

THE CONVOCATION

The Unexpected Collective Noun for a Group of Eagles

Volume 1 Issue 5

GC Journalism Staff

December 2024



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GC PREPARES FOR CHRISTMAS!

By Sadie Whitt

Christmas is coming soon! While GC students remember that Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Christ, they are also excited for time with family away from schoolwork. Gifts are also a big part of most Christmas celebrations, so many students have been making the traditional Christmas list.

In Pre-K3, Nolan Council wants some transformers, and Isaiah Henderson would like some Paw Patrol toys. Cooper Liebel in Mrs. Audo's pre-kindergarten class said he wants a sit down scooter for Christmas. Kindergartener Adrian Mojica said he wants a bike for himself, and a bike for his sister. In first grade, Henry Pope would like a fox stuffy (squish mallow). Lincoln Killgore in the second grade said, "a baby cat." In third grade, Deacon Fauley would like a go cart or dirt bike. Parker Garrett in the fourth grade said at the top of his Christmas list is a 3D Printer. In 5th grade, Emmy Lowe would like a BB gun and some rainbow vans. Sixth grader Will Mahan would like to get a phone for Christmas.

Secondary has also been busy with making their lists. Samantha Nickell in the 7th grade said that she wants Uggs. Cameron Faseler hopes to receive an Anthony Edwards Minnesota Timberwolves jersey, while Cambrie Pollard would like a dog. Addie Pope in the 10th grade said, "I want a new phone because my phone right now is broken." Junior Gabby Lumby wants Victory Insoles to help her jump higher. Students aren't the only one who are busy with making their lists, Mrs.



Kooper Liebel (PreK) enjoys selecting gifts at the PTF Christmas Shoppe.

Fields said that she wants wax melts for her scentsy. Mrs. Wrinkle said that she wants anything from Bath and Body Works. Mrs. Ross said that she wants an antique cake stand and new boots. Mrs. Kinnard wants a new bookshelf and for everyone to read the school newspaper.

COMING SOON

Christmas Break 12/20-1/7
(Teacher in service 1/6)

Daddy Daughter dance 12/21

JV Boys Basketball v McKinney
Cornerstone 1/2/25 1:30

Varsity Boys Basketball v
McKinney Cornerstone 1/2/25 3:00

Varsity Girls Basketball @ Wylie
Prep 1/2/25 4:30

Middle School Girls Basketball @
CHESS 1/6/25 5:30

Middle School Boys White
Basketball @ CHESS 1/6/25 6:30

JV Boys Basketball @ Wylie Prep
12/7/25 6:00

Varsity Boys Basketball @
Fannindel 1/7/25 6:30

"Beauty and the Beast" play
auditions grades 6-12
Jan. 8 3:40-5:20

MLK Day (Day off 1/20/25)

Basketball pep rally 1/24/25

SING A SONG OF CHRISTMAS!

GREENVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2024

By Jillian Nelson

On December 4th, Greenville Christian hosted a Christmas performance at the Greenville Municipal Auditorium which was packed with GCNation families and friends.

Students from PreK and Kindergarten sang "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, and then the Kindergarteners performed a skit wishing the audience a Merry Christmas. The fifth and sixth grades sang and danced for a 1950 style version of "Rock around the Jingle Bells." They also performed an unforgettable "12 Days of Christmas" routine. The secondary choir performed many beautiful songs. Junior Owen Pittsinger and senior Kylie Hogue led the audience in singing some favorite Christmas carols. Next, the eighth grade did an awesome drum routine with light sticks. Finally, first through fourth grade students performed a short musical called "Sing a Song of Christmas" which included a traditional nativity scene featuring students.

The Christmas Program was planned and directed by music teachers Mrs. Becky Shasteen and Mrs. Audra Tibboel. Mrs. Amanda Pierce was the stage manager, and Mr. Ryan Blaske accompanied the students on piano. An assortment of other teachers and parents helped in various ways to make this program a success.

