

# BRADFORD BULLETIN

BRADFORD ACADEMY'S PARENT UPDATE

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **RUNNING CLUB** Thurs. 3-4. Aug. 29th—Oct. 3rd - \$5 All Welcome!
- **NC ART MUSEUM** (K- 6th) 8:00-2:45 Oct. 1st, drivers needed
- **Special Prayer Meetings** Oct. 4th
- **Equestrian Club** (3rd & 6th) 3:00-4:30 Oct. 8 - Nov. 12th (More info. to come)
- **Soccer Tournament** (1st—6th) Oct. 10th, 12:30-2:30 Rec. Center
- **Alamance Battleground** (K, 1st, & 5th) 8:00-2:45 Oct. 14th. Drivers needed
- **BRADFORD NIGHT** - Tuesday, Nov. 19th, 7 PM (Invite your friends!)

## PRAYER

- See Pg. 4
- **Staff** - Pray for wisdom and creativity as we labor to demonstrate the love of Christ in our daily lives.
- **Students** - Pray for their spiritual growth and understanding of the Word.
- **Enrollment** - Praise and thanks for our growing community of families!



## A CALL TO PRAYER

I am calling on all our families and those who love and support our school to join us in a special day of prayer. If you are able, I would also invite you to join to that time of prayer the discipline of fasting. While many may have never engaged in fasting, it is a New Testament practice that we moderns often neglect. (*I have added to the end of this article two good links that help explain fasting for the Christian.*)

### WHY NOW?

Bradford Academy has been very blessed of God and He has been very faithful to us over the last five years. I am not asking for prayer because we are in a crisis or have something ominous looming on the horizon, but because I am sincere in my belief that without the Lord's continued smile upon us, our work will be in vain. In addition to that, I feel as though we are living in particularly desperate times, so we must desperately seek our God!

During the Open House before school began, I spoke about Psalm 127.

The first part of verse one reads, "Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it." The line is often quoted and is familiar to most people.

The question I must ask myself frequently is, "Do I really believe it?" Do I really believe that my work is in vain if God does not work in it? Do I work in such a way that testifies to my belief? That question applies to both my role as an educator and as a parent. We busy ourselves with good things such as planning, making preparations or repairs, gathering resources, and all sorts of legitimate tasks. The problem we often face is remembering the spiritual nature of all our work.

### IT IS SPIRITUAL WORK

Because parenting and education essentially deal with two spiritual things, the work itself is fundamentally spiritual. What I mean is that education deals essentially with two things: one, young humans with a never dying soul, and two, truth about reality and the world around us. As such, the work you are engaged in as parents and the work we do at Bradford Academy has a tremendously spiritual and even mystical quality to it.

Often we are tempted to say that education about the world we live in is somehow

neutral or non-spiritual. "Surely, one plus one still equals two whether you are in a Christian school or not?" some will say. Well, of course it does, precisely because

**SPECIAL DAY  
OF  
UNITED PRAYER  
FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 4TH  
7:15-7:45 AM  
&  
2:00-2:30 PM**

### 1 John 5:14-15

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

# From the Teacher's Desk

## KINDERGARTEN

**Math:** Identifying a number that comes between; dividing a solid in half; combinations for numbers 3, 4, 5, & 6 (addition facts); counting from 0-23 using wrap-ups; heavy emphasis on "teen" numbers: building them, writing them, identifying their nicknames (fifteen is a nickname for 5-teen); Written & Oral Assessments .

**Phonics:** Pp - isolating the sound in a list of sounds & also at the beginning of words; handwriting upper and lower case P with one stroke.

**History:** The Flood & the Tower of Babel, Genesis 6-11.

**Music:** Percussion family - enjoyed playing drums, a tambourine, maracas, triangles, "claves," and a "guira."

**Art:** Drawing Blind lines: Artists draw things without looking in order to focus on the shapes of the lines. Drew a friend's face without looking, then tried while looking. Compared the drawings.

