

St Mark's Admission Prefects
2021–2022



St. Mark's School *Admission Prefect Profiles*

Thank you for visiting St. Mark's School. Admission Prefects are IV, V, and VI Form students selected by the Admission Office to welcome you to campus, answer questions you may have while you wait for your interview, and manage various parts of the campus visit. All of our Prefects are proven leaders and have made significant contributions to the St. Mark's community. This collection of profiles communicates why these students chose St. Mark's and why they find our school such a special place. Enjoy reading them!

Mission Statement

St. Mark's School educates young people for lives of leadership and service. Founded in 1865 as an intentionally small residential community, the School challenges its students to develop their particular analytic and creative capabilities by both inspiring their academic and spiritual curiosity and kindling their passion for discovery. We value cooperation over self-interest, and we encourage each person to explore his or her place in the larger world beyond our campus.

Diversity Statement

St. Mark's School seeks to reflect the increasingly diverse world in which our student presently live and will live in the future. We intend to provide our students with a superior education in a community of students, parents, faculty, and staff that represents a variety of racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. We strive to ensure respect for all regardless of sex, gender, identity, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, family structure, or economic background.

Sustainability Statement

In valuing cooperation over self-interest and recognizing our role as global citizens, St. Mark's School actively fosters environmental stewardship and sustainable development in its education, planning, and practices.









2021–2022

Admission Head Prefects



Julie He

Newton, MA

Admission Head Prefect

Where are you from?

Newton, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Brimmer and May

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My picture wall of my friends and family.

What is a fun fact about you?

I once read the entire Harry Potter series in less than a week.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *Friends*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Hanging out with my friends and cooking in the Ritz.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's for the community and academics. St. Mark's has a very small and tight-knit community where everyone is supportive and kind to one another. The smaller sized classes allow for more individual attention and better communication between the students and teachers. Also, there are many opportunities and options that are available at SM with classes, sports, and leadership positions. Our cool school colors and mascot are great bonuses!

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class so far is Survey of Literary Genres. I was able to expand my essay writing skills while exploring topics such as Old English through analyzing Othello, and the Natural world/Romantic era through Frankenstein. Although it was academically challenging, it was a very fun and rewarding class.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite moment would have to be freshman year Groton night. It was my first "big event" at the school and really showed me the SM spirit with everyone shouting and running around the bonfire. It was lots of fun especially when burning the zebra.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play squash and tennis. I am also the co-head of the Book Club, a staff on the St. Marker, and a member of affinity groups such as ASA.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Be yourself! We want to see the real you, don't be afraid to talk or ask any questions you may have.



Molly Lefebvre
Grafton, MA

Admission Head Prefect

Where are you from?

Grafton, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Grafton Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Pictures of my family and friends.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a puppy from quarantine.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *Friends*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Lawn games.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I could feel such a strong community on my tour day. I felt like I could really make this place feel like home, and the support here would make the transition from public school to boarding school fairly easy.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class so far at St. Mark's has been Ethics and Morality. In the fall of my sophomore year, I signed up for Ethics because we had to take a religion. I didn't have very high expectations, but I found it all really interesting. I learned a lot about different morals and philosophies and even learned more about my own moral code.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment has been Groton night. Both my third and fourth form year, the whole community came together and the Monitors put on a really good show. There was a lot of chanting, yelling, running, and they were both really fun nights.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play varsity field hockey, varsity hockey, and varsity lacrosse. In addition, I will be a Peer Discussion Leader (PDL) next year, and head admission prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

My advice for prospective students is to be open minded. There are so many amazing opportunities these schools have to offer, so try to learn as much as you can.



Brady Leonard
Southborough, MA

Admission Head Prefect

Where are you from?

Southborough, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Trottier Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My work ethic.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have 2 younger sisters.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *The Office*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Athletic games.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the many options available, I live in Southborough and have heard about it my whole life. I also loved the community that I heard about in the admissions process.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I loved my religion classes and the way that they brought about discussion and made me think outside of the box.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

I love Groton night because of the atmosphere and the school spirit that is a part of it.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

This year I was a Peer Discussion Leader and Admission Prefect. Next year I am on the SDC and I am a Burnett Prefect and a Head Admission prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I would say to keep an open mind and really enjoy the admissions process.





Andy Zhou

Shanghi, China

Admission Head Prefect

Where are you from?

Shanghai, China

What school did you previously attend?

Wellesley High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A bracelet that my dad gave me.

What is a fun fact about you?

I enjoy cooking.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Seven deadly sins.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Food runs.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

It was a small school with a good community, it also had all the sports that I wanted to play. The overall culture is also good.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class taken at St. Mark's is advanced biology because it taught me more than just things about bio, but also how to write and express myself better.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

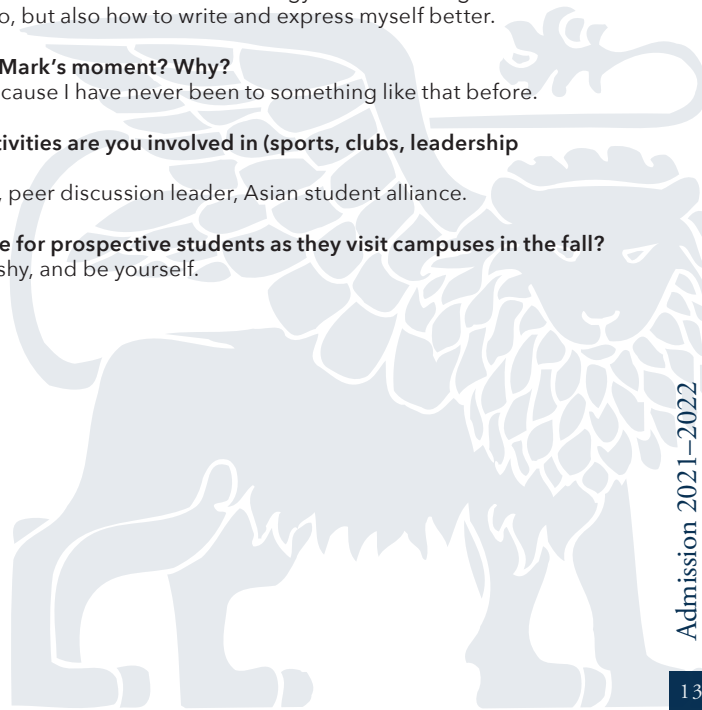
My first Groton night, because I have never been to something like that before.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Wrestling, cross country, peer discussion leader, Asian student alliance.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Ask questions, don't be shy, and be yourself.







2021–2022

Admission Head Tour Guides



Dwayne Hinds Jr.
West Caldwell, NJ

Admission Head Tour Guide

Where are you from?

West Caldwell, NJ

What school did you previously attend?

Team Academy

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My sneaker collection.

What is a fun fact about you?

I skipped first grade.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Daddy Day Care

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Relaxing

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose SM because during my visit everyone was very nice and welcoming. I could tell that there was a strong sense of community and that was a big thing that I was looking for in my school.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class was probably ceramics because it was a new experience and it turned out to be really fun.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite SM moment was the very first Groton Week because everyone was so excited and there was a lot of energy throughout the whole school.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play football, basketball and lacrosse. I am also signed up for the rubik's cube club.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

One piece of advice I have for prospective students is choose a school that you know you will be comfortable at for the next four years.





Sophie Ledonia
Alexandria, VA

Admission Head Tour Guide

Where are you from?

Alexandria, Virginia

What school did you previously attend?

Blessed Sacrament School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My love and dedication to my communities!

What is a fun fact about you?

I have never moved houses before!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Pretty Woman*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's is laser tag.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I was drawn to its small community and extracurricular activities. When I first arrived at the school, I was immediately welcomed with open arms and kind faces, and the caring nature of the community is what made me choose this school. St. Mark's is a community that brings everyone together, and I wanted to be a part of a community that is always positive and kind. The school also offers a wide variety of clubs and activities such as: The Haiti Partnership, Global Ambassadors, Students for Sustainability, and more. I was drawn to the different clubs the school offers, and I wanted to find out more about them.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's is my Social Justice class with my teacher, Dr. Worrell, that I took in my IV Form year. This class expanded my knowledge and perspective on equality and social concepts, and it taught me a lot about the injustices that our world lives in. This class gave me the knowledge on how to cause change and how to speak up when faced with injustice.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment is our school's annual Groton Night! This is my favorite St. Mark's moment because it is a night where all the students are gathered together, and we all cheer each other on as we prepare for a day of games against our long-time rival, Groton. There is so much fun and excitement on this night, and it is usually celebrated by dances, videos, team videos, games, speeches, and a bonfire. Groton Night never disappoints!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I run cross country, play squash, and cox crew. I am also part of the sustainability club, S4S, I am one of the Head Admissions Tour Guides, an Admissions Prefect, Head Chapel Reader, part of the Asian Student Alliance, the Haiti Partnership, and the Young Democrats.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

It's easy to be scared or nervous, but St. Mark's is a community that will welcome you with open arms and smiles! Everyone is very kind so don't be afraid to talk to students or faculty!



Justin Pare

Montreal, Québec

Admission Head Tour Guide

Where are you from?

Montreal, Québec

What school did you previously attend?

John Rennie High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Febreze

What is a fun fact about you?

My first language is French.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *The Office*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Dodgeball

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the athletics. Hockey was a big part of my decision, however, the community is very tightly knit and it is always fun around campus no matter what is happening.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class taken so far at St. Mark's has been biology. The class had a lot of hands-on learning and allowed me to understand how my own body works on a deeper level.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment is definitely Groton Night. The high energy between my peers and me is indescribable and the rally brings the whole school together.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play soccer, hockey, and tennis. I am an Admissions Prefect, Head Admissions Tour Guide, and a Peer Discussion Leader.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I think the most important thing to look for in a school is how you would see yourself fitting into the community. Discovering what is available for you to do for extracurricular activities and getting a feel for the social vibe of the school will help you decide where you will thrive and enrich yourself. Asking a lot of questions is extremely helpful as well, so don't be afraid to ask!





Carmen Tosi
Wellesley, MA

Admission Head Tour Guide

Where are you from?

Wellesley, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Dexter Southfield School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My stuffed polar bear, Dimples.

What is a fun fact about you?

I was born in London, England.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *The Sandlot*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity is Neon Dance.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the community. During my initial tour I heard so many great things about the dorms and the teams and I felt that SM was a community that I wanted to be apart of. On my tour, I also loved that I saw every kid having fun in the classroom and each student was super engaged.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's was my freshman English class because Ms. Matthews made the class super interactive and I felt that I was always engaged with my peers during class.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

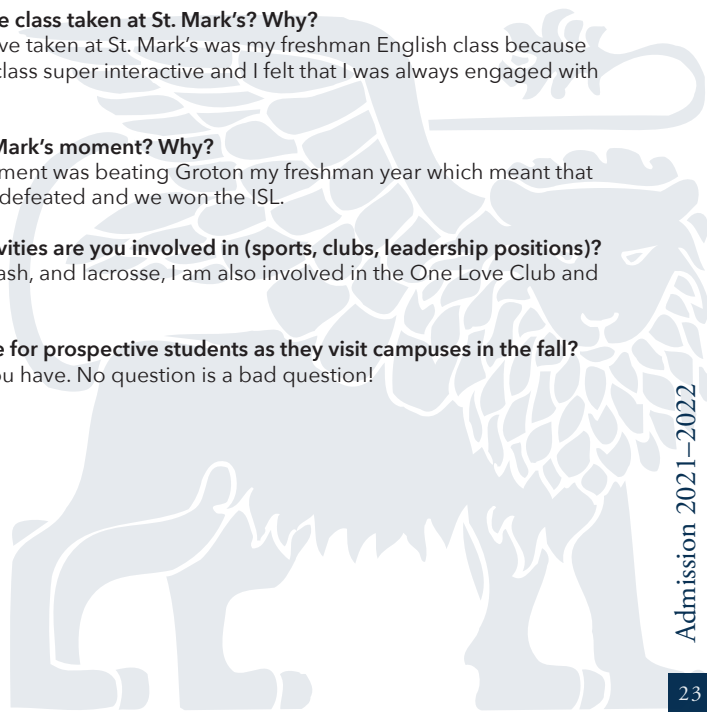
My favorite St. Mark's moment was beating Groton my freshman year which meant that the lacrosse team was undefeated and we won the ISL.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am on field hockey, squash, and lacrosse, I am also involved in the One Love Club and Special Olympics.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Ask any questions that you have. No question is a bad question!





“If there ever comes a day when we can’t be together,
keep me in your heart, I’ll stay there forever.”
-Winnie the Pooh





2021–2022
Admission Prefects

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Seoul, South Korea

What school did you previously attend?

Bopyeong Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing that I brought with me is a doll from my friend in Korea. It makes me feel comfortable and cozy in any situation.

What is a fun fact about you?

I learned tap dance for 5 years, and k-pop dance for 3 years.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Your Name*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity is going roller skating.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I came to St. Mark's for many the opportunities that I can have in the school. In my previous school, I could not pursue my interest, computer science, due to lack of facilities and lack of support. However, in St. Marks, I can learn deeply about computer science, and also pursue my other interests, such as dance, math, and robotics.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at St. Mark's is computer science classes because I really enjoy programming different things by myself.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

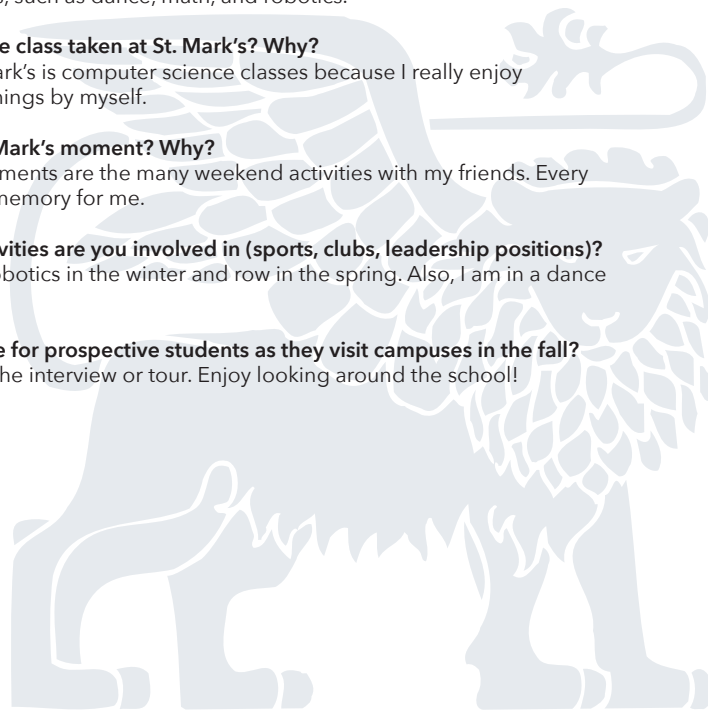
My favorite St. Mark's moments are the many weekend activities with my friends. Every weekend is a new great memory for me.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play soccer in the fall, robotics in the winter and row in the spring. Also, I am in a dance club.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't be nervous about the interview or tour. Enjoy looking around the school!





Tiffany Ahn
Seoul, South Korea



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Austin, Texas

What school did you previously attend?

Vandegrift High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing that I brought to St. Mark's from home is pictures because they are a daily reminder of what matters in my life.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have moved 8 different times. I lived in Abuja and Lagos, Nigeria, Amman, Jordan, Toronto, Ontario, Washington D.C., New York (twice), and finally Austin.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite show is *Stranger Things*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity is dean-sponsored food trips.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the community. It is a small school with a very diverse population and the campus is small so students can easily connect and create meaningful friendships. As soon as I stepped foot on campus, I felt instantly welcomed and I knew St. Mark's would be a place where I could thrive.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I've taken at St. Mark's is psychology because the material and structure of the class was unlike anything I had ever done before. Not only was this class interesting, but it taught me study habits that have helped me grow and develop as a learner.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

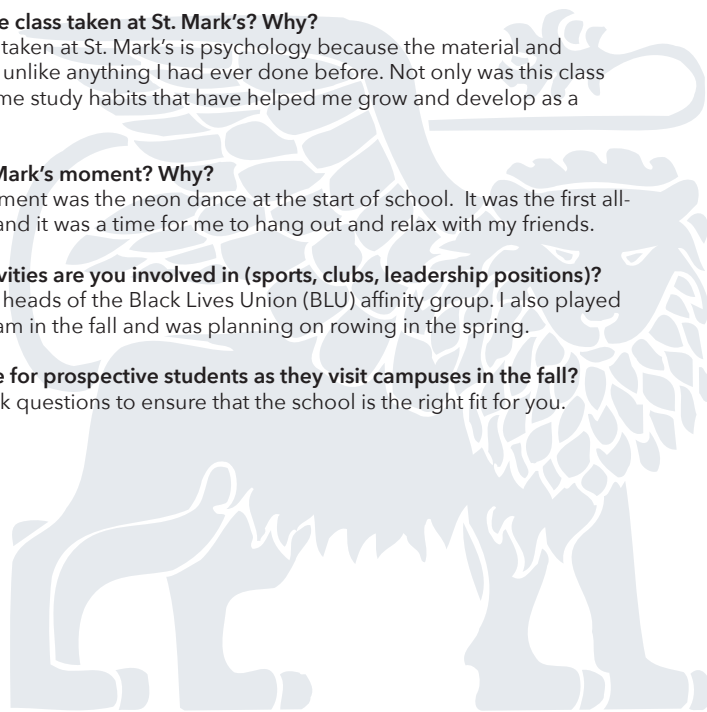
My favorite St. Mark's moment was the neon dance at the start of school. It was the first all-school event of the year and it was a time for me to hang out and relax with my friends.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

This year, I am one of the heads of the Black Lives Union (BLU) affinity group. I also played on the JV field hockey team in the fall and was planning on rowing in the spring.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Relax, be yourself, and ask questions to ensure that the school is the right fit for you.





