



BULLETIN

October 8, 2009
Volume 17, Issue 4

*"How priceless is your unfailing love!
Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings."
Psalm 36:7*

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"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away ... For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 6: 37, 40

Dear Parents of WBCA students and Friends of the Academy:

Happy October! I can hardly believe that the first month of school is now officially "history". I hope that you all had the opportunity to participate in the Goal Setting Conferences and that you and your child's teachers have established challenging yet realistic expectations for this year.

As a school, we also set goals for ourselves, and one of the ways that we measure our effectiveness is through student assessment. Beginning on October 13, we will be participating in the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) with students in Grades 3 - 8 as a means of assessing West Bay's performance. The NECAP is not a typical standardized test in that it has several formats (in addition to multiple choice). These varied formats are designed to tap into a wider range of academic skills, including problem solving and writing. The assessment content is built around established educational standards and Grade Level Equivalent (GLE) for each grade.

The Rhode Island Department of Education requires that all public schools participate in this program, and strongly recommends that private schools participate as well. The central purpose of the State Assessment Program is to *measure the student's achievement as a means of keeping the school's accountable*. We receive a great deal of data from our student's performance, which we use to guide our planning, professional development, and curriculum enhancement.

We will be administering the NECAPs during **October 13 - 16**. Generally speaking, tests will be given in the morning, and there will be a modified schedule in the afternoon. Obviously, it is important that students come to school prepared for these tests, which means they should get plenty of sleep the night before and should have a good breakfast each morning. Obviously, **ATTENDANCE** and **PROMPTNESS** are **extremely important**, as the make-up procedure is quite complicated.

While we want our students to do well on this assessment, we do not want them to be stressed about the testing procedure. Historically, West Bay students have done extremely well, and I am not expecting anything different this year. I think the NECAP offers us a great opportunity to measure our program against current standards of excellence, and I look forward to this challenge.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your cooperation.

Rick Clarkson
Headmaster

From the Uniform Closet Coordinator

We have received SO MANY donations recently, of all different sizes. In particular, there are pants and gym sweatshirts galore!!!! Be sure to come in to school to check out the Uniform Closet if your student needs something. In addition, please look in the Lost & Found bins, located in each wing, if your child has recently "misplaced" a belonging. I am going to be cleaning out those bins on a regular basis, and I don't want to get rid of someone's prized possession.

Nicole Braddock (mother of Jonathan, Grade 2 and Morgan, Grade 1)

Oops ... From the Front Desk

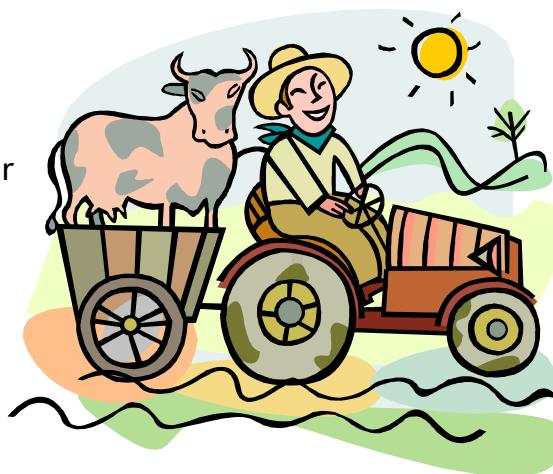
In the last Bulletin (September 24th), there was an article on page 4 about the Parent Volunteer Body. Omitted was a VERY integral member of the PVB executive board:

Christine Newton, Community Relations Coordinator (Mycarthy, Gr 3 & Michael, Gr 1)
Christine, I apologize for my oversight!!!

In the Parent Directory and Mrs. Lospaluto's Kindergarten class list, KATARINA Parascandolo was misspelled. Please make the correction on your copy. I'm sorry KATARINA!!!

Make the mooooo...ve to milk at lunch

There is now 1% white, chocolate, coffee (only in 10 oz. chugs), and strawberry milk (only in 8 oz. chugs available every day for lunch. The 8 oz. plastic chugs are 60 cents each; the 10 oz. plastic chugs are 75 cents each. For your convenience, coupon books are available at the Front Desk. At lunchtime, the 8th graders will go to all the Preschool, Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade classrooms to exchange a coupon parents have packed in the child's lunch box or the money for a chug. Students in 3rd through 7th will bring their coupons or money to the Front Desk foyer to get their milk.



The proceeds for the milk program will go to the annual Grade 8 Missions Trip.

