

# Bloom

FALL 2025 MAGAZINE

The Bryn Mawr School

## ALL IN A DAY

AN HOUR-BY-  
HOUR LOOK AT A  
BRYN MAWR DAY  
WITH AMBER  
WOYTOWITZ '26

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### PLUS

Speak Your Mind

World of Good

Oh, The Places They'll Go

## CLIMBING HIGH

Emme Marek '32 is all smiles at recess on the Lower School playground.



THE BRYN MAWR SCHOOL  
FALL 2025 MAGAZINE

# Bloom

BECOME WHO YOU ARE, THE BRYN MAWR WAY

## Grow

### 2 All in a Day

Follow senior Amber Woytowicz as she sings and dances her way through a typical Bryn Mawr day.

## Shine

### 18 World of Good

Students share their favorite moments and memories from their summer travels abroad.

## Connect

### 24 We Are The Champions x 6!

See the faces of Bryn Mawr's title-holding teams!

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# Echo Hill!

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# ALL IN A DAY

Dance Company and Dayseye often have Amber Woytowitz '26 singing and spinning her way around Bryn Mawr. She's also an active member of the Ethics Bowl, Model UN, the badminton team and Asian Student Union. See how she spends a typical day at school!

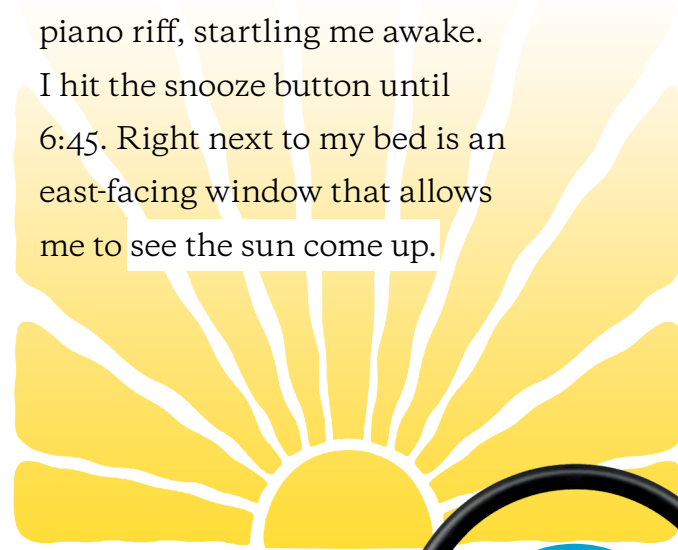


By Amber Woytowitz '26

## MY SCHEDULE

### RISE AND SHINE

6:30 AM: My phone plays a piano riff, startling me awake. I hit the snooze button until 6:45. Right next to my bed is an east-facing window that allows me to see the sun come up.



### 7:10 AM

#### HIT THE ROAD

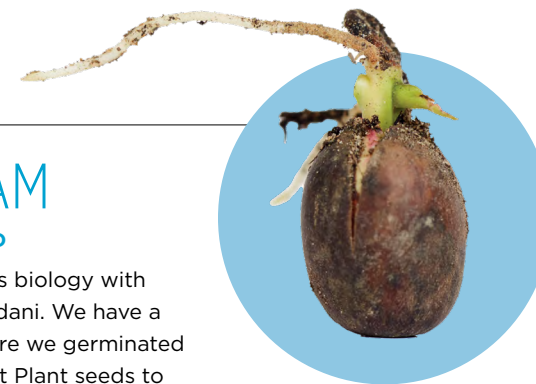
I have a cup of matcha and an apple and grab a granola bar to take to school. I am planning to get my license soon, so I drive while my mom sits in the passenger seat.



### 8:00 AM

#### FIRST PERIOD

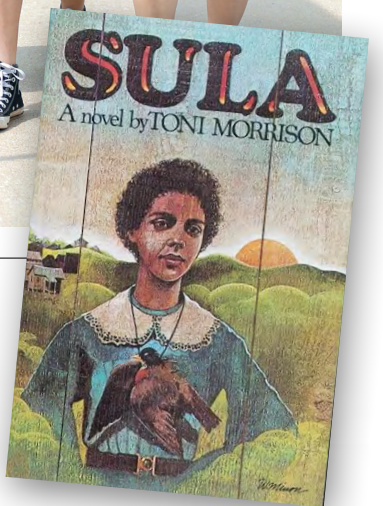
My first class is biology with Ms. Khanchandani. We have a lab today where we germinated Wisconsin Fast Plant seeds to determine the genetic makeup of an unknown parent.



### 9:40 AM

#### SECOND + THIRD PERIODS

Next, I head across the bridge for Chinese 4. We are recording mock interviews for our project about Chinese architecture. Then, it's English at Gilman where we're working on our final papers for *Sula* by Toni Morrison.



↓ Halfway there!

## 12:40 PM

### LUNCH

I always buy lunch from the dining center—today I got a BBQ roast beef sandwich. Whenever I can, I always try to eat outside and enjoy the weather.



## 1:30 PM

### CONVOCATION

Today's Convocation speaker gave a beautiful speech on music and sang a song dedicated to the senior class. My favorite part of Convocation is always hearing the speaker answer the audience's questions.



## 2:05 PM

### DAYSEYE REHEARSAL

Next is rehearsal for Dayseye, Bryn Mawr's a cappella group, where we worked on "Fix You" by Coldplay for our next concert—it's one of my favorites! I love the community I found with Dayseye members and the improvement I have had with our director, Ms. Veihmeyer.

