

BRADFORD BULLETIN

BRADFORD ACADEMY'S PARENT UPDATE

Special Points of INTEREST

- 11/10: Veterans Day (observed), no school
- 11/12: 6th grade - Veteran's Day Service,
- 11/16: Bradford Night - 7PM
- 11/21: Bradford feast
- 11/22-24: Thanksgiving break
- 11/25: Christmas caroling
- 12/1: Prospective Parent Open House, 8 AM
- 12/14: 7-10th- singing at 1st Presbyterian Church, Burlington
- 12/15:
 - Christmas party
 - NOON DISMISSAL
 - End of 2nd quarter
- 12/18 - 1/2 - Christmas BREAK

For Prayer

Please pray for God's supply regarding specific needs:

- **Students:** Academic success and growth in virtue and love.
- **Staff:** Wisdom, grace, and creativity.
- **Financial:** Funds for our scholarship program and future capital improvements.



LOVE YOUR CHILD?

Several years ago I read an interesting *Wall Street Journal* essay, "Why Chinese Mothers are Superior." The essay is really an excerpt from Amy Chua's memoir, *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*. The WSJ essay begins, "A lot of people wonder how Chinese parents raise such stereotypically successful kids. They wonder what these parents do to produce so many math whizzes and music prodigies..." She continues by describing a family lifestyle that is shockingly disciplined and focused.

Interestingly, her daughters do appear to be very successful and well adjusted and at least one of them wrote a piece in the *NY Post* defending her mother's ways. If you read the posted comments, you'll find no shortage of opinionated responses for and against and anecdotes that would "prove" the commentator's point. You'll find people hardily agreeing with the author, people vehemently condemning her, and everything in between. You'll also find journalists of every stripe weighing in on the subject. I can't remember reading an essay that has provoked such an outpouring of emotion. It appears that Ms. Chua has struck a raw nerve in the American psyche.

The author, a Yale professor of law, states that she wrote the book as a memoir as opposed to a manual for parenting. (Her two previous books were on international affairs.) In her response to readers' questions in a follow-up piece, she comes across as a balanced and loving mother. She is by no means a soft and indulgent parent but also not the fascist that some would suggest. As with all musings and opinionating about parenting, we must filter such theories

through the sieve of the Word of God. We need to keep what is true and good and reject the rest. With that said, I think you all would find it a fascinating and provocative read. I've included a link to the original article and a few of the interesting follow-up links at the end of this note.

Here is an excerpt: "What Chinese parents understand is that nothing is fun until you're good at it. To get good at anything you have to work, and children on their own never want to work, which is why it is crucial to override their preferences. This often requires fortitude on the part of the parents because the child will resist; things are always hardest at the beginning, which is where Western parents tend

to give up. But if done properly, the Chinese strategy produces a virtuous circle. Tenacious practice, practice, practice is crucial for excellence; rote repetition is underrated in America. Once a child starts to excel at something—

whether it's math, piano, pitching or ballet—he or she gets praise, admiration and satisfaction. This builds confidence and makes the once not-fun activity fun. This in turn makes it easier for the parent to get the child to work even more."

I am in substantial agreement with this perspective. Never-the-less, I am bound to test it against the only infallible rule of life. In other words, what does the Bible say about the ideas. Let's ask and answer a few questions:

- 1) **Does God require diligence and hard work?** Yes. Ecc. 9:10a "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might..."
- 2) **Do children naturally want to work**

Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but **he who loves** him is diligent to discipline him. Proverbs 13:24

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From the Teacher's Desk

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Transitional Kindergarten (Mrs. Davis)

Bible

- This week we completed the story of Abraham. We saw how God fulfilled his promise to Abraham by giving him a son named Isaac. We observed God's faithfulness even in circumstances that seemed unlikely. Is there anything God cannot do? No!

Theme Adventure

- We continued working on developing stories. We introduced creative props as the students advanced the plot of stories.
- The nursery rhymes "Little Miss Muffet" and "Diddle Diddle Dumpling, My Son John" helped us learn more about prediction and problem solving.
- We learned all about veterans! We are very thankful for their protection. The students reviewed vocabulary each day that helped them learn about a veteran's sacrifice in their service. The students also created a 13

page book to take home to share with their families.

