

As you read how the mission at BCS is impacting the lives of students in this issue, please do so with wonder for God's enormous and continuous provision for this school. The Gala Auction held on March 16th, raised approximately \$500,000 (matching gifts are still coming in). Through the generosity of many in this community, BCS continues its work of bringing a Christian worldview to *all* learning, in and through students who are image-bearers of God. It is a privilege to work alongside families, students, staff, and faculty united around serving Jesus Christ as they apply their gifts, talents, and abilities in this place.

On behalf of the faculty and staff at BCS, I thank you for your overwhelming generosity. Collectively, we are awed by the outpouring of encouragement, financial giving, volunteer support and prayerful activity on behalf of those at BCS. It is humbling and inspiring to be the recipient of such gifts from others.

Thank you for allowing us to take part in such a fulfilling vocation.

Ron Taylor

PRESCHOOL

- Our Bible verse for February was *Love your neighbor* from Mark 12:31, providing lots of opportunities for children to think about how they treat one another and how they can be a friend. In one class, the children were encouraged to catch kindness by telling the teacher when they saw or heard someone being kind.
- Continuing on the theme of learning to work together, Mrs. Cadriel and Mrs. Salzman brought their classes together for a story. After reading the story about a little mouse who needs to find a way to protect a ripe strawberry from a bear, the children worked in teams to come up with solutions. Some ideas included putting it under a pillow and putting it in a box that had ice around it.
- Mrs. Simmons' class has been learning about music. Activities included a visit to a junior high band class where they met numerous guest musicians including Cami Davis, the Mack Music teacher.
- Portfolios and conferences were held this week. Many of our classes hold student-led portfolio sessions, giving parents an opportunity to really see how their child has been developing at school.

THREE POINTS

“Doing Too Much” – Can we do too much for our children? As parents or as educators, we all want to do our best to help kids become all they should. Yet, it is also tempting to go overboard by making things “easy” for them to be “successful”?

Take a look at what Scripture has to say—and not say—in this context: “And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone” 1 Thessalonians 5:14. It's important to note that Paul does not tell us to do for our loved ones what they are able to do on their own.

The famous UCLA basketball coach—and wise nonagenarian—John Wooden put it another way: “The worst thing you can do for the ones you love are the things they could and should do for themselves. I'm convinced we do too much for others, and I think it has hurt our nation. I know it has hurt our society and our families.”

Probably many of us can think of examples where this overprotectiveness has seeped into our culture, schools, and families. Too often we shrink back from letting children try things and risking failure for fear that such failure will damage or even destroy them; of course, such risk of failure may expose adults to condemnation as well as litigation. But Coach Wooden recommends a path that allows them this freedom: “You want to guide, direct and help all you can, but you don't want to take away their independence.”

John William Gardner, the founder of *Common Cause*, sums it up: “There is no learning without some difficulty and fumbling. If you want to keep on learning, you must keep on risking failure—all your life.” Are we willing to let our children have that chance too?

Now we ought to recognize the distinction between helping those in need—and enabling the students who need something besides help: a warning, encouragement, or even a challenge to rise to the call. All of us should consider these vital warnings about the dangers of overprotecting, hovering, buffering, and rescuing our children. Though we all wish to avoid failure and disappointment for them, let us trust in our Lord enough to let them take the risks needed for growth and lifelong learning.

JUNIOR HIGH

Reflections of a 7th grade student

Today, I learned a lot in Bible. We talked about temptation and Satan's role in it. Miss Sipma asked if there was ever such a thing as good temptation, most of us said yes, but Miss Sipma and one other weren't convinced. I think there is such a thing as good temptation, but they have a good point. The way temptation is biblically represented is always bad. I think temptation goes in both ways, I think that sometimes, when you think of people trying to do good, it is the temptation to do good. Temptation is really trying to do something, being tempted by another. You could be tempted to steal, or you could be tempted by another person's good deed to also go out and do a good deed! I finally got to try Turkish delight! I have decided that maybe it is not such a bad thing after all...but I am still not convinced....

