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Cast of Clockwork Shines on Stage

By: Brianna Propis

It was only a matter of time before audiences roared with laughter and smiles on November 2nd and 3rd upon the curtains first opening to reveal the cast of *Clockwork*. The Dunwoody family and their kooky counterparts certainly made their presence well-known on the St. Mary's stage this past weekend with a rather twisted form of Southern charm that certainly kept audiences guessing and chuckling until the end.

The story opened on the Dunwoody clan and their patriarch, Zack (played by Matthew Walter), merely interacting the way the family typically would on any given day of the week, though much of the conversation was directed towards Leon's (played by Ben Stegmeier), Zack's nephew, "wrenched leg." Curiosity ultimately proved to be Zack's downfall after Leon finally caved to his uncle's constant prodding regarding how he hurt his leg—since the story was so comical that it made Zack *literally* laugh



himself to death.

Immediately after his death, the grandfather clock located in their family room chimed for the first of many times throughout the remainder of the show, considering the Dunwoody family began to mysteriously die off one-by-one afterwards. Were the clock's chimes merely coincidental, or did they somehow serve as a sort of prophecy to signify the death of yet another family member?

As the plot continued to unfold, each of the show's cast

members were able to showcase their talents and deliver a wonderful performance of their colorful characters that was virtually impossible for the audience to forget!

Although the rehearsals undoubtedly had their ups and downs, *Clockwork* was ultimately made possible through the immense dedication and hard work implemented into every last detail by Ms. Ruhland and Ms. Jackson. Through their crucial directing, each cast member was enabled to reach their full potential in presenting a wickedly hilarious



glimpse into the Dunwoody family's murder mystery!

Thank you to those who helped in the creation process of *Clockwork* during one or many stages of pre-production, and thank you to those who attended a showing and supported the St. Mary's theatre department! None of this could be made possible without you.

Editor's Note: Brianna Propis brought the character of Dr. McMurry to life in this year's production of *Clockwork*.

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A1

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

Can you believe Halloween has already passed and Thanksgiving dinner will soon be served on the tables of nearly every family in America? I certainly can't wrap my head around how fast-paced this school year has proven to be thus far and how quickly 2019 seems to be approaching, but there's definitely never a dull moment taking place!

This upcoming week, the senior class and I will be taking our long-anticipated class trip to the happiest place on earth—Disney World! I can so vividly recall envying the senior classes that embarked on their trips to Disney World while I was an underclassman, so I almost find it hard to believe that it's now my class's turn to fly to Florida and create our own wonderfully enduring memories.

Disney World (as well as the other park locations around the world) is often thought of as a charmingly reminiscent destination that enables even the oldest of folks to simply feel like children again. As I continue to grow older and my time in high school dwindles down, I realize the utter importance of keeping a few ounces of "childlike wonder" intact now more than ever.

By no means should it be mistaken with immaturity, but consistently harboring a sense of childlike wonder can aid virtually anyone in preserving their youthful energy (or, at least, what's left of it) and preventing the monotonous routine of their daily life from allowing them to focus on the positive aspects of the world and the people around them.

Without a doubt, Disney is the embodiment of this mindset and the idea of partaking in good, old-fashioned fun with one rather essential string attached—you have to leave your everyday troubles behind and just metaphorically (and literally) enjoy the ride while you're on it!

While we unfortunately can't spend every day of our lives gallivanting around Magic Kingdom or Epcot, the next best thing to do would be to make the most of our individual situations and to live our lives to the fullest (as incredibly cliché as that may sound)—which, if all else fails, can easily be enabled with deciding to watch a Disney film.

I'd like to end on a quote from the man behind the magic and nostalgia himself, Mr. Walt Disney: "Growing old is mandatory, but growing up is optional."

We hope you enjoy the November edition of *The Marian Gazette*, and we wish each of you a blessed Thanksgiving! May we all remember to take time out to truly appreciate our family and friends this holiday season, as well as those marvelously nostalgic moments that bring us back to simpler times.

Sincerely yours,
Brianna Propis

Calling all writers!

Do you like to write? Are you passionate about St. Mary's? Do you have a particular interest you'd like to share with an audience?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then come join us at *The Marian Gazette*! We are currently looking for student writers for all of our news sections. If you are interested, please contact Student Editor Brianna Propis, Mrs. Roberson, or Miss Kawa.

