

MUSTANG MESSAGE



March
2026



Prepare the Child, Not the Path

by Nathan Reeves

Have you ever taken a hike with one of your children when they were young? If so, you probably dealt with whining, aches and pains, tripping, falling, and scraped knees (and probably in that order)! More than likely, it took three times longer than if you had gone alone. But you finished, and everyone survived.

Now fast forward several months, and you are about to take another hike with the little (not so) outdoorsman. You remember the struggle and are determined to make this time a little better. What do you do to prepare? Well, you really have only two choices. You can go through the trail an hour before and get rid of all obstacles for your little one—throw all sticks and rocks off the trail, find alternate routes to avoid the steep parts, and eliminate all annoying insects by spraying several bottles worth of 100% DEET bug spray! You might as well take a hike on a treadmill!

The other option is to simply prepare your child for the “adventure” ahead. While this takes some foresight and creativity, it obviously beats option one for you and for your child. It sets their attitude in the right direction and sets them up for success, but best of all, it teaches them that struggle is not a bad thing.

Cary Schmidt says in his book, *Passionate Parenting*, “There are some struggles that our children need as they prepare for adulthood—and wise parents will allow the struggle to prepare the child.” Our children will struggle the rest of their lives, even when dad and mom are not so close by. Like a cocoon prepares the butterfly, a godly parent will prepare their child early in life.

So what is your child struggling with right now? Do you swoop in every time to rescue them? Do you feel it is your duty to separate them from all struggle? In doing so, we are preparing future adults to have soft hands in a rough world. Instead, determine to prepare them beforehand, guide them through the process, and teach them life lessons along the way. Determine to prepare your child, not their path.

CURRENT EVENTS

Mar. 4 The Amazing Shake

The Amazing Shake is a social etiquette competition where BRCA uses local community leaders to test students on professional skills such as charm, poise, & the perfect handshake.

Mar. 13 Elementary Fieldtrip

Our Elementary students will be headed to the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga, TN.

Mar. 16 Fun Run Kick Off

We kick-off this year's fundraiser on this day, so be on the lookout for all the details, and be ready to win some prizes!



Mar. 16 Report Cards

Report cards are emailed home this day. So check your inbox!

Mar. 16 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Come to see how your child has done this quarter and how they can improve for the final quarter.

Mar. 23-24 IOWA Testing

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

Mar. 26-27 TACS State Competition

Will be at Franklin Road Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. Each student competing in state competition will be charged \$10 per category. More information to come soon.

Mar. 30-Apr. 3 Spring Break

Enjoy the week off with your family. School will resume on Monday, April 6.

Book of the Month

by Nathan Reeves



The One Thing by Gary Keller & Jay Papasan

Main Idea: Speaking of Steve Jobs, the authors said, "In the two years after his return [to Apple] in 1997, he took the company from 350 products to 10." The point is that the less you focus on, the more successful you are at them.

Favorite Quote: "Be like a postage stamp - stick to one thing until you get there." -Josh Billings

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

Headed to State!

Elementary

- 1st - Sloan Devericks (Color Pencil Drawing)
- 2nd - Karter Greene (Bible Sword Drill)
- 2nd - Heidi Goddard (Ink Drawing)
- 2nd - Lyndon Rodden (Spelling Bee)

Middle School

- 1st - Caleb Hill (Bible Sword Drill)

High School

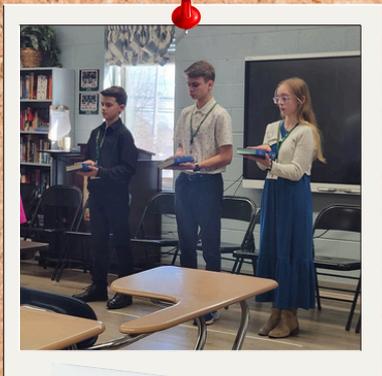
- 1st - Valentine Dallas (Spelling Bee)



SPRING RETREATS



PIX OF the MONTH



Middle School Student Highlight with Michael Traugher

Miss Blackwell: What is your favorite thing to do?

Michael Traugher: I like being outside.

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

Michael: They provide for me and take care of me.

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

Michael: They are really good at explaining the material we are learning.

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

Michael: Definitely how BRCA combines both character and competition.

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

Michael: I hope to be a police officer.

Character Trait of the Month

DILIGENCE

Definition: steady application; not giving up

Description: faithful, careful, hardworking

Examples:

1. Be thorough. Do everything (seatwork, homework, & room job) right the first time.
2. If you start a game at recess and don't like it, finish it anyway.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Annabelle Coogler: Annabelle has made wise choices all month long! I am so proud of her discernment in the classroom and on the playground. She has been an excellent example of doing right. Way to go, Annabelle!

Emmie Joe: Emmie Joe aims to please by making right choices. She has appropriate conversations and is kind to her classmates. Way to show discernment!

Zoel Woods: Zoel is a discerning young lady! She consistently makes good choices to obey, honor, and work hard. Keep it up, Zoel!

Danny Crowder: Danny has a habit of using good discernment! He is quick to tell the teacher if he makes a mistake, and he does very well at thinking before he acts!

Sydney McAndrew: Sydney shows discernment daily at school! She stops and thinks through her actions before jumping into something. Sydney strives to do right no matter who is around. I'm thankful for her good attitude and discerning spirit!

Chloe Fleming: Chloe has shown good discernment this year to make good choices. I can trust her to do right even if have to leave the room. Keep pleasing the Lord, Chloe!

Karter Greene: Karter has shown discernment all year. She learns quickly from mistakes and has good self-control.



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2,667



2,642



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