Literacy

- We continued work with compound



From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

words. The students used objects that represented smaller words. When they put those small words together it makes a compound word! Mrs. Davis also challenged the children by giving them compound words

first to see if the students could break them down. They especially enjoyed this.

- In handwriting we are beginning to

combine straight lines and curves to create more advanced capital letters. This week we practiced writing P, E, and B. We also practiced drawing rectangles which contain complementary strokes to the letter E.

Math

- We created and worked with AB color patterns. The students created their own patterns and shared them with the class.
- TK enjoyed acting out story problems with teddy bear counters.

Arts and Sciences

- The students enjoyed creating a book about Veterans. They were the illustrators of their own book.
- In music this week the students learned to create patterns with sounds. Small groups worked together to create their specific pattern. When the groups came together to share their sound pattern it made a fun and interesting arrangement!

Kindergarten (Mrs. Rivera)

Language Arts

- Our Kindergarten Scholars tackled their second book, *Bad Meg!* We reviewed our

special exhibit words and emphasized the importance of memorizing them.

- Review of proper strokes for the letters "E" and "I."
- Next week we will review middle vowel

sounds, including "i," "e," and "a."

Math

- Counting by 2's, telling time to the hour, subtracting zero from a number, and estimating the capacity of containers.

- Identifying the even

numbers to 20 and counting dimes and pennies

History

- Timeline review and BC History Facts Song. We discussed the Fall of Israel and the Babylonian Captivity. Israel's golden age was during the reign of King David, from about 1010- 970 B.C. David's son Solomon began his reign devoted to the Lord, but tried to keep peace with neighboring kingdoms by marrying the kings' daughters. By the end of his reign, Solomon had turned from the Lord and had given himself to luxurious living. The glory that marked the kingdoms of David and Solomon slowly, but steadily declined over the centuries. Scripture tells us that neither Israel nor Judah was faithful to the laws and commandments of God.

- Next week we will begin our study of Greece and Alexander the Great.

Science

- No science due to the holiday
- Weather and seasons

Music

- This week we had a lesson on rhythm and duration, spent a short time listening to the music of Antonin Dvorak, and practiced



From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

diligently on our songs for Bradford Night!

Art

- Discussion of our quarterly featured artist Renoir. We also finished up our woven mats.
- Textured teddy bears

P.E.

- Hopping and jumping
- Review: Hopping, skipping, and jumping

Memory Work:

- John 14:6
- I Corinthians 10:13

1st Grade (Mrs. Campbell)

Language Arts

- Target: Final Silent E - Students had fun learning the role of 'silent e' at the end of a word through the use of pretend train cars. We had lots of laughs!
- First graders continue to add beautifully written sentences to their history notebooks as they write about Pocahontas.
- In Grammar we continue to discover the various parts of a noun, both common and proper, and also practice speaking complete sentence answers through story narration.

Math

- This week we practiced ordering objects by weight, adding 10 to a multiple of 10, finding missing numbers on a hundred number chart, identifying pairs, and dividing objects into groups of two.

History

- After finishing the book *Pocahontas*, we dove into **Jamestown, New World Adventure**. It is delightful to see students make connections between the two books and the events surrounding this first colony.

Science

- Students put the scientific method into action while conducting an experiment.

Music

- We began class reciting our weekly praise verse, and had a history of hymns on, "Now Thank We All Our God," and, "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow." Our lesson was based on the life and history of Antonin Dvorak, and we finished class practicing for Bradford Night.

Art

- Renoir art project

Memory Work:

- Romans 12:1,2
- Scientific Method song
- Columbus poem

2nd Grade (Mrs. Jones)

Language Arts

- This week we played the noun and verb search game using a reading passage about Abram's travels.
- The students took turns creating sentences on the board using verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs and article adjectives. Afterwards, the students using their question/answer flow to code the sentences.
- Plural vs. singular nouns
- Common vs. proper nouns
- Three different kinds of sentences

Math

- Boiling and freezing points of water
- Multiplication by 1s and 10s
- Using comparison symbols (>, <, and =)
- Written Assessment 8

History

- The Call of Abram-Genesis 12-13
- The students each created a map of ancient Mesopotamia to chart the route Abram took on his journey.