Ryan Ashford

Austin, TX



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Milford, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Eaglebrook School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important things that I brought with me to St. Mark's from home are the pictures I have with all of my friends and family as well as my Italy flag. Both of these bring me closer to home, closer to my friends even while I'm at school.

What is a fun fact about you?

I love Disney! Disney is one of my favorite places in the world and I am definitely considered a Disney geek.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Movie: *Miracle*

TV: *Friends*

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Athletic Games or hanging out with friends on the turf/athletic quad.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the great balance that is provided between academics and athletics. St. Mark's allows me to excel in both. The small community was also what brought me to St. Mark's.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class I have taken at St. Mark's would have to be sculpture. Sculpture brought out a side to me that I had only really explored once or twice, my artistic side. I found the class to be very interesting and it was definitely a great learning experience for me.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's experience would have to be the first lacrosse game against Groton as it was my first ever St. Mark's game since COVID didn't allow for fall or winter games.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am involved in varsity soccer in the fall, varsity hockey in the winter, and varsity lacrosse in the spring. I hope to involve myself in leadership positions later on as an upperclassmen.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Although it's cliché, try and picture yourself in the classrooms, the dorms, the fields/athletic areas, and even the hallways. Do you think you'd fit in? Ask yourself those questions as you are visiting schools in the fall. You are bound to find the right school for yourself, do not be intimidated at all either, have confidence when you're at these schools visiting.



Jonathan Balzarini

Milford, MA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Leominster, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Luther Burbank Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Photos. I have a cork board that has many photos from friends and family at home.

What is a fun fact about you?

I used to play field hockey!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

That '70s Show.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Sports games throughout the day and night activities on Saturdays!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I was looking for a school that challenged me and that was tight knit. I wanted to be exposed to opportunities that I wouldn't have been exposed to at my other school. And I had heard a lot about how the community was very diverse while they maintained a sense of equality and respect for each other. That really drew me in because there wasn't a lot of diversity at my old school and I didn't feel like I belonged there. Here people help you embrace who you are and how you have come to become that person.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at St. Mark's has been Global Seminar with Dr. Warren. That class changed my perspective of the world immensely and I learned so many things I never would've expected to learn.





Laryssa Barbosa
Leominster, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

New York, New York

What school did you previously attend?

Korea International School Jeju / Salisbury School, CT

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My favorite set of clothes.

What is a fun fact about you?

I practiced how to say "Hi, I'm Chris" for more than an hour during my first car ride to St. Mark's because I was very nervous.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Friends

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Sleeping for the whole day.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I valued its long history, and my tour guide was very friendly. He affected my decision more than I expected any tour guide would.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

American Literature with Dr. Barnes. Dr. Barnes' discussion-based English class pushed students to think outside the box, which not only improved my writing skills, but also helped me grow as an individual.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Casino Night. I like money.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Soccer, newspaper (check out The Parkman Post on google), and I am a Monitor (Student Government).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Try to research a lot about the schools before visiting campuses, so you can ask questions in person if you have any. If you're reading this on campus, listen carefully during your tour, so you can ask your questions during your interview.





Chris Bok

New York, NY







2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Hopkinton, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Hopkinton Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing that I brought to school from home is my attitude towards school and other things. I always try to be the most positive person I can be, towards my friends, my athletics, and my schoolwork.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a golden retriever named Rudy, and we named him after the movie Rudy because my family is huge Notre Dame football fans.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *10 Things I Hate About You*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Freshman year it was neon dance, but this year it was probably the fireworks and games on the turf. I also just loved coming on Saturdays to watch the home sports games and cheer on my friends.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because as soon as I stepped on campus during my tour, I immediately felt a part of the community. The students were so welcoming and outgoing and stopped to introduce themselves to me. I also loved the feel of a small school. I was coming from a public school so I was used to having 300+ kids in my grade, and I knew that I wanted to go to a school where you knew almost everyone not only in your grade, but also in the school.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class I have taken at St. Mark's so far has been Ethics and Morality with Ms. Hultin. I loved this class because it made me question myself, and I learned more about what my morals were and why. I also loved how there were kids from different grades in my class because I got to know a larger group of people.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment is Groton night. It is so fun, and I love how every year the entire school comes together and competes, no matter what team they're on or what level they play at. Every sport and team matters, so it's really cool just to be able to see everyone working together in order to beat Groton.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

In school, I am on the varsity hockey and softball teams, and I am also a Peer Discussion Leader. Outside of school, I participate in both club hockey and club softball.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

One piece of advice that I'd give prospective students is to make sure you ask questions, whether you are on your tour or in your interview. It is not only really helpful for the tour guides if there are questions they need to answer, but it also shows how interested you are in St. Mark's.



Kaitlyn Breslin
Hopkinton, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Leicester, Vermont

What school did you previously attend?

Middlebury Union High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Pictures of family and friends from home.

What is a fun fact about you?

I really like to water ski.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

New Girl is my favorite TV show.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Open skate in the winter.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the opportunities it offered both athletically and academically.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Ceramics is my favorite class I have taken so far because of how relaxing it was and the way in which I could watch my skill improve.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite moments here at St. Mark's have probably been on Groton Day because of how much the community comes together and supports each other, as well as the competitive nature of everything.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play on the varsity soccer, hockey, and lacrosse teams here at St. Mark's and will be a Pine Oak prefect this coming year.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Take in as much of what is thrown at you because if you let it go over your head you won't get the complete St. Mark's experience.





Carlisle Brush

Leicester, VT



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Bellingham, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

I previously attended Bellingham High School.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing that I brought with me to St. Mark's from home is one of my favorite pillows. It has a very sentimental meaning behind the quilted covering.

What is a fun fact about you?

I share the same birthday with my grandmother!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My all time favorite movie is *Mamma Mia*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

One of my favorite weekend activities is Coffee House and St. Mark's Arts Festival (SMAF). I loved watching everyone perform while other people played lawn games. The energy is always great!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of its community. Every time I was on campus during the admissions process, I felt right at home. Everyone was so welcoming and kind to me, and I instantly knew that St. Mark's was the school for me.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's is Algebra II. I loved this course because it helped me understand math on a deeper level, and I know that all the skills I have learned will help me in the future.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment was Groton Night this spring. It was the first time I have ever experienced this long standing St. Mark's tradition. The energy and school spirit that night was amazing, and it is one of my favorite memories this year!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Outside of my academics, I love to play sports. I am a member of the varsity soccer team, varsity basketball team, and varsity lacrosse team. The athletic community at St. Mark's is so supportive and uplifting. In the future, I would love to hold some leadership positions. The monitors are so inspiring, and I would love to be that source of inspiration senior year!

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Some advice I would give to prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall is to step out of their comfort zone. Feel free to speak up during tours, and reach out to current students. It is normal to be nervous and shy, but the only way you will truly find the best school for you is by breaking out of your shell and opening yourself up to new experiences.



Ella Carr
Bellingham, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Atlanta, Georgia

What school did you previously attend?

The Westminster Schools

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A family picture.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have 2 dogs.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity is food trips.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

The wonderful community and endless support from adults who will help you be the best version of yourself in all aspects of life.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Survey of Literary Genres with Ms. Bates. I liked the content of the course and really enjoyed analyzing, discussing, and writing about the various texts that we read.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Beating Groton to win the 2020 ISL Eberhart Championship with the boys varsity hockey team. It was an unbelievable game and the atmosphere of the rivalry was second to none.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am a Peer Discussion Leader and a member of both the varsity boys hockey team and varsity boys lacrosse team.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Keep an open mind and trust your instincts.





Adam Costley

Atlanta, GA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

I am from the south shore of Montreal city in Canada.

What school did you previously attend?

Before coming to St Mark's, I attended a school named College Jean de la Mennais located in my hometown.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Coming in as a new junior, I believe that the most important thing that I have brought from home to St. Mark's would be discipline. Even though it was not always easy to stay motivated being away from home during a COVID year, I believe that what kept me on track was discipline in every aspect of my life (sports, school work, bed time and etc).

What is a fun fact about you?

This year was my first year going to school in English! For my whole life I attended a French school.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Growing up and still up to this day, I would say that my favorite movies would be the *Star Wars* series.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Sports! When it comes to the weekend, if you are participating or not, sports are always exciting because the school gets together to cheer the teams who are playing.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

When I was going through the process to get in to an independent school, I realized that I was looking for mainly 3 things in a school. I wanted to be able to play hockey at a high level, have a high level of education and a smaller school where the community aspect was strong. When I visited St Mark's, it checked all of my boxes and when I visited the school, I fell in love with the school.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I would say that my favorite class that I have taken so far would be my US history class. I really enjoyed that class because of the way it functioned. When in class, we would almost always have discussions on topics we had read information on as homework and it was very interesting.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

So far, I have already had many great memories during my first year but I would say that my favorite one would be the first interscholastic game that we had as a school. After not being able to engage in any games all year long, we were able to host a lacrosse game at home against Groton. Even though I do not play lacrosse, it has to be one of my favorite moments so far because the ambiance on the sidelines was great and on top of that we were playing our biggest rival. The game was also super tight and we won in overtime, it was like a scene straight out of a movie.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

This year I was involved in 2 varsity sports (football and hockey) but next year I am thinking about doing a third varsity sport. Unfortunately, because of the circumstances of me coming in as a new junior, I didn't really have the chance to participate in clubs or hold any leadership positions. Nevertheless as of right now, next year I will play 3 sports at a varsity level, be a part of the finance club and will be an admission prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

My biggest piece of advice would be not to be intimidated by how complex the campus might look because it is much easier to get around than it looks. After just one week, I knew my way pretty much everywhere around campus!



Guillaume Cote

Montreal, CANADA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Ashland, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

I previously attended Ashland High School.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My computer is the most important thing I brought with me. I did not realize how much it is used for schoolwork. I had almost never gotten homework assignments online before COVID. I use my computer to email, do my homework, and many other things.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have surfed since I was 11. I surf in Maine, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire every year.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

That 70's Show is my favorite TV show.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activities at St. Marks are going on trips to places to eat and Target.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the opportunities that I gain from going to this school. I saw the advantages of going here compared to public school. The deal breakers were the teachers, coaches, and environment. I visited St. Mark's in 8th grade to watch a varsity baseball game but I did not apply. The summer going into my sophomore year, Coach Calagione asked me to apply and I did. I wasn't planning on definitely going if I got in. After visiting with Coach Calagione and touring the school, I knew that this was the best place for me academically and for baseball. I could see a difference between the experience and expertise of Coach Calagione as a baseball coach compared to my high school coach. I also was shown and told how great the academics were and how supportive teachers are. I knew going to St. Marks would give me more opportunities.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Physics has been my favorite class taken at St. Mark's so far. It interests me a lot to learn how things work and explain things I can not see. Mr. Geraghty is a great teacher and I find it easy to learn with him. I have had many teachers in the past that have made it harder for me to learn and do well.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment is the baseball team winning its first game this year. Having a baseball season was exciting in the first place and bonding with the team and playing with them was a great time. Winning with them was even better.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

The extracurricular activities I am involved in are baseball and hockey.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Try to ask any current student as many questions as you can. Almost anything that you want to know about being a student can be answered. I asked many questions that were important in making my decision. Talking to a student that goes to the school can be even better than talking to an adult at the school because they are living what you are considering doing.



Dante D'Avanzo

Ashland, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Wellesley, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

The Meadowbrook School of Weston

What is a fun fact about you?

I love to surf, something people from New England rarely have a strong passion for doing.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Rick and Morty.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Dances!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I loved the idea of boarding school and St. Mark's was also a perfect distance from home.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My Ethics and Morality class. This class opened a whole new window of learning I had never been introduced to before.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Groton Night - This is a night when students have a tremendous amount of energy and exhibit lots of school spirit!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Brilliant (Pathways Group) Leader

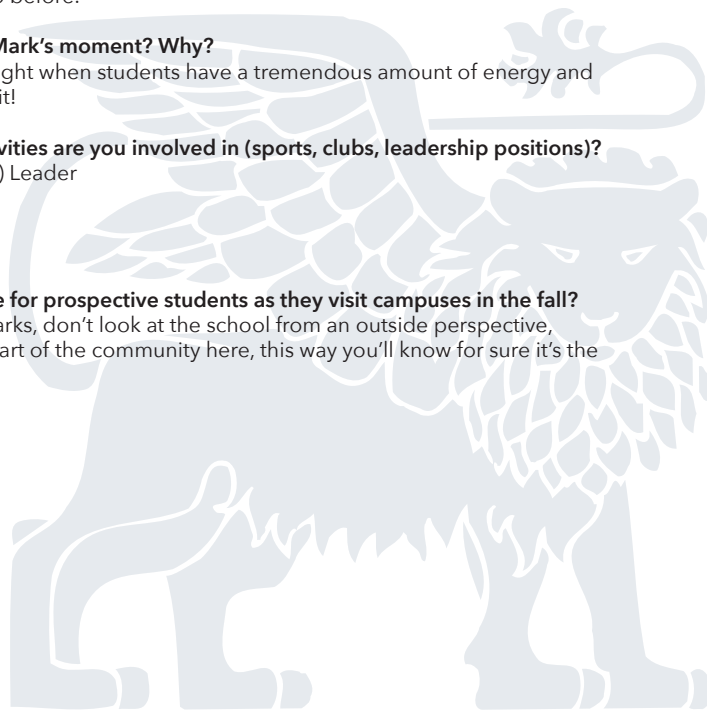
Varsity soccer

Varsity lacrosse

Peer Discussion Leader

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

When you come to St. Marks, don't look at the school from an outside perspective, imagine yourself being part of the community here, this way you'll know for sure it's the place for you.





Charles Dawson

Wellesley, MA



STEM CENTER





Lives of Consequence
THE CAMPAIGN FOR
ST. MARK'S SCHOOL

BIKINI BOTTOM
DRIVER LICENSE CLASS: F
A1356021
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
124 CONCH ST.
BIKINI BOTTOM
SEX: M HAIR: YELLOW EYES: BLU
HT: 5'00" WT: 150
SpongeBob SquarePants

ST. MARK'S

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Hopkinton, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Hopkinton Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

An outgoing personality and a strong work ethic.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have had 15 teeth pulled!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *Grey's Anatomy*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Getting to play in packed home games and watching home games with other classmates, and then hanging out with your team and team dinner afterwards!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I really enjoyed the emphasis on a small community where everyone knows and supports each other. Especially when I came in for a tour and saw how friendly everyone was; it really set St. Mark's apart. It is also a school with strong academics and good sports teams, so that was also a draw for me.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I have taken a lot of great classes throughout my last three years here, but I think my favorite was a Saturday class where we helped out at the NECC (New England Center for Children). It was so awesome to have the opportunity to go off campus to visit and help entertain kids with varying disabilities every Saturday morning. Their faces always lit up when we arrived and they were so excited to see us. It was just a really rewarding experience.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

I would probably say my sophomore year NEON dance. For those who are unaware of what NEON is - it is a dance where everyone gets dressed up in bright/fluorescent colors with their friends and people put on face paint and everything. Then, the entire school packs into the Lion's Den (a fairly small room). It is essentially a giant mosh pit with strobe lights etc where everyone is screaming and jumping along with the songs the DJ is playing. It is so much fun, and you feel so much closer to everyone in the community at that time, because everyone is literally shoulder to shoulder length apart! I especially missed that moment during COVID when everyone was isolated and social distancing.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

For sports, I am on varsity soccer, hockey, and lacrosse. I was a tour guide for prospective students sophomore year. This year, I was a PDL leader, and I got to bond with a group of new freshmen and help them settle into St. Marks.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I would say always ask a lot of questions, but keep an open mind, and when choosing schools - go to the school that feels like the best fit for you, and the school that seems like it will fulfill your happiness and goals for the future.



Samantha Galanek

Hopkinton, MA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Wakefield, RI

What school did you previously attend?

South Kingstown High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

In physical form, I think the most important thing I brought up is my grandfather's hat. I also believe that I brought up an open mind and I am willing to step out of my comfort zone here.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have never broken a bone.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

I really love playing sports so probably when sports games got going again that was awesome. I also loved Saturday snack since people would tend to get hungry later at night.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Marks because I really liked the feel here. I feel that I can be an active member of the community here, and that St. Mark's can help me meet my maximum potential as an athlete and a student. I saw how much my siblings grew and I wanted to do the same.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class this year has been Ms. Killeen's Global Seminar class. I really enjoyed that class because it is not like your normal history class. It is more about how you fit in the world, and how you can affect it.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment so far would probably be my first ever lacrosse game here. Lacrosse is probably my third sport out of three. My first ever ISL sports game was a lacrosse game against Groton. We started strong, then ended up trailing late in the game. We fought back, eventually scored in the last few minutes, and won in overtime. We stormed the field, 13 months after our last game was played. It was special to me because it was our first game, and it really showed how tight our community was after a big win. Everyone was so supportive!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Varsity hockey, soccer, and lacrosse.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Just try to keep an open mind because at the end of the day, we will not get our feelings hurt if you are not all about St. Mark's. They say you just get a feeling when you find the right place, and if that place is not St. Mark's, then we hope you find your place.



Andrew Gibbons

Wakefield, RI

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Northborough, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing I bring to school is my daily planner.

What is a fun fact about you?

I love to bake!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Sports games!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the supportive community and great athletics and academics. I love that you can walk around campus and always see a friendly face wherever you go, whether it's the classroom or field.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken here is Ethics and Morality with Ms. Hultin. I loved this class so much because it not only gave me a new perspective during the class, I noticed myself using some of the things we learned in class in my own life.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment was my first Groton Night. It was so much fun and it really made me feel like a part of the community. I loved the tradition of the bonfire and sports videos, and the Monitors did a great job of making the day so much fun!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am involved in field hockey, basketball, tennis, Haiti Partnership club, and I am a Peer Discussion Leader and an Admissions Prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Picture yourself in each building, classroom, stage, and sports field and see yourself with your friends. Try and imagine yourself going here and see if you think it would be a good fit!





