied to all schools, both public and private. Behind the scenes, I, along with my fellow Virginia Heads of School, have been lobbying for special consideration during the pandemic. Consequently, Millwood, and other private schools, will now be under the supervision of the Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE) in all COVID-19 compliance regulations. The good news is that once Virginia enters Phase III of the Governor's reopening plan, we will be able to offer in-person instruction. I fully anticipate that with specific regulations in place, Millwood will be open for in-person instruction every day for all students in September. I will write to you in August with precise guidelines that we will need to follow to ensure our community's safety by complying with VCPE regulations.

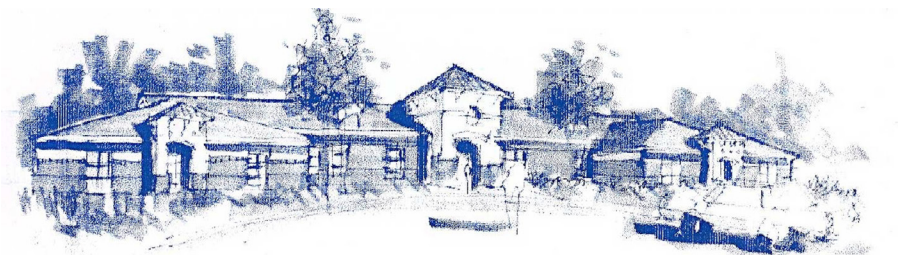
Our final months of school were not only challenged by a global pandemic, but also social unrest. I would like to take this opportunity to state that Millwood School is committed to inclusion, the richness of a diverse society, and to the principles of human dignity and equality. As educators, we rededicate ourselves individually and collectively to that mission and to building a society of fairness, justice, and opportunity for all. There is no place for racism.

The events of lockdown overshadowed the return of our middle and upper school students from our first overseas trip to France. Our students immersed themselves in the richness of French culture whilst learning French cuisine, art, culture, history, and language. I firmly believe that international travel helps students grow as citizens by building compassion, understanding, connections, and perspectives that transcend boundaries and borders. I hope you enjoy their stories later in this issue of Headlines.

Warmest Regards,

Christopher T. Ryan

Christopher Ryan
Head of School



Millwood to open as scheduled 9/8!

During these unprecedented times, schools across the state have been faced with uncertainty. Millwood School has been working hard to come up with a plan to open school on-time with in-person instruction. In doing so, we have planned on a safe and functional educational environment in which our students can excel. With individualized attention and small class sizes, we have the perfect set-up to succeed.



- FULL DAY ACADEMIC SCHEDULES
Monday - Friday - 8:30am-3:30pm
- IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION
JK & K (full/half-day) Grade 1-Grade 12 (full-day)
- APPLY TODAY TO SECURE YOUR SPOT
Call us at 804.639.3200 or visit us online!

The 2020-21 School Year will begin September 8, 2020.

Developing students of excellence - it's the smart choice.



15100 Millwood School Lane | Midlothian, VA 23112 | millwoodschool.org



More graduation photos on page 2!

SAVE THE DATE! October 19th



Questions?

Contact Kelly Elias at k Elias@millwoodschool.org or 804.639.3200 for further details!

More information will be coming out over the summer which will detail the exact plan of reopening. We intend to do so on September 8.

Class of 2020: Graduate Spotlights



Stephen Louis Canestrino*†
Committed: *Juniata College*



William Monroe Jackson, III*
Committed: *Shenandoah University*



Declan Quinn Carlisle*
Committed: *Christopher Newport University*



Ryan Isaiiah Johnson*
Committed: *Hampton University*



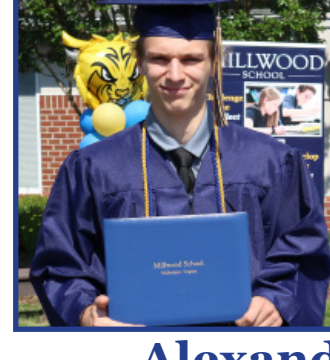
Ahmed Nazar Elkarim*†
Valedictorian
Committed: *Johns Hopkins University*



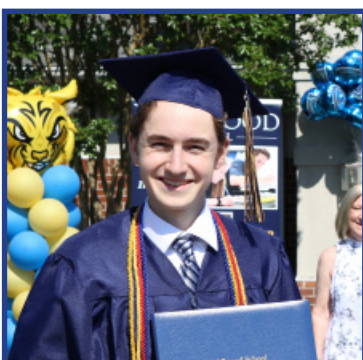
Nicholas John Kurdziel*
Committed: *James Madison University*



Sarah Elizabeth Ferris*
Salutatorian
Committed: *Richard Bland College*



Alexander Mamenko, V*



James Leigh Hollett*†
Committed: *James Madison University*



Aidan Mitchell Paliotti*
Committed: *Penn State University*



Justin Matthew Houck
Committed: *Patrick Henry Community College*



Claiborne Faith Poston*
Committed: *Eastern Mennonite University*

Class of 2020 Spotlights
(Continued on page 3) →

"You are the largest graduating class we have ever had. You have shown your dedication to excellence in our classrooms, in our student body, in Model UN, as club leaders, as sports captains, as musicians, on our school trips to Florida and more recently to France. You have been superb buddies to the 3rd grade. They love you, as we all do. Please remember that your graduation should not end your relationship with Millwood; it should enhance it. We hope that you will visit and proudly represent your class as alumni.