Science

- Individual insect reports (life cycle)

Music

- We began class reciting our weekly praise verse and had a history of hymns on, "Now Thank We All Our God," and, "Praise God From



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From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

Whom All Blessings Flow." Our lesson was based on the life and history of Antonin Dvorak. We ended class practicing our songs for Bradford Night.

Art

- Eye of Horus pictures
- Clay hieroglyphic pendants
- Clay butterflies

Memory Work:

- Sentence poem
- Classification song
- States and capitals song

3rd Grade (Mrs. Mitchell)

Language Arts

- Reading: We have read in *Dulaire's Greek Myths* about Pandora's Box, the Fates, Deucalion, Eos, Helios and Phaethon.
- Writing: Keyword outline about Gilgamesh. Students are adding 5-senses words in addition to strong adverbs and who/which clauses.

Math

- Estimating and measuring distance on a map using a scale; making a table to solve a problem; finding elapsed time and how many minutes are in multiple hours and half hours; multiplication number stories and facts to 36; written assessment.

History

- The Prophets of God card goes hand in hand with the destruction of Israel and Judah card from last week. We can only get a taste of the prophet's messages in one week, but hopefully students will see a grand picture of the consequences of sin and take note for their own lives.

Science

- We will begin to learn some of the constellations and the Greek stories that influenced the names of them.
- Test: November 15

Latin

- Chapter 11: Adjective Endings. In Latin adjectives and nouns must agree in gender, number and case. Therefore, students have already learned the endings and we are learning to apply that information to adjectives.

Music

- We began class reciting our weekly praise verse, and continued with our history of hymns on, "Now Thank We All Our God," and "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow." Our lesson was about the history and life of Dvorak, and we spent the rest of class focusing on practicing our music for Bradford Night.

Art

- Finishing watercolor project for Bradford Night.
- Upcoming: We are eager to get back to our drawing program with Mark Kistler.

P.E.

- No P.E. this week. We worked on artwork instead since it was a short week.

Memory Work:

- 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

4th Grade (Mrs. Hamilton)

Language Arts

- Literature: We said goodbye to our beloved novel *Rolf and the Viking Bow*; students reenacted their favorite scenes from the book.
- Writing: After individual consultations, students are making great strides toward improving their stories from our unit, *Writing from Pictures*, making them more dramatic and vivid to the reader. Although it is always difficult to see a first draft of a precious writing project being "vandalized" by a red pen, fourth graders are learning that good writing takes time, effort, and humility! These excellent stories will be displayed on Bradford Night.

From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

Math

- Students learned to add and subtract fractions with common denominators and to do short division; students also reviewed the Metric and the U.S. Customary systems and completed several measuring projects.

History

- Feudal System—students greatly enjoyed playing the Feudal System game, where each student got to be a king/overlord, a vassal, a lesser noble, a knight, a freeman, or a serf. Fourth graders also enjoyed learning about heraldry, and each one created their own coat of arms; their projects will be displayed on Bradford Night.

Science

- Using LEGO pieces, students were able to visualize and understand the structure of elements, molecules, compounds, and mixtures. We also were able to complete our “elephant toothpaste” demonstration, separating molecules using hydrogen peroxide and soap. Students also made their own “goo” with properties of both a liquid and a solid.

Latin

- This week it was all about prepositions. Student teams were challenged to come up with as many Latin prepositional phrases as possible in a limited amount of time.

Music

- We began class with reciting our weekly praise verse and moved on to our history of hymns based on, “Now Thank We All Our God.” Our lesson was based on the life and history of Antonin Dvorak, and we practiced singing the music we will sing with all the students for Bradford Night. We finished class playing, “Ode To Joy,” together on our recorders.

Art

- In art this week we used colored pencils to draw a 3D apple, learning about and practicing blending, color mixing, and using colors to shade.

P.E.

- No P.E. this week due to preparations for Bradford Night.