From the Community

There is a Fall Festival on Monday, October 12th (No School - Columbus Day), 10 am to 4 pm, at Canonicus Camp and Conference Center, 54 Exeter Road in Exeter. Make this a family fun day, with boating on Lake Adams, children's games, story telling, Christian bands, food booths, craft show and bake sale. For more information, call 578-5909 or visit www.canonicus.org. Canonicus is a ministry of the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island.

Preschoolers have been learning about God's awesome power

Preschoolers have been learning about God's awesome power! We learned that God helped David fight a lion and a bear while protecting his sheep. We also learned how with God's help, David was able to defeat the 9 foot giant, Goliath. (Come see him hanging in our classroom).

Just last week we began learning about Joshua. We talked about the Israelites entering the land God promised with "His special box", called the ark of the covenant. Just as God did for the Israelites in the Bible, as preschoolers stepped into the "Jordan River" carrying Gods "special box" on rods, the waters miraculously separated! The rest of the class was able to pass through on "dry land"!

Our three and four year olds really seem to understand the concept of God's power to help us in our time of need. When hanging 9 foot Goliath in the classroom, one student asked, "Who would win in a fight, T-Rex or Goliath?"...another student quickly replied, "No! It would be David, because he had God's help!"

Second Graders recently celebrated Passover

"Passover (is) about when the angel of death passed over the Israelites." - Jonathan Braddock

"The moms had to make dough, but they could not make good bread so they had to bake matzoh. - Jack Carlisle

"The food meant different things, like the salt water meant tears from slavery. " - Connor Priest

"We ate bitter herbs to remember (remind) us of slavery in Egypt." - Emilia Zeyl

"Eggs mean the Israelites had new life." - Michaela Ringeling

"The Sedar plate is cool because it has all different things on it." - Dakota Yoon

"My favorite part is when I get to find the Afikomen. And opening the door for Elijah." - Luke Roberts

"I like Elijah. Open the door for Elijah." - Caroline Castillo

West Bay "Wings" Soccer

The team's record to date is 5-0-1!!!! Not only are they winning, but they are having so much fun, thanks in HUGE part to Coach Tom Sawyer. He is the grandfather of Chad, Grade 8; Abby, Grade 7; and Ben, Grade 3.

Team members are: Ben Carpenter, Andrew Connell, Bryan McCormack, Chad Sawyer, Zach Smith, and Victoria Zeyl (Grade 8); Kate McCormack, Abby Sawyer, Nick Schmitz, and Josh Storti (Grade 7); Eric Harpootian, Caleb King, Allie Lindo, Max Medeiros, Maike Morrison, and Gabrielle Zeyl (Grade 6); Christopher Bates, Hannah Bates, and Abby Link (Homeschoolers).

Mark Your Calendars

For more/updated information, be sure to visit www.westbaychristianacademy.com

Friday, October 9

Soccer game vs Wheeler, 4 pm

Saturday, October 10

PVB Yard Sale at the Jones' home in East Greenwich, 7 - 11 am

PVB's "Muffins & Mazes"
at Schartner Farms, 10:30 am

Monday, October 12

NO SCHOOL - Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 13

Midpoint of 1st Trimester

Tuesday, October 13 - Friday, October 16

NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) Testing Grades 3 - 8

Friday, October 16

Submission deadline for next Bulletin
(October 22nd)

Progress Reports go home

Monday, October 19

WBCA Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, October 20

Soccer game vs San Miguel, 3:45 pm

Wednesday, October 21

Brownies #841 Troop Meeting,
3:10 - 4:45 pm

Happy Birthday

To you and you and you ...
in October



Garett Morrison	Gr. 3	10/1
Katarina Parascandolo	Gr. K	10/2
Sophie Scott	Preschool	10/2
Jake Hyde	Gr. 8	10/3
Elizabeth Gilbert	Gr. 1	10/4
Andrew Connell	Gr. 8	10/7
Samuel Dumas	Preschool	10/10
Paul Pazienza	Gr. 2	10/10
Morgan Higgins	Gr. 4	10/12
John Walden	Gr. 2	10/12
Mrs. Plante	Gr. 4	10/13
Victoria Zeyl	Gr. 8	10/14
Mrs. Freitas	Gr. 5	10/16
Gabrielle Zeyl	Gr. 6	10/17
Mrs. Perreira	Gr. 4	10/19
Mrs. Foreman	Gr. 2	10/20
Shelby Foster	Gr. 3	10/20
Emilia Zeyl	Gr. 2	10/21
Brooke Barner	Preschool	10/23
Lauren MacDonald	Gr. 4	10/24
Bryce Richter	Gr. 2	10/25
Señorita Lomba	Español	10/27
Levi King	Gr. 2	10/28
Alexander Day	Gr. 1	10/31