

BRADFORD BULLETIN

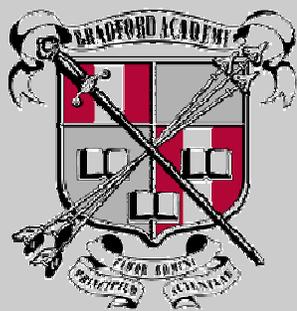
BRADFORD ACADEMY'S PARENT UPDATE

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Feb. 21st Chess Club** 1st-4th Grades, 3 to 4 PM
- **Feb. 20th**—Presidents' Day, NO SCHOOL
- **Feb. 21st-22nd** — Used Uniform Sale. If you would like to donate gently used clean uniform items to the sale, place them in green bins outside Mr. Johnston's office. Items will be priced at a discount with proceeds going towards PLAYGROUND improvements.
- **Feb. 24th – 1st-4th PE Trip** Burlington Indoor Soccer Complex (12:30—2:30)
- **March 2nd** Running Club resumes.

PRAYER

- **Students** - Please pray for spiritual fruit among our students.
- **Enrollment** - Please continue to pray for next year's enrollment!
- **New teachers** - We would like to add two more teachers to our staff next year. Pray that the Lord would bring us the right candidates.



WHY MEMORIZE?

When someone asks about what makes the educational program at Bradford Academy unique, I suspect that one of the things you will mention is the fact that we have our students memorize a lot of information. We do it in song, in chants, in jingles, and in as many ways as we can work into our day. If you had attended our Grandparents lunch, you would have heard to students sing four historic hymns and recite poems, Bible verses, North Carolina trivia, and sing or chant definitions of pronouns, prime numbers, and diameter. One may ask why we do this? Why spend time memorizing when it is so easy to "Google it" on your phone? A current trend in education theory is to put an emphasis on creative or critical thinking. The thought is that in our fast paced technology-driven society we need "free thinkers" and people who can think "outside the box" in order to solve problems. Memorization seems so old fashioned and outdated. Let me suggest a few reasons we make memorization a priority.

1. **Because memorized facts ARE the very tools that allow you to think freely.** The leaders in any field have all the basics facts available for instant recall. When they face unknowns they have plenty knowns from which to begin.
2. **Because memorized information makes creative/critical thinking possible.** I believe that the reason there is a renewed focus on critical thinking is because so few people can do it well. And the reason so few people do it well is because we lack the information by which we can compare and critique new ideas and problems. That is, we need something to actually think about before we can think critically.
3. **Because young children delight in chanting and singing.**
4. **Because recalling memorized facts is faster than Google.**
5. **Because memorized facts help you start, limit, focus, and filter your Google searches (better than a shot in the dark).** In other words, if you have more background information, you can quickly weed through the 15 million hits your search produced.
6. **Because young children can.** Our society has sold



RE-ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

In order to help us make plans for the new year, we would appreciate a quick return of the re-enrollment contract that was sent home at the beginning of the month. Please complete the re-enrollment form and return it to the school as soon as you can. The contracts are due with the deposit on March 31st.

If you intend to apply for financial aid for next year, you may begin that process as soon as you have your 2011 tax information. We have again contracted with ISM as a third party financial needs assessor. The details for our tuition policy and how to apply for financial assistance can be found online. Please review this policy and contact Mr. Johnston if you have any questions. Remember the *Lump Sum Discount* is available until June 1st, 2012.

Continued

MRS. OGLE

1st grade Phonics: ou as in out , ow as in how and read , "A Tale of Sir Galahad".

1st grade Math: Subtracting 3 facts, estimating and finding capacity of containers, and identifying gallon, half-gallon, and quart containers

1st grade Grammar: Writing initials, identifying pronouns in a story, and using oral use of "It is I"

2nd grade Phonics: Summarization and writing paragraphs (topic sentence and supporting sentences)

2nd grade Math: Subtracting 5 and 6 facts, reading and writing Roman numerals

2nd grade Grammar: Identifying subject noun, verb (pattern 1) sentences, dividing the complete subject from the complete predicate, and writing practice/improved sentences

2nd grade Latin: Chapter 21 Food words

Specials:

4th grade Art: Drew cylinders using the Laws of Drawing

4th grade Music: Practiced "The Owl", and "When the Train Comes Along"

2/3rd grade Art: Finished paper mache mummified cats.

2/3rd Music: Review of music notes and terms.

2nd/3rd/4th grade P. E.: Basketball



MRS. HICKS

Math: Adding two-digit numbers, money, making and reading graphs, congruent shapes, grouping by 10's, addition and subtraction facts.

Phonics: Words beginning in C and K, words ending in ck, blending sounds, color by letter, reading and handwriting.

Centers: Reading, sentence writing, coloring and copy-work.

Art (K/1st): This week Kindergarten and 1st grade finished Paper Mache.

P.E. (K/1st): Inside foot dribble. Kindergarten and 1st grade practiced dribbling with an obstacle relay race and partner pass.

Music: Instrument makers: Students learned how different instruments are made.

Verse: Romans 11:33-36 "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor? Or who has first given to Him and it shall be repaid to him? For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

MR. JOHNSTON

3rd Writing: Reviewed correctly shaping cursive letters. We also worked on editing.

4th Reading: We continued reading Roger Green's retelling of the King Arthur legend. We are enjoying the *Quest for the Holy Grail*.

3rd Math: We studied division and multiplication facts and began multiplying two digit numbers. We also practiced calculating area, naming angles, and labeling a polygon.

4th Math: Working with decimals, percentages, and fractions.

3rd Latin: LfC A - Ch. 19—3rd Declension Nouns Endings

4th Latin: LfC B - Ch. 19—Future tense verb endings

1st Science: Solar System

1st History: Civil War/Reconstruction and NC Sound Off

2nd/3rd Grade Science: Astronomy

2nd/3rd Grade History: The Hyksos Invasion of Egypt marked a turning point in history as the horse and chariot was introduced to the Egyptians.

4th Grade History: This week studied the fascinating adventures of Marco Polo!

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our kids short by expecting so little from them. By asking more of them, we are actually giving more to them.

7. **Memorizing while young and memorizing often trains the brain.**
8. **AND most importantly, there is promised blessing in hiding the Word in our heart.** So, while we memorize many good facts, we also practice memorizing the most important truth. We continuously are tucking those key verses away in the hearts of our students. Our prayer is that those words will be used by the Holy Spirit to give birth to eternal life and make life in this world worth living and worth living it well.

May the Lord bless our effort for the good of our children .
Peace and grace.

