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St. Paul's Episcopal School is an International Baccalaureate World School. The International Baccalaureate Organization IB is a world-renowned educational organization. St. Paul's offers the Primary Years Program which incorporates an inquiry based curriculum and challenges students to become open-minded, knowledgeable, and caring citizens.

Pacer Annual Fund

As parents, we cherish the milestones that occur in the lives of our children. We celebrate each accomplishment and treasure them in our hearts. These crucial steps of development build the balanced foundation that shapes a bright future. By educating the whole child in mind, body, and spirit, St. Paul's is unique in its approach to education.

Emphasis on a rigorous curriculum encompassed within an IB framework, diverse co-curricular opportunities, confidence building, and spiritual development provide each child an education unlike any other in the state of Texas. St. Paul's provides the experiences and support that allow its students to have the confidence to take chances and try new things.

Please take a look at this video for more information.



Let's keep in touch!

Please keep us updated with your current information. Do you have any old school pictures? We would love to use them in the next newsletter!
alumni@stpaulsschoolwaco.com



Alumni Spotlights

Three alumni with children at St. Paul's reflect on old times, favorite teachers and how the school has grown and changed

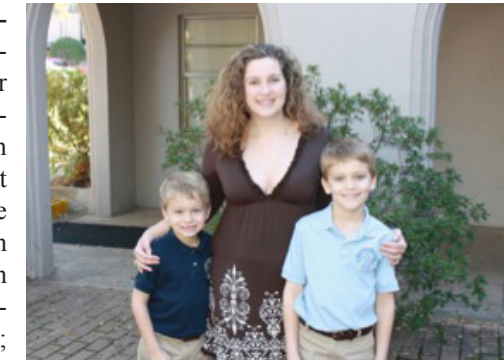
St. Paul's Messenger: What are a few of your favorite school memories?

Mary Frances: Mrs. Lehr and Mrs. Dyer

SPM: What things seem the same/different at St. Paul's today compared to when you were a student there?

Laura: Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Berryman, Mrs. Schallace, Ruth Miller, Mrs. Daniel

Elizabeth: Of course everything is more technologically advanced and the classrooms and gym are definitely fancier, but I still see a great group of kids with whom, I believe, my children are forming the basis for lifelong friendships. Oh, and I'm teaching the Maypole dance to a new group of 3rd graders this spring!



Elizabeth Buchanan Dietz ('83) and sons Alex, 7, and Liam, 9.

Mary Frances: The musical plays such as Peter Pan and It's a Small World

classmates through social media and I've seen more than half of them in the last two years. Laura Bateman Indergard, Susannah Sheppard Benner, and Carolyn Kannwischer Bess were all bridesmaids in my wedding.

Laura: School productions of the Music Machine, Cats, and The Wizard of Oz; Paper Plate Awards; Mini-courses; singing with Mrs. Bowman; Playing four square on the playground

Laura: Elizabeth Buchanan Dietz, Susannah Sheppard Benner, Carolyn Kannwischer Bess, Ashley Hambleton Clyce, Kristen O'Brien, Dan Reece, Henry Wright, Drew Haluska, Cicily Scott, Ginna George Lewis; Nicole Cochran, and more, I'm sure!

SPM: What traditions do you remember the most?

Elizabeth: Eating lunch on the playground and playing four square; participating in the Maypole for Cotton Palace in 3rd grade; The Bookworm and Knight reading incentive programs; 6th grade graduation; Chapel

SPM: What made you choose St. Paul's for your child/children?



Mary Frances Karr Ellis ('90) and daughter LillyGrace, 4.

Mary Frances: Chapel and the Christian education that we received

Laura: Chapel, 6th grade graduation

SPM: What teachers stand out in your mind the most?

Elizabeth: Jimmie Dyer, who I used to see regularly at in-service when I taught school, and JoAnn Bowman, who is a Facebook friend of mine.

Elizabeth: I like the small classes, excellent and caring teachers, a more flexible and inspiring educational environment and the Christian education component.

Laura Bateman Indergard ('83) and children Juliet, 5, Arabella, 11 months, and Brooks, 8.

SPM: What does your child/children like the most about St. Paul's?

Elizabeth: Recess, PE, Science, free time in the computer lab

Mary Frances: The Christian environment

Mary Frances: Music and Chapel

Laura: Brooks- Art and PE; Juliet- Español (her word, not mine!)