Dean of Students Todd Nivens enjoyed the program. He said, "Anyone that missed it, missed a wonderful time of celebrating Christmas. I laughed, cried and sang. It was a blessing from start to Finish." Similarly, GC Head of School Mrs. Laura Smith was grateful to attend her first GC Christmas program. She said, "How thankful and blessed I was by the Fine Arts teachers and the program that provided an opportunity to not only showcase their student's talent but allow us to worship together and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."



Secondary Choir students sing as part of the Christmas program.



Kindergartener Carter Killgore



First grader Harley Cooke



Fifth graders Evie Goodman and Macie McAfee



Fifth graders Josie Nelson and Essie Franklin were "pipers piping" in the "Twelve Days of Christmas" skit



Third graders Dee Dee Renshaw, Nevaeh Gonzalez, and Kali Jones were angels in the Nativity skit.



Junior Owen Pittsinger and senior Kylie Hogue lead the congregation in some favorite Christmas carols.



Fifth graders Abigail Blaske and Jessica Adams are the "partridge in a pear tree" for the "Twelve Days of Christmas" skit.



Sixth graders Sadie Henderson and Levi Robbins perform a dance routine with their class.



Kindergarteners Keith Garner and Eli Elery recite lines for a skit.



*GC students enacted a nativity scene.
Back row: Tyler Mitchell, Kalie Jones, Deacon Fauley, Gus Pate
Front Row: Dawson May, Ariella Mojica, Azle Gudgel, Kinley Nelson*



Sophomore Link Brown sings a solo with the secondary choir.

MRS. SHERMAN'S LITERARY CORNER

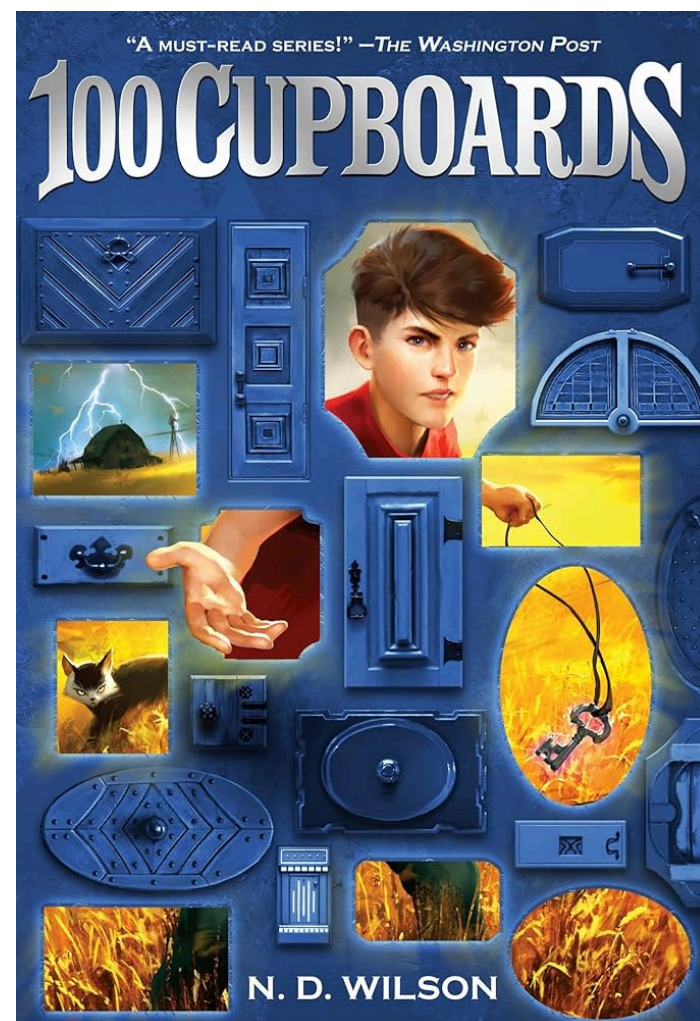
100 Cupboards by N.D. Wilson

Finding a good book series is a hard feat. Stories can build slow; you often have to read an entire book, and then start the second to know if the series will hold any water.

