



April 2020

Thomas Sumter Academy (803) 499-3378

Volume 3 Issue 35

Dear TSA Generals,

Tenacity. Supports. Achievement. A huge shout out to all of you as we continue our e-learning partnership. The light is at the end of the tunnel - May 15th will be the last day of academics. Please



review the calendar for upcoming special events per previous emails.

As you hopefully saw Thursday night the Early Bird Discount has been extended until May 15th. We are already creating schedules for our students and looking at some changes based on your inputs at the town hall meetings back in February. Some of these changes will not be able to be implemented, however, unless we have the enrollment numbers I have mentioned before. The Board and I are working on several venues as we keep an eye on the ever changing landscape in this unprecedented time as we prepare for next year.

Over the next few days we will provide logistical guidance to ensure students are able to safely come on campus to retrieve their personal belongings and drop off books, clean out desks and lockers, etc. Let's please continue to pray for and with each other. Stay healthy.

PROUD TO BE A GENERAL
Dr. F.L. Martin III

Upcoming Events

- May 13 MS Awards @ 10 AM via Zoom
HS Awards @ 1 PM via Zoom
pK 3 Assessments (Sheri – in the K building)
- May 14 pK4 Assessments (Debbie T. – in the K building)
- May 15 K Assessments (Gigi – in the K building)
- May 15 Last Day of Academics
- May 16 Special Recognition of Class of 2020 @ 10 AM
- May 18-22 Social Distancing Process for Student Classroom/Locker Checkout
- May 18 – 19 Last day to turn in all work for 4th QTR Grades
- TBA - Recognition Rally/LS Awards
- May 20 Drive-up K Graduation @ 9AM
- May 22 Last day of school

Class of 2020

- May 16 Special Graduation Celebration @ 10AM
- May 29 Class Day @ 8PM
- May 30 Graduation @ 8PM

Sporting Events

All Sporting Events have been cancelled. The process to turn-in uniforms will be announced soon.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

LAUREN SCOTT

Lauren has been at Thomas Sumter Academy for 14 years – She started in K4 and was in Ms. Tisha Harrelson's Kindergarten class. Lauren has been accepted by the College of Charleston and will attend in the fall and major in biology following a pre-med track as she moves forward to become a Nurse Practitioner at MUSC and making a permanent residence in Charleston. Lauren would like to do Missionary Work as a Nurse Practitioner during her free time as she found her calling while in Haiti this past year. Lauren is very active with Christ Community Church and went to Haiti on a missionary trip during Spring Break this past year and plans on going to Africa over the Summer before starting college.

Lauren found her solitude in dancing from a young age as she started dancing at 4 years old and continued thru her senior year. She was active in athletics such as the TSA Swim team in middle school, JV and Varsity Cheer, Volleyball, and Archery during high school. She was crowned Ms. Sophomore during her 10th grade year. She is also a member of the anchor club, bible journaling, shag club, and first priority.

Lauren feels like her home at TSA over the years has given her the skills and opportunities she needs to further her education as she moves into the next phase of her life after graduation. Lauren is excited to graduate from Thomas Sumter like her mother did 35 years ago! Once a general always a general.

Submitted by The Scott Family



SEAN SINGH

Sean has attended Thomas Sumter for four years. Sean has been a meme bee of the TSA Archery Team and has enjoyed his time with Coach Mac and his teammates. One of Sean's favorite memories is the trip the Archery Team took to compete in a tournament in Kentucky.

Sean will be attending USC Sumter in the fall and plans to transfer to USC Columbia to complete his studies in computer engineering. Submitted by The Singh Family



MEREDITH STEVENS

Meredith (or "Mo") came to Thomas Sumter in 8th grade when she moved from Tennessee. She has been at TSA longer than any other school and, like her Dad and older sister, it quickly became home.

A cheerleader since 6th grade, she was a member of the JV and Varsity Cheer squads, serving as captain this year. She competed in All-Star Cheer, was a member of Shag Club, and Spanish Club. She ran Cross-Country for a year and played JV and Varsity Basketball for 2. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has earned 24 semester hours of college credit through Dual Enrollment.

