

# Oliverian

— A school as unique as its students. —

## Oliverian Newsletter September 2019

### Q&A with Head of School Will Laughlin on How to Have a Great School Year

As we prepare for the start of another school year, we asked Head of School Will Laughlin about what he thinks makes a school year great. [Read more here.](#)



### What's New at Oli? We're glad you asked...

- Oli is officially accredited through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)!
- Fall Family Weekend is coming up soon, October 17-18. We'd love to see you there!

### Oliverian Leadership Takes to Maine for an Inaugural Retreat

At Oliverian, we're proud to offer a holistic educational experience that places emphasis on our students' critical thinking skills, emotional and physical wellbeing, and college readiness. Our curriculum and approach encourages students to challenge themselves and push the boundaries of their comfort zones, practicing community building along the way.



Every once in a while, though, it can be good to step back to reflect on and remember why we do what we do - it's a clarifying and rejuvenating practice. That's why in June, Oli's leadership team left the hustle and bustle of campus behind to spend 24 hours together on a retreat in the mountains of Maine.

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## Humanities Teacher Chris Dolan Explains the Value of Adventure-Based Learning

Humanities teacher Chris Dolan combines her outdoor leadership experience and literature expertise to create unique, immersive, adventure-based classes.



[Read more](#)

## Dorm Parent Erin Napp Talks Animal Therapy

Erin Napp, Oli's newest dorm parent, drew from her background as an animal science teacher and equine specialist to initiate our first-ever dog-centric community meeting. Community meetings at Oli are opportunities for students and staff to catch up on announcements and share things they're appreciative and grateful for.



But community meetings are also opportunities for our staff members to dive into a topic they're interested in. Because Oli staff take turns leading the community meetings, they're able to introduce the students to new subjects that might not always fit the curriculum or lesson plan of a given class period. That's why, when it came to be Erin's turn to lead, she realized it was the perfect time to try introducing animal therapy to Oli students.

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