Laura: It's still the best educational option in Waco!

Local alum finds fulfillment in helping the community and supporting St. Paul's School

St. Paul's Episcopal School definitely holds a special place in Elizabeth Smith's heart. The youngest of three girls and daughter of Cullen and the late Laura Dossett "Mickey" Smith, Elizabeth attended the school beginning at age three in the mid 1960s. She has many happy memories of the school in its early days and is thankful for the



St. Paul's alum Elizabeth Smith is the executive director of the Cooper Foundation.

fine education she received. Perhaps that is why the Waco resident and St. Paul's Church parishioner, who has served twice on the school board and most recently on the search committee for the new Head of School, chooses to stay so closely connected.

When asked if she would mind answering a few questions about her memories of St. Paul's and her career as the executive director of the Cooper Foundation, she replied, "I'd be happy to. I can't think of anything more fun than discussing some of my favorite things!"

Her earliest memories date back to when Bessie Johnson was her teacher in the three year old class. Her favorite kindergarten memory was when her class walked down to the old Waco High School to parade the campus in Halloween costumes. Field trips to the Strecker Museum stand out in her memory as well. Elizabeth fondly recalls the years when Frank Mangum was the Assistant Rector in charge of school chapel. Apparently he made it a lot of fun.

Founded in 1956, St. Paul's was a school for pre-school through third graders. In 1973, the school expanded its grade levels up through the sixth grade. After completing third grade, Elizabeth, along with some others including classmate Gay Crosthwait, moved to Hillcrest School. From there she attended Lake Air Junior High and then Vanguard for high school, graduating in 1977.

After high school, her journeys then led her to Vanderbilt University where she majored in political science and history. During her junior year at Vanderbilt, Elizabeth spent a year abroad, studying political theory international relations at Leeds University in Yorkshire, England. That experience is what she says gave her the appreciation for non-profit organizations and their importance in the world. After graduating from Vanderbilt, she then attended graduate school at Baylor, where she received her MBA.

In 1982, Elizabeth married Stuart Smith, whom she had gone to school

with from fourth grade through high school.

"We had always been friends, and having the same last name we were always lined up next to each other," she laughed.

After Stuart's completion of law school at the University of Texas, the young couple happened upon a unique opportunity to move to Africa. An organization called Volunteers For Mission supported through the Worldwide Anglican Community, was in need of business teachers. This is when Stuart and Elizabeth decided to pack their bags and head off to offer their talents at the Christian Industrial Training Centre in Thika, Kenya.

In 1987, after their year of teaching overseas was completed, they decided to move back to their hometown of Waco, where Stuart began practicing law at Naman, Howell, Smith, and Lee. Elizabeth began working for CORD, the Center for Occupational Research and Development, which is a national non-profit organization that helps lead change in education.

In 1994, she found her true calling in which she could follow her passion in helping other non-profit organizations

"I just love living in a country in which one can choose how to give his or her own money to others."

— Elizabeth Smith

at the Cooper Foundation. And that is where she has been thriving for the past seventeen years.

If you are not familiar with the Cooper Foundation, you most likely have driven past the beautiful turn of the century home in which the foundation is housed in, perched at the corner of

18th and Austin Avenue. With assets of over 36 million dollars today, the Cooper Foundation was started in 1943 by Maddison Cooper, Jr. as a memorial to his parents, Martha Roane and Maddison Alexander Cooper.

Offering grant awards to local non-profit, non-religious organizations, the foundation has helped businesses such as the Mayborn Museum, Cameron Park Zoo, Waco Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Pepper Museum, the Y, Art Center Waco, local hospitals, Quinn Campus, and McLennan Community College.

Other organizations they support include those offering true basic needs such as housing, healthcare, food, and support for low income families and the more vulnerable population.

"One thing people might not know about the Cooper Foundation is that it is a public charity, meaning that it receives donations as well as awards grants," Elizabeth added.

Elizabeth agrees that she truly has a love for the community and a passion to make Waco a better or more desirable city in which to live.

"I just love living in a country in which one can choose how to give his or her own money to others," she said.

And how truly blessed St. Paul's is to have the support of generous alumni such as Elizabeth. Last spring, She and Stuart started a fund in honor of our long-time and much loved church/school custodian, Willie Sargeant. This award will be given each year in the form of a scholarship to a chosen St. Paul's student.