

# BRADFORD BULLETIN

BRADFORD ACADEMY'S PARENT UPDATE

## CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT JESUS JESUS IS ABOUT HOPE

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

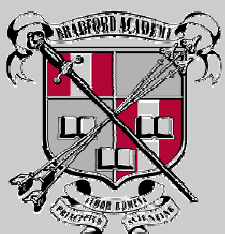
#### • Christmas Break

Dec. 21st— Jan. 4th

**NOTE:** School resumes on Monday, January 7th.

### PRAYER

- **Safety and Peace:** While we do everything we can to keep our children safe, ultimately it is the Lord who is our rock and our stronghold. Pray that he would keep Bradford Academy a peaceful place to train our children.
- **First things first!** - Pray that we would always seek the glory of Christ in our work. Our priority is for love to God and one another!
- Please pray for spiritual fruit among our students.
- Please pray for the leadership as we make plans for the future of the school. Including:
  - Development
  - Facility Needs
  - Middle School
  - High School



One of the reasons we make old traditional hymns a priority is that we love the rich theological content and the connection it gives us to our own heritage. These are the songs we have been singing for generations. What will become of us when we can no longer sing with understanding...

God rest ye merry, gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember, Christ, our Savior  
Was born on Christmas day  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray  
O tidings of comfort and joy...

What kind of Christians will fill our churches if we don't understand these words from "Hark, the Herald Angels"?

"...Veiled in flesh the God-head see;  
Hail th' Incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel..."

Our children are the future of our nation and will be the leaders (and voters) when we are old. What kind of nation can we expect if our children stop singing the last two verses of "Joy to the World!"?

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found...

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

When we lose the true glory of Christmas, we lose the only real hope there is for our fallen race. Humanity, without Christ, will continue to sink into barbarism and despair. But God who is rich in

mercy has not abandoned us.

We are reminded Lord's day by Lord's day that God is still at work. My church is full of people who are hurt and broken (and I suspect yours is too). Sometimes they are that way because of their own sin, sometimes it is because of the sins of others. Never-the-less, SIN is always the root of sorrow. Sin (however defined: disobedience to God, refusing to live according to the Word, unrighteousness, evil, etc.), SIN is our own personal problem and only Jesus can solve that problem.

For those that refuse to go to worship the one true and living God each week, there is still a tradition that points to the Hope. We call it Christmas. Despite every machination of those that hate Christ and war against Christmas, we can still tell our neighbor that Jesus was born to save. That Jesus has demonstrated His power over the winds and storms, over sickness and disease, over corrupt religion and politics, and most importantly over sin and death. He has proven it. So it is quite safe to put your hope in Him. Even in the dark shadows of our recent tragedy, we can and should keep singing...

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Now ye hear of endless bliss  
Jesus Christ was born for this  
He hath ope'd the heav'nly door  
And man is blessed evermore  
Christ was born for this  
Christ was born for this

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
Jesus Christ was born to save  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain His everlasting hall  
Christ was born to save,  
Christ was born to save!

5TH GRADE — MISS WINDES:

**Math:** Review and test.

**History:** We continued studying the first Great Awakening in the colonies and read some of Ben Franklin's account of Whitefield's booming and persuasive voice.

**Grammar:** Practice sentences, writing an introduction, writing a conclusion.

**Writing:** The students added introductions and conclusions to their thirteen colonies essays.

**Art:** Taking a peek into art history, we compared paintings of the virgin and child from the Middle Ages, early, and late Renaissance.

**Verse:** Review.

**3rd/4th Poetry:** We read two of George Herbert's poems about Christmas.

**3rd/4th Art:** We drew buildings composed of 3D shapes, adding shadow and shading where appropriate.

A Merry Christmas to all! I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas as you bask in the immense joy that accompanies the knowledge that the Lord has come to this earth!

3RD GRADE — MR. JOHNSTON:

**Math:** Don't forget to drill those multiplication facts over the break! We looked at finding countries in an atlas using the index and coordinates, continued with symmetry.

**Reading:** We are wrapping up our look at Greek mythology. It has been an exciting and at times a strange journey!

**LATIN:** Be SURE to check out Headventureland.com over the break!

**History:** This week we finished up looking at the Old Roman Republic.

**5th Science:** Considered acids and bases, set up a few experiments to observe after the break: pennies in Coke, eggs in vinegar, and a tooth in Coke. We're wondering what will happen?

I hope all our young scholars can take a few minutes to recharge their batteries and enjoy some special family time! I look forward to seeing you all again in 2013! Merry Christmas!

2ND GRADE — MISS STEVENSON:

**Math:** Drawing pictures and Writing Number Sentences for "Equal-Group" Stories, Estimating Capacity, Locating and Naming Points on a Number Line with a Scale of 10, Drawing a Bar Graph

**History:** Famine in Egypt

**Latin:** Christmas Vocabulary

**Science:** Physical vs. Chemical Changes

Everyone did great this week! We are all very excited for Christmas, but we managed to buckle down and finish up the work that we needed to get done before the break. They deserve some time off and I hope that they all have a wonderful holiday!

1ST — MRS. HICKS:

**Math:** Fractional part of a set, addition facts and adding multiple single digit numbers.

**Phonics:** Review: Digraphs, blends and sentence writing.

**Grammar:** Pronouns and action verbs.

**Spelling:** CH and TCH words.

**Music (1st/2nd):** Singing together and recognizing whole notes.

**Art: (1st/2nd):** Bird sketch.

**History:** The story of the birth of Jesus.

**Verse:** Psalm 1:1-6

First grade enjoyed the Charlotte's Web party and Christmas celebration as well! I hope you all have a blessed holiday season! I will look forward to beginning the new year with your first graders in 2013! Merry Christmas!

K — MRS. MITCHELL:

We have enjoyed a big week of review/assessments. It's been fun to remember back to August and to see all, that by God's grace, we have learned together this year. Today they were to pick their favorite reader to read in groups and one remarked, "I can't choose. I liked them all." What a great problem to have!

We played a game with short vowels where they had a, e, i, and o on their desks. At first I just said words like cat, and they picked out the vowel to show me. They were so good at that that I began to just give hints like this "I'm thinking of something that lives at my house and is furry and purrs when its happy." Then they picked out the short a sound. They ate this up! Try it out.

Our math concepts are building on each other as we begin to tackle the plus 2's, odds and evens. We had fun making lots of number sentences and counting everyone's dime and penny combinations. We also enjoyed the often neglected stories of Simeon and Anna greeting the Messiah. Then we finished out Wednesday with some foot stomping folk music by learning some of the Virginia Reel.

I was so encouraged on Tuesday when everyone finally got to go home with all 4 Smarties. Several children began to praise and encourage those who had struggled to get to this point and they were genuinely happy that everyone received a reward. What a blessing to work with such a sweet group of students. They have worked VERY hard this semester and deserve a well-earned Merry Christmas!