

BRADFORD BULLETIN

VOLUME X, ISSUE 2



August 11th, 2017

STARTING WELL!

IMPORTANT DATES

- **AUGUST 14:** Open House for TK
- **AUGUST 15:** First day of school for TK
- **SEPTEMBER 4:** Labor Day, no school

PRAY FOR THE SCHOOL

Please pray for God's supply regarding specific needs:

- Students: to start the year with eagerness and diligence in their studies
- Staff: Smooth transition for new teachers, and fresh energy for returning staff
- Scholarship fund: Growing needs!
- Athletic program: Safety, hard work, and success for soccer, XC, and volleyball this fall.

GREAT FIRST WEEK!

The first week of school is always a blessing for which we give thanks! The students appeared to be all rested and ready to get back into the work of learning. It was a blessing to see the excitement in their eyes as they entered their new classroom

with all its mystery and potential. It wasn't long before we heard the students singing and reviewing old material. New uniforms looked tidy and fresh and the staff were eager to get this year going. We are all thankful.

As I mentioned on Monday, the words of Paul, the Apostle, to the church in Philippi has become my particular prayer for our students:

"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." Phil.1:9-11

These words capture our deepest longing for our students and our highest priority. We know our young scholars are learning a lot and becoming well rounded students. However, we also know that if all that learning isn't rooted in love and lived out in righteous or virtuous behavior through Christ, we have missed the mark. If our students miss the highest goal, the glory and praise of God, they have

TIMOR DOMINI PRINCIPIUM SCIENTIAE

Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge..."

missed the greatest joy and pleasure that is given to humanity.

It is to that end we pray and work. It is to that end we have started each new year! May God bless your children richly in their studies this year at Bradford Academy. Peace and grace.

FROM THE TEACHER'S DESK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN (MRS. RIVERA)

We had a great start to the school year this week! Thank you for all of your prayers for our students. Our kindergarten scholars started memorizing our first Bible verse, Proverbs 1:7. The kindergartners learned so much about being in school: walking in line, classroom protocol, learning the names of their classmates, telling the difference between a story and a question, and showing love to others. We used colored pencils to create a first day of school self-portrait. I am very excited to start our challenging curriculum next week, as well as teaching Biblical truths they can apply in their everyday lives.

1ST GRADE (MRS. CAMPBELL)

Supplies are unpacked and put away, routines have been discussed and practiced, and a scavenger hunt helped the students discover their classroom and become familiar with the location of our many resources. We are so blessed to have everything

we need for a great year of learning. The students learned how to execute 12 different jobs to keep our room clean and tidy and each child seemed proud to be assigned their first one. A room packed with 14 eager first graders = limitless opportunities for learning and fun!

2ND GRADE (MRS. JONES)

Second grade is off to a great start! This week we spent a lot of time reviewing rules and procedures as well as establishing some new ones. In History we talked about timelines: why they are important, what they mean, and how to create one. Ask them why they marked Jesus with a star on their timeline. They were all eager to use our new bug catchers to see what they could find on our playground. So far, they have captured 1 cricket, 2 baby grasshoppers and lots of ants. It won't be long until we dive deep into our insect study where they will learn all about these fascinating creatures.



In Grammar they were introduced to alphabetization and played a fun game with their desk partner. Ask them how many cars they got on their alphabet train. I'm just so excited to have such a great group of students this year and I can't wait to see what the coming months have in store for us.

3RD GRADE (MRS. MITCHELL)

This first week was a busy one in which we established lots of routines and the flow of the classroom. They have organized all their books and binders with the necessary tabs and we have practiced where every piece of paper needs to go. (This builds a foundation for great life skills.) We still enjoy reviewing verses and songs that we mastered way back in K-2nd grades. We read Genesis 1 and compared it to the Greek creation myth in our book. We discussed John 17:3 and how fortunate we are that God has offered us eternal life. We waded into every subject and have established a great jumping off place for next week!

4TH GRADE (MRS. HAMILTON)

What a wonderful beginning to the year we've had in fourth grade! Binders are organized, lockers are assigned, books are stacked, and minds are eager. I am so proud of each one of your children—they came into fourth grade ready to tackle challenging material and ask great questions. What a blessing it is for me to see their sense of wonder for literature, math, science, and history! We jumped right into our first book, *The Door in the Wall*, and worked through the first few lessons of math; we also discussed the importance of studying history. I am greatly looking forward to this year!

5TH GRADE (MISS WINDES)

We've had a wonderful first week in fifth grade! It is fantastic to have the desks full again! We began the week by discussing precisely what it means and looks like to love God and our neighbor in the classroom. The students have been learning the routines quickly, and are already settling into efficient habits. We dipped into math, Latin, science, history, reading, and writing, discussing

Tolkien and fantasy writing, the scope of our history, why we study history, avoiding banned words in writing (and the glory of exciting words!), and how to go about problem solving in math. I can tell we are going to accomplish a lot this year! I've already had many thoughtful questions, and I'm looking forward to watching these students grow and mature as the year passes.

Upcoming Tests:

Friday, 8/18: Spelling, Latin, and History

6TH GRADE (MRS. GARRETT)

This first week was filled with such joy and enthusiasm as we dove straight into 1 John. The students learned about why John was eager to share the reality of Jesus with his followers. A lively discussion followed looking closely at the Greek idea of "the highest good" and our limited ideas about this topic as well. The class also looked at the reasons why James Monroe desired to guard against encroaching European powers, and how this relates to God's hand in all world affairs. Reviewing grammar songs and practicing our writing has been especially enjoyable as well. Finally, the arts came alive this week as the students learned how to read a poem in a variety of ways, studying two poems in depth. What an incredible week it has been, and I can see already how 'wonder-filled' this year will be with such diligent and curious students.

