

The **FALL 2025** CHURCHILL CHRONICLE

New Beginnings: A Year of Possibility Starts Here!

A LETTER FROM *The Head of School*

Dear Churchill Community,

As we welcome a new school year, there is a wonderful sense of **new beginnings** in the air. With fresh faces joining our faculty, dynamic leaders stepping onto our Board and exciting events coming up, this fall marks the start of another extraordinary chapter in Churchill's story!

United by our mission and motivated with purpose, we look forward to the opportunities ahead - to connect, to celebrate, and most importantly, to support the **incredible students** who inspire us every day.



Anne
ANNE EVERS





Sip & Savor OCTOBER 17, 2025

Don't miss out. Get your tickets now!

WHEN: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025

WHERE: Churchill Center & School

TIME: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

REGISTER: <https://onecau.se/sipsavor2025>



Join us for a **festive evening** of camaraderie and engagement at this much-loved annual tradition. Sip, savor and socialize with fellow parents, alumni and friends - all while **supporting Churchill's Scholarship Fund**.

Expect **premium appetizers** from local restaurants, unlimited **craft beer** from area breweries, curated **fine wines** and **live music** by Thunder Kitty, a lively five-piece pop/rock cover band. With spirited conversation and memory-making moments, it's a night to celebrate not just the evening, but the bright year ahead!



SCAN TO REGISTER





Introducing **OUR NEW 2025-2026 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS**

We are honored to welcome the following outstanding individuals to our Board:

2025-2026 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Eliza Applegate

Parent of Alumnus &
Community Friend



Jeff Becker

Current Parent &
International Tax CPA



Allison Edwards

President, Parents Association
Current Parent x 2 &
Community Friend



Lindsay Wright

President, Alumni Association
Alumna & Community Friend

2025-2026 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Matt Courtney

PRESIDENT

Jeff Todt

TREASURER

Sarah Roche

VICE PRESIDENT

Zachary Kratochvil

SECRETARY

What a team! We're excited to introduce and celebrate this year's incredible group of dedicated leaders who champion Churchill's mission every day - from the newest Trustees above to our steadfast Executive Committee. Each Board member plays a vital role in shaping our school's future.

Thank you to the entire Board of Trustees for your tireless service and support!



Beyond Churchill...

HERE WE GO, BULLDOGS. HERE WE GO!

Whether you graduated last year or decades ago, you'll always be part of the Churchill family - and we'd love to hear from you! Send us an email, stop by for a visit, tag us on social media or drop us a note to say hello. We want to hear your memories, celebrate where life has taken you and be inspired by your journey.



Alumni SURVEY



We're also working on strengthening the Churchill Alumni Network - and we need your voice! Help us shape future events, resources and opportunities by taking a moment to complete our **Beyond Churchill Alumni Survey** at:

<https://tinyurl.com/beyondchurchill>



SCAN FOR
SURVEY



Welcome NEW FACULTY & STAFF MEMBERS!

We are delighted to introduce the newest faces of our Churchill family who bring enthusiasm, expertise and a child-centered approach to our school community!



Tara Harrow

FINE ARTS TEACHER

- BA in Visual Art, Truman State University
- MA in Visual Art, Truman State University
- National Board Certified in Art Education



Tashsa Ritter

NURSE/FRONT DESK STAFF

- AAS in Nursing, St. Louis Community College
- National Honors Society, Phi Theta Kappa - Missouri's Top 1%



Sarah Wind

LANGUAGE ARTS AND TEACHER

Joined the Churchill Team in December 2024

- BA in Elementary Education, University of Missouri-Columbia
- MA in Education, Maryville University



Alicia Alexander

SOCIAL STUDIES & SCIENCE AND TUTORIAL TEACHER

Joined the Churchill Team in December 2024

- BA in Psychology and Neuroscience, Grinnell College
- MEd in Academic Behavioral Strategy, Bethel University
- Certified in Cross Categorical Mild/Moderate Disabilities (K-12)



Gerri Smith

PERMANENT SWING AND TUTORIAL TEACHER

- BS in Early Childhood Education, Texas Christian University
- ME in Special Education - Educational Diagnostic, Texas Woman's University
- Certified in Early Childhood Education (birth-3), Special Education (K-12), Learning Behavior Specialist (PreK-Age 21) and Texas Educational Diagnostician



