

BRADFORD BULLETIN

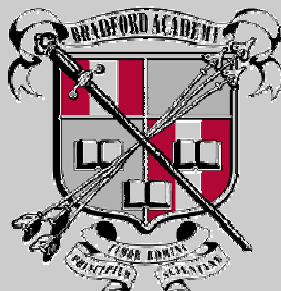
B R A D F O R D A C A D E M Y ' S P A R E N T U P D A T E

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **11/26 - Bradford Feast**— Students enjoy a sampling of authentic “Pilgrim Edibles” like that first Thanksgiving of 1621.
- **11/27-29 Thanksgiving Break - NO SCHOOL**
- **12/6 - Mebane Christmas Parade** (Watch your email for more details!)
- **12/20 - Students' class Christmas Parties**
- **12/23 to 1/3 Christmas Break**

PRAYER

- **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.
- Please pray for God's supply regarding specific needs:
 - 1) Facilities to meet the needs of our growing school.
 - 2) Wisdom as we make plans to launch high school program in 2016.
 - 3) Financial resources to establish an excellent upper school program.



COLONIAL EDUCATION

Every Thanksgiving season my mind is inevitably turned to the early colonial period. I am encouraged and fascinated by those first Pilgrims at Plymouth and the Puritans who followed and populated the New England colonies. Men like William Bradford achieved notable success in education despite the incredible challenges and duties they experienced. Thankfully, we have enjoyed greater peace and stability in our country to a degree only dreamed of by our forefathers. It is, therefore, our responsibility to take advantage of that great blessing. We have no excuses.

Bradford was concerned about the prospect of successive generations forgetting or neglecting that responsibility and had this phrase engraved on his tombstone, “What our forefathers with so much difficulty secured, do not basely relinquish.” Those early colonists believed in the very high priority of family and education. By the 1640’s the New England colonists became concerned that certain families were not pursuing education as vigorously as they should and became worried by the consequences. They feared that a neglect of education would mean a decline in the understanding of both religious and civil principles of conduct. In 1642 a law was passed that simply required families to make certain that their children understood the principles of the Christian faith and the capital laws of the colony. By 1647, The Old Deluder Satan Act was passed. It was so called because they believed that a poor education prevented people from reading and understanding the Word of God and would be consequently “deluded” into all kinds of false and superstitious beliefs and attitudes. The Act required all communities of fifty families to hire a schoolmaster to help in educating the children. Communities of one hundred families or more had to maintain a Grammar school. They understood that while education was the family’s responsibility, its neglect had consequences for the greater

community. They also understood that a community joined together in a common cause could be very effective in accomplishing its goals.

It should not surprise us that in a few generations there was almost universal literacy in the New England colonies. By the time America became an independent nation, the population was so well educated that the debates of congress, the Federalist Papers, and the Constitution itself became the reading materials of common farmers down ever dusty byway in the infant nation. Laws and amendments meant something significant because people actually read and understood them.

On the other hand, they also understood that education itself could not preserve liberty. Intelligent people could be as cruel and despotic as any barbarian. The greater need for the nation was teaching in moral virtue and integrity. In a democracy that is populated by those who seek individual prosperity at the expense of others, the inevitable result will be the destruction of the community. In other words, people that do not exercise self-restraint and a sense of personal responsibility will always amass for themselves power and resources that are not rightfully theirs or abuse the common resources to the detriment of the community. The natural corrupt impulses then must be checked by laws. Unfortunately, the more a population cannot by virtue control its actions, the more law must do it. The more law there is, the less there is of liberty. Therefore when we educate we must also train the heart.

This is best done by way of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Man can learn about the high and holy principles of true religion but his heart will not be inclined to live those principles unless that heart is transformed by the power of Christ. This is why the most rigorous education will best serve society if it is Christian.

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TIMOR DOMINI PRINCIPIMUM SCIENTIAE

From the Teacher's Desk

Kindergarten and the Solar System Sound Off



2ND GRADE

Math: Using Comparison Symbols, Identifying Horizontal, Vertical, and Oblique Lines and Line Segments, Finding Perimeter, Subtracting a Number From 10, Making an Organized List to Solve a Problem

KINDERGARTEN

Math: Identifying numbers on a 100 chart; identifying even numbers; counting dimes and pennies; creating lines of symmetry.

Phonics: Solidifying newer list of sight words (with, was, that, of, his, not, they); mastering Bad Meg and finished comprehension pages; introduced short "i."

History: Read *The Trojan Horse: How the Greeks Won the War*

Music: Fine-tuned songs for Bradford Night.

Art: Read *Renoir's Colors*

P.E. Slide and spring.

Science: Focus on Uranus, Neptune and Pluto - the plutoid!

Hymn: Be Still My Soul.

Verse: Began 1 Corinthians 10:13

1ST GRADE

Math: Writing the date using digits, venn diagrams, numerical order and problem solving activities. **No tests next week!**

Phonics: This week we introduced the long vowel phonics rules OA/OW/OE. We also reviewed other phonics rules and phonics readers that we have covered in the past several weeks.

Grammar: Proper/common nouns: nouns in a story.

Spelling: OA/OW/OE word list. **No spelling test next week!**

History: North Carolina History: First grade continued learning facts about North Carolina through a NC timeline sound off.

Music: Rehearsed for Bradford Night.

Art: Details and accuracy in coloring: First grade used colored pencils, markers and crayons to color a copy of "Barge of the Sun on its Night Course".