In *The 100 Cupboard* trilogy, we meet Henry York. His parents have just been kidnapped in South Africa which sounds like an interesting storyline . . . but that's not this story.

This story begins with cornfields, cousins, and baseball in Henry, Kansas. You can almost smell the boring coming off the page. That is until a chunk of the plaster from the wall above Henry's attic bed hits him in the face revealing a hidden cupboard. Soon Henry uncovers 99 clearly hidden cupboards that peek into another world. Some look so peaceful and beautiful. Others feel so evil that Henry never wants to open them again. Will keeping them closed be enough to keep the evil out?

With each book in *The 100 Cupboards* trilogy, the momentum builds. The battle against evil is clear, and our ordinary hero from Kansas meets it head on. This series is truly one you can get sucked into. The 100 Cupboards trilogy is suggested for readers 7th grade and up.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

By Landon Wilburn

Greenville Christian School students and families recently participated in a missions opportunity by collecting items for Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child is a charity that was created by an organization called Samaritan's Purse. During this campaign, people purchase toys, clothing, or other items for less fortunate children around the globe. The items are packed in shoe boxes, labeled with details about the age and gender of the recipient, and shipped to their destinations. This ministry is a way to show God's love to kids in need.

GC held a competition to see which classes could collect the most boxes. Teams were created from elementary and secondary classes. The first and eighth grade classes won the contest. They will receive a pizza party as the reward at the beginning of next semester.

THANK YOU

By Landon Wilburn

GCS teachers and staff would like to offer their gratitude for the many gifts provided during the holiday season.

The GC Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) made a Thanksgiving lunch of soup, salad, and dessert for all the teachers. They also purchased school spirit shirts and provided coffee and snacks for Christmas. GC would like to thank Bradford Elite Real Estate for serving hot chocolate and snacks.

CHRISTMAS CHAPEL

By Landon Wilburn

On Friday, December 13, GCS celebrated Christmas with an all-school chapel in the gym using the new sound system donated by the Grand Eagles (a group of GC grandparents who support the school). Parents were also invited to attend this special chapel.

The secondary choir performed several songs. Then sixth grader Judson Pierce recited Luke 2:8-14 which was part of a monologue from his recent performance as Linus in the GC production of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Next, sophomore Elizabeth Galyean and Senior Kylie Hogue led the school in a selection of Christmas carols. The elementary students participated very enthusiastically.

The guest speaker for the chapel was a member of Mr. Nivens' family, Mr. Christion Draper. Mr. Draper is a professional opera singer and voice and performance coach from Dallas, Texas. He delivered an amazing a Capella rendition of the song "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" and spoke about the birth of Jesus from the viewpoint of his earthly father, Joseph. This was especially meaningful for Mr. Draper as he had recently become a father himself. Mr. and Mrs. Draper also sang a duet about the birth of Christ, who entered the world in a very humble way.

The chapel ended with a suprise visit from Bucky the Elf (Mrs. Erin Galyean) who announced the winners of the secondary level door-decorating contest and gave candy to all the students.



Elizabeth Galyean and Kylie Hogue lead a sing-along of Christmas favorites



Bucky the Elf delivered candy and the results of the door-decorating contest.



Mr. and Mrs. Draper sing a duet for the Christmas chapel.



Above, members of the secondary choir perform at the Christmas chapel



Left: Sixth grader Judson Pierce recites a monologue

A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

By GC Newspaper Staff

December 12-14, GC middle school students performed A Charlie Brown Christmas under the direction of senior students Taylor Mahan and Anabella Wagon. Theater teacher Mrs. Jen Brown supervised the production.

Because so many 5th-7th grade students were interested in joining this theater production, two casts were created. The casts were called "The Peanuts Pals" and "The Snoopy Squad." Each cast performed two shows. Student Siobhan Hibben said, "Our directors were amazing, and they were good at putting up with us through rehearsals."



5th grader Luke Renshaw as performs as Snoopy



7th grader Cameron Faseler was cast in the lead role of Charlie Brown.