**P.E.:** Balance and hopping on left, right and both feet; played Squirrels in the Trees.

**Science:** Continued unit on the 5 senses with a focus on smell and taste; identified 9 smells with eyes closed; identified salt and sugar by tasting; read More Than Meets the Eye: Seeing Art With All Five Senses.

**Hymn:** "We Praise Thee, O God" verses 1-2

**Verse:** Eccl. 9:10 (NKJV)

## 1ST GRADE

**Math:** Ordinal position, addition facts, weekends/weekdays and pictographs. **Tests: Fact Test and Math Assessment will be on 9/27/2013.**

**Phonics:** Blends, vocabulary and reading "Alfred the King".

**Grammar:** "The Caterpillar," proper nouns and proper names.

**Spelling:** High frequency words. **Spelling test will be on 9/26**

**History:** Early US settlers: William Bradford, William Penn, Henry Hudson, and John Winthrop.

**Music:** Percussion family - enjoyed playing drums, a tambourine, maracas, triangles, "claves," and a "guira." We also talked about melody.

**Art:** Ansel Adams.

**Science:** Phyla Echinodermata and Arthropoda

**PE:** Soccer.

**Verse:** Psalm 145:8-9.

## 2ND GRADE

**Math:** Addition Facts: Sum of 10, Writing the Date, Dividing Squares into Two, Four, and Eight Equal Parts, Identifying and Shading Halves, Fourths, and Eighths, Reading a Thermometer to the Nearest 10 Degrees Fahrenheit, Rounding Numbers to the

Nearest Ten

**History:** The Flood

**Grammar:** Article Adjectives, Declarative, Interrogative, and Exclamatory Sentences

**Phonics:** Consonant Digraphs, Final /k/ Spelling Rules

**Spelling:** CCVC Words

**Reading:** *Now We Are Six*

**Latin:** Family Vocabulary

**Science:** Orders Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera, and Coleoptera

**P.E.:** Soccer

**Music:** Percussion family - enjoyed playing drums, a tambourine, maracas, triangles, "claves," and a "guira." We also learned about tempo and played these percussion instruments to varying tempos.

**Art:** Second grade discussed and learned through hands-on activities how to mix colors in order to add depth to their compositions.

**Verse:** Proverbs 15:33

## 3RD GRADE

**Math:** Continue reviewing math facts (subtraction), counting by 8's and 9's, and using mental math, reading charts, using coins.

**Reading:** *Black Ships Before Troy* continues to delight us as the adventure moves into high gear. We have been doing read aloud and comprehension questions. Be sure to ask your child for plot summaries!

**History:** This week we looked at the ancient Phoenician culture which were known as Canaanites in the Old Testaments.

**Spelling/Cursive:** Test each Thursday.

**Grammar:** Reviewed jingles and the question-answer flow.

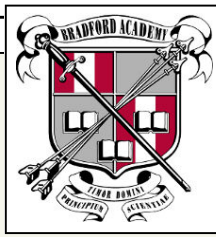
**Verse:** Proverbs 23:22-26

**Latin:** The students have really shown improvement on their Chapter 2 tests! (See Jupiter grades.) In class we shared study skills that seem to work well. Some of these involved a parent/helper, which is super. Hopefully retests will become a thing of the past as we press on into Chapter 3 next week.

**Science:** The students learned about specific biomes in the world and what kinds of features they share. They had a test on Wednesday about biomes.

**Art:** While practicing drawing spheres, the students learned the first three fundamental laws of drawing: overlapping, size, and placement.

**Music:** Percussion family - enjoyed playing drums, a tambourine, maracas, triangles, "claves," and a "guira." We also discussed and listened to varying rhythms.



## 4TH GRADE

**Math:** Our next Math test will be on lessons cumulative through Lesson 15 on Monday 9/20.

**History:** St. Benedict and Monasticism will be the topic of our history card next week. The test will be on Friday 9/27.