Congratulations, class of 2020, and bon voyage! We will all miss you."

Lower School #MakesADifference

Lower School has gone above-and-beyond with all of the acts of kindness that they have shown to our community during the pandemic! For starters, the first grade students baked brownies for frontline medical workers, as well as provided kindness to their neighbors in a variety of ways.

Additionally, the 3rd grade class created virtual flower bouquet messages to send the elderly to help them to feel less lonely during isolation, while the 5th grade students made and put up signs to show support for frontline workers. Other acts of kindness have included positive sidewalk notes, food donations and more. We are so proud of the stellar example our lower school students set as they continue to show the #MillwoodDifference.



Wilbert Etheridge Prinston, Jr.
Committed: Longwood University



Benjamin Rubin*
Committed: James Madison University



Andrew Blair Smith*



William James Touchstone
Committed: Reynolds Community College



Sherron Otis Washington*

*Blue & Gold cord indicates membership in the National Honor Society

†Red & Gold cord indicates membership in the Spanish Honor Society

Millwood School Kindness Project

We encourage you to **spread kindness** throughout our surrounding community this Spring! Please share your kind acts by tagging Millwood School on social media so that we can share them, too.



Write a senior citizen pen pal and we will deliver it for you!

Decorate sidewalks with positive chalk notes to make others smile.





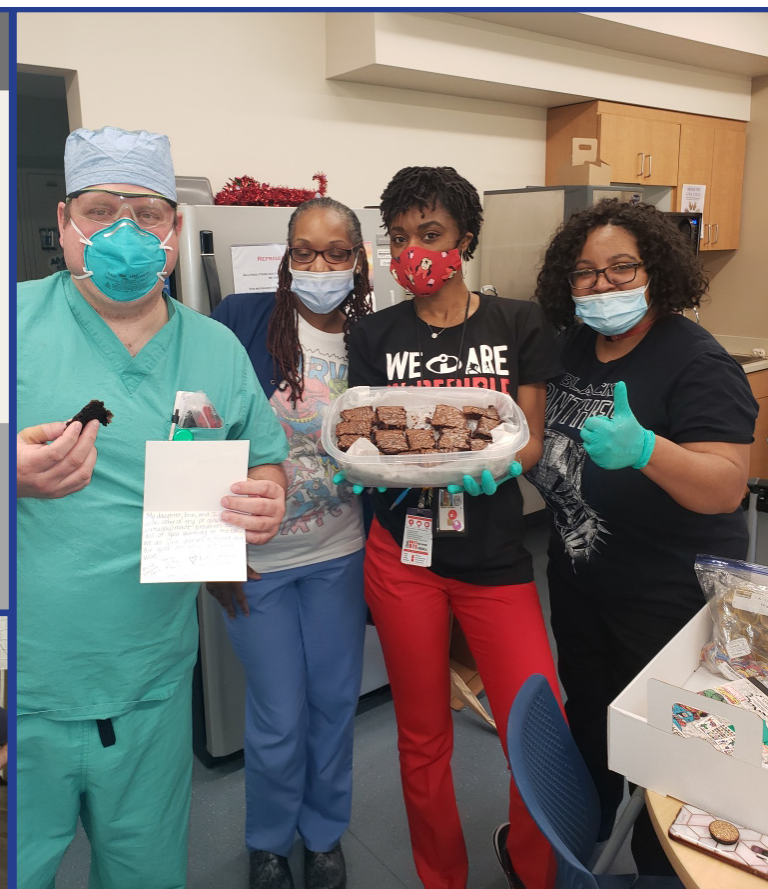
Leave flowers for others just because.

SPREAD Kindness

#MillwoodSchool #MillwoodKindness







Human Anatomy Goes Virtual! Upper School students illustrate books

When we switched to virtual learning, one of the aspects most missed was the connection between buddies. For their final exam in Human Anatomy, students wanted a way to reconnect with their 2nd and 3rd grade buddies, in addition to showing mastery of the course. Students wrote and illustrated children's books about the various systems of the human body and a disorder that goes with each one.

The juniors and seniors then recorded themselves reading the books to their buddies and sent them, with a final message to, their buddy and their buddy's parents. It is traditions like the Millwood School buddy system that are just one more way that we actualize the #MillwoodDifference.