Ali Grenon
Northborough, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School

What is a fun fact about you?

I've lived in 7 houses!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Friends or *Grey's Anatomy*!

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Going to games!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Marks because of it's community! Everyone was super welcoming and it definitely drew me to the school.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I loved ceramics, it's super fun and a great break from the academic day.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

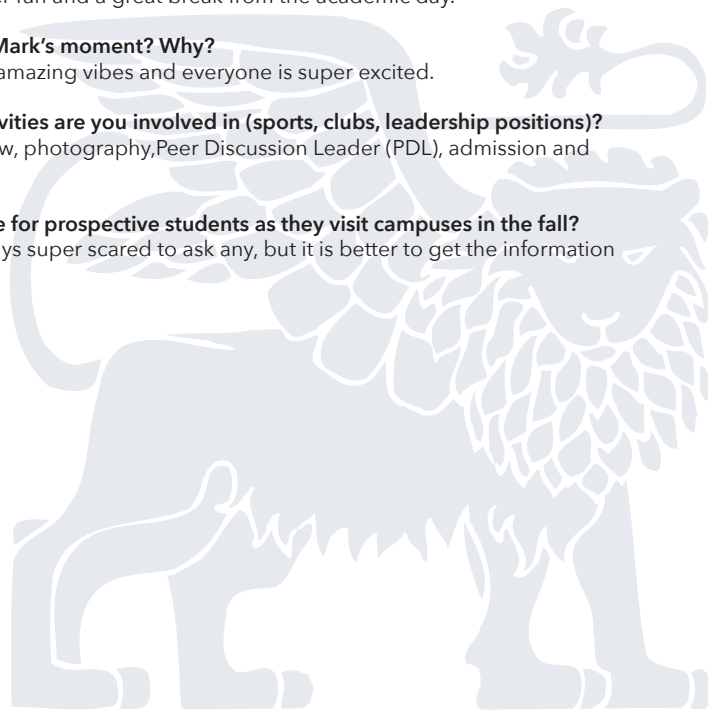
Groton night always has amazing vibes and everyone is super excited.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Field hockey, jv puck, crew, photography, Peer Discussion Leader (PDL), admission and day student prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Ask questions! I was always super scared to ask any, but it is better to get the information you need!





Abby Griffin
Shrewsbury, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Jinan, China

What school did you previously attend?

Jinan Foreign Language School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A comfy mattress.

What is a fun fact about you?

There is a C-Pop celebrity that has the exact same Chinese name (first & last) as me.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Silicon Valley on HBO

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Flea Market with Mr. Camp!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of its rigorous academic offerings and its small and tight community. The robotics program was also an attraction, too.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class taken at St. Mark's was Advanced Religion in my junior year, in which we explored different challenges to religious unbelief and tried to unravel why or why not one believes in religion. The class is so academically engaging and inspiring as it covers so much college level content that I have never been able to come across.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite moment was the time last year before COVID hit when our robotics team won and moved on in the playoffs with an upset victory against the defending champion. There was some ecstatic jumping, cheering, screaming and hugging involved. All the emotions from two months of hard work just burst out. It is a pleasure to see how our design and work finally proves itself and how much we grew from last year.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

FRC Robotics Team 3566
House Prefect
Student Mentor
Asian Student Association
Debate Club

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Talk to the teachers. Sometimes many people, including myself when I was applying, are afraid to do so, but all of them are brilliant and nice people that can help you get a lot of insight about the school and its academic program.



Carl Guo
Jinan, CHINA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Southborough, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School

What is a fun fact about you?

My family and I have trained a guide dog for the blind.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Happy Gilmore*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Playing in athletic games and supporting other teams.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the people. My brother was a junior when I began to apply to secondary schools, and I saw how happy he was at St. Mark's. I have made some friendships that will last a lifetime.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Freshman year physics. In this class, I met many of the friends within my friend group today. Also, Mr. Bauer taught in a way that made me excited to come to class.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

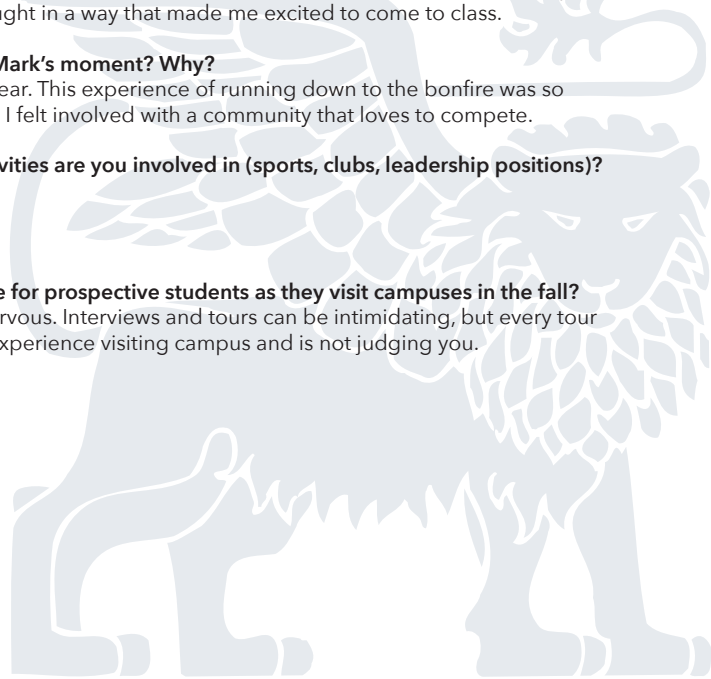
Groton Night freshman year. This experience of running down to the bonfire was so unique to me at the time. I felt involved with a community that loves to compete.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Burnett House Prefect
Golf Captain
JV Hockey player

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

My advice is to not be nervous. Interviews and tours can be intimidating, but every tour guide remembers their experience visiting campus and is not judging you.





Ryan Harper
Southborough, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shanghai, China

What school did you previously attend?

Ykpao school (primary) and Nord Anglia International School Shanghai, Pudong (middle school)

What is a fun fact about you?

I tried to play five types of instruments in addition to singing; I still play the piano to this day, and I've tried guzheng, recorder, cello, and hu lu si for between months to years.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Anything marvel and the *Mandalorian*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Casino night!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because there are opportunities for almost everything I love, from academic subjects to sports and clubs. In addition to the abundance of chances to succeed at SM, there are also enjoyable activities every week to help us live a balanced lifestyle. The more I read about SM, the more convinced I was that it would be a delightful time while I would learn so much. I also find the living condition amazing, with the high chance of getting a single room if you don't want a roommate and the great location being only half an hour away from Boston.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Ethics and Morality with Ms. Hultin. I have been fascinated by philosophy for a long time, and I think this course is the perfect introduction to moral philosophy. The course was not very challenging because I enjoyed reading and writing about different ethical theories and choices, but it still changed my beliefs. I find it exceptional that although I have encountered most of the theories before, the discussions I had with my classmates still urged me to rethink things I was adamant about and ultimately seeing something new.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

When the jv field hockey team won our Groton game, everyone celebrated, running around the field cheering. That moment I felt like I was truly part of something great.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

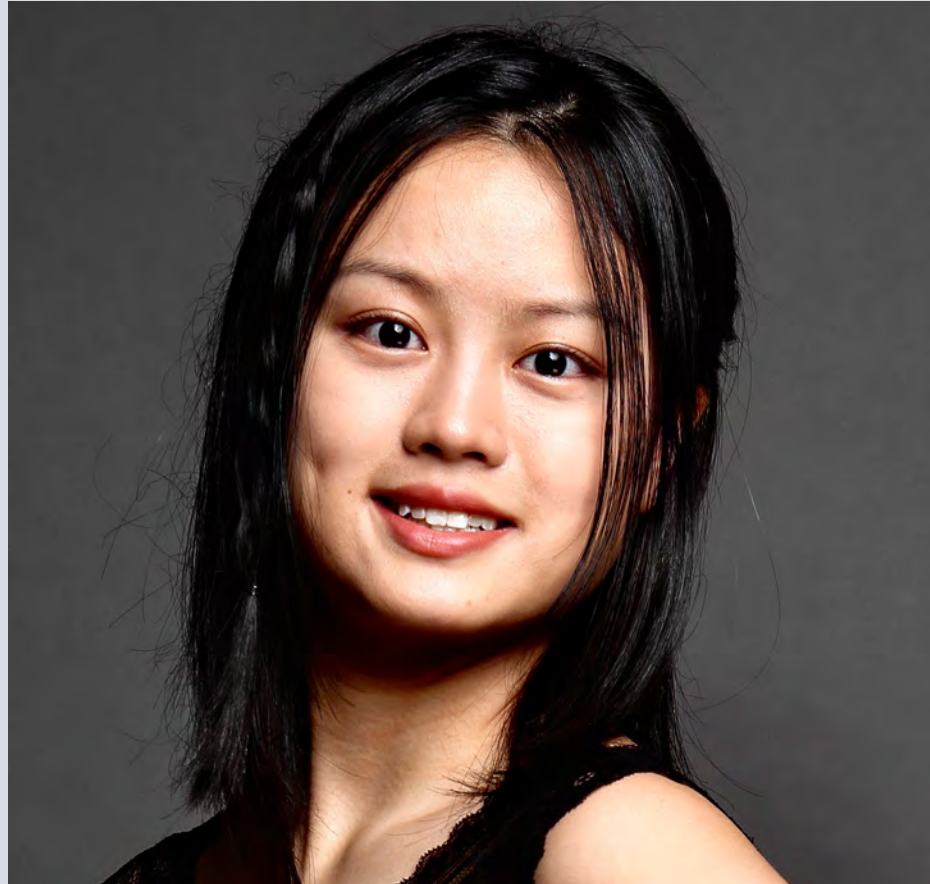
I am a co-leader of the Southborough Society, and I will be a Pathways Prefect next year. I also co-founded the philosophy club this year. My sports are jv field hockey, jv ice hockey, and I hope to join jv lacrosse; I also played floorball, a type of floor hockey, for six years for a club in Shanghai. I'm also a member of the Royal Blues a capella group.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I would encourage them to ask many questions and not be afraid to reach out at any time because it's essential to make sure they also know the school and understand what they are applying for. I would especially urge them to check the sports offered for every season and to see if what's offered fit their interests.



Louise He
Shanghai, CHINA







2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Gilbert, Arizona

What school did you previously attend?

Mesquite High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My sewing machine.

What is a fun fact about you?

I love to cook.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Alice in Wonderland

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Movies under the stars.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I admired its intentionally small school community. In exploring all that St. Mark's offers, what stood out to me was how St. Mark's close community was allowing students to receive more attention from teachers and advisors. Furthermore, St. Mark's being intentionally small enables students to feel that they are members of the St. Mark's community.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's has been the Writing Workshop. I have genuinely admired this course due to how the course introduces the mechanics of writing and text analysis and ignites a passion for writing in students such as myself.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite moment from my time at St. Mark's was Groton Night. When the entire school unites together to celebrate and get excited about St. Mark's games with Groton. One feels inspired and united and a part of something bigger than themselves. When seeing how excited everyone gets, one is simply amazed.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

At St. Mark's, I am a Los Leones (Latinx Affinity Group) Co-Head, a member of CFG (Christian Fellowship Group), a Senior Editor for The St. Marker (Newspaper). I played squash, participated in Taekwondo, and I also am a member of WSAR (White Students Against Racism).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

When first entering St. Mark's, there are so many different opportunities to try or clubs or affinity groups to join but remember not to stretch yourself too thin and enjoy the wonderful place that is St. Mark's School.



Jonathan Hernandez

Gilbert, AZ



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Lawrence, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Lawrence Family Development Charter School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A necklace.

What is a fun fact about you?

I played violin for 6 years.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The entirety of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, specifically, *Spiderman: Far From Home*, *Thor: Ragnarok*, *Captain America: Civil War*, and *Doctor Strange*, and more recently, the new Disney+ TV shows like *Loki*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

I love when there's some kind of performance on the Athletic Quad, whether it's the Wolfpack Band or Coffee House.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I loved the sense of community I felt when I first visited. That was one of the things that was most important to me in the application process. It was unlike any other high school I visited.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Sculpture. I'm a very artistic person, and I loved the range of projects we did with different mediums, like wire figures and ceramic sculptures. I'm taking theater next year, so I'm excited to get back into performing art.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

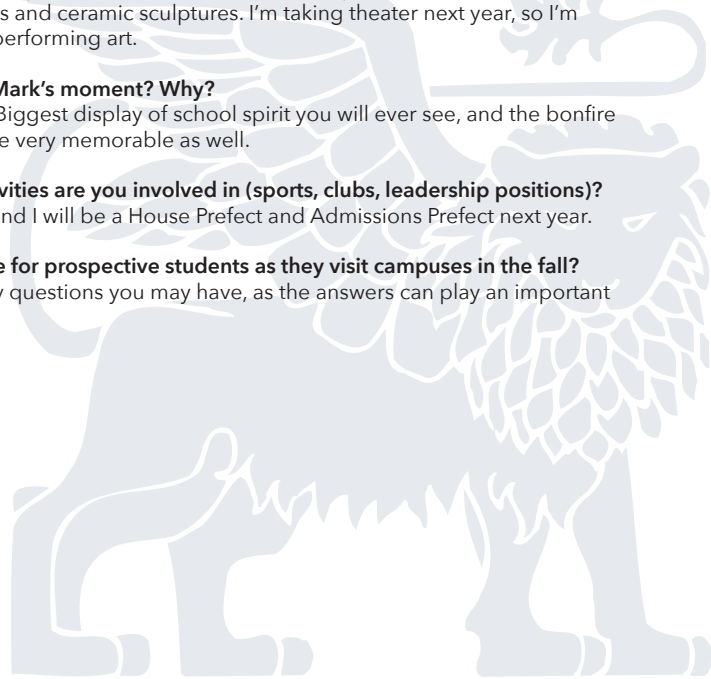
Definitely Groton Night. Biggest display of school spirit you will ever see, and the bonfire and sport team videos are very memorable as well.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play soccer, jv softball, and I will be a House Prefect and Admissions Prefect next year.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't be afraid to ask any questions you may have, as the answers can play an important part in your decision.





Angelica Hiraldo
Lawrence, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Hong Kong

What school did you previously attend?

Harrow International School, Hong Kong

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A necklace that my closest friends and I all have.

What is a fun fact about you?

I used to play netball competitively before I came to St. Mark's.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Big Hero 6.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Hanging out on the West Campus fields with friends.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

The small community. I knew I wanted to attend a school that was on a smaller scale because I love to know the majority of my classmates and to get to know people well.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Studio because I really enjoy art. Art has always been one of my favorite subjects because it's relaxing and really gratifying to see my hard work through my pieces.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

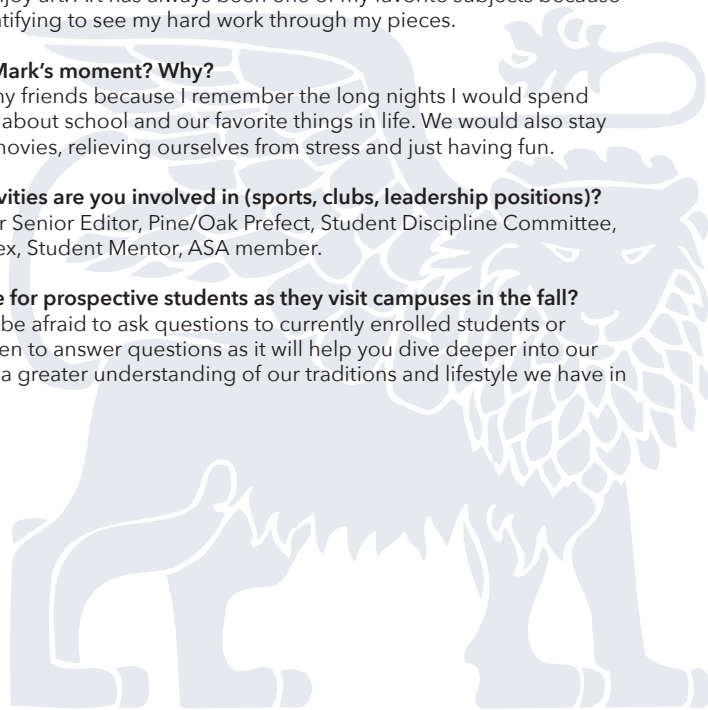
Having sleepovers with my friends because I remember the long nights I would spend with my friends rambling about school and our favorite things in life. We would also stay up late watching horror movies, relieving ourselves from stress and just having fun.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Squash, Tennis, St. Mark's Senior Editor, Pine/Oak Prefect, Student Discipline Committee, Admissions Prefect, Vindex, Student Mentor, ASA member.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

As you are touring, don't be afraid to ask questions to currently enrolled students or faculty. We are always open to answer questions as it will help you dive deeper into our community and give you a greater understanding of our traditions and lifestyle we have in this school.





Mandy Hui

Hong Kong



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Oak Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

I think that my work ethic is the most important thing that I brought with me to St. Mark's from home.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have an older sister who also went to St. Mark's.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office is probably one of my favorite TV shows.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

I think school dances are one of my favorite weekend activities at St. Mark's.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because it has felt like home since the first day I stepped foot on campus. It was my mom's first day of work at St. Mark's and my second day of third grade. We went to the dinner party at Choate House that evening, and I met so many kind people (especially the member of the FLIK staff who brought out a tray of curly fries to the kids' table). Since then, St. Mark's has felt like a place that I can call home.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

While I have enjoyed most of the classes I have taken at St. Mark's, one of my favorites is probably biology. I think that biology is very interesting, and my teacher, Ms. Kelly, is amazing, kind, and encouraging which made the subject she taught all the more enjoyable to learn.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

It is so hard to choose my favorite St. Mark's moment because there have been so many, and I am incredibly grateful for that. However, I think that the Neon Dances that took place during the fall of both my freshman and sophomore years stands out more than others.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

At St. Mark's, I play soccer in the fall and row in the spring. I am involved in various clubs, including Students 4 Sustainability (S4S), as well as certain affinity groups. I am a co-head of the Christian Fellowship Group (CFG), a member of Brilliant (learning differences) and Southborough Society (for those who identify as female), and an ally to all. Outside of sports, clubs, and affinity groups, I am a prefect for Burnett House (the day student house).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Breathe, relax, and trust the process. I probably spent way too much time and energy worrying about whether I was getting into St. Mark's or not. I cannot go back in time to tell myself that I would be okay no matter what happened or where I went, so I want to make sure prospective students know that.