6th grader Anthony Hudgeons as Schroeder and 7th grader Siobhan Hibben as Lucy



Real life siblings Cameron and Ellie Faseler play brother and sister Charlie Brown and Sally



6th grader Sadie Henderson as Woodstock and 5th grader Luke Renshaw as Snoopy lead the cast in a dance.



6th grader Levi Robbins played Linus

A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

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Fifth grader Emmy Lowe as Sally



Sixth graders Judson Pierce as Linus and Will Mahan as Charlie Brown



Sixth grader McKenna Lowe as Lucy



5th graders Liam Fauley and Jessica Adams as Snoopy and Woodstock



Sixth graders Carter Stout as Pigpen and Hudson Stephenson as Shermy

GC STUDENT COMPETES AT AG EXPOSITION

By Jillian Nelson

GC fifth grader Macie McAfee competed at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Kentucky during November. She placed 12th with her wether doe goat. They exhibit these animals to show their conformation, muscling, and overall quality. Macie has learned a great deal from raising and showing these animals, including responsibility and work ethic. Greenville Christian is very proud of these extracurricular achievements of its students. Please join the school in offering congratulations to Macie on her success.



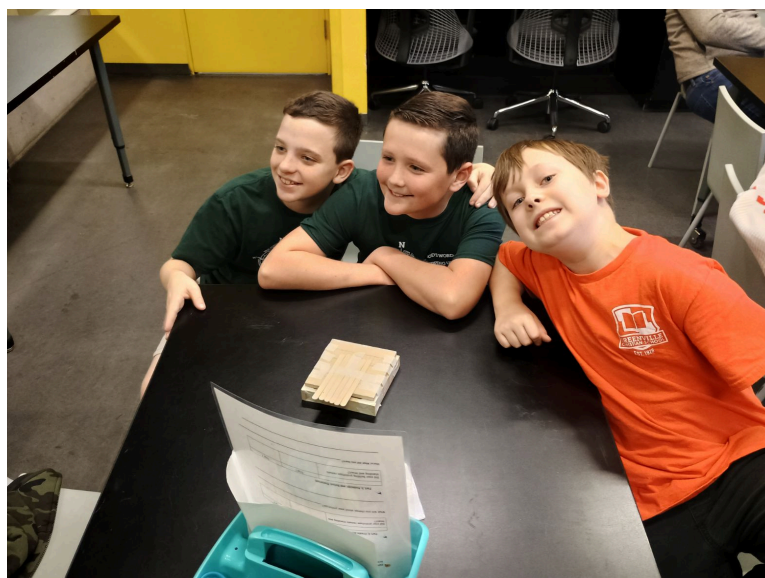
5TH AND 6TH GRADES VISIT PEROT MUSEUM

By Landon Wilburn

On Monday, December 2, 2024 the GC fifth and sixth grade classes went on a field trip to the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas, Texas. According to Fifth grade teacher Mrs. Simone Holt, "Students also designed their own birds, experienced earthquakes of different magnitudes, and investigated various displays on topics ranging from animal adaptations to relative gravity. They even got to step into the shoes of a meteorologist to report the weather and dance with dinosaurs." Fifth grader Josie Nelson said, "The dinos were awesome and cool". Many students also enjoyed the engineering lab in which they practiced planning and building a structure that would remain intact in a simulated earthquake.



GC student Will Mahan learns about earthquakes at the Perot Museum.



L-R Levi Robbins, Will Mahan, and Judson Pierce display their simulated building.



Fifth grader Cameron Dierschke enjoys the museum exhibits

2ND GRADE MAILS CHRISTMAS CARDS

On December 17, Mrs. Renshaw's second grade class created Christmas cards for their families, and mailed them.



Wyatt Clark is excited to mail his cards



Second graders Tennessee Ary (left), Canyon Cole (center), and Ava Stollsteimer (right) prepare to mail their cards

LUNG PRESENTATION

By GC Newspaper Staff

On Friday, December 6, representatives from the Northeast Texas Children's Museum in Commerce visited the GC campus to teach the 4th grade class about how human lungs work with an interactive exhibit called the "Mega Lungs," an 8 foot inflatable model. The students learned about how smoking and vaping can harm our lungs. They also saw how asthma, pneumonia, and cancer look like on the lungs. Students also learned about oxygen levels in the human body and heart rate.