### FIX YOU

Words and Music by GUY BERRYMAN, CHRIS MARTIN, JON BUCKLAND & WILL CHAMPTON



## 2:50 PM

### ETHICS BOWL

During club time, I meet with leaders of Ethics Bowl, Elia and Isha, to discuss plans for next year. We're thinking about topics such as relationships with chatbots, child stardom and tourism. I love hearing diverse perspectives come together to ask brilliant questions!



## 3:45 PM

### BADMINTON PRACTICE

Time for badminton practice. We start by running laps or practicing different types of shots. At the end of practice, we play games like Around the World or Queen of the Court to compete for prizes.



## 6:15 PM

### HOME!

Once I am home, I FaceTime my friends Lucy and Emma to work on our workshop for the Maryland Asian Pacific Islander South Asian (APISA) Conference. Our presentation centers around the stigmatization of mental health in Asian American communities.



## 7:00 PM

### DINNER + HOMEWORK

For dinner, I cook rice with cabbage and bacon. I read a chapter of *Sula* and work on my history project. Finally, I watch an episode of *How I Met Your Mother*, then shower and go to bed!

# WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?

From the basketball court to the science lab to center stage, Bianca Polito '27 is often on the move. She's got a bag packed for it all! See what she carries for a typical Bryn Mawr day.



Bianca Polito '27



**1. Periodic Table:** This is my chemistry notebook. We just did a balloon lab where we measured the volume of gas inside the balloon, and figured out the pressure and temperature inside the room. I'm a STEM person, so labs are a lot of fun!

**2. "Jerusalem" Sheet Music:** Singing with Dayseye is the favorite part of my day—just unwinding and creating music together. Seeing everyone's faces when we sang this song at Alumnae Weekend was really special. So much nostalgia and school pride!

**3. Class Ring:** Rings are an awesome Bryn Mawr tradition! The dance was so much fun! And getting to have a Ringie [a secret senior mentor who leaves gifts and notes of encouragement] is a special thing that sophomores look forward to.

**4. Moon House Shirt:** I love the House events when we're doing relays and everyone is pumped and cheering. It's a great way for the school to bond and bring students together.

**5. Lunch Bag:** I normally pack my lunch. My favorite? Peanut butter and banana with some flaky salt on whole wheat. Always with some fruit and carrots on the side!

**6. Photos:** I love the warm feelings I get from these old photos. The first is with my sister (Francesca '23), who is now at Penn, and the other is from my friend Estella's birthday a few years ago.

**7. Medal:** We won this for All-State Choir in March. I sang soprano for the Senior Treble Chorus. It was a really fun weekend of rehearsals and choir bonding.

**8. Bracelet:** I got this from Coach Kameel, our assistant basketball coach. She pushes us really hard, but in a good way. I can go to her with anything.

**9. Envelope:** I played Jo March in last year's production of *Little Women*, and this is a note from our amazing stage manager, Cami Miller '25, from opening night. Reading it after our show was really gratifying and validating.

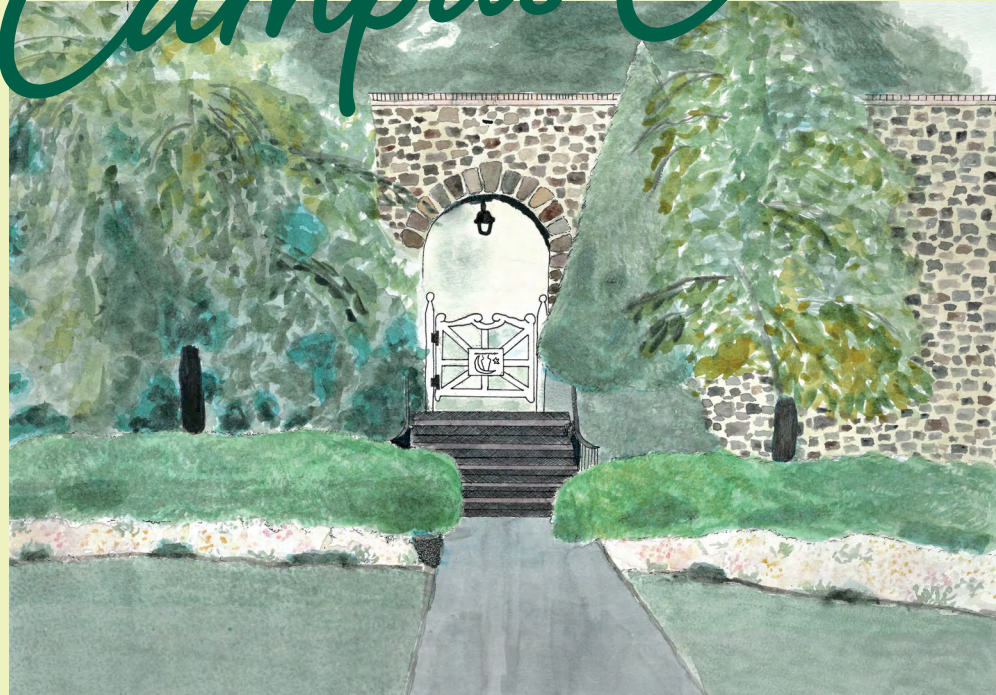
**10. Crochet Animal:** Brooke Brotman '28 made this and gave one to each of us after *Little Women*. Each one was customized!

**11. Pouch:** I won this bag playing Knockout in the final two against Zoe Herkalo '26 at basketball practice the day before winter break.

