



Our Mission ~ Bright Futures Christian School exists to glorify God by providing the finest Christian education that nurtures all student growth and development academically, socially, spiritually and physically by providing opportunities through education, guidance, and experience.

Happy New Traditions

Dear Families,

I like the idea each January of starting something new. I may not always make a change, but the new calendar at least gives me an excuse to begin some kind of new routine in life. Generally, I'm not alone. We all make resolutions to do something different or better -- diet, exercises, habits and so on. But wouldn't it be great to make resolutions that would benefit our families or our neighbors?

Are busy schedules making your evenings crazy? How about committing to family dinner together? Need an excuse to get to know your neighbors better? Maybe you could introduce a regularly scheduled family (or multi-family) game night. Is bedtime becoming frazzled and harried? A purposeful plan to start reading to your preschooler nightly could help calm things down a bit. Has ongoing sibling rivalry taken over at the breakfast table? What might result if you began discussing or memorizing a family scripture each week?

January's elementary PRIDE 5 trait is "Encouraging." It's not just an elementary trait, though. As parents we all need to recognize the importance of lifting each other up and being encouraging toward each other. Whether we are "encouraging" our children toward their goals or teaching them the idea of blessing each other with genuine "encouragement," our families can all benefit from implementing this valuable trait. What an amazing example we can give our children (and neighbors) if we truly choose more often to do as this month's Scripture says: "Say only what will build others up and meet their needs" (Ephesians 4:29).

~ *Cindie*

GRACE CHURCH UPCOMING EVENTS

MEN'S BREAKFAST - JAN 14TH AT 7:30AM.

JOIN THEM FOR A GREAT BREAKFAST, MESSAGE AND TIME TO CONNECT WITH OTHER MEN.

WOMEN'S FOUR SEASONS TEA - JAN 31 AT 6:30PM \$5

THIS SPECIAL EVENING WILL INCLUDE DESSERT AND SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER, PAM YOUNG WILL BE SHARING ON "HAPPINESS IS A HABIT" YOU CAN PURCHASE YOUR TICKET IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Calendar Check

* Jan 11 - AUCTION MEETING, 6:30 P.M. at Grace Church

* Jan 16 - NO SCHOOL
MLK Day Observed

* Jan 26 - 2nd/3rd GRADE
CHAPEL PRESENTATION, 1 p.m.

* Jan 26 - SHINING LIGHTS
Meeting, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

* Jan 30 - NO SCHOOL
Teacher In-Service

* Jan 31 - AUCTION DEADLINE
Last day to purchase auction tickets at a reduced price!

* Feb 24 - SNEAK PEEK
New families attending will have the opportunity to register early!!

* Apr 14 - L.I.T.E. AUCTION
5:30 p.m., at Grace Church

Friday, Feb. 24

SNEAK PEEK

Your recommendation is our best advertisement!!

We encourage you to ask families who may be interested in our Bright Futures preschool or elementary school experience!

Invitations coming home at the end of January

Shining Lights Team -- *Be the Salt. Be the Light.*

Proudly, we were able to gather and donate 1566 items for the Treasure House, an interfaith organization that serves the Camas-Washougal area. Thank you for helping us attain such a challenging goal. Our school truly is an amazing, generous group of families!!

NEXT SLT MEETING: THURSDAY, JAN. 26, 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.

FOCUS: Collecting GENTLY USED books to stock bookshelves for a Senior Citizen's Center

Our own Ms. Treese's daughter, Camille, is constructing bookshelves for a local Nursing Home, as her senior project. We'd like to jump on board and put the finishing touches on her contribution to the community by collecting gently used (or new) books to fill the bookshelves! A visit to the senior center will top off this outreach project. Contact Rachael Hallett with questions. (babyposies@hotmail.com)



Preschool Points

Spanish

This month the Pre-K students will focus on letters H, J, K, and L. We will be reading one of my favorite books, *Froggy Se Viste*, which will spring board us into our study of names for clothing articles in Spanish. We will also be working on numbers 1-20, and learning to share how they are feeling using some common emotion words.

If Santa forgot your subscription to the Ana Lomba fairytales, you can still subscribe and use my affiliate code:

<http://analomba.com/products/go.php?r=4>

¡Prospero año! ~ *Maestra Jessi*

Dance

This month, ask your preschooler about these fun dance "moves" we will be learning while we concentrate on flexibility: crab walks, bear walks, log rolls, somersaults, wheelbarrow walks, and frog jumps. Also, please no jeans on dance days (dress to stretch).

Thanks! ~ *Mrs. Silva*

Making Music

Believe it or not, Winter Weather makes a great "music" topic! We have learned about the coyote, chickadee, cardinal and squirrel and the sounds they make in nature. Re-creating these sounds is so fun for our classes! Preschoolers enjoy moving the scarves as the "winter wind" blows! (See the pictures from music?) ~ *Mrs. Suarez*



Spotlight: Mrs. Treese's Encouraging Elephants

This afternoon pre-K class meets 5 days a week, and they are currently discovering things associated with a Winter Theme. They recently enjoyed experimentation with pretend "snow" in the classroom (shaving cream).

Students in this class regularly practice writing their numbers. I have introduced a "challenge" to the kids: write the numbers 1-10 in sequential order without my yellow-highlighted hint. The students are really stepping up to this fun challenge!

The responsibility of bringing the Share Bag back to school has been a huge classroom success. These students are taking the initiative in asking other children questions, which helps develop their skills in turn-taking, listening and responding, not to mention the strengthening of each child's self-esteem.