**Verse:** Next week we will be memorizing 1 Corinthians 13:3.

**Literature:** We are continuing to read and enjoy Rolf and the Viking Bow. Ask your son or daughter what they are enjoying about the book!

**Spelling:** There will be no spelling test for history words next week. We are in the process of determining how to update the spelling curriculum. I will e-mail you when these revisions are final.

**Writing:** Using the Topic/Clincher Rule, the students have written the first two paragraphs of a three paragraph essay on three parts of Ancient Egypt: pyramids, the sphinx, and mummies.

**Grammar:** After learning what expository writing is, the students practiced writing a three-point paragraph. The next test will be on Friday 9/27.

**Music:** We learned the note A this week and began playing A and B in the same song. It was challenging! Please be sure your child is practicing at home. Remember to have your child take his recorder to school every Tuesday.

**Science:** This week the students learned flowers in the Eastern part of the United States. They had a test on Wednesday on the previous information they have learned.

**Art:** The students practiced foreshortened circles in mugs and volcanic craters.

**P.E. -** This week we learned some new dribbling skills and practiced them with against our friends. They learned the scissor, the inside outside, the cruyff, the maradona, and more.

**Latin:** We had our first test this week and I think the kids are back into the Latin groove! Good work. We'll finish up Primer A at quick pace, Lord willing.

## 5TH GRADE

**Math:** Problems about Comparing; Elapsed Time Problems; Negative Numbers; Problems about Equal Groups; Review and Test.

**History:** This week we have not one explorer to study but four Spanish Explorers -- Cortes, De Soto, De Leon, and Coronado who each explored a different region of North America.

**Reading:** Under the mountain Bilbo stumbles across the ring, Gollum, and a bout of riddle guessing.

**Grammar:** We practiced writing a three point paragraph, learned about natural and inverted word order, and began learning the preposition song.

**Writing:** Using the Topic/Clincher Rule, the students have

written the first two paragraphs of a three paragraph essay on three parts of Ancient Egypt: pyramids, the sphinx, and mummies.

**Science:** This week the students learned flowers in the Eastern part of the United States. They had a test on Wednesday on the previous information they have learned.

**Art:** The students practiced foreshortened circles in mugs and volcanic craters.

**Music:** We learned the note A this week and began playing A and B in the same song. It was challenging! Please be sure your child is practicing at home. Remember to have your child take his recorder to school every Tuesday.

**P.E. -** This week we learned some new dribbling skills and practiced them with against our friends. They learned the scissor, the inside outside, the cruyff, the maradona, and more.

**Latin:** We had our first test this week and I think the kids are doing well! Good work. We'll finish up Primer B at quick pace, Lord willing.

**Verse:** Romans 12:7-8

**Upcoming Tests:** Grammar on Wednesday; Spelling and History on Friday.

## 6TH GRADE

**Math:** We took our next math test on lessons 11-15 this Friday. There will not be a test this week. If a student needs math help they are welcome to come in either the day before the test or the day of the test and I will help them.

**History:** The students have learned about slavery in the south this week. They had a test on Friday and engaged in some discussions about the topic. Many of them are looking forward to the civil war unit in a couple weeks. They will have a test next Friday on our new topic, the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

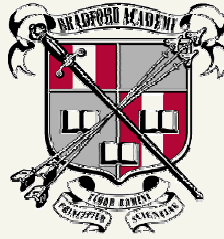
**Literature:** The students have continued reading The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling. We have finished up the last chapter this Friday. Next week we will review the book, finalize any last thoughts about it, and get ready for our new piece of literature.

**Grammar-** The students have learned about pronouns and their use in a sentence. There will be a test next Wednesday on chapter 5 lesson 3 in their Shurley Grammar books.

