



365 New Days, 365 New Opportunities!

We are so excited about 2017 and all it has to offer as we embark on a new semester at GRAD Academy Memphis! We made a lot of positive strides the first semester and will continue our progress as we cheer our legacy class across the finish line.



Over the Winter break 4 GRAD Academy Memphis students traveled to Ghana, West Africa where they learned about the culture and everyday life. We caught up with a

couple of them, and this is what they had to say about their experience.

"Going to Ghana was the best experience of my life! I really enjoyed the markets. I found a lot of unique items that I can't wait to wear." -Tekia Pinkins, 12th

"Ghana, West Africa was fun and a great life experience for me. It has opened my eyes to explore the world, and realize Africa is much more than what you see on tv."

-Ayana Coppage, 12th

To see more about the trip visit this website missionpossibleghana.weebly.com

Seniors

- Dues: Second payment of \$100 is due Immediately
- Senior Week is May 15th-19th
- Senior Trip, Universal Studios May 11th-14th
- Prom, Saturday May 6th at Riverside Terrace on Mud Island

Important Dates

Jan. 5 - GRAD vs. BTW, GRAD gym @ 6:00 PM

Jan. 9 - Report Cards Issued

Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL

Jan. 17 - GRAD @ W.E.B DuBois 6:00 PM

Jan. 19 - GRAD @ BTW 6:00 PM

Jan. 23 - GRAD vs. Memphis School of Excellence, GRAD gym @ 6:00 PM

Jan. 25 - GRAD vs. Douglas High School, GRAD gym @ 7:30 PM

GRAD @ Freedom Prep 6:00 PM

Jan. 30- Feb. 3 - Spirit Week

Attention Parents

GRAD Academy is doing a **BIG** push for our scholars to read more and we need your help! Did you know...

The only behavior measure that correlates significantly with reading scores is the number of books in the home. The Literacy Crisis: False Claims, Real Solutions

Out-of-school reading habits of students has shown that even 15 minutes a day of independent reading can expose students to more than a million words of text in a year. Anderson, Wilson, & Fielding

Children growing up in homes with at least 20 books get 3 years more schooling than children from bookless homes, independent of their parents' education, occupation, and class. (Evans, M. D., Kelley, J., Sikora, J., & Treiman, D. J.

Help us help our scholars pick up a book!

*Also parents, if you have documents missing from your scholar's cumulative file, please bring those items to the school as soon as possible.



Scholar of the Month: *Torrian Perkins*

Torrian is an 11th grader and member of Boy Scout Troop 196. Torrian along with his troop led a food drive campaign that



Facilitator of the Month: *James Pope*

Mr. Pope is the glue that keeps GRAD Academy Memphis together. He is always available to support wherever needed, and even give a little inspiration on the piano.



Staff of the Month: *Ashley Lynch*

Ms. Lynch has been with GRAD Academy Memphis from the beginning, and has consistently worked hard for our scholars. She heads *Walk for Success* along with a plethora of

raised over 400 pounds of food for the Mid-South Food Bank. His efforts helped feed 367 people this holiday season. Here's to you Torrian!

We are so grateful to have a Mr. Pope!

other efforts to ensure scholar success. Her passion has not gone unnoticed... Thank you for all you do Ms. Lynch!



**Custodian of the
Month: *Jamarion
Willis***

Mr. Willis works tirelessly as the night custodial supervisor. He aides staff in whatever they need during and after regular school hours. Mr. Willis is also vital in preparing the building for basketball games, practices, and PFSA meetings. Thank you Mr. Willis for always lending your service!



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