LOGIC & RHETORIC
SCHOOL

MR. HAMILTON

We had a fantastic week in our new building! The kids and I are getting used to the space and things are running smoothly. We've already jumped headfirst into our Omnibus curriculum, discussing the various interpretations of the first chapter of Genesis, the rise of ancient civilizations, and such thorny issues as the problem of evil. In Grammar, we discussed the nature and importance of academic writing and our plan for the year. With God's help it's going to be a great year!

MR. MILLER

I've had a wonderful first week getting to know all the upper school students and routines of Bradford! In 7th grade we are already being refreshed with some of the basics of Latin grammar. In 8th grade we are laying the foundation for a deeper study of logic and the development of our writing abilities. We have also kicked off our Omnibus curriculum by looking at some of the major themes in the Gospel of John and learning about the first church historian, Eusebius of Caesarea. I'm very excited to continue our educational journey together this year!

MRS. FRUEH

I have had a great first week with the 7th and 8th grade science students. We spent our first class learning how to take Cornell Notes, which will lay the foundation for independent note-taking skills beyond middle school. The students have quickly grasped the skills of reviewing, reciting, rewording, and summarizing their class notes. We have focused on the nature of science, the attitudes of a good scientist, and the limitations of science. We look forward to discussing scientific inquiry next

week. I have truly enjoyed getting to know the Logic students this week and look forward to a great year exploring science together!



MRS. ORLOWSKI

What a great first week we had in math! We're thankful for the sunny, cheerful math room. We settled in quickly to the daily classroom routine of reviewing homework, learning a new lesson, practicing the lesson in groups, and starting our homework assignment. We have started the habit of writing important definitions and formulas in our moleskins (an important precursor to taking notes in college). I have been delighted with how eager the 7th and 8th grade students are to learn and practice the concepts. I'm looking forward to a wonderful year!

MRS. FAIRCHILD

This first week was all about reviewing protocols and understanding the expectations that our 7th and 8th grade will have in Logic school. Moms will be thrilled to know these students are happy to be responsible for washing their own P.E. uniforms so they are prepared for class on Wednesdays.

MR. JOHNSTON

I have had the great pleasure this week of being the primary instructor of our 9th and 10th grade

Intensive Short Term (IST). This year's IST focuses on the topic CIVICS. We have laid a foundation by focusing on the basics of government structure and common words used in the discussion of politics. We have also branched out to discuss several good questions such as, "Should Christians be involved in politics?" and "What are some Biblical principles of government?" We will continue these discussions during the second half of the IST as well as look at some interesting Supreme Court rulings. We will plan to also look at local politics. May God be pleased to build these students into discerning Christian thinkers and leaders!

Cross country runners gathering for their warm-up, a slow jog back to the Main Campus.



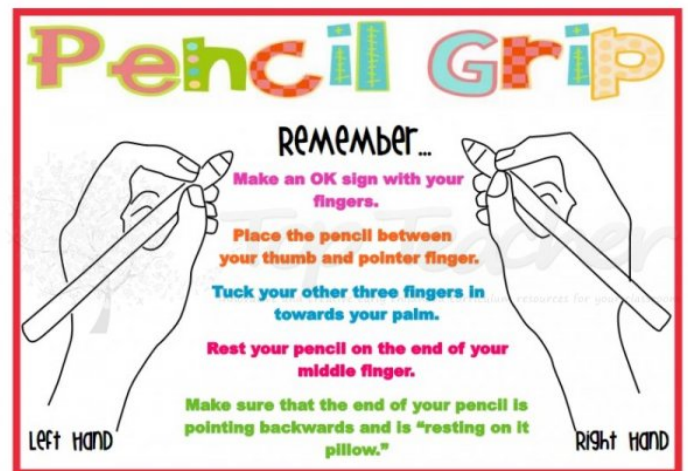
TINY FINGERS AND THINGS

HANDWRITING: Don't forget that we use D'Nealian manuscript (sometimes called Modern Manuscript). 3rd graders and up will do almost everything in cursive.

Students in kindergarten should be practicing holding a pencil correctly (see illustration below). The younger students should practice coloring and just scribbling using loops formed in a counterclockwise direction. 2nd and 3rd graders

can practice making loops on lined paper as a warm up.

FINE MOTOR SKILLS: Young children need practice developing fine motor skills including coloring/printing, picking up and manipulating small things (i.e. coins, Lego pieces, etc.), tying their shoes, buckling belts, doing zippers, etc. **It is often quicker to do things for our children; however, please don't rob them of the opportunity to learn and be sure to give them the chance to practice these skills.**



BATHROOM: On a related note, if your child is still struggling with independence using the bathroom, please make this a priority. Belts sometimes start out a little stiff, so I would encourage dads to help their boys work in the leather before school starts.

F.Y.I.

Bradford Academy's main office number is:

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This number is not set up to receive text messages.

Email the main office at:

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Mr. Johnston will be travelling between the two campuses daily and can be reached at:

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First Baptist Church is located less than 1 mile north of Bradford Academy's main campus.