**12. *The Color Purple*:** This is my favorite book of the year from English class. We had a lot of meaningful Harkness discussions.

**13. *The Aeneid*:** We studied this in AP Latin—it was hard! But I persevered. I take Latin over at Gilman, so I'm feeling prepared for more coed classes during tri-school coordination junior year.

# Campus Canvas



Maggie Morrow '27



Rire Adeyoju '27



Lauren Furlong '27

Each semester, students in Drawing and Painting 1 trade their desks for outdoor inspiration, scattering across campus with sketchbooks, pencils and paint palettes in hand. Their mission? To capture the essence of Bryn Mawr through still-life compositions of favorite campus landmarks—from gardens and trees to iconic buildings and benches.

**Clockwise from left:**

**Maggie Morrow '27**

chose the Owl Gate—one of the best-known spots on campus—for her watercolor and line work. She used detailed line work and perspective to draw the eye straight to the gate itself while using muted colors so the trees and bushes are incorporated without drawing attention away.

**Rire Adeyoju '27**

focused on the lines and windows of the Lower School Science Center and DNA molecule playground, showing different textures in the metal, glass and stone of the building.

**Lauren Furlong '27**

captured the colors of fall by blending subtle variations in the leaves and adding a whimsical touch—a pumpkin outside the Gordon Building—to ground her seasonal scene.

**Payton Van Zile '27**

focused on the portico outside the Garrett Building, using her understanding of perspective to draw the viewer's eye down the long walkway, including the school's historic mosaic.

**Harlow Tarleton '27**

chose a lower vantage point near the Admissions Cottage, demonstrating her understanding of object placement and scale, as she combined watercolors and delicate line work for a dynamic composition.

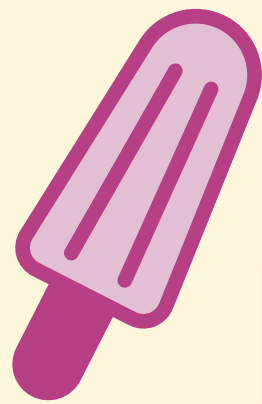


Harlow Tarleton '27



Payton Van Zile '27

# LETTERS, LAUGHTER & POPSICLES



## INSIDE BRYN MAWR'S SECOND GRADE PEN PAL TRADITION

There's nothing quite like the thrill of getting mail, especially when it's hand-delivered to your campus mailbox, covered in stickers and colorful handwriting. For Bryn Mawr second graders, that joy arrives all year long thanks to the school's beloved pen pal program.

The tradition pairs each second grader with a surprise adult pen pal from the Bryn Mawr community. It could be anyone—from the Varsity Lacrosse Coach or the Head of School.

The goal? To get to know each other—and the school—a little better, one letter at a time.

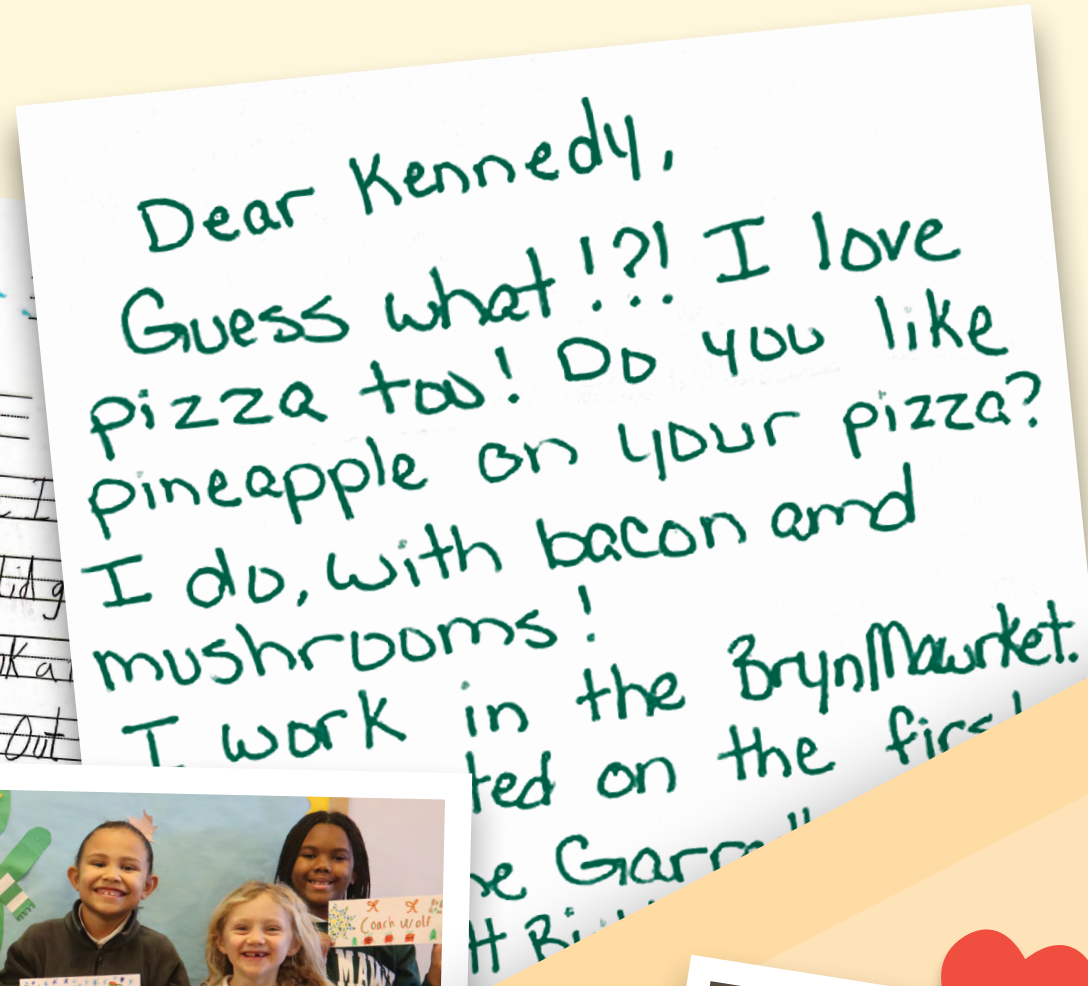
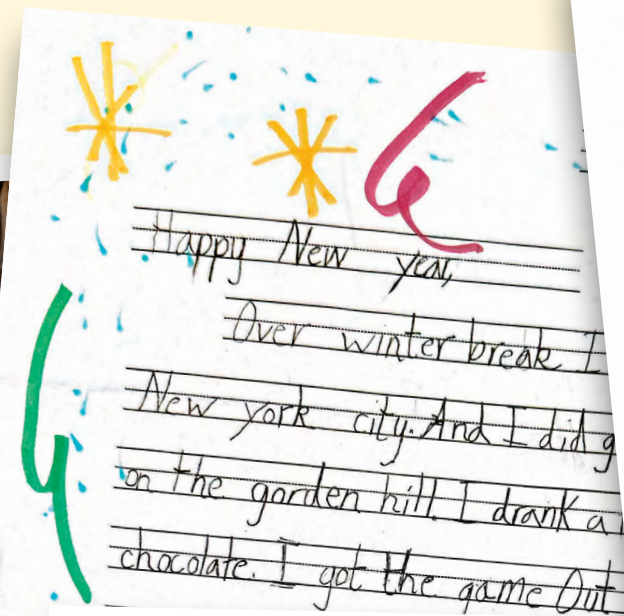
The letters fly back and forth through campus mail, often decorated with drawings, stickers and questions about everything from jobs to

