

# MUSTANG MESSAGE



February  
2025



## Participation Trophies by Nathan Reeves

Did you ever earn a trophy growing up? I mean really earned it. Maybe your basketball team won the state championship. To get there, it took hours upon hours of hard work – running to get into shape, shooting free throws, one-on-one drills, shooting free throws, blocking out drills, shooting free throws, full-court press drills, shooting free throws, triangle & two drills, and more shooting free throws. The struggle doesn't always result in winning championships, but this one time it did. And, boy was it rewarding to hold that trophy!

Today, everyone gets a trophy. When this happens, the trophy is meaningless. In other words, if everyone is a winner, then no one is. Unless there's a struggle to earn the trophy, it is meaningless. It means very little or nothing at all. By doing the hard things (struggling) & refusing to give up, we gain meaning. We gain character.

When my basketball team won the state championship my junior year of high school, I kept my piece of the net & my shoes for years (until my lovely wife threw them away 10 years later!). For most kids who are handed a participation trophy, it reminds me of Christmas stocking stuffers. It is nice to look at for a day, but that's about it. Nobody (& I mean nobody) has a trophy case for their participation trophies!

Struggle is not bad. **As parents, we need to be wise enough to allow struggle.** Our children will struggle the rest of their lives, even when dad and mom are not so close. So if you help them through their 2nd grade struggles, they'll be better prepared for their 3rd grade struggles, and one day they'll be prepared for life's struggles.

So what's your child struggling with right now? Do you feel it's your duty to separate them from all struggle? In doing so, we are preparing future adults to expect to have things handed to them. Instead, determine to prepare them beforehand, guide them through the process, and teach them life lessons along the way. Determine to lean into struggle and ditch the participation trophies.

# CURRENT EVENTS

## Feb. 7 Spirit Day

This is the day to wear all things BRCA! Get your Merch Store orders in now!

## Feb. 7 Middle School Bible Collating

This day is filled with service, fun, and collating Bibles! We want our students to know that serving God can be fun!

## Feb. 13-14 TACS District Competition

Please pray for our students as they compete against hundreds of other Christian students in the Nashville area. Check back later to see how we did!

## Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Parties

You can't beat fun and food in the afternoon! Don't forget your Valentine's Day cards. We sent home a class list so no one will be left out, and some parents will be asked to bring in food or drinks. This is for Elementary students only.

## Feb. 17 President's Day

School starts at 8:00, and all students will be dismissed at 11:30.

## Feb. 28 Dr. Seuss Day (K4-2)

K4-2nd grade students can dress up as a Dr. Seuss character of their choice. It's going to be a fun day!

## Feb. 28 Crazy Hat Day (3-8)

Pick a hat & add some craziness to it!

# COMING SOON

## Mar. 14 Elementary Fieldtrip

Our Elementary students will be headed to the Wonders Center & Science Museum in Dixon, TN.

## Bill Rice Ranch 101

Last time we mentioned that the Ranch is people, but to sum up the Ranch in two words it would be the words "revival work." On staff are several evangelists that travel each week during the school year to different churches from Alaska to Florida. While there, they hold revival services each night of the week, where many are saved and even more Christians are helped by the Bible. Occasionally, we will hold area-wide revival crusades. This is where the Ranch will enter a city, and 8-10 churches will gather each night in a school gym to hear the preaching. These usually last eight days, and they are a way to reach more people at one time. This is really the underlying objective of the Bill Rice Ranch - we desire to obey the Lord in sharing the Gospel to everyone we can. This is also done through summer camp, retreats, our literature and music, and even at BRCA. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15) Bill Rice Ranch equals "revival work."

### ATTENTION 2ND-8TH GRADERS

Don't forget to register for camp by February 28 to save \$20! Our week is June 9-13, and we have around 100 students who can come this year! Students will get to see the Reeves and several of the teachers throughout camp. A registration form will be sent home soon.

FOR SALE



Just \$18!

May 16-17

## FATHER & SON ADVENTURE



Speaker: Evangelist Will Rice IV

Cost \$50 per person  
\*Save \$10 if registered by May 9

## SPRING RETREATS

Attention All Youth Workers and Pastors!  
Mark your calendar for this all-day teen event.

## DAY OF CHAMPIONS

BILL RICE RANCH

Cost: \$30  
breakfast & lunch included!

★ APRIL 26, 2025 ★  
Tournaments • Activities • Preaching • Fellowship



# PIX OF the MONTH



Character Trait of the Month  
**DISCERNMENT**

**Definition:** making right choices without hope of reward or fear of punishment

**Examples:**

- 1. When facing a tough decision, pause and ask God to help you choose correctly.**
- 2. On the playground, choose to play right no matter what.**

## Middle School Student Highlight with Caleb Hill

**Miss Williams:** What is your favorite thing to do?

**Caleb:** I enjoy playing football, rock climbing, and building legos.

**Miss Williams:** What is your favorite thing about your family?

**Caleb:** Anytime I need help they are there for me. Always willing to help me when they see me struggling.

**Miss Williams:** What do you like most about your teachers?

**Caleb:** Just like my family, my teachers are always willing to help me.

**Miss Williams:** What is your favorite thing about Middle School at BRCA?

**Caleb:** A few of my favorites are that we are split up into Middle School teams, the mascots we have on each team are fun, and I really enjoy the wheel spins!

**Miss Williams:** What do you hope to do when you grow up?

**Caleb:** I would like to either be a professional rock climber or join the United States Air Force.



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

**Jayda Johnson:** Jayda has shown responsibility all month long by completing her work daily, helping others in class, and always doing her best every day! Jayda, I am so proud of your hard work!

**Fallon Gale:** Fallon has been responsible for doing her homework, doing room job, and other responsibilities. She does her best each day. Keep up the good work!

**Letty Ford:** Letty has shown a strong sense of responsibility all year long. She consistently stays focused on everything asked of her, and she takes accountability for all her actions with meekness.

**Ethan Traugher:** Ethan Traugher is a great example of responsibility! He does not need reminders to focus, do right, or turn in homework. He is a consistently reliable student in every situation!

**Sawyer Davis:** Sawyer has shown great responsibility in many areas! He faithfully remembers his homework work assignment and to have his planner signed. Sawyer also shows responsibility in keeping his desk neat and doing his room job. Way to go, Sawyer!

**Oliver McConnell:** Oliver has shown good responsibility. He gets his homework done on time and takes care of classroom jobs. I really appreciate that if he makes a mistake, he doesn't try to blame others for it.

**Keegan Merkler:** Keegan has really stepped up in responsibility this year. Both at home and at school he has proven to be dependable and hardworking! Keep it up, Keegan!



**1334**



**1613**



**1574**