Memory Work:

- Psalm 23: 1-6
- I Cor. 13: 1-13

5th Grade (Ms. Windes)

Language Arts

- Reading: The highlight of reading this week was of course preparing for and enjoying Hobbit Day! Thank you all for all that you did to make the day so full of Hobbit-y experiences, celebrating the things hobbits love best: food, good company, and good cheer. We finished *The Hobbit on Hobbit Day*, watching *Bilbo make the return journey with Gandalf a very different hobbit than the*



From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

one who began the journey mourning his lost pocket hankie. Although he is relieved to be returning to the Shire, he has found a new courage and confidence through his adventure.

- Writing: The students finished writing their stories, trading with one another to read and practice peer editing.

- Grammar: Carefully reading through bird magazines to find specific sentence variations has proven both exciting, but also quite challenging. The students patiently worked through the articles to find adverb, adjective, preposition, imperative, interrogative, hyperbole and alliteration combinations.

Cutting up the magazines after finding the particular sentences while sitting under the shade trees added to the fun.

Math

- We learned this week about equivalent division problems, finding unknowns in fraction and decimal problems, simplifying decimal numbers, and dividing a decimal number by a whole number.

History

- We have barely begun learning about the formation of the thirteen colonies this week! After reviewing the colonies we have already studied, we learned more about the founding groups and way of life in each of the thirteen colonies.

- Upcoming: Thursday, 11/16, 13 Colonies Test

Science:

- We are getting deeper into our study of the periodic table; this week we learned about the rows and columns, as well as the division of metals and nonmetals; students also reviewed electron shells and began learning about the different groups of the periodic

table.

Latin

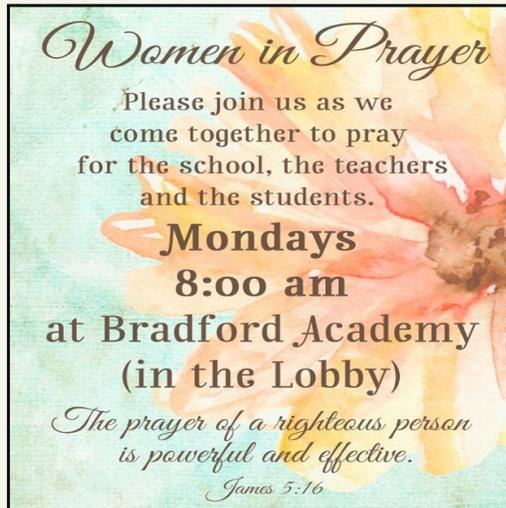
- The students had a review week this week, practicing using vocabulary in translations and verb tenses in sentences.

Music

- We began class reciting our weekly praise verse and continued with our history of hymns on, "Now Thank We All Our God." Our lesson was based on the life and history of Antonin Dvorak, and we spent the last half of class practicing our music for Bradford Night.

Art

- Our art this week was creating tiny hobbit hole dioramas!



P.E.

- No P.E. this week due to preparations for Bradford Night.

Memory Work:

- This week: Isaiah 40:3-5
- Next week: Is. 40:6-8

6th Grade (Mrs. Garrett)

Language Arts

- *With Lee in Virginia* gets an official news write up! The students offer their critiques as book reviewers of this classic literary work, analyzing four of the characters up close. Practicing the art of summation writing, examining another's work, and defending one's opinions have provided some in depth, focused writing time in class.

- A letter to a relative summarizing the division of the Oregon Country in 1846. Spelling words from both history and science were discussed and tested this week.

From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

Math

- Review for Test 4, as well as investigating Stem and Leaf Plots, Box and Whisker Plots, using formulas, the distributive property, and repeating decimals.

History

- The opening of the Oregon Territory in 1850 reminded the students of the tenuous beginnings of our country, and the sacrifices that many made to share Christ with those they met along the journey westward. The Pony Express and the invention of the transcontinental telegraph were examined as well.

Science

- Scientific method terms such as variable, manipulated variable, responding variable and controlled variable are discussed.
- Students tested hypotheses in class using two pens and a whiteboard, as well as balloons and the ceiling to better understand how to apply many of the scientific method terms.

Latin

- This week we reviewed the use of "chameleon" adjectives along with nouns, besides learning about the present, imperfect, and future tenses of the to be verb.