School News

A SPOOKtacular Time!

Each October, the Down Syndrome Parents Group of Western New York holds their annual Halloween Party at St. Mary's High School.

The afternoon consisted of a fun day of Halloween-themed crafts, games, and treats—of course!

A Halloween party wouldn't be complete without some trick-or-treating, so this incredible group of children went down the school hallways collecting candy in each of the classrooms.

A special thank you goes out to the awesome group of Lancer volunteers who made this day so memorable for so many kids!



St. Mary's Comes Out On Top... Again!



For the second year in a row, St. Mary's participated in the School Pride Food Drive. Non-perishable food items were collected from mid-September to mid-October at three local high schools: St. Mary's, Lancaster, and Depew along with three area elementary schools: Hillview, Cayuga Heights, and John Sciole.

At the end of the drive, the food was collected and weighed by the Mayor of Depew (and St. Mary's alumnus) Jesse Niekonowicz. Over 6,000 pounds of food and \$2,500

was collected throughout the drive.

St. Mary's High School came out on top for the second year in a row in terms of the most food donated on a pound-for-pound basis. What an accomplishment!

Thank you to all of our wonderful families for their support of Tri-Community, St. Martha's, and Trinity food pantries.

As the winning school, St. Mary's will receive a pizza party at a to-be-determined date.

School News

Blood Drive Benefits UNYTS

In late October, St. Mary's held the first of two blood drives that will take place during the school year.

We had 47 Lancers step up to donate blood, which will help save more than 140 lives.

Thank you to everyone who donated and the wonderful Unyts staff for their hard work.



Father-Son Communion Breakfast Becomes New Tradition

St. Mary's has started a new yearly tradition. Each Fall, a Father-Son Communion Breakfast will be held for the young gentlemen of the building and their fathers. This year, Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Pompeii before the group of attendees made their way back to St. Mary's for a delicious hot breakfast buffet.

The morning was comprised of wonderful conversation, and Deacon Robb, our Campus Minister, led a discussion

on what made the bond between each individual son and father so special.

We look forward to continuing this new tradition and to even more Lancer fathers and sons joining us next year!



Blue Mass Honors First Responders



On All Saints' Day, St. Mary's also celebrated our annual Blue Mass, which honors all first responders for their service and dedication to the community. We paid respects to those we have lost during the year in our local fire, police, and EMS divisions and prayed for all men and women in

uniform. Thank you to everyone who came out and participated in the Mass!

Faculty Spotlight

Staff Q & A with Deacon Robb

In an edition of last year’s “Guess the Teacher” Deacon Robb was featured, so here’s a more in-depth interview with one of SMH’s favorite all-around guys:

- Q:** How long have you been working at St. Mary’s?

A: “Two years. I heard a student recently say in the hallway -"There's Deacon Robb, he's my favorite teacher and I never had him yet" (WOW, he's got a lot to learn, I'm a bear in the classroom)."

Q: Where did you attend high school?

A: “Bishop Turner High School - Mr. Meyerhofer and I graduated together in 1982.”

Q: Who is your personal hero and why?

A: “My Dad is my personal hero. He is the kind of man I aspire to be: kind, thoughtful, generous, and funny as hell! I fail miserably quite often at most of these, however.”

- Q:** Knowing all that you do now, if you could give your high school students any words of wisdom, what would you say?

A: “To be true to yourself and believe in yourself. You have God-given talents, use them properly for the world around you. Your parents are not crazy, they have lived longer than you and whether you believe it or not, they really do know more than you think. Trust them. Have fun, all the time!”

Q: Any piece of advice for students struggling to decide on a college university or major?

A: “My advice would to slow down, step back, take a moment for yourself and don't listen to what others say all the time. Go with your gut feeling.”

- Q:** Anything else you'd like to share with *The Marian Gazette* readers?

A: “I would like to thank St. Mary's family for making me feel welcome and a part of this wonderful community. I love the joyful spirit here.”

Mr. Fay’s Corner



A little Mathematics to begin November: Saints (11/1) + Sinners(11/2) = Politicians (11/6). Also, we remember and cherish veterans of military service (11/11) and we offer prayers of Thanksgiving (11/22).