MILLWOOD SCHOOL

July 2020

Headlines



Millwood students travel to France!

Graduate Sarah Ferris shares her journey

Throughout my time at Millwood, I have been fortunate enough to go on a few school trips. This year I got the chance to take a trip with Millwood to France. While in France, we had a jam-packed schedule that allowed us to explore the Southern parts of France and Monaco. We left the Richmond airport and 36 hours later we finally arrived in Aix-en-Provence where we got some lunch and headed to the hotel to rest. We later went ziplining and then went on a guided tour of Aix where we saw an ancient church. This church was influenced by the Romans because the people of this town were allies with the Romans. The Romans helped them fight battles against other towns, and inside the church, there is an actual part of the 'road to Rome'.

We also saw a few of the fountains that made Aix so special. Because the fountains were fed by natural springs they were said to have healing powers. Even Thomas Jefferson



traveled to Aix to put his hurt wrist in the water from the fountain in hopes of healing it. Later in the trip, we visited the Pont-du-Gard where we saw the aqueduct. We took a guided tour of the Papacy and got to learn the history behind why the Pope moved here, and what his life looked like while living here. We also got the chance to see some of the original artwork on the walls of the Papacy from when it was first built. We then went to the Saint-Benezet bridge where we learned the famous song of Avignon.



The next day we headed to Grasse which is a beautiful Mediterranean town that is famous for perfume. Grasse was a town that was famous for leather products; however, leather goods were smelly and therefore made the town of Grasse smelly. The following week was my absolute favorite day of the trip; we went to Monaco for the day. While in Monaco we walked around, got some lunch, and then visited the church where the Royal family members of Monaco are buried. Then we got gelato and enjoyed the warm weather and view of Monaco. We then visited the medieval town of Eze where we walked up a mountain and got to visit some shops. Early the next morning we drove to Nice and boarded our first flight to get back home. By 5 o'clock we arrived home. This trip was a wonderful experience that taught us more about different cultures.

Sarah Ferris, Class of 2020

2020 Honor Rolls

Middle School

Highest Honor Roll

Michelle Idowu - 6th
Madison Kraft - 7th
Luc Ryan - 7th
Caleb Watson - 7th
Maylee Yang - 7th
Sophia Burgess - 8th
Leila Grace - 8th
Maya Novoa - 8th
Lily Waehner - 8th

Honor Roll

Kenyon Kantiok - 7th
Baleigh Blalock - 8th
Bryce Fauerbach - 8th
Joey Tucker - 8th
Luke Wade - 8th

Upper School

Highest Honor Roll

Devon Goetz - 9th
Ricardo Raika - 9th
Isabelle Szczerbinski - 9th
Rebecca Yang - 9th
Sebastian Condyles - 10th
Norah Cook - 10th
Zachary Polazzo - 10th
Cassidy Collins - 11th
Ahmed Elkarim - 12th

James Hollett - 12th
Will Jackson, III - 12th
Ryan Johnson - 12th
Aidan Paliotti - 12th
Clay Poston - 12th
Drew Smith - 12th

Honor Roll

Daniel Goetz - 9th
Claire Hollingsworth - 9th
Julia Wright - 9th
Rebecca Yang - 9th
Lindsey Hollett - 10th
McKenna Thornsbury - 10th
Johnathan Tompkins - 10th
Dylan Massie - 11th
Cameron Ofogh - 11th
Caroline Tremaglio - 11th
Stephen Canestrino - 12th
Declan Carlisle - 12th
Sarah Ferris - 12th
Nicholas Kurdziel - 12th
Alex Mamenko, V - 12th
Ben Rubin - 12th
Sherron Washington - 12th

Congratulations students!

Need to get caught up on summer reading?
Visit the link below to access your grade's reading list.
www.millwoodschool.org/academics/summer-reading.cfm

Volunteering in our Community!

Volunteering is a great way to give back to our community! At Millwood School we pride ourselves on having students and staff that continually strive to make the world a better place, so we wanted to share several ways that you and your family can get out and support the local community throughout this summer.

Chesterfield Food Bank

Volunteer at a distribution or host a drive to collect the most needed non-perishable food items such as: canned vegetables, peanut butter, canned fruit, and canned beans.

Website: www.chesterfieldfoodbank.org/volunteer

Email: info@chesterfieldfoodbank.org / **Phone:** 804-414-8885

Bridging RVA

Sign-up to deliver meals to the over 150 local families in need in our area through the Drop-Knock-Leave program.

Website: www.bridgingrva.com

Sign-Up: www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4dada72ca2f85-food

Richmond Animal League

Host a lemonade stand and donate your proceeds to RAL.

Website: www.ral.org

Email: adopt@ral.org / **Phone:** 804-379-0046

