



The Fisher Flyer

Official Newsletter of Fisher Island Day School

October 14, 2021

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, & Staff,

Following are this week's [FIDS](#) updates.



Congratulations to FIDS Sharks Volleyball Team on their Second Home-Game Win. Congratulations go to FIDS's middle-school volleyball team for their second home-game win on the home court in the Jana and Brian Neff Gymnasium. Yesterday evening, our FIDS Sharks defeated the Cushman Cougars in two sets, 25 - 14 and 25 -14. Thanks go to the team, Coach Kelsey Kerr, Athletic Director Trevor Leaf, and the many fans who cheered our team to victory.

Middle-School Athletics. FIDS is pleased to announce that our middle-school athletics program is underway. Following is a list of forthcoming competitive games. The FIDS Golf Team previously played two games earlier this month. Please join me in cheering our teams to victory!

Date	Time	Sport	Playing/Location	Home/Away
10/20/21	4:00 p.m.	Volleyball	RASG Hebrew Academy 2400 Pine Tree Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33140	Away
10/27/21	3:30 p.m.	Golf	Head to Head w/ Belen Jesuit Miami Springs Golf Course 650 Curtiss Pkwy, Miami Springs, FL 33166	Home

Golf Team:	Volleyball Team:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry Derick • Tobin Drury • Rene Escobar • Dylan Shara 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vera Bradshaw • Sora Bradshaw • Chloe Camp • Charlie Derick • Summer Holman • Elena Kucherenco* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah May* • Max Mehrabi* • Mitra Mehrabi • Violet Morse* • Margot Postolnikov • Natascha Shinnerer

** Practice Games Only*



Halloween. There will be plenty of parties and trick-or-treating for kids on Sunday, October 31st. FIDS will have a regular learning day and will celebrate Halloween during the last hour (2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.) of the day on Friday, October 29, 2021. Grade-level Room Parents are coordinating creative classroom Halloween celebrations. Other than the room parents—who have organized the class parties—Halloween at FIDS is a KIDS-ONLY celebration. All scheduled after-school activities will take place as planned on Friday, October 29, 2021. Following is the run-down of expectations:

- **Primary School – Grades Early Learning through Kindergarten:** Primary School Room Parents have planned a collective, age-appropriate celebration in the Jana & Brian Neff Gymnasium for our primary school students. Activities will include Halloween-themed arts-and-crafts stations, games and prizes, dance and movement, and healthy refreshments. This collective celebration will be similar to what we did for primary school two years ago in the Vanderbilt Mansion, only now we have our own space! Early Learners, who depart midday, will enjoy an activity prior to their dismissal at 12:15 p.m. Late-stayers may partake in the 2:00 p.m. celebration.

Primary School students should wear their regular school uniforms to school on October 29th. They should bring their costumes in a bag as they will change into them prior to the afternoon party. Costume guidelines:

1. No masks.
2. No weaponry or facsimiles of weaponry.
3. Political and/or scary/gory attire/accessories are not permitted.
4. Creative attire should not impede the your child’s ability to partake in the learning of a normal school day.

- **Lower School – Grades 1-5:** Lower School Room Parents have planned individual classroom celebrations in each child’s homeroom classroom. The exceptions are in Grades 1 & 4, where there are two sections at each grade level. Grades 1-A and 1-B will have a collective celebration for both sections; Grades 4-A and 4-B will also have a collective celebration for both sections. All other grade levels will have individual classroom celebrations.

Lower School students should wear their regular school uniforms to school on October 29th. They should bring their costumes in a bag as they will change into them prior to the afternoon party. Costume guidelines:

1. No masks.
2. No weaponry or facsimiles of weaponry.
3. Political and/or scary/gory attire/accessories are not permitted.
4. Creative attire should not impede the your child’s ability to partake in the learning of a normal school day.

- **Middle School – Grades 6-8:** Room parents have planned age-appropriate activities for our middle schoolers; these activities will honor the occasion in a manner suitable for our pre-teens and teens.

In lieu of costumes, Middle School students are allowed to come to school on October 29th dressed in fun, comfortable clothes of their choice that won’t interfere with their school day. Consider it as a “**non-uniform with flair day**”—e.g., pajamas, clothes of your choice, sports jerseys, themed tee-shirts, decade themes, etc. Shoes must conform to FIDS’s school-uniform guidelines.

We look forward to a happy healthy Halloween for all! The classroom parties will be coordinated and led by the respective room parents and teachers. If you wish to lend support, please reach out to your respective room parents.



Operation Gratitude. Once again this season, FIDS will be supporting [Operation Gratitude](#) through the collection of Halloween candy, which will be sent to U.S. military troops. In addition to supporting those who sacrifice their lives for us, participation in Operation Gratitude helps instill in children a sense of give-back and charity. Further, your donations to this cause will mitigate the temptation to indulge in unsavory nutritional practices at home. It’s a win-win! FIDS will provide an Operation Gratitude collection box in the school’s foyer, November 1 – 3, 2021. Only donations of non-perishable, wrapped candy will be accepted during this period.

Faculty Profile—Hannah Whiteman, Middle School Language Arts Lead Teacher. Hannah Whiteman joined the faculty of Fisher Island Day School in 2021. Her goal is to inspire in students a love of reading and a readiness to share their ideas and beliefs as expressed through their own writing. While the skills gained from practicing reading and written communication are vital to a student’s progress into the professional world, she also emphasizes their importance in developing confidence and adequate self-expression.

Hannah taught both creative and academic composition courses to undergraduates, including specialized subject areas such as Writing for Engineers and Technical Writing, as well as beginning and intermediate Creative Writing courses. She has also served as an English Language Arts teacher and an AP Literature teacher in a high-school setting. Along with her experience in education, Hannah has worked in the publishing field, primarily in literary journals.

Hannah was raised in several states but counts Mississippi and South Carolina as her home. In her free time, Hannah enjoys traveling and trying new cuisine. She also likes to kayak, swim, and read on the beach.

Hannah holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from Belhaven University and a Master’s degree in Writing from the University of Florida. She has contributed articles on hospitality and tourism, local businesses, and community involvement to various regional magazines. You can find her creative work in *The Baltimore Review* and *North Dakota Quarterly*. Welcome, Hannah!

Thank you for your support in making every school year at FIDS a wonderful learning experience for our children. Your partnership is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Bell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Michael Bell
Head of School
Follow me on Twitter @FIDSHOS