Mo was accepted at numerous schools and offered many scholarships. She will study Biology at USC-Sumter on the Life Scholarship, transferring after 2 years with the goal of becoming an Orthodontist.

Mo has made many memories over the past 4 1/2 years. Some of her favorites are from Coach Mac's class -- she is going to miss him. She also wants to send special thanks to Mrs. Hill and Mr. Smith for preparing her for college and for everything she learned from you both. Submitted by The Stevens Family



HAILEY TRIMNAL

Hailey has attended Thomas Sumter for 13 years. Thomas Sumter is a second home to Hailey, and she is thankful to have been able to attend TSA.

Hailey immersed herself in many opportunities throughout her time at Thomas Sumter. She participated in track, jv and varsity volleyball, varsity basketball, jv and varsity cheerleading, all-star cheerleading, and intermediate and advanced dance. She also was involved in many clubs including first priority, book club, shag club, Spanish club, anchor club, fellowship of Christian athletes, headmaster's advisory council, and bible journaling. During her senior year, she had the opportunity to lead first priority alongside Alyssa Law, Lindsay Daniel, and Mrs. Hill.

Hailey plans to begin her collegiate educational journey at the University of South Carolina- Sumter in the fall to major in Early Childhood Education. Hailey has always had a passion for working with and taking care of children since a young age. She is ecstatic to begin her future endeavor as a mentor to children.

Hailey would like to thank her teachers, coaches, and friends at Thomas Sumter for helping shape her into the young woman she has become. She believes Thomas Sumter instilled her love for the Lord and the people of Thomas Sumter encouraged her walk with the Lord. She misses everyone at TSA so dearly!

Hailey finally wishes to leave some words of encouragement for her Thomas Sumter family: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32 Submitted by The Trimnal Family



MACI WILLETTS

I've been at Thomas Sumter since 7th grade, so this is my sixth year there. University of Georgia is where I will be attending to study Environmental Science in the fall. Some of the things I participated in at TSA are student council as the Senior Class President, National Junior Honors Society, National Honors Society, basketball for the past six years, volleyball all four years of high school, Book Club for all four years of high school, Spanish club for all four years, Anchor Club, and Shag Club as the President. I proudly represented Thomas Sumter at Palmetto Girls State this past summer and by being a member of the 2018-2019 state runner-up team for Varsity Girls Basketball!!

"This year, I've had the pleasure of holding multiple leadership positions at Thomas Sumter that have taught me so much more about appreciating this school, outside of attending classes five days a week. There is so much more that goes on behind the scenes to make sure that each student gets the opportunity to have an enjoyable experience at TSA that not many people know about. No matter how a student decides to become involved, I highly recommend it because being involved at TSA will teach you more than what mitosis is or how to factor a polynomial. It will teach you how to work with your peers, how to have patience when wrapping things for Mrs. Eddy, and most of all, it will give you some amazing friends to share memories with while on The Hill! I've spent this entire year dreading leaving to go off into the real world, but I know that I've been prepared for what comes next because of Thomas Sumter."

Submitted by The Willetts Family



KARLEIGH YOUNG

Karleigh has attended TSA for 6 years. She has been involved in many activities during her time on the Hill. She has participated in Battle of the Books, Feed my Starving Children, The Joy Prom, Spanish club, First Priority, Yearbook, Anchor club, HAC, the 2019-2020 Homecoming court, Advanced dance, Varsity Cheerleading, JV Basketball, Varsity Basketball, JV Volleyball and Varsity Volleyball.

Athletics have been a big part of Karleigh's high school experience. She started playing JV volleyball in 9th grade and by the 10th grade she was the only starting sophomore on the Varsity Volleyball team. That year she had the privilege to be a part of the Varsity volleyball team that made it all the way to play for the 2017 2A SCISA Volleyball Championship! The next year she was named a 2018 2A SCISA All State volleyball player. She played in the 2018 2A SCISA All State volleyball game. Karleigh also had the opportunity to play in the 2019 2A SCISA Basketball Championship game! She was named a 2019 2A SCISA All Region Basketball player and played in the 2019 2A SCISA All State Basketball game. She was also recognized by HSSR as a top 2019 2A SCISA All State player. This year, her senior year, she was named a 2020 2A SCISA Basketball All Region player. She was also invited to and played in the 2020 2A SCISA vs. 2A GISA game. This was a high honor!