**Writing -** The students have been working on a large research report on a Civil War hero. This will be a five paragraph expository research report and will be due on October 15. They collected their research into a sources and facts sheet, and created a fused outline already. Our next order of business is to teach them how to write the first topic paragraph.

**Science-** The students started learning about the skin. We went into greater detail about the body system project due on Oct. 21.

**P.E. -** This week we learned some new dribbling skills and practiced them with against our friends. They learned the



God has established a transcendent order to the universe and governs BOTH the Christian and the unbeliever.

We live in a world that is governed by moral principles and universal laws of physics and mathematics. It is this beautiful world, a world that proclaims the majesty of an intelligent Creator God, a world that we want to explain and teach to our children. It is also a broken and cursed world in which we must teach our children to operate. Thankfully, it is a world that has a transcendent, omnipotent, and benevolent Redeemer King! If we spend any time meditating upon these thoughts, it becomes clear that our labors together for a classical Christian school in Mebane are more than just arranging the things we see to establish the best possible school for our children. Never-the-less, establishing an institution with spiritual goals for the glory of God and the good of our community does involve the mundane arranging of physical resources to serve that spiritual end. Therefore, we must pray. We must pray for the circumstantial arrangements and opportunities, and for the spiritual prosperity of our labors.

## FOR WHAT SHALL WE PRAY?

While we are not facing any immediate difficulty, we are looking forward to growth that will present new challenges. One of those challenges involves our facilities. As the Lord continues to bless us with increased numbers (and grades) we will soon outgrow our current building. Along with that challenge, comes the wonderful opportunity of high school. We are very excited at the prospect of moving to the Rhetoric phase

### Cont' From the Teacher's Desk 6th Grade

scissor, the inside outside, the cruyff, the maradona, and more.

**Logic-** We learned about what a red herring fallacy is. They seemed very interested in the topic and were able to give many examples of red herrings in real time.

**Music:** Percussion family - enjoyed playing drums, a tambourine, maracas, triangles, "claves," and a "guira." We continued practicing the descant to "Non Nobis Domine" as well as a lovely Latin round, "Dona Nobis Pacem".

**Art:** Each student has chosen an Ansel Adams photograph to imitate with pencil and has begun the drawing.

**Memory Verse** - Ephesians 1:9-12

**Hymn** - "Praise to the Lord"

#### Helpful Information on FASTING:

- John Piper - <http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/taste-see-articles/fasting-in-1984>
- Don Whitney - <http://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/the-discipline-of-fasting/>

of the classical model and applying the skills and knowledge our young scholars have been acquiring. To do high school well, we are seeking a large cash infusion. This will require us to identify donors who share our vision.

We also want the Lord to add to our number a few more students in each grade and a strong kindergarten class next year. Pray that the Lord would bring more families among us that can commit to the vision. We also have ongoing need to fund our scholarship program. We have several other categories of need so I will note them in a bulleted list below for your aid.

## WHAT TO DO?

We hope that you are praying regularly for the school but we are asking for special concentrated prayer on Oct. 4th. We want to give parents two opportunities to come together to pray. One in the morning before school from 7:15 to 7:45 and another in the afternoon from 2:00-2:30. If you cannot join us for those times, please commit some time in private for seeking the Lord. I think the Lord will do great things if we as a community will humble ourselves and pray to our loving heavenly Father! Peace and grace.

## PETITIONS

Pray for the glory of Christ to be manifested at Bradford Academy, and pray for spiritual fruit among all our constituents!

#### We need wisdom / direction regarding facilities:

- Do we improve current facilities or move to a multi-site model?
- If we move, do we look to other churches? Store front downtown? Other?

#### We need financial blessing:

- Cash reserves to establish an excellent high school program
- Continued supply for Scholarship Fund

#### We need wisdom in...

- Developing high school program
- Search for teachers as we grow
- If/when do we add a Pre-K program?

#### Enrollment

- Add 2 or 3 students to each class
- Strong new K class each year