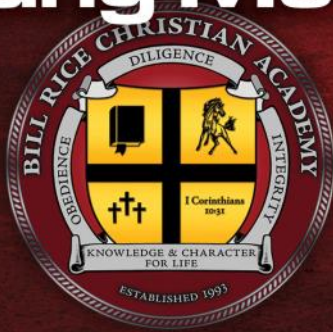


# Mustang Message



February 2024

## Connection Is Stronger Than Drugs By Nathan Reeves

Think about it...some severely injured hospital patients are given a medical form of heroin (that is stronger than most illegal drugs) for months, and yet they stop the medicine immediately when they get home and are surrounded by a loving family. A similar drug will turn a street user who is alone and unhappy into an addict. What's the difference?

The simple answer is connection.

God made people with a need to connect and bond. When we don't have good connections, we become unhappy and turn to other things to fill the void. Sometimes these things become addictions.

In today's social media culture, most people connect without making a true connection. We try to connect by seeing what friends & family are doing online, but this is superficial and cannot take the place of real connections with people we love. There's a huge difference between FaceTiming your sister and eating a meal with her. Superficial connections are dangerous because they make us feel as if we're connecting but still leave us wanting more.

There are several places where real connections can be made. If you don't have a good church to call home, you're really missing out.

But another great place to make connections is at BRCA. Let me encourage you to get to know your kid's friends' parents. There are plenty of school functions where you can do this – PTM's, Western Day, fieldtrips, Christmas Concert, Christmas & Valentine's Day parties, Fun Run, etc. Go to birthday parties your child is invited to. Schedule times for your kids to meet up & play with their BRCA friends, and get to know their parents.

It's interesting...some BRCA classes' parents are very close while others are not. The only reason we can tell that makes the difference is the group who has made strong connections has parents who go out of their way to meet others in the class. They see the value of connections.

Maybe you know of a family who needs this kind of connection. Let them know about BRCA. We are small enough that they can get to know others & make real connections. If a community, like BRCA, is important to you, it might be important to others you know.

Connections are vitally important. So step out of your comfort zone & start making them today!



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*“Connections are vitally important...so step out of your comfort zone & start making them today!”*

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## Current Events

### Feb. 1-2 TACS District Competition

Please pray for our students as they compete against hundreds of other Christian students in the Nashville area. Check back later to see how we did!

### Feb. 9 Hillbilly Day

Our 3rd-8th graders get to try a brand new theme day! Come dressed as a back-woods hillbilly that's ready to have some fun! School will be dismissed at 11:30.

### Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Parties

You can't beat fun and food in the afternoon! Don't forget your Valen-



...tine's Day cards. We sent home a class list so no one will be left out, and some parents will be asked to bring in food or drinks. This is for Elementary students only.

### Feb. 16 Middle School Service Day

This day is filled with service, fun, and collating Bibles! We want our students to know that serving God can be fun!



### Feb. 19 President's Day

School starts at 8:00, and all students will be dismissed at 11:30.

## Spring Retreats



## ATTENTION 2ND-12TH GRADERS

Don't forget to register for camp by February 29. If you do, you'll save \$20! Our week is June 10-14, and we have around 100 students who can come this year! Students will get to see the Reeves and several of the teachers throughout camp. A registration form will be sent home soon.

### Middle School T-shirts

Just \$18



## Book of the Month By Nathan Reeves

### *Passionate Parenting*

**Main Idea:** *Passionate Parenting* "is about pursuing the heart of your teenager and helping that heart fall in love with the heart of God." This book has had a huge influence on how my wife & I have parented our boys as they get older. But don't wait until your kids are older. Start preparing to parent teens years before they are.

**Favorite Quote:** "There are some struggles that our children need as they prepare for adulthood—and wise parents will allow the struggle to prepare the child."

Want to borrow this book? Just text me!





# #PixOfTheMonth



# Elementary Students of the Month

**Parker Gustin:** Parker is responsible in the classroom with his actions and with his school work! I am so proud of him and the example he is to classmates. Way to go, Parker!

**Haley Morphis:** Haley is responsible to do her homework, clean up after herself, and keep my room clean. Thanks, Haley. Keep it up!

**Konrad Thornton:** Konrad worked hard to show responsibility this month. Whatever room job he got, he made sure he did the very best he could. He also kept his desk nice and organized. I knew I could trust him to do what he was supposed to do, even when no one was looking.

**Rose Dehmlow:** Rose is a great example of responsibility! She consistently takes the time needed to do her best on her schoolwork and her homework.

**Mila Robinson:** Mila has shown great responsibility this year! She takes responsibility for her actions, and I can count on her to do her room jobs without being reminded. Keep it up, Mila!

**Cora Wainwright:** Cora always makes sure she does what she needs to do each day and keeps her things neat. She works hard to finish all her homework. Way to be responsible, Cora!

**Michael Traughber:** Michael is a dependable student who always does what's required of him. He encourages others to finish their responsibilities and will offer help wherever it's needed.

## Character Trait of the Month:

# DISCERNMENT

**Definition:** making right choices without hope of reward or fear of punishment

**Examples:**

1. When facing a tough decision, pause and ask God to help you choose correctly.
2. On the playground, choose to play right no matter what.

## BILL RICE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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# Middle School Student Highlight with Lilly Downs

**Miss Perkins:** What is your favorite thing to do?

**Lilly:** I enjoy baking, playing the piano, and babysitting.

**Miss Perkins:** What is your favorite thing about your parents?

**Lilly:** They are very caring and want my siblings and me to serve the Lord.

**Miss Perkins:** What do you like most about your teachers?

**Lilly:** They make sure we really get the concepts that we are learning, and they help us understand what we did wrong when we make mistakes.

**Miss Perkins:** What is your favorite thing about Middle School at BRCA?

**Lilly:** There is such a focus on doing right and working as a team!

**Miss Perkins:** What do you hope to do when you grow up?

**Lilly:** Something to do with kids—maybe an elementary teacher.



## Middle School Teams



= 2,366



= 2,494



= 2,481