campus buildings to school memories. Along the way, grown-ups and kids swap stories about family pets, weekend plans and fun facts about life at Bryn Mawr.

What starts with paper and pen often leads to a real-life connection. A wave in the hallway or a smile across the portico suddenly feels extra special when it's from your pen pal.

"It's a wonderful way to help students feel like they belong to something bigger," said Second Grade Teacher Christine Rogers. "The girls start to see how many people care about them here."

The program wraps up with the much-anticipated Pen Pals & Popsicles Party, where students and their pen pals meet face-to-face with big smiles, frozen treats and a dance party.



**"It's a wonderful way to help students feel like they belong to something bigger."**

Christine Rogers,  
Second Grade Teacher

# 14 Things YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT REAGAN WILLIAMS

GET TO KNOW THIS UPPER SCHOOL  
MATH TEACHER EVEN BETTER!

**1** I was born in Lansing, Michigan, but raised outside of Detroit in Grosse Pointe Farms.

**2** My very first job was cleaning the house of family friends. I was really bad at it.

**3** I grew up learning to sail on Lake St. Clair. I love sailing and racing sailboats.

**4** Since high school, my favorite snack has been pretzel rods with sour cream and onion dip.

**5** I love the first day of school at Bryn Mawr. When I first witnessed the celebration, I nearly cried.

**6** My favorite cookbook author is Yotam Ottolenghi.

**7** I was on the synchronized swim team in high school and can still do a lot of the moves.

**8** I'm passionate about fighting for the rights of all people to be free, equal and valued... And about my family... And math... And live music.

**9** I enjoy basic carpentry and home repair.

**10** My favorite place in the U.S. is my aunt's cottage on Lake Huron. I was married there and have been back every summer with my kids.

**11** My dream dinner guests are Jeff Buckley, Malcolm X and Gandhi, all together.

**12** My guilty TV pleasure is *Outer Banks* (we call it "Scooby-Doo for adults").

**13** We have three cats (Ophelia, Tobin and Lenno) and a dog (Ponyo). ALL females.

**14** My favorite Baltimore traditions are Baltimore Bike Party, the Winter Solstice 5K and Halloween Lanterns in Patterson Park.

"I love the first day of school at Bryn Mawr. When I first witnessed the celebration, I nearly cried."

Reagan Williams



# TOP 10 Books

GOLDEN HOPES AND DREAMS

Inspired by this year's school theme, here are ten books to get you reading about *Golden Hopes and Dreams*.

Compiled by Librarians  
Katie Hammond '97, P'31  
and Christine Roberts

## PICTURE BOOKS

Grades PK-5

### Parker Looks Up: An Extraordinary Moment

by Parker Curry and Jessica Curry  
Parker Curry, subject of an iconic photograph taken as she encountered Amy Sherald's portrait of Michelle Obama, tells the story of that moment and its meaning.

### The Most Magnificent Thing

by Ashley Spires  
A little girl has a big dream—she's going to make the Most Magnificent Thing! She tries and tries, but it's just not coming together. Until, it does!

### Dreamers

by Yuyi Morales  
A celebration of making your home with the things you always carry: your resilience, your dreams, your hopes and history.

## MIDDLE GRADE

Grades 6-8

### Hope Wins: A Collection of Inspiring Stories for Young Readers

Edited by Rose Brock  
In this collection, authors share stories of their own hopes and dreams that keep them going when faced with challenges, sorrows or setbacks.