MACK

Our mission at BCS is to help our kids live fully for God. This time of year we check in with our families to see how they perceive our relationships with their student, since our mission springs to life from strong relationships between student and teacher. Here's a small sample of a recent survey our families completed. All Mack classrooms are represented in the comments below:

Kindergarten: My child's teacher makes every child feel special and help them gain the confidence they need to be successful in school. She is also very patient and gives each child the attention they need. She cares about her students and knows kindergarten development and applies it in a loving manner.

First: We're thankful that our child's teacher makes subjects interesting and fun. We love to see the active learning & appreciate her positive nature & example of Christ's love. My child's teacher has patience, faith, knowledge and love for her students.

Second: My child's teacher is very easy to talk to. She is flexible, consistent, and compassionate. She loves the children and communicates a love of Jesus to them.

Third: My child's teacher loves the kids and truly wants to impart godly values and Christ like character to them. She takes the time to know each child for who they are and their learning style.

Fourth: My child's teacher truly understands the unique needs of each student and meets them. My child's teacher is sensitive and kind. She is willing to listen to each child.

Fifth: My child's teacher loves the Lord, loves learning and has a great sense of humor. He knows how to relate & connect with fifth graders.

Sixth: My child's teacher has a great relationship with her students; she always has a smile and a positive outlook. My child's teacher is patient and kind and she really understands children at this age.

We are excited to partner with families and help our students hold firmly to God's unchanging values in this rapidly changing world. Thank-you for the privilege of teaching your children!

HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations to **Kristie Murphy** and the BCS Drama program, **Joel Ulrich** and the BCS Choir, and **Hillary Seaton** and the BCS Band program for being named 2006-07 WIAA State Academic Champions. Each year the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) which regulates all high school athletics and activities in our State, recognizes school teams and groups for their academic achievement. Way to go!

The BCS Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band leave for a five-day tour of Northern Washington and British Columbia on March 28. The tour includes performances in schools and churches. Western Washington University's band director will lead a music clinic for our students. BCS hosted the WWU Wind Ensemble in the Greene Commons on Feb. 27.

The BCS Choir and Kantorei leave for an 8 day tour of the Southwest on April 6. They will minister in schools and churches, focusing on those which most visiting groups pass by. A highlight will be the time spent at Rehoboth Christian School near Albuquerque. BCS has a long relationship with this primarily Navajo school.

SAS

Does your child have the ability to identify and manage his/her emotions, to recognize the feelings of another and respond appropriately, and to read body language accurately? We will address the components of emotional intelligence, social implications for students and offer practical suggestions that parents can use to enhance the emotional intelligence of their child.

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ATHLETICS

The athletic office is in that transitional season again. The closing out of one season and the beginning of another, how quickly time passes! After a very interesting winter sports season with many cancellations and reschedules because of the weather, we made it! The boys' and girls' basketball teams competed in the state basketball tournament in Yakima and represented BCS very well. The boys' team finished in fourth place losing to the eventual state champion Brewster in a close game in the second round. Senior Jeff Downs closed the tournament by breaking the 1A state tournament scoring record, congratulations Jeff!

The girls' basketball team finished a great season. In spite of losing their two games at state, both games were extremely close and the girls should be proud of the heart and effort they put forth all season long they truly had a great season. Once again, BCS was represented well by students and fans that came to Yakima to support our teams, thank you!

Spring sports are gearing up again. We have a great coaching staff for our spring teams, they are: Boys' baseball – Jim Rubstello, Girls' softball – Ryan Kelly, Boys' golf – Brian Douma, Girls' Golf – Karen Johnson, Boys' Track and Field – Ed Sloan, Girls' Track and Field – Larry Royce. They also have a great group of assistants and volunteer assistants. Thank you ahead of time for all of your work and dedication to BCS student / athletes.

Parents, as we start another sport season, please make sure you get all information pertaining to your child into the athletic office. This would include physical forms, update forms, driver forms, and athletic fees. If you have any questions regarding anything in the spring, please do not hesitate to call the athletic office and we would be happy to help in any way we can.

Our mission is to prepare young people to live fully for God in a rapidly changing world, with the ability to understand, evaluate, and transform their world from the foundation of God's unchanging value