Amanda Hyland
Shrewsbury, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Ashburnham, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Littleton Public Schools

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing that I brought with me was my willingness to try new things and take advantage of new opportunities. St. Mark's has so much to offer if you are willing to be open to it, and I am so glad that I have been.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a twin sister who is in the grade below me at Lawrence Academy.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Grey's Anatomy.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity this year has been the fireworks night that was followed by games on the turf. It was so nice to see everyone, even day students, come out and have fun on campus as the school year began to come to a close.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's not only because of the rigorous academics and competitive athletics, but also because of the community here. From my first campus tour to the classes I had today, I have always felt like everyone here was willing to help me and wanting the best for me.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class so far has been Advanced Topics in Latin Literature with Dr. Harwood. During this course, we dove into classic Latin texts such as the Aeneid and De Rerum Natura, and inspected them with a different lens than the traditional ones. Each class, we translate and hold engaging discussions on themes and underlying attitudes of our translations, which creates a new and interactive discussion each time. Towards the end of the year, we were also able to pick our own text to translate and do research on, which I found to be a really interesting and fun way to close out the year.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment was Groton Day last year. During our field hockey game versus Groton, we were sent into overtime, which brought the teams energy, as well as the crowds, to a new level. When one of my teammates scored the winning goal, we celebrated like never before, and came together as a team and community to celebrate. We also ended up winning the raccoon coat that year, which made our own win even more exciting.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am involved in varsity field hockey, varsity softball, and jv hockey. This year, I was also a member of the phone banking club, where we helped to do phone banking in Iowa for Joe Biden's campaign.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Throughout each visit, make sure to take in your surroundings and be aware of how you feel at each campus. That way, when you have to make the final decision, you are able to go with your instincts and heart, and make the decision that will have the best outcome for you personally.



Riley Jahnle
Ashburnham, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Norfolk, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Public high school- King Philip Regional High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Pictures of my family.

What is a fun fact about you?

I love to play basketball.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Escape Room.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Off campus trips.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the great academics, competitive athletics, and the small community feel.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's is American Literature, because it is interesting to see what makes a "great American novel" and how it depicts America vs how it actually was.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

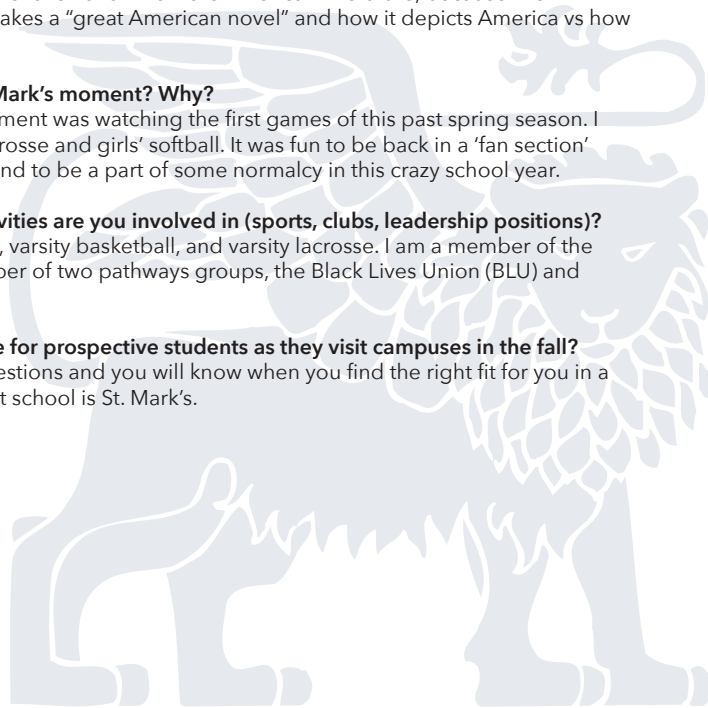
My favorite St. Mark's moment was watching the first games of this past spring season. I watched part of boys' lacrosse and girls' softball. It was fun to be back in a 'fan section' cheering on classmates and to be a part of some normalcy in this crazy school year.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

For sports I play jv soccer, varsity basketball, and varsity lacrosse. I am a member of the REACH club, and a member of two pathways groups, the Black Lives Union (BLU) and Southborough Society.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't be afraid to ask questions and you will know when you find the right fit for you in a school, and hopefully that school is St. Mark's.





Brianna James

Cincinnati, OH & Norfolk, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Shady Hill School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing I brought with me to St. Mark's from home is my toothbrush.

What is a fun fact about you?

My parents were both named Jones when they met.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Supernatural*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity is when the Coolidge Center (weight room) is open.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the academic and athletic opportunities, as well as the welcoming environment.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class I have taken at St. Mark's was Spanish 4 with Señor Sellers. It was my favorite because our class found the perfect balance between having a good time and working on our Spanish skills.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

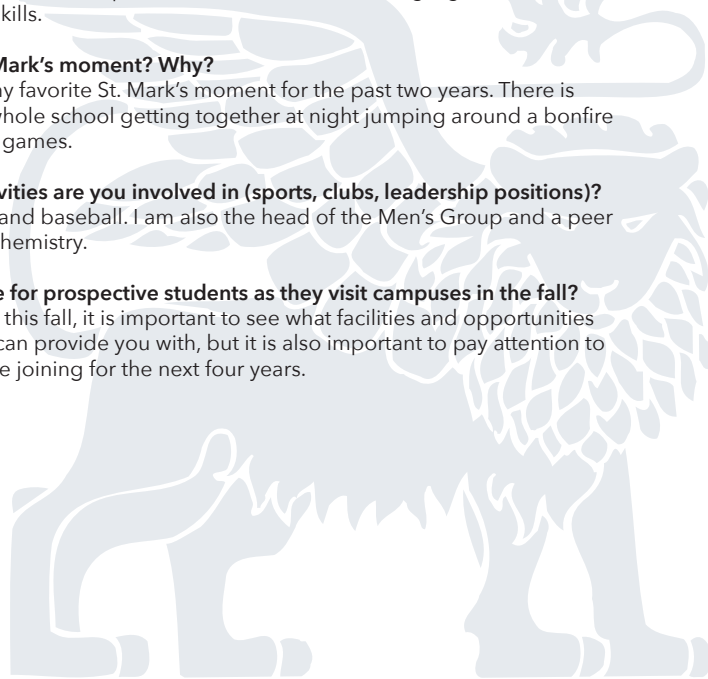
Groton Night has been my favorite St. Mark's moment for the past two years. There is nothing better than the whole school getting together at night jumping around a bonfire excited for the next day's games.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play football, jv hockey, and baseball. I am also the head of the Men's Group and a peer mentor for Spanish and chemistry.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

While you visit campuses this fall, it is important to see what facilities and opportunities your prospective school can provide you with, but it is also important to pay attention to the community you will be joining for the next four years.





Si Jones

Jamaica Plain, MA





2021 Collegiate Athletes



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Halifax, Nova Scotia Canada

What school did you previously attend?

I previously attended The Fessenden School.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

I brought a picture of my family.

What is a fun fact about you?

A fun fact about me is that I am bilingual!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *13 Reasons Why*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

On the weekends at St. Mark's I enjoy going to the mall with my friends.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because the first time I visited the campus I instantly felt a sense of belonging and community. It had all the elements of a school I was looking for. The students and faculty made me feel welcome and it just felt like a place I wanted to be.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class taken at St. Mark's was for sure my French class! I enjoyed this class because our teacher was very helpful and made the class interesting!

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

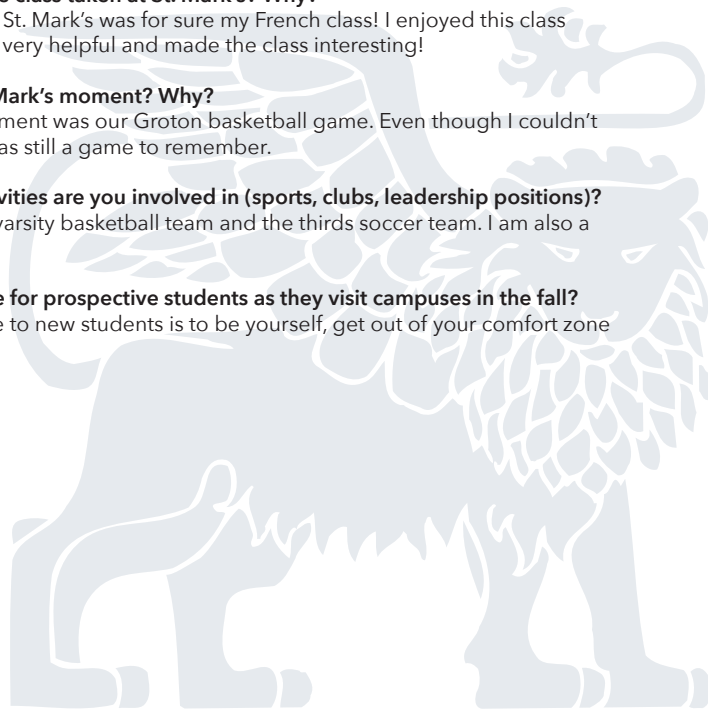
My favorite St. Mark's moment was our Groton basketball game. Even though I couldn't play due to my injury it was still a game to remember.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

At St. Mark's I am on the varsity basketball team and the thirds soccer team. I am also a tour guide!

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Some advice I would give to new students is to be yourself, get out of your comfort zone and to try new things.





Ethan Karabanow

Halifax, NS Canada



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Holliston, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School

What is a fun fact about you?

I have two dogs and two cats.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Gilmore Girls.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Neon Dance.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

My older siblings both came to St. Mark's so when it was my time to apply, I was immediately interested. As soon as I toured the school and learned about all of the amazing global opportunities, I knew it was the place for me. On my tour, I was also attracted by the many kind and outgoing people I met.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class was Writing Workshop which I took freshman year and I loved it so much because I had an amazing teacher.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

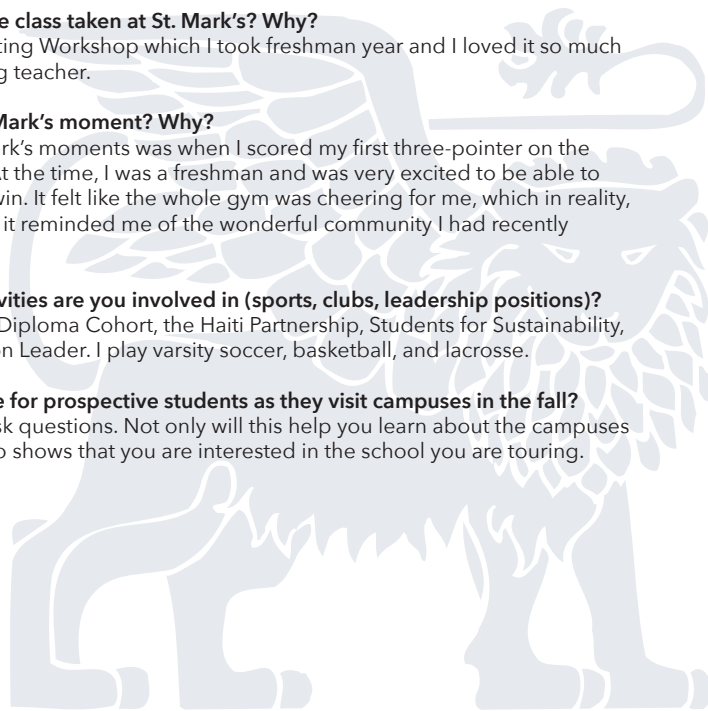
One of my favorite St. Mark's moments was when I scored my first three-pointer on the varsity basketball team. At the time, I was a freshman and was very excited to be able to contribute to my team's win. It felt like the whole gym was cheering for me, which in reality, probably wasn't true, but it reminded me of the wonderful community I had recently joined.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am a part of the Global Diploma Cohort, the Haiti Partnership, Students for Sustainability, and I am a Peer Discussion Leader. I play varsity soccer, basketball, and lacrosse.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

My advice would be to ask questions. Not only will this help you learn about the campuses you are visiting, but it also shows that you are interested in the school you are touring.





Avery King

Holliston, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Southbury, Connecticut

What school did you previously attend?

Rumsey Hall School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My phone which has all of my cards and identification.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have 3 younger brothers.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Target trips.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I love the community and that the people all care about each other. I also love the balance that the school offers between academics, athletics and extracurricular activities.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class I've taken at SM is Spanish 4 with Mr. Sellers. Mr. Sellers made it a super fun and engaging class with his energy and enthusiasm.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Groton night because of the energy that everyone brings and the hype of burning the zebra and the seniors giving speeches.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

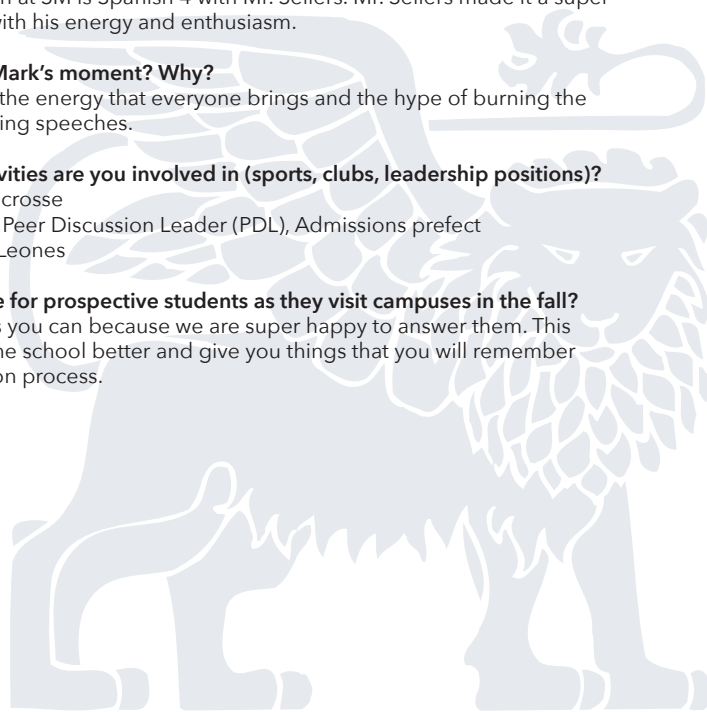
Sports: Soccer, hockey, lacrosse

Leadership: SWIRL head, Peer Discussion Leader (PDL), Admissions prefect

Clubs: Finance club, Los Leones

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Ask as many questions as you can because we are super happy to answer them. This will also help you know the school better and give you things that you will remember throughout the application process.





Ty Kocienda
Southbury, CT



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Holliston, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Holliston High School

What is a fun fact about you?

I like to surf and skateboard.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Trailer Park Boys.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Dodgeball.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

St. Mark's offers so many academic and extracurricular opportunities like grants and trips that I wanted to experience.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

English class with Dr. Daves because it was the first time I learned a lot about racism.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

When our thirds soccer beat team beat Groton. It was electric.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play basketball and lacrosse, and for clubs, I am in Students for Sustainability and the photography and editing club. Also, I am a Peer Discussion Leader.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Try to talk to current St. Mark's students that you play the same sport as you or share similar interests with you, as they will be able to give you the inside scoop on the aspects of St. Mark's that are the most important to you.





Ryan Krantz
Holliston, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Raritan Township, New Jersey

What school did you previously attend?

Colonia High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My Xbox (I wouldn't be able to play FIFA without it).

What is a fun fact about you?

I'm a big Arsenal fan.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Steven Universe.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Target trips!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

One word, community. Even upon my first ever visit to St. Mark's, I was able to experience how close and how friendly the people were. It was a huge factor that helped me transition during my freshman year, with so many people willing to be there to help whenever needed.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Undoubtedly freshman year algebra II. The friends I made in the class and our teacher, Mr. Bauer, was fabulous. There was never a dull moment (besides tests of course).

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite moment has to be the WICK Festival during my freshman year. Sadly, we couldn't have it this past year because of COVID, but it is definitely one of the highlights of my St. Mark's career right now. The WICK really helped me to overcome my fear of performing and expressing myself in front of others.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

- leader of the Black Lions Union (BLU)
- active in the Christian Fellowship Group (CFG)
- varsity athlete for soccer & wrestling
- Marksmen' (boys a capella)

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't be afraid to try new things! There's no more effective way to truly find yourself and what you're interested in than to actually immerse yourself in new and different experiences. And St. Mark's provide great opportunities to do that, whether in sports, arts, academics or passions of your own.



Joel Lawore
Colonia, NJ



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Seoul, South Korea

What school did you previously attend?

Yewon School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

An avocado plushie that my mom gave me on my birthday.

What is a fun fact about you?

