



A Season of Giving

The lower school student leadership council partnered with the high school service council to conduct a food drive for area charities. All food collected by the lower school went to Yokefellow Ministries, and all food collected by high school students went to The Helping Hands Foundation of Surry County. Together, students and their families brought in over 4000 items to share with the community.

To spice things up, a Chick-fil-a party was offered to the lower school classroom and the upper school advisory bringing in the most food items. Mrs. Sheena Slate's first grade class is the winner of a party, and Mrs. Christie Speer's advisory in upper school also wins a party.

Below, clockwise from top: Donations from high school students cover the tables in Mrs. Speer's room. High school students brought in over 1500 items. Members of the Mount Airy Police Department load up the lower school donations for transport to Yokefellow Ministries. Food donations by lower school students number more than 2500 items!

Thank you so very much to all our students and families who participated in such a worthy cause for our community!



THE LION'S ROAR
MILLENNIUM CHARTER ACADEMY EVENTS WORTH ROARING ABOUT

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Kennedy Byrd with Kristie and Darian Byrd



Karlie Gwyn with Tia and Kevin Gwyn



Hailey Stager with Laura Simmons

Volleyball Senior Night

The evening of December 21 was senior night for the three seniors on our volleyball team. These ladies have been a vital part of our athletics programs for the last four years, and they certainly deserve this recognition.

Kennedy Byrd, left above, is the daughter of Darian and Kristie Byrd and the Granddaughter of Phil and Beverly Edwards and Wanda Byrd. Attending MCA since kindergarten, Kennedy has participated in many theatrical productions, and has placed at the state level in school related drama, debate, and speech competitions. She has been on the A and AB honor roll each year at MCA, and she's served on the high school student life council for two years. In addition to volleyball, Kennedy has also participated on MCA's tennis and softball teams. After graduation, Kennedy plans to attend Surry Community College before transferring to UNC-Wilmington to pursue a Bachelor's degree in nursing.

Karlie Gwyn, center, is the daughter of Tia and Kevin Gwyn and the granddaughter of Ricky and Patty Bare and Carolyn and her late husband, Kenneth. Also attending MCA since kindergarten, Karlie has played basketball since sixth grade and volleyball since seventh grade. In addition to performing in many theatrical productions, she has studied over ten different types of dance since 2007, and choreographed numbers in concerts and musicals. She has also been involved in all theatrical productions at MCA during the last thirteen years. She is a member of the athletic council and is very involved with high school student life. Karlie plans on attending college to study forensic psychology and criminal justice. Although she has received acceptance letters from various colleges and universities, she is currently undecided which she will attend.

At the right, **Hailey Stager** is the daughter of Laura Simmons and Jeff Stager and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Joyce and Lynn Treece. Hailey has attended MCA since Kindergarten. Hailey has played volleyball for MCA both in middle school and high school, being an instrumental part of the volleyball program for six years, and has also played softball for MCA. Hailey has worked for the Surry County Board of Elections, including this year's 2020 election. Upon graduation, she plans to attend UNC-Charlotte where she wants to obtain a masters in mathematics. She also plans to continue involvement with volleyball while attending UNC-Charlotte.





Caesar Gonzales, right, came in first for the team, with Calvin DeVore seconds behind.

MCA Boys Cross Country Team Places First Over Mount Airy, Bishop McGuinness, and North Stokes

The Millennium Charter Academy boys cross country team earned the top spot in a December 10 race at Fisher River Park, competing against Bishop McGuinness High School, Mount Airy High School, and North Stokes High School. Even though an MCA runner wasn't the first in, the overall strength of the team earned them the most points, securing first place for the overall meet. Because of COVID-19, cross country meets are limited to only four teams. We are so proud of our team for this first place finish!

Members of the team bringing in this first place win are **Caesar Gonzales, Calvin DeVore, Hartley DeVore, Isaac Shipley, Nick Johnson, and Jacob Smith.** Way to go, Lions!

We wish all our families a very healthy and happy New Year!

We'll see everyone back at school on January 4, 2021.



Before the year is out, we'd like to take this final opportunity to thank you, our families, for your support and encouragement during this school year. If you haven't had an opportunity to view it yet, we invite you to view our holiday video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DJW6mUfK4c>

