

October 18, 2011 "More Wilberforces"

Dear Three Points Parents,

Did you know that we already have some doctors, engineers, nurses, pastors, teachers, moms, and dads in our elementary classes at school? They just haven't gotten that far in school yet! As a teacher, I taught students who have since become Ph.D.'s, M.D.'s, or J.D.'s – but you might have been surprised back then. I often remind myself that each child I pass in the breezeway is made in the image of God – and God has amazing plans for each one of them in this world.

Pastor John Piper was recently speaking about British politician William Wilberforce, a dedicated Christian who successfully led the fight to outlaw the slave trade in England. Piper says: "I want to produce lots of Wilberforces in my church and in the world." Wouldn't it be awesome for you and me to work together to produce lots of Wilberforces in our school and the world?

+IOWAs: Yesterday, our students launched into their IOWA tests successfully! Thanks for getting students here on time, well-rested, and well-fed. It's important for all of us to have an accurate and positive assessment of how our students are learning!

+BEAR Week News: Next week we will be participating in Be Excited About Reading Week! Please note that NEXT THURSDAY (October 27) there will be a Teddy Bear Picnic, and students may bring one stuffed bear/animal to school. The picnic will be held in various classrooms so all classes get to eat lunch with their buddies. A special lunch schedule will allow cross-grade buddies to eat together. Hot lunches will be delivered to students who have ordered them.



***For those bringing a lunch, please pack non-microwaveable items.**

***Please also be aware that, for student safety, all picnics will be peanut-free and nut-free.**

***Teachers will communicate these changes to you as the time approaches.**

+ Chapel: this week, counselor **Laura Carlson** will be speaking on the topic of **courage**. Also, several of our **6th Grade students** will be making a dramatic presentation about the importance of courage and standing up to bullies.

+The Protectors Study: Along with several other faculty members, I will help in leading our 6th graders in a Bible study focused on building character and countering bullying. This study was written by Paul Coughlin, the same author of *Raising Bully-Proof Kids*. 6th grade parents are encouraged to talk to your students about what they are learning and discussing. The first weekly lunch session starts on November 1. We plan to expand this to lower grades soon.

+Victory Assembly: last week's big celebration of Jogathon was important, fun, and creative. Thanks to all the parents who helped make this successful – and congratulations to the champions (photo at right)!



+PTF and Moms in Touch: these are two great ways that you can get involved in making a difference at our school. Please check the school calendar and feel welcome to join!

+Your Ideas and Questions: Many innovative and useful ideas at BCS come from our parents. Thank you for your participation! If you have other new ideas or questions about how to make this a better place of learning for our students, please let me know.

In Christ,

Steve