I play the harp.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Spirited Away.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Weekend trips.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

St. Mark's has a small, compact community, in which people build tight relationships with each other. The school is also diverse, and it offers students many opportunities.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Writing Workshop. I like to learn about the use of languages, and I also love to read and write. It was an amazing opportunity to improve my writing and analytical skills.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

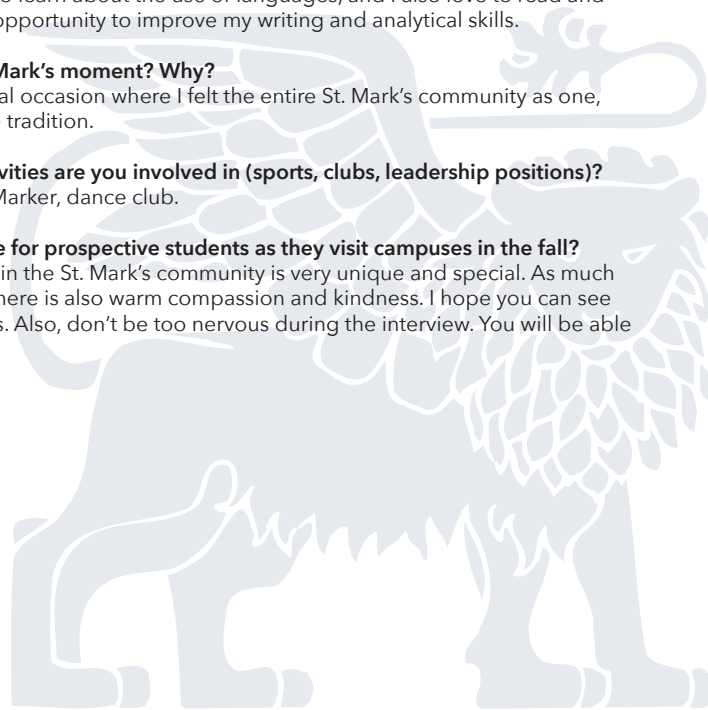
Groton night. It is a special occasion where I felt the entire St. Mark's community as one, and it is a fun and unique tradition.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Soccer, squash, golf, St. Marker, dance club.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

The bond that forms within the St. Mark's community is very unique and special. As much as there is competition, there is also warm compassion and kindness. I hope you can see how amazing this place is. Also, don't be too nervous during the interview. You will be able to do well!





Amber Lee
Seoul, SOUTH KOREA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Acton, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

RJ Grey Junior High

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

I am able to make friends with lots of different people. I went to a junior high school with 1000 people, so I am very accepting of differences.

What is a fun fact about you?

I've had 3 chinchillas and 4 rabbits in the course of my life.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Train to Busan is one of my favorites. The movie is very good, but the movie was memorable to me because I was able to share that experience with others.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

I enjoy doing art in the studio with friends. In my freshman year, I even went out with my friend and Mrs. Putnam to Starbucks to fetch 13 cups of coffee for everybody in the studio.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I liked the art program very much. There are so many artistic opportunities here and many types of art represented.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Studio Art is my favorite. The class community is really tight and I enjoy sharing ideas with others.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

It's extremely hard for me to pick a favorite moment, but it would probably be sharing meals with my friends. Trying new food is my favorite thing to do, and sharing that experience with my friends is really memorable. Some of my favorites include going to Mauro's Cafe during a free block, eating hot pot in Boston and having sushi in the Ritz.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am the head of the community arts club, and next year I will be an admission prefect. Additionally, I was introduced to robotics last year while remote, and I can't wait to join the robotics team next year in person.

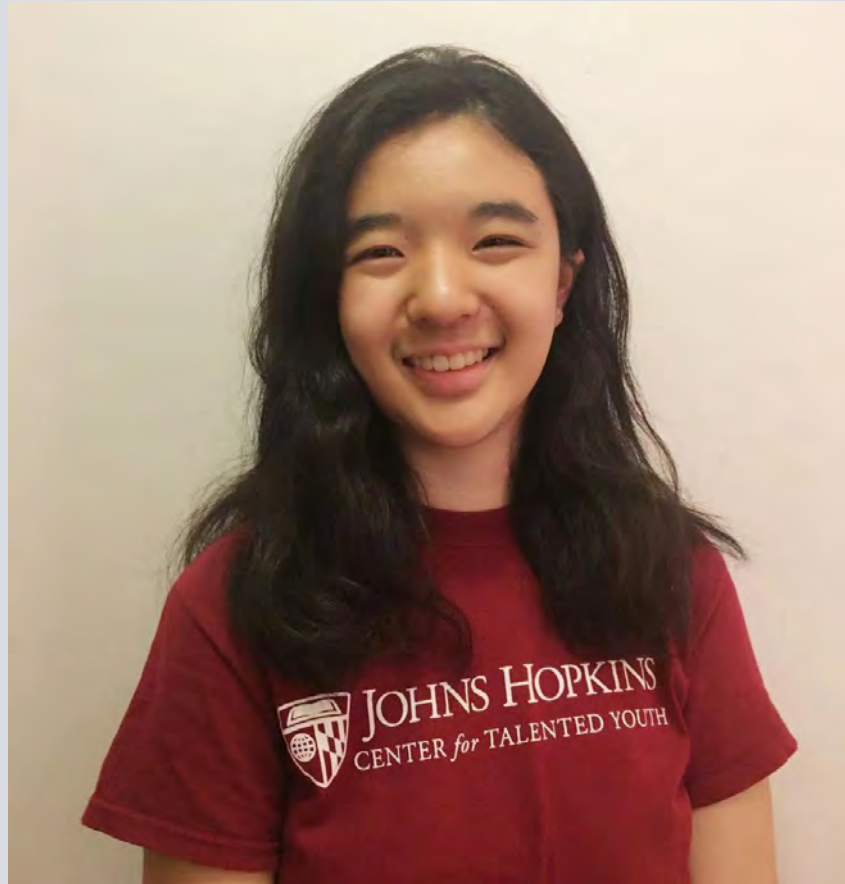
What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Paper towels will be your best friend. They will clean up all of the spilled paint water on your desk and floor. Though, maybe I'm just messy. On a more serious note, I'd say to be confident and try to do as much as you can. Try to talk to as many new people and try out everything that interests you! There are so many opportunities at our school and there isn't enough time to try them all, and time will fly by fast.



Grace Lee

Acton, MA







2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

South Korea

What school did you previously attend?

The Rectory School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Positivity.

What is a fun fact about you?

Quokka is my favorite/spirit animal.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Spider-Man: Far From Home.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Roller skating.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

St. Mark's reminded me of my old school, Rectory. It is a small, but community-like campus. Not only do students know everyone's names, but they all are really close to each other. Because of this sense of community and support, I believed St. Mark's was the school that would be the best fit for me.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Advanced Physics, because the physics we learned was more than just academics, it was very applicable to our real life.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

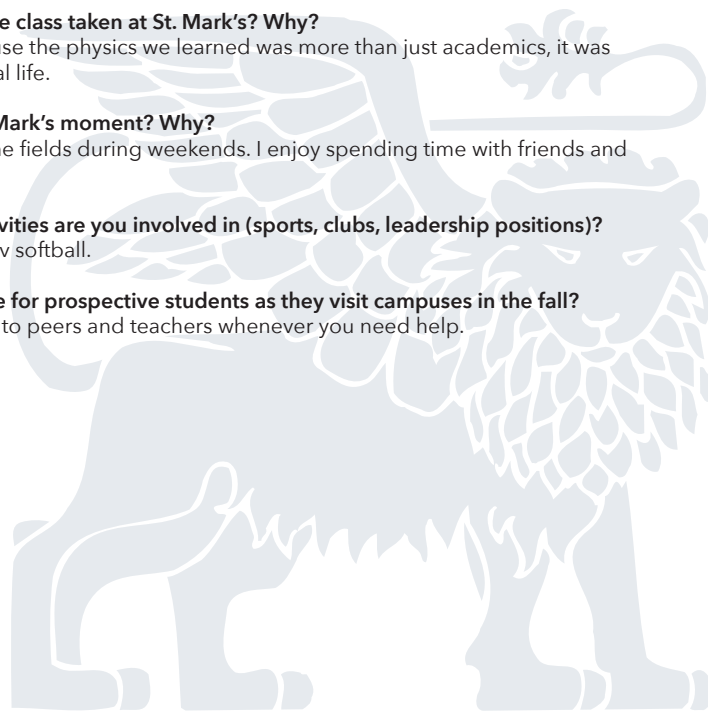
Having mini-picnics on the fields during weekends. I enjoy spending time with friends and relaxing.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Orchestra, jv basketball, jv softball.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't forget to reach out to peers and teachers whenever you need help.





Inselbag Lee
SOUTH KOREA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Concord, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

The Fenn School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

An open mindset.

What is a fun fact about you?

I'm a twin!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Step Brothers*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Watching other teams games.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the overall environment. I love the freedom kids are given to be themselves and excel at whatever they want.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Eastern Religious Thought. I loved this class because I had a great relationship with the teacher, and learned about things that are actually helping me in life currently.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

When St Mark's lacrosse beat Groton in overtime this year and everybody rushed the field.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I'm on the football and baseball teams. I'm also a Burnett house prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Come into these visits with an open mind about St. Mark's. Also truly try to appreciate how incredible some aspects of the school are, such as the chapel or the nice dorms.





Buck Lewis
Concord, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shenzhen, China

What school did you previously attend?

Shenzhen Foreign Languages School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A blanket that I have kept for almost ten years.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a page for all the apps that I don't use.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Why Women Kill.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Trips to Boston.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the close-knit community. When I first visited St. Mark's, I was warmly welcomed by my tour guide and was greeted by a lot of students and faculty, which truly showed how St. Mark's is a community where everyone knows and cares about one another.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Advanced Religion. This class exposed me to various ideas concerning the role religion and belief play in our lives. Through engaging in a lot of interesting discussions, I got to express my opinions and learn from others from different backgrounds.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

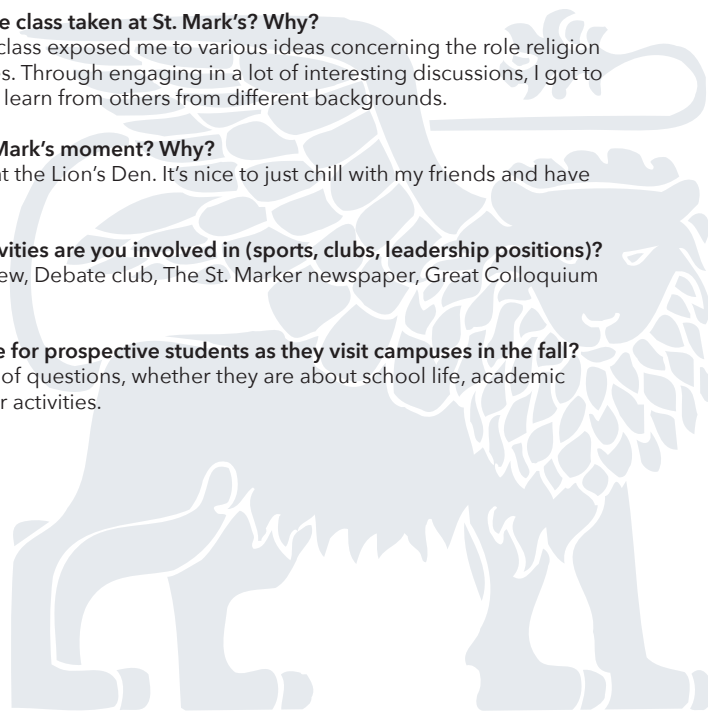
Eating mozzarella sticks at the Lion's Den. It's nice to just chill with my friends and have some good food.

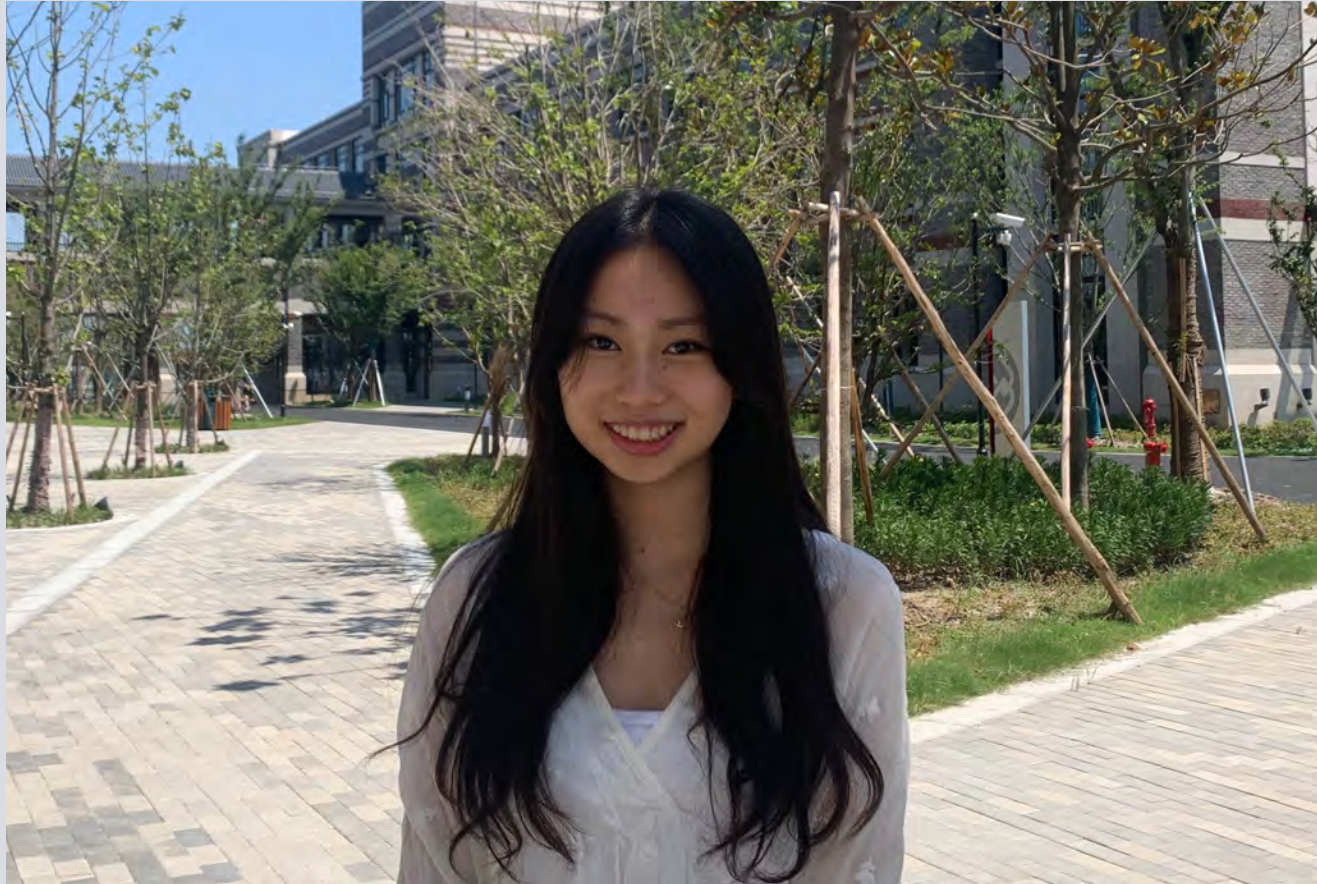
What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Cross country, hockey, crew, Debate club, The St. Marker newspaper, Great Colloquium student committee.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Ask your tour guide a lot of questions, whether they are about school life, academic courses, or extracurricular activities.





Sunny Li
Shenzhen, CHINA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Wellesley, Massachusetts + Shenzhen, China

What school did you previously attend?

Quarry Lane School (SF Bay Area)

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Object: a laptop

Quality: open-mindedness

What is a fun fact about you?

It took me 20 strokes to finally hit my first golf ball on the tee....no flying up in the air, but straight into the ground.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Inception.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Museum trips.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Seated dinners (formal advisory group meals) and the evening chapels afterward, especially during the winter, are my favorites. They are great community bonding experiences. Sitting in the dining hall and chapel with peers under orange lighting feels cozy during the cold winter nights.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

Inclusiveness was a big factor. Having been here for three years, joining the national student diversity conference and talking to many students from other schools, I can confidently assure you that St. Mark's is among the very top schools when it comes to support for diversity and inclusion. With a robust community and equity program and faculty awareness, you will feel comfortable here no matter what your identities are.

The size of the community was also a major factor. It is rare for you to have a chance to know everyone at school, but St. Mark's offers one. In general, members of this tight community, including adults and students, are positive and supportive, giving you a sense of home. The small size of the school also means ample opportunities; such as a new sport, A capella, or leadership roles; available for you to discover, experience and shine, regardless of your background.

Last, but not least, Location, Location, and Location! While it may not seem important initially, keep in mind you will be staying here for four years, and you probably do not want to be trapped. St. Mark's offers easy access to Boston, giving students a place to visit over the weekend to have fun and be away from school.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I loved Roman philosophy. It was distinctly different from mainstream classes such as STEM and English that I had exposure to before. In the class we read great philosophers from Plato to Seneca and participated in intriguing intellectual discussions. It was quite an experience for me.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Sports: robotics, golf, crew, fit.