Karleigh will be going to the University of SC where she plans to pursue a degree in Exercise Science. She will also graduate with 18 credit college hours from CCTC.

A note from Karleigh:

To all my teachers and administrative staff that taught and helped me do what I HAD to do to get through school, to my coaches and dance teachers who taught and helped me do what I LOVED doing in school and to anyone and everyone associated with TSA.....thank you, thank you, THANK YOU! These past 6 years at TSA are a part of my life story and one that I will share with pride as I continue to grow and follow God's plan for me! Go Generals! Submitted by The Young Family



To the TSA Class of 2020

You are without a doubt The Great 38!! Thank you for your positive words, understanding and unbelievable outlook. You have made many of us step back and realize that during these times we have so much to be thankful for amongst all the unknown. During these days of opportunity to pout or say poor me, you have reached out to students, kept the fun Tik Toks going, sharing your funny quarantine moments, and been extremely patient. You have taught so many of us what a true General looks like. The attitude from so many of you has been what can we do to still make it happen or your amazing understanding when things get postponed. Seniors and all TSA students you are why we want to do more and better than the day before.

Seniors, you do deserve to be celebrated and we pray you don't forget this in the upcoming days and weeks. Do not cheat yourself out of what you have earned. We know that the Graduation you always imagined is going to look a little different, but it will belong to only the TSA Class of 2020. Complete your journey with the same positive words, understanding and outlook that you started off the quarantine with not too long ago.

Thank you for being wise beyond your years. Thank you for reminding us daily (even distanced) why we love our jobs on "The Hill," and why we are blessed to call TSA our second home. Each one of you are ready for the next step in life and we can't wait to see where your future takes you!

Don't forget us and visit often!

We are so proud of "The Great 38"

Love your TSA Family

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 16th at 10:00 am

The Day they should Graduate

Drive through our front parking lot with your cars decorated,
and your horns honking as you hit the gate

Let's celebrate our seniors as we wait on the postponed date

And celebrate our Faculty & Staff who have kept us straight

We will start at 10 am...don't be late

Senior\$-The Great 38!!



Faculty & Staff

- Decorate your car
- Pickup your yearbook
- Pickup Prom T-Shirts
- Drop off athletic uniforms
- Faculty & Staff look forward to seeing you!!



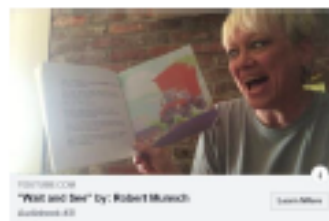
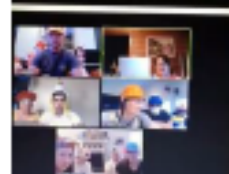
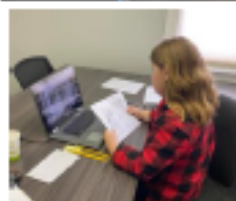
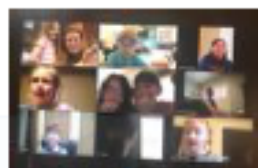


Thomas Sumter ACADEMY

HOME OF THE GENERALS

Our Generals have been amazing!!

We pray this letter finds you and your family doing well during this time of change in everyone's lives. The Thomas Sumter Faculty, Staff & Families have been unbelievable and truly have not missed a beat. Our teachers have adopted new ways of continuing to touch, mold, educate and shape our students' lives whether it is through Google Classroom, Zoom, or Microsoft Teams. The change in learning has proven to open new ways of learning and students expressing themselves in the "classroom."



Our staff has also joined right in with the online/social connections remaining with our students and families. The library continues to be open with AR testing taking place online from home and video reading time with Mrs. Dixon that can be accessed online. We also enjoyed a virtual Spirit Week with tremendous participation. Also, we all enjoyed a night of family fun with a Virtual Trivia Night.