### Wish

by Barbara O'Connor  
Charlie repeats the same wish to herself every day after being sent to live in a strange place with relatives she doesn't know. She ultimately finds that when hopes and dreams come true, they don't always look the way we imagined them.

### The Golden Hour

by Niki Smith  
This graphic novel explores themes of self-discovery, friendship, healing from tragedy and hope for a better tomorrow.

### Hope Is a Ferris Wheel

by Robin Herrera  
Star Mackie is a fifth grader overflowing with hope, especially for friends. This heartwarming story is about finding your place and believing your dreams aren't out of reach.

### Flying Lessons & Other Stories

Edited by Ellen Oh  
This collection features the work of ten acclaimed authors telling stories of ten unique young people—celebrating the power of each individual's hopes and dreams.

## YOUNG ADULT

Grades 9-12

### The Garden Against Time: In Search of a Common Paradise

by Olivia Laing  
Inspired by the restoration of her garden during the lockdowns of 2020, the author explores the act of gardening as the figurative and literal place for humanity to come together to create paradise and cultivate a shared future.

### Dreaming in Code: Ada Byron Lovelace, Computer Pioneer

by Emily Arnold McCully  
This illuminating biography reveals how the daughter of scandalous British poet Lord Byron became the world's first computer programmer.



**I TOOK MY  
FIRST MIDTERM!**

RHEA SALUJA '29

I did well on my **physics test.**

GRACIE COLLIER '29

**I RAN A  
MILE ON  
HILLS  
DURING A  
HOT DAY!**

EVELYN TILLINGHAST '30



**My double  
pirouette for dance!**

YARA NASSER '31

**I didn't  
snooze my  
alarm today!**

MEGHA DHILLON '28



# WHAT CHALLENGE DID YOU CRUSH?

MADE MY DANCE STUDIO'S  
COMPETITION TEAM.

STELLA MELE '30

Taking  
my first  
AP exam!

LILY ATHEY '27

**I RECENTLY READ  
MY FIRST BOOK  
IN FRENCH.**

SOPHIE RAZUMOVSKY '30

**SEWING MY  
PURPLE RIBBON  
ONTO MY SASH.**

KIKI OMIKUNLE '31



I delivered a  
presentation  
to my class.

PAULENA PIO RODA LIM '30



**Echo Hill!**

BB RODY '32



# GLOBAL ADVENTURES

This summer, nine Bryn Mawr Upper School students packed their bags and set off on exciting adventures around the world as part of Bryn Mawr’s global education programs. Hear more about their travels!



## ELIA SHOWALTER '26 CZECHIA

### Best thing you ate?

A traditional Czech dish called pečená kachna that had duck, potato dumplings and pickled cabbage.

### What surprised you the most?

Being the only girl to play in the school’s soccer tournament.

### Helpful phrase?

“Děkuju,” which means thank you!

### Favorite memory?

A music festival organized by the grade to celebrate the end of the school year.

### What was your favorite destination/site?

My favorite site that we visited was a castle outside of Prague called Karlštejn.

## KATIE MUETH '27 CZECHIA

### Favorite memory?

I loved attending all the events with our classmates, whether we were singing at a bonfire, going on a picnic, walking around the city, or listening to bands at festivals!

### Best thing you ate?

The best thing I ate was the traditional homemade pasta my exchange student’s grandmother made!

### What phrase did you find most helpful?

“Dobrý den” was very helpful, it is said when greeting people.

### What was your favorite site?

I loved visiting Karlštejn, the town and castle were beautiful!



## IMANI ATTENOUKON '28 FRANCE

### Favorite memory?

Meeting my host family for the very first time and going to school with my host sister Roman for the first time.

### Best thing you ate?

Steak tartare and crème brûlée.

### Helpful phrase?

“Où puis-je trouver ça?” (where can I find this/ that?)

### What surprised you the most?

Seeing kids my age and younger taking the Métro by themselves.



## RIRE ADEYOJU '27 ARGENTINA

### Favorite memory?

We spent a day next to the rivers and the delta in El Tigre, which was a fun day trip.

### Best thing you ate?

I had some really tasty croissants, cakes and cookies from a local bakery.

### Helpful phrase?

“Más despacio, por favor.” (Speak slower, please.)

### Favorite site you visited?

El Tigre—it was beautiful, and we saw capybaras on the boat tour!

## KATE PEARL '26 ENGLAND

### Favorite memory?

Christ’s Hospital (my school) hosted a “House Athletics” event, which is a huge track meet between each of the eight Houses. Everyone and their families gathered at the track in our House shirts and cheered for our friends, with the most exciting events being the 100 and the 4x1. My House—Leigh Hunt B—won!

### Best thing you ate?

I was skeptical about English tea, but I tried it and it was actually pretty good.

### New phrase?

“Cheers.” It’s another more casual way of saying “thank you.”

### Favorite site?

Brighton—a small-ish picturesque beach town in the south. We visited the pier, then roamed into the city and shopped in the “Lanes” (streets and alleys known for vintage clothes and art, kind of like Hampden in Baltimore).

Learn more about our global education programs





# HOW WE SHINE

Meet several students who are making a difference in their communities as they shine at Bryn Mawr and beyond.

## PETRA WOOLF '29

Meet Petra Woolf '29—an aspiring lunar architect with her sights set on space—who is already blasting toward her goal.

This fall, she will become an Eagle Scout with Troop 635—a top honor earned by only about five percent of all Scouts. (Girls have been eligible to achieve this ranking only since 2021!)