Club: SM Finance (check us out at www.sm-finance.org)

Affinity groups: #Openly Secular, Asian Student Alliance

Leadership positions: St. Mark's Monitor, CEO of SM Finance

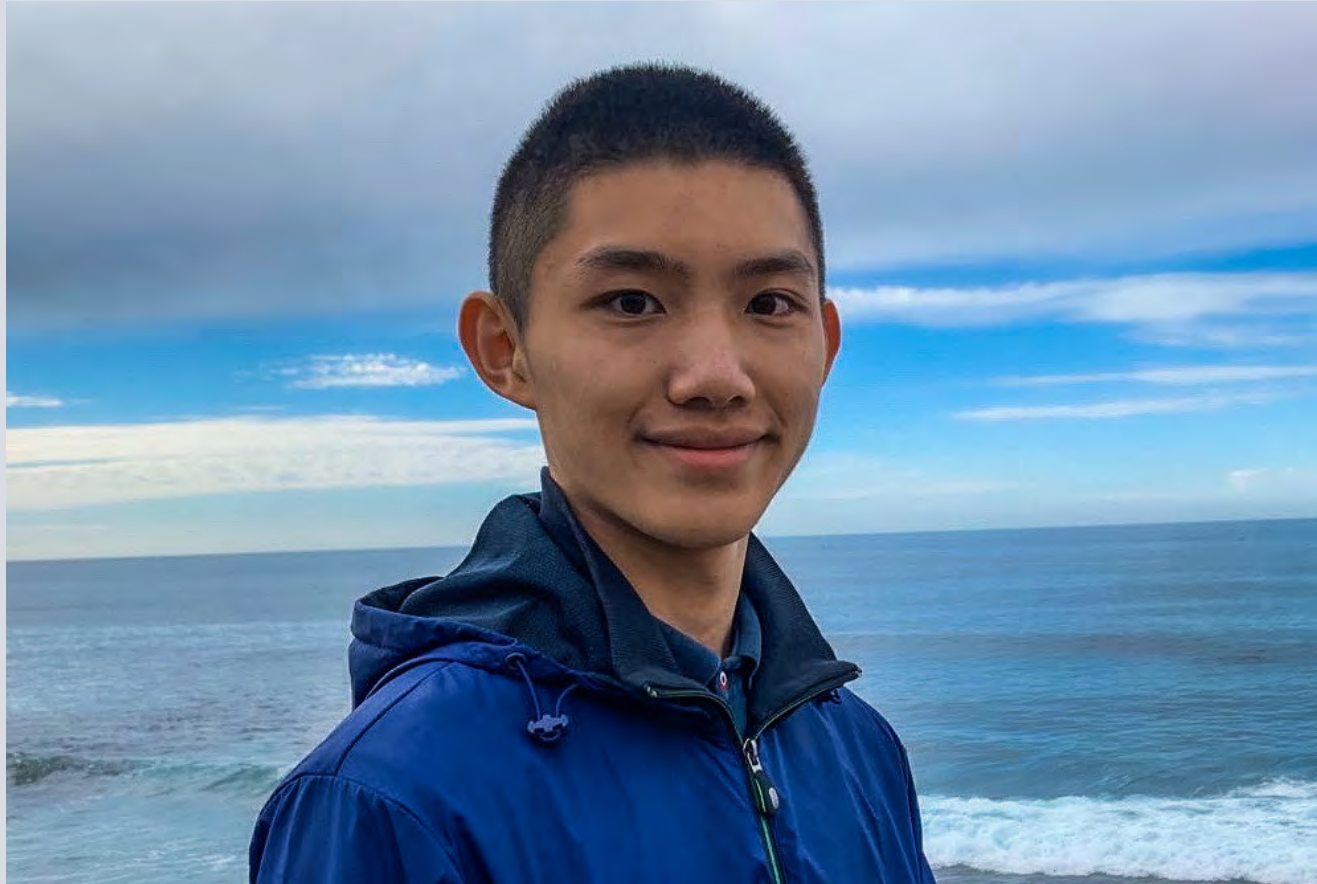
What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

As you visit the schools this fall, you will see many great options. While you might be feeling the pressure of trying to get selected and accepted by the schools, do keep in mind that you are also selecting the schools and actively take part in the reverse selection process! Be mindful of what aspects of a school are important to you as you will most likely be spending your future four years of life in that school. No matter where you chose to go ultimately, do explore as many different experiences as possible in high school. I wish you the best of luck!



Thomas Li

Shenzhen, CHINA
Wellesley, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Hong Kong

What school did you previously attend?

German Swiss International School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Some great snacks!

What is a fun fact about you?

I've attended 7 schools across 4 countries

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Brooklyn 99

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Going to Natick mall with my friends.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the community and the unique SM programs offered. When I first toured SM, I noticed right away how tight-knit and collaborative the student community was. It seemed like everyone knew everyone else and that all the teachers were friends with their students. I really appreciated this unique factor of SM.

During my tour and after browsing through SM's website, I was really intrigued by the unique courses and academic programs offered. It's not every day that a high school student has the opportunity to explore their area of interest at a university level, but students at SM are able to do that through the STEM fellowship. As someone who is really interested in STEM, I was drawn to SM when I learned about the fellowship program.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at SM is Advanced German. I took this class as part of an independent study program where I collaborated with Herr. Mertsch, the German teacher, in creating the curriculum. This class challenged me to step out of my comfort zone and explore more advanced topics in German. I also enjoyed the freedom of creating my own course and the capacity for creativity.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Groton night! It's truly an evening when our school spirit comes to life. It is a long held SM tradition that commemorates Groton day. I still remember my first Groton night vividly.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I run Lingoscope, a global language and culture platform for students to publish their work and engage with each other through our pen pal program. I also lead the MUN and German clubs at SM. This past year, I was also involved in S4S and the Vindex. In addition, I play field hockey and squash.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Keep an open mind! You never know which school(s) you will fit the best in until you truly experience the campus atmosphere!



Christine Ling

Hong Kong, CHINA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Southborough, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

I'm a day student, but everyday I'd say my water bottle is the most important thing I bring from home.

What is a fun fact about you?

I got my Scuba Diving license when I was 11.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite activity is watching and playing games.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

My experience with St. Mark's is definitely unique because my Dad has been teaching here since before I was born. I always knew I wanted to go to St. Marks, but as I grew older I became excited to be a part of such a kind community. Hearing my brothers stories of all the fun stuff they got to do and all the opportunities that SM gave them made it clear that SM was a good fit for me.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at St. Mark's has been Advanced United States history because it gave me many unique opportunities to push myself in a field I'm interested in. Even with remote learning for parts of this year, I felt engaged and happy to be in class.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment was Brantwood my freshman year. It was so fun to see my entire grade bond, while doing outdoor activities that we don't usually get to enjoy!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

As for sports I run cross country and play softball. For clubs I'm involved in Haiti Partnership and S4S. I also am a staff member on the Vindex. Twice a week I volunteer at the Immigrant Center in Boston, tutoring 1st and 2nd graders. Next year I will be serving as a Burnett Prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I advise everyone to focus on the small details as they tour St. Mark's, as those are the things that have made the greatest impact on my time at SM. One little example of this is how our hallways are purposefully small, so that you are compelled to interact with the person you are passing by. This might sound like it would create awkward situations, but it's nice to greet or check in with everyone you pass by. Little things like this bring our community closer together.



Marianne Lyons

Southborough, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Grafton, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Grafton public middle school

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My picture board of good memories.

What is a fun fact about you?

I play 3 varsity sports (football, hockey, and baseball).

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Happy Gilmore*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Chipotle runs.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

It has everything you could ask for all around, but what stuck out to me most then, and still does currently, is the extremely tight knit community.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I really liked freshman year Global Seminar because it was a different class from your typical social studies or history. It was a cool mix of both with truly interesting topics and a manageable workload.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

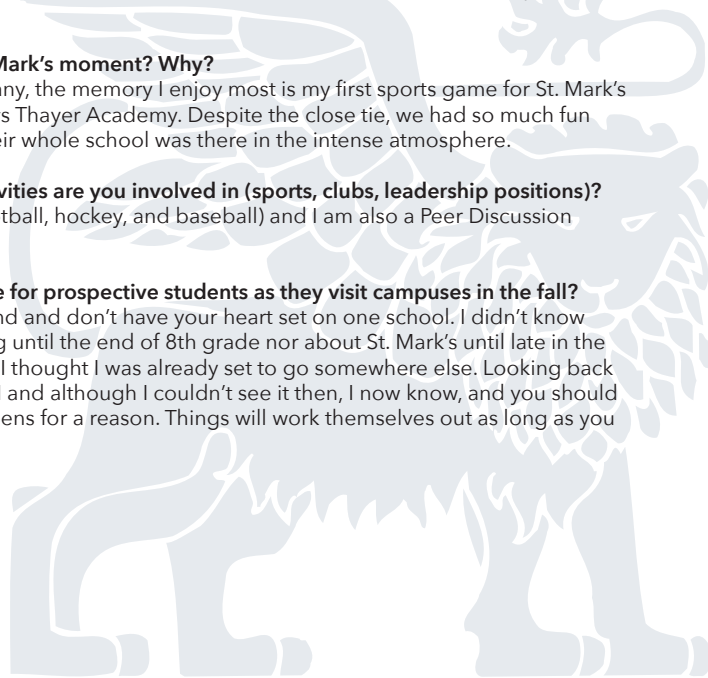
Although there are so many, the memory I enjoy most is my first sports game for St. Mark's in a thirds soccer match vs Thayer Academy. Despite the close tie, we had so much fun and played well while their whole school was there in the intense atmosphere.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play 3 varsity sports (football, hockey, and baseball) and I am also a Peer Discussion Leader, (PDL).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Always keep an open mind and don't have your heart set on one school. I didn't know prep schools were a thing until the end of 8th grade nor about St. Mark's until late in the application process after I thought I was already set to go somewhere else. Looking back I am so happy I chose SM and although I couldn't see it then, I now know, and you should too, that everything happens for a reason. Things will work themselves out as long as you stay true to yourself.





Jimmy Lyver

Grafton, MA







2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shenzhen, China

What school did you previously attend?

The Chinese Foundation Secondary School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My down jackets, it helped me to survive through the winter in Boston.

What is a fun fact about you?

I was born in mainland China, but I soon moved to Hong Kong when I entered middle school. Then, after I came to St. Mark's, my family moved to Vancouver, which is where my current "home" is.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Makeover! Dramatic Before & After.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Trips to Target and the Natick Mall.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I'm extremely attracted by the close relationship between students and teachers at St. Mark's. My primary and middle school were all very big schools, and every teacher was responsible for twenty or more students. I was fascinated when I saw the small student and teacher population at St. Mark's, and I chose our school soon after being admitted because I really wanted to experience how it feels like to be in an "Intentionally Small" school. It turned out that my experience at St. Mark's is wonderful, and I really enjoy how every time I walk down the corridors, I know everyone.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at St. Mark's is BC Calculus, the math I took this year. Our teacher was very patient, and despite the fact that we had a very abnormal year, she tried her best to make the class fun and interactive. Moreover, originally, I thought the class was going to be hard, since it is about calculus, but it turned out to be fine because my teacher did a really great job explaining the abstract concepts.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment is Groton Day, especially when we burn a handmade "zebra." I feel like during that moment, our whole school is united and everyone is trying their very best to achieve a common goal, "Beat Groton." It seems to me that my schoolmates are no longer "schoolmates", but also "fighters" who help each other out to win over strong enemies.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Next year, I'll be doing cross country in the fall, robotics in the winter and probably FIT in the spring. I'll be participating in clubs related to finance, economics, and social psychology. I'll be a dorm prefect in Marr/Coolidge, a member of the Gray Colloquium committee, a student mentor, and definitely an admission prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Definitely visit our new STEM building! We've got amazing equipment and facilities. Also, if they are interested, please definitely visit our robotics room. We have a lot of amazing robots that we've built by ourselves.



Martin Ma

Shenzhen, HONG KONG



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Darien, Connecticut

What school did you previously attend?

Darien High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Hockey gear.

What is a fun fact about you?

My favorite food is pizza.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Step Brothers*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Hanging out with friends.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I liked the small school size and people I met when I toured here. They were all really welcoming and I could see myself at St. Mark's.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at St. Mark's has been Ethics & Morality. I really enjoyed this class because it was very conversationally based and we learned about some interesting concepts.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment was when our hockey team won the ISL championship my sophomore year. We worked really hard that year and it was satisfying when we won.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I was involved in hockey, lacrosse, cornhole club, and was a Peer Discussion Leader, (PDL).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

My advice would be to go where you feel comfortable and could see yourself going to school for the next couple of years.





Peter Maro

Darien, CT



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Westford, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Blanchard Middle School (Westford Public Schools)

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

I think that the most important thing that I brought with me to St. Mark's from home is my excitement to meet new people. At St. Mark's there is the opportunity to really get to know the people in your grade and on your teams because you are with them for a good portion of the team. I think that my excitement to get to know people has benefited my relationships at St. Mark's.

What is a fun fact about you?

I was a day student for my freshman, sophomore, and junior year but I will be a boarder for my senior year.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie has always been *Matilda*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activity is watching or playing in Saturday games.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I felt like I would fit in here the most. When I toured St. Mark's I could feel the strong sense of community and everyone here was super friendly and helpful. For the most part, I chose St. Mark's because at my revisit day I was super excited about the thought of going to this school.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's has been U.S. History because I was interested in the subject and my teacher did a really good job of showing different sides to the history of the United States. I really appreciated studying history through the lens of different groups and perspectives. I learned a lot in that class not only about U.S. History, but about the biases that are present in our country and how to study an event through more than one source.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

One of my favorite St. Mark's moments that I wish I could relive is sophomore year Groton night. The bonfire and performances were very fun, but my favorite part was definitely spending time with my team before and after. I was on varsity field hockey and we had so much fun doing team bonding. It is a surprise for freshman and new players so it was also really fun watching my teammates experience it for the first time and I feel like I got to know my teammates even better.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play varsity field hockey, hockey, and softball. I also am a member of the Haiti Partnership and have been a tour guide in the past.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

My biggest piece of advice would be to have an open mind and don't stress out about the little things, instead pay attention to the feelings you get when visiting the school and whether you could see yourself in the shoes of a student at St. Mark's.



Avery McInerny

Westford, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Southborough, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Algonquin Regional High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My phone because it allows me to stay connected to my family while living at school.

What is a fun fact about you?

I am left handed for writing but right handed for sports.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Attack on Titan.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Athletic competitions!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the combination of strong academics and community. I wanted to challenge myself and put myself in an environment where I would be surrounded by other driven kids. But beyond this driven side of the community, I also wanted to be in a community that made me feel at home. I found this community at St. Mark's.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's is Ethics and Morality. This class made me challenge my own morals and deepened my understanding of the morals of others. It also allowed me to understand my own rationale when making moral decisions.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment was when the hypnotist came before COVID. The majority of the school was gathered together so the atmosphere was great, and the show itself was one of the funniest things I have ever seen.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am the captain of varsity soccer and I play varsity squash. I am also a Peer Discussion Leader for the 2021-22 school year. Lastly, I am an admissions prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Try to find the school that has the right feel. This is obvious, but sometimes people can get too caught up on the reputation of a school and whatnot which may lead them to not being happy where they end up. Choose the school that feels right to you.



Alden Mehta
Southborough, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Chicago, Illinois

What school did you previously attend?

Irma C Ruiz Elementary

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My teddy bear, Carly, she has been with me since I was 6.

What is a fun fact about you?

Spanish was my first language!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *The Notebook*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Saturday game days!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the community. Coming from the inner-city, a diverse and welcoming community was extremely important in choosing where I was going to attend high school. Almost instantly during my revisit day back in April of 2019, I noticed how welcoming and kind everyone was to me. The students continuously tried to include me in all the revisit day activities and answer any questions I had. Additionally, I also noticed that St. Mark's was one of the most diverse schools I had visited. What stuck out was the diversity and C&E program which was really important to me.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class has been Social Justice in The Local and Global Context taught by Dr. Worrell. I really enjoyed this class because I am very passionate about social justice. The class challenged me as a learner, and the class was very discussion-oriented.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

One of my top ten moments at St. Mark's has definitely been Senior Night for the seniors on the basketball team. A lot of my closest friends are on the basketball team and during our senior night 2021, we got to come together and enjoy each other's company one last time before our season ended.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play varsity basketball, varsity softball, Co-Head of Los Leones (affinity group on campus for LatinX students), prefect in PineOak (girls third form dorm), and admissions prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

One of the most helpful things to do when visiting campuses is to make a list of what's important to you at a school. Making a list allows you to see what is important to you at an institution and if the school meets YOUR needs.



Aime Murillo

Chicago, IL



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Mansfield, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

The Putney School & The Sage School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My Boston Bruins jersey!

What is a fun fact about you?

I love graphic design and visual effects!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Ted Lasso*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Trips to Kimball Farm with my friends!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because it has everything I'm looking for in a school. A wonderful academic environment, outstanding facilities and athletic programs, and a community that truly makes St. Mark's feel like home.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

This year I have loved my math class with Ms. McBride. Every lesson was taught with enthusiasm and it never really felt like just another class. Not to mention my classmates were always engaged and very supportive of one another.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

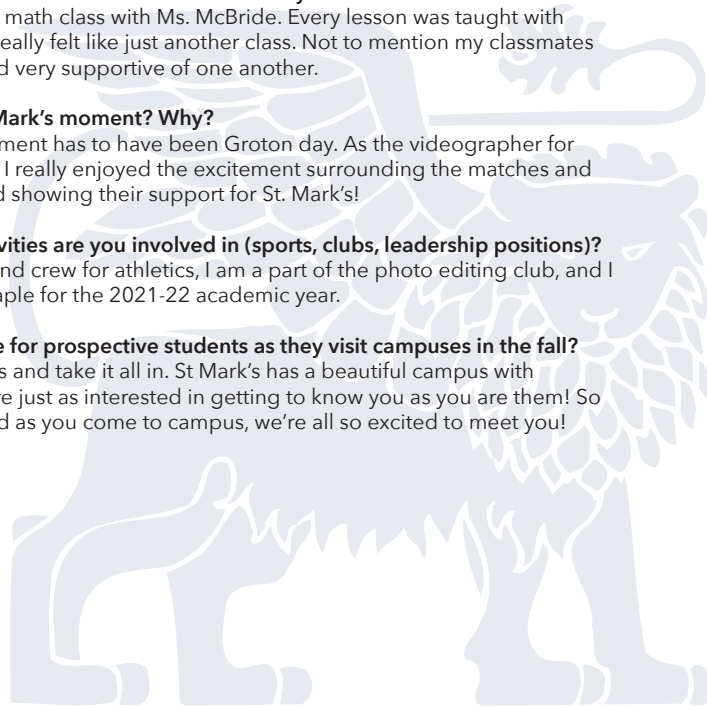
My favorite St. Mark's moment has to have been Groton day. As the videographer for St. Mark's athletic games, I really enjoyed the excitement surrounding the matches and everyone coming out and showing their support for St. Mark's!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am involved in soccer and crew for athletics, I am a part of the photo editing club, and I am a dorm prefect for Maple for the 2021-22 academic year.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

To ask plenty of questions and take it all in. St Mark's has a beautiful campus with wonderful people who are just as interested in getting to know you as you are them! So put your best foot forward as you come to campus, we're all so excited to meet you!





