

MUSTANG MESSAGE



November
2025



Jack of All Trades (Part 2)

by Nathan Reeves

BRCA is not a “Jack of All Trades” school. We do not dabble in what we can only pretend to be good at. We believe knowledge and character are very important to God, and, therefore, we focus on these two areas. As mentioned last month, knowledge is both biblical and academic. The Bible is taught and applied throughout each day at BRCA, and our skilled teachers know how to use the most rigorous curriculum written – *Abeka*. Our students receive an excellent education. But this month, we will look at what might separate us from other academically strong schools – our Character Development Program.

At BRCA, we define character as doing what’s right, even when it’s hard. We aim to instill in our students a desire to do the right thing (if everyone is looking or if no one is), and “right” is dictated by the principles outlined in the Bible. We have chosen nine character traits to teach throughout the year – one per month and then built upon. These traits are modeled, taught, and rewarded consistently at BRCA.

While there are more character traits that will be taught, we narrowed it down to the most important nine. In September, we taught **OBEDIENCE**. Obedience is action brought about by submission to authority and simply involves following directions and rules immediately, completely, and happily. October’s trait was **RESPECT** – to honor or to have consideration for. We hope to instill manners like speaking to adults when spoken to (with eye contact), saying “Yes, ma’am”, not interrupting, proper table manners, and saying “Pardon me” instead of “What?” or “Huh?”, to name a few. **THANKFULNESS** is outwardly expressing gratefulness. Students should say “Thank you” every time they are given something and “No, thank you” when they do not take it. **INTEGRITY** would include telling the truth even if facing trouble, not exaggerating to friends, and obeying the spirit of the law (not just the letter). **RESPONSIBILITY** is being accountable for your actions and fulfilling your duties (e.g., do what you say, don’t make excuses, make work a priority, etc.). Making right choices is **DISCERNMENT**, and involves asking God to help you choose wisely when it comes to situations such as when the teacher is out of the room or when something does not go your way. **DILIGENCE** includes being thorough in classwork, homework, and room jobs. Showing **KINDNESS** involves giving compliments to others, playing with someone you do not normally play with, and greeting classroom guests. And finally, **SERVICE** means selflessly helping others. Students should be constantly offering help to teachers and other students. This is the last one because after years of training, service is the direction that teenagers should be taught to go.

It may take several years before these traits become our students’ traits, but by God’s grace, in conjunction with each parent, it can happen. The desire to do right must be planted and grown from the time your child is young and throughout adolescence. **Our goal for training character is to produce young people who desire to do right on their own by obeying God’s principles.**

CURRENT EVENTS

Nov. 17-21 Good Shepherd Children's Home Food Drive

Use this opportunity to teach your child about giving. Let's be a HUGE encouragement to the children and staff at the children's home this year!

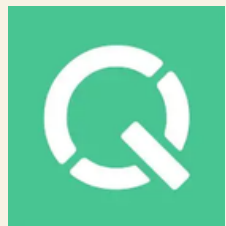
Nov. 21 Spirit Day

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

Nov. 25 Middle School Team Parent Day

Parents come and meet our middle schoolers, eat lunch with your child, participate in a team meeting and experience a wheel spin (maybe even a jacket ceremony)!

Helpful Family Apps



If you don't have parental controls on the devices in your home, you might be too late. This is something we recommend for all families. **Qustodio** helps parents control screen time, games, and adult content. This app does cost \$4.58/month, but it's one of the best types of apps you can have. Even if you don't get Qustodio, please get some sort of parental control app.



Echo is a prayer app that allows you to create (& shuffle) a prayer list.

It even can remind you throughout the week to pray for specific requests. It's simple & free!



Verses provides an excellent way to memorize Scripture. It incorporates a variety of memory techniques & encourages you to start & maintain memory streaks. The app starts at \$4.99.



Don't forget your Mustang merch!



Quicken is a simple, yet powerful, budgeting app. This app allows you to track all spending, set goals for saving, & tell your money exactly where to go! The app has many plans options depending on your needs starting at \$5.99/month.

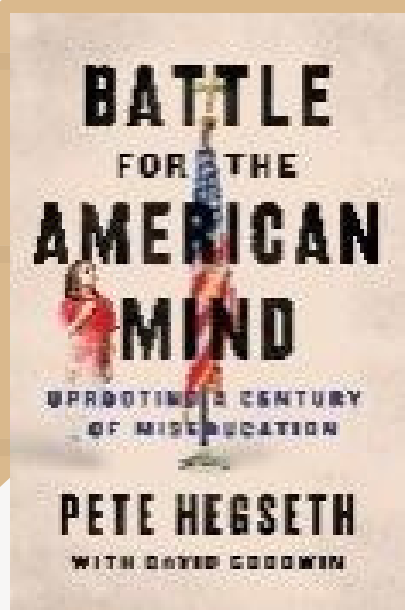
Book of the Month by Nathan Reeves

Battle for the American Mind by Pete Hegseth (Secretary of War)

Main Idea: American progressives (liberals) of the late 19th & early 20th centuries saw education as a vehicle to change society, one child's mind at a time. Before you ever consider putting your child in a public school, please read this book!

Favorite Quote: In defense of using the public school system to rid America of its Christian paideia, Charles Potter said, "What can theistic Sunday School, meeting for an hour once a week, do to stem the tide of a five day program of humanistic teaching?"

And as always, you are more than welcome to borrow this book from me.



FALL RETREATS





PIX OF the MONTH



Middle School Student Highlight with Keegan Merkler

Miss Blackwell: What is your favorite thing to do?

Keegan: I love to play video games and soccer!

Miss Blackwell: What is your favorite thing about your family?

Keegan: They hang out with me and love to spend time with me!

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

Keegan: They like to make class fun by adding games and make sure we understand our classwork before moving on to the next thing!

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

Keegan: The team meetings and the wheel spin!

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

Keegan: I would like to work with my dad at his business!



Character Trait of the Month

THANKFULNESS

Definition: expressing gratefulness;
outwardly giving thanks!

Examples:

1. Say "Thank you" each time you receive something
2. Never complain.
3. Say "No, thank you" each time you are offered something that you do not take.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Samuel Tate: Sam has shown respect all month long by using "yes ma'am" and "no ma'am", "please" and "thank you"! I am so proud of him and the excellent example he has been in our class.

Lucy Rodden: Lucy uses good manner words without being reminded. She also waits patiently when she needs to talk with me if I am talking to someone else. Thanks for showing respect.

Holly Tawadrous: Holly is sweet and a respectful girl! She responds with a quiet and humble attitude. I am so glad she is in my class.

Stella Nguyen: Stella is an extremely respectful young lady! She has an excellent habit of consistently speaking and acting respectfully to both adults and other children.

Eliana Menjivar: Eliana has been so consistent with respect! From the first day of school, she has remembered to say "yes ma'am", "please", "thank you", and "excuse me". Eliana has also done a great job showing respect to classmates and friends. Way to go!

Rose Dehmlow: Rose shows respect from her firm handshake in the morning to her cheerful "goodbye" in the afternoon to both teachers and classmates.

Esther Shaub: Esther shows good respect. She quickly makes connections with others and strives to be courteous. She has grown so much in this area and that makes us proud.



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