In both the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds the Church expresses the belief in the "Communion of Saints", a trio joined by prayer. The first, in heaven, are the saints, publicly canonized and privately believed, who intercede on our behalf. The second, those in purgatory are those in line for sainthood. They are preparing, cleansing their faith relationship to enter the peace and serenity of heaven and dwell in the presence of the Triune God. The third, are those of us, still living, who are saints-in the-making. We strive o be the best version of ourself, and ask forgiveness when we're no. Together we form the "Body of Christ", each with blessings and tasks.

As we come to the end of the Church year, let us be mindful of our part in the "Body of Christ" and celebrate the feast of Christ our King. Benedicat vos omnipotens Deus. twf+

Guess the Teacher

Each month, *The Marian Gazette* will feature a different person in our “Guess the Teacher” section. If you think you know who this month’s teacher is, submit your guess to Student Editor Brianna Propis at 19bpropis@student.smhlancers.org. *Limit one guess per student and the first to submit the correct answer wins. The winner will receive a Tim Horton’s gift card!*

- I studied Pre-Med
 - I have read the entire Lord of the Ring trilogy 5-6 times
 - I have taught a lot of different subjects while a teacher at St. Mary’s.
- My favorite TV show of all time is *The West Wing*
 - I had a radio show in college.
 - My favorite musician is Jimmy Buffet.

Sports

Women’s Volleyball Takes Home League Championship

Great programs can oftentimes be taken for granted. After winning their eighth consecutive league title, this year’s St. Mary’s Women’s Volleyball Team is determined to make their own legacy.

The Lancers swept the Sacred Heart Sharks 25-10, 25-12 and 25-18. The combination of strong play at the net, especially from Marie Rhodes (four blocks/nine kills) and solid back row defense made it tough for the Sharks to create any offensive flow. St. Mary’s offense was paced by Kelly Cleversly, who had 10 kills.



Now, the Lancers have their sights set on the program’s 17th overall state title. It just so happens that the volleyball state championships will be held on the Lancers’ home court this year.



Men’s Soccer Wins League

The Lancers beat Bishop Timon 2-1 to capture the regular season and post-season championships for the Monsignor Martin Division B.

Luke Szablewski had both goals in the game and Andy Pufpaff had an assist. Noah Winiarski also had 8 saves in the game.

The championship means the Lancers have gone back-to-back-to-back over the past three seasons.



Sports

Women’s Soccer Come Up Just Short in League Championship

The SMH Women's Soccer Team lost a heartbreaker to Nichols in the league championship game to end their season. They fell 1-0 in the final minutes.

Despite the loss, there is no denying all of the incredible achievements the team experienced over the season: some unbelievable play, a 19-game unbeaten streak, Regular Season Division A Champions, and the growth of the program and team, which was recognized by the Western New York soccer community.

Things sure look bright for Coach Brittany Heist and the future of this program!

Freshman Phenom Goes for 100+ Points

Freshman Shae O'Rourke sure didn't play like a rookie. She capped off her season with 44 goals and 18 assists, totaling 106 points. Way to go, Shae!



Cross Country Program Continues to Grow

The Cross Country program has come quite a long way in just a few short years.

Led by Coach Charlie Planz, the team has finished up one of its best seasons in recent memory.

At the 2018 All-Catholic Championships, the men's and women's teams had some great showings! Top finishers in the Freshman race included Colin Barry and Aiden Murty.

St. Mary's even boasts a couple All-Catholic team members: Second Team All-Catholic awarded to freshman Margaret Nawojski and junior Eli LaVarnway. Congratulations!



The Arts

2019 Musical Announced... And a Kenny Award to Boot!

The St. Mary's Performing Arts Department has announced this year's Spring Musical: *The Addams Family*!

Here is the synopsis from *Stage Agent* to help the audiences know the kooky time they're in for:

"In the kooky, upside-down world of the Addams Family, to be sad is to be happy, to feel pain is to feel joy, and death and suffering are the stuff of their dreams. Nonetheless, this quirky family still has to deal with many of the same challenges faced by any other family, and the spookiest nightmare faced by every family creates the focus Lippa, Brickman, and Elice's musical: the Addams kids are growing up. The Addamses have lived by their unique values for hundreds of years and Gomez and Morticia, the patriarch and matriarch

of the clan, would be only too happy to continue living that way. Their dark, macabre, beloved daughter Wednesday, however, is now an eighteen year-old young woman who is ready for a life of her own. She has fallen in love with Lucas Beineke, a sweet, smart boy from a normal, respectable Ohio family — the most un-Addams sounding person one could be! And to make matters worse, she has invited the Beinekes to their home for dinner. In one fateful, hilarious night, secrets are disclosed, relationships are tested, and the Addams family must face up to the one horrible thing they've managed to avoid for generations: change."