These times have changed us but changed us for the better. The ways we have stay connected and have reconnected with alumni, family and friends has been amazing. Our seniors have shown us the way by their unbelievable attitudes, tenacity and grit as witnessed by their continuous positive outlook. They have held their heads high and continue to plan what it will be like when we are all together again.



There have been many things "missed" but so much more gained. Our journey continues on "The Hill," whether that be at the Main Campus or satellite campus. We know that the future is so much brighter because of the road we have traveled together. The blessings that you have bestowed upon our school are reasons to celebrate as we continue our amazing journey into the future. We pray that the past weeks have been good to you and your family.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

We are in this together,

♥ Your TSA Family



Together we Stand
Holding God's Hand



Senior Athletes' Signing Day



Columbia
College



Anderson
University

Congratulations to Kenzie Hyder and Ellie Hunter!

Kenzie has signed to cheer at Anderson University in the

Fall and Ellie has signed to play softball at Columbia

College in the Fall. Best of luck to you both! Your

General Family will be cheering you on!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to our 2020-2021 Executive Officers

President

Lizzie Silvester

Vice President

Lindsay Daniel

Secretary

Stephanie Carges

Treasurer

Logan Oxendine

Historian

Ethan Lisenby

General Officer

Logan Long

Thank you for participating in our TSA Assembly and elections. Our students are amazing and love their classmates. It was a new experience but successful because of our students. A HUGE "Thank You" to our current Student Body President-Cameron Dixon and Treasurer-Graham Campbell.

Class Elections

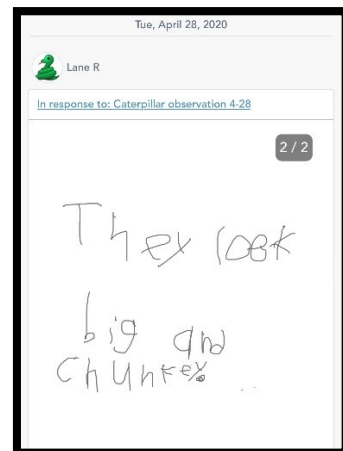
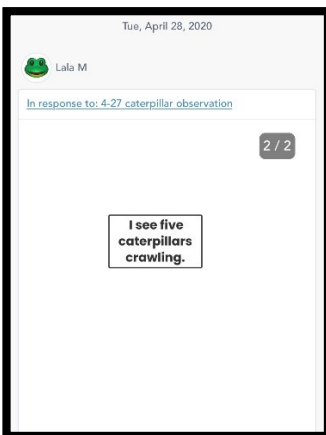
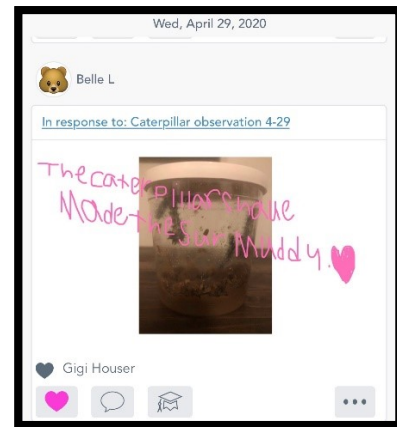


Check Your Email for Details

Kindergarten in Action

We are studying the life cycle of butterflies in Kindergarten.

Each day the students submit a journal entry describing what they see in our jar. We discuss things that are the same and different each day!



Life Cycle of Butterflies

Pre-K3 Fun



**Caroline Cannon- Q is
for Queen**



**Lyla Haddenham
and her finger-
painting
masterpieces.**

Welcome to our newest General!

Lyla Haddenham is a big sister to her new baby brother, Jackson!!

Congratulations to the Haddenham family!

WELCOME

JACKSON HADDENHAM



SHOUT OUT TO:

OUR LORD AND SAVIOR -
JESUS CHRIST ALLOWING US
TO HAVE FAITH AND HOPE IN
OUR FUTURE.

Quote of the Week:

*"Where there is no struggle, there is
no strength." ~ Oprah Winfrey*

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