Matthew Parry

Mansfield, MA



LEGO: BLUE

SUITCASE





2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Boston, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Academy of the Pacific Rim

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing I brought with me to SM is pictures of my family.

What is a fun fact about you?

One of my distant relatives created jello!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show is *Gilmore Girls* and my favorite movie is *Kill Bill*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

The Neon Dance.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I felt extremely welcomed when I walked on campus for the first time on my tour.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class I've taken has to be social justice or really any history class

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

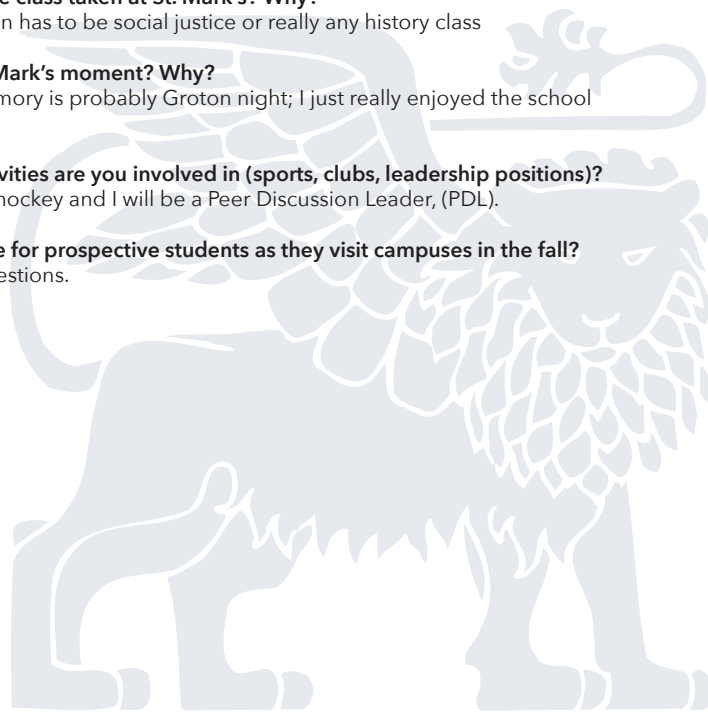
My favorite St. Marks memory is probably Groton night; I just really enjoyed the school spirit.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play lacrosse and field hockey and I will be a Peer Discussion Leader, (PDL).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't be afraid to ask questions.





Lilly Pena
Boston, MA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Oak Middle School in Shrewsbury

What is a fun fact about you?

I have my boating license and I love to drive boats during the summer!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

I love *Legally Blonde*!

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

This year, I simply just enjoyed going to brunch with my team after Saturday practice. It was a great time to bond in such a weird year!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I fell in love with the small and close-knit community. I knew right away that everyone was big supporters of each other and wanted to be a part of that. Also, I loved the balance between school, sports, and extracurriculars.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

I really loved taking the Writing Workshop this year. I quickly saw my writing skills develop and my passion for certain topics deepen. But an honorable mention is definitely computer science! I unexpectedly loved it!

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

I loved Groton night this year. My team and I ate dinner together and stayed glued to each other the entire night. It was a very unique and fun experience that I will cherish forever!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play field hockey, jv ice hockey, and lacrosse! I hope to someday have a higher leadership role at St. Mark's whether it is being a sports captain or Monitor.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Keep an open mind! Talk to students and faculty before you make a decision! Something that really helped me was coming to games on the weekends to see what the school was like outside of the classrooms!





Judy Rodolakis

Shrewsbury, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Holliston, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School for grades 6-8 and I attended the Holliston Public Schools K-5

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My positive mindset, attitude, work ethic, and thinking that, "there is always room for someone else to be included."

What is a fun fact about you?

My favorite takeout place is Chipotle

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Mall Cop 2*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Coming back to campus to watch St. Mark's teams competing against other schools.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I have an entrepreneurial spirit that led me to create my own global programming business a few years ago. I use the proceeds to invest both in technology and to donate to select nonprofits. St. Mark's focuses on experiential learning where students can build real life experiences that will increase knowledge to better prepare for the real world and I can apply this to my business and interests. This drew me to St. Mark's. In addition, St. Mark's focuses on service and being the best we can be. Both of these attributes are a passion to me, and St. Mark's was my first choice for secondary school. Also, my brother attended St. Mark's. He is 5 years older than me. I have seen the college, service, and professional success he has been able to achieve as a result of the influence of St. Mark's rigorous curriculum, the commitment to service, and relationships he established.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Physics. In the spring of my III form year, one of our projects revolved around Arduino which allowed me to use my passion for programming to create a happy birthday box project. My teacher was also really encouraging and made learning fun.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Staying on campus after practice to play spike ball with my friends. I was able to get to know my friends better and enjoy the embracing culture at St. Mark's.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play soccer and baseball at St. Mark's. I am also on the Robotics Team at St. Mark's. Outside of school I play golf, run a programming business, and I am involved with Celebrate Holliston and the Framingham Union Aid Association.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Be yourself and ask lots of questions. Ask questions that reflect your current interests and ask questions about topics you dream about. More than likely, you will find out that some of the schools actually can offer programs you only dream about, and you will find the right fit.



Tyler Scaringella

Holliston, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Sherborn, MA

What school did you previously attend?

Dover-Sherborn Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Definitely the pictures of my family and friends that I decorate my dorm with and a speaker for sure!

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a rabbit named Thumper.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Oceans 8*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Getting Mauro's on a Sunday morning and game days.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's for a lot of reasons. I loved the atmosphere and the sense of community I felt the second I stepped on campus. I was really interested in all of the different opportunities that St. Mark's offers that my old school did not like global citizenship and so many interesting classes. And finally, I was very attracted to the competitive sports environment and the drive everyone has to do their best in everything they do.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I have taken at St. Mark's was my freshman English class with Ms. Matthews. The class was super helpful and I learned so much from Ms. Matthews about English and about being a good renaissance person.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment so far was my freshman year Groton night. It was the first time that I knew that St. Mark's was going to be the right place for me because I had never felt so at home somewhere. It was the most fun I had ever had at school and it was by far the most amazing moment.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am one of the captains of the varsity soccer and lacrosse teams and I do strength and conditioning in the winter. I am a monitor. Last year I was a Peer Discussion Leader (PDL), a head admissions prefect, a tour guide, and a member of the improv group called Jump the Gun.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

One big piece of advice I would give is to get a feel of the community and ask yourself if you could see yourself attending that school. I would also advise prospective students to ask a ton of questions! There is so much to learn in such a short period of time that you want to try and soak it all in as best you can.



Riley Schumacher
Sherborn, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

New York City, NY

What school did you previously attend?

I went to Salk School of Science

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My skateboard because it reminds me of home.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a husky and a pug.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Memento*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activities are the Target trips.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of its small and diverse community. Coming from a relatively large school, I wanted to be able to be in a community that is more close-knit.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Ceramics because it is the most hands-on class.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

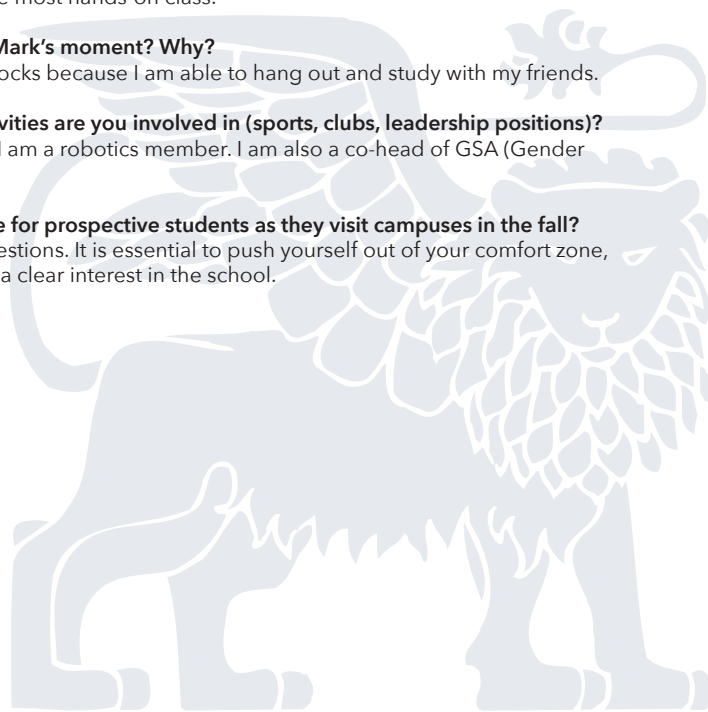
I really appreciate free blocks because I am able to hang out and study with my friends.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am an Elm prefect, and I am a robotics member. I am also a co-head of GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance).

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't be afraid to ask questions. It is essential to push yourself out of your comfort zone, and it also demonstrates a clear interest in the school.





Maya Scully

New York City, NY





2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Hopkinton, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Hopkinton Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My tennis racket.

What is a fun fact about you?

I've been stung by a jellyfish three times!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Games!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the close knit community. This school has brought me closer to students, faculty, and teachers that encourage me to strive for excellence. I have gotten to know so many incredible people that I never would have met had I not come to St. Mark's.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class that I've taken is JCI (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam). I enjoyed learning about religion and how it affects our world. The class teaches us to understand others perspectives and dig deeper into the cultural and historical context surrounding religion. We also learned about refuting misconceptions surrounding these religions and understanding how they came to be.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite experience has been freshman orientation. I enjoyed getting to know so many new people and had fun in the activities we did.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play field hockey, squash and tennis. I am involved in the Haiti Partnership, Educate Lanka Partnership, and Students for Sustainability. Currently, I am a Peer Discussion Leader and Admission Prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Choosing a school is about finding where you fit best and will thrive. Be sure to look into what activities are available, what the students are like, and what the social culture is like at each school! Asking questions is a great way to get information that you might not find on a website or pamphlet.



Riya Sultur
Hopkinton, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

I went to Oak Middle School, a public school in Shrewsbury.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

It was really important to me that I brought my culture to St. Marks because it is a huge part of my identity.

What is a fun fact about you?

I started listening to Taylor Swift's new music earlier this year, and she has become my favorite artist.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite TV show right now is *Teen Wolf*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

I'm a day student, but I love coming to school for sports practices to see my friends.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because there was such a clear sense of community on campus. I was greeted by everyone I passed, and students even stopped to have a conversation with me on my tour.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class I have taken at St. Mark's is computer science. I had preconceptions that I would hate coding, but I ended up loving it because it's like a puzzle with numerous solutions. There is so much more to learn, so I even decided to take Java next year.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

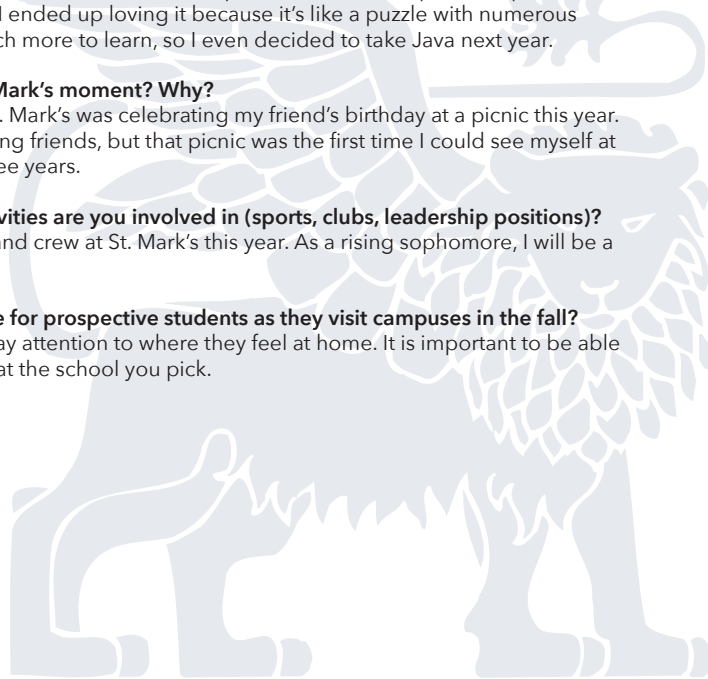
My favorite moment at St. Mark's was celebrating my friend's birthday at a picnic this year. I was worried about making friends, but that picnic was the first time I could see myself at St. Mark's for the next three years.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I played soccer, squash, and crew at St. Mark's this year. As a rising sophomore, I will be a Leo Editor.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I would tell students to pay attention to where they feel at home. It is important to be able to see yourself excelling at the school you pick.





Yumna Syed
Shrewsbury, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Brooklyn, New York

What school did you previously attend?

Excellence Boys Charter School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A sculpture my mom brought me and my Xbox.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have 3 leadership positions.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Isle of Dogs (movie)

We are who we are (show)

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Watching St. Mark's sports games!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of personal and academic opportunities to become the student I can be and more. On top of that, there is an interconnected community here at SM.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Studio 2 as I expressed personal and societal aspects of my life in my artwork. Plus Ms. Putnam is an amazing teacher for this course.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

Spring Groton weekend because I got to watch my closest friends play sports and in the end, I had the opportunity to watch fireworks with them.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

SDC

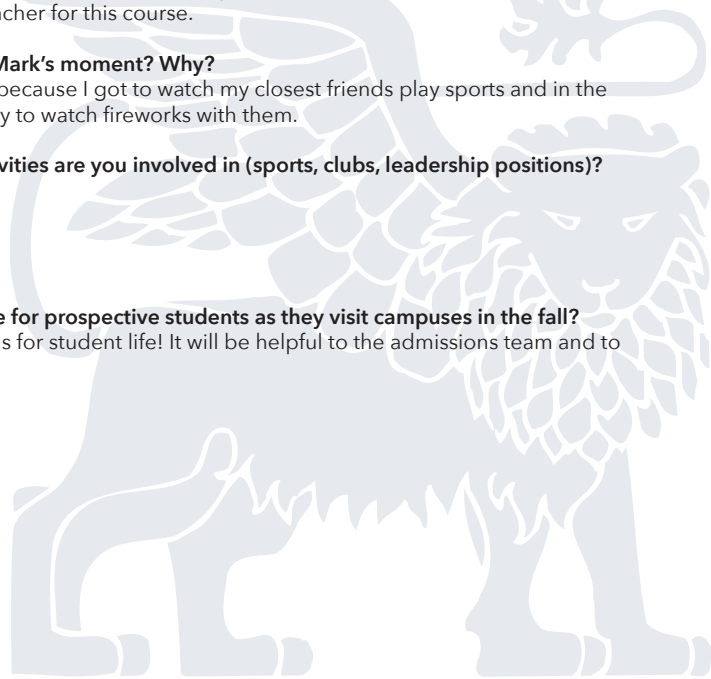
Admissions prefect

Pathways prefect

Squash/Football

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Prepare specific questions for student life! It will be helpful to the admissions team and to yourself!





Darius Wagner

Brooklyn, NY



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shanghai, China

What school did you previously attend?

Shanghai Huayu Private Middle School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My culture, my positivity, and my passion.

What is a fun fact about you?

I sleep with my eyes open.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Train to Busan*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Six Flags trip and skiing trip.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I love the concept of "School Under One Roof". This creates an engaged community where we all study, live, and have fun together. Living in a small community allows us to have more interactions with peers and faculty as well. We spend most of our time together as a whole, building a strong sense of community at St. Mark's.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class at St. Mark's is Spanish. We learn the language in very creative ways, such as playing games, acting out a scene, having conversations with one another, and sharing our own stories. We are constantly practicing listening and speaking without even noticing, which are two of the most important aspects of learning a new language. For me, learning while having fun is the most interesting and effective way of learning.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment is Groton Night. Because this has been a very important tradition that we gather together and cheer for all the athletics teams as a whole. At Groton night, I always strongly feel our school pride and the bond between every single St. Marker.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I have been part of the FRC robotics team since my freshman year. I am on the Student Mentor Leadership Board, a yearbook senior editor, and a co-head of Math club and Women in STEM.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Don't hesitate to ask any questions. We have very awesome tour guides, and we would definitely love to answer all of your questions. The more you know about St. Mark's, the better you know whether St. Mark's is your best fit or not.



Reina Wang
Shanghai, CHINA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Carlisle, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Nashoba Brooks School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My picture wall is full of the things that make my smile: my family, friends, pets, and memories!

What is a fun fact about you?

I love adrenaline activities such as crazy roller coasters and skydiving!

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Animal Kingdom.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Being a part of the team spirit on the sports field during weekend games.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I wanted to be a part of a community where both the faculty and students had close relationships. I love that most of the teachers here know my name, even if I have not had a class with them. Everyone here is so friendly, including the facilities team and members who work in the dining hall. I just love being a part of a community that is so warm and welcoming.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Truthfully, I have loved all of my classes that I have taken at St. Mark's, but if I had to choose a favorite, I would choose my junior year biology class. From this class, I have discovered new interests that I am excited to continue to pursue.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

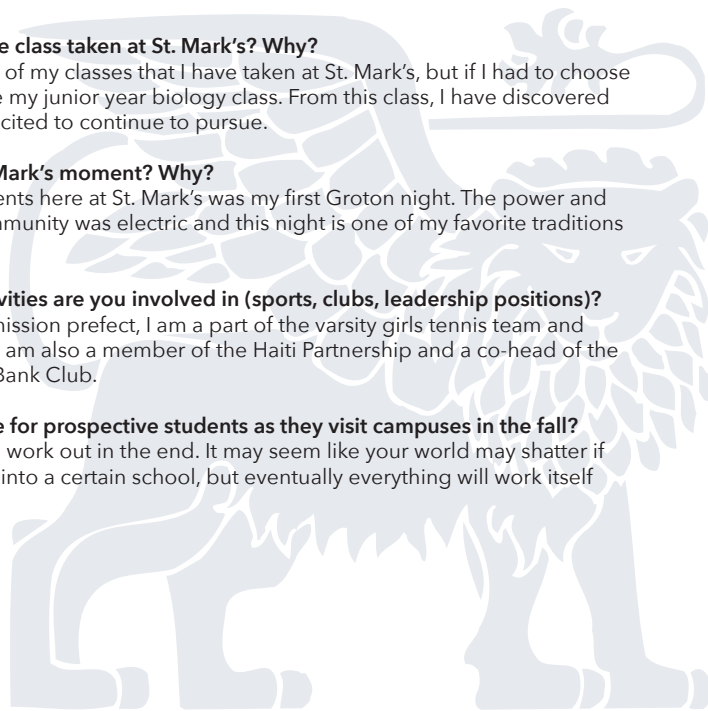
One of my favorite moments here at St. Mark's was my first Groton night. The power and energy of the school community was electric and this night is one of my favorite traditions at St. Mark's.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Aside from being an Admission prefect, I am a part of the varsity girls tennis team and the jv girls hockey team. I am also a member of the Haiti Partnership and a co-head of the Worcester County Food Bank Club.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Eventually everything will work out in the end. It may seem like your world may shatter if you do not get accepted into a certain school, but eventually everything will work itself out!