The Elephants continue to practice sounding out letters of the alphabet in games and during writing times. The children also practice writing upper and lower case letters independently. I am proud to mention that each of my Elephants is writing his or her own name! ~ *Ms. Treese*



Auction Action Items

The auction committee is working hard to plan our school's biggest event of the year...the 7th Annual L.I.T.E Auction scheduled for April 14th at Grace Foursquare Church! Please review the bullets below for the latest information regarding the auction:

* Have you purchased your tickets yet? If not, tickets are still available. Don't miss the early bird special...tickets prices are currently \$39 pp/\$312 for a table of eight until January 31st. Starting in February, ticket prices increase to \$49 pp/\$392 table. Tickets can be purchased at www.brightfuturesonline.org.

* Each family is responsible for procuring TWO items for the auction. **NEW THIS YEAR: Auction items are due by January 31st!** If your item(s) will not be ready by January 31st, please hand in a procurement form and



indicate when your item will be delivered to the school. For more information regarding family procurement, please refer to the procurement packet that was sent home in November, talk to you child's room mom, or contact Trisha Brotherton or Tracy Tetro.

* The next auction meeting is scheduled for **January 11th at 6:30 PM** at Grace Foursquare Church. Please join us if you are interested in lending a hand!

Elementary Update

CHAPEL CHATTER

* We appreciate the worshipful music and movement presented by elementary classes at the end of December. Nicely done!!

* Special Thanks to Sarah Higley for sharing during chapel about her summer trip to Nepal.

* January's P.R.I.D.E. 5 trait will be "E" for Encouraging

* Mrs. Boyles will be kicking off this month's Chapel focus: Self-Control

* Jan. 26 - Mrs. Humber's class will teach us about and help us celebrate "Festival of Purim"

Dance

Mrs. Humber's and Mrs. Schlauch's classes did an amazing job performing their dances at the last chapel of 2011! I am so proud of each student; they took the stage with poise and pride at all they had accomplished. We will continue to work on our technique while adding in various skills, putting an emphasis on flexibility. I am already thinking ahead to our Spring dance performance.
~Mrs. Silva

Music & Piano

MUSIC:

* Kindergarteners' Music in Nature study begins to focus on The Woodlands this month.

* Continuing our study of the music and culture of the British Isles, our 1st - 5th classes are learning about Ireland. We learned a "jig" last week, as well as began our introduction to the types of instruments they use.

PIANO:

Lessons are starting back up! Our goal is to finish up a unit before spring break! Be looking for an incentive to come home in an email from me.

~ Ms. Idsinga

P.R.I.D.E. 5 JANUARY TRAIT: #5 "ENCOURAGING"

"Don't let any evil talk come out of your mouths. Say only what will help to build others up and meet their needs. Then what you say will help those who listen." Ephesians 4:29

S The elementary students will be learning common question words and phrases in Spanish. Additionally, our vocabulary unit will focus on the parts of the body and numbers 11 through 100. They will be writing daily in their new "Cuadernos" in addition to their vocabulary workbooks. The "Cuadernos," will strengthen and expand their knowledge of Spanish grammar as well as contain a calendar component. When students have had the opportunity to present their "Brilla, Brilla," books, they will finally be going home for you to keep!

If Santa forgot your subscription to the Ana Lomba fairytales, you can still subscribe and use my affiliate code: <http://analomba.com/products/go.php?r=4>

¡Prospero año! ~ Maestra Jessi

P. The Bright Futures Lion Pride continues to march on. The elementary school has now run 284 miles since the beginning of school. What an amazingly fit bunch of students we have! They should be very proud of their accomplishments this year.

E. The K-1 students have finished a bean bag unit in which skills such as throwing, catching, and balancing have been stressed. These are all important gross motor skills. The 2-5 students finished their football unit. The skills stressed were: passing, receiving, pitching, and dodging.

This month the K-1 students will be participating in a parachute unit, and the 2-5 students will be learning volleyball skills. Our health content for all grades will be flexibility and its importance to overall fitness. ~ Mr. Burnham

Focus on Mrs. Silva's AM Kindergarten Class

Our AM kindergartners have been very busy! I was very proud of my students and how well they sang in the Christmas program. They practiced many hours!

As a highlight to our year, we enjoy working with Mrs. Humber's 2nd and 3rd graders, as well as Mrs. Schlauch's 4th and 5th graders this year. Last month, we made cookie ornaments for our parents with Mrs. Humber's class, and we wrote letters to Santa with Mrs. Schlauch's class! These kindergartners enjoy the focused learning time spent with the older students, who have helped us learn a lot.

Our kindergartners continue to work hard on learning to read, write and calculate. This month we will be working with three themes: mittens, snow, and penguins. Plus, we will take time to learn about the great leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. I will be watching for "ENCOURAGING" behavior in my students and giving out paw prints for this month's "PRIDE 5" character trait! ~ Mrs. Silva



Christmas Production Photos



Preschool - 1st grade - Jan. Snack

Family Name	"Storable"	"Fresh"
Jan 3: A-C	Ritz, Wheat Thins, Cheese Sticks	Bananas or Apples
Jan 9: D-I	Graham Crackers, Cheez-Its, Go-gurts	Oranges or Grapes
Jan 17: J-R	Vanilla Wafers Goldfish, String Cheese	Bananas or Apples
Jan 23: S-Z	Cheerios, Pretzels or Go-gurts	Oranges or Grapes

Please LABEL snacks with YOUR FAMILY NAME.

www.brightfuturesonline.org ~ 360-833-0558
info@brightfuturesonline.org



**Keep those
 Box Tops
 coming!!**