Kenny Award-Nominated

As an added bonus, this year's performance of *The Addams Family* is up for Kenny Award consideration. The Kenny's recognize the best of the best in high school theatre in Western New York! Stay tuned throughout the winter and spring for more information and the ins and outs of selection and judging criteria!



Cabaret Kicks Off Performing Arts Season



This year, St. Mary's kicked off its performing arts season earlier than ever with the inaugural Lancer Cabaret.

The night featured some of St. Mary's most talented performers as they sang and danced across the stage, and the grand finale showcased a combined chorus that put on full display the vocal talents of the student at St. Mary's.

Alumni News & Events

Bash for Cash is Huge Success

Thank you to everyone who came out on Saturday, October 20th to support the annual Bash for Cash! As one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, it is paramount to have a great turnout, and our Lancers came out in droves!

Congratulations to all of our winners, and here's to another successful event next year!



Russell J. Salvatore Scholarship Fund Established

As our school families are aware, Russell J. Salvatore has stepped up once again to support the Western New York community with a donation to St. Mary's High School.

In conjunction with his donation, St. Mary's and Mr. Salvatore have established the Russell J. Salvatore Scholarship for incoming freshmen.

If you would like to support Mr. Salvatore and St. Mary's High School, please visit smhlancers.org/support-smh/.



Alumni Updates

Know any alumni who have moved, had a baby, celebrated an engagement, just got a promotion, or experienced another exciting life event?

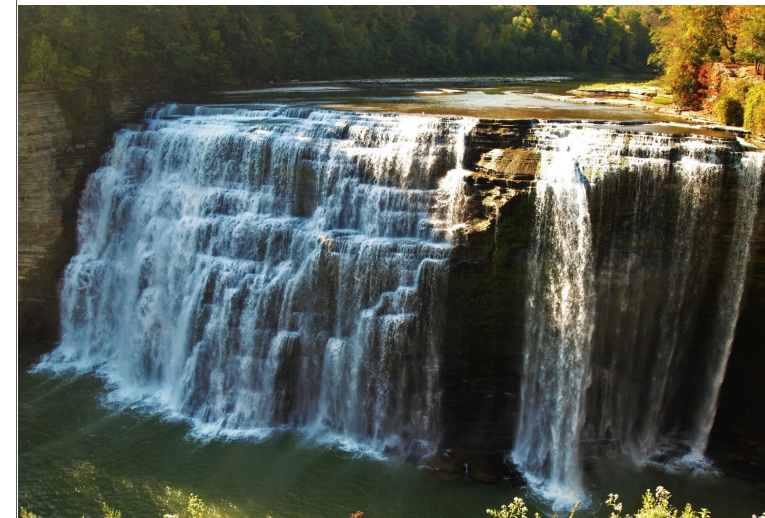
Let us know at smhlancers.org or by contacting Dean of Advancement & Alumni Relations Amanda Rebeck at arebeck@smhlancer.org or 716-683-4824 ext. 237.

Student Beat

Buffalo—Up Close & Personal

Senior Alyssa LaMartina is back to present her gorgeous photography of different landmarks she has shot in and around Buffalo and also to discuss the history associated with these pictures.

This month, Alyssa brings us into Fall with a look around Letchworth State Park.



By: *Alyssa LaMartina*

As the leaves continue to cover the ground and the days continually grow colder, I decided to write this Marian edition on a special location. Located just over an hour from the Buffalo area, Letchworth State Park is a top autumn destination in Western New York. From its stunning waterfalls to its hidden paths, I hope that you enjoy its breathtaking scenery as much as I do!

Continued on p. F2

Student Beat

Dantonio Hopes for Another Championship

By: Brady O’Brien

Coming off a Monsignor Martin Championship in Division 3, Federation Hockey Coach Mark Dantonio is excited and ready for the upcoming season, as the team has moved up to Division 1.