Parents Association

The heart of our parent community beats strong thanks to the devoted efforts of the Churchill Parents Association (PA). This year, we are thrilled to welcome our new PA leadership:

Allison Edwards

PA PRESIDENT

- Parent to Ella in 6th grade and Emma in 7th grade
- allisonedwards313@gmail.com

Nikki Kijanko

PA VICE PRESIDENT

- Parent to Kora in 5th grade
- nkijanko@svmstl.com



PA President Allison Edwards and PA Vice President Nikki Kijanko

The Parents Association is made up of an incredible group of volunteers who help foster connection, celebrate our teachers and support events that bring joy and value to our school year. With their enthusiasm and commitment, the PA is already planning a fantastic year of engagement, appreciation and lots of fun.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? Keep an eye out for opportunities to lend a hand, share your ideas and connect with other Churchill families! For more information, feel free to reach out to **Allison, Nikki** or **PA Coordinator Sue McLaughlin** at smclaughlin@churchillstl.org.



FALL FUNDRAISER: *A Sweet Tradition Turns 30!*



We are thrilled to announce this year's 30th Anniversary of DeDe's Chocolate-Covered Almonds Fundraiser! Named in honor of DeDe Lambert, beloved former Board President, alum parent and grandparent, this cherished fall tradition supports the Churchill Scholarship Fund - **and has raised over \$854,000 to date!**

Each classic white box is packed with one-pound of gluten-free, kosher, chocolate-covered almonds. Perfect for gifting, snacking or treating yourself. You can even stock up for holiday orders at the office - guaranteed crowd-pleaser status!

What a delicious way to make a difference!

PLEASE NOTE:

ALL ORDERS MUST BE MADE ONLINE AT:

<https://one.bidpal.net/almond2025>



SCAN TO ORDER

Local pick-up is required. Online orders are due to Churchill by **Monday, October 20, 2025** at the latest.



ALMOND PICK-UP:

Almonds will be available for pick-up at Churchill during designated times on:

- **Wednesday, December 3, 2025**
- **Thursday, December 4, 2025**
- **Friday, December 5, 2025**

Questions?

Please contact Sue McLaughlin at smclaughlin@churchillstl.org or 314-997-4343.



Save the Date!

Be sure to mark your calendars now for Churchill's signature biennial event - the **Starfish Soirée Dinner & Auction** - our largest and most impactful fundraiser benefiting the Scholarship Fund!

This unforgettable evening brings together the entire Churchill community - current and alumni parents, faculty and staff, alumni and friends - for a night of celebration and support. Guests will enjoy a premier dinner, full bar and thrilling live auction, along with an extensive silent auction featuring exclusive experiences and thoughtfully curated items.

For questions or more information, contact **Steph Slonka** in the Advancement Office at sslonka@churchillstl.org.

CHURCHILL CENTER & SCHOOL

Starfish Soirée

Friday, February 27, 2026
at the Hilton St. Louis Frontenac!



Here's What's Coming Up **AT CHURCHILL**

SAVE THE DATES:

- **Friday, October 17**
Sip & Savor
- **Monday, October 20**
Fall Fundraiser
Chocolate-Covered
Almond Orders Due
- **Monday, October 20**
Experience Dyslexia®:
A Learning Disabilities
Simulation
- **Friday, October 24**
NO SCHOOL
(Teacher Work Day)

- **Monday, November 3**
GRAND Day
- **Wednesday, November 5**
Churchill's Speaker
Series Presents...
Peggy Campbell-Rush
- **Friday, November 7**
HALF DAY
(Parent Conferences)
- **Thursday, November 20**
Churchill's Sibling Workshop
- **Wednesday, November 26 -**
Friday, November 28
NO SCHOOL
(Thanksgiving Holiday)

- **Monday, December 1**
Celebrate Churchill Day
- **Wednesday, December 3 -**
Friday, December 5
Fall Fundraiser Pick-Up Days
- **Monday, December 22 -**
Friday, January 2
NO SCHOOL
(Winter Break)