Enjoli Ferrari, a representative of Tree People, helped Buckley choose very specific plantings for the spot directly behind Gilley’s bleachers. “The idea was to recreate a natural, wild chaparral reflective of other native canyons in Los Angeles,” she says. “We mixed in plants with unique characteristics to produce a modern and aesthetically pleasing look.” After a winter of record rainfall, it’s sure to deliver.

**A. Heuchera**
Native to the Channel Islands and California canyons, Heuchera has a purple, red, or light green leaf color. It has tall thin flower stalks that “make for a showpiece landscape,” says Ferrari.

**B. Common Yarrow**
Yarrow can act as a slow-growing ground cover and has bright yellow or white tall flower stalks that support native and beneficial insects. It’s also gopher and deer resistant!

**C. Hummingbird Sage**
A shade-thriving, clumping, ground-covering plant, Hummingbird Sage has a distinct sweet and crisp aroma of mint and pineapple. The flower stalks attract hummingbirds and the leaves can be used for teas.

**D. Bush Monkey Flower**
A common native, Bush Monkey is known for a deep root system that holds Southern California hillsides together. It can grow in areas near the beach that are exposed to dense marine layer or in high altitudes such as the Angeles National Forest. The underside of the leaves are sticky and act as a natural insect deterrent.

Buckley’s Nature Trail on the hill behind Gilley was buzzing with activity this year! Led by Middle School Assistant Head Gregg Sacon, a small group of eighth grade students made brush clearance a Tuesday-afternoon thing, partly for service credit and partly just for fun. They also built an outdoor classroom by hauling and installing logs into the ground as seats. In addition, part of the re-imagined Upper School Service Day included the junior class planting more than 110 native and/or climate-appropriate shrubs and trees at the Nature Trail entrance, one of the Trail’s shadier patches. And several Lower School classes, including kindergarten and the second grade, planted Coast Live Oaks. Watch videos of the above and learn more about Buckley’s Nature Trail at buckley.org/naturetrail.