She also worked for 18 months to earn the Dr. Bernard Harris Supernova Award, a special STEM-focused Scouts honor, by powering through

challenges like studying fusion in stars and black holes, building a model car and designing her own research. “My favorite science is physics,” Petra shared. “I like the final moment when everything fits into place. It’s so fulfilling and satisfying.”

For her Eagle Scout project, Petra built a special space at the Bryn Mawr Lower School Science Center. Inspired by her grandmother, who also built an outdoor learning lab, Petra chose the space by the Science Center as a special place for her on campus. “I have always been interested in science,” she said, “I remember spending as much time as possible in Mr. Robinson’s science class.

Petra provided step-by-step instructions for over 20



“I would love to lead the labs and maybe start a Gateways program after school.”

Petra Woolf '29

volunteers to build the lab, including Bryn Mawr classmates and friends from her troop. She also created an open-source curriculum with fun, hands-on labs on plant growth, the solar system and insects “to encourage more teachers and students to explore science.”

Petra is a natural leader, having taught fellow Scouts about communication and leadership

through the National Youth Leadership Training program. She even hopes to bring those skills to her learning lab at Bryn Mawr. “I would love to lead the labs and maybe start a Gateways program after school,” she said.

What’s next? This fall, Petra is heading to MIT’s Media Lab, and she’s already got her sights set on a NASA internship next summer.

*Above: Molly McMahon '29 and Annie Herb '29 help assemble one of the raised beds in the outdoor learning lab outside the Lower School science building. Left: Petra Woolf '29 is all smiles as she builds her Eagle Scout project, an outdoor learning lab, with friends and classmates.*



Check out Petra's open-source outdoor science lab curriculum!



**TROOP 4425**

Every Sunday, a group of energetic Bryn Mawr third graders gather to have fun and work hard as Girl Scouts Troop 4425. These adventurous Girl Scouts aren't just about selling cookies (although they are experts at that)—they

also go hiking, camping and work together to plan exciting adventures using the money they raise.

Elaine Boak '35 joined the Girl Scouts this year because "it sounded like a really fun activity and I get to see my friends even more," while

**"I get to see my friends even more."**

Elaine Boak '35

Athena Letras '35 says she enjoys activities like learning to make trail snacks for their troop hikes and spending time with friends.

Led by third-grade parents China Boak Terrell, Vicky Miyamoto (Upper School math teacher) and LaTia Morton, the troop set out to earn their camping badges on a two-day camping trip near the West Virginia state line this past June. One of the perks of the



trip was earning more than just their badges.

Looking forward to the trip, Elaine said, "I think the camping trip will be very fun because when we go camping, we get other badges like the bug badge." Olive Wheeler '35 was also excited because "we learned what poison ivy looks like and how to have a campfire safely."

While earning badges through adventures like camping is a big part of being a Girl Scout, one of their most well-known activities also teaches invaluable lessons—selling Girl Scout cookies. Together, the troop sold more than 1,730 boxes this past spring, learning about entrepreneurship and the hard work it takes to collect and deliver so many orders. It helped to set up a sale at one of Bryn Mawr's varsity lacrosse games!

"We got to break down how much money people owed



**"It's like spending time with my family."**

Olive Wheeler '35

us and how to share it with our troop," Athena said. As a troop, they decided that they wanted to use some of their cookie sales to fund a trip to Great Wolf Lodge to spend even more time together. "My favorite thing is being with my Girl Scout troop because it's just so fun," Olive said, "It's like spending time with my family."

*Above left: Troop 4425 poses in front of their Brownie banner. Girl Scouts are considered Brownies when they are in second and third grade. Above right: On their two-day camping trip, Troop 4425 worked on gaining their camping badges. Far left: Girls take a break from hiking and exploring for a group photo.*

**CASSIDY PATTERSON '31**

Packing your bags and flying halfway around the world to learn about and boost access to safe drinking water? That's exactly what Bryn Mawr seventh grader Cassidy Patterson '31 did, traveling to Kenya for ten days. Her goal? To connect with families and help build special filters that bring fresh, safe water right to communities.

This winter, Cassidy volunteered with LifeStraw (where her mom works!), visiting three schools every day for a week. She helped build water filter stations for the community to share, gave demonstrations for proper hand-washing and amplified "how safe water is really important to stay healthy!" Cassidy also helped demonstrate how to maintain the filters after volunteers leave, better ensuring communities can replenish and access safe drinking water.

At first, teaching kids her own age felt a little nerve-wracking, Cassidy admitted. But by the end of the week, her confidence had soared. She used fun songs and dances to keep the hygiene lessons engaging.

It wasn't all teaching, though—Cassidy was learning too. The Kenyan students taught her some Swahili words, like

"habari" (that's "hello!"), and shared dances and games. Those moments spent laughing and moving with the kids she met were Cassidy's absolute favorite. "After we demonstrated how to do everything, we would play with the kids, and those are my favorite memories," she shared. Cassidy is already planning to return this February for another trip and hopes to volunteer with LifeStraw for her community service in the Upper School.



**"Safe water is really important to stay healthy."**

Cassidy Patterson '31

*Above: Cassidy demonstrates a special water filter. Left: Cassidy's favorite memories come from singing, dancing and playing games with the school children.*

# WE ARE THE *Champions x 6!*

Field hockey, tennis, squash, softball, badminton and golf—Bryn Mawr currently holds SIX championship titles, plus a whole lot of Mawrtian spirit. Check out some of our champs!