Music

- We began class reciting our weekly praise verse and continued with our history of hymns on, "Now Thank We All Our God." Our lesson was based on the life and history of Antonin Dvorak, and we spent the last half of class practicing our music for Bradford Night.

Art

- Mimicking the colors of Leonardo Da Vinci using watercolors. Noticing the exact hue in contrast to the colors surrounding has proven quite challenging for the class. The students are patiently choosing various color combinations to create works of beauty.

P.E.

- No P.E. this week due to preparations for Bradford Night.

Memory Work:

- *Flander's Fields*
- I John 1-2:6
- *If by Kipling*
- *God's Handiwork Song*

LOGIC & RHETORIC SCHOOL

Mr. Hamilton

7th Grammar/Comp

- This week we returned to grammar study, focusing on indirect objects, more practice with sentence labeling, and more work with editing. It was nice to see the 7th graders remember Shurley grammar jingles from previous years and put those into practice!

7th Omnibus

- We are continuing in Herodotus this week, and we are reading of how Persia rose to the top of the ancient world through the influence of notable powerful figures such as Darius, and through the brutal subjugation of lesser empires, who fell, often enough, through the personal moral failures and treachery of those under them. Next up is the Persian conquest of Ionia, which will lead, unbeknownst to Persia, to the birth of Western Civilization!

9th Logic

- This week we are seeking to become familiar with the rules of replacement.

9th History

- In history class this week we are discussing the scientific revolution of the early modern period. In particular, we are seeking to apply to us today the fascinating question of to what degree the demise of the Catholic Church and Christian misconceptions of science and philosophy

From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

led to the Enlightenment. This has been an important and productive discussion thus far.

9th Literature

- In our literature class we are reading through the Federalist and Anti-Federalist papers, the debates which took place before our current constitution was adopted. On the one hand are the Federalists, who wish for a strong, central government and union, and on the other are the Anti-Federalists, who, in many cases, preferred the confederation approach, in which individual states held more sovereignty. These readings have helped us a great deal to understand the ongoing debate over Federal and States' rights, which, although settled definitively in many ways after the Civil War, continues to be a pressing question, especially in light of the increasingly intrusive moral legislation of our federal government.

9th Theology

- We are studying theology in conjunction with literature class this week, applying the questions raised in our readings at a deeper level.

Mr. Miller

7th Latin

- This week we continued studying second conjugation verbs and also introduced the perfect tense.

8th Omnibus

- After orienting ourselves to the many characters and plot of *The Song of Roland*, we are enjoying the journey through another epic story of heroes and battles, learning along the way what a true hero looks like. We have also enjoyed diving into some deep theological waters in Augustine's autobiography, *Confessions*, wherever his heartfelt prayers to God get formulated as deep questions about himself and the world.

8th Logic

- This week we were introduced to categorical statements and the square of opposition.

10th Literature

- The students are enjoying reading aloud and acting out (sometimes) Euripides' play *The Bacchae*.

10th History

- This week we discussed the all-important "intellectual virtues" in Aristotle's system of ethics, "prudence" and "wisdom," in the process learning more about his view of the soul, different types of reasoning, and the distinction between universals and particulars.

10th Rhetoric

- This week was devoted to a refresher course on formal logic (especially categorical syllogisms) and fallacies in an effort to make our rhetoric more logical and, thus, our arguments stronger and more effective.

Mrs. Frueh

7th Grade Science:

- We completed our first chapter in our unit on the Celestial Sphere. The students took a test on Thursday that covered a broad understanding of the structure of our solar system, the classification and arrangement of the planets, the history of the geocentric and heliocentric models, and an in-depth study of our sun. We were all amazed at the perfection of God's creation and the gift he gave us in our sun, without which we would not have food, liquid water, or energy to provide for our needs.
- We will dive into a detailed study of all the planets in our solar system next week.

8th Grade Science:

- This week was spent familiarizing ourselves with the periodic table of the elements and learning to distinguish between the different variations we find in atoms,

LOVE YOUR CHILD?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hard or do parents have to “override their preferences” as Chua suggests? Proverbs 22:15 reminds us that foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child but faithful loving discipline and correction can bring about change.