Science: 3 States of Matter: Liquids

P.E.: Ultimate Frisbee.

Verse: Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)

History: Birth and Sacrifice of Isaac

Grammar: Subject Pronouns, Capitalization Rules

Phonics: Suffixes

Spelling: -ing, -ang, -ong, -ung, -ink, -ank, -unk Words

Reading: *Sarah, Plain and Tall*

Science: Chemical Change

P.E.: Ultimate Frisbee

Latin: Review

Music: No music class due to all-school rehearsal for Bradford Night.

Art: Details and accuracy in coloring: Second grade used colored pencils, markers and crayons to color a detailed picture of a bird.

Verse: Psalm 32:1,2

3RD GRADE

Math: Survey data, pie graphs, addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts.

Reading: We continued our dive into Greek mythology with *D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths*. We have finished discussing the gods and are moving onto the Greek heroes of mythology.

History: This week our students visited the history changing Persian Wars in which the Western world embodied in the Greek culture faced off against the despotic Persians.

Grammar: Reviewed jingles and the question-answer flow.

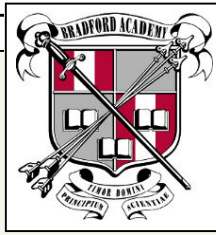
Verse: Matthew 6:25-27 and Review

Latin: Chapter 12 - reinforced concept of predicate adjective; learned 3 sentence patterns: SN, V; SN, LV, PrN; SN, LV, PrA.

Art: We switched gears this week and drew koalas, complete with fuzzy ears and shiny noses!

Music: Fine-tuned songs for Bradford Night.

Science: This week we learned about Archimedes and density.



P.E.: Ultimate Frisbee

Latin: Primer A Exam on MONDAY!

4TH GRADE

Math: There will be no Math Lessons until after Thanksgiving! :) You're welcome.

History: Next week we will spend catching up on our History activities that we haven't gotten to from the previous cards.

Verse: We are now over halfway through Psalm 23 and will be learning verse 5 next week. Only 1 verse to go before we know the whole book!

Literature: We will spend a large part of class time next week finishing up our beloved novel, *Rolf and the Viking Bow*.

Spelling: We will not have a new spelling lesson until after Thanksgiving. Again, you're welcome :)

Writing: This week the students read the final drafts of one of their recently written stories aloud in class and wrote the final draft of the other story.

Grammar: Capitalization rules and punctuation rules.

Music: No music class due to rehearsal for Bradford Night.

Science: This week we learned about distillation, filtration, evaporation, condensation, and a centrifuge.

P.E.: Ultimate Frisbee

5TH GRADE

Math: Finding a percent of a number; Renaming Fractions by Multiplying by 1; Equivalent Division Problem.

History: We are attempting to squeeze studying all of the thirteen colonies into this week and the first day of next week; we are learning about their beginnings and colonial life.

Reading: By Thursday we came to the bittersweet end of *The Hobbit*. The boys were exceedingly excited about the Hobbit celebration we held on Friday, and especially acting out a scene!

Grammar: Capitalization and punctuation rules.

Writing: This week the students read the final drafts of one of their recently written stories aloud in class and wrote the final draft of the other story.

Science: This week we learned about distillation, filtration, evaporation, condensation, and a centrifuge.

Art: No art this week because of Bradford Night.

Music: No music class due to rehearsal for Bradford Night.

P.E. - This week we learned how to play ultimate frisbee.

Verse: Isaiah 40:5-8

6TH GRADE

Math: This week we studied lessons 39-40 and took a test.

History: This week we finished our unit on the Civil War in

general. We will continue learning about the battle of Gettysburg and the generals in the war after we come back from Thanksgiving break.

Literature: The students have finished reading *With Lee in Virginia*.

Grammar- The students have learned about propaganda and how to spot it in the world around them. This fit in perfectly with what we have been learning in logic.

Writing - This week the students took a vocabulary test.

Science- This week we learned what certain families of the periodic table have in common with each other, like the alkaline metals and noble gases.

P.E. - This week we learned how to play ultimate frisbee.

Logic- This week we learned about the straw man fallacy.

Music: Fine-tuned songs for Bradford Night in an abbreviated music class.

Art: No art this week because of Bradford Night.

Latin: Libellus de Historia, translation of chapter 4.

Memory Verse - Eph 2:11-14

Upcoming Tests - None next week. Have a good Thanksgiving!

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Any other philosophical or religious foundation will inevitably fail because the root of the problem is in the individual human heart. Our forefathers knew that reality. John Adams declared in 1798, **"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."** Dr. Benjamin Rush, who signed the Declaration, wrote in *Thoughts Upon the Mode of Education Proper in a Republic*, 1786: **"The only foundation for a useful education in a republic is to be laid on the foundation of religion.** Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments... **The religion I mean to recommend in this place is that of the New Testament...** All its doctrines and precepts are calculated to promote the happiness of society and the safety and well-being of civil government."

During this Thanksgiving season I will once again give thanks for the wise and humble minds or those spiritual and intellectual giants that came before us. I will give thanks for those who founded this nation upon principles that have provided for the blessing my family and I can so enjoy. I will give thanks for the freedom we have had to establish Bradford Academy and strive to repair some of the damage that has been done in recent decades to our collective thoughts. I will give thanks for you and your dedication to your children, for they are worth it. For them, it is worth returning to our roots and cultivating virtue, wisdom, and faith. Peace and grace.