“It’s going to be a lot tougher this year in Division 1. We’re going to need the whole team to step up big this year if we want to become successful,” Senior Brendan Krawczyk said.

Mark Dantonio was awarded

Coach of the Year by the *Lancaster Bee*. He knows what it takes to win and is ready for the new challenge. The St Mary’s Federation Hockey team will have a tough task this year with the schedule they have, however, Coach Dantonio believes his team is ready to compete. “We’re going to work really hard this upcoming year to make sure that we win Division 1 this year,” said Coach Dantonio.

The first scheduled game for the Lancers will be on December 1st

and from there, they hope to achieve their goal this year to repeat as Monsignor Martin Champions.



Letchworth History

Continued from p. F1

In 1907, Governor Charles Evans Hughes created the idea of Letchworth State Park with nothing but a piece of paper and a pen in hand. A wealthy man by the name William Pryor Letchworth funded the expense. Letchworth State Park consists of three breathtaking waterfalls. These are named Lower Falls, Middle Falls, and Upper Falls, based upon their location in the park. William Pryor Letchworth, beginning expansion around what is the Middle Falls today, took a fifty year period to completely finish his master project. He carefully restored the beauty of the valley, opening it’s vast surroundings for visitors to observe. An important motive of his was to not only restore the natural aspects of the park, but also to promote the historical background it possessed. He preserved a museum on Letchworth State Park’s property which is still present to this day.

William Pryor Letchworth passed away in the year 1910. Letchworth State Park has since flourished with guests, and today spans to 14,000 acres. Known as “the Grand Canyon of the East”, there are over a million visitors a year to see this amazing site. If you haven’t visited Letchworth State Park yet, you should see it at least once in your lifetime! It can truly only be seen with one’s own eyes.



Student Beat

St. Mary’s Celebrates Red Ribbon Week

By: Alyssa LaMartina

This past week, the St. Mary’s faculty and students celebrated Red Ribbon Week. Facilitated by the Students Against Destructive Decisions Club, Red Ribbon Week is a nation-wide alcohol and drug awareness and prevention campaign. The week included daily dress up themes and interactive activities for the students to engage in. We started the week off with the distribution of red ribbons to the students homerooms. St. Mary’s High School proudly wore *My Future is Bright*, I am Drug-Free! on their shirts and backpacks throughout the week to vocalize their pledge against drug use. The week was full of fun dress up themes such as baseball caps and crazy socks. The St. Mary’s Students Against Destructive Decisions Club also had the opportunity to attend Kids Escaping Drugs Seminar at The Chapel in Getzville. Several area high schools were invited to discuss the dangers of drug usage in today’s society.

We were then given advice on how to translate this into high schools of our own. Our day started out with powerful guest speakers who had first-hand experience of the dangers of hazing due to the passing of their son. They shared their wisdom with us and stressed how we need to be the generation to make things better. We then

participated in several activities including painting rocks, untangling ropes in a group activity, as well as discussing what being a leader means to us. To me, the most powerful group session was when it was revealed that they had hidden a Kids Escaping Drugs recovered addict in our group with us all day, posed as a student. He opened up to us about his story, and how he has recovered in his life. Overall, the Kids Escaping Drugs seminar was a very powerful and moving experience for all who attended.



Face 2 Face Awareness Kids Escaping Drugs 2018 Seminar



We were each given a rock to paint something we would miss about ourselves if we faced an addiction.

A Week Spent In Mexico

Junior Emma Ridolfi was lucky enough to experience the trip of a lifetime while at St. Mary's High School. She and a few other students traveled to Mexico with Spanish teacher Mrs. Dvorak to teach English to children and immerse themselves in Mexican culture.

Emma was kind enough to share some excerpts from her journey with *The Marian Gazette* team:

"Further in the distance, you could see Popocatepetl, an active stratovolcano. The mountain seemed to tower over everything, an ominous shade of grey, with its peaks often dusted white with snow. It was a stark contrast to the lush greens and vibrant blue of the fields and sky. I was astounded by the beauty of the scene in front of me. It looked like a painting. I don't know if it was because I was in a new place, or if where I was really *was* more beautiful than any other place I'd ever been."

"The program offered math, science, english, and art courses, along with a recess and lunch break. Our whole group taught English lessons to the students who were ages three to thirteen. We spent most of our day there, teaching with basically no plan or reference, so it was a little bit of a struggle."

