

# Bellevue CHRISTIAN School

*Learning to think through life.*

**No School Oct. 7 - 9  
(Wednesday—Friday) of this  
week due to Faculty  
In-Services and workshops**



Volume 17, Issue 2  
Monday, Oct. 5, 2009

## Mack Memo

Dear Mack Parents,

Our school year is off to a wonderful start! Thank-you to all the parents who took time out of their busy day to attend the principal coffee talks. It is wonderful to share our journey through school together. If you were unable to attend, here are some tidbits from each session:

**For our Christian community:** If you need information or are concerned about something in the classroom, go directly to the teacher. If you are having any problem on campus, with anyone, please talk about it directly with the person it involves and not with others on the playground or in the parking lot. Gossip and grumbling will unravel any community. Jesus showed us a great model for problem solving and reconciling relationships. It's the Matthew 18 principle. Let's try and follow it.

If you have questions, take them to the folks who can answer them. Go to your teacher for classroom questions, Jackie Olson, office manager, for business questions, Debbie Symonds, principal, for curriculum or big picture questions. Tom Pridmore, parent group president, for fundraising and parent event questions.

Kindergarten -1<sup>st</sup> grade: Developing good home habits, prayer time, family devotions, bedtime, reading time, dinner time together, leads to a positive identity as a learner. Make school a priority, find time to talk to one another and play, play, play!! Playing is the work of young children.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade- read, read, read! Then talk about what you just read! Ask questions, change endings, be the character, record stories. It's the best way to help develop your child's vocabulary, love of books, and comprehension! Be on time and establish a routine for accomplishing homework tasks. Know what subtle messages we send to children when we bring them to school late of take vacation during school. Help your child find their voice at school by practicing speaking to school personnel if they have a problem at school.

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades: Your student is developing independence as a learner and they are learning how to manage their own schedules with a classroom planner. Close friendships are very important and children need boundaries about what they will accept from friends. Being a good friend means avoiding exclusive relationships, listening to each other, sharing control.

6<sup>th</sup> grade: Preparation for junior high includes taking care of oneself, managing time, completing tasks, and staying organized. Help your child know your expectations for church, relationships, language, computer time and courtesy. Keep your kids talking to you by listening and not panicking, no matter the information they share. Check out the 'Love and Respect' materials. The principles that God wired girls to need love and boys are wired to need respect apply to bringing up boys and girls just like they apply to marriage.

I look forward to a great year with your children. Please know that I have an open door and would love to hear what you are hoping for this year from the Mack staff. Do not hesitate to bring any concern or question you might have forward. We will problem solve together.

In His Service,

*Debbie Symonds*

# Parent Group News

Greetings All,

Welcome to a new school year. I hope that it's off to wonderful start for all of you.

The first thing I'd like to mention is our name change. To get on the same page as the rest of BCS we have updated our name "Parent Group" to now be "Parent Teacher Fellowship" or PTF for short. With that in mind your PTF Executive Board for 2009- 2010 is...

President – Tom Pridmore

President - Elect -- open

Secretary – Shelly Hutson

Treasurer – TJ Waller

Co-VP of Administration – Denise Ikeda-Hathaway

Co-VP of Administration – Jeanne Hall-Steedman

Co-VP of Classroom Support – Dena Graves

Co-VP of Classroom Support – Karen Mouhanna

Co-VP of Fundraising – Traci Klein

Co-VP of Fundraising – Stephanie Fountaine

Member at Large – Valerie VandenBrink

Teacher Liaison – Shelly Riss

We're here to help so feel free to ask a board member any question you may have. If that member does not have the answer, they will be able to direct you to the member who does or find the answer for you.

A **big thank you** goes out to both **Vicky Donnel & Shelly Hutson** for organizing an amazing Jog-A-Thon. Kids & adults alike had an awesome time. Job well done! Of course an event like this doesn't happen without the help of parent volunteers, so to you I also say thank you! The giving of your time is truly appreciated and really helped make the day a success!

The first of our next 2 big events will be the All School Carnival on Friday Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 at the BCS main campus. If you have not yet attended this event then make plans and come on out, it's a blast! Our portion of the Carnival is being headed by Kim Jewett. We will follow that the next day with an All Campus Fall Clean-up on Saturday Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Mack. TJ Waller is our lead person for this event.

I'd like to take a moment to encourage you to volunteer. I know, you hear this all the time, but my philosophy is a simple one...more people doing less rather than less people doing more. We need your help, not only in the classroom, but also at events. If you're not sure how you can fit in, let me assure you that we'll find a way to help you fit. I'll use the Fall Clean-up as an example. When parents come to help, some will have to bring kids. These kids will be on the playground. If you're unable to help physically, then we can use you to watch the kids. So there is a place for you. This is a great way to get connected with fellow parents and share some laughs.

Our next PTF meeting will be Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> in the LRC. Please join us. Did I mention that there'll be munchies??

In His service,

*Tom Pridmore*

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## Calendar Highlights

To see what events are scheduled this month, and for the school year, click this link:

<http://calendar.bellevuechristian.org/>

Once you are there, you can filter the calendar to show just Mack events if you prefer—just click the “filter” button and select Mack.