- 3) **Does a strict and disciplined lifestyle indicate a lack of love for our children?** On the contrary, Prov. 13:24 indicates that neglecting discipline is a demonstration of a lack of love.
- 4) **Should we therefore continually push our children?** It seems there is a balance to be maintained. *Ephesians 6:4* “Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” *Colossians 3:21* “Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.” Additionally, we all have different talents and gifts that should be considered (Matt. 25:14-30 & Rom. 12:3-8).
- 5) **Is success (or excellence) our highest goal?** No. Our highest goal is the glory of God. While excellence is to be desired, it can (along with success and achievement) become idolatry. We need to guard against a lack of diligence but at the same time not make diligence itself our god.

If you happen to read these articles, I hope you'll be encouraged to persevere in the difficult task of parenting. We all can expect more from our children. Who is sufficient for this daunting responsibility? Let us all continue to pray for one another for the necessary wisdom. (**Phil. 4:13**)

Peace and Grace!

TIGER MOTHER LINKS

Why Chinese Mothers are Superior :

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704111504576059713528698754.html>

New Yorker:

<http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/evanosnos/2011/01/chinese-daughters-and-amy-chua.html>

Author responds to questions:

<http://blogs.wsj.com/ideas-market/2011/01/13/the-tiger-mother-responds-to-readers/>

Daughter's response:

http://www.nypost.com/p/entertainment/why_love_my_strict_chinese_mom_uUvfmLcA5eteY0u2KXt7hM

including isotopes and ions. Students should know how to use the atomic number, mass number, and charge of an atom to determine the number of protons, neutrons, and electrons.

- As we move on to a detailed study of the periodic table, students should be prepared for daily periodic table quizzes for the rest of the quarter. Also, if students have colored pencils and a hand-sharpener, they should bring these items to class each day.

Mrs. Orlowski

7th Pre-Algebra

- This week we reviewed multiplying and dividing mixed numbers and order of operations with fractions and mixed numbers. We learned what a radical expression is and what all of its parts are called (radicand, index, root and radical sign) and how to simplify it. We ended the week with a fun activity to learn how to calculate volume of a right solid. Make sure your children brush their teeth tonight!

- Test Monday 11/20

8th Algebra I

- We started the week with calculating the least common multiple of algebraic expressions, then using it to add rational expressions with unequal denominators. We reviewed range, median, mode and mean. We ended the week with conjunctions of inequalities.

- Test Monday 11/20

Mrs. Fairchild

7th/8th P.E.:

- We've started developing football skills. At this time we are focusing on footwork.

9th/10th P.E.:

- Last week we took a field trip to a high ropes course. The students were did a great job and learned many valuable lessons while developing agility and

From the Teacher's Desk (Continued)

balance skills.

7th Art

- Students have just started their architectural drawings. Precision in measuring lines is key!

8th Art

- The class began their pen and ink portraits of a famous historical figure. They are applying all that they have learned from the other exercises and using it in this project.

Mrs. Gregory

7th and 8th Music

- We began class reciting our weekly praise verse, and spent some time listening to the music of Dvorak. We had a history of hymns based on the hymns, "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow," and "Now Thank We All Our God."

Our lesson was based on the history and life of Antonin Dvorak, and we spent the rest of class focusing on practicing our Christmas music for the coming programs.

Mrs. Byrd

9th/10th Algebra 2

- We are continuing to develop our understanding of the inverse nature of radicals and exponents and using these relationships to help solve problems. After the holiday, we will work on our second quarter project which presents a real world problem that requires solving simultaneous systems of equations.

Mrs. Dovan

9th Spanish 1

- This week we have practiced using multiple verbs in one sentence and saying numbers from 100 to 1,000,000. (Big numbers are a mouthful



in Spanish!) As we move into next week, we will be collecting our first adjectives and learning how to properly modify our nouns as well as gaining vocabulary to talk about our family. Students can expect a vocabulary quiz on people words on Friday.

10th Spanish 2

- Now that we have learned all of Unit 6 vocabulary, we are ready to connect these words into meaningful sentences with Unit 6 grammar. We are in process of learning some new verbs (like saber and conocer), and I will introduce indirect object pronouns next week. We will have a quiz on Santiago (James) 1:2, saber and

conocer on Wednesday.