"We went on to see the Great Pyramid of Cholula and some ancient Aztec ruins. This was one of my favorite things we did. The first thing we did was go through a series of underground tunnels created by archaeologists that went directly under the pyramid. It was like a maze. It was dark and the air was cool. There were tunnels closed off where you could see extremely steep staircases or other bits built by the Aztecs. We came out from the tunnels and went to explore the ruins. More ancient pyramids and staircases, religious areas and town centers. All of it is there in Cholula. Out of all the majesty of the giant stone structures, there was one that was particularly unnerving. In the

middle of a grassy field, there was a pit-like structure that was roped off, so not to let any people get into it. Looking down into it, you could see an altar which had been encased in glass (for preservation). That altar was used for human sacrifice, adult and child alike. I'd never really believed in the paranormal before, but standing near the mouth of that pit, I felt exceedingly uneasy. A nervousness settled within my bones and a chill ran up my spine. I only spent a few minutes there, for I couldn't really stomach the thoughts and feelings it was giving me. Across from the pit stood another large pyramid, built almost like an amphitheater, so it surrounded us on three sides. It was an open space, so there was an echo, but it was a very special echo. It sounded like a bird call. The Aztecs worshipped many gods who often took the form of or were even part animal. This echo was meant to symbolize the call of the quetzal, a bird which plays a prominent role in Mesoamerican mythology. When a person stood in the middle of the field, close enough to the pyramid, and clapped their hands, the echo that hit our ears sounded like a bird."

"After we walked through the ruins, we made our way to the Great Pyramid. It's the largest pyramid in the world, even bigger than those in Egypt. We hiked up the many steep, steep inclines to get to the top. At the very top of the pyramid, there stands the cathedral, La Iglesia de los Remedios. Cholula is considered by many to be the holiest city in Mexico, so people often make pilgrimages to this very cathedral, especially during the Easter and Christmas seasons. Getting to the top of the pyramid is extremely rewarding for all the physical exertion it takes to get there. The cathedral is a gorgeous church, inside and out. Bright yellow on the outside, tall, the peaks end in domes decorated with blue and yellow tile patterns. Inside, high vaulted ceilings, ornate woodwork, a beautiful statue of Mary seated behind the altar. The thing with these churches in Mexico is that yes, they're

physically breathtaking, but they were also built from not-so-nice practices. The Spanish came over and built their churches on top of Aztec religious structures and worshipping grounds. They made the natives convert and if they didn't they were killed. Walking into these churches gives a person an incredibly conflicted feeling, especially if they're religious. Outside the cathedral, still atop the pyramid, you can see for miles in every direction. You can see all of Cholula, bits of the city of Puebla, and of course, Popo looming in the distance."

"Going to Mexico made me feel as though I was part of something bigger. I was apart of the bigger picture. My life didn't just revolve around Buffalo and St. Mary's and everything local. I became a part of the world. I became bigger. I know more now, I feel more now. I can empathize better than I could before I went. I've learned to view things through a wider lens than just staying in the same bubble I've been in for quite some time now. Having been back home, I never knew I could miss a place as much as I miss Mexico, and I cannot wait to go back."



The St. Mary's contingency in front of Popo.

Photo Page—Seniors Halloween 2018



Photo Page—Clockwork



School Calendars - November 2018



November 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 PM Liturgy Sched. All Saints Liturgy	2 Registration deadline for 12/1 SAT Exam Fall Play 7:30pm	3 SAT Exam Fall Play 7:30pm
4	5 Winter Sports Begin	6	7 Extended Homeroom Sched. Class Meetings HSPT Review Class 4 - 6pm Winter Sports Banquet 6:30pm	8 HSPT Review Class 4 - 6pm	9 End of First Quarter HSPT Review Class 4 - 6pm	10
11	12 NO SCHOOL Veterans Day Senior Trip Departs	13 Lancer Parent Partnership Meeting 6:30pm	14 Fac/Staff Meeting 2:30pm	15 Senior Trip Returns	16	17 HSPT Admissions Test 8am - 12pm
18	19 NHS Induction Ceremony 6pm	20 Thanksgiving Prayer Service	21 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday	22 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Day	23 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday	24
25	26	27	28	29 Sophomore Retreat	30	

For the latest school calendar updates, please visit smblanders.org.