4th graders view the "Mega Lungs"



4th graders check their oxygen levels and learn about heart rate

SECONDARY NEWS

GC VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON

By Ryder Brantner

The Greenville Christian Eagles Basketball season is underway! On Saturday, December 14 the GC boys basketball team competed at the Christian Homeschool Athletic Association of Mount Pleasant (CHAAMP) Holiday Hoops Classic in Mount Pleasant, Texas.

The Eagles defeated the CHAAMP's team and the team from Avery to qualify for the championship game. GC placed second in this tournament. The GC Varsity Eagles are coached by James Smith.



10th grader Ryder Brantner attempts a lay-up



Freshman Levi Williams gets the basketball.



Sophomore Joshua Horton takes a shot

SECONDARY DOOR CONTEST

By Sadie Whitt

This Christmas season, the GC secondary students decorated their hallway as scenes from the Christmas movie *Elf*. The doors were designed to represent "Buddy the Elf's Journey to NYC."

The students were assigned various doors to decorate. At the beginning of the hallway, the eleventh grade, under the supervision of Mr. Nivens, decorated their door as the North Pole featuring a 3D styrofoam cup replica of Leon the Snowman from the movie. Mrs. Feezel's door displayed Mr. Narwhal, which was created by the seventh grade. The sophomore class decorated the Candy Cane Forest on Mrs. Alvarado's doors. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Galyean's doors were decorated by the seniors as the Sea of Twirly Swirly Gum Drops. Mrs. Kinnard and Mr. Smith's doors were decorated by the freshman class as Central Park complete with Santa, the Central Park Rangers, carolers, and Buddy the Elf. The eighth decorated Mrs. Fields' door as Gimbel's department store and the Empire State Building.

The North Pole door created by the eleventh grade was declared the winner of the contest at the all-school Christmas Chapel on December 13th.



NHS INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

By GC Newspaper Staff

The Greenville Christian School chapter of the National Honor Society inducted new members on Monday, December 16, 2024 with a ceremony on campus in the MPAC (Multi-Purpose Activity Center).

To qualify for NHS, a student must maintain a grade point average of 90 or above for all years in high school, exhibit a strong moral character and leadership abilities, and consistently provide service to others. Senior Anabella Wagon, Wrinkle.



L-R Anabella Wagon, Sadie Whitt, Allison Blaske, Sean Holt, Owen Pittsinger

GC ROBOTICS EXHIBITION

By GC Newspaper Staff

The GC robotics class held an exhibition battle between the class VEXIQ robots on Monday, December 16, 2024.

The exhibition took place in the MPAC during the secondary lunch period. Students were invited to watch as the teams battled for dominance with their "battlebots." Many students enjoyed viewing the contest, which was won by LHL, the robot created by the team of Addie Pope, Rick Jackson, and Grant Bench. Sixth grader Anthony Hudgeons said "It was so interesting how they constructed the robots and got them to work. It was a cool experiment." Myland Franklin said, "The one with the shovel had the advantage." Hudson Stephenson agreed that the exhibition was "fun to watch." These students expressed an interest in taking the robotics class when they are older.

The robotics class is taught by Mrs. Melissa Ross, and is an elective choice for high school students. The class focuses on basic coding and engineering skills. Mrs. Ross said, "As this is my first year teaching robotics I am learning so much! I am amazed to see how many different skills are involved in the build and operation of these robots. The students also have to learn to collaborate with others and to deal with disappointment when their robot doesn't do what they expect it to do. I am loving it more than I ever thought I would!" Mrs. Ross hopes that the robotics team will be able to compete in tournaments in the coming years.