**“Holding this trophy feels like the culmination of years and months of hard work.”**

Cate Tortolani '27

## FIELD HOCKEY ▶

IAAM A Conference  
Champion

Anna Powell '26  
Cate Tortolani '27  
Clara Espenshade '26



**“The team just clicked. Everyone had that drive and that was the key to our success.”**

Hanna Kim '26



## ◀ GOLF

IAAM A Conference  
Champion

Julianna Ishii '27

## TENNIS ▶

IAAM A Conference  
Champion

Hanna Kim '26  
Sapna Gupta '28



**“I’ll never forget Violet hitting the winning home run and everyone just exploding with happiness.”**

Taylor Bard '28

## SOFTBALL ▶

IAAM C Conference  
Champion

Adelaide Schulman '26  
Violet Schanbacher '28  
Taylor Bard '28



**“I love the community and the pride we have for our school. It shows in every practice and game.”**

Caroline Norman '28



**◀ SQUASH**  
IAAM Champion  
Caroline Norman '28

**BADMINTON ▶**  
IAAM Champion

Lucy Lee '26  
Liana Kai '27

OH, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO



# HERE'S TO THE CLASS OF 2025



From the rolling hills of Scotland to sunny California, the 91 members of the Class of 2025 are taking their bold voices to 61 colleges and universities across 24 states, Washington D.C., Canada and the United Kingdom. Among them are eight student-athletes ready to compete at the collegiate level in lacrosse, field hockey and squash. This year marks a milestone for Bryn Mawr Online School, which celebrates its first-ever graduate, who will be sailing for Dartmouth College.

*\*Please note that a school name with a number next to it indicates the number of students attending that institution.*

Amherst College

Auburn University

Barnard College

Binghamton University

Boston College **5**

Boston University **2**

Brown University

Bucknell University **2**

Case Western Reserve University **2**

Chapman University

Clark Atlanta University

Clemson University

Colby College

Colgate University

College of William & Mary

Columbia University

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

DePaul University

Dickinson College

Drexel University

Duke University

Georgetown University

The George Washington University **2**

Goucher College **2**

James Madison University

Johns Hopkins University **2**

Johns Hopkins University **2**

Lehigh University

McGill University

New York University **2**

Northeastern University **4**

Ohio University

Pennsylvania State University

Pomona College

Princeton University

Saint Joseph's University

Savannah College of Art and Design

Skidmore College

Syracuse University **2**

Temple University

Texas A&M University

Trinity College

Tulane University of Louisiana **3**

University of California - Santa Barbara

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Maryland - College Park **9**

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor **4**

University of Pittsburgh

University of Richmond **2**

University of St Andrews

University of Southern California

The University of Tampa

University of Virginia

Villanova University

Virginia Tech **2**

Wake Forest University

Washington University in St. Louis

Wellesley College

West Virginia University

Williams College

Wofford College

# TAKE IT FROM US...

The Bryn Mawr College Counseling team supports Upper School students throughout the entire application process, including test prep workshops, mock interview sessions, essay writing classes and individual counseling meetings. Hear from two recent graduates about their college search process.

## Girl tip

“Get as many essays done over the summer as you can,” advises Lucie Goldberg '25, who is attending Williams College this fall.

**“It’s important to be open to multiple options. At the end of the day, it really does all work out. And, if you’re feeling stressed, there are lots of people to support you here!”**

Zoe Dolland '25



**ZOE DOLLAND '25**  
DUKE UNIVERSITY

**What were you looking for?** I wanted an academically rigorous school that also valued a work-life balance. I was looking for a collaborative environment, school pride and a beautiful campus.

**How did you decide on Duke?** When I stepped onto Duke’s campus, I immediately felt at home. I had done many college tours, and the energy that I felt on campus was one like no other.

**What do you plan to study?** I plan to major in computer science and minor in economics.

**What are you looking forward to most?**

I am looking forward to meeting new people, going to school in a new area and having a roommate. I am also excited to join clubs, participate in specific community service programs at Duke and get involved in the Durham community.

**What advice do you have for Upper School students as they approach the college search process?**

It’s ok to not know where you want to go or what you want to do. It’s important to be open to multiple options. At the end of the day, it really does all work out. And, if you’re feeling stressed, there are lots of people to support you here!

**Any tips for campus tours?**

Research the area and find a place to go to lunch or do a local activity. If you can, talk to your tour guide or other people to get a vibe of the people on campus.

**What will you take with you from Bryn Mawr?**

My friendships, confidence and academic skills.

**What are you going to miss the most about Bryn Mawr?**

The community! I love going to a girls’ school, knowing everyone in my grade, seeing everyone on campus and being together.

**PIPER HIGGINS '25**  
POMONA COLLEGE  
*Lacrosse*

**What were you looking for in your search?**

I was looking for a smaller school where I could have good relationships with teachers. I’m interested in liberal arts, so I can explore a lot of interests. The West Coast culture feels exciting to me.

**How did you decide on Pomona?**

The lacrosse coaches and team are amazing—they are people I like to surround

**“Bryn Mawr has taught me so much about adapting and that I’m ready to handle anything that comes at me.”**

Piper Higgins '25

myself with. The school feels like a positive environment where people really know each other. I also love how walkable everything is.



**What has athletics given you?**

It’s definitely taught me time management, self-discipline and given me really great friendships. My relationships with the teams and seeing them develop over four years has been the most impactful.

**What advice do you have for Upper School students and athletes as they approach the college search process.**

Never close doors. You never know if something will change, so until it really comes down to making a decision, don’t close the door.