Arden Williams

Carlisle, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Weston, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

I attended Weston Middle School.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing I brought to St. Mark's is me.

What is a fun fact about you?

I can lick my nose.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Avengers: Endgame

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Saturday snack in the dining hall.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of its tight-knit community and the culture among its students. The tight-knit community allows more connection for all students and hence produces a strong school spirit.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Advanced Music Theory, because knowing music theory facilitates the composing process which I use to express myself.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

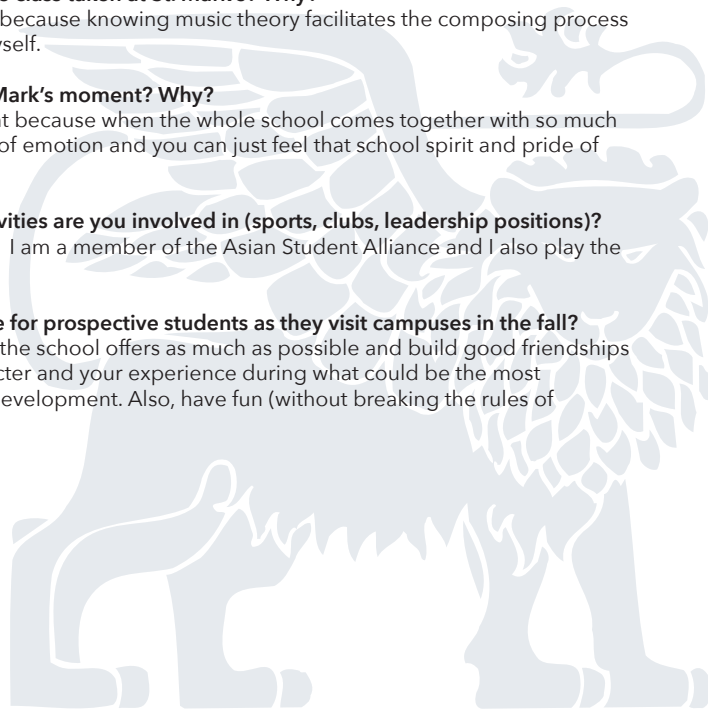
I really loved Groton night because when the whole school comes together with so much energy it stimulates a lot of emotion and you can just feel that school spirit and pride of being a St. Marker.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I play soccer and wrestle. I am a member of the Asian Student Alliance and I also play the piano and violin at BYSO.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Utilize the resources that the school offers as much as possible and build good friendships to strengthen your character and your experience during what could be the most important years of your development. Also, have fun (without breaking the rules of course)!!!





Albert Wu

Weston, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shanghai, China

What school did you previously attend?

Shanghai World Foreign Language Academy (WFLA)

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My openness and willingness to make friends. I am always a very friendly person and I tell funny jokes. I quickly made a lot of friends because I am willing to talk to them about my personality and communicate with them about our different cultures.

What is a fun fact about you?

I love birds! I have such a strong love for birds, animals, wildlife, and nature. I have a Nikon D3500 camera, a birthday present from my parents on my 15th birthday. Check out my instagram @youngbirder_coco :)

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Matrix. I am not only a big fan of Keanu Reeves, but I also love the philosophical ideas in the movie. I love the idea of doubting the current reality and exploring the true essence of our world.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Dean-sponsored trips to all the natural reserves and state parks. I have been to Hopkinton State Park with a couple of my friends, and we really enjoyed the walk there. I also loved the trip to Chauncy Lake (which is a trip I proposed!) because I saw so many great birds there like yellow warblers, a bird that I wouldn't see in my everyday life.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because I really like the supportive community. When I got the application results, St. Mark's was very supportive in helping me get to know more about the school. I loved the virtual revisit. My experience during revisit made me love St. Mark's even more. And also, given that it is a small but diverse community, I felt like I can be given enough attention and really enjoy the four years of my high school instead of being neglected in the big crowd of students.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

So far it is definitely The Writing Workshop. I really enjoyed the group discussion during this class, and the new ways of thinking I acquired after reading a couple of great books. I have loved writing for a long time, and this class gave me much more opportunity to not only express my own opinions, but also perfect my other skills including conciseness, organization, and grammar. My teacher is Ms. Lauren Kelly, and I love her!! She has shown great support and given me so much help this year during the pandemic and during the time when I was still remote.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

GROTON NIGHT!! I was so lucky to have participated in Groton Night this year. It's just so warm (both physically with the bonfire burning and mentally seeing the community together) to see everybody together, celebrating the special night. I feel like Groton Night is a very great way to connect students together and make them feel proud of themselves and their amazing community.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

This year I have been pretty active in some clubs including the MUN club and the Philosophy Code club. In MUN, I have learned the basic skills of Model UN and have also known the importance of maintaining civil discourse and a good attitude towards making changes. In the Philosophy Code club, I have had some basic understanding of various philosophical concepts including existentialism, idealism, and dualism. Besides clubs, I have been active in many affinity group meetings. I enjoyed the ASA (Asian Student Alliance) meetings as they taught me more about my own identity as well as the struggles of Asian Americans. I have also participated in ASA's joint meetings with BLU, GSA, etc. to further dive into topics such as intersectionality.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Be comfortable with the different people and culture around you. For international students, coming to St. Mark's means being fully independent away from your parents. It is just a fantastic opportunity to start exploring the outside world yourself and make friends with all kinds of people from different cultures.



Coco Xia

Shanghai, CHINA







2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Leominster, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Chenery Middle School (Belmont)

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My memories and experiences.

What is a fun fact about you?

I've never been to a hair salon.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Love, Rosie.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Cooking/baking activities.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I really liked the vibes I got from the community while on my tour and I felt like I was valued by the people whom I interacted with during the admissions process.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Ethics and Morality because it's interesting and thought-provoking. It is also discussion based which is a style I really enjoy.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

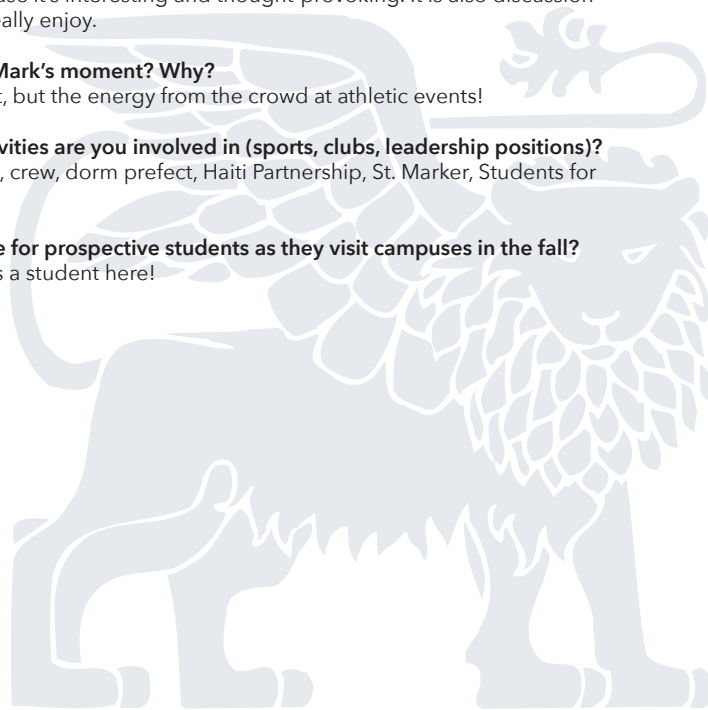
Not one specific moment, but the energy from the crowd at athletic events!

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Cross country, basketball, crew, dorm prefect, Haiti Partnership, St. Marker, Students for Sustainability.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Try to imagine yourself as a student here!





Judy Xie
Leominster, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

McLean, Virginia

What school did you previously attend?

BASIS Independent McLean

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My phone, I can't live without it.

What is a fun fact about you?

I can't stick any of my fingers straight, I think (?) I'm double-jointed in my knuckles, but it's a mystery to me still.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Transformers.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Target trips, can't live without them.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I thought St. Mark's being a small school would be interesting, I liked a lot of the class dynamics when I visited on revisit day.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My first Groton Night was definitely my favorite St. Mark's memory, it was just electrifying and a great highlight.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I participate in many schools plays as well as varsity golf. I also take part in a lot of clubs and am a House Perfect and an Admissions Prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Be open-minded, but ask yourself what school will fit you the most.





Steven Yang

McLean, VA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Seoul, South Korea

What school did you previously attend?

I previously attended Branksome Hall Asia International School.

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

The most important thing that I brought to St. Mark's are the photos of my family and friends.

What is a fun fact about you?

A fun fact about me is that I love writing poetry.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

My favorite movie is *Divergent*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

My favorite weekend activities are the short trips to Whole Foods and Target.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of its reputation as a school that is inclusive and diverse. When I imagined myself as a member of such a community, I could feel the sense of belonging and pride because those ideals are very important to me. The intimate atmosphere of the school because of its small student body and the school's diversity rate drew me in the most. Additionally, I was also impressed by St. Mark's rigorous curriculum and the countless opportunities the school provides for the students.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Writing Workshop has been my favorite class because I have been able to truly develop a love for writing through the class. The class has allowed me to actualize my passion for writing and produce beautiful written pieces. This was such an inspiring course because it allowed me to become a better writer and reader, and it has also led me to decide that I want to study literature as a major.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment has been, simply, sitting on the grass on campus, surrounded by new friends and talking about mundane matters. Throughout the year, there have been many opportunities to meet and create strong bonds with the people in the community. Although the academic year has been highly unusual with the pandemic, I am very grateful for the precious memories that I have from freshman year and will cherish them forever.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

During the past year, I have been involved in Lingoscope as a social media manager, St. Marker as intern staff, Haiti Partnership, and Student Mentor. I also played jv basketball and recreational tennis this year.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

If there is one piece of advice I would like to give to prospective students, I would tell them to explore the campuses and not to be afraid to ask questions. I would also tell them not to hesitate and continue to step out of their comfort zones by reaching out to people of different backgrounds and exploring new things in our community.



Yoonjeong Yang

Seoul, SOUTH KOREA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Southborough, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Fay School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

A few of my friends came with me to St. Mark's which was really important to me.

What is a fun fact about you?

I love photography.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

The Office.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Casino Night!

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the tightly knit community that I found and the various opportunities at SM such as clubs, athletics, leadership opportunities, etc.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class was Mr. Camp's green class (English) sophomore year because he had such a unique teaching style and I loved getting the opportunity to write and have great in class discussions about what we were studying.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

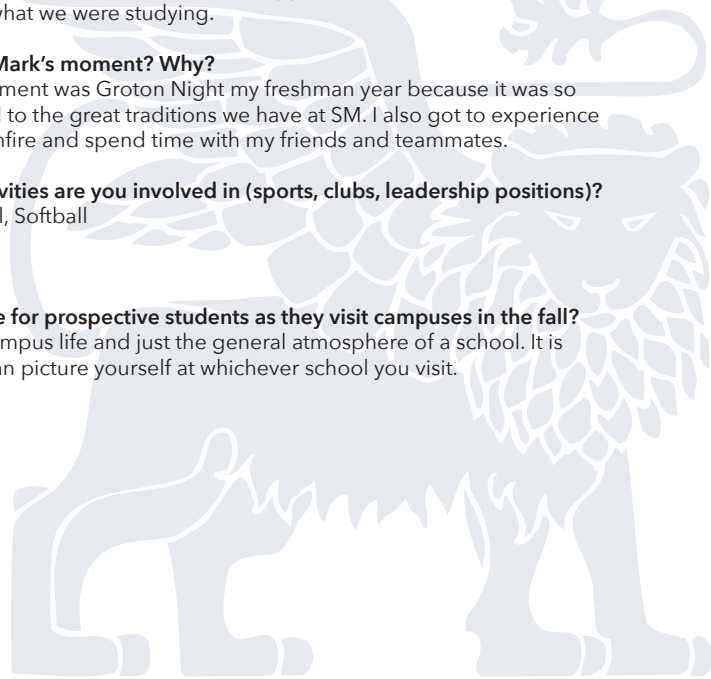
My favorite St. Mark's moment was Groton Night my freshman year because it was so exciting to be introduced to the great traditions we have at SM. I also got to experience my first Groton Night bonfire and spend time with my friends and teammates.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Cross Country, Basketball, Softball
Photography club
Global Ambassadors

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

Really pay attention to campus life and just the general atmosphere of a school. It is important to see if you can picture yourself at whichever school you visit.





Natalie Zaterka

Southborough, MA



2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

What school did you previously attend?

Shrewsbury High School

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

Dunkin' every morning, since I am a day student.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have type one diabetes.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

Good Will Hunting.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

I love the dances, especially Neon.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I chose St. Mark's because of the atmosphere of the campus. I loved the small size, small classes, and close community, but also the enormous opportunities the school could provide. During my visit, I could tell the attitude towards learning was positive, and the community would push me to be the best version of myself.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

My favorite class so far has been my English class during my freshman year. With Ms. Matthews (who is now my advisor), I was challenged to study and view the subject of English in ways that I hadn't before. My favorite unit in that class was when we put characters in a book on trial. We assumed different roles as prosecutors, lawyers, and witnesses to grasp a deeper understanding of the characters and the plot.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

My favorite St. Mark's moment has been Groton night. This is an event led by the Monitors to get the community together and energized to play our rival, Groton, the following night. There is a bonfire, music, performances, and a whole spirit week prior, which brings the students together for this electric night.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

I am on the cross country and rowing team. I am a Monitor, crew captain and Admissions prefect.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

I would recommend making a list of everything you would want in a school, as well as picturing yourself at whatever schools you are considering. Keep in mind the academic programs, athletic programs, art programs, as well as the general culture and community the school facilitates.



Jackie Zatsiorsky

Shrewsbury, MA

2021–22 Admission Prefects

Where are you from?

Yixing, Jiangsu Province, China

What school did you previously attend?

Nanjing Foreign Language School Xianlin Campus

What's the most important thing that you brought with you to St. Mark's from home?

My passion for visual art and music.

What is a fun fact about you?

I have a chicken as a pet.

What is your favorite movie (or TV show)?

About Time and *Rattatouille*.

What is your favorite weekend activity at St. Mark's?

Going to Target trips with my friends on weekends and folding laundry on Saturday nights.

Why did you choose St. Mark's? Please elaborate.

I had a great experience interviewing and visiting the school before getting accepted. I also like small schools where everyone is closely connected and under one roof.

What's been your favorite class taken at St. Mark's? Why?

Music Studio. It gives lots of freedom for students to pursue their musical interests using class time. The class also provides a solid foundation for music theory, composition, and playing techniques.

What's your favorite St. Mark's moment? Why?

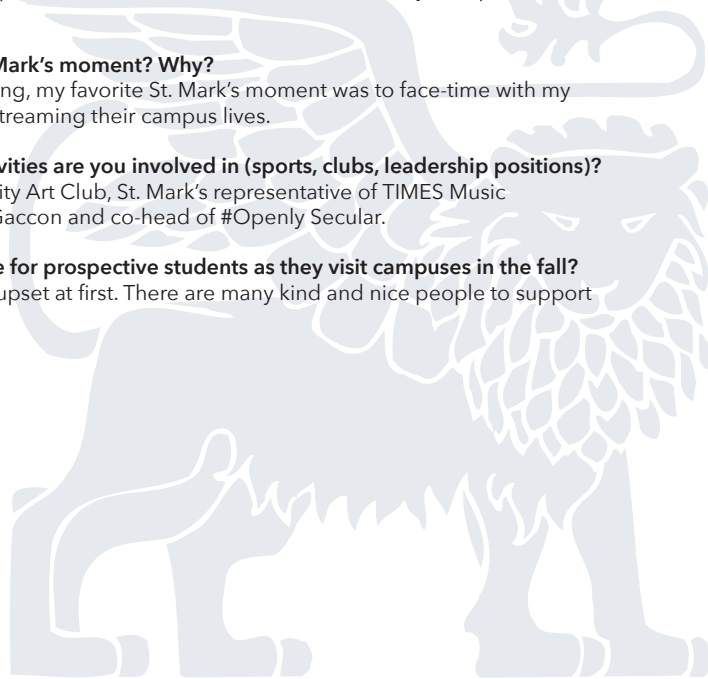
Last year in remote learning, my favorite St. Mark's moment was to face-time with my friends and watch them streaming their campus lives.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in (sports, clubs, leadership positions)?

Co-head of the Community Art Club, St. Mark's representative of TIMES Music Organization, Prefect in Gaccon and co-head of #Openly Secular.

What advice do you have for prospective students as they visit campuses in the fall?

It's okay to feel lonely or upset at first. There are many kind and nice people to support you here.





**Taylor (Xuanton)
Zhou**

Yixing, Jiangsu Province, CHINA







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