

OLIVERIAN

A school as unique as its students.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH!

After many months of hard work, we are so pleased to announce the launch of our new website! Please take it for a spin around the block and let us know how it runs!

[Visit Our Website](#)

WHAT EXACTLY IS ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION AND WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE AT OLIVERIAN?

By Will Laughlin, Head of School

While alternative education can mean many things, at Oliverian it simply means finding creative ways to help students tap their full potential.



Alternative education, at its core, seeks to find and foster the potential of students who haven't thrived in traditional settings. As one might expect, this requires a willingness to utilize uncommon methods to achieve common objectives such as college, life, and career preparation.

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ELECTIVES WEEK: A BREAK IN TRADITIONAL TEACHING

*By Julie Gaffey,
Registrar/Admissions and Marketing
Coordinator*

One way that Oliverian breaks the traditional school mold is by offering Electives Week courses three times per year. These weeklong workshop style classes allow students to explore new interests while earning academic credit. Electives Weeks are strategically placed within the



school year to break up monotony, provide educational diversity, and revitalize student interest in academics. Students choose from a variety of fun and innovative classes that appeal to their curiosity and interests.

Topics vary each Electives Week; some of the more recent courses include Rock-climbing, Horror Film Seminar, The Altered Library, Axis & Allies and the Hundred Years' War, Planet Earth II, Exploring the Florida Keys, Nature Explosion, and Caving, Mining, & Exploring. The picture above shows students from the most recent Rock-climbing class where they learned proper belay technique, knot tying, footwork, climbing etiquette, and risk management. We are excited to offer a trip to Costa Rica at our next upcoming Electives Week in February!

STUDENT LIFE ACTIVITIES: ZOMBIE RUN!

By Dave Heldreth, Director of Student Life

Having joined the student life department this summer, I quickly embraced what a perfect laboratory Oliverian is for teaching teenagers how to relate to others, manage boundaries, forge healthy friendships, and develop social skills with ease. The student life department is directly responsible for this growth as our students play, live, learn, and eat together.



We design activities that are fun and nudge students beyond their comfort zones so they can develop new skills and feel a sense of accomplishment and wonder. This fall alone, we have had students rock climbing, camping, backpacking, volunteering, visiting a reptile park, having "hippie hangouts", going to museums, going to plays, seeing movies, riding bikes, playing soccer, making a slip-n-slide, checking out swimming holes, and even dressing as zombies and running through campus for a nighttime flag football game. We are especially excited with the winter weather as it provides more opportunities to learn and play!