**What will you take with you from Bryn Mawr?**

A willingness to confront change. Bryn Mawr has taught me so much about adapting and that I’m ready to handle anything that comes at me. That makes change exciting, rather than daunting.

**What will you miss most about Bryn Mawr?**

The teacher relationships—that’s something I’m hoping to replicate at Pomona. The athletics program has been amazing for me here, plus the clubs and everything I’m involved with. There’s been so much to pour myself into at Bryn Mawr, and it will be hard to leave all that.

**Describe your senior year in three words.**

Reflection, excitement, togetherness.

# What is... BELL RINGING?

Ding! Dong! Imagine the Library Quad buzzing with excitement as seniors and their closest friends gather for a beloved tradition celebrating their last day of classes.



Above: Members of the Class of 1988 wait to ring the bell in the dining center before it moved to the bell tower.

Left: Libby Speicher '25 rings the bell with Anna Powell '26, Violet Brookes '26 and Shelby Smith '26.

## So, what is it?

Seniors pour out of their final Convocation in May and line up to ring the Class of 1992 bell, along with their friends, teammates, castmates and family members. It's a powerful, joyful moment to come together one last time with the people who made their Bryn Mawr journey so special.

## How long has this been a tradition?

The bell tower was a gift from the Class of 1992 and installed during the Howell Center renovation of 1993, but seniors have been ringing a bell since the early 1980s. Before the bell tower, classmates would line up in the cafeteria, waiting for a rope to be lowered from the ceiling so they could ring a bell on the roof, sometimes even counting out rings for their graduating year, like the Class of 1988 ringing it 88 times!

## How many times a year is the bell rung?

On the first day of school, the bell rings as the Head of School announces the opening of the new academic year. It also rings at the final moment of graduation to close the year. This is the only time it rings in between. When the cheerful clanging is heard across campus, it signals to the entire community that the seniors are ready for their next adventures.

Right: Kessiah Jackson '27, Alex Gourmand '26, Ryan Duncan '25, Abigail Cherent '26 and Evie Burke '26 are all laughs as they ring the bell.



# EMOJI CHALLENGE!

Put your emoji decoding skills to the test! Get ready to unravel some favorite Bryn Mawr traditions and phrases.

- 1 🐼 🌃 🎉
- 2 ⭐ 🌙 ☀️ 🌻 🦉
- 3 🫏 🏫
- 4 🔔 💍
- 5 🐒 🇮🇹
- 6 🚗 🐘
- 7 🧠 + 👁️
- 8 ⚔️ 🦄
- 9 🐼 🇺🇸
- 10 🏃 + 🏃 ♣️
- 11 🏫 🏫 🏫 🤝
- 12 🧠 🧠 ❤️

Need help? Answers appear on page 34

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**



Come join the fun! We invite families of students seeking fall 2026 admission to visit campus and take a closer look at all that Bryn Mawr has to offer. Learn more at [brynmawrschool.org/visit](https://brynmawrschool.org/visit)

**Mark your Calendar!**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| September 21<br><b>Science Rocks!</b><br>at Bryn Mawr               | December 2<br><b>Middle School Visit Day</b>                                      |
| October 1<br><b>Lower School Visit Day</b>                          | December 5<br><b>Upper School Visit Day</b>                                       |
| October 14<br><b>Upper School Visit Day</b>                         | December 15<br><b>2026-27 Admission and Flexible Tuition Application Deadline</b> |
| October 17<br><b>Middle School Visit Day</b>                        | January 21<br><b>Upper School: Beyond the Classroom</b>                           |
| October 25<br><b>PK-12 Open House</b>                               |   |
| October 30 and November 1-2<br><b>Upper School Musical: Chicago</b> |   |
| November 21<br><b>Lower School Visit Day</b>                        |   |

**Want to learn more?**

Reach out to our admissions staff to plan your visit and learn more about how you can join our community.

**Kelly Stallard**  
Lower School Admissions

**Gina Canestraro**  
Middle and Upper School Admissions

**Email us at:**  
[admissions@brynmawrschool.org](mailto:admissions@brynmawrschool.org)

Find out more and register at [brynmawrschool.org/visit](https://brynmawrschool.org/visit)

**Emoji Challenge:**

1. Mawrtians Night Out
2. House System
3. I Love School
4. Bell Ringing
5. Monkey Bars
6. Coach Wolf
7. Voice & Vision
8. Sword Dance
9. Mawrtian Nation
10. Walking and Running Club
11. Tri-School Coordination
12. Shout, Shout the Love



**You Choose**

Check the box:

**What's your go-to spirit wear?**

- Antennas
- T-shirt
- Tutu
- Anything with Bryn Mawr on it!

**Do you love a good debate?**

- Yes
- No

**Group projects:**

- 🙌
- 🧑

**Is 13 an unlucky number?**

- Yes
- No

**This or That**

Circle your favorite:

1. **Sweet snacks** or **salty snacks?**
2. **Uniform** or **dress down?**
3. **Physical book** or **audiobook?**
4. **Winter break** or **spring break?**
5. **Sunrise** or **sunset?**
6. **Board games** or **card games?**
7. **Buy lunch** or **bring lunch?**
8. **Early bird** or **night owl?**
9. **House Day** or **Spirit Day?**

**HOW TO SUBMIT**



Use this QR code to answer these questions for our upcoming issue! Or, take a photo of your answers and email [communications@brynmawrschool.org](mailto:communications@brynmawrschool.org).



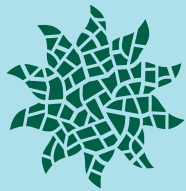
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