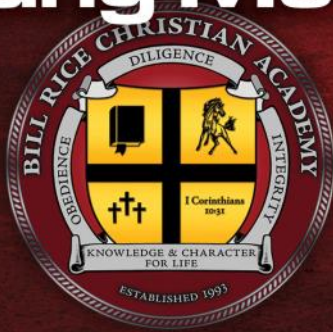


Mustang Message



April 2024

Belly Flopping for the Future By Nathan Reeves

It was June 16, 2022, a Thursday. Mr. Joel Vernon (Natalie & Reid's dad & BRCA's junior guy counselor for our week of camp) was eating lunch on the Patio with the BRCA boys when he thought of a *brilliant* idea. (Can you sense my eyes rolling?) He challenged the group of BRCA campers that if they all went to choir practice that day, Mr. Reeves would do a belly flop on Friday during swim time. Then he looked at me, full of anticipation. How could I say "no"? So right there, with most of my mini-corndogs gone, I agreed to the challenge.

And guess what happened? They all went to choir practice, of course!

Little did they know that swim time got cancelled on Friday, the last day of camp! I was free! So I thought. Well, fast forward fifty-one weeks to last summer when Mr. Vernon & I are at camp for another fun-filled week & guess what he says, out loud, in front of all of this year's group? "Mr. Reeves...you ready for that belly flop?" What?! I can't believe what's happening!

Well, how can I spend ten months doing everything I can to develop these kids' character & go back on my word now? So I say, "Can't wait!?!!" with a hint of nerv-

ousness in my voice. All week I drag my feet. I decide I'll do it on Friday...maybe swim time will be cancelled again! But low & behold, my time comes. To the loud chorus of "belly flop, belly flop..." I fulfill my word with a pretty good splash!

Now why would Mr. Vernon do such a thing? Why would I agree? Well, I don't think we were super intentional about it, but it was actually quite genius. Mr. Vernon gave up something today (actually, he made me do the belly flop, but who's counting?) to gain something for the future (giving the boys the experience of serving God).

This actually describes camp pretty well! Camp will cost you something – money, time, planning, & more. But it will reap dividends in the future – spiritual decisions such as salvation, assurance of salvation, obedience to parents, reading the Bible, being a good friend, & more! In a word, camp is an investment. If we parents are willing to give up something for today & send our kids to camp, our kids will gain something for the future.

So who's doing a belly flop with me this summer?



"If we parents are willing to give up something for today and send our kids to camp, our kids will gain something for the future."

Current Events

Apr. 12 Hawaiian Day

Aloha! Always a favorite, Hawaiian Day is a blast with



many surprises. Elementary parents are welcome to join us for Hawaiian activities in the afternoon. Hope to see you there!



Apr. 13 Bill Rice Ranch Open House

Invite your friends to come out to the Ranch between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to get a

glimpse of what we have to offer. In addition to camp tours, there will also be free hot dogs, pony rides, and inflatables! We hope to see you there!

Apr. 15-16 Iowa Testing

These are important days of standardized testing. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest and a good breakfast.

Apr. 18 Fun Run

We are raising funds to start Phase 2 our new building! Will you reach your family goal? Will we reach our school goal? Let's work hard at getting sponsors & reaching our goals...then get ready to win some AWESOME prizes! The run starts at 1:00 on this day.

Apr. 22-26 Middle School Spirit Week!

Middle School Spirit Week will include a different theme each day and lots of excitement! Come ready to show off all of your school and team spirit and earn lots of team points!!!



Apr. 27 Day of Champions

All 7th-12th graders are invited to attend an action-packed day of sports tournaments and Bible preaching. If you know someone who would be interested, please see Mr. Reeves for more info.



Thanks for Your Support

Thank you to all those who have used your Kroger cards & mentioned your phone number at Publix. We have received hundreds of dollars from these programs this year. If you have a Kroger card, be sure to link it to BRCA; if you shop at Publix, be sure to sign up online and mention your phone number each time you shop. If you have any questions, just refer to our website.

Ranch Workday

Dads...we need your help! The Bill Rice Ranch Workday is the best way for BRCA dads to lend a hand. The workday will be **Saturday, May 11**. We will start with breakfast at 7:30 and then begin working on projects around the Ranch to help us get ready for summer camp. Lunch will end the day at 12:30. We had a good group last year, but this year I hope to have the best year yet! If you are interested, please let Mr. Reeves know.

Book of the Month by Nathan Reeves

Screens and Teens by Kathy Koch

Main Idea: Because we've seen BRCA 1st graders with their own smartphone, this book is not just for parents of teens! In most homes (Christian or not), screen time has surpassed family time. This book is full of biblical principles & practical ideas that will help parents help their kids with technology.

Favorite Quote: "Teens have relationship-based beliefs. Adults usually have belief-based relationships." Think about that!



#PixOfTheMonth



Spring Retreats



Elementary Students of the Month

Emily Poplar: Emily has been diligent on her seatwork papers all month! She carefully finishes them and does her very best on them each day. In class, she is diligent to always pay attention. Way to go, Emily!

Londyn Lofton: Londyn diligently does her very best on her seatwork. She finishes games at recess and doesn't give up. Keep up the hard work, Londyn!

Eliana Menjivar: Eliana worked hard to show diligence this month. If she started something, like seatwork, she made sure to do her very best to finish it. She showed diligence when doing her room jobs by doing them right the first time.

Claudine Joseph: Claudine has been very diligent this month! She makes sure her writing is nice and neat, never sloppy. She works hard to keep her desk and the area around her neat.

Ramsey Elias: Ramsey is an extremely diligent student! She works hard to do her papers correctly the first time and takes the time to ask questions rather than guess the answers.

Sloan Devericks: Sloan is consistently diligent! She takes time on every paper to use good penmanship while working at a speed that allows her to complete her papers.

Olivia Grover: Olivia has shown amazing diligence this year! She works hard every day. She does her work well and is quick to fix things until the job is done. Proud of you, Olivia!

Meila Uhl: I can always count on Meila to work hard and want to do her best. She does a great job of trying to find ways to do better. Meila encourages other students to do their best by staying focused. Way to go, Meila!

Amanda Plaza: Amanda has a hard-working spirit and is diligent to do her best in all she does. She is faithful to get her work done in a timely fashion and is thorough in her jobs. Way to go, Amanda!

Character Trait of the Month:

KINDNESS

Definition: having goodness of nature; friendliness.

Examples:

1. Find one person each day to compliment.
2. At recess, play with someone you usually do not play with.

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Middle School Student Highlight with Lance Wells

Miss Perkins: Tell me about yourself—what are your favorite things to do?

Lance: I enjoy playing chess and being outside. I also can do a backflip!

Miss Perkins: What is your favorite thing about your parents?

Lance: They plan fun things throughout the year for us to do as a family.

Miss Perkins: What do you most like about Middle School at BRCA?

Lance: We include everyone in whatever we're doing and we have a lot of fun!

Miss Perkins: What do you like most about your teachers?


Lance: They are great teachers—they keep things interesting in class which helps us learn.


Miss Perkins: What do you hope to do when you grow up?

Lance: I would like to be a professional football player.



Middle School Teams

 = 3,121

 = 3,270

 = 3,433