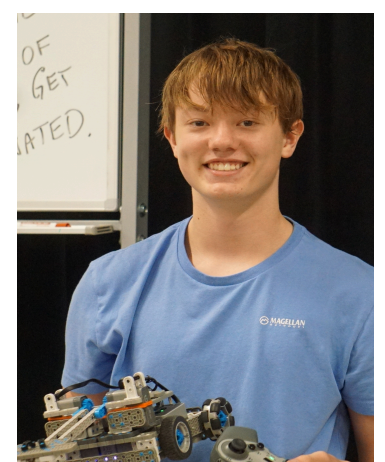
CLASS POSTER



Mrs. Kinnard's sophomore English class recently completed a collaborative poster project about William Shakespeare. Students incorporated famous Shakespearean quotes into their design. The poster is displayed in room S4.



Colton Cook watches as Ian Dierschke drives the robot.



Freshman Noah Holland shows off his team's robot and remote control.



Sophomore Grant Bench prepares his team's robot, LHL, for the competition.

GC CHEER SQUAD COMPETES AT STATE

By Sadie Whitt

On December 9, 2024 the GCS Varsity cheerleaders left for the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) state Cheer competition in Waco, Texas.

GC students and faculty lined the halls to cheer for the team as they departed.

The cheerleaders competed in several different contests. The team won fourth place. They also entered a stunt team with Maddie Montenegro, Jenna Gilley, Sadie Whitt, Khloe Montenegro, and Elizabeth Galyean. The stunt team placed third. Khloe Montenegro also entered the mascot competition and got third place.

The GC cheerleaders also earned some All-State awards. Elizabeth Galyean got honorable mention all-state. Jenna Gilley got second team all-state. Sadie Whitt and Maddie Montenegro were awarded first team all-state honors.

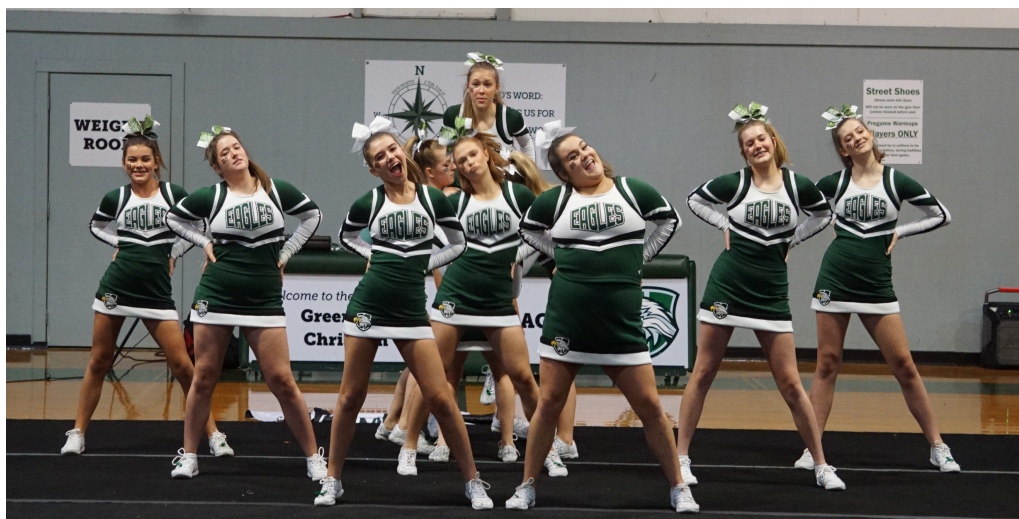
Members of the 2024 cheer squad include Claire Sundeen, Grace Long, Ava Lowe, Ella Lowe, Jillian Nelson, Jenna Gilley, KeeLee Donnelly, Khloe Montenegro, Trinity Epley, and Elizabeth Galyean.



Seniors Jenna Gilley and Maddie Montenegro lead the Cheer Squad through the halls filled with cheering supporters as they prepare to leave for the state contest.



GC Cheerleaders use their pom poms to create the number 1 at a pep rally.



GC Cheerleaders perform at a pep rally.



First Team All-State Cheerleaders Sadie Whitt (left) and Maddie Montenegro (right)